



# Spiny Dogfish

# Specs Review

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# Already Specified 2015 Measures

2015 Measures	Basis	Values (mt)	Values (M lb)
OFL	Projected Catch at Fmsy		
ABC	Constant F	28,310	62,412,866
Canadian Landings	= ave since 2009	65	143,300
Domestic ABC	= ABC – Canadian Landings	28,245	62,269,566
ACL	= Domestic ABC	28,245	62,269,566
Mgmt Uncert. Buffer	Ave pct quota overage since 2010	0	0
ACT	= Domestic ACL - mgmt uncertainty	28,245	62,269,566
U.S. Discards	= ave since 2002	5,264	11,605,133
TAL	ACT – Discards	22,981	50,664,432
U.S. Rec Landings	= ave since 2010	24	52,911
Comm Quota	TAL – Rec Landings	22,957	50,611,522

# Already Specified 2015 Measures

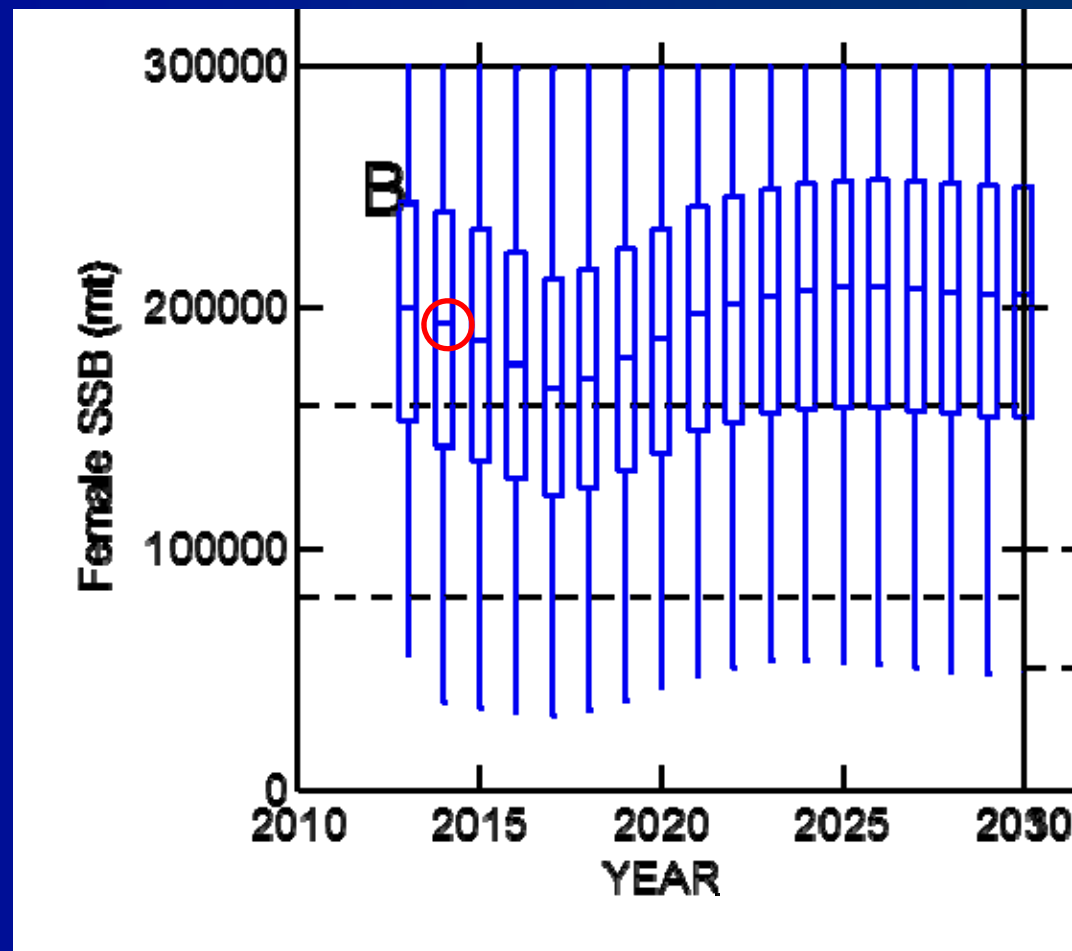
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(22,243 mt in 2014)

## Stock Status / ABC

- No assessment update
- Stock above target, no overfishing
- “The SSC saw no compelling evidence to change its recommendation of ABC = 28,310 mt for 2015.”

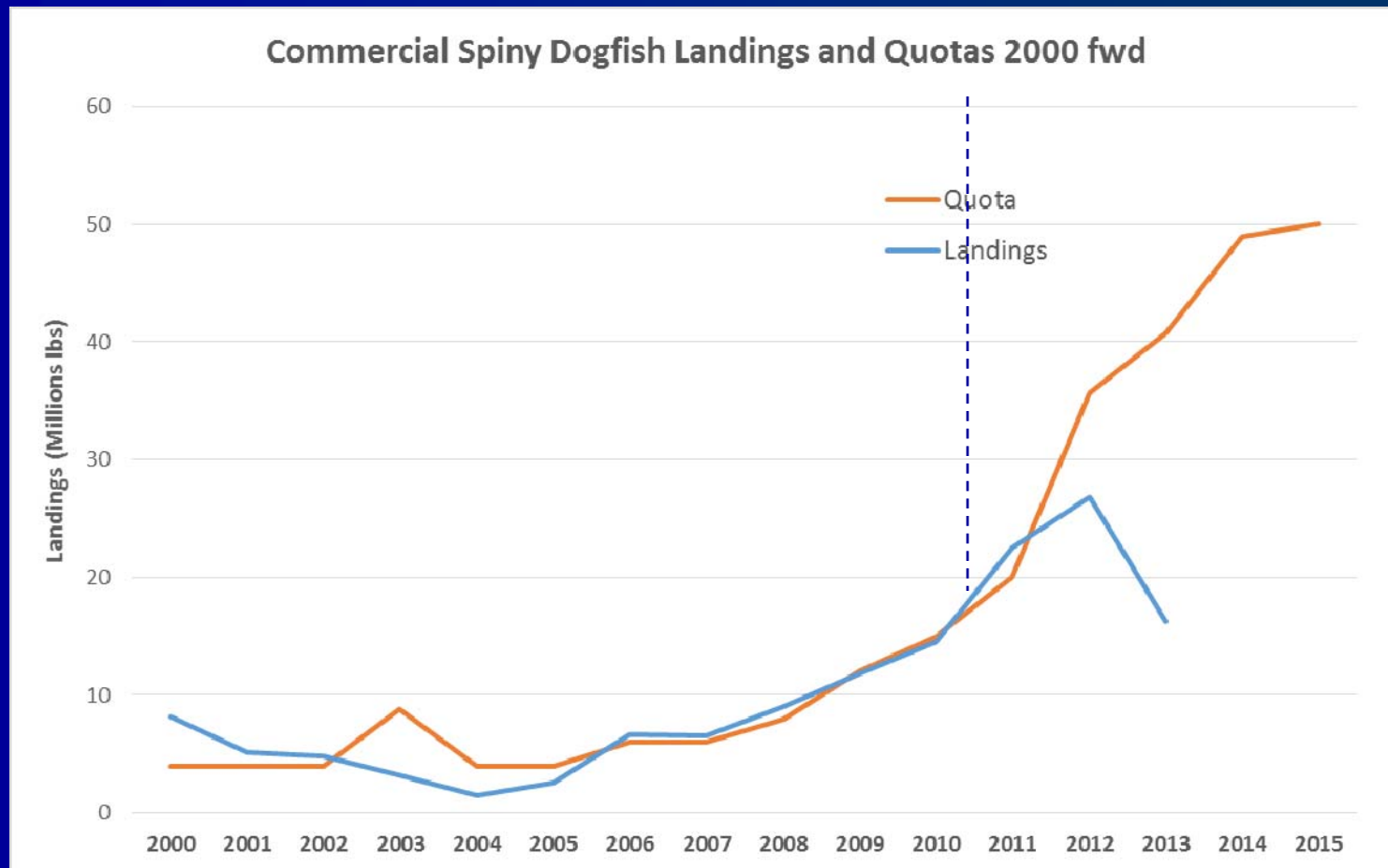
# Projection



# Catch

Year	Total Discard	Total Dead Discards (mt)	Total Landings (mt)	Dead Disc/Landings	Total Discard / Landings	Total Catch (mt)
2008	14,080	5,088	6,025	0.84	2.34	11,113
2009	15,952	5,897	5,606	1.05	2.85	11,503
2010	10,584	4,081	5,594	0.73	1.89	9,675
2011	12,264	4,787	9,779	0.49	1.25	14,566
2012	11,626	4,848	10,881	0.45	1.07	15,729
2013	12,820	5,010	7,410	0.68	1.73	12,420

# Fishery Performance



# Fishery Performance Report

- Price improving from last year
- Market dependent on exports to EU
- Frozen backs are in demand now (Russia?)
- Fresh product continues to have EU PCB issue
- Consistency is good; price can be negatively affected by trip limits (varies geographically)
- Market name, male fishery, speedy recovery



## Conclusion: Monitoring Com.

- No reason apparent to warrant making any changes to the already-set 2015 specifications.

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# **Spiny Dogfish FMP Review and State Compliance**

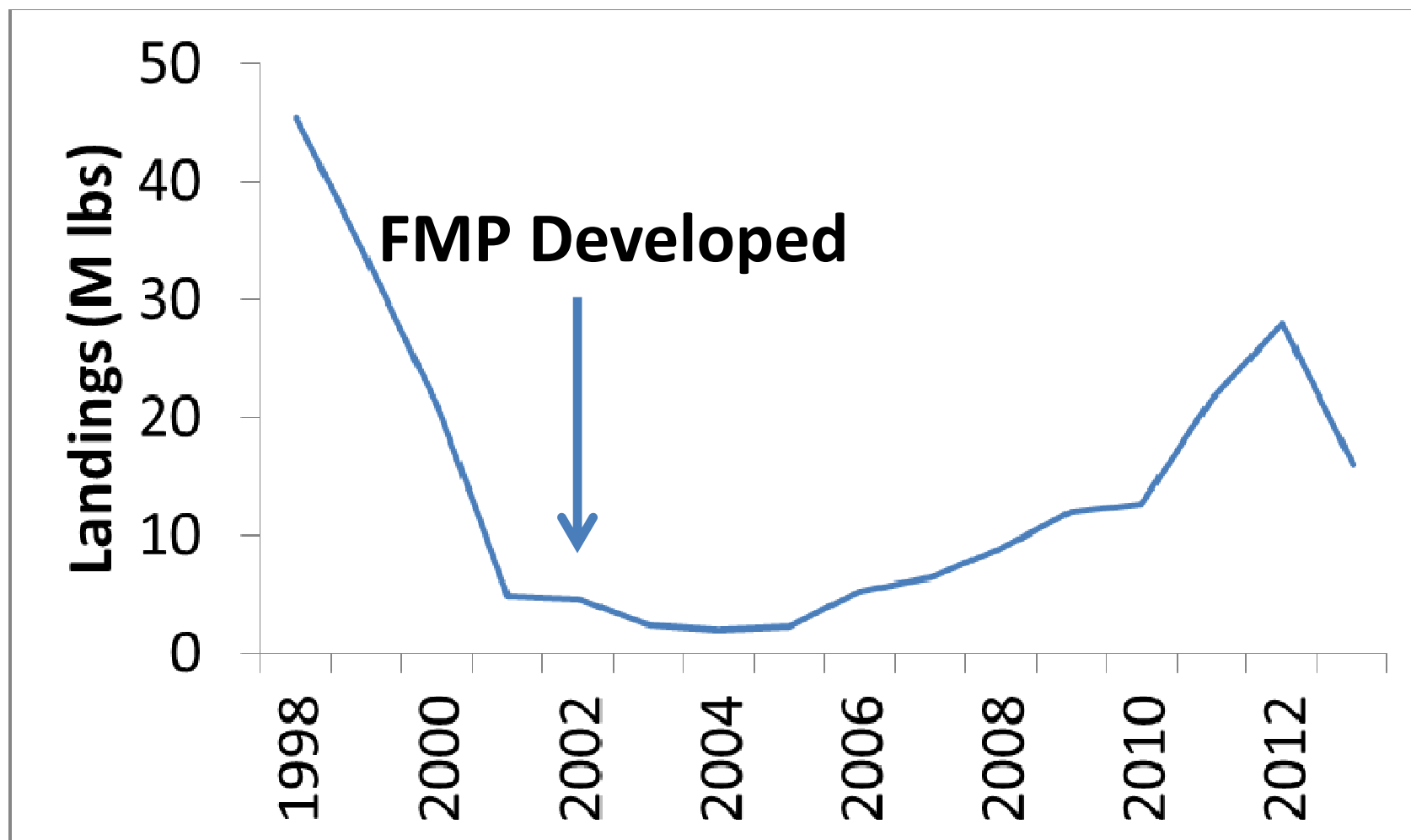
*M. Hawk*

**Presented to Spiny Dogfish and  
Coastal Sharks Board**

**October 30, 2014**



# Commercial Harvest





# Total Harvest

- **Quota for 2013 was 41 million pounds**
- **Coastwide commercial landings: 16 million pounds**
- **Commercial landings ~ 97% female**
- **Recreational landings: 81,570 pounds (<1% of total catch)**
- **Discards: 11,045,046 lbs (similar to previous years)**



# State Compliance

- **PRT reviewed all state compliance reports**
- **All state's regulations were consistent with the FMP**



## Requests for *de minimis*

- **Delaware**
  - De minimis is <1% of total landings, no monitoring requirements but must report landings annually
- **PRT recommends all requests for *de minimis* be granted**



# Spiny Dogfish Draft Addendum V for Public Comment

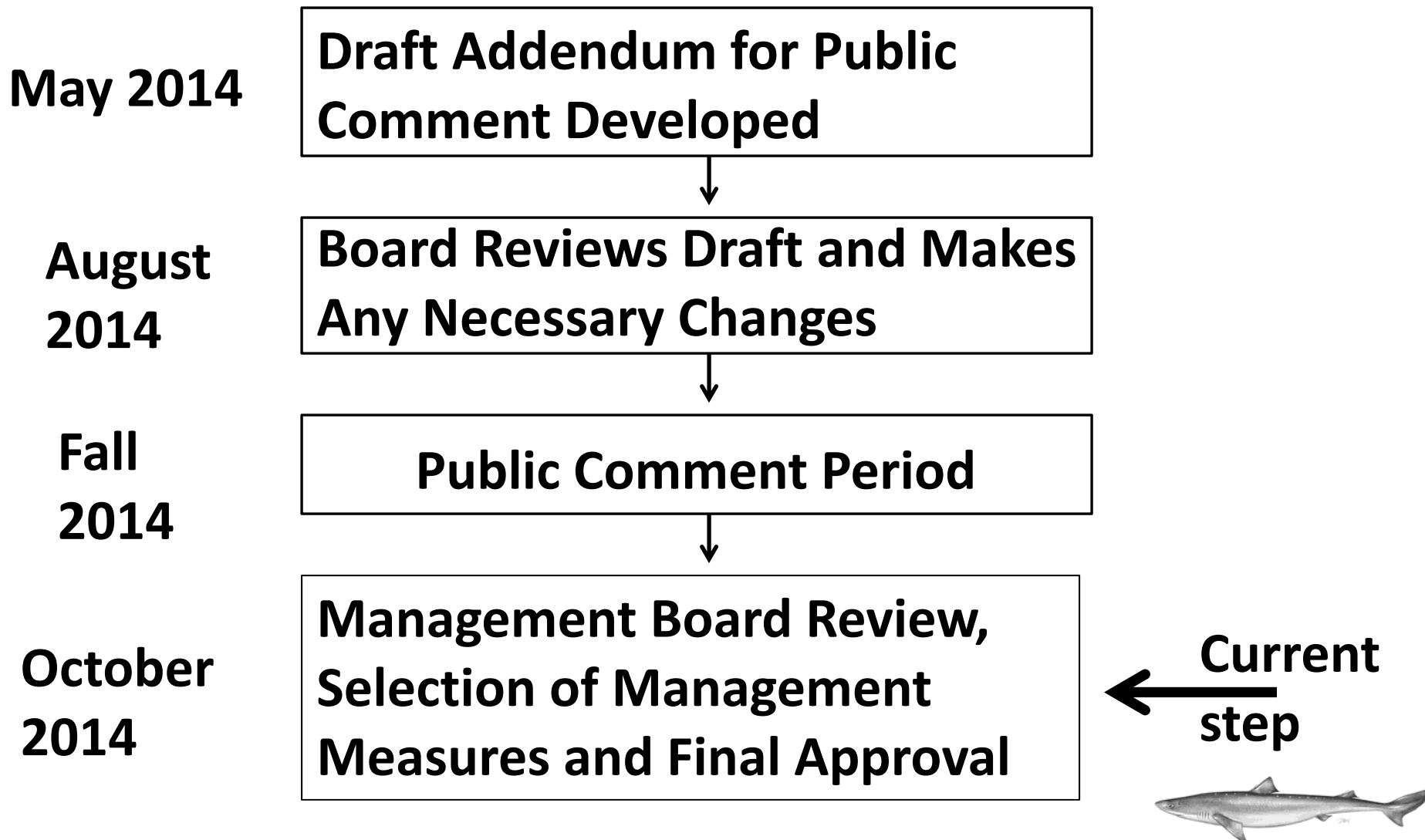
Presented to Spiny Dogfish Board  
August 6, 2014







# Addendum Development Process





# 1.0 Introduction

- **Shark Conservation Act of 2010 requires all sharks (except smooth dogfish) be landed with fins naturally attached**
- **Spiny dogfish FMP allows processing-at-sea of dogfish with a maximum fin-to-carcass ratio of 5:95**



## 2.1 Statement of Problem

- **Key goal of the Spiny Dogfish FMP is to maintain consistency between federal and state management of species**
- **Addendum was initiated to address inconsistencies**





# Issue 1: Fins-Naturally-Attached Policy

- **Option A: Status Quo**
  - Fins of spiny dogfish may be removed at sea. If fins are removed, the corresponding carcasses must be retained. The ratio of the wet weight of fins to dressed weight of carcasses on board the vessel cannot exceed 5-to-95.
- **Option B: Fins-naturally attached policy**
  - Removing any fin of spiny dogfish at sea is prohibited (including the tail). All spiny dogfish must be landed with fins-naturally-attached to the corresponding carcass. Gutting and processing fish at-sea is permitted, so long as the fins remain attached by a portion of uncut skin.





# Public Comment

- **Hearing was held in MA**
  - **Support for Option B: Fins-Naturally-Attached**
- **Five emailed comments were received, all supporting Option B, fins-naturally-attached**





## LEC Comments

- Support Option B, fins-naturally-attached for ease of enforcement
- Prefer language change to:
  - Removing any fin of spiny dogfish at sea is prohibited (including the tail). All spiny dogfish must be landed with fins-naturally-attached to the corresponding carcass. Gutting ~~and~~ ~~processing~~ fish at-sea is permitted, so long as the fins remain attached by a portion of uncut skin.





# Compliance Schedule

- If approved, the Board must specify a compliance schedule:

**XXXXXX: States submit proposals to meet requirements of Addendum V.**

**XXXXXX: Management Board reviews and takes action on state proposals.**

**XXXXXX: States implement regulations.**





# Rhode Island Alternative Management Proposal

Presented to Spiny Dogfish Board  
October 30, 2014

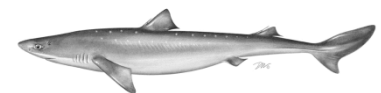






## Section 4.3 “Alternative State Management Regimes”

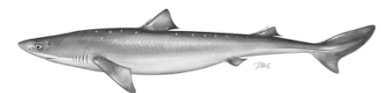
- A state can request permission to implement an alternative to any mandatory compliance measure only if that state can show to the Board’s satisfaction that the proposed action is consistent with the:
  - target fishing mortality rate
    - i.e. will not contribute to overfishing of the resource
  - goals and objectives of the FMP





# Problem to be addressed

- Low market prices and trip limits make participation in both the RI directed and non-directed fisheries uneconomical, resulting in
  - high discard levels
  - underutilization of the resource
    - ~32% of 2013 FY N. Region quota harvested





# Rationale for Proposed Alternative State Management Regime

- We believe the proposed weekly aggregate possession limit of 28,000 lbs per vessel per week will
  - improve the economics of the fishery,
  - more fully utilize the quota for the northern region,
  - and do so more effectively by converting some discards into landings





# Will the proposed program *contribute to overfishing?*

General Approach: assess the potential total RI landings if *all* spiny dogfish encountered in RI state waters were retained and landed (zero discard scenario)

## Methods:

- calculated gear-specific discard ratios using observed trips in NOAA Stat Area 539 that intercepted spiny dogfish during the 2010-3103 FY
- applied these discard ratios to the 2013 FY landings to extrapolate landings under a zero discard scenario (all dogfish encountered landed)

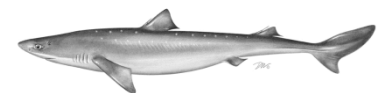




# Will the proposed program *contribute to overfishing?* **No**

Results: suggest that even if all dogfish encountered were landed (zero discards) RI landings would not exceed 2.6 million lbs

- Thus, we believe that even under an extreme scenario of all discards being landed the proposed alternative management program would not contribute to overfishing





# Will the proposed program *contribute to overfishing?* **No**

- Especially since RI proposal contains several conditions to ensure this does not contribute to overfishing or adversely impact the ability of other states in the region states to harvest the available resource.
  - e.g. cap in landings under the proposed weekly aggregate possession limit
    - 3 million lbs (10.5%\* of 2014 N. Region com. quota)
      - \*typo in proposal (i.e. stated 9.5%, should have been 10.5%)
    - 80 % to N. Region quota landed





# Proposed Alternative Management Regime

**Participation Requirements:** All participants must

- possess a valid RI commercial fishing license and/or landing license authorizing them to harvest and/or land spiny dogfish in RI,
- land at a RI DEM licensed state dealer who reports landings electronically using SAFIS, and
- report fishing effort via state logbook reporting system or federal VTR

**Quota Monitoring:** RI will monitor landings using SAFIS to ensure compliance with weekly limits, and to track total state landings

**Implementation date:** The program will be implemented as soon as possible and no later than May 2016

- If approved by ASMFC, RI will apply to NOAA for a federal consistency

**Weekly Possession Limit:** 28,000 lbs per vessel per week at the start of the fishing season

**Program Cap:** The weekly aggregate program will end when either 3,000,000 lbs are landed in RI, or 80% of the regional quota is harvested, whichever comes first

- When the program ends, the RI possession limit reverts to the current ASMFC possession limit, which is currently 5,000 lbs per vessel per day

**Season:** RI DEM may exercise its authority to enact seasons, as needed





**Questions?**

