UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

NMFS ANNOUNCES ATLANTIC SHARK IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE OF 2012

An Atlantic shark dealer may not receive, purchase, trade, or barter for Atlantic sharks unless a valid Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop dealer 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 also 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 valid NMFS certificate, <u>or whose certificate is expiring prior to the next permit renewal</u>, must attend one of the free workshops in order to receive shark products or renew their Atlantic shark dealer permit**. The Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops being held in January, February, and March of 2012 are listed below.

Who Must Attend

- All new applicants for Atlantic shark dealer permits;
- All federally-permitted Atlantic shark dealers or a proxy from each business location that receives sharks (unless they have already attended a workshop and possess a valid certificate);

  Proxies: Currently permitted shark dealers may send someone else (*i.e.* a proxy) to a shark identification workshop instead of attending themselves. If a dealer opts 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 gain a better understanding of the regulatory requirements for Atlantic shark dealers, and
- To improve quota monitoring and data used for shark stock assessments.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Schedule

All workshops will be held from 12:00 (noon) to 4:00 p.m.

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
4/5/2012	LaQuinta Inn & Suites – Room B (at Islip airport)	10 Aero Road	Bohemia	NY	11716
5/3/2012	LaQuinta Inn & Suites	7115 Coastal Palms Blvd.	Panama City Beach	FL	32408
6/7/2012	Hampton Inn & Suites	1989 Eastwood Road	Wilmington	NC	28403

What to Bring

To ensure that 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 pre-register 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.

For Carrie Selberg
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

03/01/12
Date

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