



ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

FF-30-2022

PROCLAMATION

RE: DOLPHIN- RECREATIONAL VESSEL LIMIT – COASTAL FISHING WATERS

This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-27-2012 dated April 10, 2012. This proclamation reduces the recreational vessel limit for dolphin in N.C. Coastal Fishing Waters in compliance with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Dolphin and Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective **at 12:01 A.M., Monday, May 2, 2022**, the following restrictions will apply to the dolphin fishery in Coastal Fishing Waters:

I. **SUSPENSION OF N.C. MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION RULE 15A NCAC 03M .0515**

The following portion of N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03M. 0515 that reads as follows is suspended:

Section (a)(2) which reads:

(2) More than 60 dolphin per vessel per day regardless of the number of individuals on board, except headboat vessels with a valid U.S. Coast Guard Certificate of Inspection may possess 10 dolphin per paying customer.

II. **RECREATIONAL VESSEL LIMIT**

It is unlawful to possess more than 54 dolphin per vessel per day, except headboat vessels with a valid U.S. Coast Guard Certificate of Inspection may possess 10 dolphin per paying customer.

III. **RESTRICTION ON SALE**

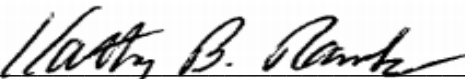
It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale dolphin taken or possessed under the recreational bag limit by a person on a vessel operating as a charter vessel or headboat.

IV. **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; 113-182.1; 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 Fisheries Director under their delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. The remaining portions of N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03M. 0515 remain in effect.
- D. The intent of this proclamation is to manage the recreational fishery for dolphin in Coastal Fishing Waters consistent with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Dolphin and Wahoo Fishery Management Plan Amendment 10. The

amendment and the rules implementing the regulations can be found here:
<https://safmc.net/fishery-management-plans-amendments/dolphinwahoo/>.

- E. Contact the 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 <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries>.
- F. In accordance with N.C.G.S. 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.
- G. **This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-27-2012 dated April 10, 2012. This proclamation reduces the recreational vessel limit for dolphin in N.C. Coastal Fishing Waters in compliance with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Dolphin and Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.**

By: 
Kathy B. Rawls, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

April 20, 2022
2:06 P.M.