



PA-2-2026

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, Friday, March 20, 2026.

All those waters in New Hanover County will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the March 17, 2026, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

**NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

**All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland** between IWW Marker "129" (34° 11.5153'N - 77° 49.5764' W) near Shinn Creek and IWW Marker "141" (34° 07.7515'N - 77° 51.9560' W) near Peden Point, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

**All those waters** in Middle Sound bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 11.5660'N - 77° 49.6758' W on the mainland; running southeasterly near IWW Marker "129" to a point 34° 11.3991'N - 77° 49.3386' W on the south shore of Shinn Creek

**The following also remains closed:**

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

**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.

**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. This proclamation returns the following area to normal closure boundaries: A portion of Masonboro Sound.
- E. This reopening is due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

March 19, 2026  
1:00 P.M.  
PA-2-2026