



May 2025
JAPAN COAST GUARD

SAPPHIRE25
JCG-USCG joint SAR exercise in 2025
~Promote SAPPHIRE, Realize FOIP~

The Japan Coast Guard and the United States Coast Guard conducted joint SAR exercises by the JCG training vessel “ITSUKUSHIMA” and the USCG lifeboat and aircraft off the coast of San Francisco, USA, 14 May 2025.

1. OUTLINE

● **Schedule**

14 May 2025 13:00-1400 (PDT)

15 May 2025 05:00-0600 (JST)

● **Location**

Off the coast of San Francisco, USA

● **Asset**

<JCG>

Training vessel “ITSUKUSHIMA”
(with 2 small boats)

<USCG>

47-foot Motor Life Boat
Aircraft C27

● **Exercise Contents**

Radio Communications
Search & Rescue (SAR)



JCG “ITSUKUSHIMA”



USCG boat



USCG aircraft

2. EXERCISE RESULT (SUMMARY)

- The JCG and the USCG confirmed methods of communication and information sharing, as well as the sequence of search and rescue operations, and shared techniques and knowledge of SAR. Furthermore, the training provided a great opportunity for the trainees to learn the importance of cooperation and collaboration with foreign coast guard agencies.
- The JCG will continue to promote cooperation and collaboration with the USCG through the combined efforts of the JCG and the USCG in order to realize FOIP.



Radio communication



SAR planning



Search training



PASS EXERCISE



Boarding training



Commemorative photo of JCGA & USCG

3. REFERENCE

<Background of this engagement>

- The JCG and the USCG have been building deep relationship since the JCG was established in 1948. On several occasions, we have strengthened our relationship, including in 2010, when we concluded a memorandum of cooperation (MoC).
- Recently, cooperative and collaborative efforts between the JCG and the USCG have become more important to promote efforts to maintain and strengthen maritime order based on the rule of law in order to realize a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).
- Therefore, we are striving to promote joint operations and joint exercises, having signed an ANNEX to the MoC in 2022.
- These joint efforts of the JCG and the USCG are named “SAPPHIRE”, and the JCG and the USCG have been establishing robust, cooperative and collaborative relationship through it.
- “JCG-USCG joint SAR exercise in 2025” was hold as part of “SAPPHIRE”.

<SAPPHIRE>

S A P P H I R E : “ Solid Alliance for Peace and Prosperity with Humanity and Integrity on the Rule-of-law based Engagement ”