



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

380 Fenwick Road
Building 96
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Stefanie K. Taillon
Secretary of Natural
and Historic Resources

Jamie L. Green
Commissioner

July 28, 2025

UPDATE

TO: SPINY DOGFISH STATE PERMIT HOLDERS
FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
RE: SPINY DOGFISH OVERNIGHT GILLNET PROHIBITION

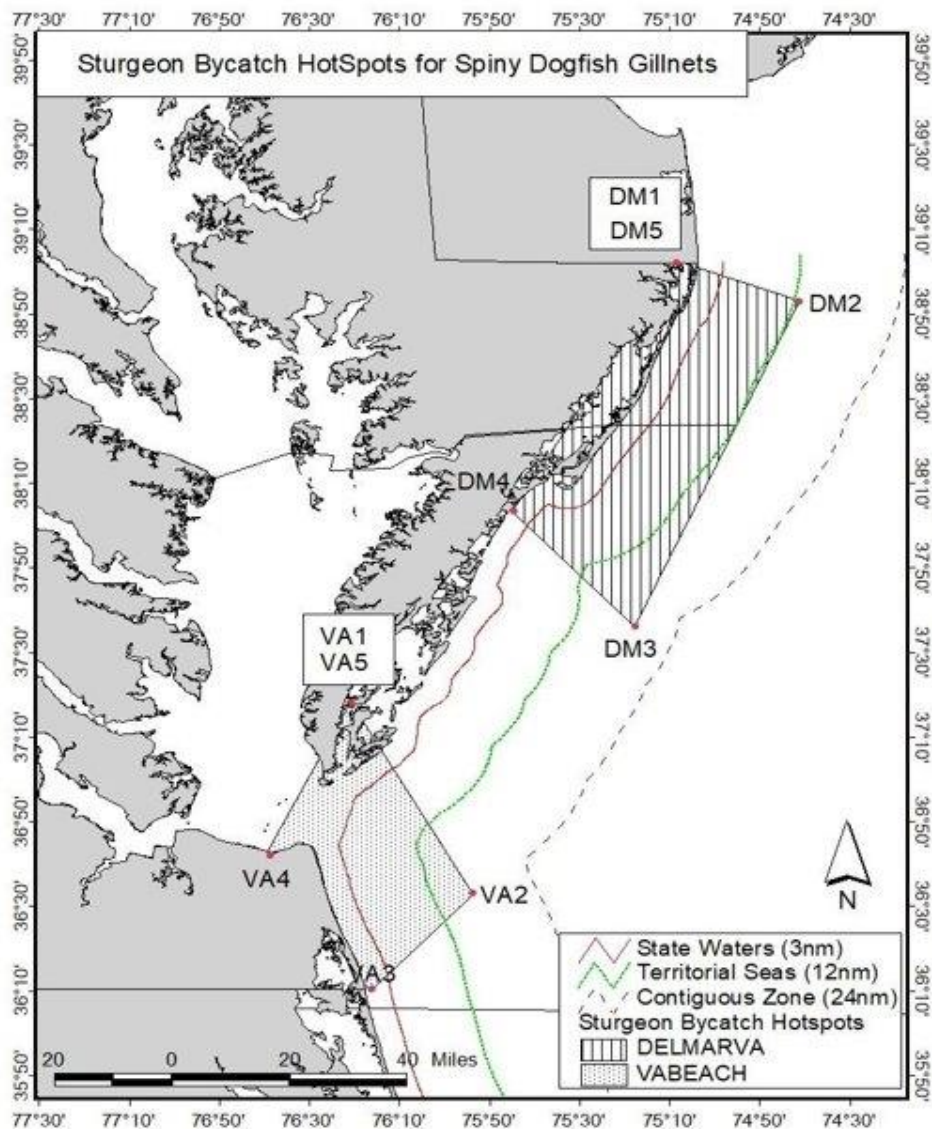
On July 22, 2025, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission voted to amend Chapter 4VAC 20-490, "Pertaining to Sharks". This language amendment takes the place of the amendment that was passed on April 22, 2025.

Chapter 4 VAC 20-490-42. Spiny dogfish commercial quota and harvest limitations.
"It shall be unlawful for any person possessing a Virginia Spiny Dogfish Permit to leave any gill net gear with a mesh size equal to or greater than 5.25- inches and less than 10- inches in the Delaware and Maryland Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Area or the Virginia Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Area between 8:00 pm through 5:00 am the following day from November 1 through March 31."

These reduction areas are defined as:

<u>Reduction Area</u>	<u>Latitude (dd mm.mm)</u>	<u>Longitude (dd mm.mm)</u>
<u>Delaware and Maryland</u>	38° 27.00' N	75° 06.00' W
	38° 21.00' N	74° 48.00' W
	37° 30.00' N	75° 12.00' W
	37° 48.00' N	75° 30.00' W
	38° 27.00' N	75° 06.00' W
<u>Southern Virginia</u>	37° 18.00' N	75° 54.00' W
	36° 48.00' N	75° 36.00' W
	36° 33.00' N	75° 51.00' W
	36° 54.00' N	76° 06.00' W
	37° 18.00' N	75° 54.00' W

A map of the areas is below.



For the full regulation, please visit <https://www.mrc.virginia.gov/regulations/>

The Sturgeon Bycatch Reduction Areas are available on the VMRC map webpage at https://webapps.mrc.virginia.gov/public/maps/sturgeon_map.php

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jill Ramsey at 757-247-2243, jill.ramsey@mrc.virginia.gov or Catherine Wilhelm at 757-247-2004, catherine.wilhelm@mrc.virginia.gov.

An Agency of the Natural and Historic Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

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