



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

John M.R. Bull  
Commissioner

May 16, 2016

**TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2016 HORSESHOE CRAB DREDGE FISHERY  
EFFECTIVE SUNSET, MAY 17, 2016.**

Effective Sunset, Tuesday, May 17, 2016, the Virginia horseshoe crab commercial dredge gear fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it has been projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the horseshoe crab dredge gear quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Class A and Class B Permittees, by the above date and time.

**Therefore, after Sunset, May 17, 2016, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, pound net, or by hand shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).**

If you have any questions or comments please contact Adam Kenyon (757) 247-8068.

*An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat*

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