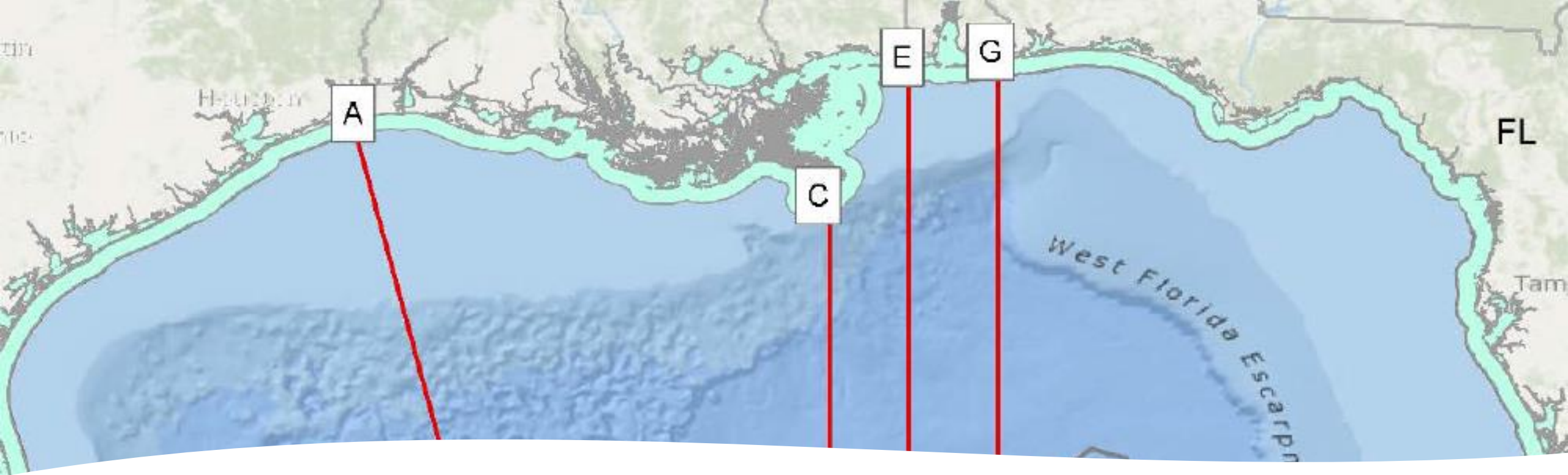




## August 2020 Gulf Council Presentation Texas LE





# State Management of Red Snapper

- Texas patrolled XXX hours in the EEZ off of Texas to measure compliance with the season closure.
- 35 closed area violations were discovered and referred to NOAA OLE for prosecution.
- The EEZ opened on June 1<sup>st</sup> and closed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Texas Game Wardens Patrolled state and federal waters to measure compliance with bag and size limits.
- Texas imposed a 2 fish limit for the EEZ and 4 fish limit for state waters.
- 5 violations were discovered for limit violations
- 16 violations were discovered for retention of undersized fish



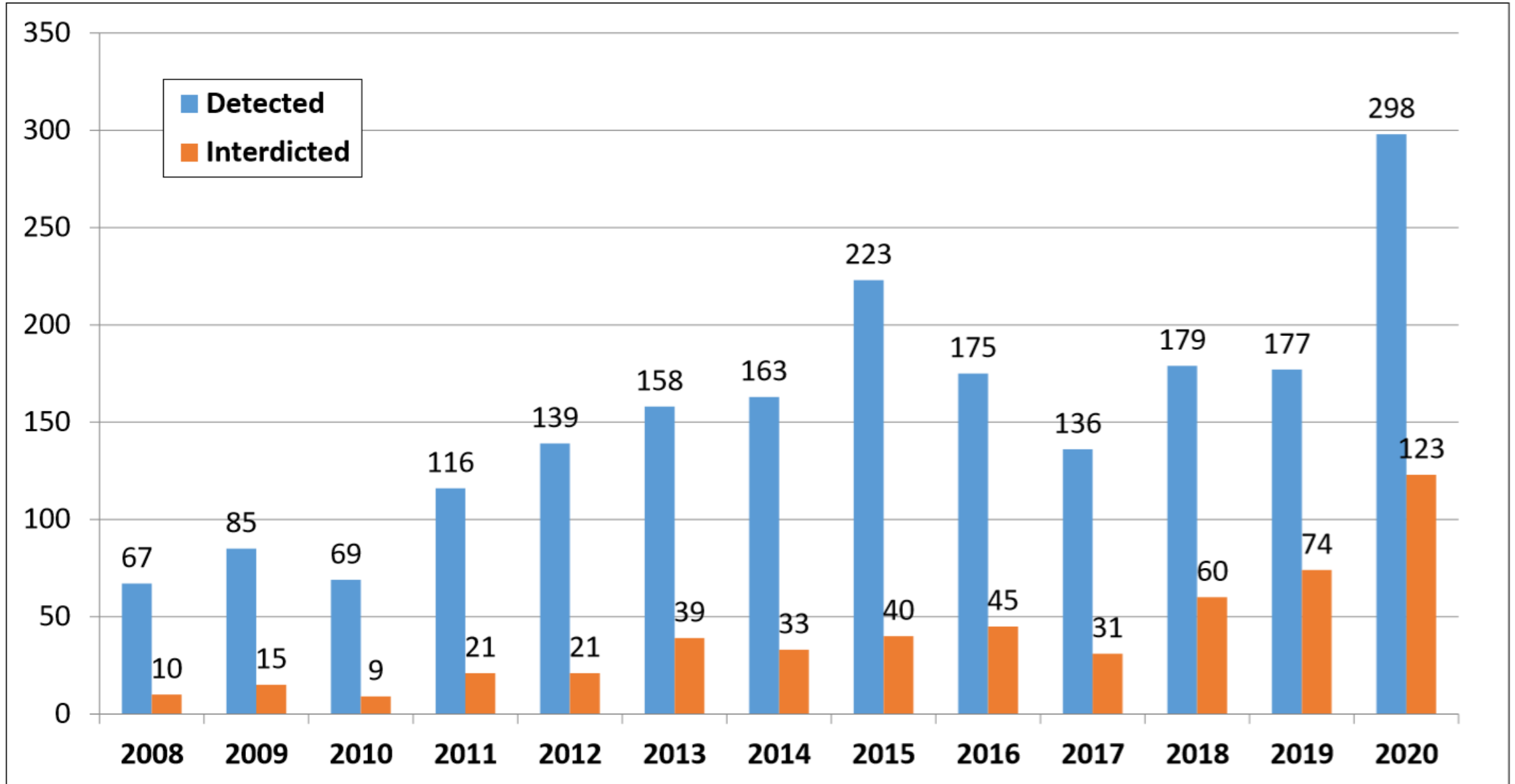
# Foreign Vessel Incursions

- 123 number of apprehensions
- Estimated # of lbs caught
- Pictured is 1500 lbs caught 1 vessel
- 3 vessels attempting to return to Mexico after fishing within the EEZ off of Texas. Apprehended one vessel the other two returned to Mexico with their catch of red snapper. The other two vessels contained similar cargo quantity.



## Lancha Detections vs Interdictions: FY 2008-2020

In FY20 we have interdicted **123** lanchas, exceeding last year's record high!





# Shrimp Fishery

## Endangered Species Act

Turtle Excluder Device compliance

JEA funding / NRDA funding

574 / 991 Patrol Hours respectively

143 vessels checked

19 violations discovered

## Federal / State Fisheries Management Rules

Licensing

Seasons

Bag limits



# 85' Patrol Vessel PV Murchisson

TPWD made two trips to the Flower Garden Banks.

Many of the mooring buoys have broken free and are unavailable. Replacement of the buoys is needed.

TPWD Hopes to continue working with NOAA OLE and Flower banks staff to monitor and protect the sanctuary.







## HMS CMP Enforcement

Illegal fishing gear from foreign fishing vessels continues to have the largest impact on HMS species.

1 shrimping vessel was found to be retaining shark fins.





# OPERATION REEL-IT-IN



## Concept of Operations

- Focus efforts towards illegal charter operations.
- Promote/ensure safety of charter vessel operations.
- Enforce applicable regulations to the Uninspected Passenger Vessels.
- Enforce Federal and recreational fisheries violations.

## Additional Significant Events

- 01 MX Lancha seized in state waters, 04 MX nationals transferred to SPI PD. Vessel, gear and catch seized.
- 01 case of illegal possession of shark fins on the F/V Captain Michael III. Shark fins were discovered in the vessels freezer within the wheelhouse. (Case pending further investigation, not media releasable)

## Investigations

- 56 vessels visited at various marinas.
- 26 were found to be operating as guides.
- 20 operators were found non-compliant with Drug and Alcohol program requirements.
- Received 03 tips of non-credential mariners using synthetic urine to evade drug tests.

## Enforcement Action Results (Previous Day/Total)

Boardings Conducted:	92
Illegal Charters:	01 suspected, investigation ongoing
Fisheries Violations:	44 (separate from slide 2 violations)
Safety Violations:	04
Terminations:	03