



# *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

April 28, 2017

**TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2017 GENERAL CATEGORY HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, APRIL 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

Effective Sunset, Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 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, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 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.

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