

Molly Joseph Ward Secretary of Natural Resources Marine Resources Commission 2600 Washington Avenue Third Floor Newport News, Virginia 23607

John M.R. Bull Commissioner

September 27, 2017

TO: VIRGINIA COMMERCIAL COBIA INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2017 COMMERCIAL COBIA FISHERY EFFECTIVE

11:59 P.M., SEPTEMBER 30th, 2017.

Effective 11:59 P.M., Saturday, September 30th, 2017, the Virginia commercial cobia fishery will close. Based upon landing reports of cobia from both the state and federal level, it is projected that the states belonging to the Atlantic Migratory Group of cobia (Georgia-New York) have caught 100% of the 50,000-pound annual catch limit allocated to the commercial sector.

Therefore, after 11:59 P.M., September 30th, 2017, the possession or landing of any cobia in Virginia shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-510-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ryan Jiorle (757) 247-2272.