



CENTER
— FOR A —
HUMANE
ECONOMY

2023
ANNUAL REPORT

**Building a humane economy, one company
at a time, across a wide range of industries**



A Message from the President

In 2023, our campaigns drove big changes in the athletic shoe industry on kangaroo sourcing, while our pressure pushed animal agriculture in the direction of a cage-free future.

Dear friend,

There are many pathways for improving the lives of animals, but influencing corporations to embed animal protection values into their production practices, supply chains, marketing efforts, and research and development activities may be the most consequential.

In working toward that goal in 2023, we secured big gains in the sectors of animal agriculture, drug development by the pharmaceutical industry, fashion and athletic wear, the use of animals in spectator sports and entertainment, and in other big economic domains in society.

The Center for a Humane Economy charged ahead after engineering the passage of the FDA Modernization Act 2.0. That federal policy, developed in early 2021 and enacted into federal law by the end of 2022, lifted an animal-testing mandate that had been in place for 84 years. Our winning Congressional campaign reminded people of the limits of animal testing and the promise of human biology, to usher in the prospect of a new, safer, and better paradigm for screening drugs for human well-being. For instance, liver-on-a-chip or kidney-on-a-chip methods of drug screening mark an enormous leap forward to more predictive and reliable screening methods, replacing animal models that have proved unreliable in translation of their results.

The changes in agriculture we helped push forward in 2023 were similarly consequential though grounded on very simple and common-sense norms about the proper treatment of animals. When the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Prop 12 as a constitutionally sound animal-housing policy, it was a landmark win for us, reinforcing the nation that it is proper and constitutionally sound for states to halt selling pork and eggs from factory farms that immobilize the animals as a

routine animal-housing strategy. And it was big news, too, when the USDA stipulated that the organic seal would guarantee a set of animal welfare standards for animals raised under that label. Both the high-court decision and the federal-agency action were two huge steps in our long march toward a cage-free future in agriculture.

Then, add in the seismic change in our three-year *Kangaroos Are Not Shoes* campaign to spare the marsupials from horrific slaughter in their native habitats just to make shoes. We clinched the case with Nike, Puma, and then New Balance, which pledged to us in 2023 that they'd stop sourcing kangaroos to make soccer cleats.

Also in 2023, we built major momentum in our serious-minded efforts to close out industries that have been with us for longer than any of us have lived: horse slaughter for human consumption, greyhound racing for gambling, and dogfighting and cockfighting for the thrill of the bloodletting.

No longer is the use of animals a neutral action, but one freighted with moral concern and growing controversy. And the Center, the first organization in the field of animal protection solely focused on influencing the working of business to forge a humane economic order, is all about reminding corporations that they operate within a social culture that abhors cruelty and an economic culture that embraces innovation.

One need only look at the dissolution in recent years of Ringling Brothers circus (a private company) or the fortunes of SeaWorld (a publicly traded one) after facing controversy and concern about the companies' uses of animals in entertainment. Or, to take a more positive frame, one can look at the increasing number

of cosmetic companies marketing their products with a “No Animal Testing” promise or the fashion companies, from Armani to Gucci, that have forsworn fur and switched to alternative textiles in their garments. The companies embracing animal protection are positioning themselves more favorably in a culture where consumers are alert to animal protection.

As individuals and as a society, we must feed and clothe ourselves, fulfill our energy and transportation needs, enjoy family and pursue recreational experiences and ventures, and realize other quality-of-life metrics. To do that and to respect animals, we needn’t turn back the clock and revert to lifestyles that resemble those of 1950 or 1850 or some earlier generation. Rather, by embracing innovation and human ingenuity, we commit ourselves to continuous improvement without causing massive collateral impacts on animals and the planet and its air, water, forests, and soil.

Indeed, no responsible business leader should find it acceptable to hurt animals as a routine business practice. In an era where we’ve had revolutions in thought in society and in the workplace in so many realms, it is also time for business to come to terms with the widely accepted ethos of treating animals properly. Indeed, opposition to animal cruelty has been part of American culture and law for more than 170 years.


Our economic history is a litany of dramatic and almost unimaginable changes that became mainstream and have upgraded human existence, from the printing press to digital photography, from human flight to the more grounded development of the internal combustion engine for the automobile, which liberated horses from the daily grinds of labor for transport and commerce. Looking forward to what innovation means for animals, I wrote in *The Humane Economy*,

“Just about every enterprise built on harming animals today is ripe for disruption. Where there is a form of commercial exploitation, there is an economic opportunity waiting for a business doing less harm or no harm at all. Factory farming, for example, is the creation of human resourcefulness detached from conscience. What innovations in agriculture might come about by humane resourcefulness guided by conscience?”

For all the things we do, we want to drive better outcomes for animals through a combination of moral purpose and human innovation. These forces will cast cruelty aside, leading us into a newly energized economy and a new set of social norms when it comes to our relationship with animals.

In all of this work, complex and high impact, we need you every step of the way. Your financial support, and your treating the long story of human exploitation of animals as a long era of hurting animals as a blood-soaked stepping stone to a new economy and new norm when it comes to our relationship with animals.

Sincerely yours,



Wayne Pacelle
President

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— Wayne Pacelle, *The Humane Economy: How Innovators and Enlightened Consumers Are Transforming the Lives of Animals*





Animal Welfare in Action

While our work is never complete, and the risks that animals face mean that our work is urgent every day and every year, there was unmistakable progress in 2023. We executed on major campaigns to drive lasting change, reorienting the public debate about the use of animals, and asking lawmakers and corporate leaders to rethink past assumptions and to force a new, safer, better relationship with animals.

Shaping the Way Businesses Treat Animals.

CAMPAIGN

Kangaroos Aren't Shoes

Three big brands announced plans to get out of the kangaroo-sourcing business.

The Center for a Humane Economy secured monumentally significant wins when we won commitments from Puma, Nike, and New Balance to halt their sourcing of kangaroo skins for athletic shoes. A fourth big brand, the Italy-based Diadora, committed to that same policy in 2021, leaving Adidas as the outlier among the major names in athletic shoes.

Since the launch of our [Kangaroos Are Not Shoes](#) campaign in 2019, the commercial slaughter of kangaroos has declined by more than 700,000 animals, based on the government's crude estimates. For decades, the mass killing of kangaroos in their native habitats has been the biggest commercial slaughter of wildlife in the world.

Our campaign wins were picked up widely, from [The Daily Mail](#) and [The Guardian](#) in the Unit-

ed Kingdom, to [Yahoo.com](#) in Australia, to [Reuters](#) and a letter in [The New York Times](#) in the United States. Wire stories were picked up and put into different languages across the world, consistent with the reach of the extraordinary Nike brand.

Our friends and partners at Their Turn conducted multiple protests at Adidas flagship stores in New York City, entering the stores and demanding the company halt its financing of kangaroo killing in Australia. [Actor James Cromwell](#) joined the protest, chanting that "kangaroos are not shoes" in the store and alerting customers to Adidas's role in a cruel wildlife trade. We also partnered with lawmakers from Australia's Animal Justice Party who joined us on Capitol Hill in support of the Kangaroo Protection Act.

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Modernize Testing



*A humane economy
doesn't harm live
animals when
alternatives exist.*

The use of animals in animal testing has been enshrined in American law for nearly 100 years. And with global pharmaceutical company practices driven by American law, animal testing has been a cause of suffering for beagles, primates, and dozens of other species all across the world, with tens of millions of animals under the knife and at risk every year.

In 2022-23, the Center for a Humane Economy, with support from Animal Wellness Action, has propelled monumental changes in the biggest category of animal testing: screening of drugs with the use of millions of animals.

The biggest win on animal testing in the history of the animal protection movement came our shepherding to final passage the FDA Modernization Act 2.0 in the last days of 2022. That bill, and a companion measure called the Reducing Animal Testing Act, eliminated a federal mandate for animal testing for new drugs and for biosimilars.

The passage of the law is leading to a cultural shift in the realms of science and public health in the United States and abroad. More than 500 articles have been published about the impact of the FDA Moderniza-

tion Act 2.0, including in the [American Heart Association Journal](#) and [Forbes](#).

In 2023, the government of India [passed its own version](#) of the FDA Modernization Act, which authorizes researchers to use non-animal and human-relevant methods instead of animals. A [similar effort](#) is underway in the Republic of Korea. A marketing research [report](#) shows that 55% of industry respondents said that the FDA Modernization Act 2.0 is driving exploration into human cell models, and additional research shows that alternatives to animal test are being used in about 70% of companies.

Other nations throughout the world are looking to emulate U.S. policy and find a safer, less costly, more effective pathway for screening drugs. Animal tests, in large part, are not predictive of the human response to drugs, with 90 to 95% of drugs and vaccines found safe in animal tests failing during human clinical trials. The cost for developing a single new drug may be from \$1-\$6 billion, and the average timeline of development of a potential drug and vaccine from the lab to market is 10-15 years. Most diseases have no treatment available. And looking

at it through a different lens, the drugs we've got are often a threat to human well-being, as adverse drug reactions are the fourth highest cause of death in the United States

Use of human biology-based test methods would better predict how humans will respond to drugs in clinical trials. As we turned into 2023, we began working on implementation and to spread the idea around the

world, since the use of animals in drug screening for safety and effectiveness is a worldwide industry.

We are pressing the FDA to update its regulations given the enactment of the new law and ensure that the agency moves swiftly towards qualification and regulatory acceptance of non-animal methods and that work continues robustly in 2024.

C A M P A I G N

Creating a Cage-Free Future

The Center for a Humane Economy's president, Wayne Pacelle, has been the country's most effective spokesperson and agent of change for transformation away from inhumane and cruel factory farms and toward a more humane economy.

At work at the Center's affiliate Animal Wellness Action, Pacelle was a key architect of the two most important ballot measures for farm animals in U.S. history: Proposition 12 in California, passed in 2018 by the voters, and Question 3 in Massachusetts, enshrined into law two years earlier. Both measures not only mandate expanded living environments for pigs, laying hens, and veal calves, but they also restrict sales of pork, eggs, and veal in the states. Both measures require the sale of crate-free pork and cage-free eggs, no matter where the production occurs.

The National Pork Producers and their allies campaigned against both measures, and they lost badly at the ballot box — by 26 percentage points in California and by an astonishing 56% in Massachusetts. After they lost, they redirected their attacks against the measures and went to the federal courts.

They lost every case, but in 2022, they won a commitment from the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case, NPPC v. Ross. Without any question, it was an existential threat before a conservative court. The National Pork Producers Council (NPPC), the American Farm Bureau Federation, and other major actors want no federal or state legal standards to protect animals, and this was their maneuver to wipe out the most important state laws for animals in a single legal proceeding.

But much to the chagrin of Big Agriculture, a majority of the Justices [upheld California's Proposition 12 as constitutional](#), putting that measure and a similar Massachusetts statute on track for [full enforcement within months](#).

More broadly, the decision, at least for the moment, [safeguards](#)

Farm animals granted room to move as approved humane standard. Organic livestock and poultry standards codified.



the rights of states to restrict agricultural commerce for animal welfare, food safety, and other compelling purposes. Prop 12 built on a prior voter-approved, anti-confinement measure (Prop 2), enacted a decade earlier, that restricted extreme confinement of laying hens, veal calves, and breeding pigs, stipulating that any eggs or pork sold in the state come from animals afforded sufficient space to move around, regardless of where the animals are raised. Question 3 in Massachusetts was similar in construction. (The current leadership at Animal Wellness Action had played a central role in initiating those two ballot measures and the three prior winning farm-animal protection measures approved by voters between 2002-2021.)

In siding with the state of California in its defense of Prop 12, Justice Neil Gorsuch, joined by Justices Clarence Thomas, Sonja Sotomayor, Amy Coney Barrett, and Elena Kagan, determined that the National Pork Producers “invite us to fashion two new and more aggressive constitutional restrictions on the ability of States to regulate goods sold within their borders. We decline that invitation. While the Constitution addresses many weighty issues, the type of pork chops California merchants may sell is not on that list.”

The most consequential high-court ruling in the history of the animal welfare movement was widely covered, from the *Des Moines Register* to the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Our team has had op-eds published in more than 15 newspapers, from the *Orange County Register* to the *Worcester Telegram Gazette*, and has called on state officials in Massachusetts and California to proceed with resolve to implement measures adopted by voters in 2016 and 2018, respectively. The laws’ provisions barring the sale of veal and eggs from animals kept in extreme confinement had already been in effect. (For your information, here is the [SCOTUS ruling](#), a [blog](#) about the win and its effects, and our [legal brief](#) and [veterinarians’ brief](#) to the court.)

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As we expected, the debate then moved immediately to Congress, where lawmakers aligned with the pork industry pushed the so-called Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act to nullify Prop 12 and other state laws restricting agricultural commerce.

Make no mistake, the [EATS Act is an attack on American elections](#), and it will hurt thousands of farmers who have invested in more animal-housing systems and planned on accessing the revamped markets in California and Massachusetts. China will be the biggest beneficiary if EATS were to pass, given the Chinese Communist Party controls more than a quarter of the U.S. pig industry. China has already built a set of massive high-rise factory farms in that country and may try the same here if pig farming is deregulated, which is exactly what EATS aims to achieve.

We have worked diligently to build broad opposition to the EATS Act in Congress, from nearly all Democrats and from dozens of Republicans as well. There were 16 Republican House Members who [sent this letter](#) to the leaders of the House Committee on Agriculture, urging them not to include the provision in the Farm bill. By the end of the year, more than 200 lawmakers have explicitly signaled opposition to the measure.

We continue to [make the case](#) that Prop 12 is the right policy and that the pig industry has [diversified its operations](#) over the last 20 years and is amply prepared to provide more humanely raised pork to California and Massachusetts right now.

Costco and dozens of other major food retailers have been shifting their procurement practices, purchasing pork and eggs from farmers who give the animals space to move and signaling the shift in the marketplace that we’ve been pressing for years.

In July, we [applauded](#) New Jersey Governor [Phil Murphy](#) and Democrats and Republicans in the state legislature for enacting an [Animal Wellness Action-backed measure](#) to ban gestation crates to house breeding sows. The Senate voted 35 to 1 and the Assembly 73-1 in favor of the ban. That made 11 states with gestation-crate bans, including comprehensive measures in California and Massachusetts that incorporate sales restrictions on factory-farmed pork that the U.S. Supreme Court upheld in May as constitutionally sound.

Also last year, we [applauded the federal government's release](#) of its final Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards (OLPS) rule — a regulatory regimen that

for the first time in federal law establishes specific legal standards for at least 60 million animals used in production agriculture.

The farm animal welfare standards will apply to animals raised under an “organic standards” regimen, assuring consumers that the animals raised on organic farms are not immobilized in cages or crates, subjected to routine mutilations, denied access to pasture for meaningful periods of their lives, or otherwise treated in ways inimical to their well-being. This is an eagerly awaited rule, with two decades of delays from the USDA and interference from factory-farming interests. Center for a Humane Economy president [Wayne Pacelle](#) identified the national significance of the final action after working on the issue for a quarter century.

C A M P A I G N

Animal Fighting Is the Pits

Unprecedented actions taken to shut down illegal, staged animal fighting



In 2023, there was never more activity against animal fighting thanks to our relentless campaigning. This is an “industry” or an “enterprise” that simply should not exist. Our goal is to wipe it out, and we are joined in that crusade by our partners at Showing Animals Respect and Kindness (SHARK), who like us, bring a tenacious attitude toward pulling animal fighting up by the roots.



We worked to shut down fighting pits across the nation, expose the people and players behind the enterprises, and create a sense of urgency that all of these staged fights must end once and for all. Animal fighting truly is the pits, whether it is dogs fighting to the death, or roosters with icpick-like razors strapped to their legs to slice one another and create suffering to the end of every bloody battle. In 2023, we saw the United States take up more dogfighting cases than ever before.

Building on our work in 2018 that established a national ban on animal fighting, including in the U.S. Territories of Puerto Rico and Guam, our affiliate Animal Wellness Action introduced the



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Fighting Inhumane Gambling and High-Risk Trafficking (FIGHT) Act, [H.R. 2742](#) and [S. 1529](#), to amp up federal enforcement tools and capacity so law enforcement can run to ground every dogfighting and cockfighting pit and breeding operation in our nation. Despite laws against the scourges of dogfighting and cockfighting, we have hundreds of illegal fighting pits in the United States, and animal fighters breed hundreds of thousands of animals for pits from Mexico to the Philippines.

In Oklahoma, the cockfighters boldly came out of the shadows, formed a political action committee, and worked to launch a legislative campaign to gut penalties for animal fighting. We met them head on and defeated them, as their three primary pro-animal fighting bills died. In the process, [we condemned Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt](#) for releasing a video to “cheer them [cockfighters] on from the sidelines.” Big names in Oklahoma politics and sport — former Republican Governor Frank Keating, Attorney General Drew Edmondson, and legendary Oklahoma football coach [Barry Switzer](#) — joined us in urging the governor to stop giving support to these criminals.

Our work here was headline news in [The Oklaho-](#)

[man](#) and [Tulsa World](#) and also received major billing in the [New York Post](#), [The Guardian](#), [The Daily Mail](#), [Daily Beast](#), and [The Hill](#) when YouTube removed the governor’s video because it violated the company’s community standards promoting cruelty to animals. NonDoc got [the governor’s team on record](#) that he opposes cockfighting and any effort to weaken the state’s voter-approved law.

In Delaware, with Animal Wellness Action supporting the field investigations of Showing Animals Respect and Kindness (SHARK), a single animal-services officer broke up a cockfighting derby in progress. We partnered with SHARK on a wide variety of investigations in Alabama, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and other states. There have been investigations and arrests in a growing number of states, including [Arizona](#), [California](#), [Delaware](#), [Oklahoma](#), [South Carolina](#), [Kentucky](#), [Texas](#) and [Virginia](#).

Our veterinary experts are making their case in major agricultural states, such as Idaho, Nebraska, and [South Dakota](#), that animal fighting bears no resemblance to accepted agricultural practices and that animal fighting is bound up with a wide range of other [organized criminal operations](#).

CAMPAIGN

Greyhound Racing in the United States

*Retreat of
simulcasting of
greyhound racing
at home*



With just two live-racing venues remaining in the United States — both in West Virginia — we are seeing major gambling companies stop simulcasting races from other nations, cutting off profits to these foreign tracks. With our affiliate, Animal Wellness Action's [Greyhound Protection Act](#) building bipartisan support — which bans live racing and simulcasting — the legislation may complete what we and GREY2K USA have previously set in motion. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with GREY2K USA to end this century-long era of putting greyhounds at risk for racing purposes.



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We need not accept the idea of routine cruelty in agriculture, entertainment, wildlife management, or any other part of our economy and culture. Together, by adopting new standards through political channels and reinforcing what business leaders are doing and ready to do, we can create a new normal when it comes to our human relationship with animals.

— Wayne Pacelle, *The Humane Economy: How Innovators and Enlightened Consumers Are Transforming the Lives of Animals*

CAMPAIGN

End Horse Slaughter

Keeping horses in the stable and off the table

An investigation by the Center for a Humane Economy and Animals' Angels revealed immense suffering of horses and other equids during transportation, holding, and slaughter, with results showing a lack of care, deficient delivery of food or water, and transport in cramped, dangerous, and unsanitary conditions.



In 2023, our affiliate Animal Wellness Action helped tip the scales even more decidedly in our direction as New York State joined California, Illinois, New Jersey, and Texas in [banning horse slaughter](#) for human consumption, underscoring that big border states want to end the live export of horses for slaughter to Canada and Mexico.

The state laws are, however, no substitute for a federal ban, given that our goal is to halt all exports of horses bound for slaughter. U.S. Sens. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.,

Actress Katherine Heigl joined in our campaign, speaking up and sending a letter to President



Joe Biden urging him to fight against live exports of thousands of American horses for slaughter for human consumption.

reintroduced anti-horse slaughter legislation just months after we partnered with Animals' Angels for the report. A House companion bill, also rewritten to go to the Agriculture Committee, has strong bipartisan support, and we are seeking to attach the SAFE Act to the 2023 Farm bill. We've won enormous bipartisan support in both chambers of Congress for a comprehensive ban on horse slaughter, and this is our moment to complete the job.

We [continue to pile on support](#) for national legislation to halt live exports of horses for slaughter, with more than half of all Members of the U.S. House now publicly signed on to legislation to ban horse slaughter for consumption. The SAFE Act would ban the slaughter of U.S. horses for human consumption, including live exports to Mexico and Canada.

Pressure for passage of the SAFE Act is mounting just as recently released USDA export data shows that kill buyers shipped 17,997 horses from Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas to slaughter plants in Mexico in 2023. Sadly, it is the most significant annual percentage increase of live exports since 2012, and that means that our work to pass the SAFE Act has never been more important.

Actress Katherine Heigl joined in our campaign, speaking up and [sending a letter to President Joe Biden](#) urging him to fight against live exports of thousands of American horses for slaughter for human consumption. Our action was triggered by favorable action from [Prime Minister Justin Trudeau](#) in calling for an end to Canada's role in exporting draft horses to Japan for slaughter. Both North American leaders should be aligned on this issue.

C A M P A I G N

No Doping in Racing and a 'Zero Tolerance' Standard for Horse Deaths at Racetracks

It was a landmark year with a new federal safety authority in place, for the first time in American history, at federal horse racing tracks in the United States. The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority began its work, as a follow up to a federal law we worked to pass in 2020 and to refine in 2022 to promote horse safety at Thoroughbred tracks.

But our voice was loud and strong when we saw abuses. Declaring that the “show must not go on with so many athletes dying on the field of play,” the Center for a Humane Economy called on Churchill Downs to [take an indefinite pause](#) with its live-racing schedule until it could return to competition without more young, fit horses dying on the track.

Twelve horses died at what is arguably the nation’s premier racing venue in the run-up to the Kentucky Derby in Louisville, including seven in the week preceding the big race. The deaths of young, healthy, fit horses prompted us to call on the new Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) to embrace the goal of “no young, healthy horses dying on tracks in training or competition,” with the new Authority urged to suspend trainers whose horses enter into competition and do not get off the track alive. We also called on the Authority to ban the use of the whip.

The spate of deaths drew national attention, and Center for a Humane Economy was at the center of

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No animal should be exposed to risk merely for human entertainment

the [national discussion](#), with a national column from an Associated Press writer, stories in the [Wall Street Journal](#), and other major outlets. Criticism spiked just days later after a horse trained by Bob Baffert died at Pimlico in Baltimore, yet the famed horseman was [allowed to run a horse later](#) that day. Baffert celebrated the win while the nation mourned the loss of yet one more horse under his control.

By the end of the year, with HISA in effect starting in May 2023 at Thoroughbred tracks across the nation, racing deaths were down. But aggressive enforcement by the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority, prodded by the Center for a Humane Economy, will be essential to stop the phenomenon of major deaths at American tracks. Too often, our racetracks have turned into crash sites for the animals and their jockeys.

C A M P A I G N

Cats Aren't Trophies



Protecting mountain lions, bobcats, and lynx

The Center for a Humane Economy believes in protecting mountain lions and other predators that deliver such a broad range of ecological services, by promoting ecological balance, reducing the frequency of deer-auto collisions and impacts on forestry and crops, and cleansing prey populations of Chronic Wasting Disease and other illnesses. We want to promote uses of wildlife building around keeping these animals alive rather than killing them for their heads or hides.

With support from the Center, Animal Wellness Action formed a new political committee in Colorado, [Cats Aren't Trophies \(CATs\)](#), to work to attempt to place a measure on the November 2024 ballot to ban trophy hunting of mountain lions and trapping or hounding of bobcats or lynx. Mountain lion trophy hunters use a pack of up to eight dogs fitted with GPS collars to keep track of the pack as it chases a fleeing cat up into a tree. The “hunter” then finds the location with high-tech telemetry equipment, walks up, and shoots the cat off of a tree limb. Trophy hunting guides offer these “guaranteed” kills for a bucket list trophy tom, collecting fees of up to \$8,000 for a highly commercialized exercise for their clients.

This campaign marks the return of the ballot initiative process in the animal movement, after two cycles with no statewide campaigns in the United States. With our guidance, CATs worked to place a column in the [Denver Post](#) to frame the issue, and that same piece ran in papers throughout the state, including the [Greeley Tribune](#), [Boulder Daily Camera](#), and [Longmont Times Call](#). Two of our spokespersons conducted an interview on [KGNU radio](#), and the [Denver Post](#) ran a feature on the campaign, and a couple of days before that, so did the [Grand Junction Sentinel](#). This ballot measure will draw national attention given that trophy hunters and trappers kill 500 lions and 2,000 bobcats a year in Colorado.

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Getting the Lead Out

Fish and Wildlife Service condemns lead ammo, but must do more to stop the hunting industry's massive dispersal of lead into the environment

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [issued a final rule](#) in 2023 asserting that the “best available science” reveals that “lead ammunition and tackle have negative impacts on both wildlife and human health.” Disappointingly though, the agency is phasing out lead ammunition over three years on just eight national wildlife refuges, while allowing sport hunters to leave behind tons of lead on hundreds of other refuges that will kill animals from 130-plus species. The eight refuges are Blackwater, Chincoteague, Eastern Neck, Erie, Great Thicket, Patuxent Research, Rachel Carson, and Wallops Island national wildlife refuges. All refuges except Chincoteague will also phase out lead fishing tackle.

More than 500 peer-reviewed studies showed detrimental effects on wildlife, including a continent-wide effect on bald and golden eagles. A study, [released in January in Science](#), determined that about half of bald eagles have “bone lead concentrations above thresholds for chronic poisoning” and one-third of eagles had “acute [lead] poisoning.” Fragments of lead ammunition in the remains (so-called “gut piles”) of hunted animals are having population-level effects on eagles, [according to our statement](#).

In 2024, we'll continue with our campaign to halt the biggest driver of lead dispersal in the environment: sport hunting.

About half of bald eagles have “bone lead concentrations above thresholds for chronic poisoning” and one-third of eagles had “acute [lead] poisoning.”
— study released in *Science*

CAMPAIGN

Dunking the Milk Mandate in Schools

*Sparing cows by eliminating
the forced acceptance
of milk in schools*

The Center for a Humane Economy, Animal Wellness Action and Switch4Good launched a new Congressional campaign in 2023 to end the milk mandate in the National School Lunch Program and to give kids a choice and cows a break. U.S. Sens. John Fetterman, D-Pa., John Kennedy, R-La., and Cory Booker, D-N.J., introduced the [ADD SOY Act](#) to give kids a nutritionally equivalent, plant-based milk option to cow's milk in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Reps. Troy Carter, D-La., and Nancy Mace, R-S.C., introduced the companion bill because perhaps half of the 30 million kids participating in the NSLP are lactose intolerant.

SWITCH4GOOD

Under law, the USDA spends \$1 billion a year of taxpayer dollars to fulfill a “milk mandate” in public schools, even though [70-95%](#) of Black, Pacific Islander and Asian, Native American, and Latino individuals are lactose intolerant. In fact, the National Institutes of Health [reports](#) the majority of all people have a reduced ability to digest lactose after infancy, and lactose intolerance “is also very common in people of West African, Arab, Jewish, Greek, and Italian descent.” This “milk mandate” leads to millions of kids getting ill in the classroom (making the learning experience more difficult) and also to extraordinary food and fiscal waste. According to the USDA's findings, 29% of the cartons of milk served in our schools are thrown away unopened, sending at least

\$300-\$500 million in tax dollars and more than 100 million gallons of milk down the drain. The Soy Nutrition Institute Global “advocates for the removal of this specific requirement to ensure the foods and beverages in school meals serve all children.”

Soy milk is better for the environment than cow's milk. One gallon of cow's milk requires 1,000 gallons of water to produce, compared to 28 gallons of water for a gallon of soy milk. Producing soy milk uses less land (8%), produces fewer emissions (31%), and requires less energy (23%) compared to cow's milk. A dairy cow produces 120 pounds of waste per day, with 9.42 million cows collectively generating or 412 billion pounds of waste annually.

Fifty years ago, a cow on average produced 3,621 pounds of milk a year, but now the average cow on a big production facility pumps out an astounding 22,500 pounds. That unbelievable level of output complicates wellness — from routine and painful inflammation of the udders to foot and leg problems resulting from the massive body mass they carry. Many cows go to slaughter at just four or five years of age.

In April 2023, 18,000 cows [died](#) in a massive fire at an industrial dairy farm, reminding us of one aspect of the risks to the animals. The government is overreaching by subsidizing and promoting milk beyond its natural appeal to consumers and denying kids choice in the lunchroom and unnecessarily putting hundreds of thousands more animals at risk.

About the Center

Influencing Business, Helping Animals

The Center works for change through:

EDUCATING citizens and activating them to promote corporate reforms for animals

PROMOTING cruelty-free alternatives

SUPPORTING public policies that lift corporate standards

INITIATING lawsuits and encouraging enforcement of our laws

FORMULATING science-based analyses of the major problems that confront animals

DRIVING investigations to understand what's happening with animals and then diagnosing solutions

The Center for a Humane Economy is taking on the toughest fights and demanding that businesses recognize animal welfare as a core value of our society. In the year ahead, we will continue to press ahead with our campaigns to benefit pets, farm animals, horses, and captive and free-roaming wildlife in the U.S. and abroad.

Animals deserve protection from human ignorance and cruelty, and our societal institutions — including business and government — must recognize that the treatment of animals matters to so many people.

Financial Summary

The Center for a Humane Economy is a 501(c)(3) organization, and donations to the organization are tax-deductible. In the organization's 2023 fiscal year (November 1, 2022- October 31, 2023), CHE had unaudited total revenues of \$2,576,200 and unaudited expenditures of \$2,330,600, for unaudited net income of \$245,600. CHE ended the year with assets of \$2,522,900.

The Center has earned Guidestar's Platinum Seal of Transparency. You can view our profile [here](#).

Board Members

Muriel Van Housen
Chair
Seattle, Washington

Sherry Kellett
Treasurer
Clyde, North Carolina

Gerard Boss, M.D.
San Diego, California

Cynthia Griffin
Center Ossipee, NH

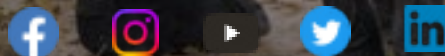
Marian Probst
New York, New York

Réne P. Tatro
Spicewood, Texas

Stay Connected

Please continue to join us and support this incredibly important journey to make the world a better place for all creatures.

- Sign up for our emails [here](#).
- Your support ensures we have the funds that we need, when we need them, to make a difference. You can [donate here](#).
- Have questions? You can reach us at info@centerforahumaaneconomy.org



Ways You Can Help

1

Remind corporate leaders to do the right thing

If you are an investor in a company, write a letter to the CEO about establishing animal welfare policies. Urge leadership at the company to be conscious about animal welfare issues and adopt best practices. If you are a member of a pension fund, encourage its managers not to invest in companies engaged in factory farming.

Sign our petition to urge Adidas to [stop killing kangaroos for soccer shoes](#).

2

Eat lower on the food chain

Make your food choices with animal welfare and factory farming in mind. Nourish yourself by eating more plant-based foods, which are better for you, the planet, and animals. Reduce your consumption of meat. If you eat animal products, choose those with the labeling certifications “Global Animal Partnership,” “Animal Welfare Approved,” or “Certified Humane.”

3

Speak with your hard-earned dollars for change

Invest in companies that have animal welfare policies and tell CEOs and mutual fund managers to do the same if they want your support. If you are a member of a pension fund, tell managers not to invest in companies engaged in factory farming. Choose cosmetics and cleaning products not tested on animals. And always avoid fur, exotic leathers, and other products borne out of animal cruelty.

4

Vote with your dollars

Every time you enter the marketplace, you vote for or against cruelty with your dollars. Choose cosmetics and cleaning products not tested on animals. PETA has a very useful [shopping guide](#) that we recommend. And always avoid fur, exotic leathers, and other cruel products.

5

Be in the know

Stay updated on animal welfare issues with [our blog](#). Read *The Humane Economy* by founder Wayne Pacelle for a practical roadmap on how you can use the marketplace to promote the welfare of all living creatures.

6

Help animals in need

Choose to adopt homeless or foster animals — they make incredible and grateful companions, and you save a life in the process. Find your [local shelters here](#). Or find your companion animals [online here](#).

If you're not ready for a lifetime companion, you can always [foster a dog or a cat in need](#) or volunteer to work with adoptee animals.

When you come across animals in need, act to help them. Assist animals struck by cars or locked in automobiles by calling the proper authorities.

7

Minimize and eliminate food waste

Americans throw out 40% of their food, 22% of which comes from animal products. There are numerous costs to this, including increased greenhouse gas and higher energy outputs. We could spare more than a billion animals in the United States each year just by eliminating food waste. Learn how to reduce, reuse or recycle anything [here](#).

8

Travel like an eco-tourist

Pursue eco-friendly destinations when you take a vacation. This brand of tourism drives the global economy and benefits more progressive nations. Make sure the places you travel to have habitat preservation and management laws, as well as proper law enforcement to protect wild animals and their visitors.

9

Be social

Social media is powerful tool for show friends, family and wider communities how to build a more humane society. Share the latest in animal welfare news by following us on social media and alerting your followers about opportunities to help animals.



10

Live a more humane lifestyle

Spay and neuter your pets to prevent unwanted animals. Pick up plastic waste on beaches and in parks. Minimize your own waste, and dispose of it carefully, since that waste not only eats up space and wildlife habitat but can kill animals. Buy a fuel-efficient vehicle, and bike and walk more. Most importantly, act if you see an animal in need!



CENTER
—FOR A—
HUMANE
ECONOMY

Building a humane economy,
one company at a time

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