

The Role of Whistleblowers in MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT

THE PROBLEM

Marine life around the world is under threat.

Marine life around the globe is under threat from illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, overexploitation, and ocean pollution. According to the IUCN Red List, over 2,200 species of marine life are vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered.

The plundering of our oceans' biodiversity is also having an adverse economic impact. Illegal fishing costs the global economy up to \$23 billion USD each year, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

OUR SOLUTION

Activate whistleblowers.

U.S. whistleblower laws have rewards provisions for those who step forward with valuable information on ocean pollution and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. The laws provide monetary rewards for U.S. citizens, non-citizens, and NGOs whose disclosures lead to successful prosecutions.

Leveraging this system will revolutionize the detection of wildlife crime, radically increase effective law enforcement, and help protect the biodiversity of our oceans.



DON'T LET CRIMINALS OFF THE HOOK

U.S. whistleblower reward laws can be used to bolster enforcement efforts around the globe

THE LAWS

There are U.S. whistleblower reward laws with international application that can be leveraged to combat crime on the high seas.

Some of these include wildlife conservation laws, such as the Lacey Act. Other laws, such as the False Claims Act and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, can also prosecute marine life crimes if there is evidence of customs fraud or bribery.

REGULATIONS

The new U.S. traceability program, by requiring more careful documentation about the who, what, where, and how of fishing imports, could potentially have an enormous impact on curtailing illegal fishing.

Violation of these regulations could result in penalties and open the door to prosecution and whistleblower rewards.

Have information? Report it:

www.report-fraud-now.info/contact-nwldef

Want to partner with us? Contact:

wildlife@whistleblowers.org



NWC received a Grand Prize Award in the Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge in 2016 for creating a confidential and anonymous online platform to report wildlife crime. The Challenge was an initiative of USAID in partnership with the National Geographic Society, the Smithsonian Institution, and TRAFFIC.

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