



NOAA FISHERIES

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

NMFS ANNOUNCES AN ADDITIONAL ATLANTIC SHARK IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP TO BE HELD IN BOHEMIA, NY ON DECEMBER 10, 2015

October 21, 2015

NMFS published a **Federal Register** notice on September 10, 2015 (80 FR 54533), announcing the dates and locations of three Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops to be held during October – December of 2015. Attendance at an Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop is mandatory for all federally permitted Atlantic shark dealers in order to meet certain regulatory requirements and to maintain valid permits. Based upon recent analysis indicating the need for an additional workshop in the New York and southern New England area to accommodate Atlantic shark dealers who purchase smooth dogfish, this notice announces an additional free Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop that will be conducted on December 10, 2015, in Bohemia, NY. Dealers may also attend the previously scheduled November 12, 2015, workshop in Mount Pleasant, SC or the December 3, 2015, workshop in Largo, FL (80 FR 54533).

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 that 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.

Schedule

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

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
11/12/2015	Hampton Inn & Suites	1104 Isle of Palms Connector	Mount Pleasant	SC	29464
12/3/2015	Hampton Inn & Suites	100 East Bay Drive	Largo	FL	33770
12/10/2015	LaQuinta Inn & Suites	10 Aero Road	Bohemia	NY	11706

What to Bring

All workshop participants must bring proof of identification. 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,
- 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(s), 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/compliance/workshops/index.html> or contact Rick Pearson at (727) 824-5399.

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