



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

ELIZABETH S. BISER  
*Secretary*

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

**FF-26-2024**

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **RE: MULLET – COMMERCIAL – COASTAL AND JOINT FISHING WATERS INCLUDING THE ATLANTIC OCEAN – HARVEST RESTRICTIONS**

**This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-51-2023 dated October 25, 2023. This proclamation implements restrictions on the harvest of mullet taken by commercial fishing operations in North Carolina Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters including the Atlantic Ocean in accordance with Amendment 2 to the N.C. Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan.**

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective **12:01 A.M. June 24, 2024**, the following restrictions will apply to the mullet commercial fisheries in North Carolina Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters:

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

- A. From January 1 through September 30, it shall be unlawful for a commercial fishing operation to take or land mullet for commercial purposes from 11:59 P.M. Friday to 12:01 A.M. Monday each week.
- B. From October 1 through December 31, it shall be unlawful for a commercial fishing operation to take or land mullet for commercial purposes from 11:59 P.M. Friday to 12:01 A.M. Tuesday each week.

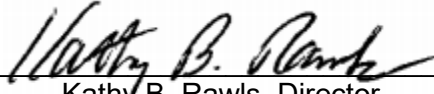
#### **II. GEAR RESTRICTIONS**

It shall be unlawful to use or possess gill nets on board a vessel while in possession of striped mullet during times described in Section I.A and Section I.B.

#### **III. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C. G.S. 113-134; 113-134.1; 113-136; 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 .0502.
- B. In accordance with N.C. General Statute 113-130 to “Take” as used in this proclamation is defined as all operations during, immediately preparatory, and immediately subsequent to an attempt, whether successful or not, to capture, kill, pursue, hunt, or otherwise harm or reduce to possession any fisheries resources or wildlife resources.
- C. In accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0101(5)(f)(ii) to “Land” as used in this proclamation is defined for trip tickets,

- when fish reach a licensed seafood dealer, or when the fisherman is the dealer, when the fish reach the shore or a structure connected to the shore -
- D. It is unlawful to violate 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.
  - E. The intent of this proclamation is to manage the commercial mullet fishery in accordance with Amendment 2 to the N.C. Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan.
  - 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 the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557 or 252-515-5500 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division [website](#).
  - H. **This proclamation supersedes proclamation FF-51-2023 dated October 25, 2023. This proclamation implements restrictions on the harvest of mullet taken by commercial fishing operations in North Carolina Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters including the Atlantic Ocean in accordance with Amendment 2 to the N.C. Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan.**

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

June 20, 2024  
12:15 P.M.