



## NMFS ANNOUNCES PROTECTED SPECIES RELEASE, DISENTANGLEMENT, AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE 2010

Shark and swordfish limited access permit holders and applicants for permit transfers who fish with longline or gillnet gear, must submit a copy of their Protected Species Release, Disentanglement, and Identification Workshop certificate in order to renew or transfer either a shark limited access and/or a swordfish limited access permit (71 FR 58057; October 2, 2006). Vessel operators are required to possess on board the vessel valid workshop certificates for both the vessel owner and operator at all times.

**IMPORTANT NOTE** - Workshop certificates that were initially issued in 2007 may be expiring. Vessel owners whose certificates are expiring must attend a workshop and obtain a new certificate prior to permit renewal. Vessel operators must possess valid workshop certificates on board for both the vessel owner and operator.

### WHO MUST ATTEND

Vessel owners and operators using longline or gillnet gear and holding, or applying for, one or more of the following permits:

- Shark Directed Limited Access Permit;
- Shark Incidental Limited Access Permit;
- Swordfish Directed Limited Access Permit; and/or
- Swordfish Incidental Limited Access Permit

### PURPOSE OF WORKSHOPS

- To educate longline and gillnet fishermen on the required techniques for safe handling and release of entangled and/or hooked protected species such as sea turtles, marine mammals, and smalltooth sawfish
- To improve identification of protected species and improve reporting
- To generate a better understanding of the requirements for participating in these fisheries
- To provide participants with the skills needed to reduce the mortality of protected species

### SCHEDULE

The following table lists the workshops that are scheduled to occur in April, May, and June of 2010. All workshops will begin promptly at **9:00 a.m.** and will conclude at approximately **5:00 p.m.**

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>April 2010</b>					
4/7/10	Holiday Inn	137 Automall Circle (LPGA Blvd.)	Daytona Beach	FL	32124
4/28/10	Hilton	901 Airline Drive(New Orleans Airport)	Kenner	LA	70062
<b>May 2010</b>					
5/20/10	Hilton Garden Inn	5353 Virginia Dare Trail North	Kitty Hawk	NC	27949
5/26/10	Hilton Garden Inn	1 Thurber Street (Providence Airport)	Warwick	RI	02886

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>June 2010</b>					
6/16/10	Town & Country Inn	2008 Savannah Highway	Charleston	SC	29407
6/30/10	Holiday Inn	151 Route 72 East	Manahawkin	NJ	08050

**WHAT TO BRING**

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

**Individual Vessel Owner:**

- Proof of identification,
- A copy of the applicable 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 (partial owner) of the business,
- A copy of the applicable permit(s), and
- Proof of identification.

**Vessel Operator:**

- Proof of identification.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To pre-register for a scheduled workshop, please contact Angler Conservation Education at (386) 290-8955.

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.

*for Emily Minashes*  
 Alan Risenhoover  
 Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

MAR - 5 2010

Date

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