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 shellfish area temporary **closures** will **take effect immediately**.

It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take any oysters, clams, or mussels or possess, sell, or offer for sale any oysters, clams, or mussels taken from the following polluted areas:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER COUNTIES

All those waters 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.

All those waters in Masonboro and Middle Sounds bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 07.7706'N - 77° 52.0833' W on the mainland near Peden Point; running easterly near IWW Marker "141" to a point 34° 07.6007'N - 77° 51.0328' W on Masonboro Island, to include Pages Creek.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.C. 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. These temporary closures are due to heavy rainfall and resultant runoff.

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

March 17, 2026
8:05 A.M.
PA-1-2026