NOTICE

CRD Notice: 2026-09

NOTICE OF INTENT TO TRANSPORT AND PLANT SHELL CULTCH ON OYSTER GROUNDS IN POCOMOKE SOUND, EASTERN SHORE, VIRGINIA FOR THE 2026 OYSTER REPLENISHMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) intends to transport shell cultch located in Oyster Virginia and plant on public oyster grounds in Pocomoke Sound for its 2026 Oyster Replenishment Program. VMRC is inviting any person interested in performing this work to apply as indicated below.

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

EASTERN SHORE:

Shells that were harvested from state-owned bottomland, are to be transported and replanted on public oyster grounds. Work will be performed in the following areas:

Planting location: Northampton County Pocomoke Sound.

Approximately 30,000 Virginia bushels transported and planted at $6.00 per bushel.

METHOD: The shell **will be washed from a continually moving barge under the direction of VMRC staff.**

EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION:

Draft of the shell planting boat should be less than 36" and the operator must show evidence of 5 or more years of experience in operating this type of machinery and performing this type of operation. The operator must have all barge and transplanting equipment necessary to transport and plant the shells and be capable of deployments of 1000-3000 bushels of shell daily.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Approximate starting date is June 10, 2026. Completion date shall be NO LATER THAN August 31, 2026.

The areas from which shell will be transported from and then planted will be designated and marked by VMRC personnel.

All work will be supervised by VMRC personnel. Shell planted will be measured and documented by VMRC personnel.

The Contractor will be paid $6.00 per bushel for shell cultch that is transported from Oyster and planted on public oyster grounds in Pocomoke Sound. Approximately 30,000 bushels are planned to be transported and planted.

VMRC personnel will supervise all work.

Before any payments can be made to the contractor, there must be verification of registration with the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprises, as a small, woman, or minority owned company, and a contract and current Tax form (W-9) completed and on file at the Marine Resources Commission main office. Payment will be made after the Conservation and Replenishment Department has received the invoice and all supporting documentation.

The Marine Resources Commission will provide all contractors with information, so that they, if not already registered, can promptly register as a small, woman, or minority owned company with the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprises.

SELECTION:

VMRC plans to select up to two (2) contractors to perform the work. If more than two (2) responses are received from qualified contractors, then selection will be made by lottery.

RESPONSE DEADLINE:

Responses are requested in writing to be sent either by mail or e-mail by no later than 12 noon, **June 4, 2026**.

These responses should be submitted to Andrew Button, VMRC-Conservation and Replenishment Department.

Information required for eligibility to participate in this project: Name, address, telephone no., description of equipment intended for operation on this project and your boat's name or number. Also, describe your experience and work performed with this type of equipment from 1997-2025.

LOTTERY:

If more than two (2) qualified applicants should respond, a lottery will be held **June 4, 2026.@ 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.

CONTACT PERSON:

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