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April 1, 2015

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2015 Horseshoe Crab Spawning Closure Dates

To promote the conservation of horseshoe crabs, the commercial horseshoe crab fishery is closed to harvest during five-day lunar closure periods coinciding with the second lunar period in April and each new and full moon in the months of May and June. Closures will begin at 12:00AM (midnight) two days prior to the new or full moon and end at 11:59PM two-days after the new or full moon. Our lunar calendar is derived from [NOAA data](#) and adjusted for Eastern Standard Daylight Savings Time. The horseshoe crab spawning closure dates are captured in the calendar below.

More regulations relevant to horseshoe crabs can be found at [322 CMR 6.34](#). For more information regarding horseshoe crabs, please visit the *Marine Fisheries* website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or contact our Invertebrate Species Program at our New Bedford field office (508-990-2860 x 148).

Lunar Closures April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Closed Day	17 Closed Day	18 Closed Day
19 Closed Day	20 Closed Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Lunar Closures May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Closed Day	2 Closed Day
3 Closed Day	4 Closed Day	5 Closed Day	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Closed Day
17 Closed Day	18 Closed Day	19 Closed Day	20 Closed Day	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Closed Day						

Lunar Closures June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Closed Day	2 Closed Day	3 Closed Day	4 Closed Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Closed Day	15 Closed Day	16 Closed Day	17 Closed Day	18 Closed Day	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				