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PLEASE HELP US HELP THE MOST

Fish, the largest category of exploited animals, are sentient beings who suffer some of the worst abuses. Your donation helps enable our advocacy on their behalf. Fish Feel is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

[DONATE NOW](#)

January 21, 2022

We are beyond delighted with this spectacular illustration created for us by the phenomenally talented [Philip McCulloch-Downs](#)! It is available on various items, including t-shirts with the Fish Feel logo. [Click here](#) for organic and other shirt styles. We will be selling other organic cotton t-shirts with the illustration and logo at outreach events.

Despite the pandemic, Fish Feel has been keeping very busy advocating for fishes and other animals every day. Here are some of our highlights of 2021:

PUBLICATIONS

[COWNOSE RAYS](#)

[ONLINE OUTREACH](#)

[THE DARK HOBBY](#)

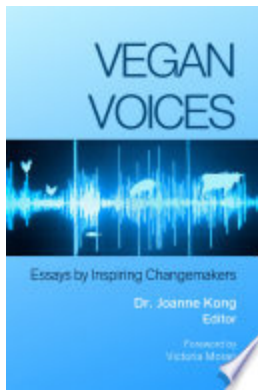
[COLLABORATIONS](#)

[HUMANE EDUCATION](#)

[IN-PERSON EVENTS](#)

[OUTREACH RESOURCES](#)



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We are very honored to have contributed a chapter to the new book, [Vegan Voices](#): "A collection of informative, diverse, evocative, and inspiring essays from over 50 vegan activists, educators, artists, and changemakers on the whys and wherefores of the vegan diet and lifestyle." Thanks especially to Joanne Kong for the invitation to do so. We gladly gave a presentation about it at the Richmond Vegfest, and joined other contributing authors for a panel discussion there.

Thanks also to Fish Feel Board member, Cam MacQueen, for facilitating the publication of our [article](#), Fishful Thinking: Waking Up to the Truth about Fish Oil, Fish and Fishes, in the Spring 2021 issue of

Pathways magazine.

And our thanks to Free from Harm for publishing "Why You Need to See and Share Seaspiracy," our [review](#) of the smash documentary, Seaspiracy, and also our [criticism](#) of criticism of this must-see film.

COWNOSE RAYS

Maryland's [Cownose Ray WorkGroup](#), of which we are a member, finally conducted another meeting, to review the state's scientific report on the rays. We offered input on the document, and made recommendations on how best to proceed to protect the rays from gratuitous cruelty.

We were quoted in an [article](#) about the rays, and had a few letters published regarding them:

[Clarification on the cownose rays found near Webster Field](#)

[Cownose Rays are Being Scapegoated](#)

[Overharvesting, Not Rays, Caused Bay Oyster Decline](#)

[Ray of Insight on Oysters](#)

[Editor's Pick: Oyster Article Notes Relationship with Cownose Rays](#)

ONLINE OUTREACH

We participated in numerous online events, including an interview/presentation for [Animal Place's "Changemakers" E-Summit](#).

Reporting on it afterwards, the anti-animal [Animal Agriculture Alliance](#) noted, in a section entitled "Fish Feel,": "Several sessions called for public acknowledgement of aquatic animals as 'sentient beings' ... Mary Finelli, president of Fish Feel, stated, 'tragically, fishes comprise by far the largest category of [harmfully] exploited vertebrate animals. They're subjected to some of the worst abuse, and they receive the least public concern or legal protection.'"

Mary's statement was also noted in an [article](#) by the meat industry publication, The National Provisioner.

Thanks to Hope Bohanec for conducting an [engaging interview](#) with Fish Feel's Mary Finelli, on her Hope for the Animals podcast (sponsored by [United Poultry Concerns](#)).

THE DARK HOBBY

We [submitted comments](#) to Hawaii, urging the state to reject a faulty environmental impact

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For the [2nd annual Respect for Fish Day](#), we participated in a [webinar](#) regarding the documentary, [The Dark Hobby](#): "a live consumer advocacy panel to raise awareness about the deadly aquarium trade and provide tools to protect coral reefs."

COLLABORATIONS

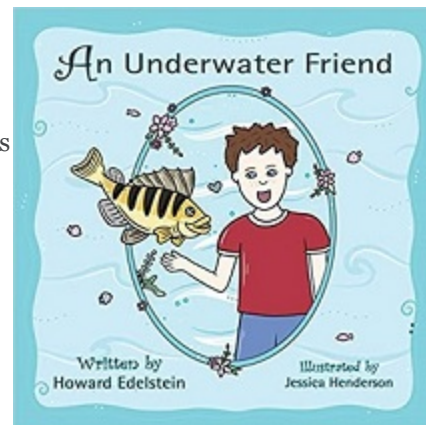
We've joined [Animal Place's Food for Thought Campaign](#) as a policy leader with a vegan menu policy. It only makes sense for animal protection organizations to not serve animals as food at their events!

Fish Feel is among 80 signatories, including Dr. Jane Goodall, to [an open letter](#) calling on the editors of the Associated Press Stylebook to change their guidance so that animals in news stories be identified with proper pronouns rather than as objects, as reported in this [favorable commentary](#) broadcast on National Public Radio.

Fish Feel is also a signatory to [The Save Movement's letter](#) from scientists calling for development aid charities to cease giving animals as gifts.

HUMANE EDUCATION

Taking [children fishing](#) teaches them that it's admirable to torture/kill animals, and affects how they think about animals in general. There are now two great children's books that convey that fishing is cruel, and they promote respect and compassion for animals. Fish Feel's Howard Edelstein has written [An Underwater Friend](#), and our good friend, Jonathan Balcombe, author of [What a Fish Knows](#) has written [Jake and Ava](#). (See also our [Kids' Page](#) and [A Fish's Life](#).)



IN-PERSON EVENTS

We were able to exhibit at some of the few in-person events held during the latter part of 2021 ([Lancaster Vegfest](#), [Loudon Vegfest](#), and the [Richmond Vegfest](#)), and we are already beginning to line up others for this year (e.g., [Fairfax Vegfest](#), [Taking Action for Animals Conference](#)).

OUTREACH RESOURCES

Get ready for World Day for the End of Fishing! This year's event takes place on March 26th. Please plan to participate in, or initiate, an event. You can find resources on the [WDEF website](#), and we now have [beautiful artwork](#) you can use for posters, and contact us for fact sheets: Info@FishFeel.org.

FOLLOW [OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#), which we update daily with news, actions, and other information.

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Fish Feel

Info@FishFeel.org

<http://www.FishFeel.org>

~Sea Animals - Don't Eat Them~



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