July 2, 2013

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2013 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB POUND NET FISHERY, AS OF 6:00 P.M. July 4, 2013

Effective 6:00 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Thursday, July 4, 2013, the Virginia horseshoe crab pound net fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the horseshoe crab quota allocated to harvest by pound net, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 6:00 P.M., EDT, July 4, 2013, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia caught by pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et. seq.).

The trawl fishery for horseshoe crabs will remain open until further notice.