



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

**THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
ANNOUNCES PROTECTED SPECIES RELEASE, DISENTANGLEMENT, AND  
IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS BEING HELD IN JULY, AUGUST, AND  
SEPTEMBER 2008**

Beginning January 2007, shark and swordfish limited access permit holders and applicants for permit transfers 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).

**WHO MUST ATTEND**

- All new applicants for shark limited access and/or a swordfish limited access permits
- Pelagic longline, bottom longline, and gillnet vessel **owners**
- Pelagic longline, bottom longline, and gillnet vessel **operators**

**Vessel operators are required to possess on board the vessel valid workshop certificates for both the vessel owner and operator at all times.**

**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 to take place in July, August, and September 2008. All workshops will begin promptly at **9:00 am** and will conclude at approximately **5:00 pm**. Additional workshops will be scheduled in each region throughout 2008.

Date	Location	Address	City	State	Zip Code
<b>July 2008</b>					
07/22/2008	Hilton Garden Inn	1101 North Highway 231	Panama City	FL	32405
07/29/2008	La Quinta Inn & Suites Islip MacArthur Airport	10 Aero Road	Bohemia	NY	11716
<b>August 2008</b>					
08/27/2008	Holiday Inn Express	727 South 11 <sup>th</sup> Street	Port Aransas	TX	78373
<b>September 2008</b>					
09/03/2008	Holiday Inn Oceanfront	67 <sup>th</sup> Street Oceanside	Ocean City	MD	21842

**WHAT TO BRING**

To ensure 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 Aquatic Release Conservation (877) 411-4272), 1870 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 Greg Fairclough, (727) 824-5399.

*for Emily Menachis*

Alan Risenhoover  
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

**JUN - 6 2008**

Date

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