

Spiny Dogfish Industry Meeting



Fishery Evaluation

May 27, 2015

Spiny Dogfish Industry Meeting

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome/Announcements
- Review of Operating Guidelines/Ground Rules
- 2014/2015 Fishery Recap
 - Permits
 - Landings
 - 10,000 lb Eligibility/Transfer Requirement – Group Discussion
 - Enforcement
- Future
 - Declarations
 - Permit Cards - Group Discussion
 - Trip Limits - Group Discussion
 - New Entrants - Group Discussion
 - Brian Pritchett Request - Group Discussion
 - Regulation Update
- Other Business / Public Comment / Adjourn

Guidelines / Ground Rules

- **Motions:**

- Work group members should make a motion when recommending action to Fisheries Service, e.g. Jeff Eustler motions that Fisheries Service consider making the spiny dogfish fishery limited entry. Motion is seconded by Sonny Gwin.
- Discussion will follow and will be limited to the merits of the motion.
- Motion should be approved by the majority. A tie or a failed motion provides us as much information as a passed motion.
- Will need to document reasons why passed, failed, or tied. If not unanimous, the work group should report on all reason(s) for the dissenting vote.

Guidelines / Ground Rules

- One workgroup member will speak at a time. Please raise your hand, and we (the facilitators) will ensure each member has an opportunity to talk.
- For topics not on the agenda, there will be time under “other business” to bring items to our attention.
- On discussion outside of the meeting: recommendations made to the Department outside of the workgroup meeting will not be considered.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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2014/2015 Fishery Recap

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May 2014 - April 2015 Permits

- 26 permits were issued to 23 people
- 28 vessels were eligible for permits
- 2014/2015 Permit Cards are **PAST** due.

Permit Coordinator – Christopher Jones

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May 2014-April 2015 Preliminary Landings

- SAFIS Landings 974,502 lbs = 32% of the MD 3,029,165 lb quota
- 23 vessels reported landings
- 96% of those vessels held a spiny dogfish permit

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10,000 lb Eligibility

Spiny Dogfish Landing Permit

(1) An individual is eligible to declare for a permit to catch and land spiny dogfish in Maryland if they are licensed in accordance with Natural Resources Article, § 4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland, and meet the following requirements:

- *(a) The individual provides proof that they owned or had a share of ownership in a vessel that landed at least 1,000 pounds of spiny dogfish between May 1, 2004, and March 8, 2013, and have not previously held a Maryland spiny dogfish landing permit;*
- *(b) The individual has declared an intent to fish for spiny dogfish in accordance with § D of this regulation within the previous 2-year period and has not transferred the permit;*
- *(c) The individual, beginning March 2015, has declared an intent to fish for spiny dogfish in accordance with § D of this regulation **within 2 years** of the current declaration, not transferred the permit, and owned a vessel that **landed a minimum of 10,000 pounds** of spiny dogfish within 2 years of the current declaration period; or*

As of preliminary 2014/2015 ACCSP landings:

- 61% of permittees \geq 10,000 lbs (17 out of 28 landed vessels)

Transfer Requirement

Permanent Transfer of a Landing Permit

A commercial tidal fish licensee may permanently transfer a spiny dogfish landing permit if:

- (ii) Held the permit for 4 or more consecutive years; and
- (iii) Harvested a minimum of **20,000** pounds within the previous 4-year period on the same vessel that qualified for the permit under § E(1) of this regulation;

As of preliminary 2014/2015 landings:

- 43% of permittees landed $\geq 20,000$ lbs (12 out of 28 Vessels)

Enforcement

We are not aware of any enforcement issues last season.

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Future

Declarations

- Declaration period is August 1 - March 31.
- Late declarations were due April 14th.
- 20 vessels declared for 2015/2016
- 8 vessels failed to declare for 2015/2016
- 1 vessel failed to declare two years in a row

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Permit Cards

Would you like to eliminate reporting spiny dogfish using a permit card?

- Permits are listed on the fishing license
- Spiny dogfish are required to be sold to a federally permitted dealer, so landings are available to managers electronically.

Eliminating permit cards will require a change to our regulations.

- Changes to where operators are indicated (currently on the permit card)
- Language requiring a permit card

If so, is it preferable to stop mid-season (January 1) or wait until next May to have the regulations effective since it's too late for this year?

2015/2016 Trip Limits

Would you like to increase our vessel trip limit?

- NOAA: 5,000 effective 8/5/14
- Northern Region (ME-CT) 5,000 lbs, effective 9/8/14
- Maryland: 5,000 lbs, effective 5/8/15
- DE 10,000 lbs
- VA 5,000 lbs
- NC 10,000 lbs, effective 1/1/15

Suggestions: 7,500? 10,000?

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New Entrants

The Dept. has received requests for permits from people/vessels that do not meet the original eligibility criteria.

...least 1,000 pounds of spiny dogfish between May 1, 2004, and March 8, 2013.

We have two ways for vessels to enter this fishery in the near future:

1. Permanent transfer which is not an option until our 4th year. We are currently in the beginning of the 3rd year. Also requires harvest of 20,000 lbs within those 4 years.
2. The number of permits falls to 20 – it was recommended that we add 10 permits back into the pool never to exceed 30.

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F/V Riptide, Amanda Frances & Instigator

Brian Pritchett (Riptide) contacted Tom O'Connell over the winter and indicated that he would like a spiny dogfish permit. Letter Included.

- *Letter indicated that he fished striped bass and spiny dogfish with Chris Walker since 2007 but all of the dogfish landings were credited to Walkers vessel.*
- *Brian says he owns a vessel*
- *F/V Riptide held federal spiny dogfish permits, 2005-2010*
- *Brian scalloped*

Curtis Wright (Amanda Frances) – Similar situation to Brian. Curtis received an original permit by mistake and it was returned following a letter from DNR. Letter Included.

Mike Coppa (Instigator) – Mike spoke to Mike Luisi in March – asked to be considered for a permit. Claims to have significant dogfish landings prior to the eligible years for the permit.

Addressing New Entrants

Interest list?

We could consider establishing a waitlist for new entrants. When a vessel loses the permit (failure to declare, failure to meet harvest requirements), someone could come off the waitlist.

- Consistent with other DNR authorizations
- Allows people to participate sooner
- Less expensive than a permanent transfer
- May help catch the quota
- We could hold an initial lottery to determine the ranking
- We could cap the number of permits

Addressing New Entrants

Other things we have heard:

- Allowing anyone to catch the vessel trip limit until X% of the quota is harvested and then they must follow the trip limit for non permit holders.
- Temporarily increasing the vessel trip limit for non permit holders with a sunset date.
- Tier system
 - A level - Current permit holders, highest vessel trip limit
 - B level - define
 - C level – bycatch vessel trip limit

Fisheries is supportive of the idea to creatively allow for new entrants in the SD fishery without compromising the original objectives of the limited entry permit.

Other Business

- Public Comment
- Adjourn

Regulation Updates

- ASMFC: Addendum V approved October 2014

Goal: consistency between the SCA Proposed Rule and ASMFC by removing the 5:95 fin-to-carcass ratio.

- all fins remain naturally attached at sea including the tail. Allows gutting.
- Effective June 8th in Maryland

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