

1 15A NCAC 03J .0301 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

2
3 **SECTION .0300 - POTS, DREDGES, AND OTHER FISHING DEVICES**

4
5 **15A NCAC 03J .0301 POTS**

6 (a) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots except during time periods and in areas specified herein:

7 (1) ~~In Coastal Fishing in Internal Waters from December 1 through May 31, except that that:~~

8 (A) in the Northern Region designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0118(1) all pots shall be removed
9 from Internal Waters from January ~~15~~ 1 through ~~February 7~~ January 31. Fish pots upstream
10 of the U.S. 17 Bridge across Chowan River and upstream of a line across the mouth of
11 Roanoke, Cashie, Middle, and Eastmost Rivers to the Highway 258 Bridge are exempt
12 from ~~the January 15 through February 7~~ this removal requirement. ~~The Fisheries Director~~
13 ~~may, by proclamation, reopen various waters to the use of pots after January 19 if it is~~
14 ~~determined that such waters are free of pots.~~

15 (B) in the Southern Region designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0118(2) all pots shall be removed
16 from Internal Waters from March 1 through March 15.

17 (2) ~~From in Internal Waters from June 1 through November 30, north and east of the Highway 58 Bridge~~
18 ~~at Emerald Isle:~~ 30 in the Northern Region designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0118(1):

19 (A) ~~In~~ in areas described in 15A NCAC 03R ~~.0107(a);~~ 0107(a).

20 (B) ~~To~~ to allow for the variable spatial distribution of crustacea and finfish, the Fisheries
21 Director may, by proclamation, specify time periods for ~~or~~ and designate the areas
22 described in 15A NCAC 03R ~~.0107(b);~~ 0107(b) or any part thereof, for the use of pots.

23 (3) ~~From in Internal Waters from~~ May 1 through November 30 in the Atlantic Ocean and west and south
24 ~~of the Highway 58 Bridge at Emerald Isle in areas and during time periods designated by the~~
25 ~~Fisheries Director by proclamation.~~ Southern Region designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0118(2), the
26 Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, specify time periods and areas for the use of pots.

27 (4) in the Atlantic Ocean from May 1 through November 30 the Fisheries Director may, by
28 proclamation, specify time periods and areas for the use of pots.

29 ~~The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority established in 15A NCAC 03L .0201, further restrict the use~~
30 ~~of pots to take blue crabs.~~

31 (b) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots:

32 (1) in any navigation channel marked by State or Federal agencies; or

33 (2) in any turning basin maintained and marked by the North Carolina Ferry Division.

34 (c) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots in a commercial fishing ~~operation,~~ operation unless each pot is marked by
35 attaching a floating buoy of any color except any shade of yellow or any shade of hot pink, or any combination of
36 colors that include any shade of yellow or any shade of hot pink. ~~that~~ Buoys shall be of solid foam or other solid
37 buoyant material ~~and~~ no less than five inches in diameter and no less than five inches in length. ~~Buoys may be of any~~

1 ~~color except yellow or hot pink or any combination of colors that include yellow or hot pink.~~ The ~~owner~~ gear owner's
2 last name and initials shall ~~always~~ be identified on the attached buoy by using an engraved buoy or by attaching
3 engraved metal or plastic tags ~~attached~~ to the buoy. ~~The~~ If a vessel is used, the identification shall also include one of
4 the following:

- 5 (1) gear owner's current ~~motorboat~~ motor boat registration number; or
- 6 (2) gear owner's U.S. vessel documentation ~~name~~; or name.
- 7 (3) ~~gear owner's last name and initials.~~

8 (d) Pots attached to shore or a pier shall be exempt from Subparagraphs (a)(2) and (a)(3) of this Rule.

9 (e) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use shrimp pots with mesh lengths smaller than one and one-fourth inches stretch or five-
10 eighths-inch bar.

11 (f) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots to take eels with mesh lengths smaller than one-half inch by one-half ~~inch~~, ~~except~~
12 until January 1, 2017 eel pots of any mesh length with an escape panel that is at least four inches square with a mesh
13 length of one inch by one half inch located in the outside panel of the upper chamber of rectangular pots and in the
14 rear portion of cylindrical pots shall be allowed. inch.

15 (g) ~~It is~~ Except for unbaited pots or pots baited with a male crab, it shall be unlawful to use crab pots in Coastal
16 Fishing Waters unless each pot contains no less than ~~two~~ three unobstructed escape rings that are at least two and ~~five~~
17 ~~sixteenths~~ five-sixteenth inches inside diameter ~~and~~; ~~and~~ located in the opposite outside panels of the upper chamber
18 of the pot, except the following are exempt from the escape ring requirements:

- 19 (1) ~~unbaited pots;~~
- 20 (2) ~~pots baited with a male crab; and~~
- 21 (3) ~~pots set in areas and during time periods described in 15A NCAC 03R .0118.~~

22 (1) for pots with a divider:

- 23 (A) two escape rings shall be located on opposite panels of the upper chamber of the pot; and
- 24 (B) at least one escape ring shall be located within one full mesh of the corner and one full
25 mesh of the bottom of the divider in the upper chamber of the pot.

26 (2) for pots without a divider:

- 27 (A) two escape rings shall be located on opposite panels of the pot; and
- 28 (B) at least one escape ring shall be located within one full mesh of the corner and one full
29 mesh of the bottom of the pot.

30 For the purpose of this Rule, a "divider" shall mean a panel that separates the crab pot into upper and lower sections.

31 (h) The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, ~~exempt the escape ring requirements described in Paragraph (g) of~~
32 ~~this Rule in order to allow the harvest of mature female crabs and may impose any or all of the following~~
33 restrictions: restrictions for pots:

- 34 (1) specify time;
- 35 (2) specify area;
- 36 (3) specify means and methods;
- 37 (4) specify requirements for a commercial fishing operation or for recreational purposes;

1 (5) specify record keeping and reporting requirements;

2 ~~(4)~~(6) specify ~~seasons; and~~ season, including a closed season for removal of all pots from Internal Waters;

3 (7) specify species; and

4 ~~(5)~~(8) specify quantity.

5 (i) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use more than 150 crab pots per vessel in Newport River.

6 (j) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to remove crab pots from the water or remove crabs from crab pots between one hour after
7 sunset and one hour before sunrise.

8 (k) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots to take crabs unless the line connecting the pot to the buoy is non-floating.

9 (l) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to use pots with leads or leaders to take shrimp. For the purpose of this Rule, "leads" or
10 "leaders" ~~are defined as~~ shall mean any fixed or stationary net or device used to direct fish into any gear used to capture
11 fish. Any device with leads or leaders used to capture fish shall not be a pot.

12
13 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-173; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52;*

14 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*

15 *Amended Eff. August 1, 1998; May 1, 1997; March 1, 1996; March 1, 1994; October 1, 1992;*
16 *September 1, 1991;*

17 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*

18 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2000;*

19 *Temporary Amendment Eff. September 1, 2000;*

20 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; April 1, 2014; September 1, 2005; August 1, 2004; August 1, 2002;*

21 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03L .0201 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

2
3 **SECTION .0200 – CRABS**
4

5 **15A NCAC 03L .0201 CRAB HARVEST RESTRICTIONS**

6 (a) It shall be unlawful to possess blue crabs taken from Crab Harvest Management Areas designated in 15A NCAC
7 03R .0118(1) from January 1 through January 31, except dealers shall have seven days after the beginning of the
8 closure to sell, offer for sale, or transport blue crabs that were taken from this area prior to the closure.

9 (b) It shall be unlawful to possess blue crabs taken from Crab Harvest Management Areas designated in 15A NCAC
10 03R .0118(2) from March 1 through March 15, except dealers shall have seven days after the beginning of the closure
11 to sell, offer for sale, or transport blue crabs that were taken from this area prior to the closure.

12 ~~(a) It is unlawful to possess more than 10 percent by number in any container, male and immature female hard blue~~
13 ~~crabs less than five inches from tip of spike to tip of spike and to fail to return hard blue crabs not meeting this~~
14 ~~restriction to the waters from which taken, except the Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority established~~
15 ~~in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, further restrict the harvest of blue crabs. All blue crabs not sorted into containers as~~
16 ~~specified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall be deemed hard blue crabs for the purpose of establishing the 10 percent~~
17 ~~culling tolerance.~~

18 ~~(b) It is unlawful to possess blue crabs less than five inches from tip of spike to tip of spike unless individual crabs~~
19 ~~are sorted to and placed in separate containers for each of the following categories:~~

20 ~~(1) — soft crabs;~~

21 ~~(2) — pink and red line peeler crabs;~~

22 ~~(3) — white line peeler crabs; and~~

23 ~~(4) — from March 1 through October 31, male crabs to be used as peeler crab bait.~~

24 ~~The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority established in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, further restrict the~~
25 ~~harvest of blue crabs.~~

26 (c) It shall be unlawful to possess more than five percent by number of the following hard blue crabs in any
27 combination in any container:

28 (1) male hard blue crabs less than five inches from tip of spike to tip of spike;

29 (2) immature female hard blue crabs;

30 (3) mature female hard blue crabs less than five inches from tip of spike to tip of spike; and

31 (4) mature female hard blue crabs with a dark (brown or black) sponge from April 1 through April 30
32 statewide. For the purpose of this Rule, a "mature female hard blue crab with a dark sponge" shall
33 mean a mature female hard crab that has extruded her eggs on the abdomen or abdominal flap and
34 the eggs have developed a coloration ranging from any shade of brown through black.

35 (d) It shall be unlawful to possess blue crabs described in Subparagraphs (c)(1) through (c)(3) of this Rule unless
36 individual crabs are sorted and placed into separate containers for each of the following categories:

37 (1) soft crabs;

- 1 (2) pink and red-line peeler crabs;
- 2 (3) white line peeler crabs; and
- 3 (4) from March 1 through October 31, male crabs to be used as peeler crab bait.

4 All blue crabs not sorted into containers as specified shall be deemed hard blue crabs for the purpose of establishing
5 the five percent tolerance described in Paragraph (c) of this Rule.

6 ~~(e)(c) It is shall be unlawful to possess more than five percent by number of white-line peelers-peeler crabs in a~~
7 ~~container of pink and red-line peeler crabs, peelers, except the Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority~~
8 ~~established in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, further restrict the harvest of blue crabs.~~

9 ~~(d)(f) It is shall be unlawful to:~~

- 10 (1) sell white-line peelers; peeler crabs;
- 11 (2) possess white-line peelers-peeler crabs unless they are to be used in the harvester's permitted blue
12 crab shedding operation; ~~and or~~
- 13 (3) possess male white-line peelers-peeler crabs from June 1 through September 1.

14 ~~The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority established in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, further restrict the~~
15 ~~harvest of blue crabs.~~

16 ~~(e)(g) It is shall be unlawful to possess more than 50 blue crabs per person per day, not to exceed 100 blue crabs per~~
17 ~~vessel per day for recreational purposes, purposes, except the Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority~~
18 ~~established in Paragraph (f) of this Rule, further restrict the harvest of blue crabs.~~

19 ~~(f)(h) In order to comply with management measures adopted in the N.C. Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan, the~~
20 ~~Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, close the harvest of blue crabs and take the following actions for may further~~
21 ~~restrict commercial and recreational blue crab harvest; harvest by imposing any of the following requirements on the~~
22 ~~taking of blue crabs:~~

- 23 (1) specify areas;
- 24 (2) specify seasons;
- 25 (3) specify time periods;
- 26 (4) specify means and methods;
- 27 (5) specify culling tolerance; and
- 28 (6) specify limits on harvest based on size, quantity, sex, reproductive stage, or peeler stage.

29 (i) It shall be unlawful to fail to immediately return hard blue crabs not meeting the requirements of this Rule to the
30 waters from which they were taken.

31
32 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52;*
33 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*
34 *Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1993;*
35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*
36 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2014; September 1, 2005; August 1, 2000;*
37 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03L .0202 is proposed for re adoption with substantive changes as follows:

2
3 **15A NCAC 03L .0202 CRAB TRAWLING**

4 (a) It ~~is~~shall be unlawful to take or possess aboard a vessel crabs taken by trawl in internal waters except in areas and
5 during such times as the Fisheries Director may specify by proclamation.

6 (b) It ~~is~~shall be unlawful to use a trawl to take crabs that does not meet mesh length requirements, except as provided
7 in 15A NCAC 03J .0104. The minimum mesh length to take hard crabs with a trawl ~~is~~shall be three inches, except:

8 (1) ~~The~~the minimum mesh length ~~is~~shall be four inches in the area of western Pamlico Sound west of
9 a line beginning at a point 35° 48.3693' N - 75° 43.7232' W on Roanoke Marshes Point; running
10 easterly to a point 35° 48.3000' N - 75° 37.1167' W near Beacon "1" at the southern end of Roanoke
11 Island; running southerly to a point 35° 30.7500' N - 75° 40.5667' W near the "S" Beacon at Long
12 Shoal; running southwesterly to a point 35° 12.6167' N - 76° 04.3833' W near the "BL" Beacon on
13 Bluff Shoal; running westerly to a point 35° 08.1000' N - 76° 17.5000' W near the "BI" Beacon at
14 Brant Island Shoal; running southwesterly to a point 35° 04 .6167' N - 76° 27.8000' W on Point of
15 Marsh; and

16 (2) ~~The~~the Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, specify areas other than the area described in
17 Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule for trawl mesh length use and increase the minimum trawl mesh
18 length to no more than four inches to take hard crabs.

19 (c) It ~~is~~shall be unlawful to use a trawl with a mesh length less than two inches or with a combined total headrope
20 length exceeding 25 feet to take soft or peeler crabs, except as provided in 15A NCAC 03J .0104.

21
22 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52;*

23 *Eff. February 1, 1991;*

24 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2014; September 1, 2005; August 1, 2004; March 1, 1994; September 1, 1991;*

25 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03L .0203 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 03L .0203 CRAB DREDGING**

4 ~~(a) It is shall be~~ unlawful to take crabs with dredges ~~except:except~~

5 (1) ~~from January 1 through March 1 in the area of Pamlico Sound described in 15A NCAC 03R .0109;~~
6 ~~and~~

7 (2) ~~incidental to lawful oyster dredging operations in areas not subject to the exception in Subparagraph~~
8 ~~(a)(1) of this Rule provided the weight of the crabs shall not exceed:exceed the lesser of:~~

9 ~~(A)(1) 50-10 percent of the total weight of the combined oyster and crab catch; or~~

10 ~~(B)(2) 500 pounds, whichever is less:100 pounds.~~

11 The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation authority established in 15A NCAC 03L .0201, further restrict the use
12 of dredges to take blue crabs.

13 ~~(b) It is unlawful to take crabs with dredges between sunset and sunrise and between sunset on any Saturday and~~
14 ~~sunrise on the following Monday, except in the Atlantic Ocean.~~

15

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

17 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*

18 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2014; May 1, 1997;*

19 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03L .0204 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 03L .0204 CRAB POTS**

4 (a) It ~~is~~ shall be unlawful to take crabs with pots except as provided in 15A NCAC 03J .0301 and .0302. The Fisheries
5 Director may, by proclamation authority established in 15A NCAC 03L .0201, further restrict the use of pots to take
6 blue crabs.

7 (b) The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, require the use of terrapin excluder devices in each funnel entrance
8 in crab pots and impose the following restrictions concerning terrapin excluder devices:

- 9 (1) specify areas;
10 (2) specify time periods; and
11 (3) specify means and methods.

12

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

14 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*

15 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2014;*

16 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03L .0205 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

2

3 **15A NCAC 03L .0205 CRAB SPAWNING SANCTUARIES**

4 (a) It ~~is shall be~~ unlawful to set or use trawls, pots, ~~and or~~ mechanical methods for ~~oysters or clams shellfish~~ or take
5 crabs with the use of commercial fishing equipment ~~from the crab spawning sanctuaries described in 15A NCAC 03R~~
6 ~~.0110 from March 1 through August 31~~ in crab spawning sanctuaries:

7 (1) from March 1 through August 31 for the crab spawning sanctuaries described in 15A NCAC 03R
8 .0110(1); and

9 (2) from March 1 through October 31 for the crab spawning sanctuaries described in 15A NCAC 03R
10 .0110(2).

11 (b) The Fisheries Director may, by proclamation, designate additional areas as crab spawning sanctuaries and may
12 impose the following restrictions in any crab spawning sanctuary:

- 13 (1) specify areas;
- 14 (2) specify time periods;
- 15 (3) specify means and methods; and
- 16 (4) specify limits on harvest based on size, quantity, sex, reproductive stage, or peeler stage.

17

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

19 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*

20 *Amended Eff. May 1, 1997;*

21 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 2, 1999;*

22 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2014; April 1, 2001;*

23 *Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).*

1 15A NCAC 03R .0110 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2
3 **15A NCAC 03R .0110 CRAB SPAWNING SANCTUARIES**

4 The crab spawning sanctuaries ~~within which the taking of crabs may be restricted or prohibited are described as~~
5 ~~follows:~~ referenced in 15A NCAC 03L .0205 are delineated in the following coastal fishing waters:

6 (1) in Areas from Barden Inlet and North:

7 ~~(1)(a) In~~ (1)(a) In the Oregon Inlet Area. ~~Beginning Area: beginning~~ Beginning Area: beginning at a point on the Atlantic Ocean
8 shore of Bodie Island 35° 47.7054' N - 75° 32.3522' W; running northeasterly to a point in
9 the Atlantic Ocean 35° 47.9833' N - 75° 31.8500' W; running southerly to a point in the
10 ocean 35° 46.3500' N - 75° 30.6666' W; running westerly to a point on the Atlantic Ocean
11 shore at 35° 46.1037' N - 75° 31.2785' W; running northerly along the Atlantic shore of
12 Pea Island to and around South Point and continuing southerly along the shore of Pamlico
13 Sound to a point on the south point of Eagle Nest Bay at 35° 43.7085' N - 75° 30.8009' W;
14 running westerly to a point in Pamlico Sound at 35° 43.7100' N - 75° 32.2113' W; running
15 northerly to a point 35° 47.3992' N - 75° 34.1650' W in Pamlico Sound; running northerly
16 to a point on Bodie Island ~~35° 48.5740' N - 75° 33.8722' W;~~ 35° 48.7740' N - 75° 33.8722'
17 W; running southerly along the shore to and around North Point at Oregon Inlet and then
18 northerly on the Atlantic shore to the point of beginning;

19 ~~(2)(b) In~~ (2)(b) In the Hatteras Inlet Area. ~~Beginning Area: beginning~~ Beginning Area: beginning at a point on the Pamlico Sound
20 shoreline of Hatteras Island 35° 12.0846' N - 75° 43.3514' W; running northwesterly to a
21 point in Pamlico Sound 35° 13.6361' N - 75° 45.4451' W; running southwestly to a point
22 near Outer Green Island 35° 11.0794' N - 75° 48.4440' W; running southeasterly to a point
23 on the Pamlico Sound shore of Ocracoke Island 35° 10.7004' N - 75° 47.9094' W; running
24 northeasterly along the shoreline to a point on the northeastern tip of Ocracoke Island 35°
25 11.2340' N - 75° 46.3051' W; running southeasterly to a point in the Atlantic Ocean at 35°
26 10.6644' N - 75° 44.5221' W; running northeasterly to a point on the ocean shoreline of
27 Hatteras Island ~~35° 11.7894' N - 75° 43.5946' W;~~ 35° 11.7895' N - 75° 43.5947' W;
28 running southwestly around the tip of Hatteras Island to the point of beginning;

29 ~~(3)(c) In~~ (3)(c) In the Ocracoke Inlet Area. ~~Beginning Area: beginning~~ Beginning Area: beginning at a point on Ocracoke Island
30 35° 06.2555' N - 75° 59.3722' W; running westerly through Shellcastle Island to a point in
31 Pamlico Sound 35° 05.8599' N - 76° 04.3639' W; running southerly to a point on
32 Portsmouth Island ~~35° 03.7378' N - 76° 04.7850' W;~~ 35° 03.7379' N - 76° 04.7850' W;
33 running northeasterly along the shore of Pamlico Sound around the western side of
34 Ocracoke Inlet and southwestly along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean to a point 35°
35 03.0500' N - 76° 03.0833' W; running southeasterly offshore to a point in the Atlantic
36 Ocean 35° 02.6333' N - 76° 02.7166' W; running northeasterly to a point in the ocean 35°
37 03.9666' N - 75° 59.3000' W; running northwesterly to a point on the Atlantic shore of

1 Ocracoke Island 35° 04.7402' N -75° 59.7124' W; running southwesterly along the shore
2 around the eastern side of Ocracoke Inlet and northeasterly along the shore to the point of
3 beginning;

4 (4)(d) ~~In the Drum Inlet Area. Beginning at a point on the Core Sound shore of Core Banks 34°~~
5 ~~52.81101' N - 76° 17.1780' W; running northwesterly to a point in Core Sound 34° 53.7347'~~
6 ~~N - 76° 18.0439' W; running southwesterly to a point in Core Sound 34° 50.8286' N - 76°~~
7 ~~21.2515' W; running southeasterly to a point on the Core Sound shore of Core Banks 34°~~
8 ~~50.1496' N - 76° 20.3924' W; following the shoreline in a northeasterly direction around~~
9 ~~the western side of Drum Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Core~~
10 ~~Banks 34° 50.0049' N - 76° 20.3741' W; running southeasterly to a point in the Atlantic~~
11 ~~Ocean 34° 49.4995' N - 76° 19.8407' W; running northeasterly to a point in the Atlantic~~
12 ~~Ocean 34° 52.2167' N - 76° 16.7476' W; running northwesterly to a point on the ocean~~
13 ~~shore of Core Banks 34° 52.6147' N - 76° 17.0705' W; running southwesterly toward and~~
14 ~~around the eastern side of Drum Inlet, then in a northeasterly direction along the Core~~
15 ~~Sound shore of Core Sound to the point of beginning; Ophelia and Drum Inlet Area:~~
16 ~~beginning at a point on the Core Sound shore of Core Banks 34° 51.7718' N - 76° 18.5093'~~
17 ~~W; running northwesterly to a point in Core Sound 34° 52.3431' N - 76° 19.1661' W;~~
18 ~~running southwesterly to a point near Marker "27" in Core Sound 34° 50.6411' N - 76°~~
19 ~~22.0094' W; running southwesterly to a point in Core Sound 34° 49.0120' N - 76° 23.0288'~~
20 ~~W; running southeasterly to a point on the Core Sound shore of Core Banks 34° 48.6143'~~
21 ~~N - 76° 22.3033' W; following the shoreline in a northeasterly direction around the western~~
22 ~~side of Ophelia Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline southwesterly to a point on~~
23 ~~Core Banks 34° 48.9349' N - 76° 21.4582' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the~~
24 ~~shoreline from the mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the~~
25 ~~Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on Core~~
26 ~~Banks 34° 51.6790' N - 76° 18.3829' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean~~
27 ~~shoreline toward and around the eastern side of Ophelia Inlet, then northeasterly along the~~
28 ~~Core Sound shore of Core Banks to the point of beginning; and~~

29 (5)(c) ~~In the Bardens Inlet Area. Beginning at a point on Core Banks near the southern side of~~
30 ~~Hogpen Bay 34° 40.7047' N - 76° 29.6108' W; running westerly to a point near Marker "35"~~
31 ~~at 34° 40.7071' N - 76° 31.5922' W; running southwesterly to a point on Shackleford Banks~~
32 ~~34° 38.9974' N - 76° 32.4858' W; running southeasterly around the eastern end of~~
33 ~~Shackleford Banks and then northwesterly along the ocean shoreline to a point on shore~~
34 ~~34° 38.5608' N - 76° 32.6863' W; running southwesterly through Buoy "4" to Buoy "2" at~~
35 ~~the end of the Cape Lookout Jetty 34° 37.1272' N - 76° 33.7381' W; running southeasterly~~
36 ~~to the base of the Cape Lookout Jetty 34° 36.7836' N - 76° 33.1569' W; running northerly~~
37 ~~to the end of Power Squadron Spit, around Lookout Bight and northerly up Core Banks to~~

1 the point of beginning - Barden Inlet Area: beginning at a point on the Core Sound shore of
2 Core Banks 34° 40.7131' N – 76° 28.9495' W; running northwesterly to a point on Harkers
3 Island 34° 41.0674' N – 76° 31.5834' W; running southwesterly to a point on Shackleford
4 Banks 34° 39.5418' N - 76° 34.0451' W; following the shoreline in southeasterly direction
5 around the northern side of Barden Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
6 northwesterly to a point on Shackleford Banks 34° 38.7748' N - 76° 32.8463' W; running
7 southwesterly to a point in the Atlantic Ocean 34° 38.2938' N - 76° 33.5130' W; running
8 southerly to a point near Buoy "2" at the end of the Cape Lookout Jetty in the Atlantic
9 Ocean 34° 37.1253' N - 76° 33.7446' W; running southeasterly to a point on Cape Lookout
10 34° 36.7229' N - 76° 33.0514' W; running northerly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
11 toward and around the southern side of Barden Inlet to a point on Cape Lookout 34°
12 36.5492' N - 76° 32.2416' W, then running northeasterly along the Core Sound shore of
13 Core Banks to the point of beginning.

14 (2) in Areas from Beaufort Inlet and West and South:

15 (a) Beaufort Inlet Area: beginning at a point on the Back Sound side of Shackleford Banks 34°
16 41.0017' N - 76° 37.7538' W; running northerly to a point on Carrot Island 34° 42.3553' N
17 - 76° 37.1124' W; running westerly along the shoreline to a point on Carrot Island 34°
18 42.6291' N - 76° 38.6608' W; running westerly to a point on Town Marsh 34° 42.6394' N -
19 76° 38.7442' W; running westerly along the shoreline to a point on Town Marsh 34°
20 42.7915' N - 76° 40.2489' W; running westerly to a point on Bird Shoal 34° 42.7694' N -
21 76° 40.4764' W; running northerly to a point on Pivers Island 34° 42.9294' N - 76° 40.4301'
22 W; running northerly along the shoreline to a point on Pivers Island 34° 43.1892' N - 76°
23 40.3873' W; running northerly to a point on Radio Island 34° 43.2344' N - 76° 40.4099' W;
24 running along the shoreline to a point on Radio Island 34° 43.2770' N - 76° 41.2422' W;
25 running along the south side of the Highway 70 Bridge over the Newport River to a point
26 near the Morehead City Port 34° 43.2419' N - 76° 41.7067' W; running southerly along the
27 shore to a point near the Morehead City Port 34° 42.9560' N - 76° 41.6986' W; running
28 southwesterly to a point on Goat Island 34° 42.7185' N - 76° 41.9145' W; running
29 southeasterly along the shoreline to a point on Goat Island 34° 42.2031' N - 76° 41.3923'
30 W; running southwesterly to a point on shore near Fort Macon State Park 34° 42.1709' N -
31 76° 41.3693' W; following the shoreline in a southwesterly direction around the western
32 shoreline of Beaufort Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Bogue
33 Banks 34° 41.6480' N - 76° 42.0986' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline
34 from the mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean
35 and running easterly then southeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on
36 Shackleford Banks 34° 40.6129' N - 76° 38.1521' W; running northwesterly along the

1 Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the eastern side of Beaufort Inlet, then running easterly
2 along the Back Sound shore of Shackleford Banks to the point of beginning;

3 (b) Bogue Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Bogue Banks 34° 39.1828' N - 77° 05.8503' W;
4 running northerly to a point 34° 40.1526' N - 77° 05.6346' W; running northerly to a point
5 34° 40.2531' N - 77° 05.6385' W; running westerly to a point 34° 40.2550' N - 77° 05.9450'
6 W; running southerly to a point 34° 40.1732' N - 77° 05.9616' W; running southerly to a
7 point 34° 39.9629' N - 77° 06.1038' W; running southerly to a point 34° 39.5209' N - 77°
8 06.4042; running southwestery to a point 34° 39.0599' N - 77° 07.3287' W; running
9 southerly to a point on Bear Island 34° 38.3856' N - 77° 07.2373'; following the shoreline
10 in a northeasterly direction around the western shoreline of Bogue Inlet then along the
11 Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Bear Island 34° 37.5607' N - 77° 09.5752' W;
12 extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline from the mean high water line and the
13 COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning
14 to shore parallel to a point on Bogue Banks 34° 38.7491' N - 77° 05.2548' W; running
15 southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the eastern side of Bogue Inlet to
16 a point 34° 38.7686' N - 77° 06.0596' W; running northerly to a point 34° 38.9900' N - 77°
17 06.1269' W, then running northeasterly to the point of beginning;

18 (c) Bear Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Bear Island 34° 37.7852' N - 77° 09.7128' W;
19 running northerly to a point 34° 37.8817' N - 77° 09.7698' W; running southwestery to a
20 point 34° 37.6695' N - 77° 10.4134' W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 37.8105' N -
21 77° 10.5849' W; running southwestery to a point on Saunders Island 34° 37.4531' N - 77°
22 11.0624' W; running southeasterly to a point on Browns Island 34° 37.2216' N - 77°
23 10.8461' W; following the shoreline in northeasterly direction around the western shoreline
24 of Bear Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Browns Island 34°
25 36.1188' N - 77° 13.0193' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline from the
26 mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and
27 running northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on Bear Island 34° 37.5607'
28 N - 77° 09.5752' W; running southwestery along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the
29 eastern shoreline of Bear Inlet, then northeasterly along the shore to the point of beginning;

30 (d) Browns Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Browns Island 34° 35.8978' N - 77° 13.8409'
31 W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 36.0015' N - 77° 13.9606' W; running westerly to
32 a point 34° 35.9360' N - 77° 14.1340' W; running southerly to a point 34° 35.6631' N - 77°
33 14.1270' W; following the shoreline in a northeasterly direction around the western
34 shoreline of Browns Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point 34° 33.7692'
35 N - 77° 16.8043' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline from the mean high
36 water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running
37 northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on Browns Island 34° 36.1188' N -

- 1 77° 13.0193' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the
2 eastern shoreline of Browns Inlet, then northerly along the shore to the point of beginning;
- 3 (e) New River Inlet Area: beginning at a point on shore on the south side of Wards Channel
4 34° 32.2064' N - 77° 19.8404' W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 33.1386' N - 77°
5 20.8902' W; running westerly to a point 34° 33.1097' N - 77° 21.1013' W; running
6 southeasterly to a point 34° 32.3473' N - 77° 20.6013' W; running southwesterly to a point
7 on Topsail Island 34° 32.1096' N - 77° 20.8447' W; following the shore line in a southerly
8 direction around the western shoreline of New River Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean
9 shoreline to a point 34° 31.3352' N - 77° 21.1694' W; extending 100 yards seaward from
10 the shoreline from the mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the
11 Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point 34°
12 33.7692' N - 77° 16.8043' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
13 around the eastern shoreline of New River Inlet, then northeasterly along the shore to the
14 point of beginning;
- 15 (f) Topsail Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Topsail Island 34° 21.9619' N - 77° 37.8381' W;
16 running northwesterly to a point in Topsail Sound 34° 22.1071' N - 77° 37.9944' W; running
17 southwesterly to a point near Marker "5" 34° 21.7185' N - 77° 38.3499' W; running
18 southwesterly to a point near Marker "3" 34° 21.5798' N - 77° 38.5928' W; running
19 southwesterly to a point near Marker "1" 34° 21.1055' N - 77° 39.1749' W; running
20 northwesterly to a point 34° 21.2065' N - 77° 39.6127' W; running southwesterly to a point
21 34° 20.7450' N - 77° 40.3682' W; running southerly to a point 34° 20.3011' N - 77° 40.3728'
22 W; following the shoreline in a northeasterly direction around the western shoreline of
23 Topsail Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Lea-Hutaff Island 34°
24 20.0228' N - 77° 40.4332' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline from the
25 mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and
26 running northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on Topsail Island 34°
27 20.8762' N - 77° 38.9403' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
28 around the eastern shore of Topsail Inlet, then northeasterly along the Topsail Sound shore
29 of Topsail Island to the point of beginning;
- 30 (g) Rich Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Lea-Hutaff Island 34° 18.1292' N - 77° 42.6492'
31 W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 18.2851' N - 77° 42.9352' W; running
32 southwesterly to a point 34° 18.0190' N - 77° 43.2798' W; running southerly to a point on
33 Figure Eight Island 34° 17.5649' N - 77° 43.1649' W; following the shoreline in an easterly
34 direction around the southern shoreline of Rich Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean
35 shoreline to a point on Figure Eight Island 34° 17.2243' N - 77° 43.2491' W; extending 100
36 yards seaward from the shoreline from the mean high water line and the COLREG
37 Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning to shore

1 parallel to a point on Lea-Hutaff Island 34° 18.1251' N - 77° 42.4352' W; running
2 southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the northern shoreline of Rich
3 Inlet, then northeasterly along the shore to the point of beginning;

4 (h) Mason Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Figure Eight Island 34° 14.9536' N - 77° 45.9567'
5 W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 15.0409' N - 77° 46.1766' W; running southwesterly
6 to a point 34° 14.8657' N - 77° 46.4044' W; running southwesterly to a point 34° 14.7256'
7 N - 77° 46.5348' W; running southerly to a point on Shell Island 34° 14.2036' N - 77°
8 46.5189' W; following the shoreline in a northeasterly direction around the southern
9 shoreline of Mason Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Shell Island
10 34° 14.1375' N - 77° 46.4263' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline from the
11 mean high water line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and
12 running northeasterly and returning to shore parallel to a point on Figure Eight Island 34°
13 14.8474' N - 77° 45.7857' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
14 around the northern shoreline of Mason Inlet, then northeasterly along the shore to the point
15 of beginning;

16 (i) Masonboro Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Wrightsville Beach 34° 11.3446' N - 77°
17 48.7458' W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 11.4604' N - 77° 49.0510' W; running
18 northwesterly to a point 34° 11.5164' N - 77° 49.2368' W; running northwesterly to a point
19 34° 11.5255' N - 77° 49.2652' W; running northwesterly to a point 34° 11.5700' N - 77°
20 49.4425' W; running southwesterly to a point 34° 11.3553' N - 77° 49.5924' W; running
21 easterly to a point 34° 11.3737' N - 77° 49.4628' W; running easterly to a point 34° 11.3737'
22 N - 77° 49.4345' W; following the shoreline southeasterly to a point 34° 11.2551' N - 77°
23 49.2287' W; running southerly to a point on Masonboro Island 34° 10.8451' N - 77°
24 49.0242' W; following the shoreline in an easterly direction around the southern shoreline
25 of Masonboro Inlet through a point at the base of the jetty 34° 10.8814' N - 77° 48.7074'
26 W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Masonboro
27 Island 34° 10.5221' N - 77° 49.1658' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the shoreline
28 and the Atlantic Ocean side of the jetties from the mean high water line and the COLREG
29 Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and returning to shore parallel to a point 34°
30 11.5753' N - 77° 48.3061' W; running southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
31 through a point at the base of the jetty 34° 11.2076' N - 77° 48.5555' W, around the northern
32 shoreline of Masonboro Inlet then northeasterly along the shore to the point of beginning;

33 (j) Carolina Beach Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Masonboro Island 34° 04.8168' N - 77°
34 52.8796' W; running southerly to a point 34° 04.4997' N - 77° 53.0080' W; following the
35 shoreline in an easterly direction to a point 34° 04.5022' N - 77° 52.7982' W; running
36 easterly to a point on Pleasure Island 34° 04.5102' N - 77° 52.7340' W; following the
37 shoreline in an easterly direction around the southern shoreline of Carolina Beach Inlet

1 then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Pleasure Island 34° 04.3505' N - 77°
2 52.5048' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the mean high water line and the COLREG
3 Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning to shore
4 parallel to a point on Masonboro Island 34° 05.2151' N - 77° 52.1472' W; running
5 southeasterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the northern shoreline of Carolina
6 Beach Inlet, then westerly along the shore to the point of beginning;

7 (k) Cape Fear River Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Bald Head Island 33° 52.7072' N - 78°
8 00.0449' W; running northeasterly to a point 33° 53.6135' N - 77° 59.2549' W; running
9 northerly to a point 33° 54.4086' N - 77° 59.0330' W; running northerly to a point 33°
10 54.8399' N - 77° 58.9115' W; running westerly to a point at Southport 33° 54.9503' N - 78°
11 01.3581' W; running southerly to a point on Fort Caswell 33° 53.7948' N - 78° 01.0782' W;
12 following the shoreline in a southerly direction around the western shoreline of Cape Fear
13 River Inlet then westerly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Caswell Beach
14 33° 53.4293' N - 78° 01.7604' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the mean high water
15 line and the COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running southerly to
16 point near Buoy "12" 33° 51.8213' N - 78° 01.0179' W; running southeasterly to a point 33°
17 51.1999' N - 78° 00.0632' W; running northeasterly to a point on Bald Head Island 33°
18 51.3488' N - 77° 59.9222' W; running northwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline
19 around the eastern shore of Cape Fear River Inlet, then northeasterly along the shore to the
20 point of beginning;

21 (l) Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area: beginning at a point on Oak Island 33° 54.9392' N - 78°
22 13.6711' W; running northerly to a point on Sheep Island 33° 55.0837' N - 78° 13.6753' W;
23 following the shoreline northwesterly to a point on Sheep Island 33° 55.2263' N - 78°
24 13.9395' W; running westerly to a point on Holden Beach 33° 55.1794' N - 78° 14.3132'
25 W; following the shoreline in a southwesterly direction around the western shore of
26 Lockwoods Folly Inlet then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Holden Beach
27 33° 54.8695' N - 78° 14.6180' W; running southerly to a point in the Atlantic Ocean 33°
28 54.6076' N - 78° 14.6026' W; running easterly to a point in the Atlantic Ocean 33° 54.5564'
29 N - 78 14.0529' W; running northerly to a point on Oak Island 33° 54.8853' N - 78° 14.0041'
30 W; running northwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the eastern shore of
31 Lockwoods Folly Inlet, then easterly along the shore to the point of beginning;

32 (m) Shallotte Inlet Area: beginning at a point near Monks Island 33° 54.5773' N - 78° 22.8077'
33 W; running southwesterly to a point on Ocean Isle Beach 33° 54.2436' N - 78° 23.2758' W;
34 following the shoreline in a southerly direction around the western shore of Shallotte Inlet
35 then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Ocean Isle Beach 33° 53.8151' N -
36 78° 23.7753' W; extending 100 yards seaward from the mean high water line and the
37 COLREG Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running easterly and returning to

1 shore parallel to a point on Big Beach 33° 54.1103' N - 78° 21.9540' W; running westerly
2 along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the eastern shore of Shallotte Inlet, then
3 northerly along the shore to the point of beginning; and

4 (n) Tubbs Inlet Area: beginning at a point on the Jinks Creek shore of Ocean Isle Beach 33°
5 52.5844' N - 78° 28.6583' W; running northerly to a point 33° 52.7734' N - 78° 28.7428' W;
6 running southwesterly to a point 33° 52.6815' N - 78° 29.0080' W; running southwesterly
7 to a point on the Eastern Channel shore of Sunset Beach 33° 52.3878' N - 78° 29.1301' W;
8 following the shoreline in an easterly direction around the western shore of Tubbs Inlet
9 then along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to a point on Sunset Beach 33° 52.3250' N - 78°
10 29.1865' W; extending 100 yards seaward of the mean high water line and the COLREG
11 Demarcation Line in the Atlantic Ocean and running northeasterly and returning to shore
12 parallel to a point on Ocean Isle Beach 33° 52.5676' N - 78° 28.4027' W; running
13 southwesterly along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline around the eastern shore of Tubbs Inlet
14 then in a northerly direction along the shore to the point of beginning.

15
16 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-182; 143B-289.52;*
17 *Eff. January 1, 1991;*
18 *Amended Eff. September 1, 1991;*
19 *Recodified from 15A NCAC 03R .0010 Eff. December 17, 1996;*
20 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2004;*
21 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9,*
22 *2018;*
23 *Amended Eff. (Pending legislative review of 15A NCAC 03L .0205).*

1 15A NCAC 03R .0118 is proposed for amendment as follows:

2
3 **15A NCAC 03R .0118 ~~EXEMPTED CRAB POT ESCAPE RING AREAS~~ CRAB HARVEST**
4 **MANAGEMENT AREAS**

5 The areas referenced in 15A NCAC ~~03J-0301(g)~~ 03L .0201(a) and (b) are delineated in the following coastal fishing
6 waters:

- 7 (1) Pamlico Sound ~~within the area described by a line beginning at a point 35° 43.7457' N 75°~~
8 ~~30.7014' W on the south shore of Eagles Nest Bay on Pea Island; running westerly to a point 35°~~
9 ~~42.9500' N 75° 34.1500' W; running southerly to a point 35° 39.3500' N 75° 34.4000' W; running~~
10 ~~southeasterly to a point 35° 35.8931' N 75° 31.1514' W in Chicamacomico Channel near Beacon~~
11 ~~"ICC"; running southerly to a point 35° 28.5610' N 75° 31.5825' W on Gull Island; running~~
12 ~~southwesterly to a point 35° 22.8671' N 75° 33.5851' W in Avon Channel near Beacon "1AV";~~
13 ~~running southwesterly to a point 35° 18.9603' N 75° 36.0817' W in Cape Channel near Beacon~~
14 ~~"2"; running westerly to a point 35° 16.7588' N 75° 44.2554' W in Rollinson Channel near Beacon~~
15 ~~"42RC"; running southwesterly to a point 35° 14.0337' N 75° 45.9643' W southwest of Oliver Reef~~
16 ~~near the quick flashing beacon; running westerly to a point 35° 09.3650' N 76° 00.6377' W in Big~~
17 ~~Foot Slough Channel near Beacon "14BF"; running southwesterly to a point 35° 08.4523' N 76°~~
18 ~~02.6651' W in Nine Foot Shoal Channel near Beacon "9"; running westerly to a point 35° 07.1000'~~
19 ~~N 76° 06.9000' W; running southwesterly to a point 35° 01.4985' N 76° 11.4353' W near Beacon~~
20 ~~"HL"; running southwesterly to a point 35° 00.2728' N 76° 12.1903' W near Beacon "1CS";~~
21 ~~running southerly to a point 34° 59.5027' N 76° 12.3204' W in Wainwright Channel immediately~~
22 ~~east of the northern tip of Wainwright Island; running southwesterly to a point 34° 59.3610' N 76°~~
23 ~~12.6040' W on Wainwright Island; running easterly to a point at 34° 58.7853' N 76° 09.8922' W~~
24 ~~on Core Banks; running easterly and northerly along the shoreline across the inlets following the~~
25 ~~COLREGS Demarcation line up the Outer Banks to the point of beginning.~~
26 Northern Region: All
27 Coastal Fishing Waters of the state north and east of a line extending southeast from the Highway
28 58 Bridge to a point offshore at 34° 36.3292' N - 77° 02.5940' W to the North Carolina/Virginia
29 state line.
30 (2) Newport River, from April 1 through June 15 ~~within the area described by a line beginning at a~~
31 ~~point 34° 49.5080' N 76° 41.4440' W; running westerly along the south side of the Highway 101~~
32 ~~Bridge over Core Creek to a point on the west shore 34° 49.5260' N 76° 41.5130' W; running along~~
33 ~~the shoreline of Newport River and its tributaries to a point 34° 49.3050' N 76° 44.2350' W; running~~
34 ~~westerly along the south side of the Highway 101 Bridge over Harlowe Canal to a point on the west~~
35 ~~shore 34° 49.2980' N 76° 44.2610' W; running along the shoreline of Newport River and its~~
36 ~~tributaries to a point 34° 45.2478' N 76° 46.4479' W; running southerly along the Inland Coastal~~
37 ~~Waters boundary line to a point 34° 45.1840' N 76° 46.4488' W; running along the shoreline of~~
~~Newport River and its tributaries to a point 34° 43.2520' N 76° 41.6840' W; running easterly along~~

1 ~~the north side of the Highway 70 Bridge over Newport River to a point 34° 43.2840' N - 76° 41.2200'~~
2 ~~W; running along the shoreline of Newport River and its tributaries to a point 34° 43.3530' N - 76°~~
3 ~~40.2080' W; running easterly across Gallant Channel to a point 34° 43.3521' N - 76° 40.0871' W;~~
4 ~~running along the shoreline of Newport River and its tributaries back to the point of~~
5 ~~beginning.~~Southern Region: All Coastal Fishing Waters of the State south and west of a line
6 extending southeast from the Highway 58 Bridge to a point offshore at 34° 36.3292' N - 77° 02.5940'
7 W to the North Carolina/South Carolina state line.

8
9 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-182; 143B-289.52;*
10 *Eff. April 1, 2014;*
11 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9,*
12 *2018;*
13 *Amended Eff. (Pending legislative review of 15A NCAC 03L .0201).*