



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

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

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

John M.R. Bull  
Commissioner

June 12, 2017

**TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2017 HORSESHOE CRAB HAND HARVEST  
FISHERY EFFECTIVE NOON, JUNE 12, 2017**

Effective Noon, Monday, June 12, 2017, the Virginia horseshoe crab commercial hand harvest fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it has been projected that Virginia will have caught 100% of the horseshoe crab hand harvest quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Permittees, by the above date and time.

**Therefore, after Noon, June 12, 2017, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl or pound net shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).**

If you have any questions or comments please contact Adam Kenyon (757) 247-8068.

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