



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Travis A. Voyles
Secretary of Natural and Historic
Resources

Jamie L. Green
Commissioner

May 01, 2023

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2023 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB
GENERAL HARVEST CATEGORY FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12
MIDNIGHT, TUESDAY, MAY 2nd, 2023.**

Effective 12 Midnight, Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023, the Virginia horseshoe crab general harvest 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 general category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab General Category Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 midnight, Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, pound net, dredge, or hand harvest 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.