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

THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE ANNOUNCES ATLANTIC SHARK IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS BEING HELD IN APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 2007

Effective January 1, 2008, an Atlantic shark dealer may not receive, purchase, trade, or barter for Atlantic shark unless a valid Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop certificate is on the premises of each business location listed under the shark dealer permit. Additionally, effective January 1, 2008, Atlantic shark dealers may not renew a Federal shark dealer permit unless a valid Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop certificate has been submitted with the permit renewal application (71 FR 58057; October 2, 2006). As such, **Atlantic shark dealers must attend one of the free workshops being held in 2007 in order to renew their permits in 2008**. The Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops being held in April, May, and June 2007 are listed below.

Who Must Attend

- All new applicants for Atlantic shark dealer permits planning to purchase sharks in 2008
- All federally-permitted Atlantic shark dealers or a proxy from each business location

  Proxies: Shark dealers may send someone else (*i.e.* a proxy) to a shark identification workshop instead of attending themselves. If a dealer decides to send a proxy, then a proxy from each place of business authorized to receive sharks under the dealer's permit must attend the workshop. A proxy must be:
  - A person who is currently employed by a place of business authorized to receive sharks under the dealer's permit;
  - A primary participant in the identification, weighing, and/or first receipt of fish as they are offloaded from a vessel; and,
  - Involved in filling out dealer reports.

Purpose of Workshops

- To train Federal Atlantic shark dealer permit holders or their proxies to properly identify shark carcasses
- To reduce the number of unknown and improperly identified sharks reported in the dealer reporting form
- To increase the accuracy of species-specific dealer reported information
- To generate a better understanding of the regulatory requirements for Atlantic shark dealers
- To improve quota monitoring and data used for shark stock assessments

Schedule

The following table lists the workshops to take place in April, May, and June 2007.

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Additional workshops will be scheduled throughout 2007.

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
April 2007					
04/26/2007 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research	219 Fort Johnson Road	Charleston	SC	29412
May 2007					
05/24/2007 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM	George Memorial Library	1001 Golfview Drive	Richmond	TX	77469
June 2007					
06/14/2007 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM	Boyden Library	10 Bird Street	Foxboro	MA	02035

WHAT TO BRING

To ensure the workshop certificate is linked to the correct permit, please bring the following items to the workshop.

Individual Dealer Permit Holder:

- Proof of identification
- A copy of the applicable permit(s)

Representative of a Partnership, Corporation, or other entity:

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

Dealer Proxies:

- Documentation from the shark dealer acknowledging that the proxy is attending the workshop on behalf of the Atlantic shark dealer
- A copy of the applicable permit, and
- Proof of identification

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To sign up for a scheduled workshop, please contact Eric Sander at esander@peoplepc.com or by phone at (386) 852-8588.

For further information regarding workshop requirements please visit the following webpage: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/workshops or contact Greg Fairclough, (727) 824-5399.

for James P. Burgess

Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

March 13, 2007
Date

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http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/