NOTICE 2024-09

<u>NOTICE OF INTENT TO TRANSPLANT HOUSE SHELL TO THE BLACKBERRY</u> <u>HANGS AREA OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOR THE 2024 OYSTER</u> <u>REPLENISHMENT PROGRAM</u>

NOTICE is hereby given that the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) intends to transport approximately 5,000 bushels of house shells to the Blackberry Hangs Area of the Chesapeake Bay.

THE COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME.

GENERAL:

Approximate starting date will be Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

VMRC personnel will be present to mark the harvest areas and to measure and/or tally and document each load. No loading or planting is to be undertaken without VMRC personnel present. All bushels shall be standard Virginia bushels. Loading transporting and planting will be conducted Monday through Friday and will commence no earlier than 6am and be completed no later than 5pm each day.

One contractor will be utilized for the acquiring/purchasing from Virginia Shucking Houses, loading, transporting, and planting of the house shell.

The price per bushel to be paid to the contractor will be \$4.75. Before any payments can be made to the contractor a current Tax form (W-9) must be completed and on file at the Marine Resources Commission main office.

Payment will be processed after receipt, verification, and approval of all supporting documentation.

All vessels conducting work for the 2024 Restoration/Replenishment Plan may be required to have on board a vessel monitoring device, provided by Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Shellfish Management Division. The monitoring device is required to be on board at all times while under contract. The monitoring device will be provided by Shellfish Management Division staff overseeing the project.

The contractor must be capable of deployments of at least 500 bushels per load and 1,000 bushels per day.

LOTTERY:

If more than one (1) contractor for the planting of house shells should respond, then a lottery will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m. at the VMRC Conservation and Replenishment Department office located at Fort Monroe. Building address is: VMRC, 380 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe, Virginia. The lottery will be open to those individuals who wish to be present during the drawing.

RESPONSE DEADLINE:

Responses are requested by no later than 12 noon, July 8, 2024.

These responses should be submitted to the Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management Division.

Information required: Name, address, telephone number., description of equipment intended for operation on this project, and your boat's name or number.

CONTACT PERSON:

Andrew Button Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management Division Head, Conservation and Replenishment Department

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