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NMFS Fisheries to Conduct Voluntary Sea Turtle Release Gear Workshops for Southern U.S. Atlantic Fisheries

NOAA Fisheries will conduct voluntary outreach workshops to review required sea turtle release gear for federal commercial and for-hire permit holders for Snapper-Grouper, Reef Fish, and Highly Migratory Species (HMS).

The workshops will be held during August in Florida where there are permit holders for all three fisheries.

Workshop Topics

- Where to purchase or how to make the sea turtle release gear
- How to use the gear
- Possible fines associated with not having the required equipment on board

Who Must Attend

Attendance is voluntary but highly recommended for the snapper-grouper, reef fish, and HMS fisheries in the southern U.S. Atlantic, including the Gulf of Mexico.

Note: these workshops do not fulfill requirements under HMS regulations for Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification workshops for longline and gillnet fisheries with shark or swordfish directed or incidental limited access permits as described at <http://go.usa.gov/XtFd>.

August 2014 Schedule

Day	Time (p.m.)	Location	City (Florida)
16-Sat	6:30 - 8:00	USCG Station, 1800 Overseas Hwy	Marathon
17-Sun	6:30 - 8:00	Garrison Bight Marina, Palm Ave & Eisenhower Dr	Key West
18-Mon	6:30 - 8:00	Postcard Inn, 84001 Overseas Hwy	Islamorada
19-Tues	6:30 - 8:00	Port Salerno Commercial Dock, 4643 SE Park Drive	Stuart
20-Wed	6:30 - 8:00	River Walk Center Sunrise Rm, 600 N Indian River Dr	Fort Pierce
21-Thur	6:30 - 8:00	Port Canaveral Admin Bldg, 455 Challenger Rd	Port Canaveral
22-Fri	6:30 - 8:00	Galimor Center, 399 Riberia St	St. Augustine
23-Sat	5:30 - 7:00	Safe Harbor Seafood, 4378 Ocean Dr	Mayport

For More Information Contact Charlie Bergmann at Charles.Bergmann@noaa.gov or 228-238-4109.

About Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional Fishery Management Councils established by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans, which are designed to manage fishery resources within the 200-mile limit of the Gulf of Mexico.



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