

1 15A NCAC 03M .0523 is proposed for adoption as follows:

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3 **15A NCAC 03M .0523 FALSE ALBACORE**

4 (a) If the level of landings of false albacore in a calendar year exceeds 200 percent of the five-year average of North
5 Carolina recreational and commercial landings combined from 2018-2022, the Fisheries Director shall issue a
6 proclamation as set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule.

7 (b) In accordance with Paragraph (a) of this Rule and after prior consent of the Marine Fisheries Commission, the
8 Fisheries Director shall, by proclamation, impose the following requirements on the taking of false albacore:

9 (1) for recreational purposes, specify a bag limit not to exceed 10 fish per person per day, not to exceed
10 30 fish per vessel per day; and

11 (2) for a commercial fishing operation, specify a trip limit not to exceed 3,500 pounds in any one day
12 or trip, whichever is more restrictive.

13 (c) A proclamation issued in accordance with Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule shall become effective January 1 of
14 the year following the year when the determination is made that a proclamation shall be issued. The proclamation
15 shall expire when the level of landings falls below the landings level in Paragraph (a) of this Rule in a subsequent
16 calendar year and after prior consent of the Marine Fisheries Commission.

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18 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52;*

19 *Eff. May 1, 2025.*