

# RPW Broadcast News

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## Overreported-Fish

A Canadian study says the only tally of the world's fish stocks is being wildly overstated.

The report by researchers at the University of British Columbia says the count is wrong because of of fishy statistics from China.

The article in the journal, Nature, says indications that China has been exaggerating catch reports for more than a decade means fish stocks have fallen far further since 1988 than previously thought.

Researchers Reg Watson and Daniel Pauly say China has cooked the books.

They say mid-level government officials would give false figures to get promotions on the basis of meeting production targets.

An official with the Chinese Fisheries Department says the government stopped two years ago offering county and provincial officials job promotions based on growth.