NOTICE

CRD Notice: 2026-15

NOTICE OF INTENT TO HARVEST SHELL CULTCH FOR THE 2026 OYSTER REPLENISHMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) intends to harvest shell cultch 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.

SEASIDE OF EASTERN SHORE:

Submerged shells will be harvested from state-owned approved shell sources near Sand Shoal Inlet, VA., transported and stockpiled. Work will be performed in the following areas:

Stockpile location: This shell will be delivered to TNC property on the harbor located in the village of Oyster, Virginia prior to February 28, 2027.

Total cost of service shall not exceed $105,000 billed at a rate of $3.50 per bushel delivered.

No more than 30,000 Virginia bushels of shell delivered.

METHOD: The shell harvesting will be done with a vessel using conventional oyster dredges.

EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION:
Standard oyster dredges must be at least three (3) feet wide. Draft of the shell planting boat should be less than 36" and the operator must show evidence of significant experience in operating this type of machinery and performing this type of operation. The operator must have all barge and transplanting equipment necessary to catch, transport, and plant the shells that are recovered and be cable of deployments of 1000-3000 bushels of shell daily.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Approximate starting date is November 6, 2026. Completion date shall be NO LATER THAN February 28, 2027.

The areas from which shell will be harvested will be designated and marked by VMRC personnel.

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

Total cost of service shall not exceed $105,000 billed at a rate of $3.50 per bushel for a total of 30,000 Virginia bushels of shell delivered.

The Contractor will be paid $3.50 per bushel for shell cultch that is delivered to the stockpile location. Stockpile not to exceed 30,000 Virginia bushels of shell delivered.

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, fax, or e-mail by no later than 12 noon, **November 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 **November 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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