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Coast Guard Finds 3.5 Tons Of Cocaine on Semi-Submersible

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**United States
Coast Guard**



Press Release

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Coast Guard Finds 3.5 Tons Of Cocaine on Semi-Submersible

ALAMEDA, Calif. -- The crew of the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Steadfast boarded and seized a semi-submersible craft carrying an estimated 3.5 tons of cocaine approximately 90 miles southwest of Costa Rica late last week. The vessel's crew of four -- two Colombians, one Guatemalan, and one Sri Lankan -- were taken into custody and will face prosecution in the U. S. The vessel was towed into port by the Costa Rican Coast Guard and will be also be brought to the U. S. as evidence.

Steadfast is a 210-foot cutter home ported in Warrenton, Ore. The ship's patrol is part of ongoing U. S. efforts, in partnership with nations in the region, to stem the flow of drugs moved by sea in the Eastern Pacific. U. S. agencies involved include the U. S. Coast Guard, U. S. Navy, DEA, FBI, Dept. of Defense, and Dept. of Homeland Security.

The U. S. Coast Guard 11th District headquartered in Alameda, Calif., which assumes tactical command of U. S. patrol vessels involved in law enforcement operations in the region, estimates some 90 tons of waterborne cocaine shipments have been seized in the Eastern Pacific in the past 12 months.

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Eastern Pacific Ocean -- U. S. Coast Guard boarding team members inspect a semi-submersible craft loaded with 140 bales of cocaine approximately 90 miles southwest of Costa Rica late last week. (U. S. Coast Guard photo)



Eastern Pacific Ocean -- A U.S. Coast Guard team observes boarding team members while they inspect a semi-submersible craft loaded with 140 bales of cocaine approximately 90 miles southwest of Costa Rica late last week. (U. S. Coast Guard photo)

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