



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 JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH 2009

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 where sharks are first received (71 FR 58057; October 2, 2006). Trucks or other conveyances of a dealer's place of business which are extensions of a dealer's place of business must possess a copy of a valid dealer or proxy Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop certificate (73 FR 38153; July 3, 2008). Additionally, 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 who have not already attended a workshop and received a NMFS certificate must attend one of the free workshops being held in 2009 in order to receive shark products or renew their permits in 2009.** The Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops being held in January, February, and March 2009 are listed below.

Who Must Attend

- All new applicants for Atlantic shark dealer permits planning to purchase sharks in 2009
- All federally-permitted Atlantic shark dealers or a proxy from each business location that receives sharks (if they have not already attended a workshop and received a certificate)
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 which first receives 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 January, February, and March 2009. Additional workshops will be scheduled throughout 2009.



Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
January 2009					
January 7, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Ocean County Library Stafford Branch	129 North Main Street	Manahawkin	NJ	08050
February 2009					
February 11, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Madeira Beach City Hall	300 Municipal Drive	Madeira Beach	FL	33708
March 2009					
March 11, 2009 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center	River Park North 1000 Mumford Road	Greenville	NC	27858

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 and
- 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.

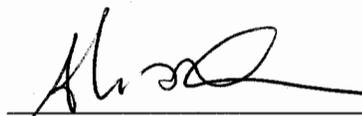
Dealer Proxies:

- Documentation from the shark dealer acknowledging that the proxy is attending the workshop on behalf of the Atlantic shark dealer and for a specific business location,
- 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. Pre-registration is highly recommended but is not required.

For further information regarding workshop requirements please visit the following webpage: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/workshops> or contact Rick Pearson at (727) 824-5399.



Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

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Date

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<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslst/>