



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 5, 2013

TO: ATLANTIC MENHADEN BUYERS AND HARVESTERS

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE DIRECTED MENHADEN HAUL SEINE FISHERY

Effective 6:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Friday, July 5, 2013, the commercial menhaden haul seine fishery will close. Based on landing reports from mandatory harvest reporting and Virginia seafood buyers, it is project that Virginia will have caught 100% of the 20,103 pounds of the menhaden haul seine quota, by the above date and time.

As provided in Chapter 4VAC20-1270-10 et seq. "Pertaining to Atlantic Menhaden", when a non-purse seine menhaden bait sector gear quota is announced, by the Commissioner, as having been attained, individuals using that specific gear type may land no more than 6,000 pounds of menhaden per day, as bycatch. All bycatch landings of menhaden must be reported according to the schedule and reporting requirements established by Chapter 4VAC20-610-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Commercial Fishing and Mandatory Harvest Reporting".

Therefore, after 6:00 P.M., EDT, Friday, July 5, 2013 it shall be unlawful for any person to harvest or land more than 6,000 pounds of menhaden per day, for commercial purposes, by use of a haul seine in Virginia, for the remainder of 2013.

If you have any questions or comments contact Joe Cimino at (757) 247-2237 or Joe Grist at (757) 247-2236.

FM:jg

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