

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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16214
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Mr. Arnold Palacios, Chair
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Palacios:

I am pleased to report to you and the rest of the Council the following summary of U.S. Coast Guard fisheries law enforcement activities in the Western and Central Pacific Region for the period of June 11 to October 1, 2014.

From July 20th to September 29th CGC RUSH deployed on a multi-mission patrol. During this deployment CGC RUSH patrolled the U.S. EEZs of the Main Hawaiian Islands, Kingman/Palmyra Atoll, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, and Howland/Baker Island. CGC RUSH completed three domestic fisheries boardings on the American Samoa based longline fleet, noting one potential non-U.S. master violation. CGC RUSH conducted two domestic boardings on the U.S. distant water tuna fleet. No violations were observed. CGC RUSH completed 13 international boardings. These boardings were high seas boardings of foreign flagged fishing vessels conducted under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) High Seas Boarding and Inspection scheme or bi-lateral assisted boardings within the respective EEZ's of Tuvalu and Nauru. The boardings in Nauru's EEZ identified shark fin, observer, and log book discrepancies.

From August 7th to 29th, CGC WAESCHE patrolled from the Main Hawaiian Islands to French Polynesia. During this deployment CGC WAESCHE patrolled the U.S. EEZs of the Main Hawaiian Islands, Kingman/Palmyra Atoll, and Jarvis Island. CGC WAESCHE conducted one domestic boarding of the Honolulu based longline fleet, noting a potential non-U.S. master violation and the failure to provide a boarding ladder. CGC WAESCHE also completed eight international boardings. These boardings were high seas boardings of foreign flagged fishing vessels conducted under the WCPFC High Seas Boarding and Inspection scheme or bi-lateral assisted boardings within the respective EEZ's of Kiribati and the Cook Islands. The boardings in the Cook Islands' EEZ identified improper gear markings. The boardings in Kiribati's EEZ identified a logbook with no positions recorded. The WCPFC boardings identified vessels with no flag state license, improper markings, and incorrect turtle mitigation measures. Enforcement actions on the high seas and in foreign EEZs adjacent to the U.S. EEZs have a derivative deterrent effect in the U.S. EEZ and help compel foreign fishers to respect the U.S. EEZ boundaries.

From August 19th to 26th, CGC ASSATEAGUE patrolled the U.S. EEZs of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. No foreign fishing vessel incursions were detected.

The CGC KUKUI deployed on a multi-mission patrol from August 29th to September 9th. During this deployment CGC KUKUI patrolled the U.S. EEZ's of the Main and Northwest Hawaiian Islands, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and assisted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in relocating 28 Laysen Ducks from Midway to Kure Atoll.

From August 5th to August 25th a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment (LEDET) deployed on board a U.S. Navy asset in support of the Oceania Maritime Security Initiative. The Navy Asset patrolled the U.S. EEZs of Main Hawaiian Islands, Johnston Atoll, Guam and the foreign EEZs of the Republic of Marshall

Islands (RMI), and Nauru. The LEDET completed two boardings, assisting the embarked RMI shiprider with boardings of fishing vessels located inside the RMI EEZ under the RMI/U.S. shiprider agreement. No violations of RMI law were observed.

CGC MORGENTHAU spent seven days patrolling the U.S EEZ of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. No foreign vessel incursions were detected.

Between June and October, District Fourteen C-130 aircraft flew multiple patrols of the U.S. EEZ of the Hawaiian Islands, two patrols of the northwest Hawaiian Islands, one patrol of the American Samoa EEZ, one patrol of the Jarvis and Kingman/Palmyra Atoll EEZs, one patrol of Howland/Baker Island EEZ, one patrol of Wake Island EEZ, and one patrol of Johnston Atoll EEZ. No foreign vessel incursions were detected.

Our Department of Defense partners further assisted enforcement efforts though assigning one P-8 patrol of the U.S. EEZs of Guam and CNMI in early September. No foreign fishing vessel incursions were detected.

The District 14 Enforcement staff attended several fisheries enforcement-related meetings during this reporting period. These meetings included a workshop on regional ocean planning in the Pacific Islands and the National Ocean Policy, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council meeting, Papahānaumokuākea MNM Logistics working group meeting, Papahānaumokuākea RAC meeting, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS meeting, Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team meeting, PIMPAC, WCPFC TCC 10, and Coral Reef Task Force meeting. District staff participated in the NMS of American Samoa and Marianas Trench Monument Advisory Council meetings via phone conference. District staff also hosted a tour of Base Honolulu for the Council's high school student summer program.

Finally, in July we welcomed our new Fisheries Enforcement Officer and primary representative to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, LCDR Rula Deisher. Rula comes to Hawaii having completed numerous tours at sea where she served at the tip of the spear of living marine resource management conducting at-sea boardings in the Greater Atlantic Region. Rula also served as the Commanding Officer of the Northeast Regional Fisheries Training Center at Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Most recently Rula completed her Masters of Marine Affairs at the University of Washington. Rula looks forward to working closely with the Council to help develop sound regulations, ensure effective enforcement presence, leverage technology, and build productive partnerships.

Sincerely,



R. E. Howes
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard
Chief, Enforcement Branch