



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

April 2, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA SEED OYSTER INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2017-18 JAMES RIVER SEED OYSTER FISHERY

EFFECTIVE 2PM, APRIL 13, 2018.

Effective 2PM, Friday, April 13, 2017, the Virginia James River Seed Area, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area will be closed by VMRC to the harvest of Seed Oysters. Based upon landing reports from Virginia oyster harvesters, it has been projected that Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees will have caught 100% of the 120,000 bushel Seed Oyster quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 2PM, April 13, 2018, the possession or landing of any seed oysters from the James River Seed Area, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-720-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact the VMRC Conservation and Replenishment Department at (757) 247-2120.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD