

ROY COOPER

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, Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

All those waters in New Hanover, Pender, Onslow, and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the March 23 and March 29, 2024, temporary closures.

# The following remains closed:

## **BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

<u>Shallotte River – All those waters in Shallotte River</u> upstream of a line beginning at a point 33° 54.8302′ N - 78° 22.3626′ W near Bowen Point; running southeasterly to a point 33° 54.6139′ N - 78° 21.7667′ W on Long Point.

<u>All those waters</u> between IWW Beacon "1" near Southport, and the permanent closure line near the Holden Beach Bridge and IWW Beacon "51A", to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Lockwoods Folly River, and the Lockwoods Folly Inlet Area.

#### **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. It should be noted that <u>shellfish leases or franchises</u> closed on or after April 2, 2024, to allow relaying of shellfish from closed areas remain closed.
- E. This proclamation returns the following areas to normal closure boundaries: Topsail Sound, Stump Sound, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, and Newport River.
- F. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ