

COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

ONE CONSERVATION WAY - BRUNSWICK, GA 31520 - 912.264.7218

COASTALGADNR.ORG

MARK WILLIAMS COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS DIRECTOR

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT GEORGIA'S OFFSHORE WATERS (EXTENDING FROM THE BEACHLINE OUT TO THE THREE-MILE LIMIT) FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA-GEORGIA STATE LINE BOUNDARY IN THE VICINITY OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL AS DESIGNATED ON THE ATTACHED CHART SOUTH TO THE GEORGIA-FLORIDA BOUNDARY WILL BE OPEN TO COMMERCIAL WHELK TRAWLING WITH MINIMUM 4-INCH STRETCH MESH WEBBING EFFECTIVE 7:00 AM THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020 UNTIL 8:15 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020.

ANY VESSEL SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR ONBOARD OBSERVERS SHALL ALLOW DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO ACCOMPANY THE VESSEL CREW DURING TRAWLING OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO COLLECT SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION ON WHELKS AND OTHER ORGANISMS CAPTURED DURING TRAWLING OPERATIONS. VESSELS ARE REQUIRED TO EMPLOY EITHER THE NORTH CAROLINA FLOUNDER TED WITH THE OPENING MODIFIED TO EXCLUDE LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLES, OR ONE OF TWO MODIFIED VERSIONS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FLOUNDER TED WITH LEATHERBACK OPENINGS, IN EACH NET BEING USED IN THIS FISHERY (SEE ATTACHED DESCRIPTIONS).

A PORTION OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL AS DESIGNATED ON THE ATTACHED CHART WILL ALSO OPEN TO COMMERCIAL WHELK TRAWLING EFFECTIVE 7:00 AM THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020 UNTIL 8:15 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020.

THE EXACT BOUNDARIES OF THE AFFECTED AREAS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL ARE SET OUT IN GEORGIA LAW.

A LIMIT OF NO MORE THAN TWO (2) BUSHELS OF BLUE CRABS MAY BE RETAINED AT ANY TIME ON THE VESSEL, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF CREW ONBOARD. ALL RETAINED BLUE CRABS MUST BE OF LEGAL SIZE AND SPONGE CRABS MAY NOT BE KEPT. OPERATORS OF WHELK TRAWLING VESSELS MUST ALSO MAINTAIN AND REPORT RECORDS OF HARVESTED CRABS.

THIS ACTION IS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTIONS 27-1-37, 27-3-130, AND 27-4-133, AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES DATED THE 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2019.

MARK WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

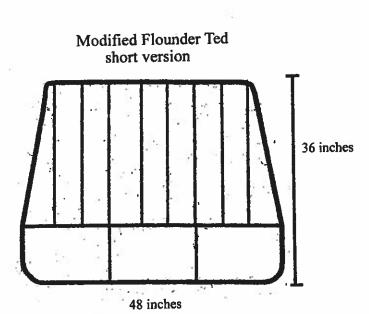
CAROLYN BELCHER, CHIEF OF MARINE FISHERIES COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

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BY:

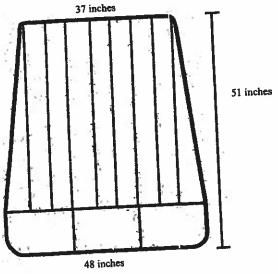
CAROLYN N. BELCHER, PHD CHIEF OF MARINE FISHERIES Flounder TED. Taken from the U.S. Federal Registry, Title 50, Chapter II, paragraph 223.207 (Approved TEDS), pg 156 (10-1-1999 edition).

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Outer frame: 1-1/2 inch OD AL pipe Horizontal bar: 1-1/4 inch OD AL pipe Veritcal Bar: 1 inch OD AL pipe

Modified Flounder TED



Outer frame: 1-1/2 inch OD AL pipe
Horizontal Bar: 1-1/4 inch OD AL pipe
Vertical Bars: 1 inch OD AL pipe