

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Coast Guard Oceania District

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204th CM

26 August 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 21 May 2025 through 25 August 2025. Since May, the U.S. Coast Guard has responded to 202 cases consisting of search and rescue, law enforcement, marine environmental protection/response, and ports, waterways, and coastal security missions.

During this period, USCGC MYRTLE HAZARD strengthened international strategic regional partnerships through bilateral law enforcement operations with Palau by conducting a bilateral shiprider patrol in the Palau EEZ. This patrol resulted in two boardings. Additionally, USCGC HARRIET LANE completed their 8,400 nautical mile patrol through French Polynesia, the Cook Islands, and American Samoa. HARRIET LANE logged 25 boardings finding 02 violations of international management measures and partner nation fisheries laws.

The Coast Guard participated in two multinational counter-IUUF surge operations over the last few months. In July, USCG watch standers supported Operation Nasse 2025. This annual operation is led by the U.S., France, Australia, New Zealand, and the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and focuses on counter IUUF efforts in the western Pacific Ocean. Operation Nasse 2025 included participation from six partner Pacific Island nations and resulted in 31 high sea boardings with 13 cited violations of conservation management measures. In August, the USCG also supported FFA's Operation Island Chief 2025. Island Chief is one of four annual surge operations led by FFA. These operations coordinate air and sea patrols over two-week periods across the Western Pacific. Island Chief 2025 saw participation from 09 nations and resulted in 80 boardings with 12 cited violations and 79 additional verified sightings.

Finally, the Coast Guard recently facilitated Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordination and Execution training in American Samoa for attendees from DSAR, Marine Patrol, EMS, and the Fire Department. This course teaches SAR fundamentals and this is the first time it has been held in American Samoa.

For upcoming operations, several domestic enforcement patrols are planned to support U.S. border integrity, commercial fishing vessel safety, and fisheries enforcement. In September, USCGC OLIVER BERRY will patrol high seas areas and bilateral partner nation EEZs south of Hawaii. This patrol is planned to include a visit to Pago Pago in October. Additionally, USCGC HARRIET LANE will get underway later this month to patrol the western Pacific.

Sincerely,

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

LCDR Matt Guanci
Enforcement Branch
Coast Guard Oceania District