



COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
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WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

DOUG HAYMANS
DIRECTOR

January 30, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Natural Resources

FROM: Doug Haymans

SUBJECT: Economic Impact of Proposed Amended Rule on Small Businesses: Rule 391-2-4, Saltwater Fishing Regulations

The Administrative Procedure Act requires that during the formation and adoption of any rules, attempts should be made to reduce the economic impact of those rules on small businesses. This applies to businesses that are independently owned and operated, are not dominant in the field and employ 100 employees or less.

The proposed rule amendment should have no negative impact on small businesses. Currently, oyster harvest is limited in Georgia to eight months per year except to those certified by the Department to harvest subtidal oysters during a closed season following strict, two-hour harvest time limits. The proposed rule amendment provides additional time for closed season subtidal oyster harvest which should provide for a positive impact on the industry.

The Coastal Resources Division has determined that the proposed amendment to rule 391-2-4-.19 will have no negative economic impact on small businesses.

DH/ja