

# Gulf of Mexico Offshore Patrol



# Mission

Providing highly capable offshore assets to protect, educate and promote conservation of our nation's offshore marine resources, while ensuring a safe experience for Florida's fishing and boating communities.

# Vessel Class

- Heavy Endurance-85' Gulf Sentry & 65' Randall
- Medium Endurance-45' Guardian, 38' Sentinel, 38' Interceptor
- Intermediate Patrol Class-Two 32' Fincats

# Offshore assets in the Gulf of Mexico

- 32' Fincat, 38' Sentinel, & 45' Guardian- Panhandle
- 32' Fincat-Crystal River
- 85' Gulf Sentry-St. Petersburg
- 65' Randall-Marco Island
- 38' Interceptor-Keys

# Significant cases

## FV Honey Bee

- Longlining inside the 20 fathom line
- Possession of prohibited coral
- Interference
- Seizure of product
- Penalty over \$50,000.00



## Honey Bee continued



# Significant cases continued

## FV Juma

- Using reef fish as bait
- Using shark as bait
- Longlining with over 1,200 hooks  
(only 750 are allowed)
- Federal charges filed



# FV Juma continued





## Miss Ruby then Recreational Boat

- Miss Ruby Longlining with 807 hooks (only 750 allowed)
- No reef fish permit and no longline endorsement.
- NOVA issued
- Recreational boat with hidden grouper filets



# Outreach

## Marine Quest





**GULF SENTRY**

837L-1007-JA



FWC

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION  
**STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT**

## 2016 Offshore Cases

- Feb.- Longline vessel using reef fish as bait
- Feb.- Recreational vessel in possession of Gag Grouper during closed season
- Mar.- Charter captain running charters without proper USCG credentials
- April-Recreational vessel using Red Grouper as bait
- April-Longline vessel using King Mackerel as bait
- April-Charter captain running charters without proper USCG credentials

## Using King Mackerel on Longline



# Rescue of Commercial Fisherman and numerous offshore and near shore calls for service



## Rescue of Commercial Fisherman Cont.





Questions?