



Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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DATE: August 25, 2011

TO: Director's Office, DFW Staff, Enforcement, RIMFC, Fishermen, and Dealers

FROM: April Valliere, Supervisor
RI Division of Fish & Wildlife

SUBJECT: **Commercial Spiny Dogfish fishery – Revised Notice and Regulatory Change**

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service issued notice that the 2011 Period 1 quota for spiny dogfish has been harvested and the commercial fishery is closed effective August 26, 2011 for any **federally permitted** vessel to harvest spiny dogfish. The closure is issued under the federal spiny dogfish management plan.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, under the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for spiny dogfish has projected the quota will be reached by August 31, 2011. Therefore, effective 12:01 AM on Thursday, September 1, 2011, the commercial landing, harvest, and possession of **spiny dogfish** by **non-federally permitted** vessels in Rhode Island will **CLOSE** until May 1, 2012, when the 2012 commercial fishing season in the Northern Region begins.