

# 17<sup>th</sup> COAST GUARD DISTRICT ENFORCEMENT REPORT



**April - May 2023**

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## List of Abbreviations

AVDET – Aviation Detachment	MBL – U.S./Russian Maritime Boundary
CFVS – Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety	MEDEVAC – Medical Evacuation
CGC – Coast Guard Cutter	MEDICO – Passing medical advice at sea
DIW – Dead in the Water	NPSC – North Pacific SAR Coordinator
EPIRB – Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon	PD – Police Department
FBS – Russian Federal Border Service	POB – Persons on board
FCH – Charter Fishing Vessel	PRC – Peoples’ Republic of China
FF/V – Foreign Fishing Vessel	RFMO – Regional Fisheries Management Org.
FOL – Forward Operating Location	SAR – Search and Rescue
FRC – 154’ Fast Response Cutter	SARSAT – Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking
GOA – Gulf of Alaska	SMC – SAR Mission Coordinator
HC-130 – USCG Fixed-Wing Aircraft	TERM - Termination
MH-65/MH-60 – CG helicopter	UMIB – Urgent Marine Info Broadcast
HSDN – High Seas Drift Net	VDS – Visual Distress Signals
IFQ – Individual Fishing Quota	WLB – 225’ Buoy Tender
IUU – Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing	WMEC – Medium Endurance Cutter
IVO – In the vicinity of	WMSL – 418’ National Security Cutter
MARB – Marine Assistance Request Broadcast	WPB – 110’ Patrol Boat

## **I. IUU Fishing & High Seas Drift Net (HSDN) Enforcement**

The Coast Guard did not have a surface or aircraft asset for Operation North Pacific Guard (NPG) 2023 during this period. Coast Guard aircraft are scheduled for support of NPG later this summer for enforcement on FF/V boardings on the High Seas under North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) authorities. There were no detected HSDN fishing activities during this period.

## **II. U.S./Russian Maritime Boundary Line (MBL) Enforcement**

FF/V activity along the MBL has increased significantly during the last two months. During the month of May, there has been consistent fishing on the Russian side of the MBL. In April, there was one detection of a Russian Longline fishing vessel briefly crossing into the U.S. EEZ, but an assessment of the vessel's trackline and speed indicated that the vessel was not fishing in the U.S. EEZ. Due to the increased FF/V activity near the MBL, Coast Guard District 17 has continued surface and air patrols along the MBL to deter and detect incursions.

## **III. U.S./Canadian EEZ Boundary (Dixon Entrance) Enforcement**

There was light fishing activity during the reporting period along the U.S.-Canadian EEZ boundary in the vicinity of Dixon Entrance. All Canadian fishing vessels sighted were south of the A-B line and no incursions into U.S. waters were detected.

## **IV. Marine Protected Resources and Critical Habitat Enforcement**

The Coast Guard monitors 151 critical habitat areas around Alaska each month as part of routine cutter and aircraft patrol activity. A NOAA Protected Resources Division (PRD) Sitka spring mammal carcass survey flight was scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>, however, the aircraft was diverted for a MEDEVAC. A May 8<sup>th</sup> marine mammal carcass survey flight was also cancelled due to lack of available aircraft. Kodiak and Cordova-based marine mammal carcass survey flights were conducted on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **V. Commercial Fishing Vessel Boarding Statistics**

There were 45 boardings conducted on commercial fishing vessels by the U.S. Coast Guard during the reporting period. These boardings resulted in a total of eight fisheries violations onboard five vessels. Appendices B and C list the boardings with violations that occurred during the reporting period.

## VI. Halibut and Sablefish Enforcement

Coast Guard patrols completed 123 boardings on commercial, charter, and recreational vessels targeting halibut and sablefish during the reporting period. Of these boardings, 26 were of IFQ halibut or sablefish vessels resulting in four fisheries violations on three vessels. Charter halibut vessels constituted 22 boardings resulting in zero fisheries violations. Recreational vessels targeting halibut constituted 75 boardings resulting in zero fisheries violations.

## VII. Forward Operating Locations

Air Station Kodiak deployed one MH-65 to Cordova on May 1 for Gulf of Alaska/Prince William Sound SAR coverage and law enforcement thru end of September 2023.

## VIII. Crab Fisheries

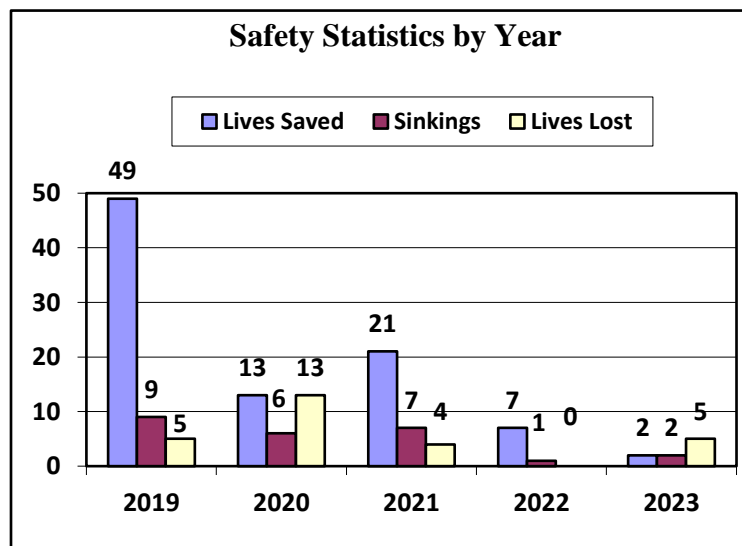
Coast Guard units conducted no boardings on fishing vessels targeting crab in the Bering Sea during this period.

## IX. Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety/Search and Rescue Cases

There were 11 search and rescue (SAR) cases involving fishing vessels in U.S. waters, resulting in one life saved, five lives lost, and two vessels lost during the reporting period. Appendix A provides a comprehensive list of SAR cases involving fishing vessels over the reporting period.

During the reporting period, 20 safety violations were detected on 15 vessels. A comprehensive list of safety violations can be found in Appendix B.

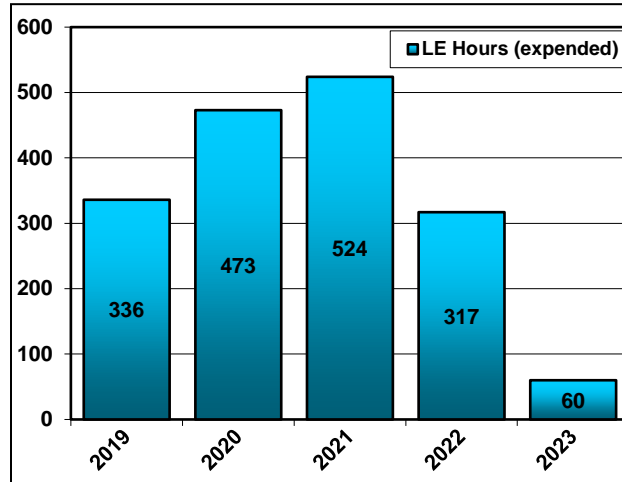
**Figure 1. Historical Overview of CFVS/SAR Statistics**



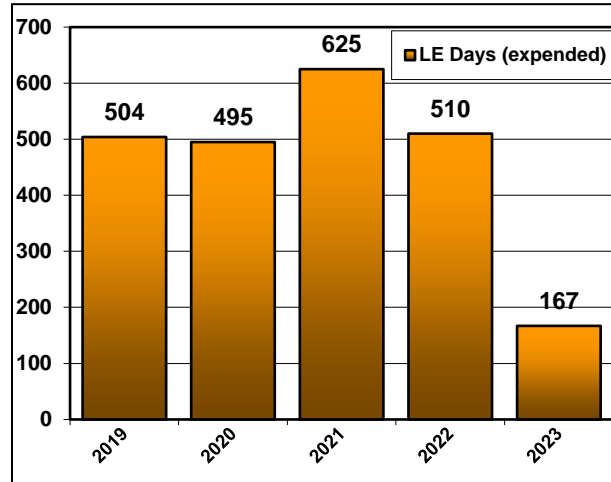
## X. Coast Guard Resource Summary

Figures 2-5 show the *annual* aircraft law enforcement hours, Medium and High Endurance Cutter days, and Patrol Boat hours used in the Seventeenth District. Figures 6-7 show the same information over the last three years for major cutters and patrol boats over the *reporting period only*.

**Figure 2. Annual HC-130 Hours**



**Figure 3. Annual Major Cutter Days**



**April - May 2022**

1 WMSL patrolled.....73 days  
 1 WMEC patrolled..... 0 days  
 1 WLB patrolled ..... 0 days  
 7 WPBs/FRCs patrolled.....56 days  
**Total Cutter patrol..... 129 days**

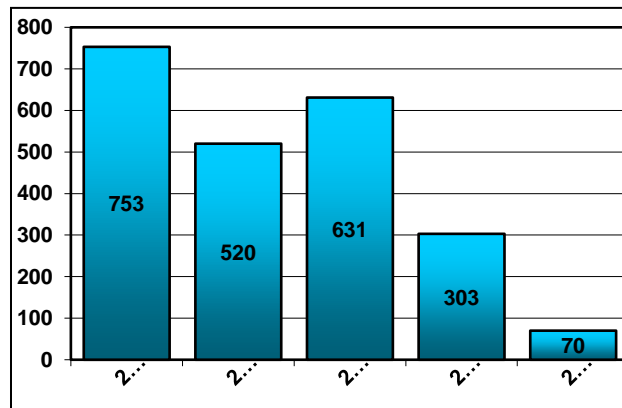
HC-130s flew ..... 73 hours  
 HH-60/65s flew..... 73 hours

**April - May 2023**

2 WMSL patrolled\* .....72 days  
 0 WMEC patrolled.....0 days  
 0 WLB patrolled .....0 days  
 5 WPB/FRCs patrolled .....58 days  
**Total Cutter patrol.....130 days**

HC-130s flew .....32 hours  
 HH-60/65s flew.....41 hours

**Figure 4. Annual H60/65 Hours to date**



**Figure 5. Annual Patrol Boat Hours to date**

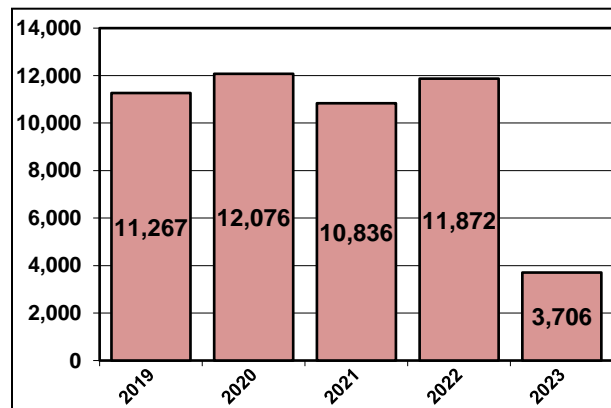


Figure 6. April - May Major Cutter Days

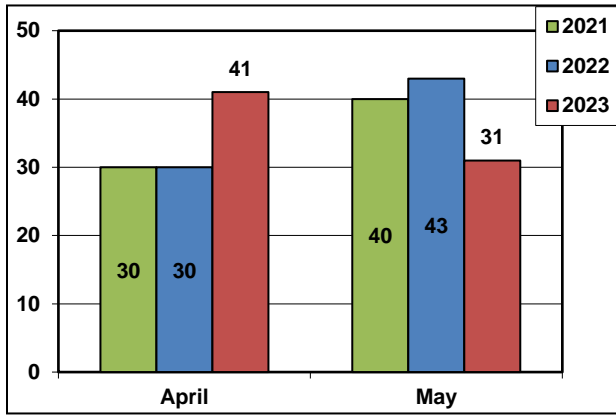
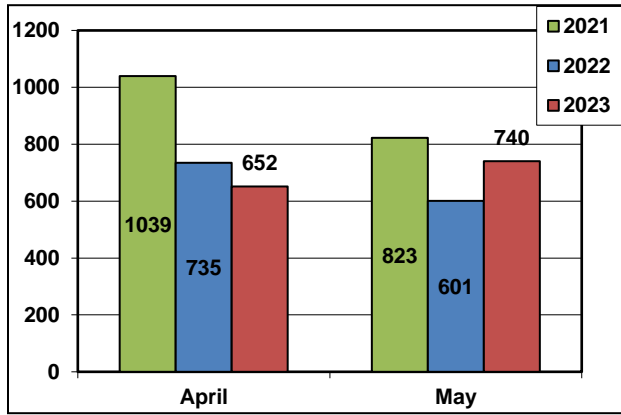


Figure 7. April - May Patrol Boat Hours



**Appendix A**  
April - May 2023  
Search and Rescue Cases

Date	Vessel Name	Case Details
03 April	F/V ENTERPRISE	F/V ENTERPRISE reported fire in engine room and first degree burns to crew member. Initial CG air assets called, stood down due F/V ability proceed to port.
06 April	F/V AMATULI	F/V AMATULI reported flooding in engine room not in distress; escorted to Dutch Harbor by F/V BRUIN; MSD Dutch Harbor did a preliminary investigation once moored.
13 April	F/V PALMA	F/V PALMA reported disabled from engine overheating; declined CG assistance, and returned to Sitka homeport escorted by nearby F/V JOSEPH.
01 May	M/V	M/V from Calder Mountain Lodge capsized in Pt Baker sunk in Kell Bay with two POB, uninjured and ashore; CGC PIKE and AIRTA Sitka diverted to case; POB declined transport.
06 May	F/V KEMA SUE	AIRSTA Kodiak launched for MEDEVAC of crewmember.
08 May	F/V NORTHERN GLACIER	F/V NORTHERN GLACIER loss of propulsion; conducted self-repairs enroute to Dutch Harbor without CG assist.
13 May	F/V TSIU	F/V TSIU loss of propulsion; coordinated with F/V POLARIS 24NM away for a tow back to Kodiak; CGC FIR briefed but not needed to respond.
18 May	F/V HOPE	F/V PATRIOT reported F/V HOPE sunk IVO Sukoi Island but did not witness any PIW; CGC DOUGLAS DENMAN diverted; owner of F/V HOPE contacted and notified the tow accidentally sank from towing F/V GHOST SHIP; CGC DOUGLAS DENMAN stood down.
26 May	F/V EVENING STAR	F/V reported crewmember irregular heartbeat; MEDEVAC not required, vessel returned to port.
28 May	F/V NORTHERN STAR	F/V NORTHERN STAR reported disabled, dragging anchor towards rocks; STA Juneau launched and towed vessel back to Auke Bay.
29 May	F/V AWAKIN	Charter F/V AWAKIN capsized in Sitka sound with 5 POB; AIRSTA Sitka, CGC DOUGLAS DENMAN, good Samaritans, and local EMS conducted search patterns; 1 reported deceased, 4 missing.

**Appendix B**  
April - May 2023

Fisheries Boardings with Safety Violations (Commercial, Recreational, and Charter)

DATE	SPECIES	AREA	# SAFETY VIOS	ACTION	NOTES AND DETAILS
4/13/23	200	2C	3	NOV	Material Condition of the engine room bilge was UNSAT due to excessive oily waste in the bilge spaces (routed termination request – not approved/informed master clean ASAP); All 18 portable fire extinguishers expired; COD expired
4/14/23	200	3A	3	NOV	Survival Craft inspection past serviceability, EPIRB expired, Ring Life Buoy unserviceable, no valid CFVS conducted
4/14/23	200	2C	2	NOV	EPIRB & Survival Craft hydrostatic releases expired
4/15/23	200	2C	1	WW	Certificate of documentation not onboard
4/18/23	200	2C	1	WW	Expired distress signals
4/21/23	200	2C	1	NOV	Improper markings on life savings equipment (corrected on spot); no FCC SSL
5/4/23	200	2C	1	WW	Distress signals and COD discrepancies
5/4/23	200	2C	1	WW	Distress signals discrepancy
5/4/23	200	2C	1	WW	No distress signals onboard
5/8/23	200	2C	1	NOV	Certificate of documentation not onboard
5/10/23	200	2C	1	WW	No registration onboard
5/11/23	200	2C	1	NOV	Expired COD
5/14/23	200	2C	1	WW	No registration onboard
5/22/23		541	1	NOV	Not transmitting AIS as required
5/22/23		541	1	NOV	Not transmitting AIS as required

200 – Pacific halibut  
 270 – Walleye Pollock  
 710 – Sablefish (black cod)  
 NOV – Notice of Violation  
 WW – Written Warning



*Appendix C*  
 April - May 2023

Fisheries Boardings with Fisheries Violations (Commercial, Recreational, and Charter)

DATE	SPECIES	AREA	# FISHERY VIOS	NOTES AND DETAILS	FISHERY
4/16/23		630	2	Trawling in a Type 2 bottom trawl closure area	GOA Trawl
4/23/23	270	509	2	Not properly logging inactive days	BS AFA Pollock Trawl
5/4/23	710	BS	1	Logbook discrepancies	BS IFQ/CDQ Halibut/Sablefish
5/15/23	710	AI	3	Illegal discard of rockfish, 7 pots w/ biodegradable panel opening less than 18", errors maintaining Daily Fishing Logbook	AI IFQ/CDQ Halibut/Sablefish
5/23/23	710	3A	1	Logbook discrepancies and slinky pots w/ only 16" vs required 18" biodegradable panel opening	GOA IFQ Halibut/Sablefish

200 – Pacific halibut

270 – Walleye Pollock

710 – Sablefish (black cod)