15A NCAC 10C .0218 HARVEST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(a) For the purpose of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Division" means the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries.

(2) "inland fishing waters adjacent to joint or coastal fishing waters" means inland fishing waters upstream of joint or coastal fishing waters of the Roanoke River upstream to Roanoke Rapids Dam, the Tar River upstream to Rocky Mount Mill Dam, the Neuse River upstream to Falls Lake Dam and the Cape Fear River upstream to Buckhorn Dam, and their tributaries extending upstream to the first impoundment, and in all other inland fishing waters east of Interstate 95 except in the Lumber and Waccamaw rivers and their tributaries.

(3) "harvest" means catching or taking a fish and reducing it to permanent possession by not returning it to the water.

(b) An individual who harvests the following species, from joint fishing waters or inland fishing waters adjacent to joint or coastal fishing waters, shall report the information required in Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124(b) to the Division at https://www.ncmarinefisheries.net or record the harvest on a Division-issued report card when harvest is complete:

(1) flounder;

(2) red drum;

(3) spotted seatrout;

(4) striped bass; and

(5) weakfish.

(c) Individuals using a Division-issued report card shall report the information electronically at https://www.ncmarinefisheries.net in a manner consistent with requirements of Rule 15A NCAC 03I .0124(b).

(d) An individual shall not remove the head or tail or otherwise change the appearance of the fish to render it impractical to identify, count, or measure while fishing or afield and until harvest has been recorded or reported.

(e) The requirements of this Rule shall be effective in accordance with the schedule in S.L. 2023-137, s. 6(f).

History Note: *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-170.3;*
Temporary Adoption Eff. July 5, 2024;
Temporary Amendment Eff. March 6, 2026.