



PA-48-2026

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, Thursday, September 10, 2026.

All those waters in Carteret County will return to the status in existence immediately prior to the September 6 and September 7, 2026, temporary closures **except the following which remain closed:**

CARTERET COUNTY

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between the Emerald Isle High Rise Bridge and IWW Beacon "65A" (34° 32.7006' N - 77° 19.0487' W), to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, and White Oak River.

All those waters in Bogue Sound bordered on the east by a line beginning at a point 34° 42.5733' N - 76° 57.3713' W on the mainland, running southerly near IWW Beacon "29" and the eastern tip of Wood Island to a point on Emerald Isle at 34° 40.7397' N - 76° 56.8821' W; and bordered on the west by the Emerald Isle High Rise Bridge, to include Deer Creek, Hunting Island Bay, Goose Creek, and Sanders Creek.

Core Creek – All those waters in Core Creek upstream of a line beginning at a point 34° 46.3210' N - 76° 41.2515' W on the west shore, running easterly near IWW Marker "25" to a point 34° 46.2251' N - 76° 40.5919' W on the east shore near the mouth of Ware Creek.

The following also remains closed:

BRUNSWICK / NEW HANOVER / PENDER / ONSLOW COUNTIES

All those waters bordered on the east by a line beginning at a point 33° 54.2904' N - 78° 23.6416' W on the mainland near the Bricklanding Road Public Boat Ramp and IWW Beacon "84"; running southerly to a point 33° 54.1932' N - 78° 23.6426' W on Ocean Isle Beach near Ferry Landing Park; and bordered on the west by the South Carolina State Line, to include Tubbs Inlet.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between IWW Marker "141" (34° 07.7515' N - 77° 51.9560' W) near Peden Point and IWW Marker "155" (34° 04.8189' N - 77° 52.9654' W) near Carolina Beach Inlet, to include the Intracoastal Waterway.

All those waters in Masonboro Sound and 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° 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.

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.

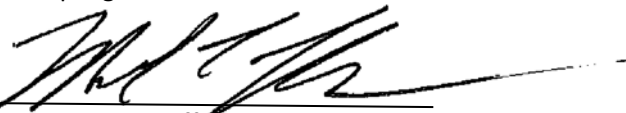
All those waters bordered on the north by a line beginning at a point 34° 33.0934' N - 77° 21.6926' W on the mainland near Hatch Point, running easterly near Marker "76" to New River Inlet Channel Beacon "12", thence running southerly following the dredged channel to the eastern tip of North Topsail Beach at New River Inlet; and bordered on the south by a line beginning at a point 34° 31.1227' N - 77° 22.3142' W on the mainland, running southerly near Beacon "15" to a point 34° 31.0527' N - 77° 22.2654' W on North Topsail Beach, to include Chadwick Bay.

All those waters from the Intracoastal Waterway to the mainland between the Emerald Isle High Rise Bridge and IWW Beacon "65A" (34° 32.7006' N - 77° 19.0487' W), to include the Intracoastal Waterway, Salliers Bay, Freeman Creek, Bear Creek, Queens Creek, and White Oak River.

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: Newport River, North River, and Ward Creek.
- E. These reopenings are due to satisfactory bacteriological sampling results.

BY:


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

September 9, 2026
11:15 A.M.
PA-48-2026