



ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, upon the recommendation of Betsey Tilson, M.D., M.P.H., State Health Director, Department of Health and Human Services, hereby announces that the following shellfish area temporary **closures will take effect immediately**.

It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take any oysters, clams or mussels or possess, sell or offer for sale any oysters, clams or mussels taken from the following polluted areas:

PENDER / ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

All those waters in Stump Sound bordered on the north by the North Topsail Beach Bridge, and bordered on the south by the Surf City Bridge.

Newport River – All those waters in Newport River upstream of the Highway 70 High Rise Bridge and the Morehead-Beaufort Causeway, to include all tributaries and Core Creek.

North River - All those waters in North River upstream of a straight line beginning at a point 34° 42.1302' N - 76° 36.0815' W at the permanent closure line near Beacon "5"; running northeasterly to a point 34° 43.2724' N - 76° 34.5238' W on the mainland at the Harker's Island Bridge at The Straits, to include Ward Creek.

Whitehurst Creek – All those waters in Whitehurst Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 43.5146' N - 76° 33.3428' W on the west shore; running easterly to a point 34° 43.5511' N - 76° 33.1664' W on the east shore.

Sleepy Creek – All those waters in Sleepy Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 43.2745' N - 76° 31.4600' W on the west shore; running easterly to a point 34° 43.2672' N - 76° 31.2792' W on the east shore.

Oyster Creek - All those waters in Oyster Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 48.8185' N - 76° 26.9761' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 48.9768' N - 76° 26.6340' W on the east shore.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

All those waters bordered on the east by the permanent closure line near IWW Beacon "69"; and bordered on the west by a line beginning at a point 33° 54.6855' N - 78° 21.3550' W on the mainland; running southerly through IWW Marker "71" to a point 33° 54.4311' N - 78° 21.2898' W on Holden Beach near the end of Sea View Drive.

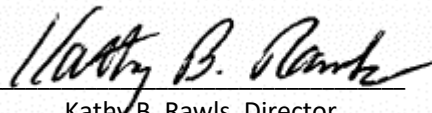
Lockwoods Folly River - All those waters north of a line beginning at a point 33° 55.5678' N - 78° 13.8043' W on the south shore of Spring Creek near the mouth; running easterly to a point 33° 55.4621' N - 78° 13.1714' W near the northern tip of Sheep Island; thence running southeasterly to a point 33° 55.2284' N - 78° 12.7791' W near the northwest point of Horse Island, to include a portion of the Intracoastal Waterway north of Horse and Sheep Islands.

Queens Creek - All those waters in Queens Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 39.8479' N - 77° 09.1171' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 40.2031' N - 77° 08.4408' W on the east shore near the State Park Boat Ramp.

White Oak River - All those waters in White Oak River upstream of the Highway 24 Bridge at Swansboro.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 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 03K .0101.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the N.C. Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. 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.
- D. These temporary closures are due to rainfall and resultant runoff.

BY: 
Kathy B. Rawls, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

January 10, 2024
8:00 A.M.
PA-4-2024