



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

June 15, 2010

TO: HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY
FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
RE: REDUCTION OF VIRGINIA'S 2010 HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY

Effective 10:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time (EST), Wednesday, June 16, 2010, the daily harvest and possession limits for horseshoe crabs will be reduced by 50%, as provided by Regulation 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq. Effective 10:00 PM EST on June 16, 2010:

- It shall be unlawful for any person who holds a valid unrestricted horseshoe crab endorsement license to possess aboard any vessel in Virginia any number of horseshoe crabs in excess of 2,500 per day.
- It shall be unlawful for any person who holds a valid restricted horseshoe crab endorsement license to possess aboard any vessel in Virginia any number of horseshoe crabs in excess of 1,000 per day.
- It shall be unlawful for any person who holds a horseshoe crab bycatch permit to possess aboard any vessel more than 250 horseshoe crabs or for any vessel to land any number of horseshoe crabs in excess of 250 per day.

Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and harvester call-ins, it is projected that Virginia will have caught 50% of 137,168 horseshoe crab quota by the above date and time.

If you have questions or comments contact Alicia Nelson (757) 247-2244.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

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