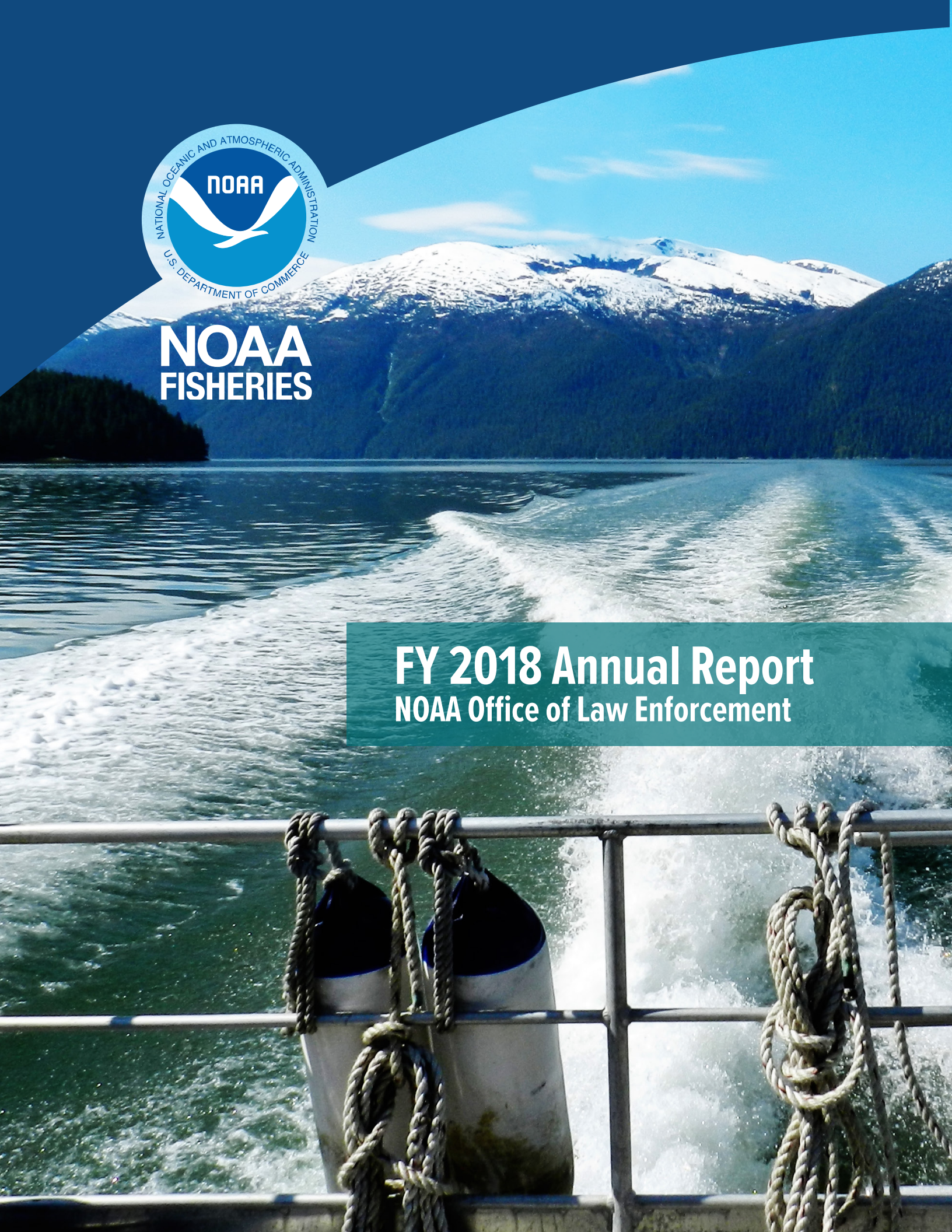


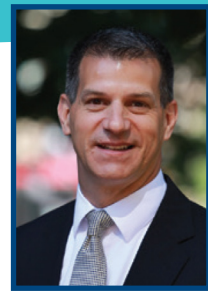
**NOAA
FISHERIES**

**FY 2018 Annual Report
NOAA Office of Law Enforcement**



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Director's Message



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) successful management of living marine resources depends on the effective enforcement of federal laws and regulations. In fiscal year 2018, NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) played a critical role in supporting the NOAA Fisheries mission by enforcing the laws, rules, and regulations that conserve and protect our nation's ocean resources and their natural habitat. Through our efforts to ensure compliance with these laws and regulations, OLE aims to support sustainable fisheries, combat illegal fishing, reduce seafood fraud, and protect marine resources to ensure they're around for future generations.

Specific information about our enforcement activities in fiscal year 2018 is included in this report, and shows the variety of ways OLE is carrying out our enforcement mission. For example, in OLE's Alaska Division, we placed four new patrol vessels into service, which will help improve patrol coverage and enforcement efforts along Alaska's vast coastline. In the Southeast Division, agents uncovered a fishing scheme that involving 50,000 pounds of illegally harvested reef fish. In the Pacific Islands Division, agents put an end to a wildlife trafficking operation involving whale bone and sea turtle shell. In the West Coast Division, a case involving 250,000 pounds of illegally harvested sea cucumber resulted in jail time for the ring leader. Exemplifying the challenging, complex, and multi-faceted nature of modern conservation law enforcement, OLE's Northeast Division wrapped up a case involving millions of dollars in mislabeled crab meat.

Commercial fishing is a global industry, so the focus and reach of our enforcement activities must also be global. OLE works closely with foreign governments to implement several international treaties related to marine resources. As part of the U.S. government's efforts to support the recently ratified Port States Measures Agreement (PSMA), OLE provided training to our counterparts in Indonesia, Thailand and The Philippines on how to conduct boarding and inspections of vessels entering their ports to look for violations. By providing training assistance to port inspectors and law enforcement personnel from other countries on boarding techniques, information sharing, and other tools to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, OLE continues to support the global response to this global problem.

OLE continues to be successfully engaged in helping to ensure that domestic laws and regulations and international obligations are effectively enforced. That success, however, would not be possible without the efforts of a dedicated cadre of enforcement professionals within OLE, and the synergies realized through strong international, federal, state, and territorial partnerships. As OLE continues to strengthen both its internal staffing organization and these partnerships, I look forward to building on these successes in the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Landon', written in a cursive style.

JAMES LANDON

Director, Office of Law Enforcement

National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

About OLE



Headquarters Staffing Snapshot

- 21 Full-Time Employees
 - 1 Director (Senior Exec. Service)
 - 1 Deputy Director
 - 7 Special Agents
 - 10 Mission Support
 - 2 Investigative Support
- 13 Contractors

Headquarters Budget: \$17.2 million

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement protects marine wildlife and habitat by enforcing domestic laws and supporting international treaty requirements designed to ensure global resources are available for future generations. OLE special agents, enforcement officers, and enforcement support staff provide stakeholders with compliance assistance and education about the nation's marine resource laws.

While OLE enforces marine resource protection laws, the Office of the General Counsel's Enforcement Section (GCES) is NOAA's civil prosecutor. Together, the two offices make up NOAA's enforcement program and work with other NOAA program offices to establish national law enforcement policy.

OLE supports the core mission mandates of NOAA Fisheries—maximizing productivity of sustainable fisheries and fishing communities, as well as protection, recovery, and conservation of protected species—through its efforts to enforce and promote compliance with the marine resource protection laws and implementing regulations under NOAA's purview.

Stats and Facts about OLE

OLE jurisdiction generally covers ocean waters between 3 and 200 miles offshore and adjacent to all U.S. states and territories; this is called the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Jurisdiction includes:

- 3.36 million square miles of ocean.
- More than 95,000 miles of U.S. shoreline.
- 13 National Marine Sanctuaries and five Marine National Monuments.

Staffing and Budget

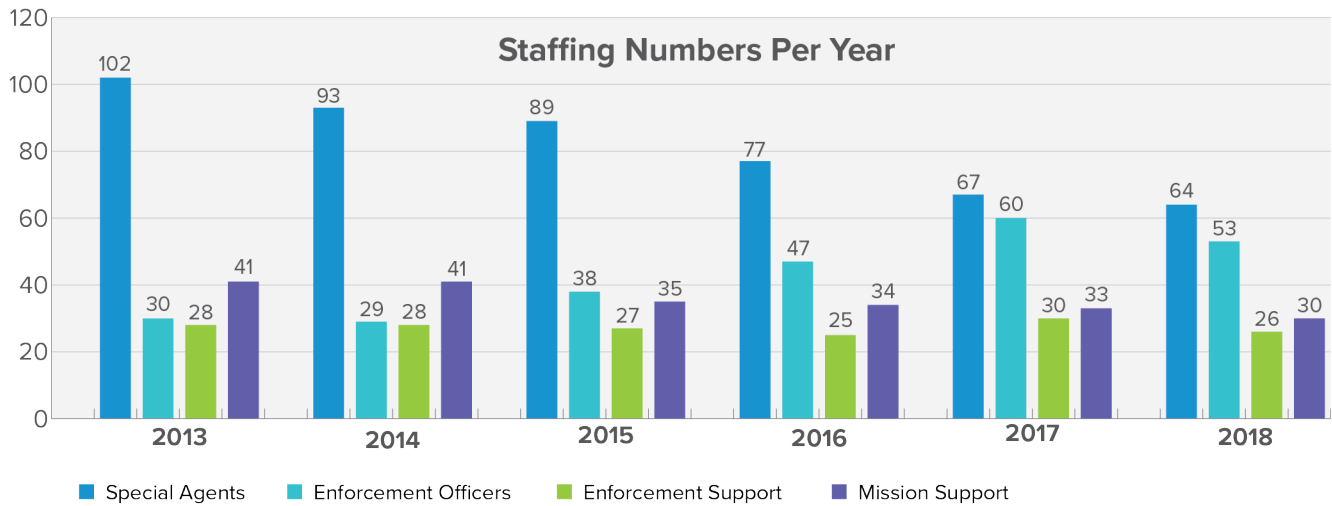
To cover this extensive territory, OLE personnel are assigned to five divisional offices and 50 field offices throughout the states and U.S. territories. Additionally, OLE partners with state and territory law enforcement agencies and other federal organizations to maximize efficiency. OLE is staffed by 173 employees—64 special agents, 53 enforcement officers, and 56 mission and investigative support personnel. ¹

Staffing

Protecting the nation's marine environment and helping to ensure a level playing field for those whose jobs and businesses rely on the fair use of our marine resources requires a significant commitment of personnel.

Guided by the staffing plan, written and approved in FY 2016, OLE recruited 22 new uniformed enforcement officers—nine of whom came to us through Veterans Recruitment Appointments.

¹Data as of September 30, 2018.



Budget

The FY 2018 allocation for Fisheries Enforcement was \$69.0 million. OLE distributed these funds among five sub Program, Project, and Activities (PPAs), which are:

- \$40.3 million for Enforcement and Surveillance.
- \$18.2 million for the Cooperative Enforcement Program (CEP), which provides joint enforcement agreements with state and U.S. territory natural resources enforcement agencies.
- \$6.9 million for the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) program.
- \$1.4 million for the High Seas Driftnet Act Implementation.
- \$1.9 million for NOAA Fisheries activities related to Driftnet Act Implementation.

Equipment and Training

Vessel Acquisition

Cost: \$1.28 million

2018 saw the deployment of four new patrol vessels in OLE’s Alaska Division. Two vessels measure approximately 30 feet in length and have been deployed in the South Central Alaska area and Kodiak; and together the vessels cost \$864,900. The other two vessels measure 30 feet and are used in Southeast Alaska; combined the vessels cost \$431,764.72.

The new Alaska patrol boats bring the OLE total number of patrol vessels to 26.

Vessels

Alaska Division

- Cape Elizabeth – 37 feet
- Kingfisher – 37 feet
- Natoma Bay – 30 feet
- Sitkoh Bay – 30 feet
- Aleutian Wind – 27 feet
- Chinook Wind – 27 feet
- Taku Wind – 26 feet
- Williwaw Wind – 26 feet
- Kenai Guardian – 26 feet
- Susitna – 20 feet

Northeast Division

- F3403 – 34 feet
- F3404 – 34 feet

Pacific Islands Division

- F3503 – 35 feet

Southeast Division

- F3402 – 34 feet
- F3401 – 34 feet
- Seahunter2 – 29 feet
- Carolina – 25 feet
- Titusville – 24 feet
- Galveston – 24 feet
- Barracuda – 24 feet
- Harlingen – 24 feet

West Coast Division

- F2706 – 27 feet
- F2708 – 27 feet
- Almar – 21 feet
- North River – 17 feet
- Water Skeeter – 13 feet

Vehicles

The OLE mission requires the use of a large fleet of law enforcement vehicles. Our special agents and enforcement officers need to be out in the field and on the docks to perform their jobs. OLE primarily leases vehicles from the General Services Administration (GSA). In FY 2018 OLE continued to transition from a fleet of owned vehicles, to a fleet of GSA leased vehicles. At the end of FY 2018, just over 85 percent of the OLE fleet of vehicles was leased through GSA.

Headquarters – 4 vehicles

Alaska Division – 41 vehicles

Northeast Division – 33 vehicles

West Coast Division – 38 vehicles

Pacific Islands Division – 20 vehicles

Southeast Division – 43 vehicles

Training

All OLE enforcement officers and special agents attend training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia. The extensive training received for initial entry to the force spans a total of 28 to 30 weeks.

Enforcement Officers and special agents also attend a yearly law enforcement refresher in-service training. During the week-long course mandatory content includes a variety of topics designed to ensure our special agents and enforcement officers are maintaining required qualifications and have the most up-to-date case law review, legal requirements, and policy information.

Becoming an Enforcement Officer:

- 12 Weeks – FLETC Uniformed Police Training Program
- 4 Weeks – FLETC Marine Law Enforcement Training Program
- 12 Weeks – NOAA Field Training and Evaluation Program

Becoming a Special Agent:

- 12 Weeks – FLETC Criminal Investigator Training Program
- 4 Weeks – FLETC Marine Law Enforcement Training Program
- 2 Weeks – FLETC Case Organization and Presentation Training Program
- 12 Weeks – NOAA Field Training and Evaluation Program

Port State Measures Training Program

As the primary office responsible for enforcement of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (PSMA), OLE developed a domestic training program for implementing the Agreement in 2016. Specific training modules were designed to ensure law enforcement personnel are well versed in the requirements of the U.S. implementing legislation—the PSMA Act of 2015 (16 USC § 7401 et. seq.), the Agreement itself, and relevant regional fisheries management organizations’ (RFMO) conservation and management measures.

For more information about Port State Measures and international training information, see page 9.



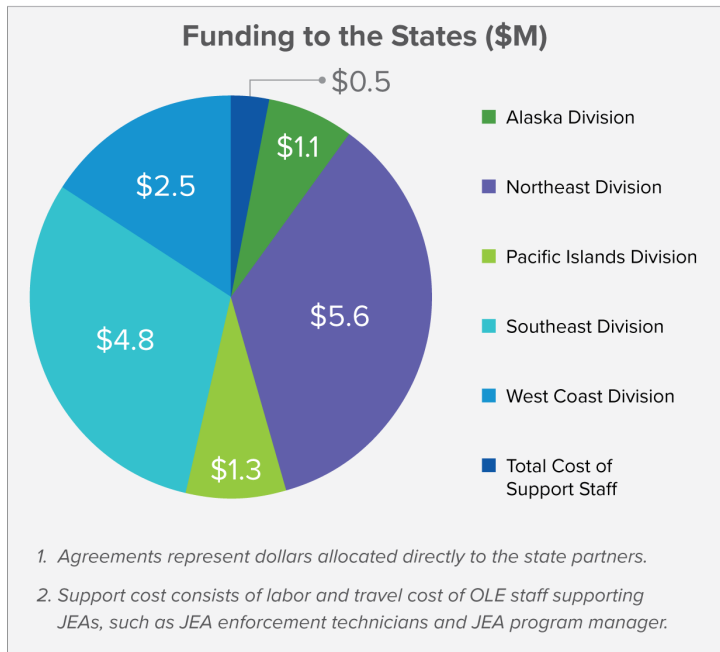
Headquarters: Special Programs

Cooperative Enforcement Program

OLE enhances its active presence, visibility, and interactions with the regulated industry by partnering with state and territorial marine and natural resource enforcement agencies through the Cooperative Enforcement Program (CEP). OLE’s partnerships with these agencies help promote compliance with federal laws and regulations under the purview of NOAA. OLE agents and officers leverage Joint Enforcement Agreements (JEAs) to conduct multi-agency operations and to carry out OLE’s mission.

Under the CEP, OLE has signed 27 JEAs, which deputize state and U.S. territorial marine law enforcement officers to enforce federal laws and regulations. Below are the states and territories with which we have signed agreements:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- American Samoa
- California
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Guam
- Hawaii
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Mississippi
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Oregon
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Virginia
- Washington



Vessel Monitoring System

The Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) is a satellite surveillance system primarily used to monitor the location and movement of commercial fishing vessels in the U.S. EEZ and treaty areas for compliance purposes. The system uses satellite-based communications from transceiver units on-board vessels that are required to carry them. The transceiver units send data that include vessel identification, time, date, and GPS location. The vessel operators can also use these units to communicate by sending electronic forms, fishing declarations, and even text messages over email.

In FY 2018, the OLE VMS program monitored more than 4,500 vessels. The VMS program shares data with authorized partners such as the U.S. Coast Guard for homeland security and fisheries enforcement purposes, NOAA’s science centers for fisheries management purposes, Department of Defense for national security missions, and the public (in aggregated form) for a variety of uses and studies.

Additional capabilities and uses of VMS include:

- Monitoring sensitive areas such as marine sanctuaries and marine national monuments.
- Monitoring activity and arrivals in port to plan for sampling.
- Supporting catch share programs.
- Tracking, monitoring, and predicting fishing effort, activity, and location.
- Coordinating observer trips.
- Identifying fishing vessels.

In FY 2018, NOAA issued approximately \$407,421 in reimbursement payments to fishermen to ease the cost burden associated with the purchase of their onboard transceivers.

Investigative Analysts

Background

OLE's Analyst Team provides in-depth research and analytic support on a broad range of international fisheries law enforcement issues—including criminal networks, enforcement operations, investigations, suspected import trade violations, and cooperative international fisheries enforcement—and support for policy development. The Analyst Team fuses information and data from a variety of official and open sources, evaluates its reliability, and applies analytic techniques to develop judgments or additional context that significantly enhance OLE's operations.

Commercial Targeting and Analysis Center (CTAC)

Through a memorandum of understanding with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), OLE participates as a member agency of CBP's Commercial Targeting and Analysis Center (CTAC). This multi-agency facility provides OLE analysts with direct access to CBP import processing, targeting, and law enforcement systems, as well as other member agencies' data systems. Leveraging the CTAC resources, the Analyst Team identifies suspicious shipments prior to their U.S. arrival, place "holds" for physical examinations of selected consignments by OLE, and coordinates with other CTAC participating agencies.

In FY 2018, the Analyst Team expanded on previous outreach efforts at the CTAC by conducting a CBP-only webinar explaining the OLE mission and import enforcement role to approximately 130 CBP officers at ports of entry nationwide. The CTAC Analyst also participated in meetings involving DHS, CBP, and NOAA Fisheries IASI to discuss requirements, methodologies, and timelines to implement the new U.S. Court of

International Trade order banning U.S. imports of fisheries products caught with gillnets in the Sea of Cortez, Baja Mexico—a step to protect the endangered Vaquita porpoise that is taken as bycatch as a result of the illegal trade in Totoaba swim bladders.

Team Support

The analysts provide support that includes sharing of resources and databases, review of products, and general support for requests for information (RFIs) from OLE agents and officers. In FY 2018, the Analyst Team responded to some 200 RFIs in support of investigations through the use of proprietary databases and intelligence research tools. The team leveraged its presence at CTAC to respond to an additional 544 requests to research or take operational action on suspicious international shipments of seafood entering the United States. In addition, the Analyst Team responded to approximately 340 RFIs that supported international policies, the Presidential Task Force to Combat IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud, and RFMO annual meetings.

PSMA and International Outreach

In support of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), the Analyst Team is responsible for reviewing all foreign flagged fishing and fishing support vessels scheduled for arrival in U.S. port. For FY 2018, the Analyst Team reviewed more than 1,400 vessel announcements of arrival (ANOs) and 850 unique vessels and forwarded about 4 percent of those to the respective OLE division for further screening. The Analyst Team also supported OLE's international PSMA efforts by taking part in PSMA trainings in Indonesia, Thailand, and Philippines.

During FY 2018, the Analyst Team's international activities also included presentation and evidence review at an INTERPOL-sponsored meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia concerning

the seized IUU vessel STS-50 (aka Aida, Andrey Dolgov, etc.), a matter in which the team had previously supported international attempts at location. The Analyst Team also participated in the U.S./Canada Fisheries Bilateral Meeting and met directly with the Canadian Intelligence lead to discuss potential collaboration efforts.

Technology

The Analyst Team has worked to evaluate emerging vessel location and tracking technology, stay apprised of developments in existing systems, and has pursued contacts with NOAA partners to further advance such system familiarity and access. In FY 2018, such work included:

- Participation in the Intelligence Support Working Group (ISWG) to discuss AIS technology sources.
- Taking part in a demonstration of the Office of Naval Research's "Sealink Advanced Analysis (S2A)" Program. This new, unclassified version of Sealink will allow us more routine system access and enhanced tracking capabilities.
- Cooperation with the Coast Guard Maritime Intelligence Fusion Center Atlantic (MIFCLANT) to participate in a beta test with Vulcan, an effort to better identify vessels of concern that have "gone dark" in order to avoid detection.
- A site visit and liaison with the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). Discussion topics included drift net beacon detection technology now in NOAA testing, as well as partnership and additional activities in support of IUU fishing missions.

Combating Wildlife Trafficking

OLE's work in wildlife trafficking largely encompasses the illegal handling of marine wildlife products protected under the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Shark Finning Conservation Act. Our sworn personnel enforce these statutes by working with enforcement counterparts at ports and borders to identify illegal trade routes and the possession, purchase, and transfer of such products.

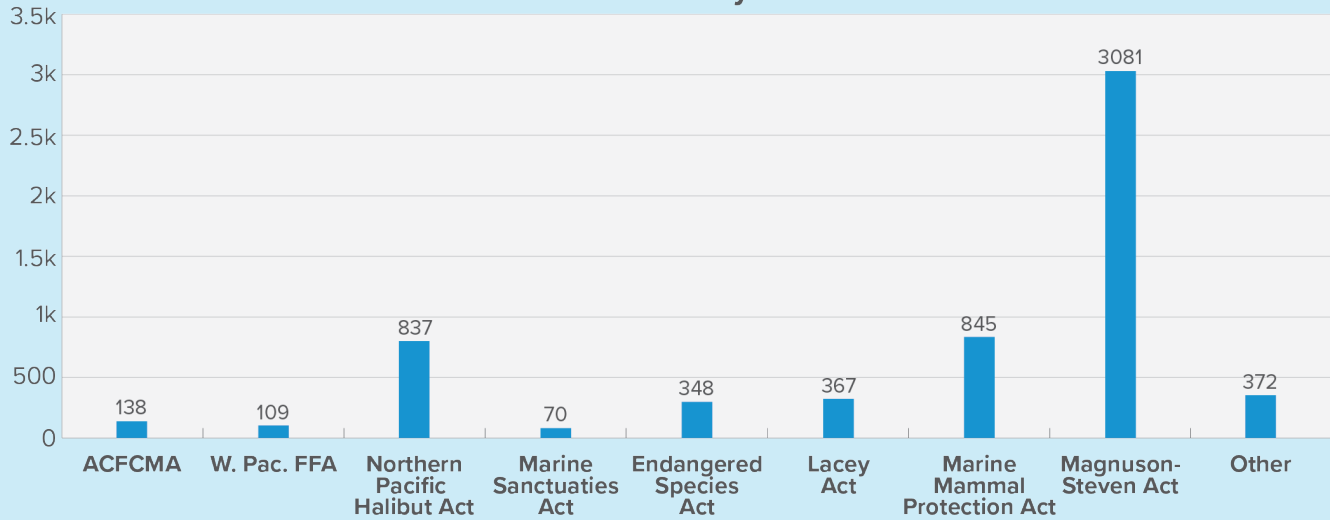
As one of several agencies included in the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking, OLE assisted with the development of guiding principles and priorities that will inform the U.S. strategic plans to combat wildlife trafficking within focus countries and engage in collaboration with non-governmental agencies. Additionally, as directed by the Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016, OLE assisted with the drafting of the first END wildlife trafficking report to Congress as well as the annual strategic assessment of the implementation of the Act.

OLE also participated in joint enforcement inspections targeting illegal or illicit marine wildlife products with both Canadian and Mexican counterparts at different points this year, alongside U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CBP, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and state enforcement partners. OLE has also participated in international representation and engagement with respect to wildlife trafficking, including attending and presenting at the China-Mexico-U.S. Trilateral on the totoaba this year.

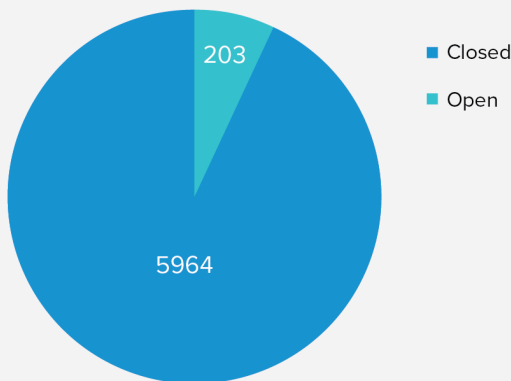


Enforcement Activities at a Glance

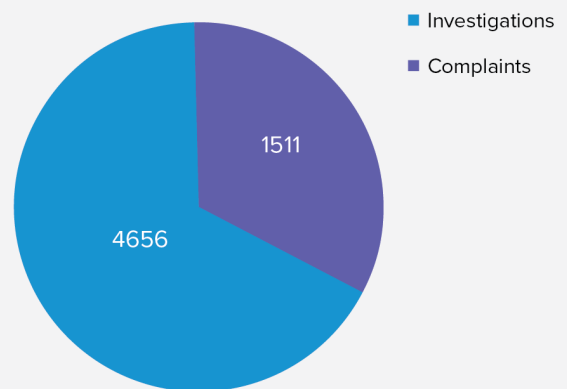
Incident by Law



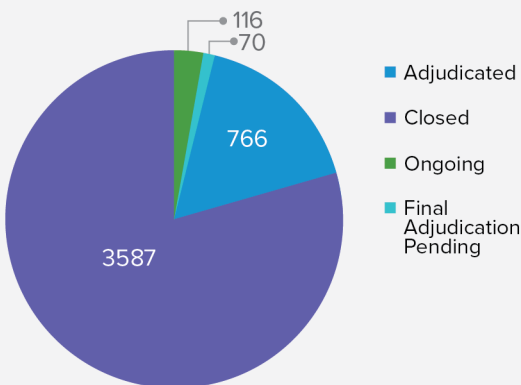
Incident Status



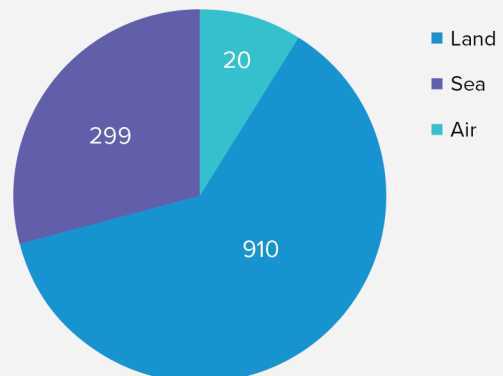
Incident Type



Investigation Dispositions



Patrols



International Programs

Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing

The United States is one of the world's leading destinations for globally harvested seafood. Estimates indicate that more than 90 percent of the seafood consumed annually in the United States is imported. OLE's mission includes ensuring that the seafood products being sold in American markets, whether domestically caught or imported, are legally harvested so that honest fishermen have a fair market in which to compete. The OLE International Program plays a key role in this mission by combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, fishing-related activities, and trade in IUU fish and fish products. This requires a multi-faceted approach that includes:

- Monitoring imports into the United States, as well as seafood products in global trade.
- Partnering with other federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud throughout the United States.
- Engagement in multi-lateral and bilateral discussions with international partners to create enforceable provisions to combat IUU fishing and develop cooperation and collaboration in detecting, deterring, and interdicting IUU fishing activity and trade.

- Technical assistance to global partners, with emphasis on major exporters of seafood to the United States, to assist in developing the fisheries enforcement capacity to detect and interdict IUU fish and fish products before they enter the global market.
- Education of the public, consumers, and international audiences about the impacts of IUU fishing and fishing-related activities.

Engagement in multilateral and bilateral efforts in order to combat IUU fishing involves OLE serving on U.S. delegations to various RFMOs and taking part in meetings with foreign governments. Our

mission is to develop positive working relationships with fisheries enforcement and management agencies globally to ensure that international obligations are both enforceable and compatible with U.S. fisheries requirements.

OLE is also an active member of international organizations specifically designed to combat IUU fishing such as the INTERPOL Fisheries Crime Working Group and the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Network. These organizations bring together global fisheries enforcement resources to combat IUU fishing as well as to enhance communication and collaboration between international partners.



Implementing the Port State Measures

Background

On June 5, 2016, the Port States Measures Agreement (PSMA) entered into force, after 29 countries, including the United States and the European Union, ratified the Agreement. As one of the most significant global initiatives to combat IUU fishing, the PSMA sets minimum standards for exercising port state controls for foreign-flagged fishing and fishing-support vessels seeking entry into ports, as well as activities conducted while in a country's port. The implementation of the PSMA also ensures compliance with RFMOs' conservation and management measures. Another major provision of the PSMA is an emphasis on increased information sharing and communications among participating nations, relevant enforcement agencies, and relevant international organizations, such as RFMOs.

Note: Ratifications of the PSMA steadily continued throughout FY 2018. The Agreement reached 51 Parties covering 77 countries and roughly half of the coastal countries worldwide.

International Port State Measures Training Programs

Through collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), OLE has been providing technical assistance for the operational implementation of the PSMA. OLE has provided this training in Indonesia, through a partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). OLE's training consists of classroom lessons as well as interactive vessel boarding scenarios for fisheries inspectors and port officials on best practices to implement the PSMA. These lessons are designed to ensure fisheries inspectors and other authorized law enforcement personnel are familiar with the requirements of the PSMA,

can successfully complete an Agreement-compliant inspection, and ensure a country's national obligations of the PSMA are met.

In FY 2018, OLE presented its International Port State Measures Inspector Training Program to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center at the PSMA Implementation Workshop; the Safe Ocean Network Meeting; and at the Regional Plan of Action IUU Coordination Committee Meeting, among other workshops. As a result of this work, USAID/Regional Development Mission for Asia formally requested OLE to develop a PSMA regional workshop for managers and decision-makers within member countries in Southeast Asia.

International Programs: Operations

OLE special agents, enforcement officers, and enforcement support staff regularly participate in international operations. The scope of these engagements include providing foreign governments, organizations, and communities with the tools, resources, and information sharing avenues to allow them to address complex IUU fishing issues. This is usually accomplished through technical assistance and training workshops.

Training and Technical Assistance

The first meeting of the PSMA Open-ended Technical Working Group on Information Exchange was held in London in April 2018. The working group is considering the information exchange requirements supporting implementation of the PSMA, including the most appropriate structure for an information exchange system and how such a system would interact with complementary tools. The working group agreed that a global information exchange system was necessary, and that a two-stage approach should prioritize the

need to access basic information such as national points of contact and designated ports. It also agreed that the system would include a publicly available information section and a limited-access section for protected information such as port inspection reports, facilitate the near real-time exchange of information, and link with the relevant RFMO and global systems.

The Philippines: OLE continued to collaborate with INL staff to host a second workshop in Cavite City, Philippines, in June 2017. Officials from the Government of Philippines attended this Combating IUU Fishing Workshop, which focused on conducting counter-IUU fishing investigations and case package development.

Republic of South Korea: In May 2017, OLE held a workshop that focused on tools and technologies to combat IUU fishing with participants from the Republic of South Korea at the NOAA Western Regional Center in Seattle. Representatives from the Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, Korean Coast Guard, Korean National Police, and the Environmental Justice Foundation were in attendance.

Ghana: In March 2017, a team of OLE special agents assisted the U.S. Naval Forces Africa Office and Ghanaian Navy in their training operation in Ghana. The training workshop focused on sharing best enforcement practices, with both classroom and on-the-water components.

OLE returned to Ghana in September 2017 to provide joint training on fisheries inspections, import and container inspections, vessel bridge inspections and information analysis in partnership with INL, the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea's West Africa Task Force, and Trygg Mat Tracking. Thirty-five participants attended this workshop, including

representatives from the fisheries departments, navies, and maritime agencies of Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.

Formal Meetings

Coordination Committee Meeting of the Regional Plan of Action, Southeast Asia: In November 2016, OLE participated as an observer in the Coordination Committee Meeting of the RPOA-IUU. OLE provided presentations on how the United States is combating IUU fishing, implementing PSMA, and ways to combat the trade of IUU fish and fish products.

U.S.-Russia Intergovernmental Consultative Committee Meeting: In September 2017, representatives from OLE, NOAA's General Counsel, NOAA Fisheries' Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection, NOAA's Alaska Region, the Department of State, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other industry representatives attended the meeting in La Jolla, California.

U.S.-Chinese Taipei Fisheries Bilateral: In September 2017, OLE provided law enforcement expertise on topics related to combating IUU fishing by attending the U.S.-Chinese Taipei Fisheries Bilateral Meeting in La Jolla, California. OLE reported on our collaborative efforts with Chinese Taipei to conduct joint boardings, share best law enforcement practices, and enhance information sharing. OLE also led discussions on crosscutting issues related to combating IUU fishing.

INTERPOL Fisheries Crime Working Group: In September 2017, OLE special agents attended INTERPOL's Fisheries Crime Working Group meeting in Vienna, Austria. An OLE special agent was elected by the countries as a member of the Executive Board for the working group.





WILL ELLIS,
Assistant Director

Staffing Snapshot:

- 36 Full-Time Employees
 - 10 Special Agents
 - 19 Enforcement Officers
 - 5 Mission Support
 - 3 Investigative Support
- 15 Contractors

AKD Budget: \$11.2 million

Headquarters:

709 W. 9th Street
Room 831L
Juneau, AK 99802-1767

Field Offices:

Anchorage
Dutch Harbor
Homer
Juneau
Ketchikan
Kodiak
Petersburg
Seward
Sitka

VMS: 618 Reporting Vessels

Alaska Division

Alaska supports a massive seafood industry and has the greatest number of domestic fish landings in the United States, with 59 percent of all U.S. seafood landings (measured by weight) occurring in Alaska. If it were a country, Alaska would be the ninth largest seafood producer in the world. The geographic area of responsibility for the Alaska Division covers 28 percent of the U.S. EEZ, 70 percent of the U.S. continental shelf, and five of the 11 Large Marine Ecosystems located within the U.S. EEZ.

OLE's Alaska Division is unique in that the region only includes the state of Alaska, which is comprised of the mainland and more than 200 islands. Within this boundary lie some of most productive fishing grounds on the planet. Waters off Alaska account for more than half of all annual U.S. seafood harvests. Alaska also has five of the nation's top 10 fishing ports ranked by value of landings.

New Enforcement Vessels

In May 2018, OLE received four new near shore patrol vessels. Two 33-foot patrol vessels (Natoma Bay and Sitkoh Bay), built by North River, were stationed in Petersburg and Ketchikan, Alaska. Two 37-foot patrol vessels (Cape Elizabeth and Kingfisher), built by Bay Weld Boats, were stationed in Homer and Kodiak.

In one of the first patrols for the P/V Natoma Bay, An Enforcement Officer and a Special Agent completed a multi-day patrol that covered 1,063 nm and multiple areas of Southeast Alaska. Officers followed up on four investigations, boarded 35 vessels, and initiated 17 new cases (state and federal). Officers seized chunked charter halibut, an illegal sized charter halibut, a subsistence halibut skate with too many hooks, and a subsistence halibut used for bait. Investigations included: a charter vessel without a CHP and logbook; an IFQ vessel with unmarked buoys and no IPHC logbook; and an operator who was in possession of sport and subsistence halibut onboard the same vessel. OLE also forwarded several state violations to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.





Working with Regional Partners

Alaska's vast geography, limited infrastructure, and complex fisheries management scheme necessitate robust interagency partnerships. These partnerships act as a force multiplier to maximize our enforcement footprint and minimize duplicative efforts. While nationally OLE partners with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service, regional partners are also essential. The Cooperative Enforcement Program provides the Division the ability to leverage the resources and assistance of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers. Additional strong working relationships with Alaska's Department of Fish and Game, industry groups, and tribal governments are instrumental in the successful enforcement of marine resources laws.

The Division also relies on close working relationships with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, International Whaling Commission, International Pacific Halibut Commission, Pacific

Salmon Commission, North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, North Pacific Fisheries Commission, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the parties to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

Significant Investigations

Marine Mammal Protection Act

Two individuals from the F/V Iron Hide were sentenced under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) for admitting to the take of at least three Steller sea lions near Cordova, Alaska. One was sentenced to five years of probation, three months of home incarceration, 400 hours of community service, a \$20,000 fine, and required to write an apology letter to be published in National Fisherman magazine. The other individual was sentenced to four years of probation, one month home incarceration, 40 hours of community service, and a \$5,000 fine.

Sustainable Fisheries

An enforcement officer embarked on a patrol of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands with the Alaska Wildlife Troopers on board P/V Stimson from March 6 to 27. The patrol focused on observer reported complaints, groundfish, the IFQ Sablefish/Halibut fisheries, and outreach with stops in Sand Point, King Cove, Akutan, Atka, and Adak. The officer boarded 28 vessels, inspected four processing facilities, and inspected pot gear. The team provided compliance assistance to the manager of a processing plant and to the operators of three vessels. Officers also initiated record keeping and reporting, state license, pot gear, and VMS related investigations.



A special agent and five enforcement officers conducted an observer focused pulse operation in Dutch Harbor from February 4 to 15. The team focused on 191 individual observer statements involving 60 distinct vessels and multiple shoreside processors. The team resolved 87 cases, made progress on an additional 14, and initiated several new investigations.

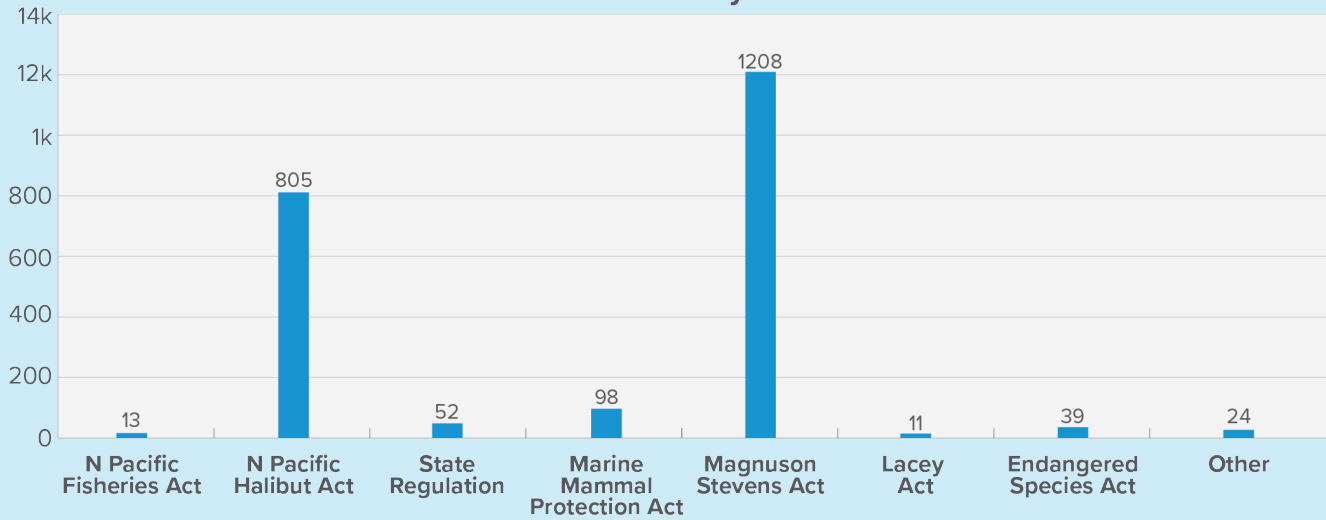
Northern Pacific Halibut Act

In July, AKD officers patrolled 950 nautical miles in the Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound onboard the P/V Cape Elizabeth. Two NOAA Enforcement Officers and an Alaska Wildlife Trooper contacted 284 individuals and boarded 29 vessels: six commercial, eight charter, and 15 recreational. Officers also inspected five fish processing plants. Five federal and two state investigations were initiated as a result of the patrol. Additionally, officers provided community outreach and education in Seward, Cordova, and Chenega.

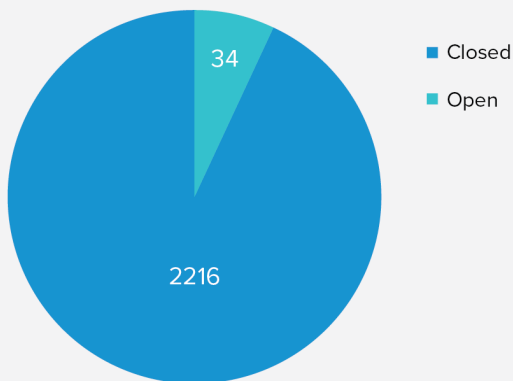


Enforcement Activities at a Glance

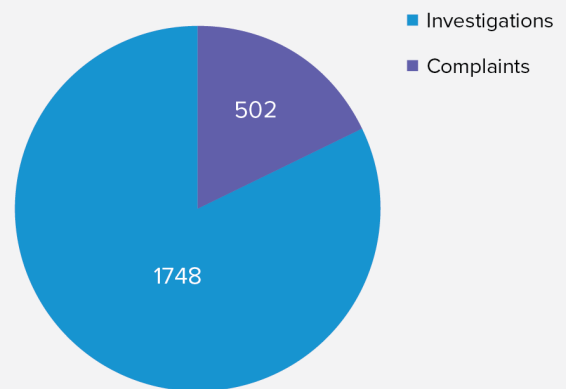
Incident by Law



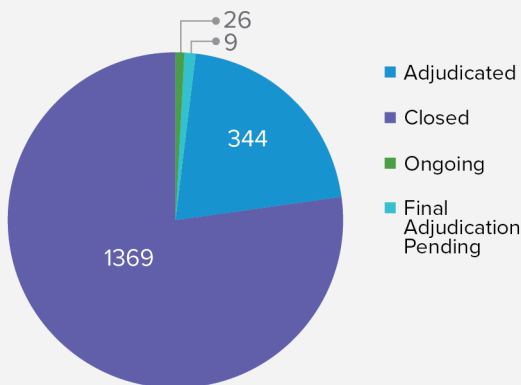
Incident Status



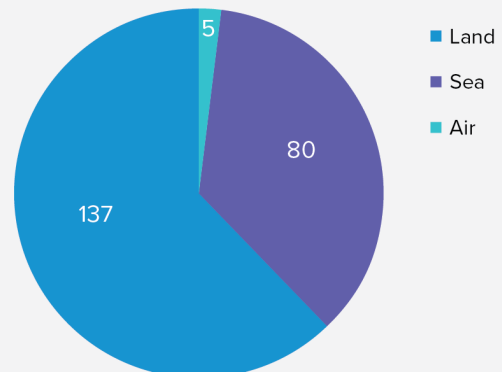
Incident Type



Investigation Dispositions



Patrols





TIM DONOVAN,
Assistant Director

Staffing Snapshot:

- 49 Full-Time Employees
 - 17 Special Agents
 - 16 Enforcement Officers
 - 7 Mission Support
 - 8 Investigative Support
 - 1 Compliance Liaison
- 3 Contractors

NED Budget: \$13.1 million

Headquarters:

55 Great Republic Drive
Suite 02-300
Gloucester, MA 01930

Field Offices:

Bellport, NY
Boston, MA
Falmouth, MA
Gloucester, MA
Narragansett, RI
New Bedford, MA
Newport News, VA
Northfield, NJ
Portland, ME
Portsmouth, NH
Salisbury, MD
Scituate, MD
Wall, NJ

VMS: 986 Reporting Vessels

Northeast Division

The Northeast Division covers the 20 northeastern states from Virginia to Maine to Minnesota and includes the Great Lakes. The Division's area of responsibility covers more than 100,000 square nautical miles of the U.S. EEZ, 110 international Ports of Entry, and 265 individual domestic ports.

Four of the top 10 international landing ports, by weight and value, are found in the Division—New York, Portland, Boston, and Norfolk. Additionally, the Division has four of the top 10 states for domestic fish landings in the nation; this includes Massachusetts with the port of New Bedford, which has led the United States for 14 years as the top port in terms of value landed—a direct result of the scallop fishery.

Throughout FY 2018, the Division had more than 221,000 individual fishing trips, which resulted in over half a billion pounds of fish landed, worth more than \$1 billion.

Working with Regional Partners

The Division has strong working relationships with the 10 coastal state fishery enforcement agencies under the Cooperative Enforcement Program. These relationships enable OLE to leverage resources and improve compliance with federal fishery regulations. In addition to state partners, the Division works closely with three U.S. Coast Guard districts. Recent partnerships have expanded with key federal agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration and Customs and Border Protection, which are involved in ensuring consumer safety and integrity as it relates to seafood fraud and wildlife trafficking.



The Division also works closely with two regional fishery management councils and one major interstate commission. The New England Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) and manages fishery resources within the EEZ off the coasts of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council is responsible for management of fisheries in federal waters that occur predominantly off the mid-Atlantic coast. States with voting representation on the Mid-Atlantic Council include New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.

The Division also provides support to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. This group was formed by the 15 Atlantic coast states in 1942 in recognition that fish do not adhere to political boundaries. The Commission serves as a deliberative body, coordinating the conservation and management of the states shared near-shore fishery resources—marine, shell, and anadromous—for sustainable use.

Significant Investigations

Protected Resources

The Northeast Division continues to partner closely with their colleagues in the Southeast Division to provide a safer habitat throughout the entire U.S. migratory route of the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale. Vessel strikes pose a significant threat to these animals. Both divisions took an aggressive role in reducing these events. The Northeast charged the Motor Vessel (MV) Molly Pitcher with five counts of violating the Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction Rule, and received a NOVA of \$11,500.

Lacey Act

James R. Casey of Poquoson,

Virginia, pleaded guilty in federal court in Newport News, Virginia, on charges that he led a lucrative conspiracy to falsely label foreign crab meat worth millions of dollars as “Product of USA.” Casey was the owner and President of Casey’s Seafood Inc., a wholesale processor of crab meat and other seafood. Casey had contracts with several large grocery store chains to supply them with fresh, local crab meat throughout the year. In the winter months when crabs were unavailable commercially, the owner resorted to purchasing foreign crab meat and repacking it into his own cups, selling it as “Product of the USA” crab meat. This practice began as early as 2010 and continued through June 2015. During this time, Casey’s Seafood also purchased discounted foreign crab meat that had been recalled, returned, or was approaching or beyond the “best when used by” dates posted on the packaging. This meat was then “re-conditioned,” meaning it was repasteurized, repackaged, and sold as “Product of the USA” locally sourced blue crab meat. From 2010 to June 2015, the company sold approximately 397,917 pounds of foreign crab meat as “Product of the USA” with a wholesale value of approximately \$4.7 million. In September 2018, the owner, James Casey, plead guilty to Conspiracy to violate the Lacey Act.

Magnuson-Stevens Act

In August of 2018, the Brett Wilson and Hindsight Sportfishing LLC were fined \$7,000 and found liable for failure to maintain a bluefin tuna in proper form, as well as multiple counts of failure to report the landings of bluefin tuna from both the commercial and angling category. These regulations have been under constant objection from stakeholders and industry members for the past several years. In her decision, the Administrative Law Judge noted that landing form and reporting requirements found in the Highly Migratory

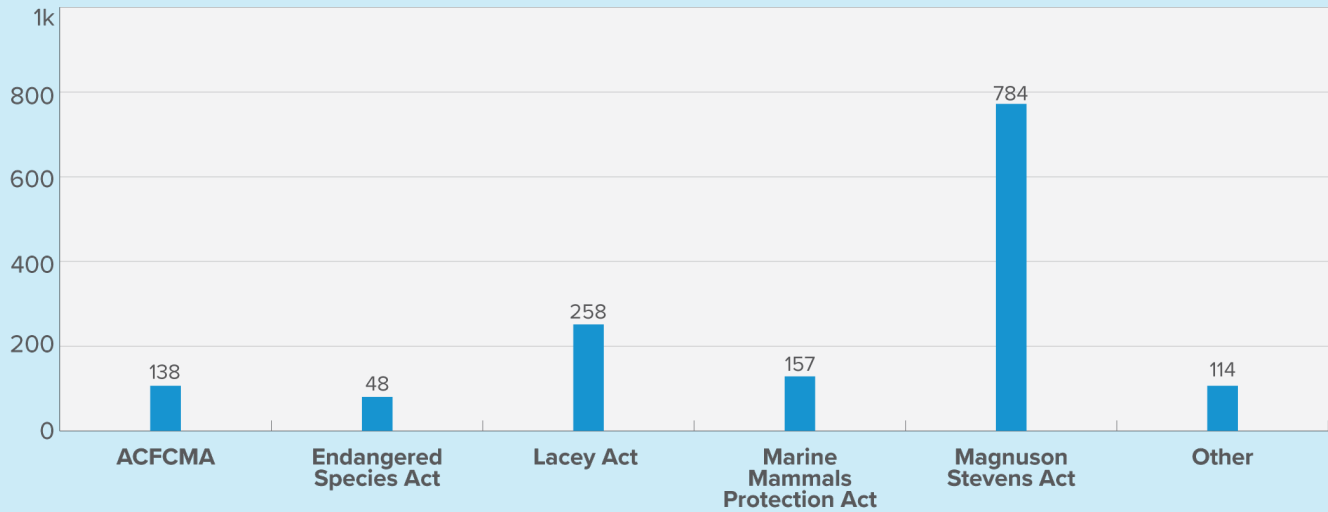
Species (HMS) regulations were critical to the management and accountability measures to which the United States is obligated by several international treaties. This outcome was significant to the HMS managers and the Office of Law Enforcement, as it validated the necessity of the regulations for both field-level law enforcement and international-level treaty compliance. Furthermore, the Administrative Law Judge provided language to document that it was warranted to look through the corporate veil used to shield captains and owners from liability when a fishery violation has occurred.

OLE opened an investigation involving false statements made by a fishing vessel operator to a Massachusetts Environmental Police Officer. The investigation revealed that the vessel operator concealed over 360 pounds of Atlantic sea scallops and did not report the total catch to NOAA Fisheries. The Office of General Counsel, Enforcement Section (GCES) issued a joint and several NOVA civil penalty of \$15,000 to the respondents.

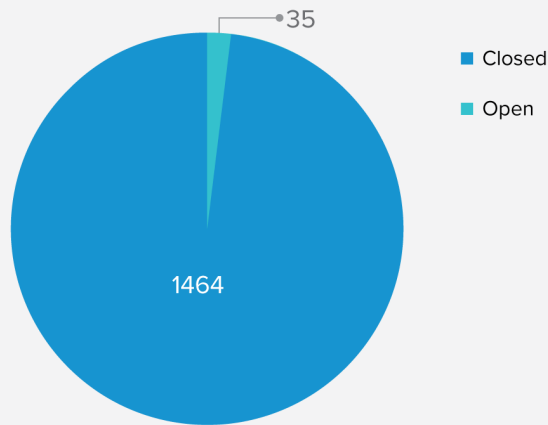
An investigation into clam fishing inside the New York Bight closed area found that a fishing vessel operator, on two occasions, fished for, possessed, and landed 18 cages of surf clams. This area is closed to surf clam and ocean quahog fishing due to adverse environmental conditions, specifically contamination by the presence of hazardous pollutants. OLE contacted the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, New Jersey Department of Health, and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to notify them of the situation. State and federal officials were able to work together to destroy the hazardous product. GCES issued a \$27,000 NOVA to the fishing vessel owner and operator.

Enforcement Activities at a Glance

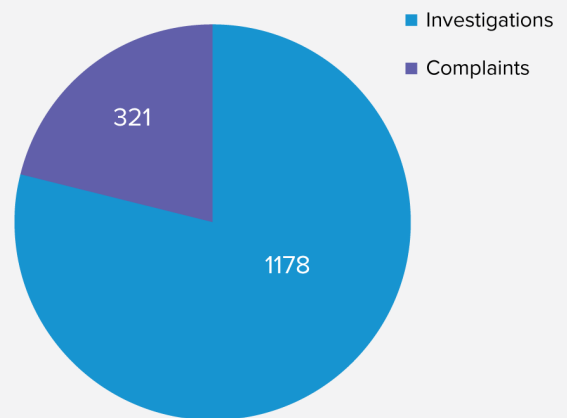
Incident by Law



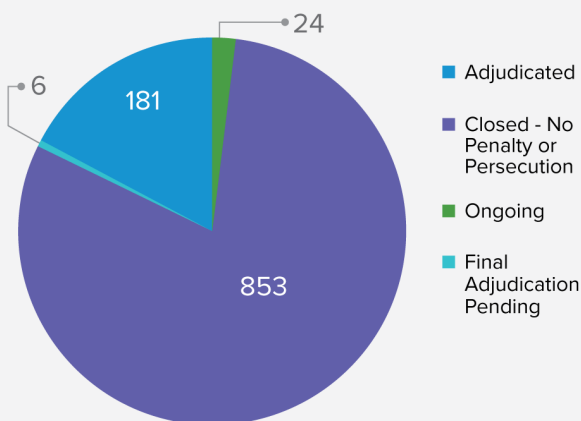
Incident Status



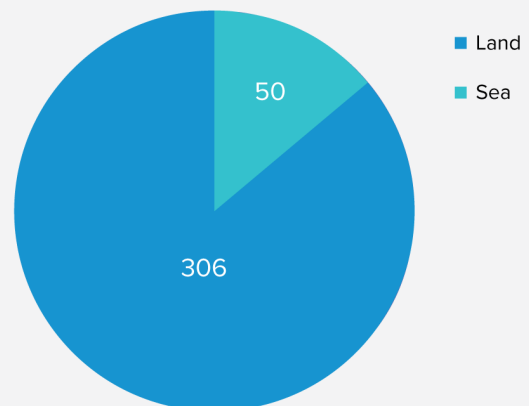
Incidents Reported



Investigation Dispositions



Patrols





BILL PICKERING,
Assistant Director

Staffing Snapshot:

- 28 Full-Time Employees
 - 9 Special Agents
 - 7 Enforcement Officers
 - 5 Mission Support
 - 7 Investigative Support
- 0 Contractors

PID Budget: \$6.6 million

Headquarters:

1845 Wasp Blvd.
Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818

Field Offices:

American Samoa
Guam

VMS:

235 Reporting U.S. Vessels
1,500 Foreign Vessels (approx.)

Pacific Islands Division

The OLE Pacific Islands Division (PID) was established in October 2004 and is geographically the largest division in OLE. Bound by the Hawaiian Islands in the north, American Samoa and U.S. Pacific remote Island areas in the south, and the Mariana Archipelago (including Guam) in the west, the Division encompasses the largest geographical management area within both NOAA Fisheries and the regional fishery management council system.

The total area of the U.S. EEZ waters included in the region is more than 1.5 million square nautical miles, which accounts for nearly half of the entire U.S. EEZ. Within this massive marine area is the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument that OLE is charged with protecting and spans nearly 583,000 square miles. OLE is also responsible for three additional Monuments (Marianas Trench, Pacific Remote Islands, and Rose Atoll Marine National Monuments), as well as two U.S. Sanctuaries (Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa).

The OLE Pacific Islands Division serves as the center of activity for implementation of both domestic and international enforcement responsibilities related to the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), IUU fishing, South Pacific Tuna Treaty, and four Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs). Numerous longline and purse seine vessels within the U.S. permitted fleet operate extensively throughout U.S. and international waters. The need to monitor these U.S. vessels, along with foreign vessels that engage in IUU fishing, poses a unique enforcement challenge for the Division.



Working with Regional Partners

PID Agents and Officers from Guam and American Samoa participated in Operation TUI MOANA-18 (OPTM18), the Forum Fishing Association–led multilateral Monitoring Control & Surveillance (MCS) operation, from May 24 to June 7, 2018. OPTM18 involved seven Forum Fisheries Agency members (Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, and Tuvalu) and forces from the Quadrilateral Defense Coordination Group nations targeting IUU fishing activities in the Western Central Pacific area.

Significant Investigations

Marine Mammal Protection Act

PID and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Special Agents' joint investigation into the illegal import of whale bone and turtle bone into the United States, and the export of the same from the United States to Japan, resulted in a U.S. Federal Grand Jury handing down a four-count indictment against subjects living in Hawaii. The federal charges against the subjects include Conspiracy, Lacey Act Wildlife Exporting, and Lacey Act Wildlife Trafficking. The subjects allegedly had been illegally importing whalebone and turtle bone from Tonga for a period of almost seven years, via commercial airlines and express shippers. Evidence obtained in the investigation and subsequent confessions by the subjects revealed that on at least two separate occasions, they falsely declared and exported wildlife to Japan. A search warrant subsequently executed at the subjects' residence and business resulted in a seizure and later abandonment by the subjects of approximately 2,200 whalebone and green sea turtle bone carvings, with an approximate street value of \$300,000.



Magnuson-Stevens Act

A PID Enforcement Officer completed an investigation of a commercial shrimp boat operating out of Honolulu. The investigation revealed the illegal fishing for deep-water shrimp species in the Crustacean Permit Area 2 without a valid permit and failure to maintain and/or submit required logbook records. A NOVA for \$29,000 was issued by NOAA General Council, Enforcement Section (GCES).

A PID Special Agent completed an investigation of a commercial Hawaii-based longline fishing vessel that was suspected of harassing a fisheries observer. The investigation revealed that a

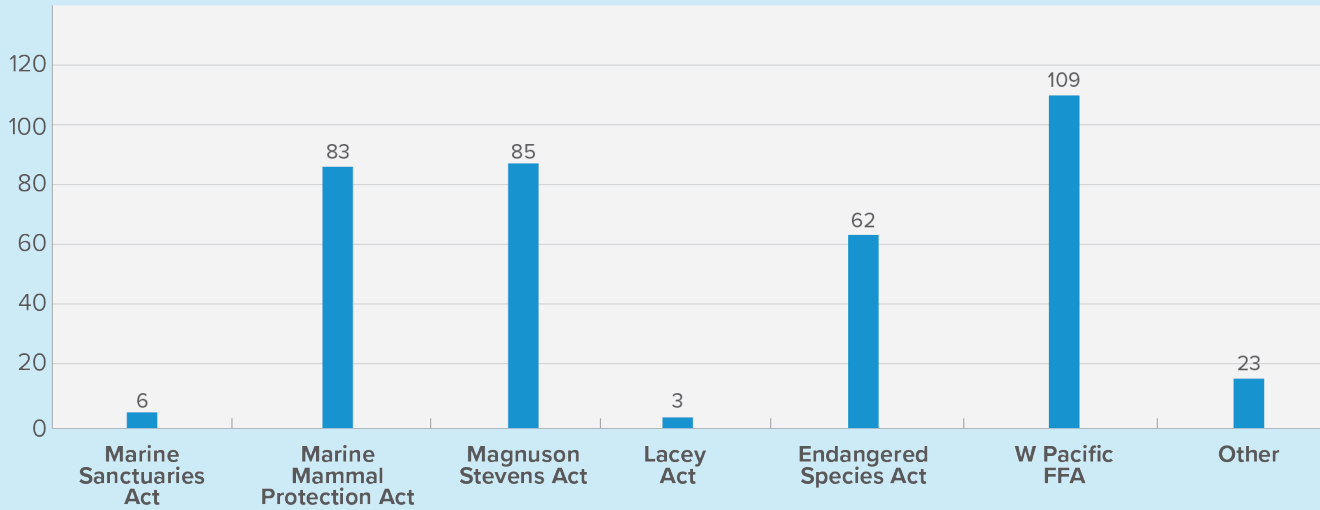
foreign national crewmember did illegally harass, sexually harass, and/or assault a NOAA Fisheries authorized observer. A NOVA for \$80,000 was issued by GCES.

Endangered Species Act

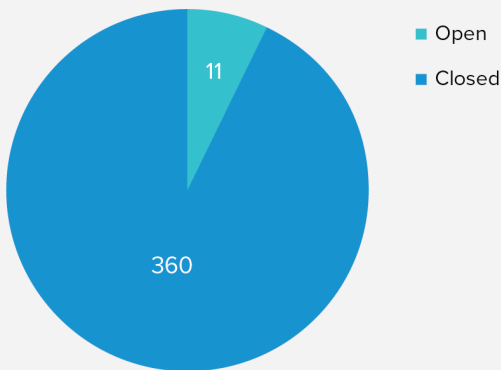
A PID Enforcement Officer completed an investigation regarding a subject harassing an endangered Hawaiian monk seal on the Island of Kauai. Upon review of the subject's social media posts, an additional video was found of the same subject pursuing a green sea turtle while snorkeling, ultimately touching the turtle as it tried to swim away. The Enforcement Officer issued the subject a \$1,500 Summary Settlement.

Enforcement Activities at a Glance

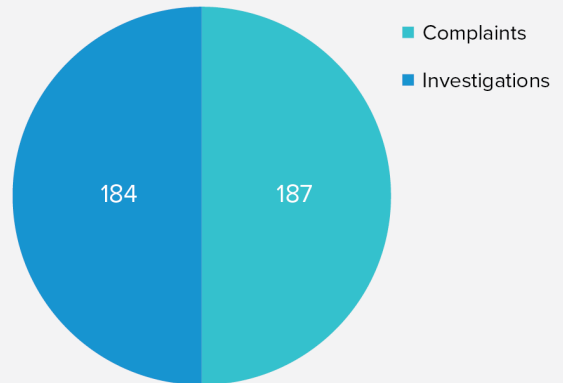
Incident by Law



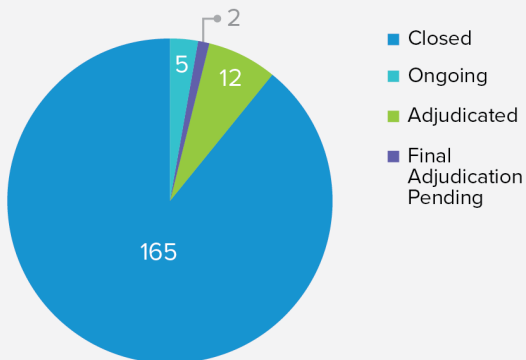
Incident Status



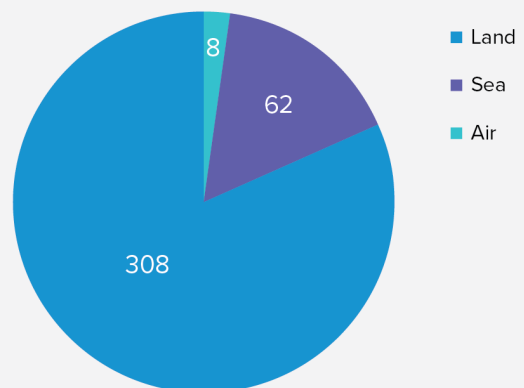
Incidents Type



Investigation Dispositions



Patrols





TRACY DUNN,
Assistant Director

Staffing Snapshot:

- 40 Full-Time Employees
 - 20 Special Agents
 - 9 Enforcement Officers
 - 3 Mission Support
 - 6 Investigative Support
- 2 Contractors

SED Budget: \$12 million

Headquarters:

263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Field Offices:

Charleston, SC
Corpus Christi, TX
Houston/Galveston, TX
Marathon, FL
Miami/Sunrise, FL
Morehead City, NC
New Orleans, LA
Panama City, FL
Port Orange, FL
San Juan, Puerto Rico
St. Petersburg, FL

VMS: 1,085 Reporting Vessels

Southeast Division

The Southeast Division is the largest of the continental divisions, with approximately 3,230 miles of coastline covering the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean. North Carolina is the northern-most state of the Division, followed by South Carolina, Georgia, and the East Coast of Florida, with the Dry Tortugas at the western extent of the Florida Keys being the southern boundary. The Gulf of Mexico picks up at 83 degrees West Longitude following the coast of western Florida, around the Florida Panhandle, Alabama, Mississippi, and then down the Texas coast to the international border between Mexico and the United States. The Caribbean area of responsibility surrounds Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands completing the Division's area of responsibility. In total, the Division is charged with monitoring and enforcing marine resource laws over 350,000 square miles of the EEZ. The fishery fleet in the Division is comprised of smaller commercial vessels relative to other areas of the nation, but has the largest recreational fisheries sector in the continental United States. The Division's federally permitted commercial fleet conducted more than 184,700 trips in fiscal year 2018 totaling upward of \$643.5 million in revenue, while the number of recreational fishing trips far exceeded those numbers with an estimated 55.5 million fishing trips. The number of fishing trips for these sectors provides an enormous challenge in monitoring effort, especially because of the many potential landing sites.

In addition to domestic fisheries, the Division is responsible for three national marine sanctuaries—Florida Keys, Gray's Reef, and Flower Garden Banks—and is actively engaged in combatting IUU fishing and seafood fraud through the monitoring of seafood entering through U.S.-Mexico gateways.

Working with Regional Partners

To accomplish its mission, the Division works closely with the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center, two interstate marine fisheries commissions, three regional fishery management councils (Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean), as well as numerous local, state, territorial, and federal agency partners.

The Cooperative Enforcement Partnership (CEP) is the main partner program that the Division relies on to increase patrol, monitoring, and inspection services across the region. Seven states, one commonwealth, and one territory have signed agreements to partner with the Division.

Several NOAA OLE personnel from the Southeast, Northeast, and West Coast Divisions were deployed in support of the federal government's response to Hurricane Florence in areas around Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The team was appointed as Special Deputy U.S. Marshals and provided law enforcement escort to a deployed Unified Search and Rescue team from Virginia conducting damage assessments of heavily flooded areas. The team worked alongside similar law enforcement teams provided by the FBI and NPS.



Significant Investigations

Marine Protection and Sanctuaries Act

A SED special agent's investigation resulted in a \$5,000 Notice of Violation and Assessment (NOVA) issued by NOAA General Council, Enforcement Section (GCES) to a marine contracting company for the lethal take of a bottlenose dolphin by an unapproved construction buoy used in one of their projects. The investigation was initiated by a citizen who noticed a dead bottlenose dolphin entangled in the buoy. The OLE investigation determined the company responsible for the construction of temporary No Wake Buoys had not followed the approved design, and left them in place after realizing they did not meet requirements. The investigation involved a necropsy, retrieval of the buoy and documentation of the construction, review of permitting documents, and several interviews. The individuals involved were cooperative and accepted full responsibility.

Magnuson-Stevens Act

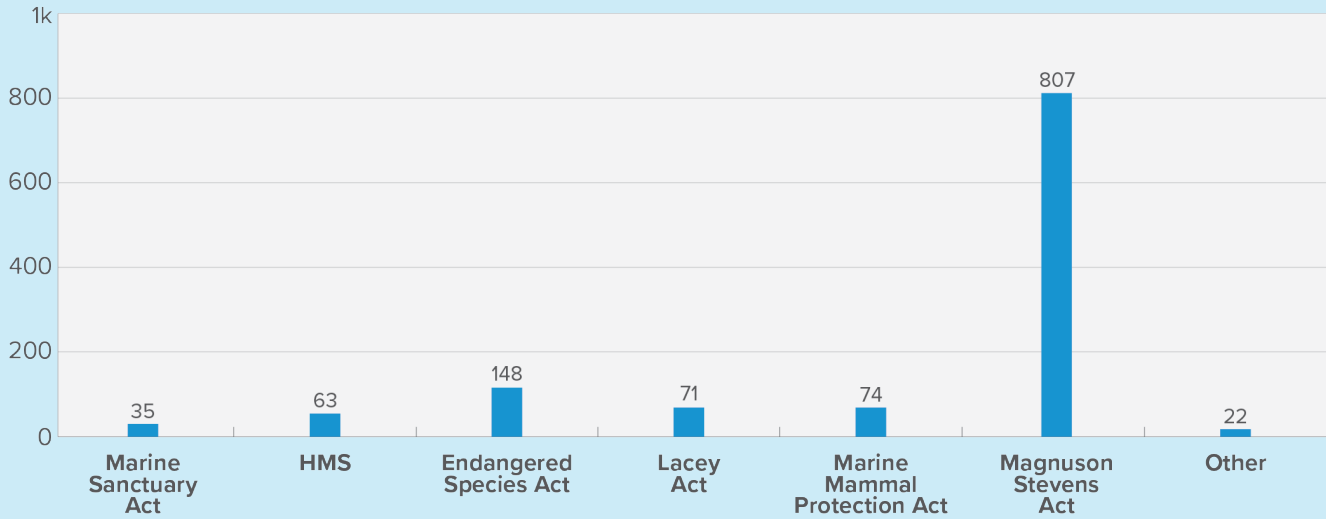
NOAA issued a \$24,000 NOVA to a Texas-based charter operation for conducting reef fish charter trips in federal waters without a federal permit, fishing during closed season, and circle hook violations. The NOAA OLE led investigation was assisted by agents from the Coast Guard Investigative Service.

A federally permitted commercial fisherman pled to four counts of mail fraud for his involvement in a scheme to overharvest more than 50,000 pounds of Gulf of Mexico reef fish off of the coast of Florida. The subject knowingly and illegally harvested, landed, and sold federally regulated Gulf reef fish including red grouper and snapper and submitted false documents to state and federal agencies in order to conceal his overfishing. The lead OLE special agent worked with Florida state investigators during the multi-year investigation documenting the illegal activity.

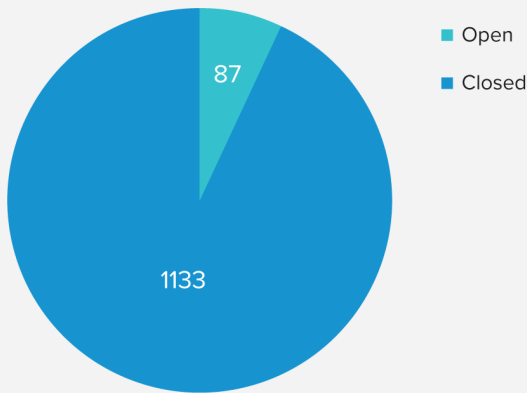
NOAA OLE and the USCG Investigative Service conducted a joint investigation leading to a South Carolina commercial fisherman pleading guilty to obstructing a USCG investigation after disposing of illegally harvested fish upon the approach of a USCG cutter. The illegally harvested fish, which had also been gutted, included primarily snowy grouper, as well as small amounts of yellow edge grouper, wreckfish, and amberjack. Five months prior to the boarding, NOAA imposed a commercial closure on the harvest of snowy grouper because the quota had been reached for the year.

Enforcement Activities at a Glance

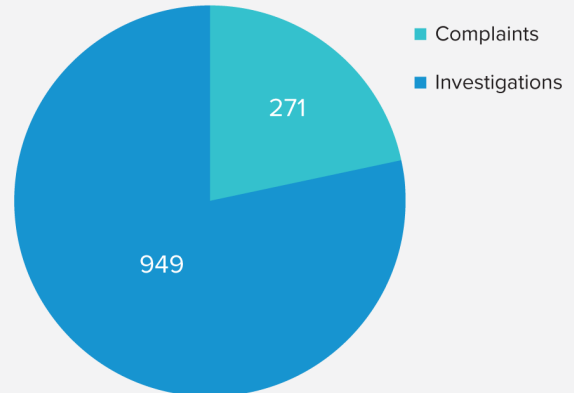
Incident by Law



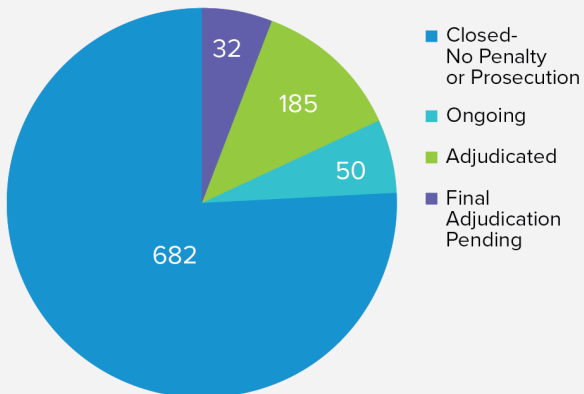
Incident Status



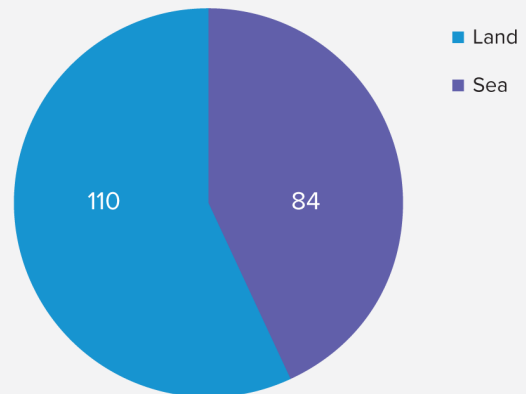
Incidents Reported



Investigation Dispositions



Patrol Type





GREG BUSCH,
Assistant Director

Staffing Snapshot:

- 33 Full-Time Employees
 - 13 Special Agents
 - 6 Enforcement Officers
 - 6 Mission Support
 - 6 Investigative Support
- 2 Contractors

WCD Budget: \$8.3 million

Headquarters:

7600 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

Field Offices:

Alameda, CA
Arcata, CA
Astoria, OR
Bellingham, WA
Coos Bay, OR
Lacey, WA
Long Beach, CA
Monterey, CA
Newport, OR
Portland, OR
Sacramento, CA
San Diego, CA
Santa Rosa, CA
Seattle, WA
Westport, WA

VMS: 1,249 Reporting Vessels

West Coast Division

The West Coast Division encompasses the coastal states of Washington, Oregon, and California. The area of responsibility also extends inland to Idaho, North and South Dakota, and Montana.

This unique division shares borders with Canada and Mexico, has five national marine sanctuaries along its coast, and includes 290 Marine Conservation Areas. The Division is responsible for 1,293 miles of Pacific coastline and 7,863 miles of tidal shoreline, 222,471 nautical miles of EEZ, and 339,375 square miles of land encompassing numerous rivers and tributaries feeding into the Pacific Ocean.

Two of the top 10 international ports for exporting and importing seafood products by weight and value are found in the Division—Seattle and Los Angeles. In addition to those two seaports the Division monitors 16 international airports, 21 seaports, and numerous border crossings for imports/exports of seafood products.

Working with Regional Partners

The Division's enforcement officers and special agents leverage federal and state partnerships to address resource violations. Federal partners like the U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency help the Division identify and investigate incidents at sea, in critical habitat, and on the borders. Our state law enforcement partners in Washington, Oregon, and California are given authority and responsibility to conduct patrols and outreach in areas where Division resources are scarce.

Native tribes located throughout the region have long been an asset to the Division, but recently cooperative efforts have been a focal point that has provided additional resources.



An integral part of OLE's enforcement effort is done through education and outreach efforts. Ensuring the general public, importers/exporters, and commercial fishing industry has the latest information on regulations is of the utmost importance to maintaining sustainability and conservation standards.

Significant Investigations

Endangered Species Act

A Consent Decree in a federal civil injunction case was signed by a Federal District Court. This was a joint Endangered Species Act/Clean Water Act injunction case resulting from the activities of a ranch owner on the Van Duzen River (a tributary of the Eel River near Fortuna, California) for placement of construction spoils and various large objects in the river bed and along the river banks over several years. These actions caused the take and had potential for continued future take of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon, California Coastal Chinook salmon, and Northern California steelhead within critical habitat. In addition to the NOVA penalty of \$10,000, the Consent Decree requires the property owner to undertake extensive actions to clean up the river and restore fish habitat, as well as applying for permits to further access the river under certain situations.

Lacey Act

A one-count felony was filed in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Western District of Washington against the ringleader in a conspiracy to purchase, process, and sell unreported sea cucumber harvested by state and tribal fishermen in Washington State. A multi-year investigation revealed the subject trafficked over 250,000 pounds of unlawful sea cucumber worth \$1.49 million from 2013 to 2016. The product was subsequently processed and sold



in China, Canada, and several U.S. states. The scheme allowed co-conspirator fishermen to circumvent weekly harvest limits and annual quotas. The subject pled guilty to one count of Conspiracy to Violate the Lacey Act in the U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, and was sentenced to 24 months in prison, three years supervised release, and \$1.5 million in restitution. Four other subjects related to the scheme pled guilty in Clallam County Superior Court to multiple counts of Unlawful Fish and Shellfish Accounting and were each sentenced to 240 hours of community service and fines of \$5,800, \$4,800, \$2,700, and \$2,700, respectively. More than 25 tribal fishermen associated with the scheme also had cases adjudicated in the tribal court system. The overharvest by some tribal fishermen resulted in Puget Sound tribes as a whole exceeding annual quotas by as much as 30 percent in some areas, and has required the tribes repay the state sector in a multi-year restitution agreement.

Magnuson-Stevens Act

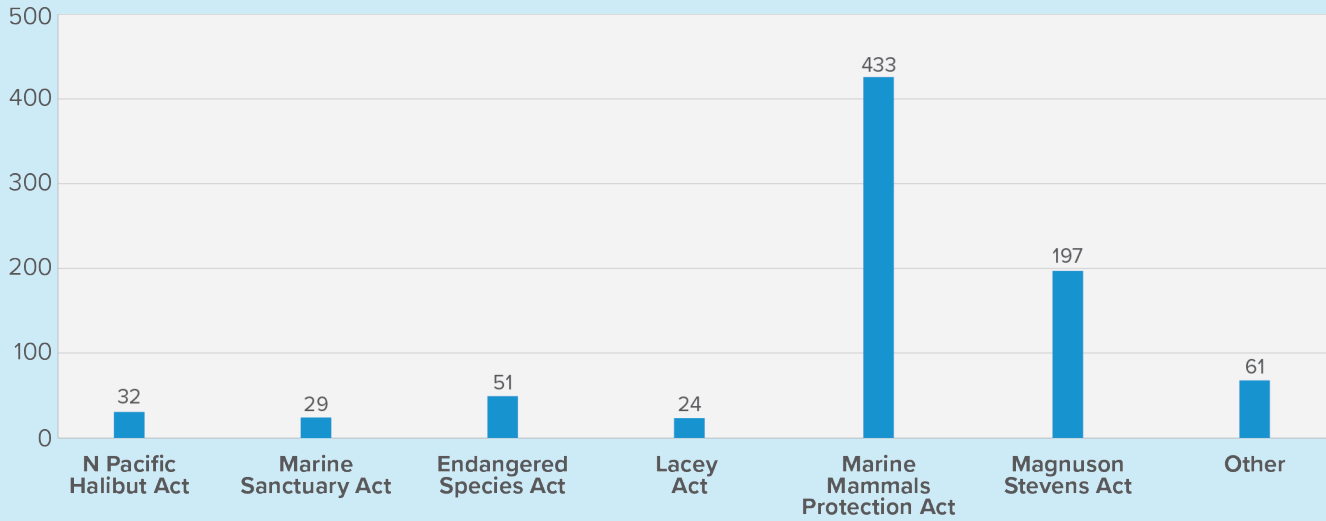
During an investigation into an Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Pacific halibut overage, an Enforcement Officer determined an overage of 1,712 pounds had occurred. Based on the fair market value of \$6.87 per pound, a Summary Settlement penalty of \$11,778.42 was issued for the violation.

National Marine Sanctuaries Act

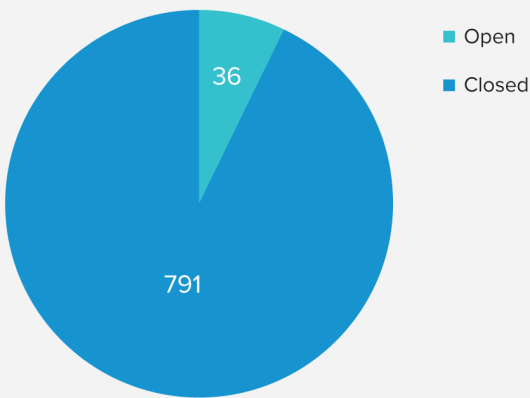
A Special Agent initiated an investigation in response to a complaint referred from the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, alleging dredge material was discharged on three occasions from a scow under tow in sanctuary waters. A Summary Settlement penalty of \$2,400 was issued for the violation.

Enforcement Activities at a Glance

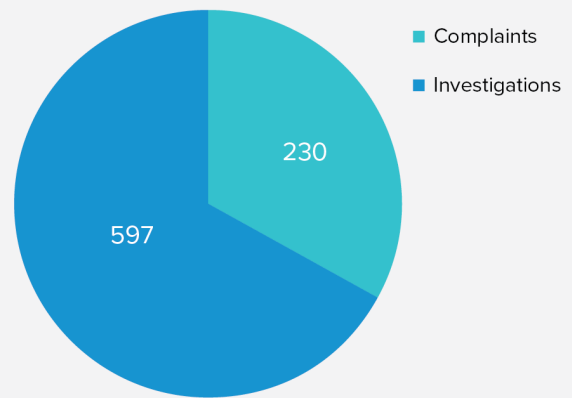
Incident by Law



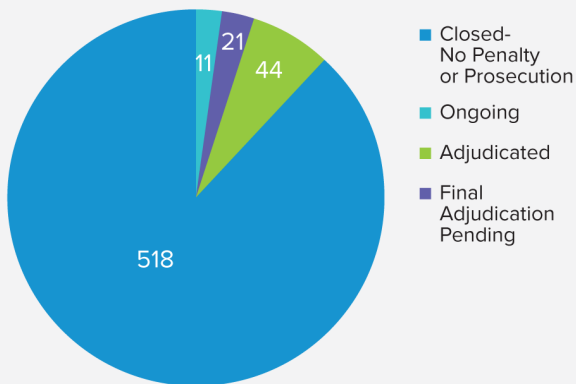
Incident Status



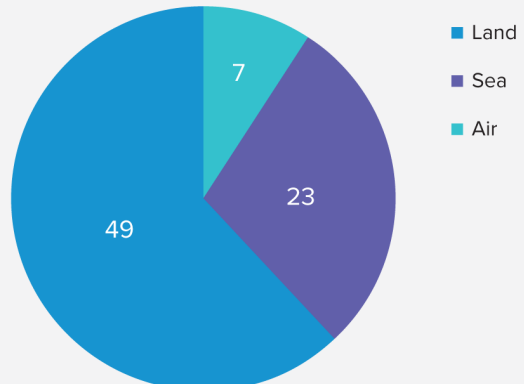
Incidents Reported



Investigation Dispositions



Patrols



NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is responsible for enforcing more than 35 federal statutes, with the majority of cases falling under the ESA, Lacey Act, MSA, MMPA, NMSA, and NPHA.

Appendix

Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543).

This act prohibits the importation, exportation, taking, and commercialization in interstate or foreign commerce of fish, wildlife, and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered species. The act also implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 (16 U.S.C. 3371-3378).

This act prohibits the importation, exportation, transportation, sale, or purchase of fish, wildlife, or plants taken or possessed in violation of state, federal, tribal, and foreign laws. It also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate injurious wildlife and ensure the humane treatment of wildlife shipped to the United States. Originally enacted in 1900, the Lacey Act is the nation's oldest federal wildlife protection law.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801-1882).

This act is the primary law governing marine fisheries management in U.S. federal waters. First passed in 1976, the MSA fosters long-term biological and economic sustainability of our nation's marine fisheries within the U.S. EEZ. Key objectives of the MSA are to prevent overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, increase long-term economic and social benefits, and ensure a safe and sustainable supply of seafood.

Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407).

This act establishes a moratorium on the take and importation of

marine mammals, including parts and products, and defines federal responsibilities for the conservation of marine mammals. The Department of Commerce through the National Marine Fisheries Service is charged with protecting whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals, and sea lions. Walrus, manatees, otters, and polar bears are protected by the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is responsible for regulations managing marine mammals in captivity.

National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431-1439).

This act authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate and protect areas of the marine environment with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archaeological, educational, or esthetic qualities as national marine sanctuaries. Day-to-day management of national marine sanctuaries has been delegated by the Secretary of Commerce to NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. The primary objective of the NMSA is to protect marine resources, such as coral reefs, sunken historical vessels, or unique habitats.

Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (16 U.S.C. 773-773k).

This Act is the implementing legislation for the Convention between the United States and Canada for the preservation of the halibut fishery of the northern Pacific Ocean and

Bering Sea. The Act authorizes the Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Commerce, to accept or reject on behalf of the United States the halibut fishery regulations and management recommendations developed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). The Act also authorizes the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the Pacific Fishery Management Council to develop, and the Secretary of Commerce to implement, additional halibut fishery regulations governing the U.S. portion of Convention waters. Ultimately, the Act was created to conserve, manage, and rebuild the halibut stocks in the Convention Area to those levels that would achieve and maintain the maximum sustainable yield from the fishery.

Other Statutes and Responsibilities

- Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing 2015** (16 U.S.C. 7401-7409)
- American Fisheries Act of 1998** (Pub. Law 105-277)
- Anadromous Fish Products Act** (16 U.S.C. 1822 note, Section 801(f))
- Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978** (16 U.S.C. 2401-2413)
- Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984** (16 U.S.C. 2431-2444)
- Antarctic Protection Act of 1990** (16 U.S.C. 2465(a))
- Antigua Convention Implementing Act of 2015** (Pub. Law 114-181)
- Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act** (16 U.S.C. 5103(b))
- Atlantic Salmon Convention Act of 1982** (16 U.S.C. 3601-3608)
- Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act** (16 U.S.C. 1851 note)
- Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975** (16 U.S.C. 971-971k)
- Billfish Conservation Act of 2012** (Pub. Law 112-183, 126 Stat. 1422-1423)
- Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific 2017** (16 U.S.C. 7801-7810)
- Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act** (30 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.)
- Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act** (16 U.S.C. 1385 et seq.)
- Driftnet Impact Monitoring, Assessment, and Control Act** (16 U.S.C. 1822 note, section 4006)
- Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking 2015** (16 U.S.C. 7601-7644)
- Fish and Seafood Promotion Act of 1986** (16 U.S.C. 4001-4017)
- Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967** (22 U.S.C. 1980(g))
- Fur Seal Act Amendments of 1983** (16 U.S.C. 1151-1175)
- High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act** (16 U.S.C. 1826(d)-1826(k))
- High Seas Fishing Compliance Act** (16 U.S.C. 5506(a))
- Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015** (Public Law 114-81)
- Land Remote-Sensing Policy Act of 1992** (15 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.)
- North Pacific Anadromous Stocks Convention Act of 1992** (16 U.S.C. 5002-5012)
- North Pacific Fisheries Convention 2017** (16 U.S.C. 7701-7710)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995** (16 U.S.C. 5601-5612)
- Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Act of 1980** (42 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.)
- Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty Act** (Pub. Law 108-219, 118 Stat. 615- 617, 16 U.S.C. 1821 note)
- Shark Conservation Act** (Pub. Law 111-348, 124 Stat. 3668-3673, 16 U.S.C. 1801 note)
- Shark Finning Prohibition Act** (Pub. Law 106-557, 114 Stat. 2772- 2775, 16 U.S.C. 1822 note)
- South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988** (16 U.S.C. 973-973r)
- Sponge Act** (16 U.S.C. 781 et seq.)
- Tuna Conventions Act of 1950** (16 U.S.C. §§ 951-961)
- Weather Modifications Reporting Act** (15 U.S.C. 330-330e)
- Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act** (16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.)
- Whaling Convention Act of 1949** (16 U.S.C. 916-9161)



U.S. Secretary of Commerce
Wilbur Ross

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere
Neil Jacobs, Ph.D.

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
Chris Oliver

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www.fisheries.noaa.gov

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

**National Marine
Fisheries Service**
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

