NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement
Southeast Division

FISCAL YEAR 2026, QUARTER 4 FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

JULY 1, 2026 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

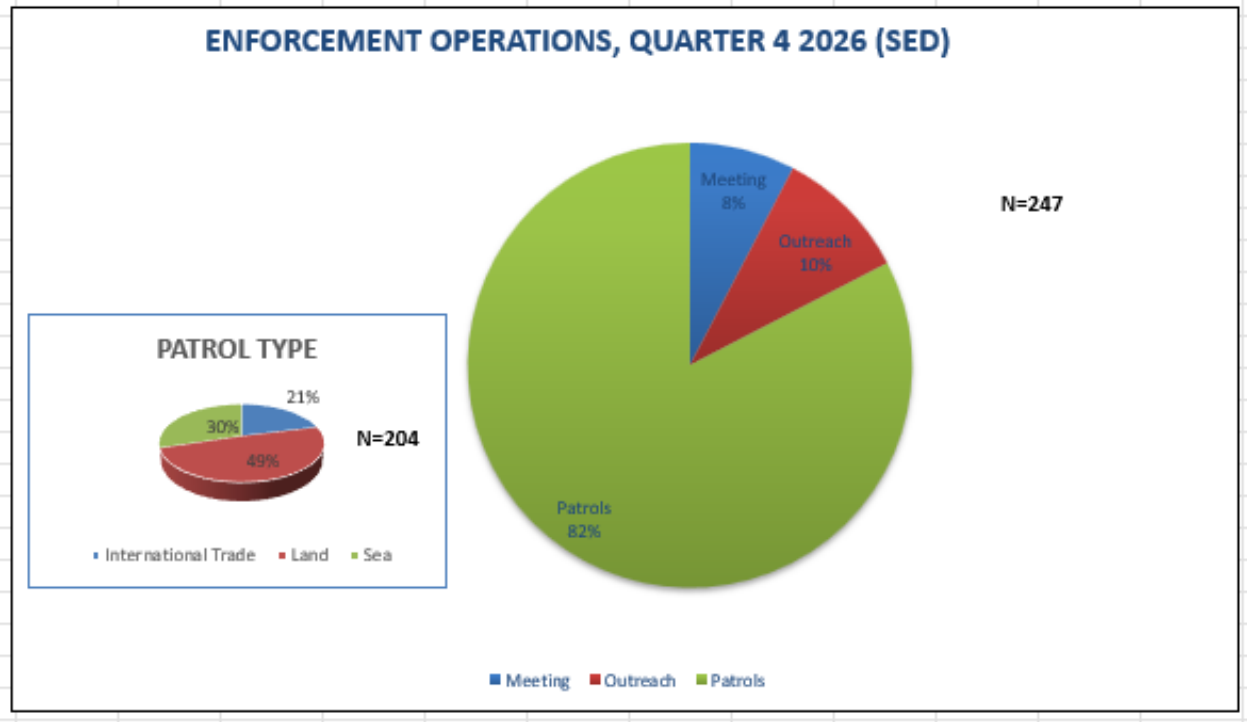
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Enforcement and Compliance

Data represent National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries' Office of Law Enforcement, Southeast Division's (OLE-SED) enforcement efforts conducted throughout FY Quarter 4, 2026, July 1, 2026- September 30, 2026. When appropriate, information is separated by council, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC), Gulf Fishery Management Council (GFMC) and Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC).

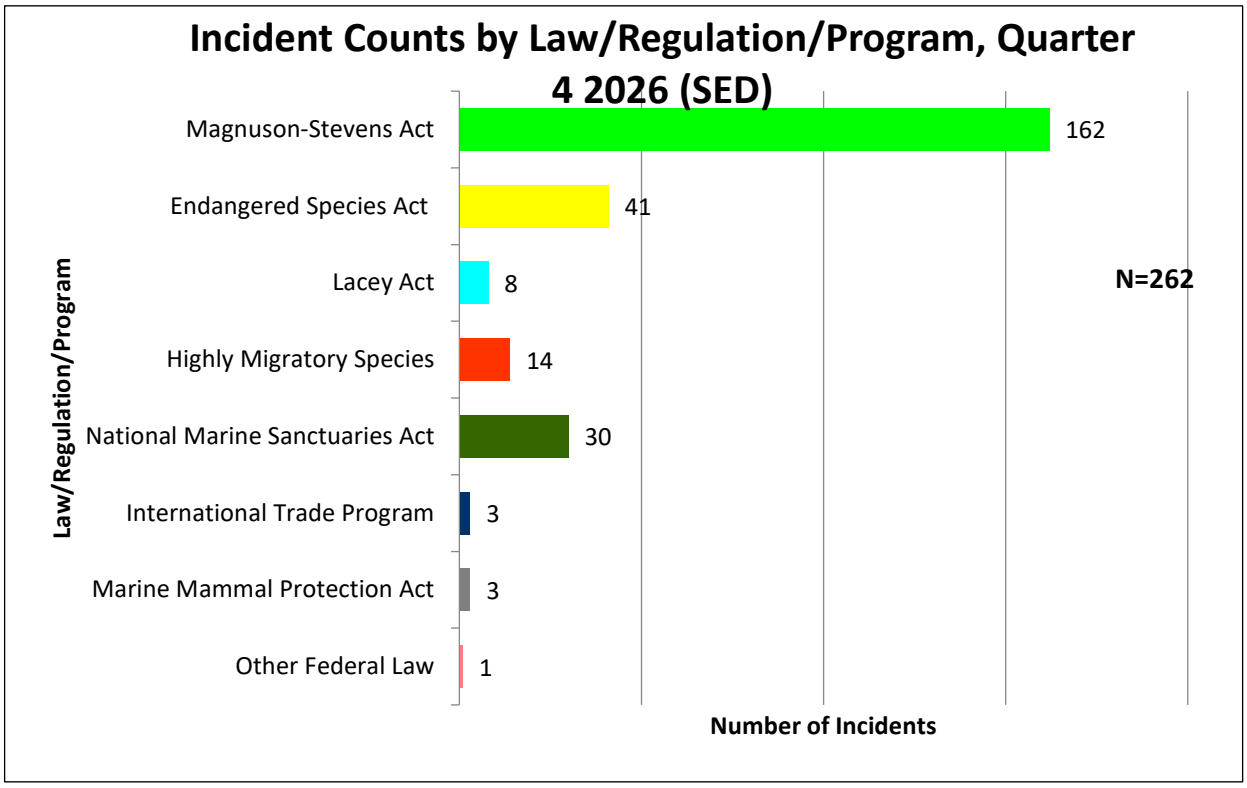
Patrols, outreach and education, compliance assistance, and investigations are the primary activities of OLE's mission to protect marine wildlife and habitat by enforcing domestic laws and supporting international treaty requirements designed to ensure global resources are available for future generations. Enforcement efforts are routinely conducted with multiple federal, state and local partners throughout the division. Multiple IUU/seafood monitoring operations (4) were conducted with state and federal partners in Florida, Texas and Georgia. Specific seafood shipments at airports and ports were inspected. Additionally, an annual operation coinciding with the 2026 min-lobster season, focused on enforcing national marine sanctuaries regulations was conducted in the Florida Keys. This quarter, OLE-SED conducted and documented 204 patrols, 24 specific instances of outreach and 19 meetings.



Incident Information

During the fourth quarter, OLE-SED opened 262 incidents, which included 120 counts in the SAFMC area, 184 counts in the GFMC area and 2 counts in the CFMC area[1]. These incidents originate from both NOAA personnel and our enforcement partners.

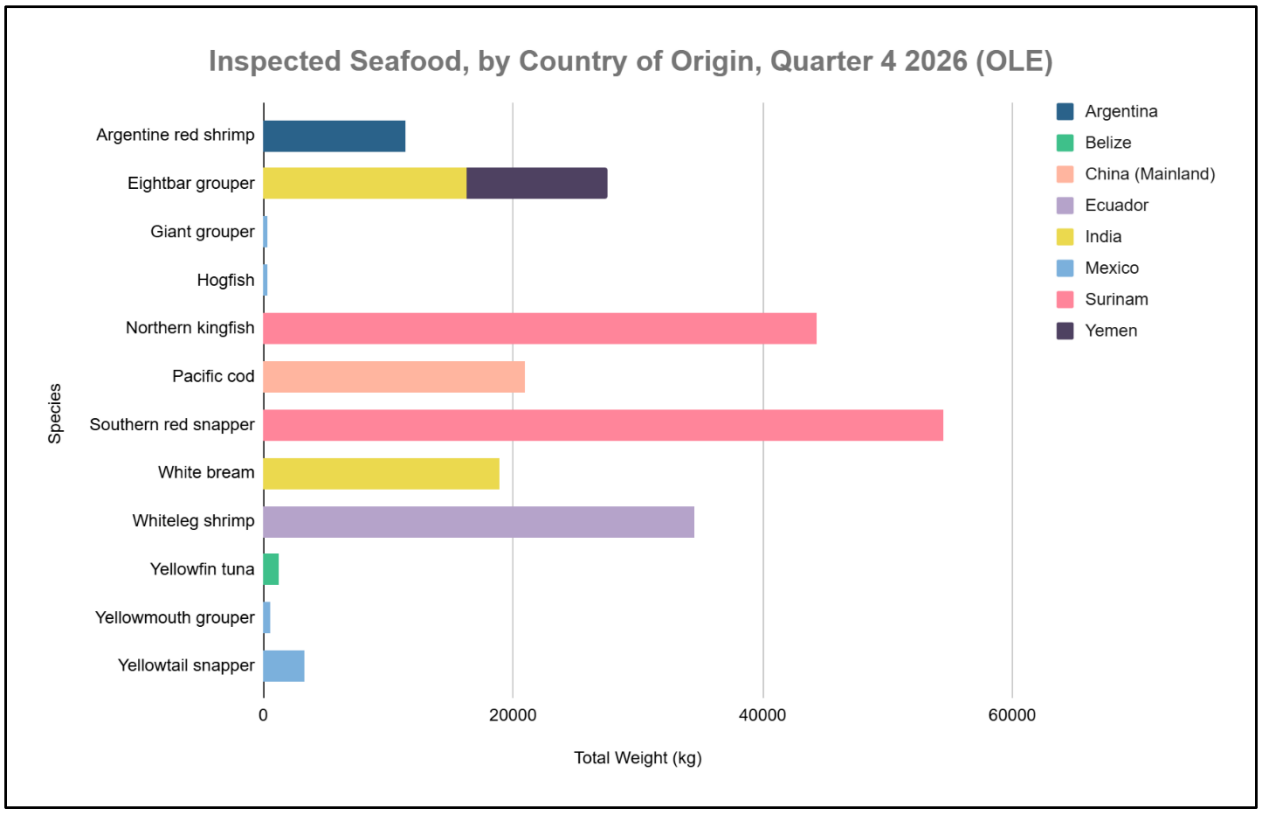
Summary of Incidents by Primary Law/Regulation/Program; Quarter 4, 2026

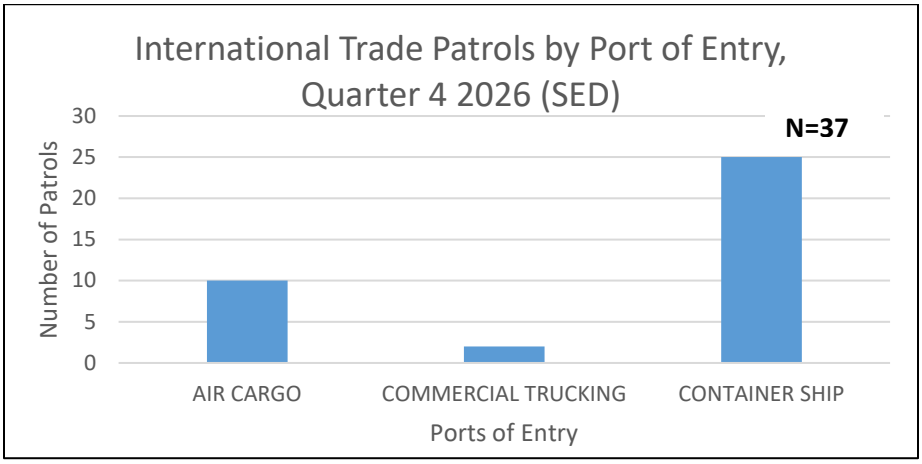


[1] Incidents occurring in the Florida Keys area are included in both SAFMC and GFMC counts; total individual counts are 3 greater than opened incidents due to multiple counts charged for separate incidents

International Trade Patrols

OLE regularly conducts seafood inspections, focusing on seafood product coming into the U.S. These efforts protect commerce and ensure imported seafood is caught and imported legally. Officers and agents inform other agencies at these port of entry locations of potential seafood fraud and provide training on means of inspection and verification of imported seafood into the U.S. Throughout the quarter, NOAA enforcement divisions nationwide inspected 217,696 kg of imported seafood from 8 countries. OLE-SED officers conducted 37 international trade specific patrols. Efforts were focused on a variety of airports, land crossings and shipping ports.



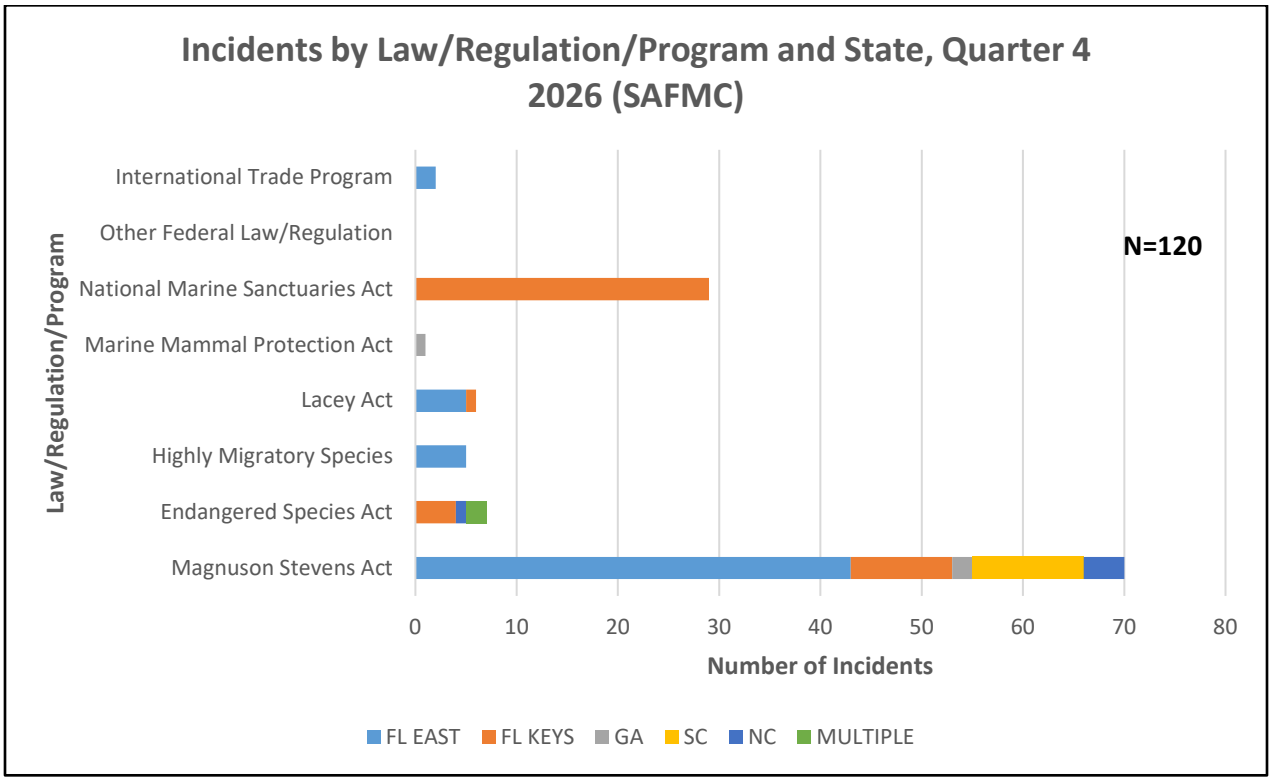


South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Summary

**Total number of incidents listed below includes effort by OLE and enforcement partners, by location

Number of Incidents by Primary Law/Regulation/Program and Location; Quarter 4, 2026 (SAFMC)

Law/Regulation/Program	FL EAST	FL KEYS	GA	SC	NC	MULTIPLE	Total
Magnuson Stevens Act	43	10	2	11	4		70
Endangered Species Act		4			1	2	7
Highly Migratory Species	5						5
Lacey Act	5	1					6
Marine Mammal Protection Act			1				1
National Marine Sanctuaries Act		29					29
Other Federal Law/Regulation							0
International Trade Program	2						2
TOTAL	55	44	3	11	5	2	**120**

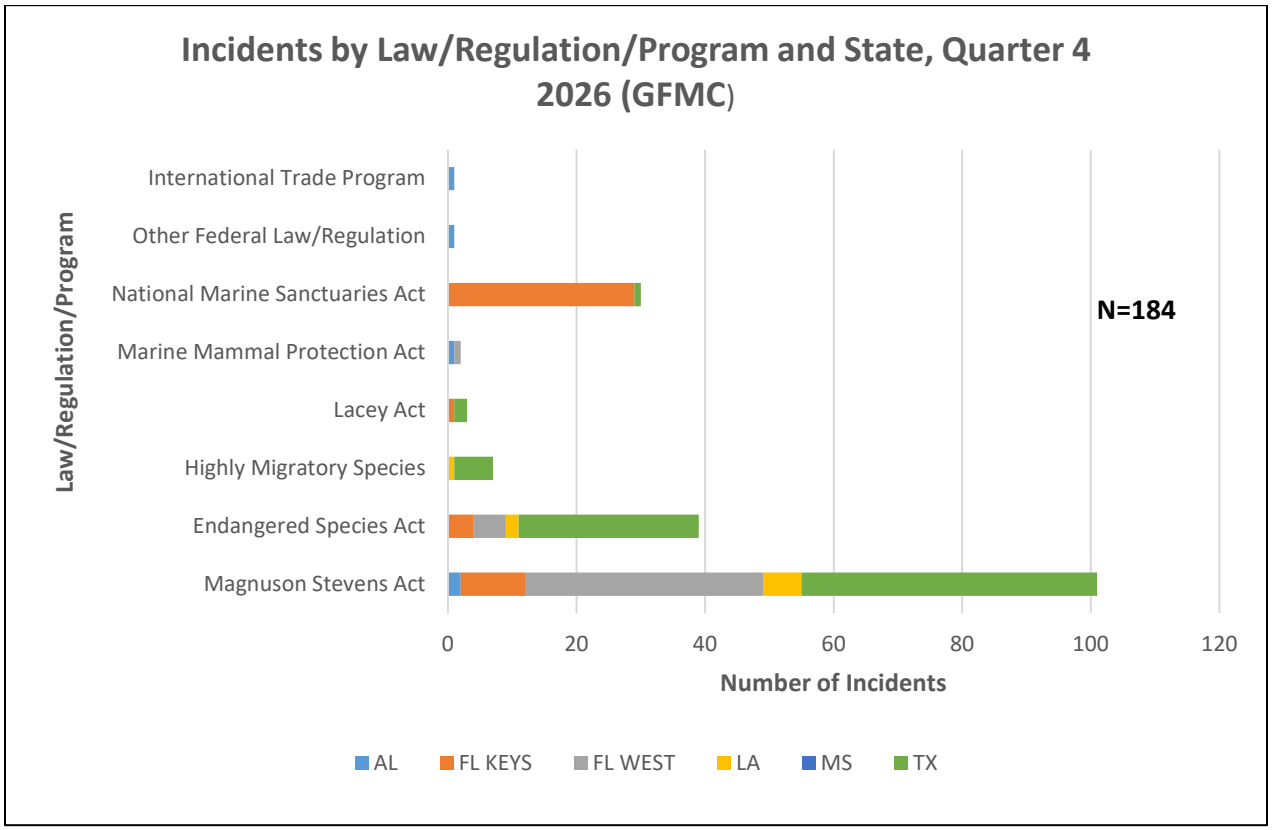


Gulf Fishery Management Council Summary

**Total number of incidents listed below includes effort by OLE and enforcement partners, by location

Number of Incidents by Primary Law/Regulation/Program and Location; Quarter 4, 2026 (GFMC)

Law/Regulation/Program	AL	FL KEYS	FL WEST	LA	MS	TX	Total
Magnuson Stevens Act	2	10	37	6		46	101
Endangered Species Act		4	5	2		28	39
Highly Migratory Species				1		6	7
Lacey Act		1				2	3
Marine Mammal Protection Act	1		1				2
National Marine Sanctuaries Act		29				1	30
Other Federal Law/Regulation	1						1
International Trade Program	1						1
TOTAL	5	44	43	9	0	83	**184**

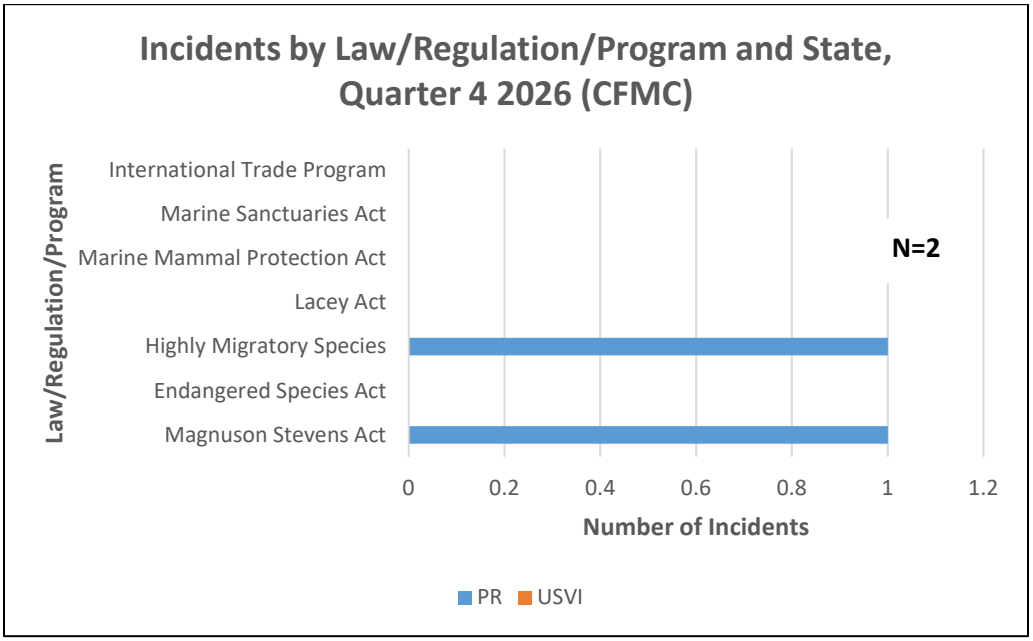


Caribbean Fishery Management Council Summary

**Total number of incidents listed below includes effort by OLE and enforcement partners, by location

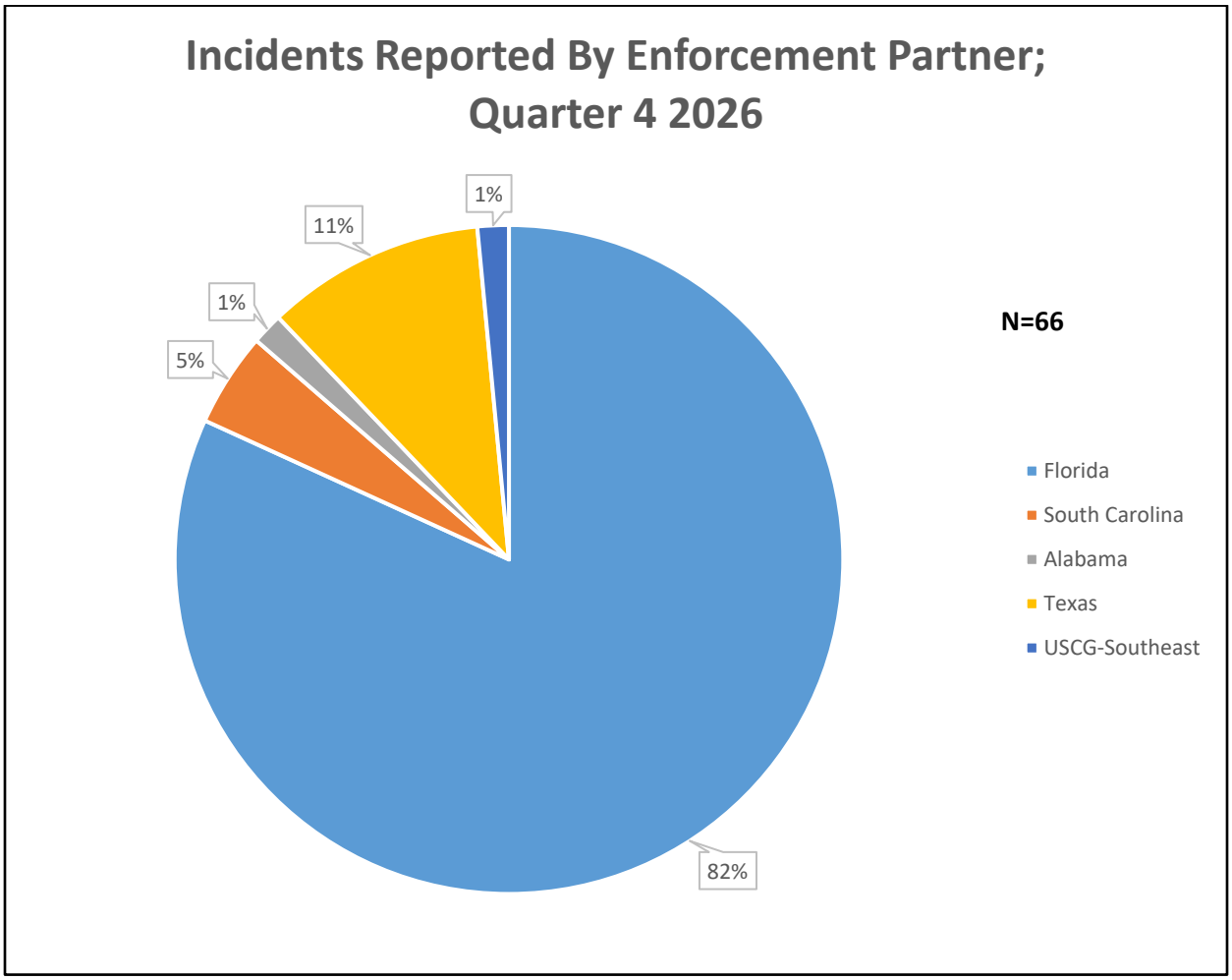
Number of Incidents by Primary Law/Regulation/Program and Location; Quarter 4, 2026 (CFMC)

Law/Regulation/Program	PR	USVI	Total
Magnuson Stevens Act	1		1
Endangered Species Act			0
Highly Migratory Species	1		1
Lacey Act			0
Marine Mammal Protection Act			0
Marine Sanctuaries Act			0
International Trade Program			0
TOTAL	2	0	**2**

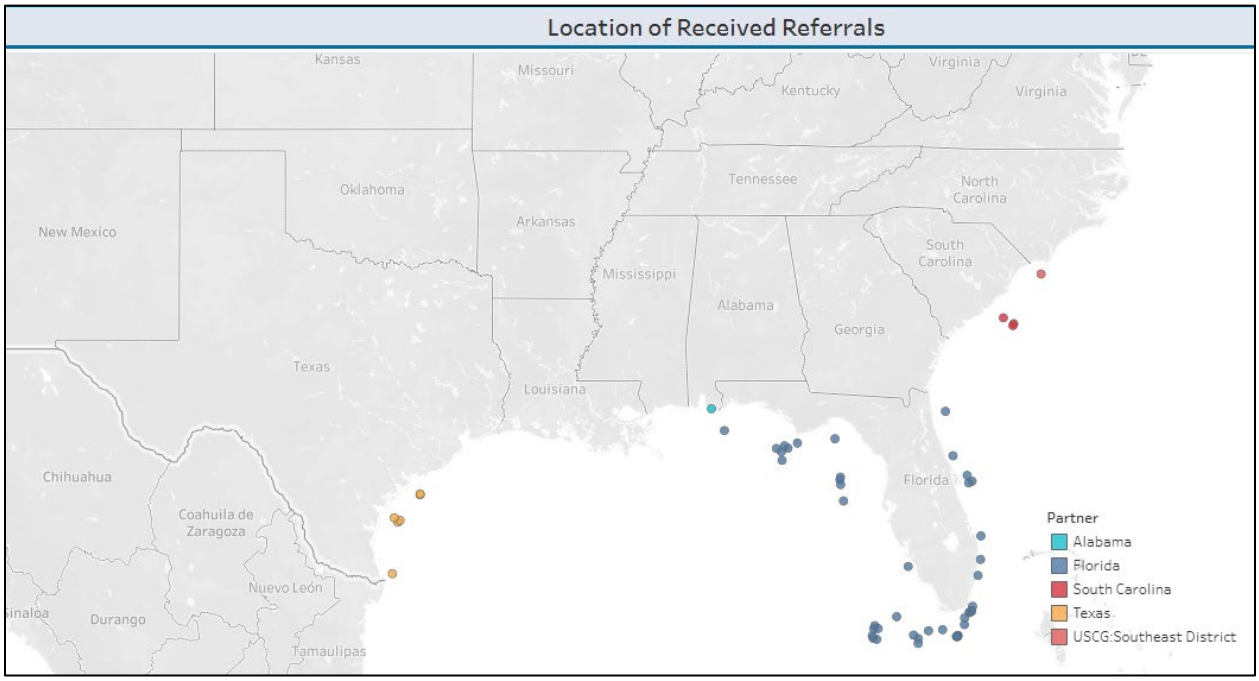


Summary of Cases by Joint Enforcement Agreement and United States Coast Guard Partners

Throughout Quarter 4, 2026, there were 66 cases referred to OLE-SED through Joint Enforcement Agreement (JEA) and United States Coast Guard (USCG) partners. Below is a summary showing the overall distribution of cases initiated by partner, and a breakdown of case counts by primary law/regulation/program, per enforcement partner[1]. Effort consisted of dockside vessel boardings, offshore vessel boardings and interaction with the general public and industry members.



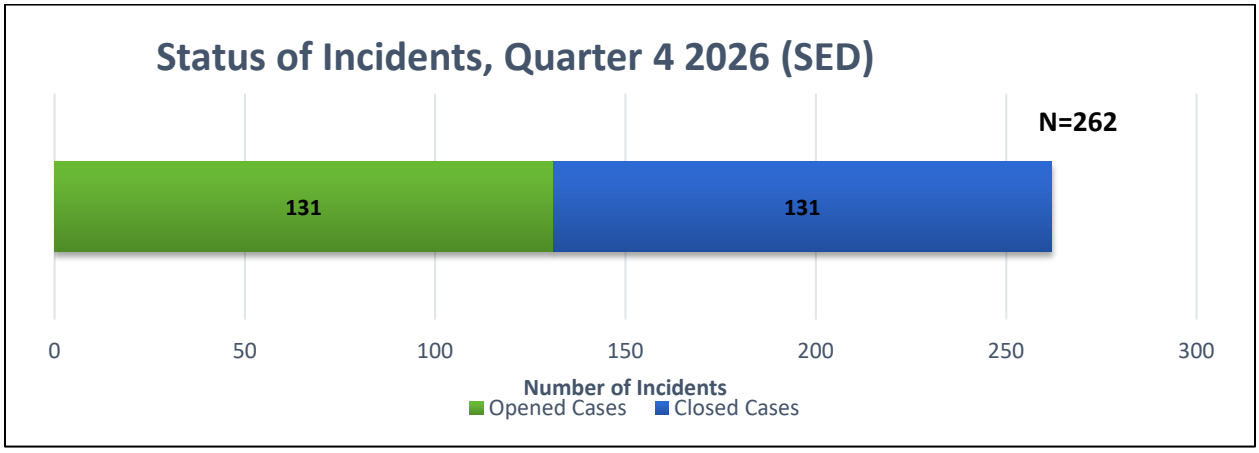
Law/Regulation/Program	FL	AL	SC	TX	USCG-Southeast	TOTALS
Magnuson Stevens Act (MSFCMA)	36	1	3	7	1	48
Endangered Species Act (ESA)	3					3
Highly Migratory Species						0
Lacey Act	5					5
Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)						0
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	10					10
TOTALS	**54**	**1**	**3**	**7**	**1**	**66**

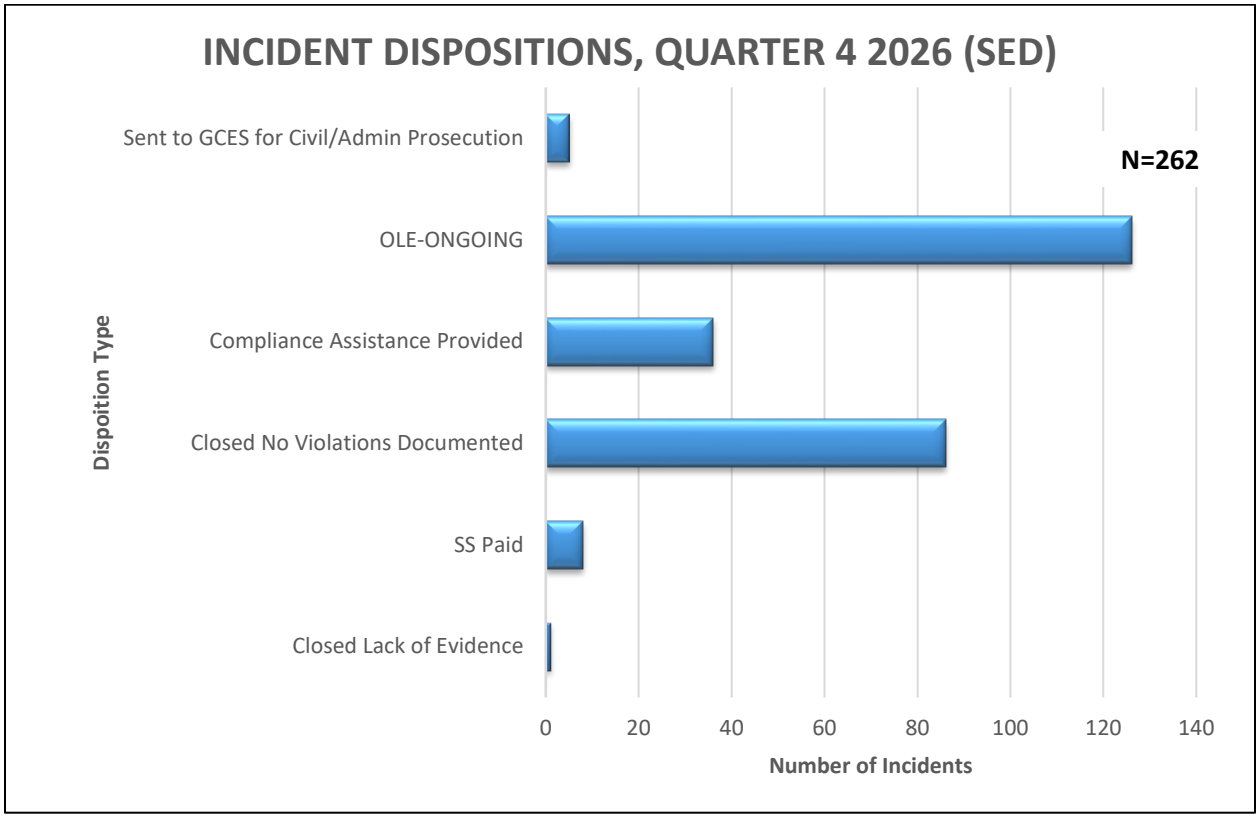


[1] total individual counts may be greater than opened cases due to multiple counts charged for separate cases

Caseload Snapshot

Below is a breakdown of the initiated incidents **(262)** throughout the quarter, by status and disposition. The total also includes cases referred to OLE-SED by our enforcement partners. Throughout the quarter, enforcement personnel were able to complete investigations and close **50%** of the incoming workload.





Enforcement Highlights

Highly Migratory Species

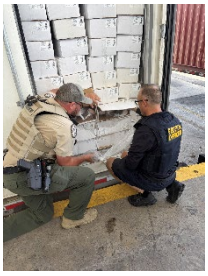
Two Harlingen, TX enforcement officers (EO)s conducted an operation targeting a local offshore fishing tournament to enforce federal Highly Migratory Species (HMS) regulations. The operation identified one vessel with an expired federal HMS permit, resulting in appropriate enforcement action and disqualification by tournament officials. All other participants were in full compliance.

During a recent patrol, a Houston, TX EO issued a $500 summary settlement offer (SSO) to a recreational angler for possessing a yellowfin tuna without a valid Highly Migratory Species Angling Permit.

Lacey Act

Miami, FL special agents (SA)s delivered two SSOs to the subjects of two separate cases. In both instances, the vessel owners fished in Bahamian waters, exceeded Bahamian bag limits, and were boarded by Joint Enforcement Agreement (JEA) partners. The subjects admitted to the violations during interviews with both JEA officers and OLE SAs.

Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing



A Miami-based EO, alongside U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), conducted an Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing import patrol at the Port of Palm Beach. Inspections targeted compliance with Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP) requirements and state import regulations for red snapper.



EOs from Miami, Cape Canaveral and Savannah, GA conducted an IUU operation at Miami International Airport in coordination with JEA partners FWC and CBP. During the operation, officers identified a state misdemeanor violation involving 121 undersized imported hogfish. The agencies worked collaboratively, and the violations remain under investigation. Several additional entries were sampled and conditionally held pending further investigation.



A Jacksonville, FL SA conducted a state import operation with FWC and Florida State Agriculture Law Enforcement at the Florida/Georgia state line. Commercial interstate and international shipments entering the state were inspected and seven seafood shipments were identified. One violation was found for a dealer not having a valid Florida wholesale license.

Cape Canaveral and Miami, FL EOs, in coordination with FWC officers, conducted a joint inspection of a seafood shipment imported from Suriname. The shipment contained approximately 3,930 pounds of frozen whole gutted gray triggerfish. During the inspection, approximately 300 triggerfish were measured and determined to be under Florida's required 12-inch minimum size for possession and importation into the state. Based on the violations documented during the joint inspection, CBP ordered denial of entry and destruction of the noncompliant shipment.

Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP) and Port State Measures Act (PSMA)

A Miami, FL SA targeted, examined, and rejected two containers of yellowfin tuna products imported into the Port of Miami from Thailand. The products were harvested by Indonesian-flagged vessels in the Western Pacific Ocean and imported without the Certificates of Admissibility required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Import Provisions.

A Harlingen, TX EO initiated and completed a Lacey Act investigation after CBP agents at the Brownsville, Texas Port of Entry intercepted an individual attempting to import seafood from Mexico into the United States. The seafood was concealed in clear, unlabeled plastic shopping bags and imported in violation of applicable import requirements. A summary settlement offer of $250 was issued to the subject.

Marine Mammal Protection Act

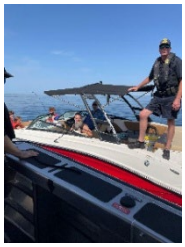
A Panama City, FL SA testified at a Mobile, Alabama federal administrative hearing regarding the revocation of a captain's U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential. The hearing addressed allegations of shooting and poisoning bottlenose dolphins, operating a permitted vessel under the influence, endangering passenger safety, and violating the MMPA, Clean Water Act, and Ocean Dumping Act.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act



A Panama City, FL EO conducted a joint vessel patrol with FWC officers aboard an FWC offshore patrol vessel within the Madison-Swanson Marine Protected Area (MPA) in the Gulf of Mexico. Officers documented multiple recreational vessels and one commercial vessel fishing inside the MPA. Observed violations included discarding fish upon law enforcement's approach, an inoperable, using reef fish as bait, possessing finfish not in whole condition, undersized and out-of-season fish, and operating a charter without a federal permit. The EO assisted FWC with preparing federal case referrals.





During a 3-day commercial red snapper enforcement operation, EOs patrolled the EEZ from Cape Canaveral to Fort Pierce (including the Oculina Experimental Closed Area) and inspected landside offloads. Officers contacted 48 vessels and documented 19 violations, including red snapper overages, missing gear/permits, illegal vessel markings, and undersized catch.

A Jacksonville, FL SA issued a $2,500 SSO to the owner and operator of a commercial fishing vessel for failing to comply with observer selection requirements on 15 trips.

A Jacksonville, FL SA issued a $1,244 summary settlement offer to the owner and operator of a commercial fishing vessel for landing 23 Mutton Snapper over the commercial limit. This case was referred by FL FWC.

A Jacksonville, FL SA received and reviewed an FWC case package regarding recreational fishermen in possession of 47 wrung spiny lobster tails and three red snapper, all during a closed season. A $2,075 summary settlement offer was issued.

National Marine Sanctuaries





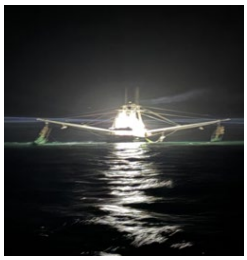
SED deployed four boat crews to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to monitor, detect, and deter violations of sanctuary regulations before, during and after the two day lobster mini season. Crews patrolled protected areas throughout the entire sanctuary and coordinated efforts with USCG and FWC officers. Varying types of sanctuary and Magnuson violations were detected throughout the 20 patrols taken during the mini season.

Cooperative Enforcement/Partnerships

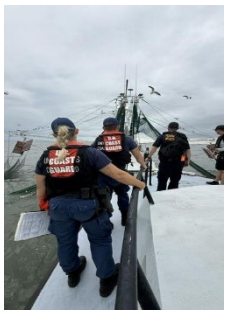
A Houston, TX EO conducted a joint underway patrol with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Game Wardens in the Gulf Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) off Matagorda, Texas. Officers boarded five recreational vessels to monitor compliance with federal fisheries regulations, documenting one vessel in possession of an undersized cobia and another exceeding the red snapper bag limit.

A Harlingen, Texas EO participated in a multi-agency maritime enforcement operation with local, state, and federal partners. The operation identified fisheries violations involving Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) and the 75/25 rule. Additionally, during the operation, CBP located and interdicted a foreign fishing vessel attempting to fish illegally within the U.S. EEZ (no fish were located on the vessel).

Patrols/VMS/Catch Shares



Houston and League City, TX EOs conducted a joint patrol off Port Arthur, TX, with TPWD and USCG Station Sabine to enforce the July 15 shrimp season opener. Officers cited a commercial shrimp trawler caught fishing before the official opening time and issued the owner/operator a citation for minor TED violations.



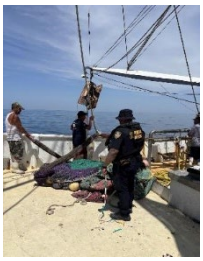


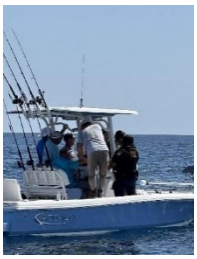
NC and GA EOs collaborated with NC Marine Patrol and the USCG to inspect shrimp trawlers in Pamlico Sound. Officers completed multiple boardings before severe weather hit, detecting one bent TED bar that was corrected on-site. No other federal violations were noted.

Investigative Support (IS) personnel conducted multiple outreach calls to vessel owners and operators; weekly. The outreach involved VMS compliance, including submission of correct forms and power down authorizations.

IS staff detected and referred multiple vessels to EOs for possible infractions. The referrals involved failure to submit prelanding notices, insufficient IFQ, and failure to submit declarations. Folders with supporting documentation were provided for each referral.

Automated geofenced VMS alerts regarding closed area requirements triggered messages to vessels. All VMS messages have been logged and are being tracked for future reference.





Enforcement Officers conducted a joint reef fish enforcement patrol operation with TPWD, off Port Aransas, Texas. Boarding crews inspected 15 charter, recreational, and commercial fishing vessels, during which EOs documented TE) violations on commercial shrimp trawler. Rough sea conditions impacted vessel operations and limited overall boarding opportunities.

Compliance Assistance/Outreach/Education/Public Affairs

IS personnel contacted 21 bottom longline vessels that have fished this year and were reminded about the bottom longline restricted area. There has been increased activity in this area recently.




The Compliance Liaison and a St Petersburg, FL EO presented at a local cub scout event, teaching kids who and what our mission is. We emphasized best conservation practices, including not to feed wildlife. All cub scouts were deputized as junior agents and encouraged to treat wildlife with respect.

Training/Other

A SC SA provided multiple presentations to a USCG SRFTC class. The agent discussed evidence, jurisdiction and case package preparation. He also addressed officer safety and provided relevant case examples. The agent was followed by a presentation from a GCES attorney.



A Houston, TX EO, alongside the NOAA Gear Monitoring Team, conducted TED compliance inspections at the Galveston Shrimp Basin ahead of the Texas shrimp season opening. Officers boarded six commercial shrimp vessels to verify compliance and provided hands-on assistance by identifying and correcting minor TED discrepancies. Additionally, over 15 TPWD Game Wardens participated to enhance their TED inspection proficiency, strengthening state-federal partnerships and ensuring consistent regulatory enforcement.

A St. Petersburg, FL EO conducted an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) workshop in Cedar Key for a commercial fisherman newly entering the program. Several local Florida FWC officers attended, utilizing the session as a training opportunity for those new to the complex IFQ program. To

facilitate a smooth transition into the Catch Shares online system, the EO provided essential educational field guides and helped formulate a tailored operational fishing plan.

A Harlingen, TX EO and TPWD officers conducted a joint JEA boarding of a federally permitted headboat off Texas, following reports of bag-limit violations and reef fish used as bait. Operating as a private charter with 25 passengers, the vessel yielded one red snapper over the legal limit. TPWD cited the captain for illegal importation of a federally managed species and seized the fish as evidence.

The Compliance Liaison represented OLE at the 2026 National Observer Program Advisory Team meeting, presenting an overview of FY26 observer-related incidents and division highlights. The meeting covered national concerns, including drug and alcohol policies and methods to ensure observer safety while deployed.

Media

A Dallas-based seafood wholesaler was sentenced on two counts of Lacey Act violations. The criminal case involved falsely labeled salmon entering U.S. commerce. The sentence includes a $250,000 fine, three years of probation, and a mandatory environmental compliance plan. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/dallas-seafood-business-fined-250000-falsifying-country-origin-salmon

A St Petersburg, FL SA led an investigation which led to a criminal indictment for illegally smuggled clams into the U.S. https://www.justice.gov/usao-edar/pr/mabelvale-woman-indicted-illegally-smuggling-clams-united-states



The SAFMC 2025 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award was presented to a NOAA OLE South Carolina special agent for notable case work related to commercial trip fraud and overage case, resulting in a criminal conviction: https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/south-carolina-fisherman-convicted-falsifying-catch-records-and-lying-federal-agents

Overview of Summary Settlements

Listed below is a summary of the 28 Summary Settlement penalties issued during the quarter. The most frequently observed violation types cited involved retention during closure, undersize possesion and/or lack of descender or turtle mitigation devices (8), Unpermitted fishing activity (5), and Fishing in closed areas (3). 13 violations were cited throughout the Gulf region, 10 violations were cited throughout the South Atlantic region, 5 violations in the Keys area and 0 in the Caribbean region.

LAW/REG/PROGRAM	Brief Synopsis	SS Amount	STATE
Endangered Species Act	TED/BRD Requirements	$1,000	TX
Highly Migratory Species	Unpermitted HMS Fishing Activity	$500	TX
Highly Migratory Species	Unpermitted HMS Fishing Activity; Undersize Possession	$250	FL WEST
Highly Migratory Species	Reporting Requirements	$250	TX
Highly Migratory Species	Unpermitted HMS Fishing Activity	$250	TX
Highly Migratory Species	Unpermitted HMS Fishing Activity	$500	TX
International Trade Program	SIMP Requirements	$250	TX
International Trade Program	SIMP Requirements	$250	TX
Lacey Act	Possession Requirements	$1,675	FL EAST
Lacey Act	Possession Requirements	$1,725	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Open Access Permit; Undersize Possession; Lack of Descender Device	$1,600	GA
Magnuson Stevens Act	Retention During Closure; Undersize Possession	$2,400	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Open Access Permit	$500	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Observer Program Requirements	$2,500	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Commercial Trip Limits Exceeded	$1,244	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Retention During Closure	$2,075	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Undersize Possession; Using Reef Fish as Bait	$500	FL WEST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Undersize Possession	$400	FL KEYS
Magnuson Stevens Act	Undersize Possession	$350	FL WEST

Magnuson Stevens Act	IFQ Program Requirements	$1,000	FL WEST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Using Reef Fish as Bait	$275	FL WEST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Open Access Permit	$750	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Fishing in Closed Area	$250	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Open Access Permit	$500	FL KEYS
Magnuson Stevens Act	Retention During Closure	$800	TX
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	Fishing within Sanctuary Preservation Area	$300	FL KEYS
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	Fishing within Sanctuary Preservation Area	$600	FL KEYS
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	Grounding	$350	FL KEYS

Investigative Support Program

Southeast Division Active Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Population: 854

Population Breakdown by (VMS) Fisheries

FISHERY	VESSELS
HMS Pelagic Longline	**67**
HMS Shark	**6**
Gulf Reef Fish	**515**
Rock Shrimp	**47**
Southeast For Hire*	**219**
TOTAL	**854**

*VMS no longer required for the for-hire fleet, but units still reporting are noted

The Investigative Support Program staff play a vital role in ensuring compliance and provide assistance to enforcement officers and special agents. Staff received and processed 67 referrals from JEA partners. Case support to the field was provided as well, with work ranging from processing summary settlements (37), preparing incident reports for GCES, in support of prosecution (12), confirming vessel ownership and track lines, validating AIS data and creating chartlets. During the quarter, fishing trips were monitored via VMS to detect potential violations. Violations ranging from fishing in closed areas, improper gear use and failure to comply with reporting requirements (trip declarations, daily reports, and pre-landing notices) were detected by Investigative Support staff and 21 vessels were referred to enforcement officers or special agents for follow-up. Staff technicians documented 427 emails and phone calls with permit holders regarding VMS requirements. Staff initiated targeted warnings and messages to vessels following observation of suspected VMS or fishing violations, including 244 automated VMS messages sent to notify 76 vessels in real-time about closed area regulations and incursions. Staff also provided targeted education and outreach to vessel owners daily.

Investigative Support Program technicians recently contributed to some notable investigations resulting in overall compliance with industry including:

- An IFQ vessel landing early at an unapproved location, without any notifications sent
- An IFQ vessel repeatedly submitting partial landing notifications with no accompanying dealer landing transactions
- Vessel monitoring and verification of a rock shrimp vessel found fishing without permits in/near Oculina Bank

The IS Program also ensures vessels report via a type-approved VMS unit and work with VMS vendors to contact industry if deficiencies are detected. Recently, VMS vendor Addvalue is planning to remove itself from type approval effective January 1, 2027. Vessels were contacted by the vendor and reminded to find and new provider prior to January 1, 2027, to remain in compliance.

Observer Program Highlights

During FY Quarter 4, 2026, the Southeast Fisheries Observer Program deployed on 139 trips for 768 sea days. Approximately 97% of all selected trips were completed without an observer-related enforcement incident [assault/harassment (sexual and non-sexual), safety, interference]. Observer programs reported 29 potential fishery violations to OLE-SED. The Shrimp Program deployed on 17 trips for 289 sea days, and the Reef Fish Program deployed on 24 trips for 136 sea days. The Shark Research and deepwater longline Program deployed on 19 trips for 78 sea days, and the South Atlantic Reef Fish Program deployed on 24 trips for 136 sea days. The Pelagic Observer Program deployed on 20 trips for 192 sea days. The summary below details the type of observer-related complaints received during Quarter 3 (calendar year) of 2026, for all fisheries covered.

COMPLAINT TYPE	Shrimp Fishery	South Atlantic Reef Fishery	Gulf Reef Fishery	Pelagic Longline Fishery	Shark Fishery	Totals
ASSAULT						0
HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATE						0
SAMPLING INTERFERENCE	1		2	1		4
SAFETY						0
NON-COMPLIANT FOR OBSERVER COVERAGE	9	3	4	1		17
HANDLING			1	7		8
GEAR		1		1		2
RETENTION		1				1
SPATIAL		1				1
TOTALS	10	6	7	10	0	33

Cases Referred For Prosecution

Listed below is a summary of the 16 cases forwarded to NOAA Office of General Counsel Enforcement Section (GCES) and/or the United States Attorney Office/Department of Justice for this quarter. Cases varied in violation type, with 7 occurring in the South Atlantic area, 6 in the Gulf area and 3 in the Florida Keys area.

LAW/REG/PROGRAM	VIOLATION	STATE
Endangered Species Act	North Atlantic Right Whale Speed Reduction Violations	MULTIPLE
Highly Migratory Species	Unpermitted HMS Fishing Activity	LA
International Trade Program	SIMP Requirements	FL EAST
International Trade Program	SIMP Requirements	FL EAST
Lacey Act	Possession Requirements	FL EAST
Lacey Act	Possession Requirements	FL EAST
Lacey Act	Possession Requirements	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	VMS Program Requirements	LA
Magnuson Stevens Act	Observer Program Requirements	FL WEST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Moratorium Access	FL WEST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Closed Area Incursion	FL KEYS
Magnuson Stevens Act	Closed Area Incursion	FL EAST
Magnuson Stevens Act	Unpermitted Charter Activity-Moratorium Access	LA
Marine Mammal Protection Act	Illegal Take/Harassment	FL WEST
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	Areas to Be Avoided	FL KEYS
National Marine Sanctuaries Act	Areas to Be Avoided	FL KEYS

*Cases sent to the United States Attorney Office/Department of Justice for criminal prosecution.

NOAA General Counsel Enforcement Section

Charging Information

The following Civil Administrative Enforcement Actions are results from NOAA GCES that occurred in the Southeast Division, from APRIL 2026- JUNE 2026 (available information since last report). Nationwide results may also be found at the enforcement charging information site

1. F/V Emily Ariel – Owner Zirlott Trawlers Inc. and Operator Jacob Sessions were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with possessing shrimp and/or anchoring in the Oculina Bank Habitat of Particular Concern. A $2,500 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for $2,250.

2. F/V Bleaufish – Operator Michael Henry and Owner Bleau Fishing LLC were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with possessing red snapper during a closed season, harvesting Atlantic snapper-grouper species in excess of applicable limits, and possessing Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) without a permit. 56 assorted fish were sold for $1078.23 and the proceeds were forfeited by abandonment. A $41,550 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for $37,395.

3. F/V Blue Water I – Permit Holder Jim Dandy Permits, LLC and Operator Alfred Szady were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with failing to comply with the requirements for observer coverage. A $5,750 NOVA was issued, and the case settled for $5,175.

4. F/V Seacario – Lessee Clear Water Holdings LLC, and Operators Joseph Edmund Von Thron and Gulf of America Outfitters LLC were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with fishing for Gulf reef fish in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) aboard a charter vessel without a federal charter permit and failing to maintain fish intact through landing ashore. A $24,500 NOVA was issued.

5. F/V Kalije Belle –Owner Kalije Belle Inc. and Operator Richard Osburn were charged jointly and severally under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with exceeding the bag limit for red grouper and red snapper after fishing with longline gear in the longline and buoy gear restricted area and with failing to provide notification at least three hours prior to landing Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) red snapper and red grouper. A $17,500 NOVA was issued.

6. F/V Reel Sick – Owner/Operator Edmundo Anthony Cantu Jr. d/b/a Come and Take It Saltwater Adventures was charged under the Magnuson-Stevens Act with fishing for Gulf reef fish in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) aboard a charter vessel without a federal charter permit. A $19,800 NOVA was issued.

7. M/Y Andrea's Revenge – Owners Joseph C. Blacker and Andrea M. Ambrosia were charged jointly and severally under the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act with violating the North Atlantic Right Whale speed rule. A $30,000 NOVA was issued.