



# ***Dogfish* 2023**

**(May 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024)**

*September 2022 SSC*

# Spiny Dogfish 2022 Current

- Multi-year specifications for 2021-2022:
  - ABC of 17,498 MT (38.6 million pounds)
  - 2021 projection, building off 2018 assessment, 2022=2021
- 29.6 million pound quota after other catch accounted for
- Open access, 7,500-pound federal trip limit, regional/state quotas & trip limits via ASMFC

# Spiny Dogfish 2022 Current

- Research track assessment ongoing
- Trying to move to a population dynamics model – Stock Synthesis 3 (SS3)
- December 2022 review but...
  - Landings trends down plus indices down, usually doesn't end well...
- Probably a summer 2023 management track assessment

# From Fishery Info Doc

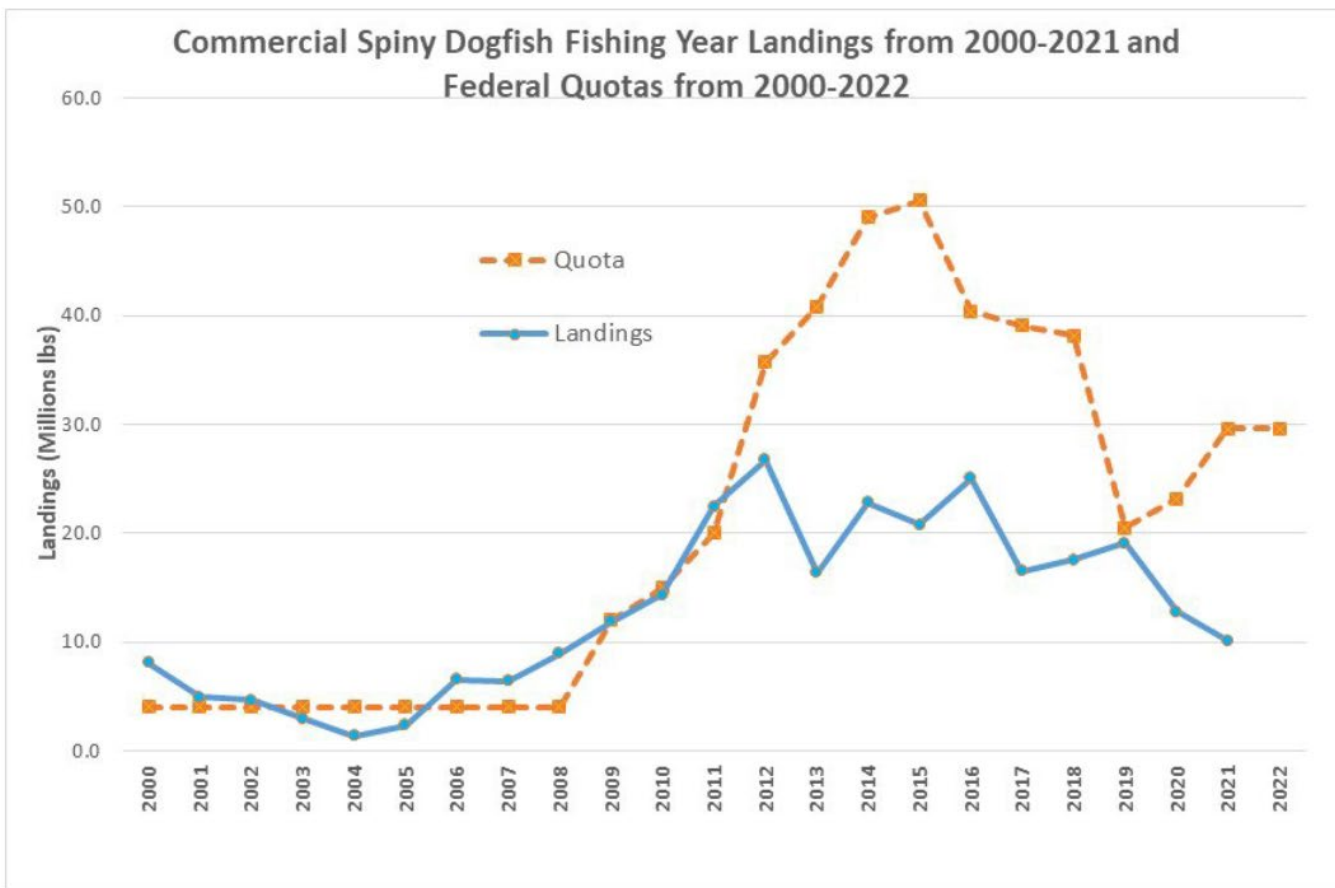


Figure 3. Annual spiny dogfish landings and federal quotas since 2000 Source: NMFS unpublished dealer data.<sup>3</sup>

# From Fishery Info Doc

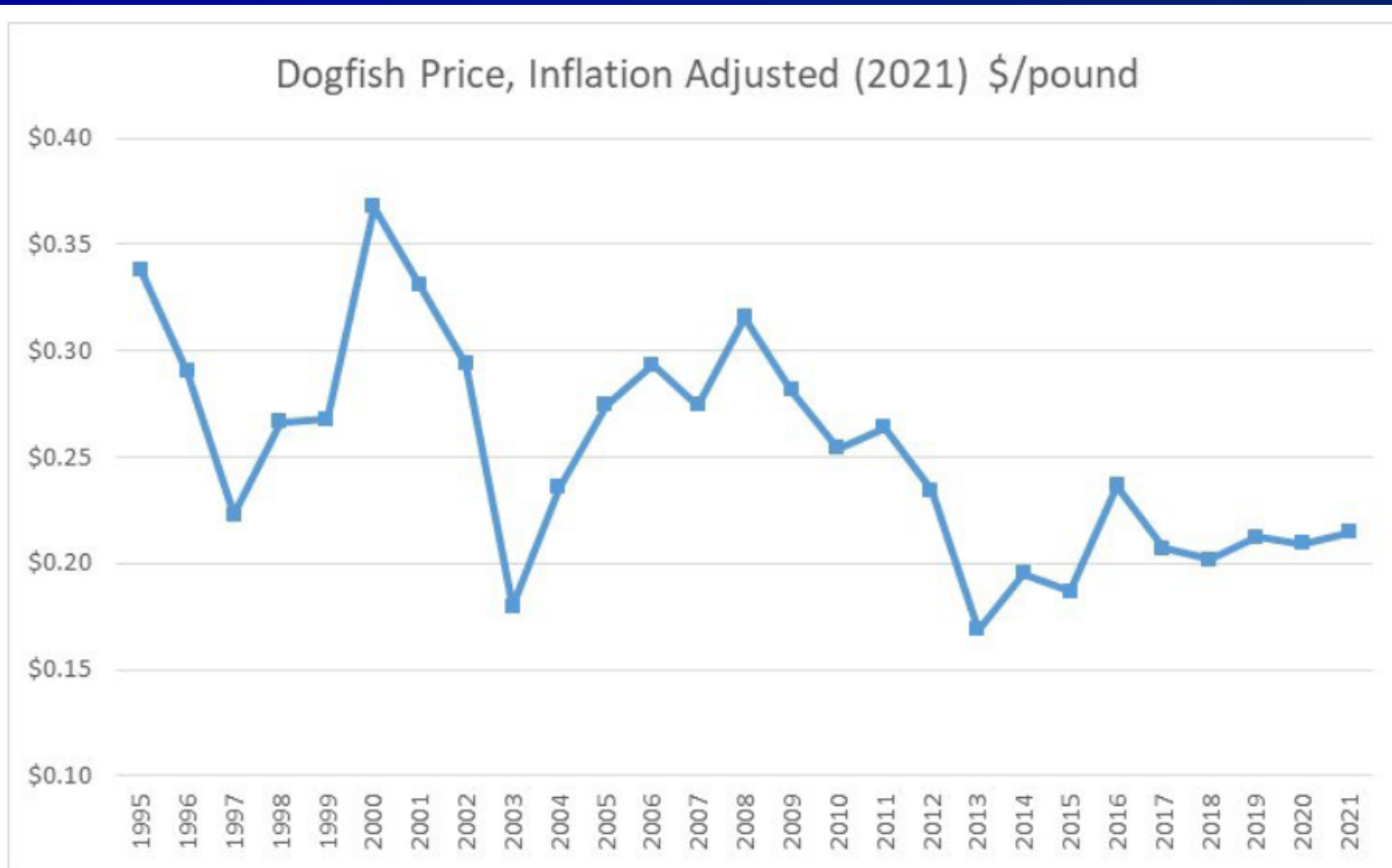
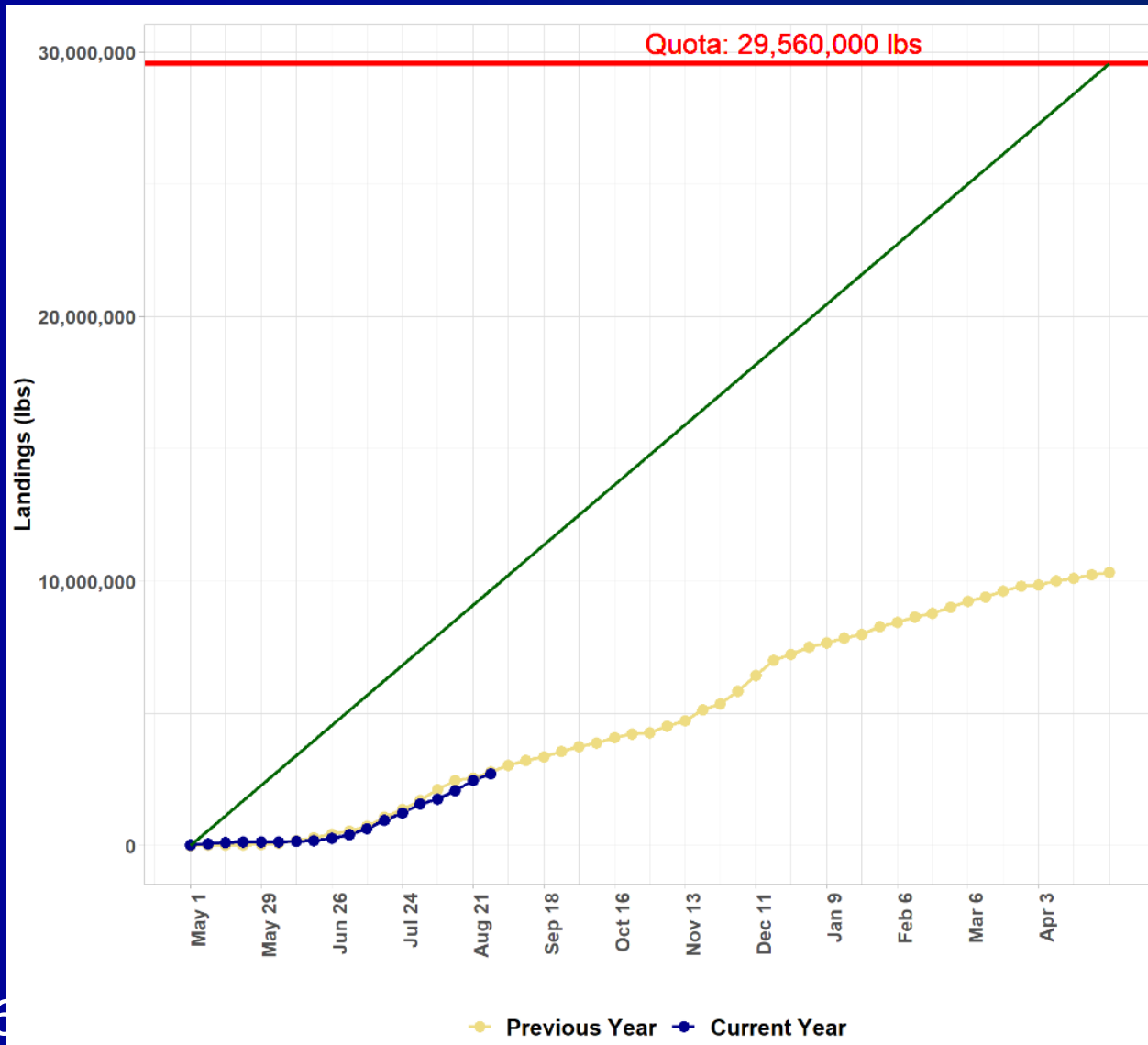


Figure 4. Price of spiny dogfish (\$/live pound) (adjusted to 2021 “real” dollars using the GDP deflator, 1995-2021 fishing years. Given the difference between fishing year and the calendar year used for inflation adjusting, adjusted prices are approximate. Source: NMFS unpublished dealer data.<sup>3</sup>

# From GARFO QM Website 9/8



# From Fishery Info Doc

Table 5. Participation by fishing year of federally-permitted vessels. State-only vessels are not included.  
Source: NMFS unpublished dealer data.<sup>3</sup>

YEAR	Vessels 200,000+	Vessels 100,000 - 199,999	Vessels 50,000 - 99,999	Vessels 10,000 - 49,999	Total with at least 10,000 pounds landings
2000	16	10	8	43	77
2001	4	12	10	33	59
2002	2	14	8	31	55
2003	4	5	3	17	29
2004	0	0	0	42	42
2005	0	0	1	67	68
2006	0	4	11	114	129
2007	1	2	21	72	96
2008	0	5	20	119	144
2009	0	11	42	166	219
2010	0	26	54	124	204
2011	1	48	73	135	257
2012	25	55	56	146	282
2013	10	27	45	87	169
2014	27	38	38	81	184
2015	31	33	36	59	159
2016	52	26	14	45	137
2017	28	27	24	32	111
2018	28	26	20	35	109
2019	29	25	21	29	104
2020	23	27	15	22	87
2021	15	27	11	26	79

# Fishery Performance Report

- COVID-19 did not have a large impact on this fishery
- Similar market issues persist as with previous years – demand low but stable – market could support more landings than in most recent year if participation/production at the vessel level increases.



# Fishery Performance Report

- Better opportunities in other fisheries reduce spiny dogfish effort. For example, oysters and shrimp in Virginia
- Continued interest by some to increase trip limit to 10,000 to get more vessels participating

# Fishery Performance Report

- Lots of concern that we aren't getting good data on spiny dogfish biomass
  - Survey coverage
  - Survey performance
  - Fish behavior – migration and time spent off bottom

# Staff ABC Recommendation

- Preliminary indications in current assessment that contemporary productivity may have decreased (i.e. was overpredicted)
- Decreasing trawl survey trends
- High uncertainty about assessment outcome
- Constrain catch to 8,284 MT
  - 2017-2019 average “other catches” plus 2006-2010 average landings

# SFA Letter

- NEFSC trawl index not reliable
- Ecosystem regime shift in historical geographic distribution not accounted for
- Last remaining processor needs 15-million pound quota to solidify/expand demand
- Cutting the quota by 50% should be sufficiently precautionary (to 14.8 million pounds) – Reconsider...

# Staff observer analysis

- Non-directed catch in trawl fisheries. Credit to Andy Jones - working on more advanced CPUE (2007+) analyses for assessment
- Staff calculated simple catch per observed trawl hour after some filtering
- Similar pattern as trawl survey...
- Just to 2019 – 2020/2021 Covid...
- 16K-28K observed tow hours annually last 10 years...

# Staff observer analysis

Spring Survey and Trawl Observer Data Trends

