

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Kathy B. Rawls, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, upon the recommendation of Dr. Lawrence Greenblatt, 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, August 8, 2025.

All those waters in Carteret and Craven Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the August 2, 2025, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

CARTERET COUNTY

<u>Newport River - All those waters</u> in Newport River upstream of the Highway 70 High Rise Bridge and the Morehead-Beaufort Causeway, to include all tributaries and Core Creek.

North River - All those waters in North River upstream of a straight line beginning at a point 34° 42.1302′ N - 76° 36.0815′ W at the permanent closure line near Beacon "5"; running northeasterly to a point 34° 43.2724′ N - 76° 34.5238′ W on the mainland at the Harker's Island Bridge at The Straits, to include Ward Creek.

<u>Wade Creek – All those waters in Wade Creek</u> upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 46.3043′ N - 76° 30.0493′ W on the north shore; running southerly to a point 34° 46.0324′ N - 76° 30.0743′ W on the south shore.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER / PENDER / ONSLOW COUNTIES

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

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 21.4312′N - 77° 40.8731′ W on the mainland near Forest Sound Marina; running southerly near IWW Markers "98A" and "99A" and following the western shore of Black Mud Channel to the northern tip of Hutaff Island near New Topsail Inlet; and bordered on the south by the Wrightsville Beach Bridge, to include Middle Sound, Pages Creek, and a portion of Topsail Sound.

<u>All those waters</u> bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 33.0934′ N - 77° 21.6926′ W on the mainland near Hatch Point, running easterly near Marker "76" to New River Inlet Channel Beacon "12", thence running southerly following the dredged channel to the eastern tip of North Topsail Beach at New River Inlet; and bordered on the south by the Surf City Bridge, to include Stump Sound, Alligator Bay and Chadwick Bay.

<u>Salliers Bay – All those waters</u> in Salliers Bay upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 33.1889′ N - 77° 18.4769′ W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 33.3700′ N - 77° 18.1223′ W on the east shore.

Page 2 PA-53-2025 Kathy B. Rawls

<u>Freeman Creek – All those waters</u> in Freeman Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 35.5265′ N - 77° 14.9948′ W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 35.7875′ N - 77° 14.7136′ W on the east shore.

<u>Bear Creek – All those waters</u> in Bear Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 38.0080'N - 77° 12.2906' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 38.0599'N - 77° 12.1801' W on the east shore.

<u>Queens Creek - All those waters</u> in Queens Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 39.8479'N - 77° 09.1171' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 40.2031'N - 77° 08.4408' W on the east shore near the State Park Boat Ramp.

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: Adams Creek, South River, Neuse River, Turnagain Bay, Long Bay, West Bay, West Thorofare Bay, and North Bay.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

August 7, 2025 10:20 A.M. PA-53-2025