



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

John M.R. Bull  
Commissioner

June 1, 2015

**TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: LANDING LIMIT REDUCTION FOR THE POUND NET PERMITTEES IN THE 2015 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12:00 P.M. (NOON) TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015 AND CLOSURE OF THE 2015 POUND NET HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12:00 P.M. (NOON) WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2015.**

It is projected that 80% of the horseshoe crab commercial pound net quota has been taken. For that reason, it shall be unlawful for any valid horseshoe crab commercial pound net permittee to possess aboard any vessel or to land more than 250 horseshoe crabs per day, effective 12:00 P.M. (Noon) eastern daylight-savings time (EDT), Tuesday, June 2, 2015.

Effective 12:00 P.M. (Noon) eastern daylight-savings time (EDT), Wednesday, June 3, 2015 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 be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Pound Net Permittees, by the above date and time.

**Therefore, after Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 12:00 P.M. (noon), Horseshoe Crab Commercial Pound Net Permittees will be limited to possess aboard any vessel or land more than 250 horseshoe crabs per day (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).**

**AND**

**After 12:00 P.M. (noon), June 3, 2015, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by gears other than trawl, dredge, or by hand shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).**

If you have questions or comments contact Rachael Maulorico (757) 247-2244.

*An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat*

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

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