



**Atlantic States
Marine Fisheries**
COMMISSION

Draft Technical Addendum to Addendum VII

May 5, 2025

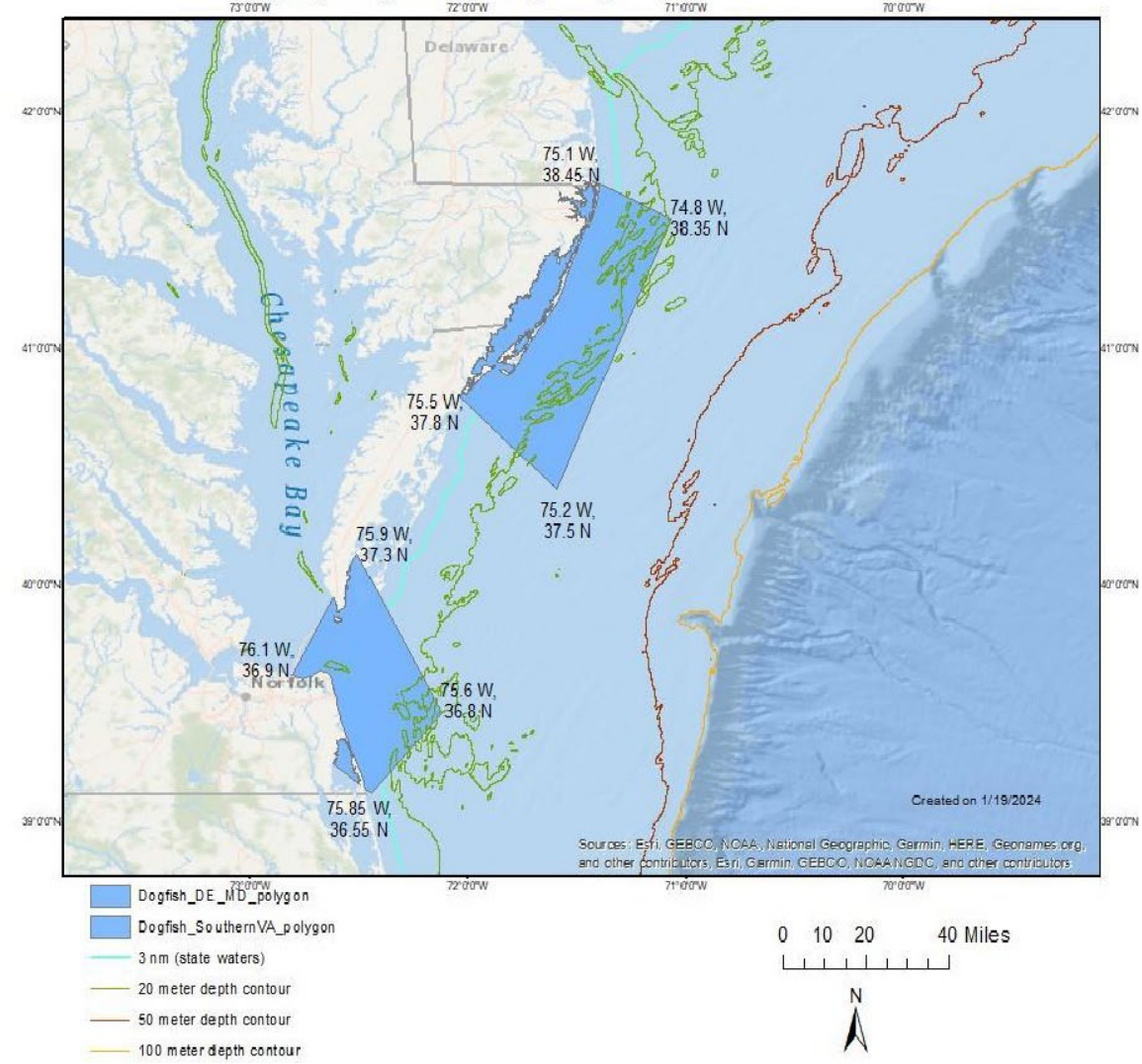


- Board approved Addendum VII in February 2025
- Prohibits overnight soaks for state spiny dogfish permit holders with gillnets between 5.25-10” in certain areas off of Maryland and Virginia

Statement of the Problem

- Typo in the coordinates of the DE/MD Bycatch Reduction Area
- Instead of reading 75°60' W, the longitude should be 75°06' W. The correct value is displayed in decimal form (75.1 W) in Figure 1., as included in Addendum VII.

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



Statement of the Problem

- The language from the NOAA Fisheries Final Rule reads:
 - *From November 1 through March 31 of each year, vessels issued a Federal spiny dogfish permit must remove roundfish gillnets with a mesh size **equal to or greater than 5.25 inches (13.3 cm) and less than 10 inches (25.4 cm)** from the water within the Delaware and Maryland Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Area from 8 p.m. eastern time each day through 5 a.m. eastern time the following day.*
- The option approved by the Board in adopting Addendum VII reads:
 - *Harvesters that possess a Maryland Spiny Dogfish Permit or Virginia Spiny Dogfish Permit using roundfish gillnets (i.e., not tie-down gillnets) with a mesh size **between 5.25 and 10 inches (13.34 to 25.4 cm)** would be required to remove nets from the water by 8:00 p.m. ET each day until 5:00 a.m. ET the following day from November 1 through March 31 each year within the state waters portion of the Delaware and Maryland and the Virginia Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Areas.*

Proposed Management Measure

- Correct the table defining the boundaries of the DE/MD Bycatch Reduction Area
- Replace Section 3 (Management Program) of Addendum VII with the following:
 - *Harvesters that possess a Maryland Spiny Dogfish Permit or Virginia Spiny Dogfish Permit using roundfish gillnets (i.e., not tie-down gillnets) with a mesh size **equal to or greater than** 5.25 inches (13.3 cm) and **less than** 10 inches (25.4 cm) are required to remove nets from the water by 8:00 p.m. ET each day until 5:00 a.m. ET the following day from November 1 through March 31 each year within the state waters portion of the Delaware and Maryland and the Virginia Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Areas.*

Board Action to Consider

- Approval of Technical Addendum to Addendum VII



Questions?