

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

KATHY B. RAWLS
Director

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, Wednesday, December 24, 2025.

All those waters in Brunswick and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the December 19, 2025, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

CARTERET COUNTY

North River – All those waters in North River upstream of a line beginning at a point on the west shore at 34° 46.0460' N - 76° 37.0517' W, running easterly to a point on the east shore at 34° 46.2731' N - 76° 35.4724' W (near the DMF Shrimp Line).

Nelson Bay - All those waters in Nelson Bay upstream of a line from Drum Point to the northern tip of Fulchers Creek.

The following also remains closed:

ONSLOW COUNTY

<u>Queens Creek - All those waters in Queens Creek</u> 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: Tubbs Inlet, Ocean Isle Beach, Lockwoods Folly River, Newport River, Core Creek, a portion of North River, Ward Creek, Whitehurst Creek, Sleepy Creek, Jarrett Bay, Oyster Creek, and Brett Bay.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

Kathy B. Rawls, Director

DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ