



# U.S. Coast Guard

## Pacific Area

## America's shield. We Protect, Defend, & Save.

Coast Guard men and women serve around the world and around the clock to ensure the continued security and prosperity of the United States. No where is that more apparent than in the Coast Guard's Pacific Area. This operational area encompasses half of the globe.

Our 74 million square mile operational area offers great challenges and opportunities for Pacific Area's more than 13,000 active duty, reserve, civilian and volunteer employees. Everyday we protect, defend and save our nation and its citizens.

Coast Guard at-sea interdictions amount to three times the quantity of cocaine seized at our borders and within the U.S. combined. Most of the interdictions occur far from the U.S. mainland near South and Central America. The Coast Guard's only Polar icebreakers operate here.

Our unique combination of authorities, capabilities and partnerships make the Coast Guard a vital instrument of national security, humanitarian assistance, regulatory authority and law enforcement.

### Who we are.

The Coast Guard boasts one of the most educated, qualified and diverse workforces in its history. Pacific Area has a mix of cutters, aircraft, boats, intelligence systems and, most importantly, personnel that form adaptive force packages to lead or assist in a variety of defense, law enforcement or humanitarian operations. The effectiveness of these forces is demonstrated regularly by deploying Coast Guardsmen who protect, defend, save and shield around the globe.

Pacific Area is divided into four regional commands called "districts." The 11th, 13th, 14th, and 17th Coast Guard Districts divide much of the Pacific Ocean, North America and South America into diverse operating areas.

Types of units include:

- National Security Cutters (4)
- Heavy Icebreaker (1)
- Medium Icebreaker (1)
- High Endurance Cutters (4)
- Medium Endurance Cutters (4)
- Port Security Units (7)
- Maritime Safety & Security Teams (5)
- Air Stations (10)
- Sectors (11)
- Patrol Boats and Buoy Tenders (50)
- Small Boast Stations, Marine Safety Units, and Aids to Navigation Teams (51)
- Regional Dive Lockers (2)



Every day the Coast Guard conducts lifesaving search and rescue, critical law enforcement and vital defense operations. They protect a global supply chain that supports U.S. innovation and prosperity. Coast Guard men and women preserve our fragile marine ecosystem and ensure safe, secure and environmentally responsible maritime activity in the Arctic. They are a component of our nation's armed forces supporting combatant commanders around the world.

## What we do.

The Coast Guard has 11 statutory missions that preserve the global supply chain, protect our fragile marine ecosystems, ensure U.S. sovereignty in the Polar regions, combat transnational organized crime, support global humanitarian response operations and preserve the U.S. as a free and enduring nation. We categorize these missions into Areas of Emphasis that provide our personnel space, authority and resources to act at the scene to execute the mission, save lives, enforce the law or defend the homeland. In our operational environment, seconds can mean the difference between life and death. This is born from the "Pacific Area Strategic Intent." Read more about our strategy here - <https://go.usa.gov/xRxh6>

## On any given day, the Coast Guard will...

- Save 10 lives
- Seize 874 pounds of cocaine and 214 pounds of marijuana
- Interdict 17 illegal migrants
- Conduct 14 fisheries boardings
- Service 82 aids to navigation
- Investigate 35 pollution incidents
- Facilitate the movement of \$8.7 billion of goods and commodities through the maritime transportation system.



**"We are Coast Guard men and women who  
Protect, Defend, Save and  
Shield our Nation & its People."  
- Vice Adm. Fred Midgette, commander, Pacific Area**

## Our People: 'The Silent Service'

Coast Guard men and women include the members of the Coast Guard's active duty, Coast Guard Reserve, civilian employees and Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers.



Our members touch nearly every facet of American life from the goods they consume to the safety of their neighborhoods. Our people don't boast about their contributions to national security and prosperity. It is this quiet demeanor that led U.S. Treasury Department Assistant Secretary Edward Clifford to call the Coast Guard the "Silent Service"

in 1922. Our team has built a strong reputation of competency, action and results focused on ensuring safety and security of the U.S. The Pacific Area has a diverse and capable workforce that addresses the demands of a changing and complex operational environment throughout the Pacific. Read more about our people and missions here - <https://go.usa.gov/xRa35>

**"Adaptability is synonymous  
with the operations of the United  
States Coast Guard."  
- Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, U.S.  
Navy**