



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

Marine Resources Commission

2600 Washington Avenue
Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

November 7, 2007

TO: SUMMER FLOUNDER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF VIRGINIA'S FOURTH QUARTER DIRECTED OFFSHORE
SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY**

Effective 12:00 P.M. (Noon), Eastern Standard Time (EST), Friday, November 9, 2007, the Fourth Quarter of the Virginia Directed Offshore Summer Flounder Fishery will close. Vessels, which have entered Virginia waters and secured to an offloading site prior to 12:00 P.M., EST, Friday, November 9, 2007 may possess and offload 10,000 pounds of Summer Flounder, minus any previous landings during the current ten-day landing period.

Based upon landing reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service, Virginia seafood buyers and VMRC Law Enforcement, it is projected that Virginia will have caught its Fourth Quarter Quota of 563,316 pounds of Summer Flounder, by the above date and time. **Therefore, after 12:00 P.M., EST, November 9, 2007, landings of Summer Flounder harvested from Federal waters, or the waters of any other state (includes the by-catch from federal waters or the harvest from waters of any other state by all gears), in Virginia, shall be prohibited.**

The buyer shall provide Operations Station (757-247-2265 or 1-800-541-4646) the name of the vessel and its captain and the anticipated or approximate offloading time. Once offloading of any vessel is complete and the weight of the landed Summer Flounder has been determined, the buyer shall contact the Marine Resources Commission Operations Station and report the vessel name and corresponding weight of Summer Flounder landed.

Vessels seeking safe harbor shall contact the Marine Resources Commission Operations Center in advance of entry into Virginia waters. Any vessel declaring a need for safe harbor may be subject to inspection by the United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office.

If you have questions or comments contact Joe Grist at (757) 247-2237 or Joe Cimino at (757) 247-8068.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

Web Address: www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD