

## Report on Supply Chain Compliance Volume 2, Number 5. March 21, 2019

### Seafood fraud rampant in United States

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According to a [report](#) by Oceana, 1 in 5 popular seafood types tested by the group was mislabeled. The [U.S. Seafood Import Monitoring Program](#) keeps track of mislabeled seafood, and Oceana's findings corroborate the program's concerns about seafood imports into the United States.

#### Key findings of the report include:

- "One in every 5 of the 449 fish tested (21 percent) were mislabeled.
- "One out of every 3 establishments visited sold mislabeled seafood.
- "Seafood was more frequently mislabeled at restaurants (26 percent) and smaller markets (24 percent) than at larger chain grocery stores (12 percent).
- "Of the species tested, sea bass and snapper had the highest rates of mislabeling (55 and 42 percent, respectively)."

#### Seafood substitutes identified in this study include:

- "Imported seafood sold as regional favorites, fooling consumers into thinking their seafood is locally sourced.
- "Vulnerable species sold as more sustainable catch.
- "Seafood sold with generic names like 'sea bass' disguising lower-value species or masking health and conservation risks."

Kimberly Warner, the author of the report and senior scientist at Oceana, said nearly 2,000 samples were studied from more than 30 different states. "For the sake of ours and the ocean's health, more needs to be done to tackle this problem."

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