



ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

M-8-2024

PROCLAMATION

RE: GILL NETS – NEWPORT RIVER USER CONFLICT RESOLUTION AREA

This proclamation supersedes proclamation M-35-2014, dated October 17, 2014. This proclamation maintains attendance requirement for gill nets with a stretched mesh length less than 4-inches in the Newport River User Conflict Resolution Area in accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 03I .0122.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective **7:00 A.M. April 15, 2024** the following restrictions shall apply to the use of gill nets in the following area:

I. **AREA – CARTERET COUNTY**

Newport River All waters in the Newport River waterbody south and west of a line starting at 34° 44.8249' N, 76° 42.1716' W, heading east to a point at 34° 44.9627' N, 76° 40.6491' W, then heading south along the western border of the Intracoastal Waterway to a point at 34° 43.2600' N, 76° 41.5534' W at the intersection of the IWW and the Highway 70 bridge to Radio Island ([See Map](#)).

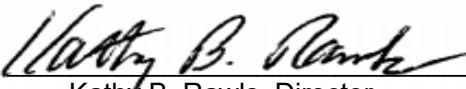
II. **GEAR RESTRICTIONS**

It shall be unlawful **to fail to attend gill nets with a stretched mesh length less than 4 inches** at all times from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the area described in Section I.

III. **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. Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 3H .0103, 03I .0122, and 3J .0103.
- B. It is unlawful to violate provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under their delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Rule 15A NCAC 3H .0103.
- C. In accordance with N.C. General Statute 113-221(f) and 113-221.1(c) all persons who may be affected by rules and proclamations issued by the Fisheries Director are under a duty to keep themselves informed of current rules and proclamations. Multiple rules and proclamations regulating a fishery, species, gear, etc. may be in effect concurrently.
- D. **All other existing gill net rules and proclamations remain in effect.** See <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/rules-proclamations-and-size-and-bag-limits/fisheries-management-proclamations#currentprocs> to refer to those M-type proclamations for gill net regulations that may be effective in the areas covered by this proclamation.
- E. The intent of this proclamation is to maintain regulations that address user conflicts in the area specific to the mortality of red drum captured in gill nets.

- F. Contact N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557 252-515-5500 or 800-682-2632 for more information or visit the division website at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/>.
- G. **This proclamation supersedes proclamation M-35-2014, dated October 17, 2014. This proclamation maintains attendance requirement for gill nets with a stretched mesh length less than 4-inches in the Newport River User Conflict Resolution Area in accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 03I.0122.**

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

April 12, 2024
1:00 P.M