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 changes in shellfish harvesting areas will take effect at sunrise, Saturday, August 27, 2022.

All those waters in Pender and Onslow Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the August 1 and August 20, 2022, temporary closures except the following which remain closed:

PENDER / ONSLOW COUNTIES

All those waters bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34°19.5068’N -77°42.9887’ W on the mainland; running southerly near IWW Marker “105” and following the eastern shore of Green Channel to the southern tip of Hutaff Island near Rich Inlet, and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 11.5660’N - 77° 49.6758’ W on the mainland; running southeasterly near IWW Marker “129” to a point 34° 11.3991’N - 77° 49.3386’ W on the south shore of Shinn Creek; thence running southeasterly to a point 34° 10.9146’N - 77° 48.9429’ W on the northern tip of Masonboro Island, to include Middle Sound, Pages Creek, and portions of Topsail Sound.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between IWW Marker “98A” (34° 21.3210’N - 77° 40.8610’ W) near Forest Sound Marina and IWW Marker “105” (34° 19.4274’N - 77° 42.9507’ W) near Green Channel, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland in Stump Sound between the North Topsail High Rise Bridge and Beacon “49” near Morris Landing, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER COUNTIES

All those waters between IWW Beacon “1” near Southport and the South Carolina State Line, to include the Tubbs Inlet area, Ocean Isle Beach, Shallotte River, Shallotte River Inlet area, Holden Beach, Lockwoods Folly River, and Lockwoods Folly River Inlet area.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between IWW Marker “129” (34° 11.5153’N - 77° 49.5764’ W) near Shinn Creek and IWW Marker “141” (34° 07.7515’N - 77° 51.9560’ W) near Peden Point, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

All those waters bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34°19.5068’N -77°42.9887’ W on the mainland; running southerly near IWW Marker “105” and following the eastern shore of Green Channel to the southern tip of Hutaff Island near Rich Inlet, and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 11.5660’N - 77° 49.6758’ W on the mainland; running southeasterly near IWW Marker “129” to a point 34° 11.3991’N - 77° 49.3386’ W on the south shore of Shinn Creek; thence running southeasterly to a point 34° 10.9146’N - 77° 48.9429’ W on the northern tip of Masonboro Island, to include Middle Sound, Pages Creek, and portions of Topsail Sound.
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. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: A portion of Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, Chadwick Bay, and Queens Creek.

E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results and sufficient time having elapsed to reduce pathogens that might have been present to acceptable levels.

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

August 26, 2022
12:45 P.M.
PA-76-2022