



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

ELIZABETH S. BISER  
*Secretary*

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

**PT-2-2023**

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **RE: POTS OPEN – PROVISIONAL POT AREAS IN PAMLICO SOUND AND PAMLICO, BAY, AND NEUSE RIVERS**

**This proclamation describes areas open to crab, eel, fish, and shrimp pots in the provisional pot areas of the Pamlico Sound and Pamlico, Bay, and Neuse rivers not being utilized by long haul operations. This proclamation will expire at 11:59 PM, November 30, 2023, unless superseded by another proclamation.**

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **12:01 A.M., Thursday, June 1, 2023, until 11:59 P.M., Thursday, November 30, 2023**, the following shall apply to crab, eel, fish, and shrimp pots:

#### **POTS MAY BE SET IN THE AREAS DESCRIBED BELOW ([See attached maps](#)):**

##### **I. HYDE COUNTY BAYS:**

- A. Wysocking Bay, Lone Tree Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R.0107 (b)(1)(A). (Map 1)
- B. Wysocking Bay, Mt. Pleasant Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(1)(B). (Map 1)
- C. Juniper Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(2). (Map 2)
- D. Swanquarter Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(3). (Map 2)
- E. Deep Cove as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(4). (Map 3)
- F. Rose Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(5). (Map 3)
- G. Spencer Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(6). (Map 3)

##### **II. PAMLICO RIVER:**

- A. Lee Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(7)(A). (Map 5)
- B. Huddy Gut as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(7)(B). (Map 5)
- C. Indian Island as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(7)(C). (Maps 4 and 5)

- D. Old Field Point, Goose Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(7)(D). (Map 4)

III. **PAMLICO COUNTY BAYS:**

- A. Big Porpoise Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(8). (Map 6)
- B. Middle Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(9). (Map 6)
- C. Jones Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(10). (Maps 6 and 7)
- D. Bay Point as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(11). (Map 7)

IV. **BAY RIVER:**

- A. Rockhole Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(12)(A). (Map 7)
- B. Hogpen Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(12)(B). (Map 7)
- C. Fisherman Bay as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(12)(C). (Map 7)

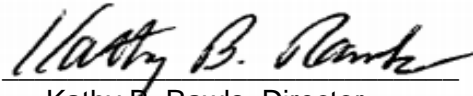
V. **NEUSE RIVER:**

- A. Swan Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(13)(A). (Map 7)
- B. Gum Thicket Shoal as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(13)(C). (Map 8)
- C. Orchard Creek as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(13)(D). (Map 8)
- D. Pine Cliff Recreation Area as described in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107 (b)(13)(F). (Map 9)

VI. **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; 113-182.1; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52 and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 03H .0103 and 03J .0301.
- 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. In accordance with Amendment 3 to the blue crab FMP, the intent of this proclamation is to allow pots to be used in provisional pot areas currently not being utilized extensively by long haul operations due to the variable seasonal distribution of finfish, fisheries targeting finfish, and recreational uses.
- D. **Horizontal hatched** areas on attached maps indicate those areas designated for pot use by N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03J .0301 (a)(2)(A); **Angled hatched** areas indicate areas opened to pots by this proclamation as authorized by N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03J .0301 (a)(2)(B). **Non-hatched areas** on maps are **CLOSED** to the use of pots. Designated pot area boundary coordinates are found in N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03R .0107.

- E. In accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Rule 15A NCAC 03J .0301 (b)(1), it is unlawful to use pots in any navigation channel maintained and marked by State or Federal agencies.
- F. 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.
- G. 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](#).
- H. **This proclamation describes areas open to crab, eel, fish, and shrimp in the provisional pot areas of the Pamlico Sound and Pamlico, Bay, and Neuse rivers not being utilized by long haul operations. This proclamation will expire at 11:59 PM, November 30, 2023, unless superseded by another proclamation.**

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

May 30, 2023  
8:45 A.M.