

Seafood Consumption following Hurricane Florence

Fish Advisories

The state currently does not have any fish consumption advisories related specifically to impacts from flood waters. Typically, contaminants accumulate in fish tissue over time. Therefore, we would not expect an acute event, like hurricane flooding, to result in significant increases of contaminants in fish tissues that are consumed. Caught fish should always be properly filleted, cleaned and cooked, however. For any areas impacted by flood waters, the Department of Health and Human Services' [standing fish consumption advisories](#) are still applicable. For more information, the DHHS Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch webpage on [fish consumption advisories](#) has information on how fish consumption advisories [are developed](#) and what fish are [safe to eat](#).

Shellfish

Shellfish however, which are filter feeders, are much more susceptible to acute events and may have increased levels of contaminants following such an event. The Department of Environmental Quality's Marine Fisheries Division issues proclamations regarding shellfish in polluted areas. You can stay up-to-date on shellfish closures by going to DMF's [Shellfish Polluted Areas Proclamations Page](#). Shellfish beds reopen after satisfactory water testing.