

17th COAST GUARD DISTRICT ENFORCEMENT REPORT



April - May 2024

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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 deployed surface and aircraft assets for Operation North Pacific Guard (NPG) 2024. Both assets support 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 during the last month. During the month of May, there was consistent longline and trawl fishing on the Russian side of the MBL. In May, there were two detections of a Russian Longline fishing vessels briefly crossing into the U.S. EEZ, but an assessment of the vessels' tracklines and speeds indicated that the vessels were 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. D17 participated in a joint operation with NOAA OLE to monitor Steller Sea Lion interactions during commercial salmon fisheries. One marine mammal carcass survey occurred on May 24 with NOAA OLE personnel onboard. USCGC ALEX HALEY also assisted in an entangled humpback whale response in Dutch Harbor in early April.

V. Commercial Fishing Vessel Boarding Statistics

There were 36 boardings conducted on commercial fishing vessels by the U.S. Coast Guard during the reporting period. These boardings resulted in a total of six fisheries violations onboard three 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 33 boardings on commercial, charter, and recreational vessels targeting halibut and sablefish during the reporting period. Of these boardings, 16 were of IFQ halibut or sablefish vessels resulting in two fisheries violations on one vessel. Charter halibut vessels constituted 13 boardings resulting in zero fisheries violations. Recreational vessels targeting halibut constituted four boardings resulting in zero fisheries violations.

VII. Forward Operating Locations

Air Station Kodiak has intermittent coverage of numerous FOLs throughout Alaska as they transition to an all MH-60 fleet of aircraft.

VIII. Crab Fisheries

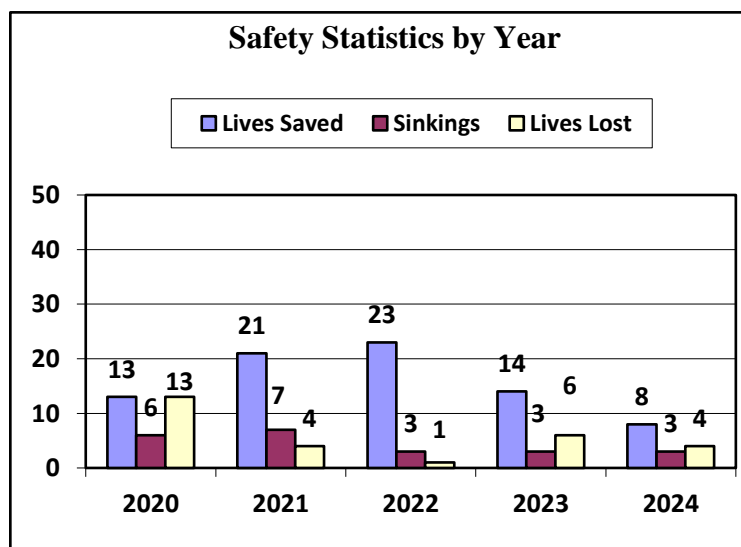
Coast Guard units conducted no boardings on fishing vessels targeting crab in the Bering Sea during this period.

IX. Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety/Search and Rescue Cases

There was one search and rescue (SAR) case involving commercial fishing vessels in U.S. waters during the reporting period. Appendix A provides a comprehensive list of SAR cases involving fishing vessels over the reporting period.

During the reporting period, eight safety violations were detected on six vessels (including commercial, recreational, and charter 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

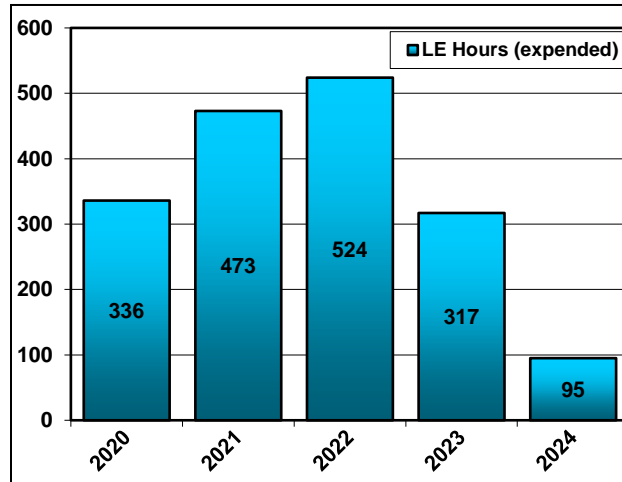
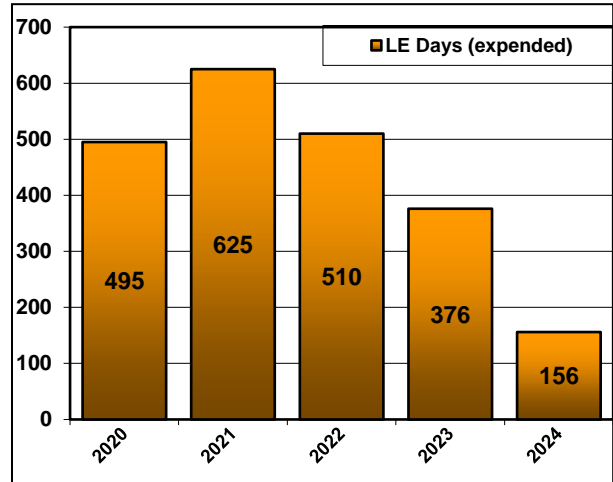


Figure 3. Annual Major Cutter Days



April - May 2023

1 WMSL patrolled.....72 days
 1 WMEC patrolled..... 0 days
 1 WLB patrolled 0 days
 5 WPBs/FRCs patrolled..... 58 days
Total Cutter patrol..... 130 days

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

April - May 2024

1 WMSL patrolled.....41 days
 1 WMEC patrolled.....25 days
 0 WLB patrolled0 days
 6 WPB/FRCs patrolled60 days
Total Cutter patrol.....126 days

HC-130s flew17 hours
 HH-60/65s flew.....15 hours

Figure 4. Annual H60/65 Hours to date

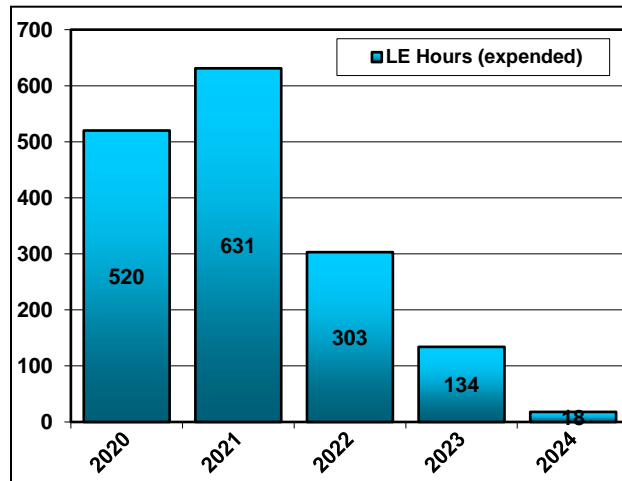


Figure 5. Annual Patrol Boat Hours to date

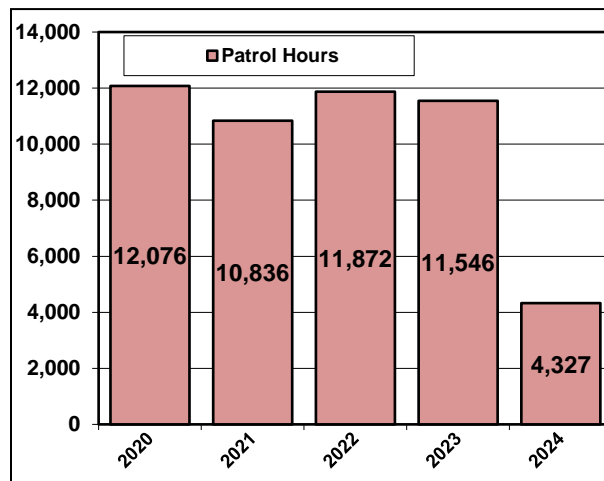


Figure 6. April - May Major Cutter Days

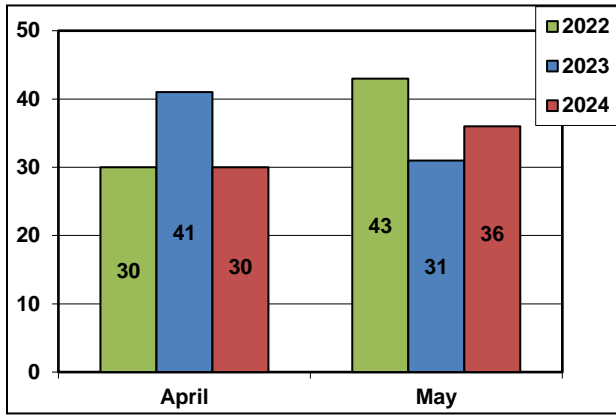
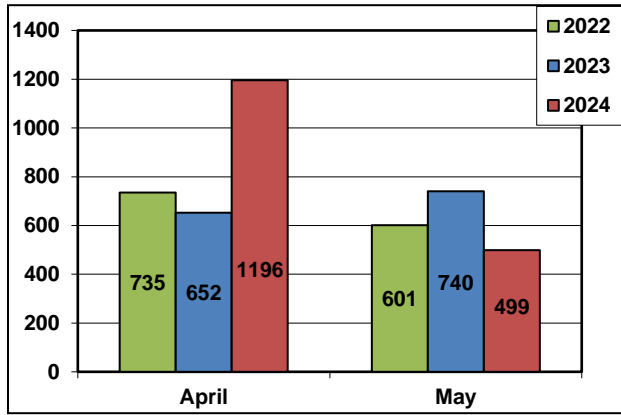


Figure 7. April - May Patrol Boat Hours



Appendix A
April - May 2024
Commercial Fishing Vessel Search and Rescue Cases

Date	Vessel Name	Case Details
5/15/24	F/V DEFENDER	F/V DEFENDER reported fire onboard. The fire was extinguished, and a tug towed the vessel into Dutch Harbor while being escorted by USCGC MIDGETT.

Appendix B
April - May 2024
Fisheries Boardings with Safety Violations (Commercial, Recreational, and Charter)

DATE	SPECIES	AREA	# SAFETY VIOS	ACTION	NOTES AND DETAILS
4/14/24	110	630	1	WW	Expired Flares
4/20/24	200	2C	1	WW	Recreational Vessel – Expired Flares
4/21/24	710	CG	2	NOV	Expired Flares and Expired Fire Extinguishers
4/21/24	110	519	1	NOV	Expired Distress Signals
5/22/24	961	659	2	Term	Expired EPIRB Hydrostatic Release and No Buoyant Apparatus
5/22/24	200	2C	1	WW	Expired Flares

Appendix C
April - May 2024
Fisheries Boardings with Fisheries Violations (Commercial, Recreational, and Charter)

DATE	SPECIES	AREA	# FISHERY VIOS	NOTES AND DETAILS	FISHERY
4/5/24	110	519	2	Discarding rockfish and not logging Flow Scale Tests in Electronic Logbook as required	BS Pacific Cod
4/20/24	127	509	2	Not transmitting VMS as required and fishing in a Federal Area without VMS as required	BS Amendment 80
4/22/24	200	3A	2	Discarding rockfish and IFQ Permit not documented in Logbook as required	GOA IFQ Halibut

- 110 – Pacific Cod
- 127 – Yellowfin Sole
- 200 – Pacific halibut
- 710 – Sablefish (black cod)
- 961 – Shrimp
- WW – Written Warning
- NOV – Notice of Violation
- Term – Voyage Safety Termination