



PA-40-2026

JOSH STEIN
Governor

D. REID WILSON
Secretary

MICHAEL S. LOEFFLER
Interim Director

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHELLFISH POLLUTED AREA

Michael S. Loeffler, Interim 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, Saturday, August 29, 2026.

All those waters in Onslow and Carteret Counties will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the August 22, August 24, and August 25, 2026, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

ONSLOW / CARTERET COUNTIES

All those waters bordered on the north by the North Topsail High Rise Bridge; and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 24.7539' N – 77° 35.6463' W on the mainland near Sloop Point, running southwesterly near IWW Marker “86” to a point 34° 24.6325' N - 77° 35.6860' W near Beacon “BC”; thence running southerly following Banks Channel near Green Markers “21” and “19” to a point 34° 24.0765' N - 77° 35.2697' W on Topsail Beach near Beacon “18”, to include a portion of Topsail Sound, Virginia Creek, Beckys Creek, and Stump Sound.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between IWW Beacon “49” (34° 40.2621' N - 77° 07.9802' W), near Swansboro, and IWW Beacon “55” (34° 38.5749' N - 77° 10.8033' W), to include the Intracoastal Waterway and Queens Creek.

Oyster Creek - All those waters in Oyster Creek upstream of a straight line across the mouth, beginning at a point 34° 48.8185' N - 76° 26.9761' W on the west shore; running northeasterly to a point 34° 48.9768' N - 76° 26.6340' W on the east shore.

Adams Creek - All those waters in Adams Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 57.2754' N - 76° 42.4146' W near Great Neck Point; running northeasterly to a point 34° 58.0929' N - 76° 40.5944' W near Winthrop Point.

South River - All those waters in South River upstream of a line beginning at Sandy Point; running easterly near Beacon “1” to Horton Point.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER / PENDER / CRAVEN COUNTIES

All those waters between the permanent closure line near IWW Marker “89” in Ocean Isle and the South Carolina State Line, to include the Tubbs Inlet area.

All those waters bordered on the north by the Figure Eight Island Bridge and bordered on the south by the Wrightsville Beach Bridge, to include Middle Sound and Pages Creek.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between IWW Marker "105" (34° 19.4274'N - 77° 42.9507' W) near Green Channel and the Figure Eight Island Bridge, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

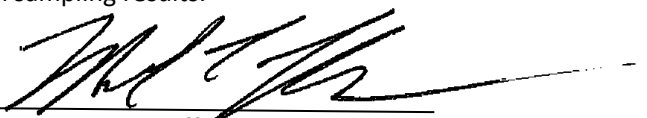
All those waters bordered on the north by the North Topsail High Rise Bridge; and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 24.7539'N – 77° 35.6463' W on the mainland near Sloop Point, running southwesterly near IWW Marker "86" to a point 34° 24.6325'N - 77° 35.6860' W near Beacon "BC"; thence running southerly following Banks Channel near Green Markers "21" and "19" to a point 34° 24.0765'N - 77° 35.2697' W on Topsail Beach near Beacon "18", to include a portion of Topsail Sound, Virginia Creek, Beckys Creek, and Stump Sound.

Adams Creek - All those waters in Adams Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 57.2754' N - 76° 42.4146' W near Great Neck Point; running northeasterly to a point 34° 58.0929' N - 76° 40.5944' W near Winthrop Point.

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: Bear Creek, Newport River, Core Creek, North River, Whitehurst Creek, Sleepy Creek, Jarrett Bay, Brett Bay, and Nelson Bay.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

BY:



Michael S. Loeffler, Interim Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES, DEQ

August 28, 2026
11:15 A.M.
PA-40-2026