



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

*Marine Resources Commission  
2600 Washington Avenue  
Third Floor  
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Douglas W. Domenech  
Secretary of Natural Resources

Jack G. Travelstead  
Acting Commissioner

April 12, 2012

**TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: PARTIAL CLOSURE OF THE 2012 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY, EAST OF THE COLREGS LINES, AS OF 6:00 P.M. APRIL 13, 2012**

Effective 6:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Friday, April 13, 2012, the Virginia horseshoe crab fishery, east of the COLREGS line, will close to any gear other than trawl. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the horseshoe crab quota allocated east of the COLREGS line, by gears other than trawl, by the above date and time. All other horseshoe crab fisheries will remain open until further notice.

**Therefore, after 6:00 P.M., EST, April 13, 2012, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia caught, east of the COLREGS line by any gear other than trawl shall be prohibited (Emergency Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et. seq.).**

If you have questions or comments contact Alicia Nelson (757) 247-2244.

*An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat*

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