

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

BY THE COMMISSIONER

- WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-195 authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources to open or close for the purpose of taking shellfish any or a portion of the salt waters of this state at any time between January 1 and December 31, provided that he has determined that such action in opening or closing said waters is in accordance with the current, sound principles of wildlife research and management; and
- WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-197(a) mandates that the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture conduct a shellfish program sufficient to be certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for interstate shipment of shellfish produced in Georgia; and
- WHEREAS:** This precautionary closure has been made in the interest of protecting public health in accordance with the requirements of the FDA and the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference for a closure due to a major storm related event; and
- WHEREAS:** The Commissioner has determined that closing the salt waters of this State to the commercial and recreational harvest of clams for human consumption on August 5, 2024, would be consistent with current sound principles of wildlife management.


NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, IT IS HEREBY

- ORDERED:** That the salt waters of the State of Georgia shall be closed to the commercial and recreational harvest of clams at 6:00 a.m., Monday, August 5, 2024.

IT IS FURTHER

- ORDERED:** That the closure shall remain in effect until further notice and if warranted, after shellfish program staff has deemed water quality and shellfish meat samples are below bacterial threshold levels and safe for harvest.

This 4 day of August 2024.



WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES