



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

June 11, 2019

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

**RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2019 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB HAND
HARVEST FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12th,
2019.**

Effective 12 noon, Wednesday, June 12th, 2019, 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 hand harvest quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, Wednesday, June 12th, 2019, 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.