



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Travis A. Voyles
Secretary of Natural and Historic
Resources

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

Jamie L. Green
Commissioner

June 14, 2023

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2023 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB HAND
HARVEST CATEGORY FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, SATURDAY,
JUNE 17TH, 2023.**

Effective 12 Noon, Saturday, June 17th, 2023, the Virginia horseshoe crab hand harvest 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 quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Category Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, June 17th, 2023, 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 Ethan Simpson (757) 247-2272.