

STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Order No. EO 16-22

**Oyster Harvesting Restrictions Within a
Portion of Apalachicola Bay, Franklin County**

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, and acting through its Executive Director under Delegations of Authority Paragraph 17 and Paragraph 22, hereby prohibits the harvest of oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) from within three experimental oyster areas within Apalachicola Bay in Franklin County beginning upon execution of this order through November 15, 2017. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has partnered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the University of Florida to conduct a study to determine optimum oyster cultch densities and to evaluate the effects of fishing pressure on newly cultched oyster bars. This study will conclude in 2019. This action is authorized only as follows:

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Chapter 68B-27, Florida Administrative Code, no person shall harvest or possess an oyster in or on Florida waters within Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area, Hotel Bar Experimental Area, or Dry Bar Experimental Area in Apalachicola Bay unless authorized under Chapter 68B-8.

- a. For purposes of this order, the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area is defined as the area within the following boundary:

Commencing at the northwestern-most corner of the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area (29°41.447' North Latitude, 84°53.112' West Longitude); thence in an easterly direction to the northeastern-most corner of the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area (29°41.468' North Latitude, 84°53.084' West Longitude); thence in a southeasterly direction to 29°41.363' North Latitude, 84°52.961' West Longitude; thence in a southeasterly direction to the southeastern-most corner of the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area (29°41.165' North Latitude, 84°52.810' West Longitude); thence in a westerly direction to the southwestern-most corner of the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area (29°41.150' North Latitude, 84°52.842' West Longitude); thence in a northwesterly direction to 29°41.342' North Latitude, 84°52.989' West Longitude; thence in a northwesterly direction to the northwestern-most corner of the Bulkhead Bar Experimental Area, the point of beginning.

- b. For purposes of this order, the Hotel Bar Experimental Area is defined as the area within the following boundary:

Commencing at the northwestern-most corner of the Hotel Bar Experimental Area (29°40.313' North Latitude, 84°54.363' West Longitude); thence in an easterly direction to the northeastern-most corner of the Hotel Bar Experimental Area (29°40.318' North Latitude, 84°54.160' West Longitude); thence in a southerly direction to the southeastern-most corner of the Hotel Bar Experimental Area (29°40.246' North Latitude, 84°54.150' West Longitude); thence in a westerly direction to the southwestern-most corner of the Hotel Bar Experimental Area (29°40.241' North Latitude, 84°54.353' West Longitude); thence in a northerly

direction to the northwestern-most corner of the Hotel Bar Experimental Area, the point of beginning.

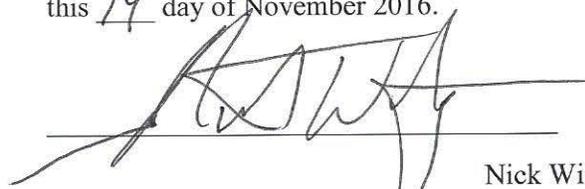
- c. For purposes of this order, the Dry Bar Experimental Area is defined as the area within the following boundary:

Commencing at the northwestern-most corner of the Dry Bar Experimental Area (29°39.909' North Latitude, 85°03.354' West Longitude); thence in an easterly direction to the northeastern-most corner of the Dry Bar Experimental Area (29°39.932' North Latitude, 85°03.278' West Longitude); thence in a southeasterly direction to 29°39.884' North Latitude, 85°03.234' West Longitude; thence in a southeasterly direction to the southeastern-most corner of the Dry Bar Experimental Area (29°39.761' North Latitude, 85°03.156' West Longitude); thence in a southwesterly direction to the southwestern-most corner of the Dry Bar Experimental Area (29°39.720' North Latitude, 85°03.225' West Longitude); thence in a northwesterly direction to 29°39.843' North Latitude, 85°03.303' West Longitude; thence in a northwesterly direction to 29°39.878' North Latitude, 85°03.339' West Longitude; thence in a northerly direction to the northwestern-most corner of the Dry Bar Experimental Area, the point of beginning.

2. All other rules of the Commission relating to oysters shall remain in effect.
3. This order shall take effect at 11:59 p.m. EDT on the day it is executed, and shall expire at 11:59 p.m. EDT on November 15, 2017.

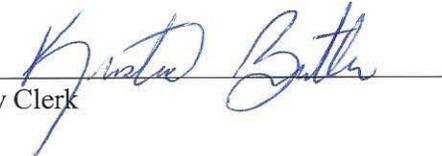
Specific Authority: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Law Implemented: Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on
this 14 day of November 2016.



Nick Wiley
Executive Director

Attest
Agency Clerk



Krista Butler
Agency Clerk