



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

DIONNE DELLI-GATTI  
*Secretary*

JOHN G. BATHERSON  
*Acting Director*

**FF-18-2021**

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **RE: RED DRUM -COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS -CLOSURE**

**This proclamation supersedes FF-92-2014 dated December 19, 2014. It closes the commercial red drum fishery in North Carolina Coastal Fishing Waters.**


John G. Batherson, Acting Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **12:01 A.M., Friday, March 5, 2021**, the following restrictions will apply to the commercial fishery for red drum:

#### **I. HARVEST RESTRICTIONS**

- A. It is unlawful to possess, sell or offer for sale red drum taken in a commercial fishing operation, except for dealer provision in I. C.
- B. It is unlawful to purchase red drum taken from a commercial fishing operation.
- C. Dealers will have until noon **March 12, 2021** to sell, offer for sale, transport, or have in possession unfrozen red drum taken prior to this closure.

#### **II. GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G. S. 113-134;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 .0501.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. The intent of this proclamation is to manage the commercial harvest of red drum from the September through April period within the 150,000 pound limit implemented by Amendment 1 of the N.C. Red Drum Fishery Management plan. For red drum, the commercial fishing year is September 1 through August 31. The second harvest period (100,000 pounds) is May through August. The fishery will open by proclamation no sooner than May 1.
- 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 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 [www.ncmarinefisheries.net](http://www.ncmarinefisheries.net).
- F. **This proclamation supersedes FF-92-2014 dated December 19, 2014. It closes the commercial red drum fishery in North Carolina Coastal Fishing Waters.**

By:   
John G. Batherson, Acting Director  
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

March 4, 2021  
9:30 A.M.