

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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MEMORANDUM

December 2, 2009

TO: Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Shark Management Board

FROM: Robert Beal, Director, ISFMP

SUBJECT: Southern Region Spiny Dogfish Fishery Closed December 6

This memorandum is to inform the states that the 2009/2010 Southern Region quota for spiny dogfish is projected to be harvested by December 6, 2009. Therefore, in accordance with the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Spiny Dogfish (FMP), **effective 0001 hours on December 6, 2009, the states of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia are required to close their dogfish fisheries.** As required by the FMP the states must prohibit commercial landing, harvest, and possession of spiny dogfish in state waters through May 1, 2010. States may re-open their spiny dogfish fishery no earlier than 0001 hours on May 1, 2010 when the 2010/2011 fishing season begins.

The states in the Northern Region (Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut) were required to close on September 27, 2009 when the Northern Region quota was projected to be landed.

North Carolina has remaining quota available for harvest prior to April 30, 2010.

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