

Proclamation



Town of Carolina Beach
Town Council

PROCLAMATION NO. 25-2326

A Proclamation Recognizing Ted Wilgis and the North Carolina Coastal Federation for their work on abandoned and derelict vessels in the Carolina Beach Harbor and coastal waters.

Whereas, the Town of Carolina Beach is committed to preserving a clean and accessible harbor for residents and visitors who come by boat to enjoy the many desirable amenities the community has to offer.

Whereas, abandoned derelict vessels, contaminate the environment with hydrocarbons, human feces, plastics and other waste, pollute the aesthetic views, create hazards to animal habitats, and hazard to navigation.

Whereas, the Town of Carolina Beach Council is committed to prevent abandoned derelict vessels in Town Harbor waters as demonstrated by action taken by Town Council on August 13, 2024, adopting and furthering preventative measures in Section 10 of the Town Code, as granted by the North Carolina Session Law 2010-73, Section 2.

Whereas, removing abandoned derelict vessels is extremely costly, averaging \$450 a foot, and most of the vessels removed average size 30' to 40' in length.

Whereas, the Federation has had employees in Snows Cut for the few past month, a part of their Marine Debris Removal Program. They are also currently working on a large-scale project improving the protection of the Carolina Beach State Park from erosion

Whereas, the Federation has assisted the Town with the removal of four vessels within the Harbor and six within a mile of the Town limits this past year; they are currently assisting with the removal of a vessel that was sinking during the unnamed tropical storm 8 and taken to a local boat yard where it was abandoned on private property.

Whereas, the Town of Carolina Beach has relied heavily upon the partnership with the Federation; without them, the vast majority of ADVs may still be sitting in Town waters. They have made funding available, lent administrative support, mobilized, contracted and supervised removal companies, ensured all regulations were followed during removal and disposal.

Whereas, the NC Coastal Federation seeks to formalize this existing public-private partnership framework into a state program, which will enhance vessel removals, leveraging efficiency and cost-effectiveness; supporting local governments like Carolina Beach in removal and prevention initiatives; and facilitate a more timely recovery effort after the next major storm strikes our coast and in non-emergency situations.

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed that the Carolina Beach Town Council honors Ted Wilgis for his efforts to protect the Carolina Beach Harbor and surrounding waters, be it further the Town supports the NC Coastal Federations effort of creating a permanent, long-term and sustainable abandoned and derelict vessel program and funding through the State of North Carolina in support of local efforts.

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Proclaimed this 8th day of April, 2025.

Albert L. Barbee, Mayor

Attest: Kimberlee Ward, Town Clerk