



**NMFS ANNOUNCES PROTECTED SPECIES RELEASE, DISENTANGLEMENT, AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER OF 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 October, November, and December 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>October 2010</b>					
10/20/2010	Holiday Inn Select	2001 Martin Luther King Blvd.	Panama City	FL	32405
10/27/2010	Hilton Garden Inn	5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail	Kitty Hawk	NC	27949
<b>November 2010</b>					
11/10/2010	Hilton Garden Inn	1 Thurber Street	Warwick	RI	02886
11/17/2010	Magnolia Plantation	16391 Robinson Road	Gulfport	MS	39503



Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>December 2010</b>					
12/15/2010	Holiday Inn	3845 Veterans Memorial Highway	Ronkonkoma	NY	11779
12/22/2010	Holiday Inn	10120 S. Federal Hwy (US 1)	Port St. Lucie	FL	34952

**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.

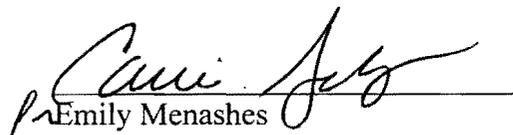
**Vessel Operator:**

- Proof of identification.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To pre-register for a scheduled workshop, please contact Angler Conservation Education at (386) 682-0158.

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.

  
 Emily Menashes  
 Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

**SEP 01 2010**

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 Date

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