

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 626.1520 Fax (617) 626.1509



December 13, 2006

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2006 PERIOD II SPINY DOGFISH LANDINGS TO END MONDAY, DECEMBER 18th

The Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) has projected that 58% of the regional spiny dogfish quota would be harvested by Sunday, December 17th. *MarineFisheries* is therefore taking action to prohibit the possession and landing of spiny dogfish by fishermen effective 0001 hours on Monday, December 18th through April 30, 2007 (the end of the 2006/2007 Period II fishery).

At a November meeting, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Spiny Dogfish Management Board approved a six-million pound quota split for spiny dogfish that assigned 58% of the overall spiny dogfish quota to "northern" states (CT through ME) with the remaining 42% assigned to states from NY south. This translated into roughly an additional 993,000 pounds of spiny dogfish available to commercial fishermen in the "northern states" under a 2,000-lb. trip limit implemented by *MarineFisheries* on November 10th.

The same 6-million pound quota and regional quota split will be in place for the next fishing year beginning May 1, 2007 with trip limits to be determined by ASMFC early next year.

For further information please visit our website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.