



**BRIAN KEMP**  
GOVERNOR

**MARK WILLIAMS**  
COMMISSIONER

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**BY THE COMMISSIONER**

- WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-133(a) authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources to open any waters outside, on the seaward side, of the sounds between May 15 and December 31, when he has determined that the shrimp in said waters are 45 or fewer with heads on to the pound and that opening said salt waters is consistent with current sound principles of wildlife research and management; and
- WHEREAS:** O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-132 authorizes the Commissioner to open any portion of the salt waters of the state to recreational and commercial food shrimp harvest by cast net or beach seine at any time between May 15 and the last day of February when he has determined that opening said salt waters is consistent with current sound principles of wildlife research and management; and
- WHEREAS:** sample trawls in the outside waters indicate shrimp are 45 or fewer with heads on to the pound; and
- WHEREAS:** the Commissioner has determined that opening certain outside waters to fishing with power-drawn nets for shrimp for human consumption would be consistent with current, sound principles of wildlife research and management; and
- WHEREAS:** the Commissioner has determined that opening the salt waters of the State to recreational and commercial cast netting and beach seining for shrimp for human consumption would be consistent with current sound principles of wildlife research and management; and
- WHEREAS:** through the Endangered Wildlife Act of 1973 (O.C.G.A. Sections 27-3-130 - 132) the Department is authorized to evaluate environmental concerns pertaining to protected species; and
- WHEREAS:** sea turtles are state and federally protected species which occur in coastal Georgia waters year-round and in greatest abundance when water temperatures are 16 degrees Centigrade or higher; and
- WHEREAS:** Rule 391-4-10-.06 (a) 2 prohibits the possession of any protected animal species unless otherwise authorized by a scientific collecting, wildlife exhibition, or other permit or license issued by the Department; and

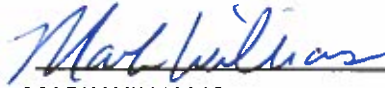
4.

Each trawl with a head rope length greater than 16 feet is required to have installed a certified turtle excluder device (TED) and a certified bycatch reduction device (BRD).

5.

All salt waters of the state are hereby OPENED to commercial and recreational food shrimp harvest with cast nets and seines pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-132.

This 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2020.



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MARK WILLIAMS

COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
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MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS  
DIRECTOR

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT GEORGIA'S TERRITORIAL SEA (EXTENDING FROM THE SOUND-BEACH BOUNDARY OUT TO THE 3-MILE LIMIT) FROM THE GEORGIA-SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOUNDARY LINE IN THE VICINITY OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL SOUTH TO THE GEORGIA-FLORIDA BOUNDARY WILL OPEN TO COMMERCIAL SHRIMP TRAWLING FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION EFFECTIVE 8:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020.

AS REQUIRED BY LAW, TRAWLING VESSELS MUST EMPLOY A NMFS-APPROVED TURTLE EXCLUDER DEVICE (TED) WITH THE ESCAPE OPENING MODIFIED TO EXCLUDE LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLES IN POWER-DRAWN NETS. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT FOOD SHRIMPERS WHO UTILIZE TRAWL GEAR SHOULD CHECK WITH BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES TO VERIFY CURRENT REQUIREMENTS FOR BYCATCH REDUCTION DEVICES (BRD).

A PORTION OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH JETTIES AND EASTWARD OF THE BUOY AT THE INNER END OF THE JETTIES, SOUTHEAST OF OYSTER BED ISLAND, R "24", FL 4 SEC, WILL ALSO OPEN TO FISHING WITH POWER-DRAWN NETS FOR SHRIMP FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION EFFECTIVE 8:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020.

THAT AREA IN CHATHAM COUNTY KNOWN AS ESTELLE BEACH WILL REMAIN CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL SHRIMPING.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE SEASON FOR COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL CAST NETTING AND BEACH SEINING FOR SHRIMP FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION WILL ALSO OPEN EFFECTIVE 8:00 A. M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020.

THIS ACTION IS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTIONS 27-4-130 AND 27-4-132, AND 27-4-133 AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES DATED JUNE 1, 2020.

MARK WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DOUG HAYMANS, DIRECTOR  
COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

BY: Carolyn N Belcher, PhD  
CAROLYN N. BELCHER, PHD  
CHIEF OF MARINE FISHERIES