



David E. Pierce
Acting Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

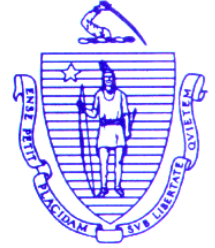
Division of Marine Fisheries

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July 1, 2015

Notice of Public Hearings and Public Comment Period: Emergency Regulations Requiring a White Shark Special Permit to Conduct Certain Activities around White Sharks

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A § 2 and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 § 80, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission have scheduled a public hearing and public comment period to provide an opportunity to accept comment related to permanently codifying emergency regulations – enacted June 5, 2015 - restricting activity around white sharks.

1. **White Shark Special Permit Requirements (322 CMR 6.37)**. DMF will accept comments on the following emergency regulation:
 - a. It is unlawful for any person to attract or attempt to attract a white shark within the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth without having been issued a “white shark special permit” by DMF. This includes, but is not limited to, chumming for white sharks or towing decoys for white sharks.
 - b. It is unlawful for any person to capture, attempt to capture or perform intrusive research on or attempt to perform intrusive research on a white shark within the waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth without having been issued a “white shark special permit” by DMF.
 - c. These rules do not restrict the presence of persons on the water actively conducting lawful commercial or recreational fishing activities.

Instructions for Written Comments

Written public comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Friday, July 31, 2015. Please address all comments to Acting Director David Pierce. Comments can be sent by e-mail to marine.fish@state.ma.us or by mail to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114.

Public Hearing Schedule
Wednesday, July 22, 2015
Start Time: 6:00 PM
Chatham Community Center
Large Meeting Room
702 Main Street
Chatham, MA 02633

For more information regarding the public hearing, public comment period or the regulatory proposals, contact Jared Silva by phone (617-626-1534) or through e-mail (jared.silva@state.ma.us).