



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Travis A. Voyles
Secretary of Natural and Historic
Resources

Marine Resources Commission
Building 96
380 Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Jamie L. Green
Commissioner

December 7, 2023

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2023 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB TRAWL
CATEGORY FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER
8TH, 2023.**

Effective 12 Noon, Friday, December 8th, 2023, the Virginia horseshoe crab trawl commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Trawl Category Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, Friday, December 8th, 2023, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Ethan Simpson (757) 247-2272.