

**Note from the Codifier:** The OAH website includes notices and the text of proposed temporary rules as required by G.S. 150B-21.1(a1). Prior to the agency adopting the temporary rule, the agency must hold a public hearing no less than five days after the rule and notice have been published and must accept comments for at least 15 business days.  
For questions, you may contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 984-236-1850 or email [oah.postmaster@oah.nc.gov](mailto:oah.postmaster@oah.nc.gov).

## TITLE 15A – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Notice is hereby given in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.1(a3) that the Wildlife Resources Commission intends to amend the rule cited as 15A NCAC 10C .0325.*

**Codifier of Rules** received for publication the following notice and proposed temporary rule on: February 6, 2025.

### **Public Hearing:**

**Date:** February 27, 2025

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual public hearing via Zoom. Pre-registration is required: [https://ncwildlife.org.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_Doew4y69RCKGrl8vxgGsxxg](https://ncwildlife.org.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Doew4y69RCKGrl8vxgGsxxg), or join by phone toll free: (833) 568-8864, Webinar ID: 160 647 9253

**Reason for Proposed Temporary Action:** G.S. 150B-21.1(a)(7) b. and c. As a result of a cold stun event and in accordance with the North Carolina Spotted Sea Trout Fishery Management Plan, the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) issued a proclamation closing the recreational and commercial harvest of Spotted Sea Trout in joint and coastal fishing waters until June 15, 2025. To alleviate angler confusion, the proposed amendments will close Spotted Sea Trout harvest until June 15, 2025, in waters within NCWRC's jurisdiction (Inland Fishing Waters and hook-and-line in Joint Fishing Waters) to be consistent with the NCDMF closure.

**Comment Procedures:** Comments from the public shall be directed to: Rulemaking Coordinator, 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699; email: [regulations@ncwildlife.org](mailto:regulations@ncwildlife.org). The comment period begins February 10, 2025 and ends March 14, 2025.

## CHAPTER 10 - WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND WATER SAFETY

### SUBCHAPTER 10C - INLAND FISHING REGULATIONS

#### SECTION .0300 – GAME FISH IN INLAND FISHING WATERS

##### **15A NCAC 10C .0325 SEA TROUT**

~~(a) The daily creel limit for sea trout (spotted or speckled) is four fish.~~

~~(b) The minimum size limit is 14 inches.~~

~~(c) There is no closed season.~~

(a) Sea trout (spotted or speckled) shall not be taken or possessed.

(b) The temporary amendment shall expire on June 15, 2025.

Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-292; 113-304; 113-305.