

PROCLAMATION**RE: - GILL NETS – NEWPORT RIVER**

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective **7:00 A.M. Monday, October 20, 2014, the following restrictions will apply to the gill net fishery in Newport River:**

I. AREA

Gill net requirements in this proclamation apply only in the Newport River from a point on the end of the westernmost bridge fender on the Highway 70 bridge running north along the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway to Marker "31"; then running southwesterly to Crab Point; then following the shoreline running southerly down Crab Point Thorofare, Willis Creek, Dill Creek, Calico Creek, Calico Bay and the channel adjacent the State Port to the point of beginning. This area includes the creeks and bay named above and the Newport River Marshes.

II. NET RESTRICTIONS

Gill nets with a stretched mesh length **less than 4 inches** must be attended from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52 and N.C. Marine Fisheries Rules 15A NCAC 3H .0103, and 3J .0103.
- B. It is unlawful to violate provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Rule 15A NCAC 3H .0103.
- C. The small mesh gill net attendance requirements in N.C. Marine Commission Fisheries Rule 15A NCAC 03J .0103(h), mesh length restrictions in 03J .0103(a)(2), navigational passage requirements in 03J .0101, as well as all other existing gill net rules and proclamations remain in effect.
- D. The intent of this proclamation is to reduce the mortality of red drum captured in gill nets in the described area.
- E. Contact N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division website at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/>.
- F. This proclamation supersedes proclamation M-11-2007, dated July 25, 2007. **It updates a proclamation from 2007 for the described area and does not change gill net restrictions currently in effect.**

BY: _____

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES