

Texas
LEC/LETC State Report – 10/12/21
Submitted by: Assistant Commander Leslie Casterline



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department continues to work closely with our State and Federal Partners to provide effective and efficient conservation law enforcement across the State of Texas as well as within the EEZ.

JEA Priority Hours/Enforcement Actions

| 2020 JEA Tracking Sheet | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| JEA Total Hours | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TED | | | Inspections Completed | Monthly Ted Inspections required | REEF Fish | | HMS | Flower Garden Banks | Charter for Hire | | IUU | IFQ |
| | NEAR SHORE | MID RANGE | 80' | | | MID RANGE | 80' | MID RANGE | 80' | NEAR SHORE | DOCKSIDE | DOCKSIDE | DOCKSIDE |
| SEPT | 9 | 8 | | 6 | 15 | 25 | 16 | | | | | | 6 |
| OCT | 80 | 47 | 12 | 27 | 9 | 24 | 20 | | | | | 32 | 13 |
| NOV | 24 | 16 | 32 | 16 | 9 | 28 | 8 | | | | | | |
| DEC | 16 | 32 | | 10 | 9 | 72 | 16 | | | | 56 | | 4 |
| JAN | 3 | 24 | 36 | 8 | 0 | 12 | | | | | 32 | | 2 |
| FEB | | | 24 | 0 | 0 | 8 | | | | | 40 | | 15 |
| MAR | 8 | 30 | | 9 | 9 | | 32 | | | | 168 | | 47.5 |
| APR | | 16 | | 7 | 13 | 24 | 24 | | 40 | 24 | 160 | | 20 |
| MAY | 48 | 8 | | 12 | 11 | | | 20 | | 8 | 104 | | 31 |
| JUNE | 8 | 8 | | 4 | 9 | 52 | 44 | 44 | 56 | 40 | 80 | 24 | |
| JULY | 48 | 113 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 20 | 30 | 76 | | 47 | 124 | 97 | |
| AUG | 85 | 124 | 38 | 40 | 15 | 24 | 48 | 122 | | 130 | 219 | 6 | 13 |
| TOTAL HOURS COMPLETED | 329 | 426 | 162 | 163 | 123 | 289 | 238 | 262 | 96 | 249 | 983 | 159 | 151.5 |

| CONTACTS | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN CONTACTED | 567 |
| RECREATIONAL FISHERMAN CONTACTED | 725 |
| COMMERCIAL VESSEL CONTACTS | 218 |
| RECREATIONAL VESSEL CONTACTS | 176 |
| VIOLATIONS | |
| STATE | 10 WARNINGS/19 CITATIONS |
| FEDERAL | 33 CASES REFERRED TO NOAA |

Grants/Projects

In addition to JEA funded patrols Texas Parks and Wildlife Department participates in NRDA funded patrols which concentrate on Ted Enforcement along the Texas Coast.

Regulatory Changes/Legislation

This February, Winter Storm URI negatively impacted the spotted seatrout population along the Texas Coast. As a result of this the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission enacted emergency spotted seatrout regulations. The emergency rule began on April 1, 2021 and was set to run through July 29th. The emergency rule was then extended another 60 days and ran through September 27, 2021. These changes were implemented to reduce harvesting pressure, thereby leaving more mature fish in the water during the summer spawning season. At the conclusion of the 60-day extension the emergency rule expired.

IUU/Lancha Statistics

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department continues to focus on IUU enforcement at our Ports of Entry and on our waterways along the Texas/ Mexico border. IUU fishing continues to be a concern along the Texas/Mexico border as the lancha fleet continues to negatively impact our natural resources. In addition to JEA funding, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has provided State funding to increase IUU enforcement.

IUU FISHING ENCOUNTERED ALONG THE TX/MX BORDER

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT 2020-2021 GULF OF MEXICO LANCHA STATISTICS

| YEAR | LANCHA TURN BACKS | LANCHA INTERDICTIONS | GILL NET SEIZURES | LONG LINE SEIZURES |
|------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 2020 | 20 | 3 | 2,500 FT. | 112,600 FT. |
| 2021 | 25 | 3 | 9,950 FT. | 70,800 FT. |

