



The Ultimate Shark Diving Experience

2038 Pacific Avenue • Alameda, California 94501 • Telephone: 510-814-8256
E-mail: lawrence@greatwhiteadventures.com • www.greatwhiteadventures.com

WHITE SHARK OBSERVATION ACTIVITY PERMIT GUIDELINES FOR GFNMS

GENERAL

1. Proposed permit holders or their appointed operators shall be a US citizen.
2. The proposed permit holder shall be a responsible person with an knowledge of the sea and the white shark with a minimum of 100 days of white shark observation experience.
3. Proposed permit holders or their appointed operators shall thoroughly brief all their clients on all safety and operational procedures, both on the vessel and in the cage, before any operation is carried out.
4. Proposed permit holders shall be available to their marketers and clients before they book, and provide the following information to prevent unrealistic expectations:
 - Description of likely weather conditions expected during the period booked.
 - Description of expected water conditions during the period booked.
 - Statistical information on the probability of seeing a shark during the period booked.
 - General information explaining that sharks sightings and duration of shark interactions can never be guaranteed.
5. Proposed permit holders or their appointed operators shall brief their clients in detail before the vessel leaves the harbor. The briefing shall include the following:
 - General description of events for the day.
 - Boat safety do's and dont's and review of safety equipment.
 - Dive briefing, what to do and what to expect.
 - Weather conditions of the day.
 - Water conditions of the day.
 - Realistic expectation of seeing sharks.
 - Realistic expectation of diving with sharks.
6. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that no person on his vessel shall dump or discard at sea fish, waste or any other material, including cigarette butts.
7. The operator shall ensure at all times that their operation does not interfere with the normal behavior of marine mammals.
8. The proposed permit holder and his crew shall at all times display a positive attitude towards conservation of the area that they are working in.
9. The proposed permit holder may allow accredited researchers onboard their vessel free of charge with 48 hours notice. Provided the passenger limit is not exceeded.
10. The proposed permit holder shall conduct his/her business in an honest and straightforward manner, strive to improve the image of the industry, maintain a high standard of professionalism and do their utmost to satisfy their clients.

11. Proposed permit holders and crew shall be helpful and friendly to other permit holders and their crew, and strive to build up a good rapport with local fishermen and other users.
12. All proposed permit holders shall operate in conformity with the standards set at in this code of conduct. If they break any of the standards set out in this code of conduct, their permit may be revoked.

CAGE DIVING SAFETY

1. The proposed permit holder shall ensure the safety of his/her clients at all times.
2. The proposed permit holder shall provide safe access by the diver to the cage.
3. Proposed permit holders shall ensure that their vessels only proceed to sea and operate in fine settled weather conditions. Permit holders are aware of the law in regard to sea conditions and safety and it is expected that they will obey the law at all times.
4. Each proposed permit holder shall have an emergency flow chart. Emergency phone numbers and procedures to be followed in the case of an emergency shall be displayed prominently on the boat.
5. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that a crew member with a valid first aid training, with extension for basic trauma training and oxygen management, shall be onboard his vessel during all white shark diving and viewing operations.
7. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that his vessel engaged in white shark diving and viewing operations shall carry an emergency oxygen kit on board at all times.
8. All proposed permit holders to ensure that the vessel they use to attract white sharks, either their own or chartered, is licensed by a USCG licensed master or operator.
9. The vessel shall never carry more persons than the number for which it is certified by USCG.
10. Vessels shall have onboard at least 2 VHF radios and a cell phone.
11. All proposed permit holders must provide basic facilities on their vessel, such as a permanent or a portable toilet and drinking water. All toilets to have suitable screening fitted to allow for an element of privacy.
6. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that their vessel is properly maintained and in a clean, presentable and seaworthy condition.



The Ultimate Shark Diving Experience

2038 Pacific Avenue • Alameda, California 94501 • Telephone: 510-814-8256
E-mail: lawrence@greatwhiteadventures.com • www.greatwhiteadventures.com

WHITE SHARK CAGES

1. All white shark cages shall be made from material that will provide adequate safety to its occupants.
2. When in the water, all white shark cages must be attached to the boat with a buoyant line and cable.
3. Suitable flotation shall be attached to the white shark cage in such a way that it is protected from possible damage by the white shark.
4. Fully loaded with divers, the white shark cage shall have a freeboard of at least 6 inches.
6. The white shark cage shall have an access door on top.
7. For use by two divers, a round white shark cage shall have a diameter of at least 5 feet and the sides of a square white shark cage shall be at least 4 feet.

ATTRACTING WHITE SHARKS

1. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that great care shall be taken by all crew members to prevent injury to the sharks. Handling of sharks not permitted.
2. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that NO chum or bio-attractant is used.
3. The proposed permit holder shall only use surface decoys or lures that will float and be able to recover if lost.
4. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that the white shark is not encouraged to ingest the decoy.
5. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that the crew member handling the decoy shall drop the line as soon as the shark has made contact with the decoy. The line attached to the decoy shall have a light break away line attached to the decoy as to prevent any entanglement of the shark.
6. The proposed permit holder or boat operator may not approach within 50m of a feeding white shark. When feeding events are detected vessels may approach at safe speeds to within 500 feet. Vessels shall approach to 100 feet at no more than 5 knots. Vessels may/will maneuver to maintain the 100 feet distance from the feeding shark.
7. The proposed permit holder shall not tow decoys while underway and motorized decoys are prohibited.



The Ultimate Shark Diving Experience

2038 Pacific Avenue • Alameda, California 94501 • Telephone: 510-814-8256
E-mail: lawrence@greatwhiteadventures.com • www.greatwhiteadventures.com

WHITE SHARK CAGE DIVING OPERATIONS

1. A diving flag shall be raised during cage diving operations.
2. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that all diving equipment used is of a high standard and serviced on a regular basis.
3. The proposed permit holder shall ensure that all clients that dive with white sharks shall have at least an entry level diving qualification. Diving operations with non certified divers will be conducted under the supervision of a certified and insured instructor under the standards set forth by the instructor's certifying agency. The dive master/instructor shall use his own discretion when a diver is unable to continue diving.
4. The dive master shall ensure that all divers understand all diving procedures, as well as emergency procedures, and are geared up correctly.
5. Hookah systems or equivalent surface supplied air systems are to be utilized only if air hoses are protected from contact by white sharks for cage diving operations.
6. No decoy shall be attached to, or offered to white sharks from any white shark cages.



The Ultimate Shark Diving Experience

2038 Pacific Avenue • Alameda, California 94501 • Telephone: 510-814-8256
E-mail: lawrence@greatwhiteadventures.com • www.greatwhiteadventures.com