



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

May 14, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: LANDING LIMIT REDUCTION FOR THE 2018 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB DREDGE FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

It has been projected that 80% of the horseshoe crab commercial dredge quota has been harvested. For that reason, it shall be unlawful for any valid commercial Horseshoe Crab Class A Dredge permittee to possess aboard any vessel or to land more than 1,250 horseshoe crabs per day. It shall also be unlawful for any valid commercial Horseshoe Crab Class B Dredge permittee to possess aboard any vessel or to land more than 500 horseshoe crabs per day. These regulatory requirements shall be effective sunset, Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Therefore, after sunset, Tuesday, May 15, 2018, it shall be unlawful for any Horseshoe Crab Class A Dredge Permittees to possess aboard any vessel or land more than 1,250 horseshoe crabs per day, and it shall be unlawful for any Horseshoe Crab Class B Dredge Permittees to possess aboard any vessel or land more than 500 horseshoe crabs per day (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

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