

# DWQ Fish Kill Summary Report



**Waterbody** BROAD CREEK

**Location** near Belhaven

Kill Number	Date Reported	Date Investigated	Time Investigated	
WA09009	6/22/2009	6/22/2009	1100	
County	Subasin	Latitude	Longitude	Total Fish Mortality
BEAUFORT	030307	35.549000	-76.6848800	1600

**Species**

- CATFISH
- COWNOSE RAY
- FLOUNDER
- LARGEMOUTH BASS
- MINNOWS
- SHAD
- SILVER PERCH
- SPOT
- SUNFISH

Suspected Cause	Other Species Affected	Waterbody Type	Duration	Kill Area
Bloom	NONE	Estuary	not specified	not specified

Tributaries Affected	Samples
NONE	PHYTO

**Notes:**

The Pamlico Response Team responded to a citizen's report of a fish kill in Broad Creek on Monday afternoon, June 22, 2009. Broad Creek is located upstream of Pantego Creek, near Belhaven. The kill seemed to be located in a wide and shallow (1.0 m deep) section of the creek. The team found a total of 1,596 dead fish consisting mostly of spot, and gizzard shad. Other fish species included sunfish, catfish, largemouth bass, minnows (silversides, mud minnows, and finger mullet), silver perch, flounder, striped bass, and cownose ray. Numerous fish were observed swimming in the fish kill zone during the investigation, including menhaden. The estimated time of death may have occurred within 36-48 hours prior to the investigation. Physical parameters measured during the investigation did not point to any specific cause of death, although conditions indicated an algal bloom in progress. Temperatures have been extremely hot and winds have been strong over the last several days. Given the diversity of fish species and high water temperatures, it is highly likely there has been an on-going bloom in this area that may have caused DO to drop during its decomposition phase. Water samples were taken and sent to Raleigh for further analysis. Samples indicated a bloom of small round diatoms and the dinoflagellates Scrippsiella and Karlodinium. All taxa seen in the sample are typical in local estuarine rivers during summer.