Amanda Keledjian is a marine scientist at Oceana, the largest international advocacy group working solely to protect the world’s oceans. Since 2012, Keledjian has been responsible for Oceana’s research on fisheries bycatch, including the discard of fish and entanglement of marine mammals and sea turtles. Specifically, she works to promote improved fisheries monitoring, the use of selective fishing gear and innovative resource management. In addition to fisheries research, she conducts statistical and economic analyses on bycatch trends and the performance of federal agencies in meeting mandates to protect threatened and endangered species. In this capacity, Keledjian serves on fisheries management advisory panels and represents Oceana at regional meetings, hearings and scientific gatherings.

Prior to joining Oceana, Keledjian was awarded the Knauss Sea Grant Fellowship and worked in the National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources on endangered species conservation and management, fisheries bycatch and federal environmental compliance. Keledjian has held research and teaching assistant positions in Woods Hole and Antarctica, and she has extensive experience in marine mammal rehabilitation and education.

Keledjian completed a master’s degree at the Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where she studied fisheries science and the spatial patterns of marine mammal stranding and bycatch events in California. Keledjian is originally from Los Angeles, California and was a graduate of Grinnell College, where she received bachelor’s degrees in biology and anthropology.