



PA-4-2026

JOSH STEIN  
*Governor*

D. REID WILSON  
*Secretary*

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

**PROCLAMATION**

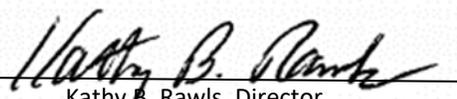
**RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA**

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, Thursday, March 26, 2026.

All those waters in New Hanover County will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the March 17, 2026, temporary closures.

**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 areas to normal closure boundaries: Masonboro Sound and Middle Sound.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

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

March 25, 2026  
12:20 P.M.  
PA-4-2026