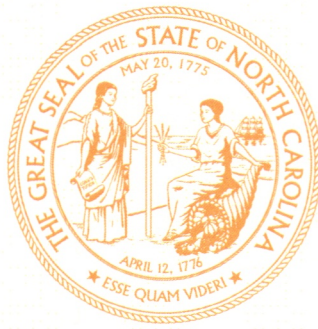




State of North Carolina

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

NORTH CAROLINA OYSTER MONTH

2025

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a valuable and productive coastal ecosystem and many champions who work together to protect it and the keystone species that benefit the state's marine and coastal environments with food provision, water filtering capacity, and fish habitat; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina oysters have been the focus of restoration and protection efforts in the state since 1915, resulting in the creation of thousands of acres of harvestable reefs and nearly 400 acres of oyster sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's shellfish industry has set a goal to provide more than \$100 million in economic impact and 1,000 jobs in the state by 2030, supporting the livelihoods of North Carolina watermen and women and sustaining traditional working waterfront communities; and

WHEREAS, partners across the state support the growing oyster industry's workforce development with university and community college technical training programs, entrepreneurship mentoring, marketing strategies, and more; and

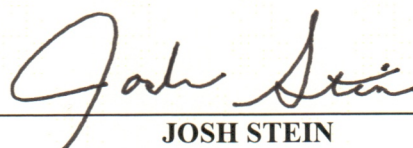
WHEREAS, the North Carolina Oyster Steering Committee, consisting of more than 20 stakeholders, including state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, universities, growers, harvesters, and independent businesses, works to develop and implement the Oyster Restoration and Protection Plan for North Carolina: A Blueprint for Action; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the North Carolina General Assembly commissioned the North Carolina Strategic Plan for Shellfish Mariculture: A Vision to 2030, aimed at advancing efforts to bolster North Carolina's shellfish industry; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the NC Oyster Trail launched along the coast to provide oyster tourism experiences that help sustain and grow North Carolina oyster supply and demand;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH STEIN, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2025 as "**NORTH CAROLINA OYSTER MONTH**" in North Carolina and commend its observance to all citizens.




JOSH STEIN
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-fourth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-fifth and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.