



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 NORTHEAST REGION
 One Blackburn Drive
 Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

May 9, 2007

Dear Spiny Dogfish Permit Holder:

REMINDER OF Federal Spiny Dogfish Quota and Possession Limits for the 2007 Fishing Year (May 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008)

For the 2007 spiny dogfish fishing year, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission established an annual spiny dogfish quota of 6,000,000 lb, and states may set their trip limits up to 3,000 lb per day. If your vessel is issued a federal spiny dogfish permit, however, you are bound by the federal management measures, which are detailed below.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) implemented the following spiny dogfish management measures for the 2006, 2007, and 2008 fishing years. These measures are effective from August 16, 2006, through April 30, 2009. Any vessel issued a Federal permit for spiny dogfish is required to comply with these measures when fishing in state or Federal waters.

FFEDERAL QUOTA ALLOCATION AND POSSESSION LIMITS

An annual quota of 4,000,000 lb, divided into two quota periods as shown below, and possession limits of 600 lb for both Quota Period I and Quota Period II (vessels are prohibited from landing more than the specified amount in any one calendar day). The quota allocations and possession limits in each fishing year will apply for the 2006, 2007, and 2008 fishing years, and will be separated into two semi-annual periods as follows:

	QUOTA PERIOD I	QUOTA PERIOD II
	May 1 - Oct 31	Nov. 1 - April 30
Quota Allocation	2,316,000 lb	1,684,000 lb
Possession Limit	600 lb	600 lb

LANDING RESTRICTION

The commercial quota applies throughout the spiny dogfish management unit, in both state and Federal waters. 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.



MONITORING AND CLOSURE

NOAA Fisheries will monitor the fishery to determine when the quota for a semi-annual quota period is reached. When NOAA Fisheries projects that the quota will be attained, a notice will be published in the Federal Register, and industry will be notified of the date on which the dogfish fishery will be closed.

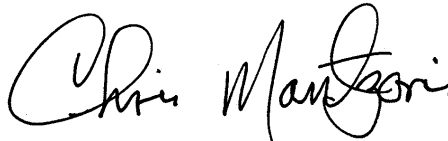
During a closure, it is prohibited for any vessel issued a Federal commercial spiny dogfish permit to fish for, possess, or land spiny dogfish. In addition, no one may purchase spiny dogfish from a vessel with a Federal spiny dogfish vessel permit during a fishery closure period.

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>.

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

Sincerely,



for

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator