



U.S. whistleblower laws contain reward provisions for those who step forward with valuable information on wildlife trafficking. The laws provide monetary rewards for U.S. citizens, foreign nationals, and NGOs, who blow the whistle on wildlife and environmental crimes that result in a successful prosecution. Leveraging this system will revolutionize the detection of crime, radically increase effective law enforcement, and help protect our natural resources.

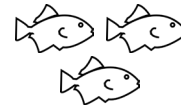
**NWC has a successful track record of promoting and using whistleblower laws to...**



Empower individuals to step forward with valuable information on IUU fishing, ocean pollution, & other maritime crime.



Enable whistleblowers to work hand-in-hand with legal counsel and seek justice while maintaining confidentiality.



Help protect our oceans and wildlife by creating a cycle of accountability and funding.

**International Application of U.S. Whistleblower Reward Laws**

**FALSE CLAIMS ACT (FCA)**

- Whistleblowers have filed successful False Claims Act cases based on violations of customs laws and false statements on import-related documents.
- Covered customs violations include undervaluation and misclassification of goods entering the U.S.
- Settlements in recent FCA customs violation cases have exceeded \$56 million.
- Under the FCA, whistleblower are entitled to a reward of a minimum of 15% and maximum of 30% of sanctions obtained.

**THE ACT TO PREVENT POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (APPS) & THE LACEY ACT**

- Most APPS and wildlife trafficking crimes originate outside of the U.S.
- Both APPS and the Lacey Act cover violations of international conventions, such as MARPOL (APPS) and CITES (Lacey Act), that occur outside the U.S.
- The U.S. has become #1 enforcer of the MARPOL Protocol—the international treaty that APPS implements—due to the help of whistleblowers.
- 80% of all APPS whistleblowers obtain the maximum award (50% of the fines collected).
- The average reward paid per whistleblower in the most recent 75 identified cases was \$163,575.

**FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT (FCPA)**

- Since 2011, over 1500 whistleblowers from 95 countries have filed claims under the FCPA whistleblower reward provision.
- Over \$30 million has been paid to non-U.S. citizens who reported bribes paid overseas.
- For example, FCPA prosecutions have included cases in which bribes were paid at ports in Kenya and customs payments in South America.



*Absent crew members with firsthand knowledge of the illegal conduct coming forward, **APPS violations are extremely difficult to uncover.***

To obtain more information about the Global Wildlife Whistleblower Program and to get in contact with a lawyer at the National Whistleblower Center, visit: [www.whistleblowers.org/wildlife](http://www.whistleblowers.org/wildlife)

## The Legal Powers of U.S. Agencies

The U.S. Department of Interior, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can pay rewards under every trafficking law, including plants, animals, and IUU fishing, pursuant to the Lacey Act and Endangered Species Act.

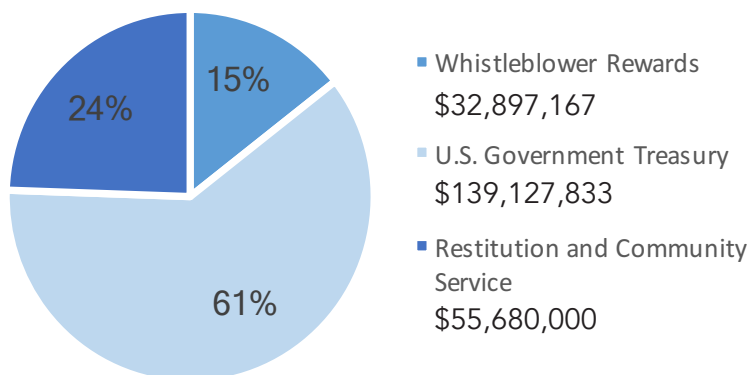
The U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and National Marine Fisheries Service have jurisdiction under U.S. laws for every maritime anti-trafficking fishing protection law.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service have the liberty to pay rewards for information pre-prosecution worldwide for every violation of anti-trafficking protection law within their respective jurisdictions, under the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act.

The Department of Agriculture and the National Forest Service have jurisdiction to pay rewards on all plants, including illegal lumbering, for all violations of CITES as to plants and illegal lumber.

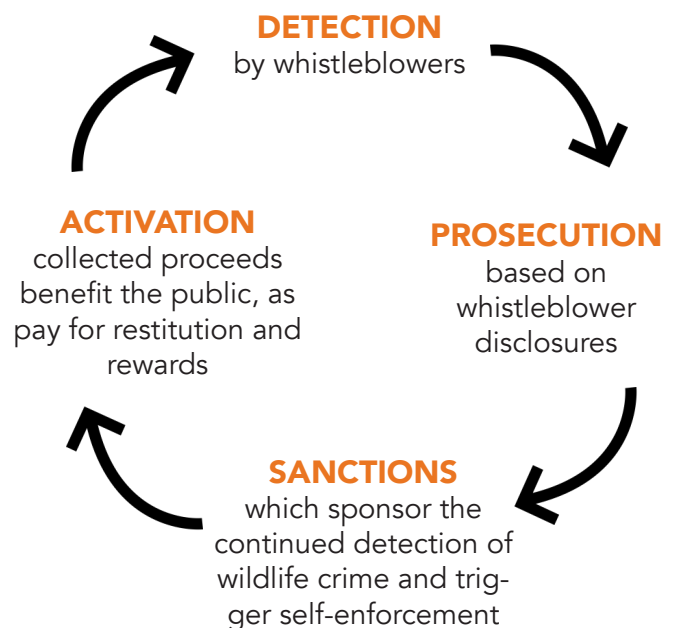
The Department of the Treasury is granted authority to pay rewards under the Endangered Species and Lacey Acts in order to ensure that monies are available for the payment of rewards to whistleblowers.

## Revenue Distribution from APPS Cases Involving Whistleblowers<sup>1</sup>



Total Money Recovered Based on Whistleblower Information: **\$177,593,000**

## A Cycle of Accountability



*There are viable legal pathways that can be leveraged to combat the destruction of marine ecosystems. The Global Wildlife Whistleblower Program provides an avenue to utilize our expertise in whistleblower laws, paired with on-the-ground knowledge of partner NGOs and whistleblowers, to combat wildlife crime in the oceans.*

To learn more about whistleblower law and its application in the wildlife arena, check out *The New Whistleblower's Handbook*: <http://bit.ly/2DdnsC9>

<sup>1</sup> Stephen M. Kohn, *The New Whistleblower's Handbook: A Step-by-Step Guide to Doing What's Right and Protecting Yourself* 140 (Lyons Press, 3rd ed., 2017). Note that results have been obtained using PACER, LexisNexis, DOJ ENRD, and FOIA request responsive documentation.