Director



ROY COOPER
Governor

MARY PENNY KELLEY
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, upon the recommendation of Betsey Tilson, M.D., M.P.H., State Health Director, Department of Health and Human Services, hereby announces that the following changes in shellfish harvesting areas will take effect at sunrise, Saturday, September 28, 2024.

All those waters in Brunswick, New Hanover, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the July 12, July 13, July 19, July 20, July 26, July 27, August 7, August 8, August 10, August 21, September 3, September 13, September 14, September 15, September 16, and September 17, 2024, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER / CARTERET COUNTIES

<u>All those waters</u> between IWW Beacon "1" near Southport and the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, the Shallotte Inlet Area, Lockwoods Folly River, and the Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area.

<u>Bald Head Creek - All those waters</u> in Bald Head Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point on the north shore at 33° 53.1270' N - 77° 59.5261' W, running southerly to a point on the south shore at 33° 52.9652' N - 77° 59.7954' W.

<u>All those waters</u> in Myrtle Grove Sound bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 04.8476'N - 77° 53.0990' W on the mainland; running easterly near IWW Marker "155" to the southern tip of Masonboro Island at 34° 04.8251'N - 77° 52.9092' W; and bordered on the south by Snows Cut.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> between IWW Marker "149" (34° 06.5162'N - 77° 52.4234' W) near Peden Point and IWW Marker "155" (34° 04.8189'N - 77° 52.9654' W) near Carolina Beach Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

<u>All those waters in White Oak River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 41.9497' N - 77° 06.9846' W on the west shore; running easterly near the northern tip of Jones Island to a point 34° 41.9395' N - 77° 05.6599' W on the east shore.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> in Bogue Sound between IWW Beacon "24" and IWW Marker "33", to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Sanders Creek, and Broad Creek.

<u>Newport River – All those waters in Newport River</u> upstream of the Highway 70 High Rise Bridge and the Morehead-Beaufort Causeway, to include all tributaries and Core Creek.

<u>North River – All those waters</u> in North River upstream of the North River Bridge.

<u>Ward Creek - All those waters</u> in Ward Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point on the north shore at 34° 46.2731' N - 76° 35.4724' W, running southerly to a point on the south shore at 34° 45.4556' N - 76° 35.1587' W (near the Ward Creek DMF Shrimp Line).

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<u>Wade Creek – All those waters in Wade Creek</u> upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 46.3043′ N - 76° 30.0493′ W on the north shore; running southerly to a point 34° 46.0324′ N - 76° 30.0743′ W on the south shore.

<u>Thorofare Bay - All those waters in Thorofare Bay</u> west of a line beginning at Lookout Point, running across Thorofare Bay to Hall Point near Atlantic.

The following also remains closed:

ONSLOW COUNTY

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> between IWW Beacon "49" (34° 40.2621'N - 77° 07.9802' W), near Swansboro, and IWW Beacon "55" (34° 38.5749'N - 77° 10.8033' W), to include the Intracoastal Waterway and Queens Creek.

<u>All those waters in White Oak River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 41.9497' N - 77° 06.9846' W on the west shore; running easterly near the northern tip of Jones Island to a point 34° 41.9395' N - 77° 05.6599' W on the east shore.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-170.4; 113-170.5; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52 and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 03H .0103 and 03K .0101.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the N.C. Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. In accordance with N.C. General Statute 113-221.1(c) all persons who may be affected by proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director are under a duty to keep themselves informed of current proclamations.
- D. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: Cape Fear River, a portion of Myrtle Grove Sound, Masonboro Sound, a portion of North River, a portion of Jarrett Bay, and Oyster Creek.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

September 27, 2024 1:45 P.M. PA-94-2024