



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



Enforcement Updates

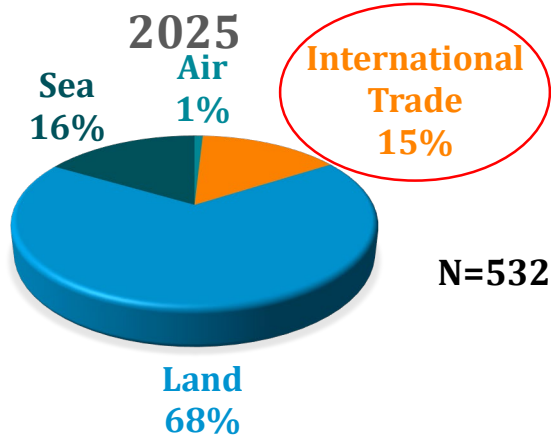
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting
June 9, 2025. Compliance Liaison Matt Walia



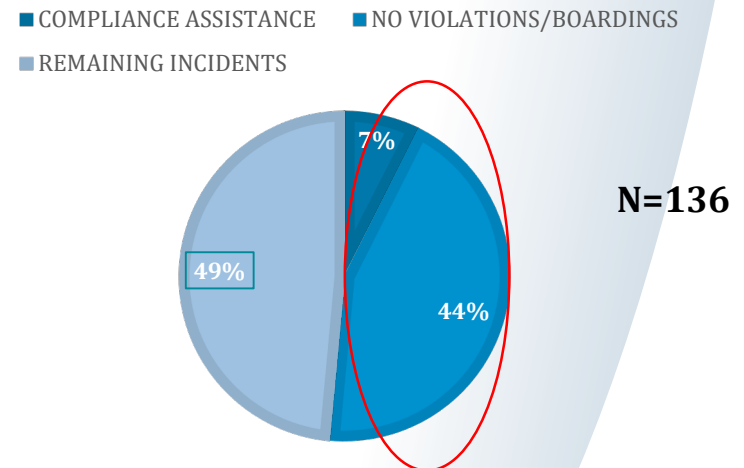
South Atlantic Snapshot

Priorities Shift and Effort

PATROL EFFORTS BY TYPE, SED



OUTREACH PROVIDED BY OLE, SAFMC FY25 QUARTER 2



NOAA
FISHERIES

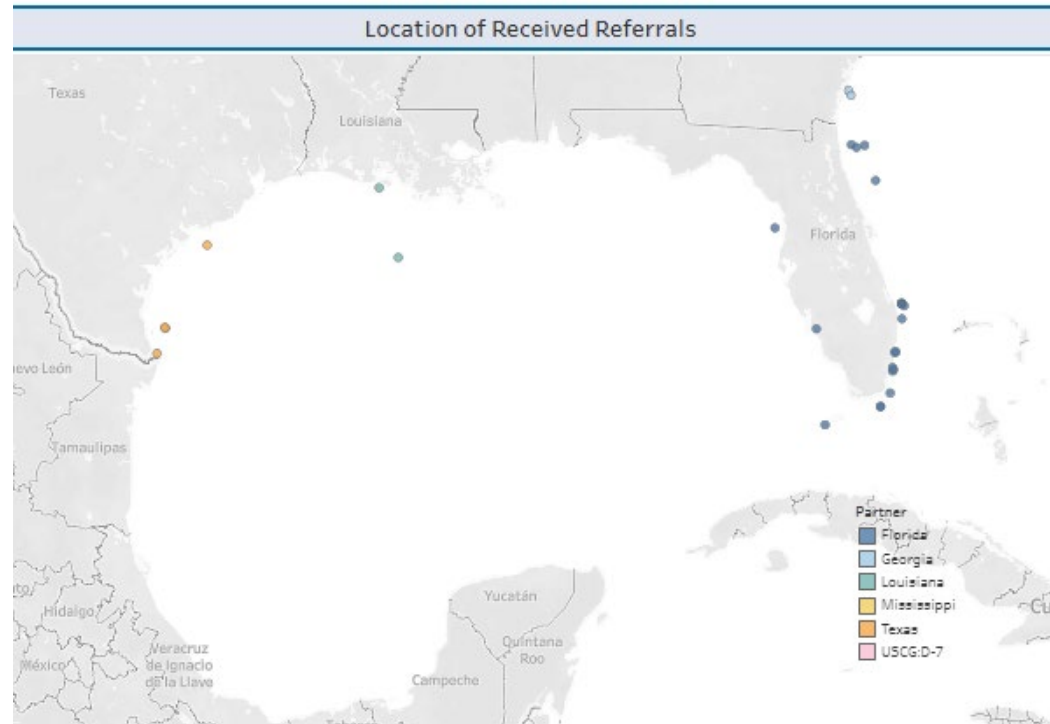


Enforcement Partnerships & Referrals

SAFMC Enforcement Partners



- **41 Overall Enforcement Referrals (QTR 2)**
 - Encompasses entire SED
 - Within SAFMC:
 - FWC (28), GADNR (2)

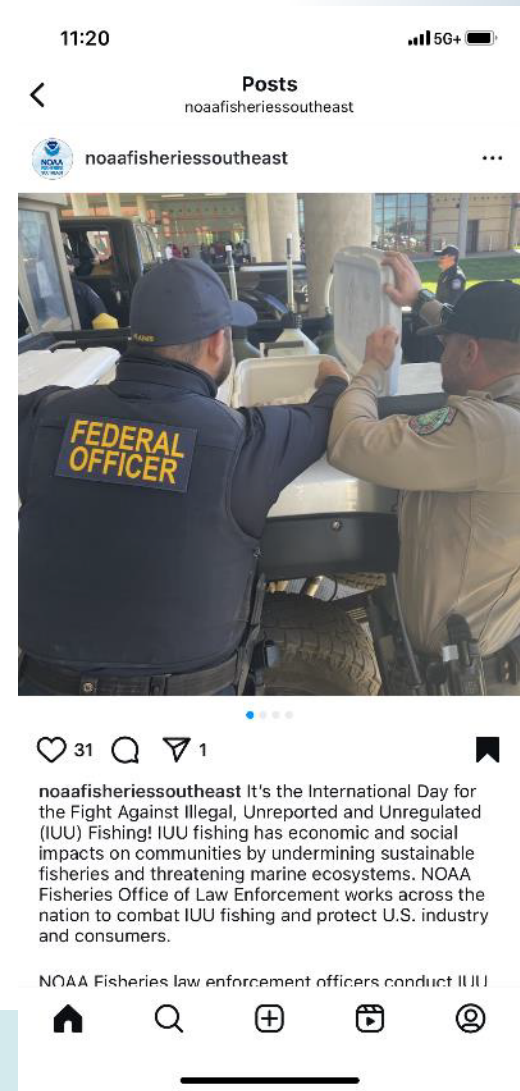


NOAA
FISHERIES



IUU ENFORCEMENT

- Seafood Fraud
- Domestic Seafood Protection
- Field DNA Testing





RECENT CASES

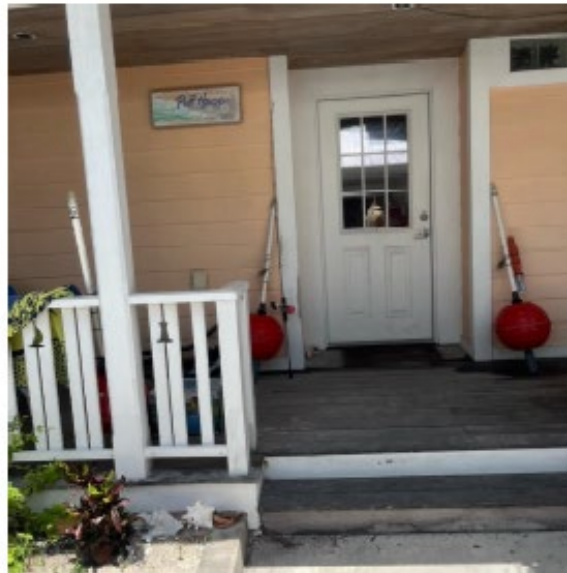
FALSE STATEMENTS-Criminal

- Trip Reports/Ignored quotas
- Lied to LEO
- 3 day trial/3 felony convictions
- Awaiting Sentencing



STOLEN GEAR

- Commercial Buoy
- Found in Bahamas
- Gear returned



NOAA
FISHERIES



RECENT CASES

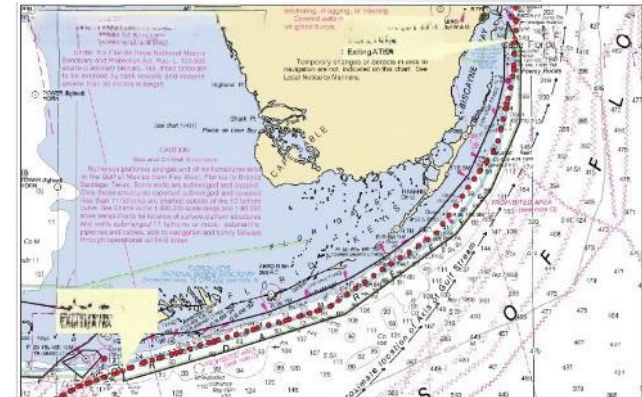
Commercial Snapper

- Trip Limit Exceeded
- Unaccounted Fish
- Multiple Gear Violations



PROTECTED AREAS/SANCTUARY

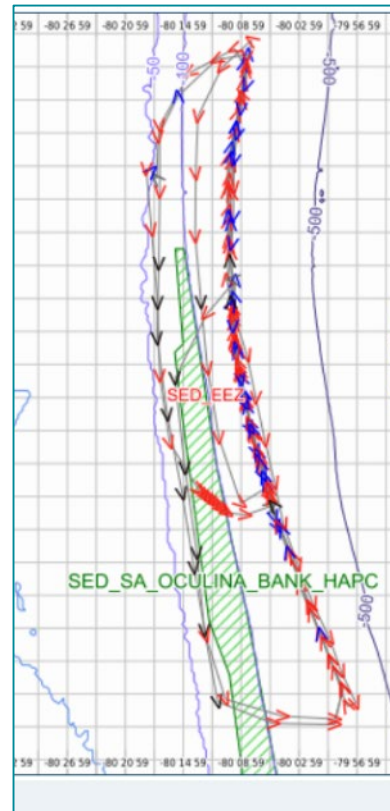
- Illegal Fishing
- Edisto MPA/Keys
- Areas To Be Avoided



NOAA
FISHERIES



Rock Shrimpers



- Enhanced VMS reporting in closed area only-verify transit vs fishing activity



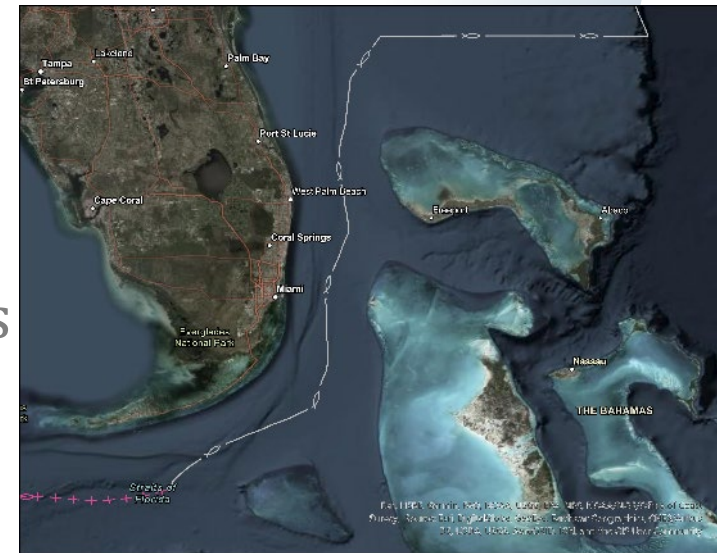
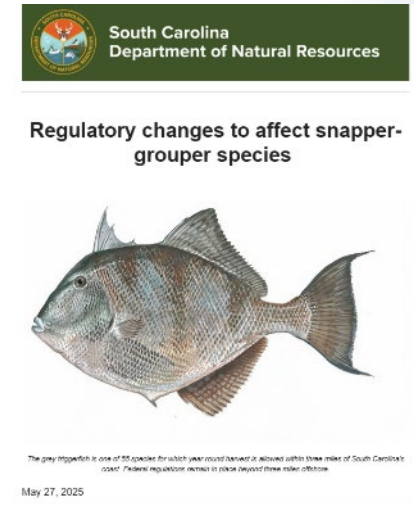
NOAA
FISHERIES



ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

- Recreational Red Snapper
 - Open 12:01 a.m., local time, on July 11, 2025, through 12:01 a.m., local time, on July 13, 2025.
- Recreational Blueline Tilefish
 - Closes **July 22**
- Recreational Gag
 - Closes **June 26**
- Bahamas Fishing
 - Declare in w/Bahamians
 - Single day vessel/per person bag limits
 - Transit on return-no stops
 - Skin on fillets

KNOW YOUR BOUNDARIES



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



Report A Violation

NOAA's Law Enforcement Hotline,
available 24/7 at
(800) 853-1964



May 2025

\$20,000 REWARD
Decapitated Dolphin - Lea Island



NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement is seeking information in the death of a bottlenose dolphin and help identifying those responsible for decapitating the dolphin on or around April 17, 2025. The stranding of a then-intact dolphin was reported from Lea-Island, NC. When authorities arrived to document the stranding, they discovered the dolphin was missing its head.

A reward of up to **\$20,000** may be paid for any information provided that leads to the successful issuance of a civil penalty or criminal conviction in this case.

Call 1-800-853-1964

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/enforcement/report-violation>



NOAA
FISHERIES

QUESTIONS



NOAA
FISHERIES