



Tab R, No. 5



Heartland District Enforcement Update



LT Jackson Morton
Living Marine Resources Officer
Heartland District



Exclusive Economic Zone Enforcement



Fiscal Year	2023	2024	2025	2026
Interdictions	53	57	47	2
Red Snapper (lbs)	5,895	12,376	15,859	0

- Comments:
 - The trend continues that Lancha incursion detections have reduced implementing criminal prosecution under the Lacey Act.
 - Through the first three months of FY25 we had 45 detections, through the same time series in FY26 we had 17 detections.
- Mission Highlights:
 - The District has referred 6 cases to the Assistant United State’s Attorney’s office for prosecution under the Lacey act. No cases have been referred in FY26.
 - Of the 24 individuals referred for prosecution, 21 have been convicted.
 - 21 JAN 2026: Station South Padre Island interdicted a lancha with 6 people with fishing gear but no catch on board.



Domestic Fisheries Enforcement



Fiscal Year	2025	2026
Boardings	487	71
Significant Violations	9	1





Marine Protected Resources



Fiscal Year	2025	2026
Requests for Assistance	1	1
Interactions	1	1

- 15 DEC 25: Sector New Orleans responded to a request for information on a potential manatee stranding. A shoreside unit was able to locate the animal and capture video and photographic evidence of the animal's condition to be used by rescue teams.





Questions?

