



## NMFS ANNOUNCES PROTECTED SPECIES RELEASE, DISENTANGLEMENT, AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS BEING HELD IN JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 2009

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.

**Please note that workshop certificates that were initially issued in 2006 and 2007 may be expiring in 2009. Vessel owners and operators whose certificates are expiring in 2009 must attend a workshop and obtain a new certificate prior to permit renewal.**

### 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 July, August, and September 2009. All workshops will begin promptly at **9:00 am** and will conclude at approximately **5:00 pm**.

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>July 2009</b>					
7/15/2009	Holiday Inn (Islip Airport)	3845 Veterans Memorial Hwy.	Ronkonkoma	NY	11779
7/29/2009	Holiday Inn (Charleston Airport)	5264 International Blvd.	North Charleston	SC	29418
<b>August 2009</b>					
8/5/2009	Holiday Inn	3535 Ulmerton Rd. (SR 688 W.)	Clearwater	FL	33762
8/26/2009	Hilton (New Orleans Airport)	901 Airline Drive	Kenner	LA	70062



Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>September 2009</b>					
9/2/2009	Holiday Inn	1 Newbury Street (Rt. 1)	Peabody	MA	01960
9/30/2009	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 sign up for a scheduled workshop, please contact Angler Conservation Education at (386) 852-9137, 1640 Mason Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32117.

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

**JUN 10 2009**

Date

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