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Subject: FishNews - August 13, 2014 - Sink Your Teeth into Shark Week!

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August 13, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS

August-September

Two free **Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops** in Florida.

August-September

Four free **Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops** in Massachusetts, South Carolina, Texas, New Jersey.

August-October

Public town hall meetings on **NOAA Fisheries' National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy**, held in conjunction with regional fishery management council meetings.



Sharks 365 - The Expert is In

Celebrate Shark Week with NOAA Fisheries! New stories, videos, a podcast, and a tweet chat highlight the shark science and conservation work we conduct 365 days a year. Be sure to check out:

- **U.S. Leads the Way in Shark Conservation**
Get a closer look at NOAA's role in shark conservation.
- **Podcast: White Shark Recovery**
Research reveals that Atlantic white sharks have slowly been making a comeback.
- **Sharks and the Limitations of Human Memory**
An account of how our knowledge of sharks has grown, from Aristotle to the present day, reminds us of historical ecosystems that we have collectively forgotten.

August 14

#SharkChat on Twitter with NOAA scientist Tobey Curtis.

August 14

Last day of the **Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council meeting** in Washington, DC.

August 16-23

Eight **Sea Turtle Release Gear Workshops** for Snapper-Grouper and Reef Fish Permitted Vessels in the South Atlantic, held in Florida.

August 18-19

Two public hearings on **Reef Fish Amendment 40 - Sector Separation** hosted by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council across the Gulf states.

August 25-29

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi.

September 11-17

Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting in Spokane, Washington.

September 15-19

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**September 19**

Proposals due for **Natural Resources Damages**

- Videos: Experts Answer Shark Questions**

Watch these short videos to see NOAA Fisheries scientists Trey Driggers and John Carlson answer some common questions about sharks.

- #SharkChat on Twitter with NOAA's Tobey Curtis**

Join us Thursday for a tweet chat with the author of a new study on white sharks.

Proposed Rule for Atlantic Shark Management - Open for Public Comment

By **November 14**, [submit your comments](#) on a proposed rule for the Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan. The rule would implement draft Amendment 9, which considers management measures for Atlantic smoothhound shark fisheries and the implementation of the smooth dogfish-specific provisions of the Shark Conservation Act of 2010.

New International Shark Trade Rules Take Effect Soon

On **September 14**, 2014, new trade requirements will go into effect for manta rays and five species of sharks listed last year in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Individuals engaging in international commercial trade of scalloped, great, or smooth hammerhead sharks, oceanic whitetip sharks, porbeagle sharks, or manta rays (including the parts and products of these species) will need to apply for and obtain appropriate CITES documents.

Help Us Improve FishWatch

Do you care about sustainable seafood? Have you used www.FishWatch.gov to learn about the seafood you buy at a grocery store or restaurant? We need your feedback! Help us improve FishWatch by participating in a short survey.

Alaska

Video: Managing Sharks in Alaska Waters

NOAA Fisheries manages three species of shark in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands area. In this video, NOAA Fisheries shark biologist Cindy Tribuzio explains the science behind assessing Alaska's shark populations. Subscribe to the NOAA Fisheries [YouTube channel](#)!

Critical Habitat for Steller Sea Lions - Request for Presentations

NOAA Fisheries will hold a public meeting to gather scientific information related to the designation of Steller sea lion critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. The meeting

Program projects related to the Nyanza Superfund site in Massachusetts.

September 30

Proposals due for the 2015 **Mid-Atlantic Research Set-Aside** funding.

November 7

Proposals due for FY 2015 **Species Recovery Grants** to States.

FEDERAL REGISTER ACTIONS

[Click here](#) for a list of only those actions open for public comment. Scroll search for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

For a list of all daily actions, check the Federal Register [online](#).

will be held on September 22 in Seattle. Parties interested in presenting information at this meeting should submit a statement of interest by **August 29**.

Amendment 96 to Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP - Open for Public Comment

By **September 9**, submit your comments on proposed regulations for the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. Amendment 96 would amend provisions of the Individual Fishing Quota Program for Pacific Halibut and Sablefish to allow Community Quota Entities to acquire additional quota share, helping sustain the participation of community residents in the program.

Gulf of Alaska Trawl Economic Data - Open for Public Comment

By **September 10**, submit your comments on a proposed Gulf of Alaska Trawl Economic Data Report Program to evaluate the economic effects of fishery management measures for the Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries.

West Coast

Rapid Response Frees Entangled Whales

NOAA Fisheries' [West Coast Marine Mammal Stranding Network](#) mobilized rescue teams to free two humpback whales that had, in two separate incidents, become entangled in fishing gear off the California coast. The stranding network coordinates organizations along the West Coast to spot, track, and rescue marine mammals that become entangled.

Pacific Islands

Marine Conservation Plan for Guam

NOAA Fisheries has approved a marine conservation plan for Guam, which contains six conservation and management objectives along with planned projects and activities.

Greater Atlantic

Monkfish Exempted Fishing Permit - Open for Public Comment

By **August 27**, submit your comments on a determination that two applications for exempted fishing permits warrant further consideration. The permits would facilitate compensation fishing under the Monkfish Research Set-Aside Program.

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