



NMFS Announces Workshops for Electronic Dealer Reporting System

This notice announces the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)'s intent to conduct public workshops on the new HMS electronic dealer reporting system being implemented in 2012. The purpose of the workshop is to train HMS dealers how to use the new system and help ease the transition from the current paper format to the new HMS electronic reporting system.

Background

On June 28, 2011 (76 FR 37750), NMFS published a proposed rule in the Federal Register that considered requiring, among other things, Federal Atlantic swordfish, shark, and tunas dealers (except for dealer reporting Atlantic bluefin tuna) to report commercially-harvested Atlantic sharks, swordfish, and BAYS tunas to NMFS through one centralized electronic reporting system. Under this new system, dealers would submit HMS data electronically instead of in a paper format and include additional information that is necessary for management of HMS (e.g., vessel and logbook information).

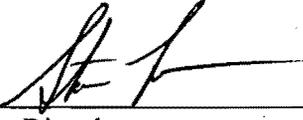
In order to give sufficient time for dealers to adjust to implementation of the new system and the additional requirements, NMFS proposed delaying implementation of the new HMS electronic reporting system for all federally-permitted HMS dealers until 2012. Additionally, NMFS will conduct outreach to dealers to teach them how to use the new HMS electronic reporting system. NMFS will conduct an initial workshop for HMS dealers in the St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. (Table 1). NMFS will announce additional workshops in a future Federal Register notice.

Table 1. Date, Time, and location of Caribbean Workshop

Date	Time	Meeting Location	Meeting Address
December 14, 2011	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Frenchman's Reef and Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort	5 Estate Bakkreore, St. Thomas, 00801 Virgin Islands (U.S.)



This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about the fishery. For further information on this notice, contact Delisse Ortiz or Karyl Brewster-Geisz at 301-427-8503. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>.



FOR
Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

NOV 23 2011

Date

SIGN UP FOR ATLANTIC HMS NEWS
-- An electronic newsletter informing you of the latest HMS-related actions --
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/>