

Pacific Islands Division Report

183rd WPFMC Meeting

September 1, 2020



NOAA
FISHERIES
Office of Law
Enforcement

Statistics

Total Number of Incidents opened – 199

(June 08 – August 31, 2020)

☐ Protected Species – 108

☐ Fisheries - 91



Investigations

- A PID Special Agent completed an investigation involving a Hawaii longline fishing vessel fishing in the Main Hawaiian Islands Southern Exclusion Zone - an area closed to longline fishing in an effort to protect False Killer Whales. A \$1,875.00 Settlement Agreement was obtained in this matter.
- A PID Enforcement Officer issued a \$100.00 Summary Settlement Notice for the “take” of a resting Endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal on the North shore of Oahu. The incident was a collaborative effort with NOAA’s Protected Resources Division and the Hawaii Marine Animal Response network.
- Two PID Enforcement Officers (EO) conducted a dockside boarding of a Hawaii longline vessel in Honolulu Harbor. The EOs checked and measured random hooks from three separate hook boxes. All hooks measured were in compliance with a maximum wire diameter of 4.5mm. Compliance assistance was given to the captain and crew.

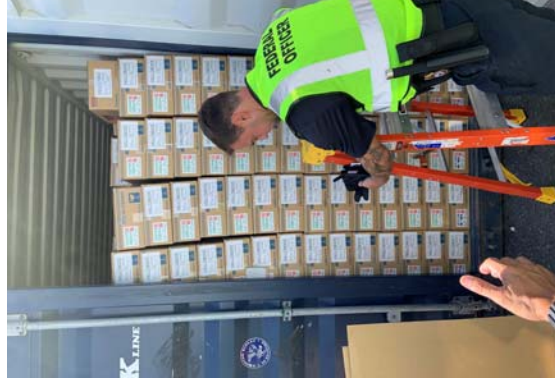


Patrols/Monitoring/Inspections/Outreach

- A PID Enforcement Officer conducted a weekend patrol to the area of Makua Bay, Oahu, in response to multiple complaints from community members and calls into the OLE Hotline regarding swimmers harassing Spinner Dolphins. The EO responded to the area, monitored swimmers, and conducted outreach with park caretakers. No violations were documented. PID EOs will continue to monitor and patrol hot spot areas concerning Spinner Dolphins on Oahu.



- Four PID Enforcement Officers and a Supervisory Enforcement Officer conducted a container inspection jointly with Customs Border Patrol Officers and the Hawaii Department of Conservation and Resources Enforcement in Honolulu Harbor, Hawaii. During the inspection, three containers were targeted and inspected for Seafood Fraud and Shark Fins. No violations were found during the inspection.



Patrols/Monitoring/Inspections/Outreach

- A PID Enforcement Officer conducted joint in-bound fish cargo inspections with JEA partners from the Guam Customs MITF unit. The Officers inspected fresh fish and seafood products imported into Guam from the Federal States of Micronesia.
- A PID Enforcement Officer worked jointly with NOAA affiliates to investigate the disturbance of a critically endangered Hawksbill sea turtle nest, located on a remote beach on Hawaii Island. The nest had damaged eggs that were exposed and indications of canine and human tampering. Due to the remoteness of the beach and lack of any infrastructures within 10 miles of the site, all investigative leads were exhausted.



Questions?



NOAA FISHERIES