



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

APR 30 2009

2009 Spiny Dogfish Commercial Quota & Possession Limits

Dear Spiny Dogfish Permit Holder:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) announces the spiny dogfish specifications and management measures that are effective for the 2009 fishing year (May 1, 2009 -April 30, 2010). Any vessel issued a Federal permit for spiny dogfish is required to comply with these measures, whether fishing in state or Federal waters. If a Federal spiny dogfish measure and a state measure differ, the vessel must comply with the more restrictive requirement. For example, if a state has a possession limit that is lower than the Federal possession limit, the vessel must comply with the state limit when it is within state waters or landing spiny dogfish in that state.

QUOTA ALLOCATION AND POSSESSION LIMITS

The quota is 12,000,000 lb, allocated to two quota periods as shown below (Period 1 is May 1-October 31 and Period 2 is November 1-April 30). The possession limit is 3,000 lb per trip. Vessels are prohibited from landing more than one trip in any one calendar day.

2009 Spiny Dogfish Quota & Possession Limits		
Quota Period	Allocation (lb)	Possession Limit (lb)
Period 1 (May 1–Oct 31)	6,948,000	3,000
Period 2 (Nov 1–Apr 30)	5,052,000	3,000

Landings updates can be found at: www.nero.noaa.gov

MONITORING

All spiny dogfish landed for sale in the states from Maine through Florida will be counted toward the commercial quota, regardless of where the spiny dogfish are harvested. When landings reports, state data, and other available information indicate that the quota for either of the quota periods will be attained, vessels and dealers issued Federal dogfish permits will be notified of the date on which the fishery will close.



NOTIFICATION OF FISHERY ACTIONS/CLOSURES

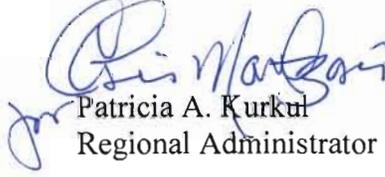
During a closure, no vessel issued a Federal spiny dogfish permit may fish for, possess, or land spiny dogfish. In addition, no one may purchase spiny dogfish from a vessel issued a Federal spiny dogfish vessel permit during a fishery closure.

REMINDER

This letter is only a summary of the regulations. You may obtain a complete copy of the regulations by calling (978) 281-9315, or by accessing the Northeast Regional Office's website: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>.

You may also receive permit holder letters, including closure notices, by e-mail by clicking on "Permit Holder Letters" on our website at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>; or via fax by providing a fax number through a written request to the above address, or by faxing your request to 978-281-9135.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator

This small entity compliance guide complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.