

Fish, Whales, and a Blue Ethics for the Anthropocene: How Do We Think About the Last Wild Food in the 21st Century?

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One of the lesser celebrated threads of Christopher Stone's scholarship was his interest in the ocean—especially international fisheries and whaling. Fisheries and whaling are often referred to as the "last wild food," at least on a large scale. Moreover, the food security issues surrounding marine foods are increasingly being recognized as an important international and domestic component of human well-being and equity, helping to spur the Fall 2021 launch of the Blue Foods movement and the conscious incorporation of aquatic foods into the pursuit of the United Nations' sustainable development goals. At exactly the same time, however, changes in the ocean resulting from climate change and other anthropogenic forces are making the harvest of marine wild foods both increasingly unsustainable and increasingly unpredictable, simultaneously undermining marine ecosystem function and viability *and* human food security.

This article will explore the multilayered ethical issues surrounding Blue Foods in the Anthropocene, drawing from Stone's work in environmental ethics and its explosion into the Rights of Nature movement as well as concepts of environmental justice.