



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
Building 96
380 Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

November 22, 2019

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2019 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB TRAWL
FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, 2019.**

Effective Sunset, Saturday, November 23rd, 2019, the Virginia horseshoe crab trawl commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab trawl quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Trawl Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after Sunset, Saturday, November 23rd, 2019, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Ethan Simpson (757) 247-2272.