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 AND MARCH 2008

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 2008 in order to receive shark product or renew their permits in 2008**. The Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops being held in January and March 2008 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 January and March 2008. Additional workshops will be scheduled throughout 2008.

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Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
January 2008					
01/10/2008 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Fairhope Public Library	501 Fairhope Ave.	Fairhope	AL	36532
March 2008					
03/13/2008 12:30 PM – 5:00 PM	South Boston Public Library	646 East Broadway	South Boston	MA	02127

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. Pre-registration is 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 Greg Fairclough, (727) 824-5399.

Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

DEC 6 2007
Date

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