



# 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

October 30, 2018

**TO: VIRGINIA SEED OYSTER INDUSTRY**

**FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE FALL 2018 JAMES RIVER SEED OYSTER FISHERY**

Based upon landing reports from Virginia oyster harvesters, 27,723.5 bushels of seed have been harvested. Based on the current level of harvest, it has been projected that Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees will have caught 100% of the 40,000 bushel October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 Seed Oyster quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Seed Oyster Harvest Permittees, by 2pm, November 9, 2018. The areas open to the harvest of seed oysters will remain open until the quota has been reached or may close earlier than the projected date if the quota is reached early. The Virginia James River Seed Areas, including the Deep Water Shoal State Replenishment Seed Area will reopen to the harvest of seed oysters on January 1, 2019.

**Therefore, after 2 PM, November 9, 2018, or when it has been determined that the quota has been reached, 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*

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