



**PA-42-2023**

**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 changes in shellfish harvesting areas will take effect at sunrise, Friday, May 26, 2023.

All those waters in Pender, Onslow, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the May 20, 2023 temporary closures, **except the following which remain closed:**

**ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES**

**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.

**White Oak River - All those waters** in White Oak River upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 41.9497' N -77° 06.9846' W on the west shore; running easterly near the northern tip of Jones Island to a point 34° 41.9395' N -77° 05.6599' W on the east shore.

**The following also remains closed:**

**BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER COUNTIES**

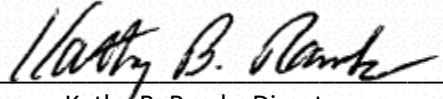
**All those waters** between IWW Beacon "1" near Southport and the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet, Shallotte River, the Shallotte Inlet Area, Lockwoods Folly River, and the Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area.

**All those waters** in Middle Sound bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by the Wrightsville Beach Bridge, to include Pages Creek.

**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 their 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. It should be noted that shellfish leases or franchises closed on or after April 4, 2023, to allow relaying of shellfish from closed areas remain closed.
- E. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: A portion of Stump Sound, Alligator Bay, Chadwick Bay, Newport River, and Core Creek.
- F. These openings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

May 25, 2023  
11:05 A.M.  
PA-42-2023