



BRIAN KEMP
GOVERNOR

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

BY THE COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS: O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-195 authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources to open or close for the purpose of taking shellfish any or a portion of the salt waters of this state at any time between January 1 and December 31, provided that he has determined that such action in opening or closing said waters is in accordance with the current, sound principles of wildlife research and management; and

WHEREAS: O.C.G.A. Section 27-4-197(a) mandates that the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture conduct a shellfish program sufficient to be certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for interstate shipment of shellfish produced in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: This precautionary closure has been made in the interest of protecting public health in accordance with the requirements of the FDA and the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference for a closure due to a major storm related event; and

WHEREAS: The Commissioner has determined that closing the salt waters of this State to the commercial and recreational harvest of shellfish for human consumption on September 4, 2019 would be consistent with current sound principles of wildlife management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That the salt waters of the State of Georgia shall be closed to the commercial and recreational harvest of shellfish at 6:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 4, 2019.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the closure shall remain in effect until further notice and if warranted, after shellfish program staff has deemed water quality and shellfish meat samples are below bacterial threshold levels and

safe for harvest.

This 3rd day of September 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES