"A CHANGE IN THE OYSTER CULL SIZE FOR OYSTERS HARVESTED FROM LITTLE CARTERS ROCK, RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER" CHAPTER 4VAC20-860-10 ET SEQ.

PREAMBLE

This chapter is promulgated pursuant to authority contained in §§ 28.2-201, 28.2-507, and 28.2-518 of the Code of Virginia. This chapter repeals previous Chapter 4VAC20-860-10 et seq., which was made effective December 7, 1988. The effective date of this chapter, as amended, is December 31, 2023.

4VAC20-860-10. Authority, other regulations, and effective date. (Repealed.)

A. This order is promulgated pursuant to authority contained in §§ 28.1-23 [Repealed] and 28.1-85 [Repealed] of the Code of Virginia.

B. Other chapters. This chapter modifies VR 450-01-0035 adopted March 9, 1987, which established the three-inch cull size for all clean cull areas. No other part of the chapter shall be affected, except as specified in this chapter.

C. The effective date of this chapter is December 7, 1988.

4VAC20-860-20. Purpose. (Repealed.)

This chapter is promulgated in response to a request from the oyster industry that the minimum size be changed from 3 inches to 2-½ inches for oysters harvested from Little Carters Rock, Rappahannock River. Past harvesting of oysters from this oyster rock has shown a definite characteristic of oysters taken from this area which is that they only grow to 2-½ inches. This action is also vital and timely because of the high death rate in other areas of the Commonwealth

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due to the oyster diseases, MSX and Dermo, which has caused a shortage in the supply of market size oysters.

4VAC20-860-30. Size limit. (Repealed.)

The minimum size limit for oysters harvested from Little Carters Rock, Rappahannock River shall be 2-½ inches.

4VAC20-860-40. Area description. (Repealed.)

This chapter affects the area known as Little Carters Rock in the Upper Rappahannock River area.

4VAC20-860-50. Penalty. (Repealed.)

In accordance with § 28.1-23 [Repealed] of the Code of Virginia, any person who violates any chapter adopted and promulgated by the Commission shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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 December 5, 2023.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

| BY: | | |
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| | Jamie L. Green | |

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| | | Commissioner | |
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| Subscribed and sworn to before me this | day of | 2023. | |
| | | Notary Public | |

