

WE'RE BACKING



Fact or Fiction?

- Fish only grow to the size of the tank - **Fiction!**
- Fish grow to the size that nature intended! - **Fact!** Sadly, the truth of the matter is that a fish kept in a tank that is too small will develop deformities or die prematurely as a result.

Dear Supporter,

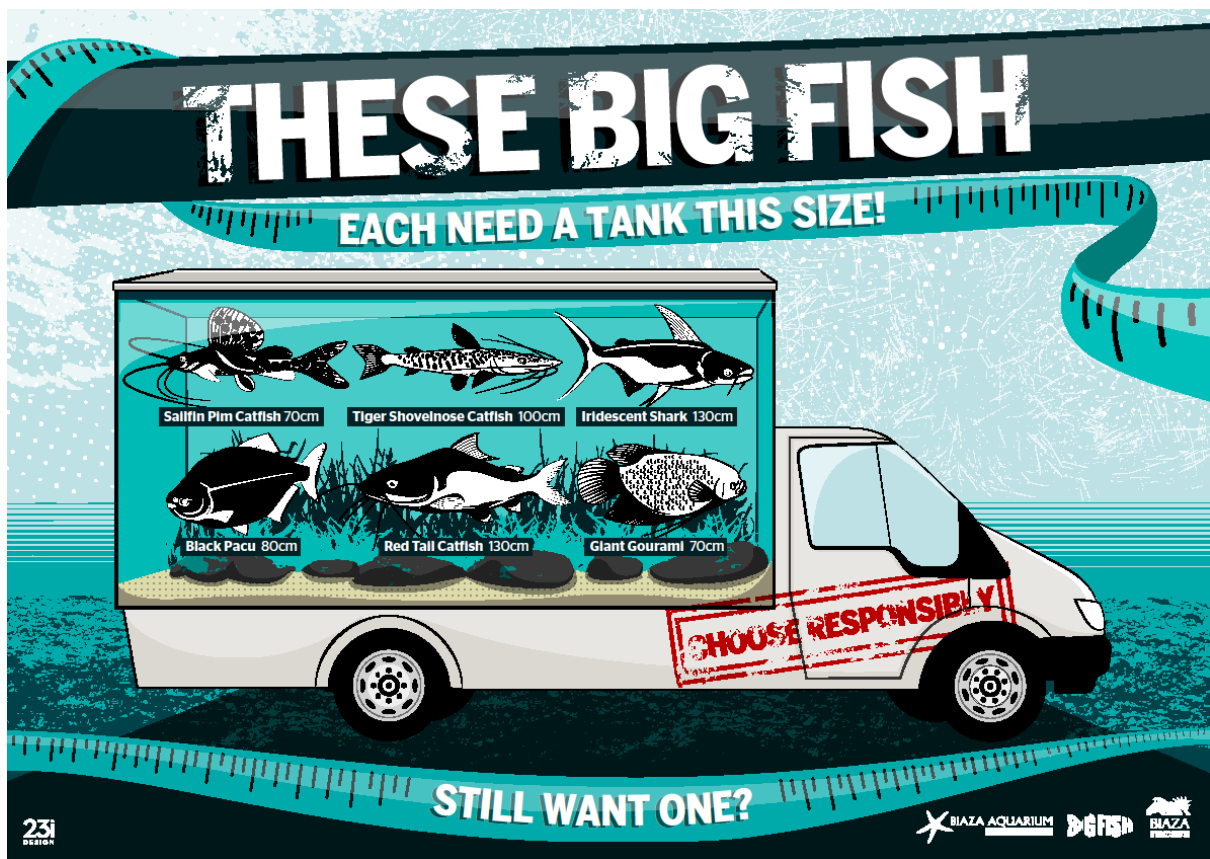
Every year hundreds of pet fish need help because they have grown 'too big' for their tank. Public aquariums, fish rescue organisations and pet shops like **you** bear the brunt of people asking them to take on their pet which has 'outgrown' its tank.

Why is this? Surveys carried out by public aquariums have shown that **many people are unaware just how large their pet fish are going to get.** This 'Big Fish' problem is a major welfare concern, the numbers we see represent the 'tip of the iceberg' and none of us have endless space to keep accepting these fish.

Several **problem species** have been identified which include a number of large growing freshwater fish such as **South American** and **Asian catfishes** (e.g. **Red-tail catfish** and **Pangasius**) that grow to over 1 metre in length. **Pacu** and **Giant Gourami** are also commonly unwanted and need re-homing. These and other large growing species, both freshwater and marine, will likely die prematurely as a result of being held in aquariums that are simply too small for their needs... and this isn't good for the fish keeping industry.

So... if you don't want customers begging you to take their over-grown fish, that take up space in your holding tanks, cost you money to keep and that you then can't sell what can you do?

Lead the way and support the campaign!



What Can You Do?

- Sign up to the Practical Fishkeeping 'Big Fish' pledge and encourage other retailers and wholesalers to do the same.
<http://www.practicalfishkeeping.co.uk/content.php?sid=5145>
- Display a campaign poster.
- Ensure your customers know how big the fish they want to buy will grow.
- Encourage sensible and responsible species selection; 'Choose appropriately sized fish for your tank or purchase a suitably sized aquarium'.
- Stock only species that are suitable for the average sized home aquarium.
- Pass on the message; **'Pet fish are for life, not just until they outgrow your tank'**.