



FRDC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and recognises their continuing connection to lands, waters and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past and present.

Australian Fish Names Standard – Update #3/2023

Hello

Welcome to the latest Australian Fish Name Standard update.

Alaska Pollock

After considering feedback received via public consultation, the Fish Names Committee (FNC) recently approved a name change for the imported species, *Gadus chalcogrammus*, from Alaskan Pollock to Alaska Pollock. The public feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and this change brings Australian usage into line with the accepted international trade name for this species. Alaska Pollock, which is also known in some parts of the world as 'walleye pollock,' is one of the true cods (family Gadidae), not to be confused with the numerous other non-cod species that have collected some version of the name 'cod'!

The FNC also noted a change in the scientific name of this species from *Theragra chalcogramma* to *Gadus chalcogrammus*. This name change was first published in 2008 based on DNA research that linked this species closely to the Atlantic Cod, *Gadus morhua*. The research indicated that the species are so closely related that they should be in the same genus, *Gadus*.

Alaska Pollock is caught, mostly by Russian and US vessels, in the North Pacific and imported into Australia. Imported product is often used in the foodservice trade as breaded or battered fish products but some are imported via Asia where they are a popular raw material in secondary processing factories that produce surimi. The fishery is certified as sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council.

FNC Members

Congratulations to John Pogonoski who has been appointed into the Fish Expert - Taxonomy role on the FNC. John currently works at the Australian National Fish Collection at CSIRO in Hobart, and has a broad knowledge of Indo-Pacific fishes, helping describe more than 30 new fish species. He has previously assisted the FNC with assigning species codes within CSIRO's Codes for Australian Aquatic Biota (CAAB) so comes to the committee with relevant experience and extensive knowledge. Welcome, John.

Mark Boulter, who represents the Food and Beverage Importers Association, also has been appointed to the Deputy Chair role.

All the FNC members are profiled [here](#).

New Applications Sought

The next FNC meeting is scheduled for February 29th 2024 in Sydney. New applications to add a new name or change an existing name in the Australian Fish Names Standard can be considered at that meeting if submitted, complete with supporting documents, by February 1st. Details on how to apply are available [here](#). More information is available upon request from our Project Manager, Gus Yearsley, at frdcstandards@frdc.com.au.

The list of species in the Standard is continually improved with updated scientific names and the correction of typographical errors. Some changes can be made without formal FNC approval (e.g., the updating of a scientific name) but other changes need to be formally assessed and circulated for public consultation. If you notice anything that needs updating or correcting, please contact fnc@frdc.com.au.

Standards Australia Assessment

FRDC's standards development processes are assessed annually and, in September 2023, a surveillance audit was conducted across both FRDC Standards (AS 5300 – Fish Names and AS 5301 – Aquatic Plant Names). There were no compliance issues identified and positive advice was received regarding continual improvement.

Kind regards,

Gus Dannoun

Chair, Australian Fish Names Standard (AS 5300)
fnc@frdc.com.au [FRDC Fish Names Website](#)

E-newsletter Feedback

Do you have any feedback or comments on the e-newsletter? Do you like what you are reading, or would you like to see some changes? Email fnc@frdc.com.au with your thoughts!

Keep Updated on the Australian Fish Names Standard

If you didn't receive this email directly and want to be added to our email list, [register here](#).

Keep Updated on the Australian Standard for Aquatic Plant Names

There is also an Australian Standard for Aquatic Plant Names (AS 5301). If you want to be added to the Aquatic Plant Names email list, [register here](#).

