

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Fourteenth Coast Guard District

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28 February 2025

Mr. William Sword, Chair
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
1164 Bishop Street Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Sword:

I am pleased to report to the Council the following summary of U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) activities in the Western and Central Pacific region for the period of 28 November 2024 through 28 February 2025.

During this period, the U.S Coast Guard responded to 1056 cases consisting of search and rescue, law enforcement, marine environmental protection/response, and ports, waterways, and coastal security missions.

Notably, The Coast Guard completed two cutter patrols of the western and central Pacific to enhance maritime domain awareness (MDA) and deter illicit activity. The JOSEPH GERCZAK completed a 7,550 nautical mile patrol through the high seas, the Cook Islands EEZ, and the American Samoa EEZs completing two boardings. The MIDGETT is finishing up a 12,040 nautical mile patrol through the high seas and several partner nation EEZs. MIDGETT completed three boardings and engaged with enforcement partners in Australia, New Zealand, Tuvalu, and Papua New Guinea. Additionally, the Coast Guard currently has a LEDET embarked aboard a U.S. Navy vessel to conduct WCPFC high seas boardings and inspections.

During this period, the Coast Guard sent Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSST) to Guam and American Samoa to conduct port, waterways and coastal security surge operations. These operations concluded earlier this month. Finally, the Coast Guard completed participation on Operation Kohola Guardian, an annual surge in the Main Hawaiian Islands to protect vulnerable humpback whales during their annual visit to our waters.

For upcoming operations, several domestic enforcement patrols are planned to support U.S. border integrity, commercial fishing vessel safety, and fisheries enforcement. Additionally, the HARRIET LANE will get underway in May to patrol the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Guanci".

LCDR Matt Guanci
Enforcement Branch
Fourteenth Coast Guard District