



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 3, 2016

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2016 GENERAL CATEGORY HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, MAY 4, 2016.

Effective Sunset, Wednesday, May 4, 2016, the Virginia horseshoe crab general category permit commercial 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 general category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab General Category Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after Sunset, May 4, 2016, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, dredge, 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

www.mrc.virginia.gov

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