

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

Justin Worrell Acting Commissioner

June 21, 2022

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2022 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB HAND

HARVEST CATEGORY FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON,

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2022.

Effective 12 Noon, Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, 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 quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Category Permittees by the above date and time.

Therefore, after 12 noon, June, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except general category, trawl, pound net, or dredge 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.