



AGENDA
N.C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
WEBINAR MEETING
June 28, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER – *Chairman Monty Crump*

This electronic meeting is being streamed live for the public to attend and recorded as a public record. The recording of the meeting will be available at www.ncwildlife.org.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – *Margo Minkler, Commission Liaison*

MANDATORY ETHICS INQUIRY – North Carolina General Statute §138A-15 mandates that the Commission Chair shall remind all Commissioners of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this Chapter, and that the chair also inquires as to whether there is any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Commission at this time. It is the duty of each Commissioner who is aware of such personal conflict of interest or of an appearance of a conflict to notify the Chair of the same. *Chairman Monty Crump*

RULEMAKING

Joint Rulemaking Adoption – 15A NCAC 03Q .0100 General Regulations: Joint – Consider request for concurrence on the 15A NCAC 03Q .0100 joint rules adopted by the NC Marine Fisheries Commission. *Christian Waters, Inland Fisheries Division Chief (EXHIBIT A)*

Temporary Rulemaking Notice of Text – 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County – Consider request to publish Notice of Text with an open comment period and virtual public hearing for a proposed temporary no wake zone at Sunset Beach South Jinks Creek in Brunswick County. *Betsy Haywood, No-Wake Zone Rulemaking Coordinator (EXHIBIT B)*

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN – *Chairman Crump*

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – *Executive Director Ingram*

ADJOURN

EXHIBIT A

June 28, 2022



15A NCAC 03Q .0100 General Regulations: Joint Marine Fisheries Commission Rules for Concurrence

These rules are Marine Fisheries Commission joint rules that require concurrence for readoption.

15A NCAC 03Q .0101 – Scope and Purpose (page 2)

15A NCAC 03Q .0102 – Inland Fishing Waters (page 3)

15A NCAC 03Q .0103 – Coastal Fishing Waters (page 4)

15A NCAC 03Q .0104 – Joint Fishing Waters (page 5)

15A NCAC 03Q .0105 – Posting Dividing Lines (page 6)

15A NCAC 03Q .0106 – Applicability of Rules: Joint Waters (page 7)

15A NCAC 03Q .0107 – Special Regulations: Joint Waters (page 8)

15A NCAC 03Q .0108 – Management Responsibility for Estuarine Striped Bass in Joint Waters (page 9)

15A NCAC 03Q .0109 – Implementation of Estuarine Striped Bass Management Plans: Recreational Fishing (page 10)

15A NCAC 03Q .0101 SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The rules in this Section pertain to the classification of the waters of North Carolina as coastal fishing waters, inland fishing waters and joint fishing waters. These rules are adopted jointly by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. In addition to the classification of the waters of the state these joint rules set forth guidelines to determine which fishing activities in joint waters are regulated by the Marine Fisheries Commission and which are regulated by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Finally, the joint rules set forth special fishing regulations applicable in joint waters that can be enforced by officers of the Division of Marine Fisheries and the Wildlife Resources Commission. These regulations do not affect the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission in any matters other than those specifically set out.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

15A NCAC 03Q .0102 INLAND FISHING WATERS

Inland fishing waters are all inland waters except private ponds; and all waters connecting with or tributary to coastal sounds or the ocean extending inland from the dividing line between coastal fishing waters and inland fishing waters agreed upon by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. All waters which are tributary to inland fishing waters and which are not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are inland fishing waters. The regulation and licensing of fishing in inland fishing waters is under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Resources Commission. Regulations and laws administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission regarding fishing in inland fishing waters are enforced by wildlife enforcement officers.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

15A NCAC 03Q .0103 COASTAL FISHING WATERS

Coastal fishing waters are the Atlantic Ocean; the various coastal sounds; and estuarine waters up to the dividing line between coastal fishing waters and inland fishing waters agreed upon by the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission. All waters which are tributary to coastal fishing waters and which are not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are coastal fishing waters. The regulations and licensing of fishing in coastal fishing waters is under the jurisdiction of the Marine Fisheries Commission; except that inland game fish (exclusive of spotted seatrout, weakfish, and striped bass) are subject to regulations by the Wildlife Resources Commission in coastal fishing waters. Regulations and laws administered by the Marine Fisheries Commission regarding fishing in coastal waters are enforced by fisheries enforcement officers. Regulations regarding inland game fish in coastal fishing waters are enforced by wildlife enforcement officers unless otherwise agreed to by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

15A NCAC 03Q .0104 JOINT FISHING WATERS

Joint fishing waters are those coastal fishing waters, hereinafter set out, denominated by agreement of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-132(e) as joint fishing waters. All waters which are tributary to joint fishing waters and which are not otherwise designated by agreement between the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission are classified as joint fishing waters. The regulation and licensing of fishing in joint waters shall be as stated in 15A NCAC 3Q .0106.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

15A NCAC 03Q .0105 POSTING DIVIDING LINES

The dividing lines of all major bodies of water and watercourses which are divided by the agreement of the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission so that portions of the same are constituted inland fishing waters, coastal fishing waters, or joint fishing waters shall be marked with signs in so far as may be practicable. Unmarked and undesignated tributaries shall have the same classification as the designated waters to which they connect or into which they flow. No unauthorized removal or relocation of any such marker shall have the effect of changing the classification of any body of water or portion thereof, nor shall any such unauthorized removal or relocation or the absence of any marker affect the applicability of any regulation pertaining to any such body of water or portion thereof.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

15A NCAC 03Q .0106 APPLICABILITY OF RULES: JOINT WATERS

(a) All coastal fishing laws and regulations administered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Marine Fisheries Commission apply to joint waters except as otherwise provided, and shall be enforced by fisheries enforcement officers.

(b) The following inland fishing laws and regulations administered by the Wildlife Resources Commission apply to joint waters and shall be enforced by wildlife enforcement officers:

- (1) all laws and regulations pertaining to inland game fishes,
- (2) all laws and regulations pertaining to inland fishing license requirements for hook and line fishing,
- (3) all laws and regulations pertaining to hook and line fishing except as hereinafter provided.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;

Eff. January 1, 1991;

Amended Eff. July 1, 1999;

Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.

15A NCAC 03Q .0107 SPECIAL REGULATIONS: JOINT WATERS

In order to effectively manage all fisheries resources in joint waters and in order to confer enforcement powers on both fisheries enforcement officers and wildlife enforcement officers with respect to certain rules, the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission deem it necessary to adopt special rules for joint waters. Such rules supersede any inconsistent rules of the Marine Fisheries Commission or the Wildlife Resources Commission that would otherwise be applicable in joint waters under the provisions of 15A NCAC 03Q .0106:

- (1) Striped Bass
 - (a) It is unlawful to possess any striped bass or striped bass hybrid that is less than 18 inches long (total length).
 - (b) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids between the lengths of 22 and 27 inches (total length) in joint fishing waters of the Central Southern Management Area as designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201.
 - (c) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids May through September in the joint fishing waters of the Central Southern Management Area and the Albemarle Sound Management Area.
 - (d) It is unlawful to possess striped bass or striped bass hybrids taken from the joint fishing waters of the Cape Fear River.
 - (e) It is unlawful to possess more than one daily creel limit of striped bass or striped bass hybrids, in the aggregate, per person per day, regardless of the number of management areas fished.
 - (f) Possession of fish shall be assessed for the creel and size limits of the management area in which the individual is found to be fishing, regardless of the size or creel limits for other management areas visited by that individual in a given day.
 - (g) It is unlawful to engage in net fishing for striped bass or striped bass hybrids in joint waters except as authorized by rules of the Marine Fisheries Commission.
- (2) Lake Mattamuskeet:
 - (a) It is unlawful to set or attempt to set any gill net in Lake Mattamuskeet canals designated as joint waters.
 - (b) It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any trawl net or seines in Lake Mattamuskeet canals designated as joint waters.
- (3) Cape Fear River. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any net, net stakes or electrical fishing device within 800 feet of the dam at Lock No.1 on the Cape Fear River.
- (4) Shad: It is unlawful to possess more than 10 American shad or hickory shad, in the aggregate, per person per day taken by hook-and-line.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; November 1, 1991;
Temporary Amendment Eff. May 1, 2000;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2008; September 1, 2005; April 1, 2001; August 1, 2000;
Readopted Eff. (Pending legislative review pursuant to S.L. 2019-198).

15A NCAC 03Q .0108 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS IN JOINT WATERS

(a) The management areas for estuarine striped bass fisheries in coastal North Carolina are designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201.

(b) In order to effectively manage the recreational hook and line harvest in joint waters of the Albemarle Sound-Roanoke River stock of striped bass, the Marine Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Resources Commission deem it necessary to establish two management areas; the Albemarle Sound Management Area and the Roanoke River Management Area as designated in 15A NCAC 03R .0201. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall have principal management responsibility for the stock when it is in the joint and inland fishing waters of the Roanoke River Management Area. The Marine Fisheries Commission shall have principal management responsibility for the stock in the coastal, joint and inland waters of the Albemarle Sound Management Area. The annual quota for recreational harvest of the Albemarle-Roanoke striped bass stock shall be divided equally between the two management areas. Each commission shall implement management actions for recreational harvest within their respective management areas that will be consistent with the North Carolina Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Amended Eff. October 1, 2004; September 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

**15A NCAC 03Q .0109 IMPLEMENTATION OF ESTUARINE STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT PLANS:
RECREATIONAL FISHING**

The Marine Fisheries and Wildlife Resources Commissions shall implement their respective striped bass management actions for recreational fishing pursuant to their respective rule-making powers. To preserve jurisdictional authority of each Commission, the following means are established through which management measures can be implemented by a single instrument in the following management areas:

- (1) In the Roanoke River Management Area, the exclusive authority to open and close seasons and areas, and establish size and creel limits whether inland or joint fishing waters shall be vested in the Wildlife Resources Commission. An instrument closing any management area in joint waters shall operate as and shall be a jointly issued instrument opening or closing seasons or areas to harvest in the Roanoke River management area.
- (2) In the Albemarle Sound Management Area, the exclusive authority to open and close seasons and areas and establish size and creel limits, whether coastal or joint fishing waters shall be vested in the Marine Fisheries Commission. The season shall close by proclamation if the quota is about to be exceeded. In the Albemarle Sound Management Area administered by the Marine Fisheries Commission, a proclamation affecting the harvest in joint and coastal waters, excluding the Roanoke River Management Area, shall automatically be implemented and effective as a Wildlife Resources Commission action in the inland waters and tributaries to the waters affected.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113-132; 113-134; 113-182; 143B-289.52;
Eff. January 1, 1991;
Amended Eff. October 1, 2004; September 1, 1991;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

EXHIBIT B

June 28, 2022



Proposed Temporary Rule 15A NCAC 10F .0305 Brunswick County Recommended by Agency Staff for Public Notice, Comment, and Presentation at Public Hearing

The Town of Sunset Beach in Brunswick County has requested temporary rulemaking by the Wildlife Resources Commission to establish a no-wake zone in part of South Jinks Creek. Dredging is planned to begin in November 2022 to remove a large drifting sandbar that causes part of the creek to be less than two feet deep at mean low tide. The channel near the peninsula at the eastern end of North Shore Drive is very narrow as well, creating navigation hazards. Creation of a temporary no-wake zone until the dredging is completed will mitigate hazards to boater safety and navigation.

At the conclusion of the dredging project the no-wake zone will no longer be necessary.

15A NCAC 10F .0305 BRUNSWICK COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the waters and portions of waters described as follows:

- (1) Lockwoods Folly River in the Town of Varnamtown, from a point at 33.94966 N, 78.22587 W, 500 yards northwest of the boat ramp located at the end of SR 1123 otherwise known as Fisherman Road, to a point at 33.94498 N, 78.22206 W, 180 yards southeast of the boat ramp, and including the portion of the river otherwise known as Mill Creek where it meets Lockwoods Folly River directly across from the boat ramp, to a point 100 feet northeast at 33.94687 N, 78.22235 W;
- (2) Calabash River in the Town of Calabash, from a point in the water at the end of Marina Drive at 33.88638 N, 78.56254 W to a point 650 yards southwest at the southern end of the deep-sea fishing docks at 33.88344 N, 78.56751 W;
- (3) the Small Boat Harbor, shore to shore beginning at its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91685 N, 78.02865 W;
- (4) Shallotte River east of SR 1233, otherwise known as Village Point Road SW south of the Town of Shallotte, shore to shore from its intersection with the Intracoastal Waterway at a point at 33.91477 N, 78.37103 W to point 500 feet north at 33.91613 N, 78.37126 W;
- (5) Montgomery Slough otherwise known as Davis Creek, within 100 yards of the hotel and marina at the northern end of 57th Place West in the Town of Oak Island;
- (6) the waters in the natural and concrete canals located on the south side of the Intracoastal Waterway, east of N.C. Highway 904 in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach;
- (7) Town Creek east of SR 1609, otherwise known as Clearview Lane in Town Creek Township, shore to shore from a point at 34.16788 N, 78.07139 W, north and east around a bend in the creek to a point at 34.16910 N, 78.07030 W;
- (8) Montgomery Slough, otherwise known as Davis Creek, shore to shore from its entrance at the Intracoastal Waterway west of SW Yacht Drive at a point at 33.92145 N, 78.19408 W, to the canal end at NE 40th Street in the Town of Oak Island;
- (9) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Sunset Beach, shore to shore from a point 150 yards east of the Sunset Boulevard South bridge at 33.88173 N, 78.50995 W, to a point 50 yards west of the bridge at 33.88111 N, 78.51194 W; and
- (10) Intracoastal Waterway in the Town of Ocean Isle Beach, shore to shore from a point 100 yards east of the NC Hwy 904 Odell Williamson Bridge at 33.89578 N, 78.43870 W, to a point 100 yards west of the bridge at 33.89567 N, 78.44092 W.

(b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within any of the regulated areas described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) Placement of Markers. The following agencies shall be the designated agencies for the placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers:

- (1) the Board of Aldermen of Varnamtown for areas indicated in Subparagraph (a)(1) of this Rule;

- (2) the Board of Commissioners of Brunswick County for areas indicated in Subparagraphs (a)(2) through (8) of this Rule;
- (3) the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(9) of this Rule; and
- (4) the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for the area indicated in Subparagraph (a)(10) of this Rule.

(d) Notwithstanding Paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Rule, no person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed in the waters of South Jinks Creek in the Town of Sunset Beach, south of a line from a point on the north shore of the peninsula at the eastern end of North Shore Drive at 38.87481 N, 78.49324 W, eastward to a point in the water at 33.87516 N, 78.49215 W, then west of a line from that point at 33.87516 N, 78.49215 W southward to a point on the shore at 33.87300 N, 78.49133 W, then westward the waters, shore to shore, to a line from a point on the shore at 33.87250 N, 78.49373 W northward to a point on the south shore of the peninsula at 33.87370 N, 78.49411 W. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall be the designated agency for placement and maintenance of markers for this regulated area.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15.

Eff. February 1, 1976;

Amended Eff. April 1, 1997; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1993; January 1, 1989; January 1, 1987;

Temporary Amendment Eff. March 1, 1998;

Amended Eff. April 1, 2009; April 1, 1999;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;

Amended Eff. May 1, 2021; ~~July 1, 2018;~~ July 1, 2018;

Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 2022.

