

South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council Enforcement Brief

JUNE 2026

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL

DELIVERED BY:

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CGD-SE (DRE-35); MIAMI, FL



Q2 US EEZ Enforcement

Foreign Fishing Vessels Detected: 0

Foreign Fishing Vessels Intercepted: 0

Foreign Fishing Vessels Interdicted: 0

- Summary: There were no US EEZ incursions in the 2nd Quarter of FY2026. This can be attributed to the increased presence in various threat vectors w/in the Area of Responsibility.

Q2 Domestic Fisheries Enforcement

- ▶ Total F/V Boardings: 45
 - ▶ Sector Charleston: 8
 - ▶ Sector Jacksonville: 1
 - ▶ Sector St. Petersburg: 5
 - ▶ Sector Key West: 28
 - ▶ Sector Miami: 2
 - ▶ Sector San Juan: 1
- ▶ Significant Violation Cases: 1
- ▶ Catch Seizures: 1
- ▶ Vessel Seizures: 0
- ▶ Summary: CGD-SE units conducted 45 LMR Enforcement Boardings in the 2nd quarter and noted numerous safety violations, LMR gear violations, crew manning violations, and one significant LMR violation for “fishing with an expired federal fisheries permit.”

Q2 Marine Protected Resources Enforcement

- ▶ Pulse Operations: 0
- ▶ Enforcement Cases: 0
- ▶ Assistance Requests: 0
- ▶ Responses: 0
- ▶ Outreach/Education: 0
- ▶ Summary: Nothing significant to report for the 2nd quarter.

Growing Trends w/in CGD-SE AOR

- ▶ Potential for Increased Lacey Act Violations Going Unchecked
 - ▶ Sector Miami & Sector Key West AORs
 - ▶ Bahamian Waters IVO of the Bahamas east of FL and Cay Sal Bank in the South FL Straits
 - ▶ Recreational Vessels departing US Waters from South FL, fishing in BHS waters w/o BHS permits, and bringing catch back to the US
 - ▶ Coordination with Sectors Miami & Key West, and RBDF to adequately stage assets in strategic areas to identify vessels actively engaged in fishing in BHS waters, then subsequently transiting back into US waters

Questions & Discussion

- ▶ IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE SERVING AS YOUR CGD-SE REPRESENTATIVE!
- ▶ ***NEW*** CGD-SE FISHERIES OFFICER
- ▶ LT JOHN HAKSTEEN
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