

ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Joint Spiny Dogfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings:** The Spiny Dogfish Monitoring Committee met on September 14, 2020. Given the MAFMC SSC 's acceptable biological catch (ABC) recommendation, the Monitoring Committee recommended using the new ABC to formulate 2021/2022 fishing year quotas using updated information where applicable. This would increase the commercial quota by 27% from 2020 to 2021. Under the originally adopted 2021 specifications, the quota would have increased 18% from 2020.
- B. 2021 Specifications:** The MAFMC will consider approving 2021 at its October 5-8, 2020 meeting. The NEFMC will consider approving specifications for 2021 at its December 1-3, 2020 meeting. At present, the MAFMC does not have the staff time to consider an increase in the trip limit for dogfish. The NEFMC might want to consider recommending an increase in the trip limit, but it would have to provide the staff work to complete an Environmental Assessment.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Consider information provided with respect to proposed specifications and whether the Council would support an increase in the trip limit of spiny dogfish.

III. INFORMATION

1. Spiny Dogfish Monitoring Committee Summary and 2021-2022 Specifications Recommendations, Memo from J. Didden (Sept. 23, 2020)
2. Spiny Dogfish Fishery Information Document, August 2020
3. Letter from NEFMC to MAFMC recommending a trip limit increase for 2018 (Sept. 28, 2018)