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## Energy and Environmental Affairs

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### Notice of Public Comment: 2014/2015 Spiny Dogfish Trip Limit Specifications

#### Media Contact

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Spiny Dogfish Board has set specifications for the 2014/2015 commercial spiny dogfish fishery. The Northern Region (ME-CT) has been allocated a 28.65 million pound quota and states may set trip limits as high as 4,000 pounds.

Pursuant to 322 CMR 6.35(5), the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) must now declare a state possession and landing limit that complies with the ASMFC's specifications. The following specifications are being proposed:



- Beginning May 1, 2014 it shall be unlawful for any commercial vessel or commercial permit holder to possess or land in excess of 4,000-lbs. of spiny dogfish per trip or per calendar day, whichever is longer; and**
- Once the Director has determined that the northern region's quota has been reached, it shall be unlawful for commercial fishermen to land or possess any spiny dogfish.**

The Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission will vote to adopt these specifications prior to May 1, 2014. The Director's Declaration will be published in a local newspaper, the Massachusetts Register, distributed through *MarineFisheries* Listserv and posted on the *MarineFisheries* website.

Public comment on these specifications will be accepted until May 8, 2014. Written comment may be submitted to the Director by e-mail c/o Jared Silva ([jared.silva@state.ma.us](mailto:jared.silva@state.ma.us)), by fax (617-626-1509) or by mail sent to the attention of Jared Silva at 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

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