



Spiny Dogfish Federal and State Management



Spiny Dogfish Management Board
August 2024

Background



- 2021 Biological Opinion (BiOp) and 2022 Action Plan required action to reduce bycatch in large mesh gillnet fishery
- New BiOp expected January 2025

Objectives of FMP



- Strives for complementary management of spiny dogfish in federal and state waters
- MAFMC and NEFMC Final Action selected preferred alternative
 - Final Rule still under development by NOAA Fisheries

No Overnight Soaks (8pm-5am)

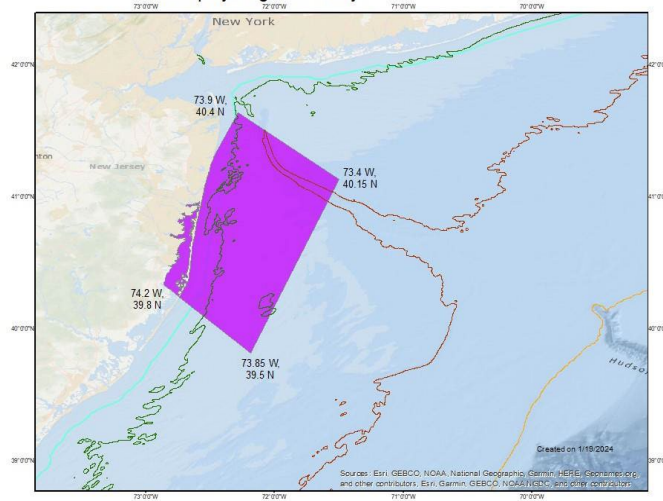
Area

NJ

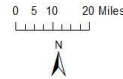
DelMarVA

Range of
Affected Areas

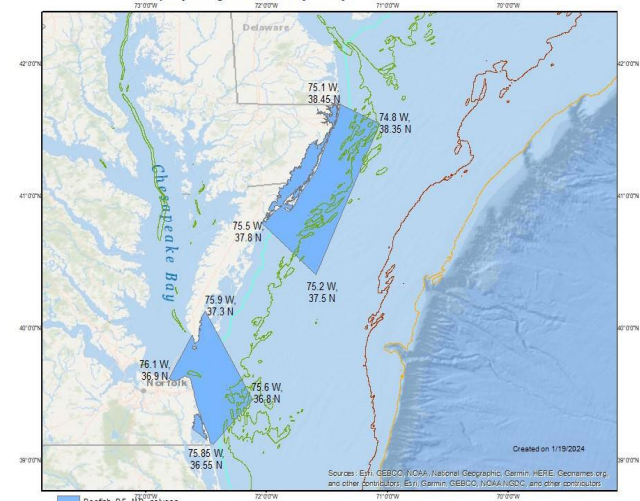
New Jersey Bycatch Hotspot Polygon - Monkfish Fishery
and Spiny Dogfish Fishery



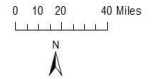
- Monkfish & Dogfish_NJ_polygon
- 3 nm (state waters)
- 20 meter depth contour
- 50 meter depth contour
- 100 meter depth contour



Delaware, Maryland, Virginia Bycatch Hotspot Polygons -
Spiny Dogfish Fishery Only



- Dogfish_DE_MD_polygon
- Dogfish_SouthernVA_polygon
- 3 nm (state waters)
- 20 meter depth contour
- 50 meter depth contour
- 100 meter depth contour



Time of Year

May and November

November-March

Mesh Size

5-10"

5.25-10"

State Permitting Structures



State	Permits that May Land Spiny Dogfish	Number of Permittees that use Gillnets	Other Gillnet Species in Permit
NJ	Gillnet	585	Shark, Large Skate, Smooth Dogfish, Bluefish
MD	Finfish (1,000 lb trip limit)	Unknown	Bluefish
	Striped Bass (2,500 lb trip limit)	52	Striped Bass
	Spiny Dogfish (10,000 lb trip limit)	25	N/A
VA	Spiny Dogfish	75	N/A

Potential Complementary Action



Only *Primary* Dogfish Fishery

New Jersey: No action required.

Maryland: Prohibit overnight soaks (8pm-5am) from November through March only for spiny dogfish permittees with gill nets of mesh size between 5.25-10”.

Virginia: Prohibit overnight soaks (8pm-5am) from November through March only for spiny dogfish permittees with gill nets of mesh size between 5.25-10”.

All 5-10” Gillnets

New Jersey: Prohibit overnight soaks (8pm-5am) in May and November for mesh sizes of 5-10” for gillnet permittees. This action would affect shark, large skate, smooth dogfish, and bluefish harvesters.

Maryland: Prohibit overnight soaks (8pm-5am) of gillnets of mesh size between 5.25-10” from November through March for all finfish licenses. This action would also affect bluefish and striped bass harvesters.

Virginia: Prohibit overnight soaks (8pm-5am) of gillnets of mesh size between 5.25-10” from November through March for spiny dogfish, black drum, and striped bass permittees.

Potential Actions



- No action
- Initiate Addendum to maintain consistency between state and federal Spiny Dogfish FMPs
 - Spiny dogfish only vs. including other species
- Other?



Questions?