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**FISHERIES**

Office of Law  
Enforcement

# Health, Safety and Security (HSS) Issues

Port State Measures Training Program

Annex E – Element 2

# Personal Protective Equipment

- Body armor
- Intermediate weapon
- Handcuffs
- Personal flotation device (at sea)
- Latex gloves
- Protective gloves
- Flashlight



# Boarding Kit

- Backpack
- Regulations
- Notepad / paper / pens / markers
- Forms / enforcement action report
- Seizure / evidence materials
- Camera
- Measurement tools (fish/gear)

# Pre-Boarding: Observations

- Vessel activity
- Crew reaction
- Vessel maneuvers (unless in port)
- Type of vessel
- Vessel and gear condition
- Number and activity of people
- Vessel flag / nationality / name
- Electronics
- Unusual hull markings

# Pre-Boarding: Hazards for consideration

- Weather and sea state
- Wet or slick surfaces
- Infectious diseases (*e.g.*, Malaria, Ebola, H1N1, etc.)
- Hazardous chemicals
- Cables/lines
- Stairs, ladders, and other uneven surfaces
- Knives and other sharp objects
- Confined spaces
- Others?





# Observations

What do you think?



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# Dockside Considerations

- Moorings
- Tides
- Vessel configuration
- Surrounding vessels
  - People
  - Activity
- In-port activities
  - Mending nets
  - Cutting lines
  - Dressing/filleting fish



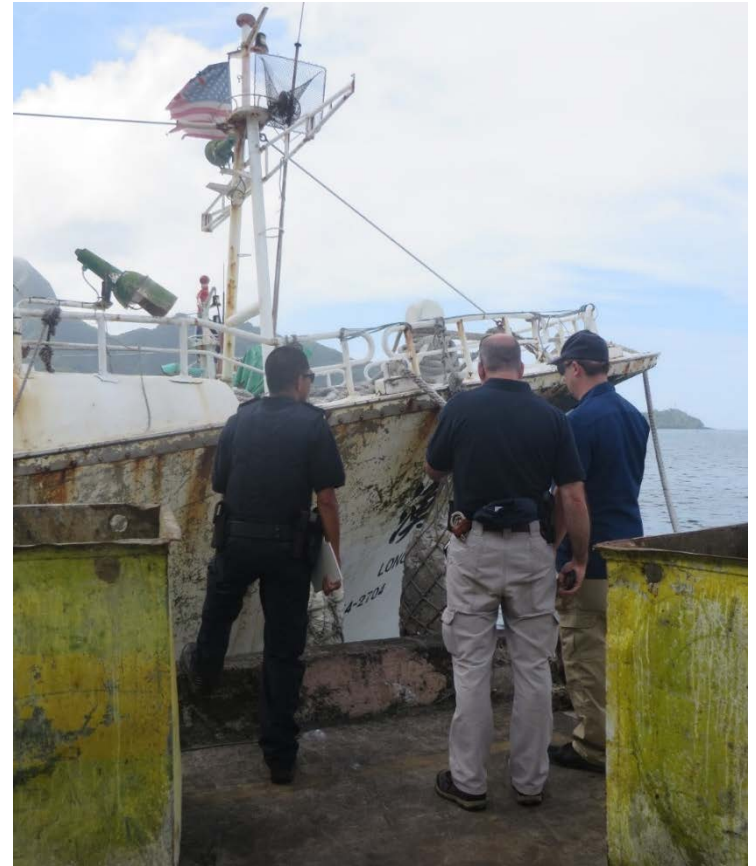
# Pre-Boarding – Risk Assessments

- Intel
  - Vessel
  - Master/crew
  - VMS data
- Suspicion of IUU activity
- Past experiences with vessel / master/crew
- Appearance of vessel
- Activity/actions of POB
  - Haul-back
  - Offloading
- Environment



# Boarding Plan

- Objective of boarding
- Team member duties
- Intel/IUU History (if known)
- Communication plan/code words
- Contingencies



# Pre-Boarding

- Instructions to master
- At-sea boardings
  - Normal compliance
  - High risk (non-compliance)
- Dockside boardings
  - Location
  - Crowd
  - Normal compliance
  - High risk



# Pre-Boarding – Risk Assessments

- The risk assessment is an essential part of a pre-inspection briefing so that everyone in the boarding party knows their responsibilities.
- In addition to being responsible for each other, the boarding party also has a responsibility to the master and crew not to do anything that creates a potential HSS issue.



# Pre-Boarding – Risk Assessments

The risk assessment should cover:

- Boarding and disembarking the vessel
- Moving around the vessel
- Slips, trips and falls
- Communication with the crew
- Conflict with crew
- Confined space entry and exit
- Searching activities
- Firearms or other weapons on-board



# Pre-Boarding – Risk Assessments

- Deck machinery
- Rust
- Age
- Electricity
- Fire
- Weather
- Evacuation
- Administering first aid
- Calling for assistance
- Communications





# Boarding

## Team Embarkation

- Safety issues
- Who's 1<sup>st</sup>?

## Positioning

- Contact/cover
- Line of fire
- Bunching
- Observation
- Triangulation



# Boarding

## Duties of the first team member to board

- Secure the embarkation point.
- Determine if it is safe for the rest of the team.
- Give the signal to board, if safe.
- Keep master and crew away from the embarkation point.
- Remain focused on security while the team embarks.
- If facing an immediate threat, take a defensive position or retreat to the small boat or dock.



# Positioning

## Bunching

- Spread out.
- Make it difficult for an aggressor to hurt or injure team members.



# Positioning

## Observation

- Have an unencumbered view of the area.
- Keep team members in sight.



# Positioning

## Triangulation

- Form triangularly-oriented positions oriented to team positions.
- Provide overlapping fields of view.
- Provide a clear line of sight for all team members.





# Prior to Disembarking

- Quick team meeting
- Gather boarding materials/evidence
- Return items to master/crew
  - ID
  - Vessel document
  - Permits



# Disembarking

- Vessel Course/Speed
- Location of Crew
- Be Courteous



# Post Boarding

- Full team debrief
- Feedback
- Gather/organize case materials



# Questions?



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# Lab: Proceed to board a fishing vessel

