



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue
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Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

Jack G. Travelstead
Commissioner

May 1, 2013

TO: Virginia Horseshoe Crab Industry
FROM: Robert O'Reilly, Chief, Fisheries Management
RE: Virginia Horseshoe Crab Industry Meeting

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission will hold a horseshoe crab industry meeting to gain industry input on fishery modifications for the 2013 horseshoe crab season on Thursday, May 16, 2013 from 4-7 p.m. at the Chincoteague Community Center located at 6155 Community Dr, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336.

At the April 23, 2013 Commission meeting, a user conflict in the horseshoe crab fishery was brought to the attention of the Commission during a public comment period. There were comments pertaining to locations and orientations of gill nets set in the Toms Cove area that was potentially restricting the availability of horseshoe crabs for hand harvesters. The Commission recommended that members from the industry meet and develop a cooperative solution that would allow both user groups to use the area without conflict. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

If you have questions or comments contact Adam Kenyon at (757) 247-2244.

RLOR:ak

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