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VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION "PROHIBITION OF CRAB DREDGING IN VIRGINIA WATERS" CHAPTER 4 VAC 20-1140-10 ET SEQ.

PREAMBLE

This chapter closes the 2023-2024 crab dredging season in Virginia tidal waters, in order to conserve female crabs, as the exploitation rate, by the crab dredge fishery, on female crabs, most of which have not spawned for the first time, can jeopardize the current and future biological health of this resource. This chapter is promulgated pursuant to the authority contained in §§28.2-201, 28.2-203, 28.2-203.1 and 28.2-707 of the Code of Virginia. This chapter amends and re-adopts, as amended, previous Chapter 4 VAC 20-1140-10 et seq., which was promulgated-June 27, 2023, and made effective on July 5, 2023. The effective date of this chapter is July 5, 2024.

4 VAC 20-1140-10. (Repealed.)

4 VAC 20-1140-20. (Repealed.)

4 VAC 20-1140-30. (Repealed.)

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the chapter passed by the Marine Resources Commission, pursuant to authority vested in the Commission by § 28.2-201 of the Code of Virginia, duly advertised according to statute, and recorded in the Commission's minute book, at meeting held in Hampton, Virginia on June 25, 2024.

> **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA** MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

Jamie L. Green

Commissioner

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 2024.

/Notary Public