PROCLAMATION

RE: MULLET - STOP NETS - ATLANTIC OCEAN – CARTERET COUNTY

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director, Division of Marine Fisheries, hereby announces that effective at **12:01 A.M., Tuesday, October 1, 2013**, net restrictions as indicated below will apply to the use of stop nets in the mullet beach seine fishery:

I. SEASON:

Stop net(s) may be used only from October 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013.

II. NET RESTRICTIONS:

A. A **stop net** is defined as a stationary net (not intended to gill fish) whose purpose is to impede the progress of schooling fish so that they can be harvested with a seine.
B. A maximum of four stop nets may be used between Beaufort Inlet and Bogue Inlet at any one time.
C. A combined fishing operation may not use more than two stop nets at any one time.
D. A stop net may not exceed 400 yards in length and must be constructed of webbing a minimum of 6 inches (stretched mesh).
E. A stop net may not be used within 880 yards of an existing stop net.

III. AREAS:

Stop nets may be used **only** in the Atlantic Ocean on Bogue Banks, Carteret County, between Beaufort Inlet and Bogue Inlet. Stop nets **are prohibited** in the following areas on Bogue Banks:

A. From Beaufort Inlet to the western boundary of Fort Macon State Park at 34° 41.6666'N – 76° 42.0500' W.
B. In an area beginning at the Oceanana Fishing Pier at 34° 41.6810'N – 76° 43.6192'W and running easterly to a point one half mile east at 34° 41.6847'N – 76° 43.0985'W.
C. In an area beginning at the Sheraton Fishing Pier at 34° 41.7022' N - 76° 46.8752' W; running easterly to a point one half mile east at 34° 41.7042' N - 76° 46.3460' W.
D. In an area beginning at the Bogue Inlet Fishing Pier at 34° 39.4760' N - 77° 01.9945' W; running easterly to a point one half mile east at 34° 39.5720' N - 77° 01.4695' W.

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION:

A. This proclamation is issued under the authority of N.C.G.S. 113-170.4; 113-170.5; 113-182; 113-221.1; 143B-289.52 and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rules 15A NCAC 03H .0103 and 03M .0502.

B. It is unlawful to violate provisions of any proclamation issued by the Fisheries Director under his delegated authority pursuant to N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03H .0103.

C. The intent of this proclamation is to establish the season, specify net restrictions, and define areas in which stop nets may be used during the 2013 beach seine mullet fishery. Stop nets are prohibited in Fort Macon State Park and within one half mile of the three remaining ocean fishing piers.

D. Fishermen are reminded that a National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Mammal Authorization Registration is required in this fishery and can be obtained by contacting NMFS at 301-713-2322.

BY:_____

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III, Director
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES

September 10, 2013
1:45 P.M.
M-27-2013
/sab

126 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of 5 cents per copy.