



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
Commissioner

July 23, 2012

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2012 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB
POUND NET FISHERY, AS OF 6:00 P.M. JULY 23, 2012**

Effective 6:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Monday, July 23, 2012, the Virginia horseshoe crab pound net fishery will close. 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 to harvest by pound net, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 6:00 P.M., EST, July 23, 2012, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia caught by pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et. seq.).

The dredge and hand harvest will remain open west of the COLREGS line, until further notice.

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

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD