

PROCLAMATION

RE: SHEEPSHEAD – RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective **12:01 A.M., Monday, June 1, 2015**, the following will apply to sheepshead.

I. MINIMUM SIZE LIMIT

It is unlawful to possess sheepshead less than **10 inches** fork length.

II. HARVEST LIMITS

- A. It is unlawful to possess more than 10 sheepshead per person per day or trip (if trip occurs over more than one calendar day) for recreational purposes.
- B. It is unlawful for a commercial fishing operation to land or possess more than 300 pounds of sheepshead per trip except:
 - 1. **Commercial gig and spear operations:** it is unlawful to land or possess more than 10 sheepshead per person per day or per trip (if the trip occurs over more than one calendar day).
 - 2. **Pound net operations are exempt from the commercial trip limit restrictions.**

III. 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 03M .0521.
- B. It is unlawful to violate the provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.
- C. All sheepshead that do not meet the 10 inch size limit shall be immediately returned to the waters where taken.
- D. 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.
- E. Contact the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557, phone 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632 for more information, or visit the division website at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/>.
- F. This proclamation is being issued to implement size and harvest restrictions for the recreational and commercial sheepshead fishery.

By: _____
Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

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