

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL ENFORCEMENT SECTION

November 21, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR: Council Members

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

FROM: Andrea Hattan

Brian McTague Enforcement Section

NOAA Office of General Counsel

SUBJECT: Notices of Violation and Assessment Issued or Settled

from April 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025

The NOAA Office of General Counsel, Enforcement Section (GCES) issued and served a Notice of Violation and Assessment (NOVA), or resolved a NOVA, in each of the following civil administrative cases between April 1, 2025 and September 30, 2025.

A NOVA is not evidence of liability; it is only an allegation. A respondent is entitled to a fair hearing before an administrative law judge at which the government must prove liability by a preponderance of the evidence. This report provides the final settlement amount where applicable. Settlements often reflect a compromise of the penalty assessed in the original NOVA. Such reductions may be due to a number of factors, including acceptance of early settlement terms, newly discovered relevant information, a respondent's inability to pay the assessed penalty, as well as other matters as justice may require. Where no information is provided regarding resolution of the case, the matter remained open at the end of the reporting period (*i.e.*, September 30, 2025). For additional details about GCES' work, please visit: https://www.noaa.gov/general-counsel/gcenforcement-section.

- 1. AK2307519; F/V Arctic Wind Owner B & N Fisheries Co. and Operator Marc Lashua were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of Other Rockfish and Aggregate Shortraker and Rougheye. A \$3,947 NOVA was issued.
- 2. AK2307523; F/V Rosella Owner Rosella, Inc. and Operator David A. Dahl were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of bycatch on one trip in 2023. A \$2,599 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$2,359.
- 3. AK2308111; F/V Alaskan Lady Owner Alaskan Lady, LLC and Operator Keith M. Williams were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with

directed fishing in pollock and Pacific cod no fishing zones and exceeding the maximum retainable amounts of pollock and Pacific cod in the Gulf of Alaska. A \$36,441 NOVA was issued.

- 4. AK2314295; F/V Ocean Invictus Owners Ocean Bay, Inc. and Kilokak, Inc. and Operator Robert E. Graham were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the 300,000-pound daily limit for landing pollock. A \$7,694 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$6,924.
- 5. AK2314832; F/V Aleutian No.1 Crewman Jose D. Gonzalez was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with unlawfully landing and transporting IFQ crab. A \$5,000 NOVA was issued. The NOVA became a final administrative decision due to default.
- 6. AK2314832B; F/V Aleutian No. 1 Crewman Nicholas Dryden was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with unlawfully landing and transporting IFQ crab. A \$5,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$4,500.
- 7. AK2314832C; F/V Aleutian No. 1 Crewman Jorge Teodoro-Alcantar was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with unlawfully landing and transporting IFQ crab. A \$5,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$4,500.
- 8. AK2206272; M/V Ramsey & M/V George Ryan As previously reported at the December 2024 meeting, Owner Alaska Tales, LLC was charged under the Marine Mammal Protection Act with approaching humpback whales in Alaska and harassing a killer whale. A \$19,500 NOVA was issued, which was later amended to \$5,250. The case settled for \$5,250.
- 9. AK2403856; F/V Lady Lee Dawn As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner/Operator Alvin J. Newman Jr. was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to comply with Vessel Monitoring System requirements. A \$10,000 NOVA was issued. The case settled for \$9,000.
- 10. AK2301659; C/P Frontier Mariner Factory Manager Edgar Estuardo De Los Reyes was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with sexually harassing and harassing a female observer. A \$9,500 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$4,000.
- 11. AK2303306; F/V Cape Horn Owner Cape Horn Vessel, LLC and Operator Arthur James McArdle were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of pollock on two fishing trips and failing to timely submit one product transfer report. A \$6,042 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$1,638.
- 12. AK2307513; F/V Chellissa Owner Chellissa Fisheries, LLC and Operators Robert W. Harrington, II and Jerimiah T. Young were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amounts of bycatch in 2023. A \$5,500 NOVA was issued. The NOVA became a final administrative decision due to default.
- 13. AK2303286; F/V Arica As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner Arica Vessel, LLC and Operator John C. Nelson were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of pollock on one fishing

trip and failing to timely submit one product transfer report. The previously-issued \$20,818 NOVA was superseded to assess a civil monetary penalty of \$3,500, and the case settled for the assessed amount.

- 14. AK2303313; F/V Unimak As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner Unimak Vessel LLC and Operator Sam Wright were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of pollock. The previously-issued \$2,892 NOVA was superseded to assess a civil monetary penalty of \$477 and the case settled for the assessed amount.
- 15. AK2307285; F/V Unimak As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner Unimak Vessel, LLC and Operator David L. Ostrom were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of pollock on one fishing trip and failing to timely submit one product transfer report. The previously-issued \$4,514 NOVA was superseded to assess a civil monetary penalty of \$3,250 and the case settled for the assessed amount.
- 16. AK2307519; F/V Arctic Wind Owner B & N Fisheries Co. and Operator Marc Lashua were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of Other Rockfish and Aggregate Shortraker and Rougheye. A \$3,947 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$3,697.
- 17. AK2310404; F/V Baranof Owner Romanzof Fishing Company, LLC and Operator Reynaldo Rubalcava were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to maintain a current NMFS-approved flow scale and video monitoring system for Pacific cod. A \$15,176 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$13,676.
- 18. AK2312834; F/V Alaskan Owner 3Thirty3 LLC and Operator Jake Stewart Everich were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to register fishing trips in the Observer Deploy and Declare System. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$1,800.
- 19. AK2407839; F/V Northern Endurance Owner F/V Northern Endurance LLC and Operator Michael McKee II were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act for discarding IFQ sablefish and rockfish, failing to report discards, and failing to submit Daily Fishing Log sheets to OLE. A \$16,500 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$7,500.
- 20. AK2303309; F/V North Star As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner North Star Vessel LLC and Operator Joshua Buchan were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the maximum retainable amount of pollock. A \$23,408 NOVA was issued. The case settled for \$12,204.
- 21. AK2403327; F/V Ocean Explorer Owner B&N Fisheries Co. and Operator Daniel Carney were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to comply with Vessel Monitoring System requirements. A \$12,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$10,800.

- 22. AK2411250; 9345AT Owner/Operator Joseph M. Hall was charged under the Marine Mammal Protection Act with taking a humpback whale by striking the whale with his vessel, as well as with approaching the whale within 100 yards and failing to operate his vessel at a slow, safe speed when near a humpback whale. A \$3,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$2,700.
- 23. AK2411642; F/V Akemi Owner Akemi Group LLC was charged under the Endangered Species Act with unlawfully allowing its vessel to approach within three nautical miles of the Outer Island Steller sea lion rookery. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued.
- 24. AK2411654; F/V Bella K Owner Bristol Bay Support Vessels, LLC was charged under the Endangered Species Act with allowing the F/V Bella K to approach within three nautical miles of a Steller sea lion rookery site. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$1,800.
- 25. AK2207018; F/V Foreigner As previously reported at the June 2025 meeting, Owner Anastasia Basargin and Operator Arseny Reutov were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to comply with Vessel Monitoring System requirements. A \$7,500 NOVA was issued. The case settled for \$2,000.
- 26. AK2403761; F/V Equinox Owner Schonbergsen, Inc. and Operator Jeffrey Alan Alberts were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to submit the vessel's Daily Fishing Logbook within the applicable time limits as required during two fishing seasons. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued.
- 27. AK2408352; F/V Arbiter Owner F/V Arbiter, LLC and Operator Kirian I. Kuzmin were charged jointly and severally under the Endangered Species Act with unlawfully transiting through a Steller Sea Lion Rookery Buffer Zone. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued.
- 28. AK2408894; F/V Island Trader Owner Anthony R. Smith was charged under the Endangered Species Act with unlawfully transiting through two Steller Sea Lion Rookery Buffer Zones. A \$2,000 NOVA was issued.
- 29. AK2408418; F/V Talia Owner P.W.S. Connection, Inc. and Operator Edward Patrick Day were charged jointly and severally under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act with taking and possessing 59 undersized halibut. A \$12,000 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$10,800.
- 30. AK2408418B; Copper River Seafoods Processor/IFQ Registered Buyer Copper River Seafoods, Inc. was charged under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act with possessing undersized halibut. A \$2,200 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for \$1,980.