



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
ANNOUNCES THE FIRST ROUND OF PROTECTED SPECIES RELEASE,
DISENTANGLEMENT, AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS**

Effective January 2007, shark limited access and swordfish limited access permit holders must submit a copy of their Safe Handling, Release, and Identification workshop certificate in order to renew either a shark limited access or a swordfish limited access permit (71 FR 58057; October 2, 2006). As such, vessel owners whose permits expire during January 2007 will need to attend one of the six free workshops listed below before their permits can be renewed. Vessel owners and operators whose permits expire in the winter or spring of 2007 may attend the 2006 or future 2007 workshops.

WHO MUST ATTEND

- All new applicants for shark limited access or a swordfish limited access permits
Pelagic longline, bottom longline, and gillnet vessel **owners**
- Pelagic longline, bottom longline, and gillnet vessel **operators**

Following permit renewal in 2007, vessel operators will be required to possess on board the vessel valid workshop certificates for both the vessel owner and operator at all times.

In 2005, some industry members took the initiative to hold voluntary industry-sponsored workshops on sea turtle safe handling and release; one was held on April 8, 2005, in Orlando, Florida, and a second one was held on June 27, 2005, in New Orleans, Louisiana. These workshop attendees will not be required to attend another workshop in 2007. If you attended one of these workshops, you will be issued a valid Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshop certificate no later than December 31, 2006.

SCHEDULE

The following table is a list of the first round of workshops to take place in November and December 2006. Workshops will begin promptly at **9:00 am** and will conclude at approximately 5:00 pm that afternoon. Additional workshops will be scheduled in each region throughout 2007.

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
NOVEMBER 2006					
11/6/2006	Holiday Inn- Terrace Room	55 Ariadne Rd	Dedham	MA	2026
11/8/2006	Holiday Inn- Main Ballroom	151 Route 72 East	Manahawkin	NJ	8050
11/15/2006	Outer Banks Welcome Center on Roanoke Island- Memorial Boardroom	One Visitor's Center Circle	Manteo	NC	27954



Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
DECEMBER 2006					
12/6/2006	Seminole Community Library at St. Petersburg College, Seminole Campus	9200 113th St. North	Seminole	FL	33772
12/8/2006	Aquatic Release Conservation	1870 Mason Ave	Daytona Beach	FL	32117
12/14/2006	New Orleans Airport Garden	4535 Williams Blvd	Kenner	LA	70065

WHAT TO BRING

To ensure the workshop certificate is linked to the correct permit, you will need to bring the following materials with you to the workshop:

Individual Vessel Owner:

- Proof of identification
- A copy of the appropriate permit(s), and
- A copy of the vessel registration or documentation.

Representative of a Business or Co-Owned Vessel:

- Proof that the individual is an agent of the business
- A copy of the applicable permit(s), and
- Proof of identification

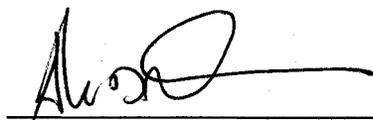
Vessel Operator:

- Proof of identification

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To sign up for a scheduled workshop, please contact Aquatic Release Conservation (877) 411-4272), 1870 Mason Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32117.

For further information regarding workshop requirements, please contact Greg Fairclough, (727) 551-5399, or visit the following webpage: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/workshops>.



Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

OCT 23 2006

Date

SIGN UP FOR ATLANTIC HMS NEWS

-- An electronic newsletter informing you of the latest HMS-related actions --
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/>

For those who receive email notifications, you will continue to receive fax notices until October 31, 2006, at which time the fax network will be discontinued.