



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

**FISHING YEAR 2001 SPINY DOGFISH COMMERCIAL QUOTA AND POSSESSION LIMIT**

Dear Permit Holder:

The National Marine Fisheries (NMFS) will implement the following spiny dogfish management measures on May 1, 2001: An annual quota of 4,000,000 lb, divided into two quota periods as shown below. NMFS will maintain possession limits of 600 lb for Quota Period I and 300 lb for Quota Period II. In addition, the trip limit provisions are modified to be possession limits, and these limits are further specified to be the maximum amount allowed to be landed within any one 24-hour period (per-calendar-day possession limit). The quota allocations and possession limits for the two semi-annual periods in fishing year 2001 are as follows:

	<b>QUOTA PERIOD I</b>	<b>QUOTA PERIOD II</b>
	<b>May 1 - Oct 31, 2001</b>	<b>Nov. 1 - April 30, 2002</b>
<b>Quota Allocation</b>	<b>2,316,000 lb</b>	<b>1,684,000 lb</b>
<b>Possession Limit</b>	<b>600 lb</b>	<b>300 lb</b>

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 towards the commercial quota, regardless of where the spiny dogfish are harvested.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will monitor the fishery to determine when the quota for a semi-annual quota period is reached. When NMFS 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.

The Northeast Regional Office has established two automated systems to provide faster notice to industry of management actions: (1) E-mail notice - you may request e-mail notices by checking on "What's New" on our website (address below); or (2) FAX notice - you may provide a FAX number to be loaded into an automated system by mailing or faxing a written request (FAX # : 978-281-9135).

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.

This letter is only a summary of the regulations. You may obtain a complete copy of the regulations by calling (978) 281-9278, or by accessing the Northeast Regional Office's website:  
<http://www.wh.who.edu/ro/doc/nero.html>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Kurkul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*for* Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator