

KATHY B. RAWLS

FF-1-2022

PROCLAMATION

RE: BLUEFISH – COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-62-2021, dated November 22, 2021. It opens the 2022 commercial bluefish fishery and removes the possession limit for the commercial bluefish fishery. The fishery will close by proclamation once the commercial guota is projected to be reached or December 31, 2022, whichever occurs first.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **12:01 A.M., January 1, 2022,** the following restrictions will apply to the **commercial bluefish fishery in Coastal Fishing Waters:**

I. HARVEST PERIOD

A. The fishery will close by proclamation once the commercial quota is projected to be reached or December 31, 2022, whichever occurs first.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-134; 113-134.1; 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 03M .0512.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the Director under their delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. The intent of this proclamation is to open the commercial bluefish season and manage the quota allocated to North Carolina in the joint Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council/Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Bluefish Fishery Management Plan.
- D. 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.
- E. Contact the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557, phone 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division website at <u>https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries</u>.

Proclamation FF-1-2022 Pg. 2

> F. <u>This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-62-2021, dated November</u> 22, 2021. It opens the 2022 commercial bluefish fishery and removes the possession limit for the commercial bluefish fishery. The fishery will close by proclamation once the commercial quota is projected to be reached or December 31, 2022, whichever occurs first.

Marty B. Rank By:

Kathy B. Rawls, Director DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

December 16, 2021 10:35 A.M.