

Matthew J. Strickler Secretary of Natural Resources Marine Resources Commission 2600 Washington Avenue Third Floor Newport News, Virginia 23607

Steven G. Bowman Commissioner

November 26, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA SEED OYSTER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE FALL 2018 JAMES RIVER SEED OYSTER FISHERY

EFFECTIVE 2PM, NOVEMBER 27, 2018.

Effective 2PM, Tuesday, November 27, 2018, the Virginia James River Seed Areas, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area will be closed by VMRC to the harvest of Seed Oysters. Based upon landing reports from Virginia oyster harvesters, Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees have caught over 100% of the 40,000 bushel Seed Oyster quota allocated to be harvested between October 1 and December 31, 2018 by Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 2 PM, November 27, 2018, the possession or landing of any seed oysters from the James River Seed Area, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-720-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact the VMRC Conservation and Replenishment Department at (757) 247-2120.