



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission*

*380 Fenwick Road*

*Building 96*

*Fort Monroe, VA 23651*

Travis A. Voyles  
Secretary of Natural and Historic  
Resources

Jamie L. Green  
Commissioner

May 10, 2023

**TO: VIRGINIA SEED OYSTER INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2022-23 JAMES RIVER SEED OYSTER FISHERY**

**EFFECTIVE 2PM, MAY 12, 2023.**

Effective 2PM, Friday, May 12, 2023, the Virginia James River Seed Area, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area will close to the harvest of Seed Oysters. Based upon landing reports from Virginia oyster harvesters, it has been projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the Seed Oyster quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees, by the above date and time.

**Therefore, after 2PM, May 12, 2023, 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 20-720-85 et seq.).**

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

*An Agency of the Natural and Historic Resources Secretariat*

[www.mrc.virginia.gov](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov)

Telephone (757) 247-2200 Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646