

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, upon the recommendation of Kelly Kimple, M.D., M.P.H., Interim State Health Director, Department of Health and Human Services, hereby announces that the following changes in shellfish harvesting areas will take effect at sunrise, Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

All those waters in New Hanover, Pender, Onslow, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the May 12, May 13, and May 14, 2025, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

NEW HANOVER / ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the north by the Wrightsville Beach Bridge and bordered on the southwest by Snows Cut, to include Myrtle Grove Sound and Masonboro Sound.

<u>Queens Creek - All those waters</u> in Queens Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 39.8479′N - 77° 09.1171′ W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 40.2031′N - 77° 08.4408′ W on the east shore near the State Park Boat Ramp.

<u>All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland</u> in Bogue Sound between IWW Marker "19" and IWW Beacon "33", to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Sanders Creek, Broad Creek, and Gales Creek.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the east by a line beginning at a point 33° 54.2904′ N - 78° 23.6416′ W on the mainland near the Bricklanding Road Public Boat Ramp and IWW Beacon "84"; running southerly to a point 33° 54.1932′ N - 78° 23.6426′ W on Ocean Isle Beach near Ferry Landing Park; and bordered on the west by the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet.

<u>Lockwoods Folly River - All those waters</u> north of a line beginning at a point 33° 55.5678′ N - 78° 13.8043′ W on the south shore of Spring Creek near the mouth; running easterly to a point 33° 55.4621′N - 78° 13.1714′ W near the northern tip of Sheep Island; thence running southeasterly to a point 33° 55.2284′N - 78° 12.7791′ W near the northwest point of Horse Island, to include a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway north of Horse and Sheep Islands.

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.

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- 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: Middle Sound, Pages Creek, Topsail Sound, Old Topsail Creek, Virginia Creek, Beckys Creek, Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, Chadwick Bay, New River, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Browns Inlet, Bear Creek, Bear Inlet, Bogue Inlet, White Oak River, Newport River, Core Creek, Oyster Creek, Brett Bay, and Nelson Bay.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

May 20, 2025 1:00 P.M. PA-16-2025