

The Vancouver Park Board

and the

International Dolphin Trade



Hana, Helen & the Parks Control By-law

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The importation
of performing dolphins
in Stanley Park:

*Why the
Vancouver Park Board
must act.*

The Parks Board must enforce and strengthen the bylaw.

One Reason:

There is an apparent link between the Vancouver Aquarium's purchase of dolphins and the notorious dolphin drive fishery that takes place in Futo, Japan.

Issue:

Is the Vancouver Aquarium indirectly supporting the Japanese dolphin drive fishery?

- By purchasing dolphins from the Enoshima Aquarium, the Vancouver Aquarium may be contributing to one of the major proponents of the Futo dolphin drive.

Futo Dolphin Drive

Each year in the town of Futo, Japan, fishermen use noisemakers to herd up to a hundred dolphins into a confined bay where they are slaughtered and then sold for human consumption. During this process dolphin pods are torn apart and the surviving dolphins are frequently injured and traumatized.

Futo Dolphin Drive



© Elsa Nature Conservancy

Futo Dolphin Drive

However, due to international protest, the Futo dolphin drive was stopped in 1999.



Futo Dolphin Drive

- On November 11, 2004, the Futo dolphin drive was resumed. However, this dolphin drive differed from the drives that occurred prior to 1999. In this dolphin drive, the majority of the corralled dolphins were released.
- Why was the drive reinstated?
- Why did this drive differ from previous ones?



Futo Dolphin Drive

- A report by Genevieve Johnson, published on the PBS website, cites the demand by the aquarium industry as the sole cause for the reinstatement of the dolphin drive fishery in Futo, Japan.

http://www.pbs.org/odyssey/odyssey/20050214_log_transcript.html



Futo Dolphin Drive

- Of the hundreds of dolphins corralled in the Futo drive, only nineteen were selected and lifted from the water. Of these, five dolphins were killed for research and human consumption. This differs greatly from previous drives where the majority of corralled dolphins were killed for food.



Futo Dolphin Drive

- The remaining fourteen dolphins that were not killed were sold to six Japanese aquariums.

These aquariums include:

**1) Shin-Enoshima
Suizokukan**

**2)Awashima Marine Park
3)Marine Road/Dolphin Fantasy
4)Hosaka Marine Project
5)Shimoda-Kaichu Suizokukan
6)Shinagawa Suizokukan**



www.PBS.org/odyssey/odyssey/20050214_log_trans_cript.html

Futo Dolphin Drive



Futo Dolphin Drive

- Mr. Suzuki, the chief of the Ito City Fishing Cooperative Futo branch, declared the 2004 Futo dolphin drive to be “successfully complete” since the demand of the Aquariums was fulfilled.



http://enjoy.pial.jp/~animals/elsa/info_e_dolphin.htm

Futo Dolphin Drive

- The Futo Dolphin Drive Fishery is an international pariah. The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums has stated that dolphin drive fishing is a non-acceptable capture method for dolphins.

November 4, 2004 WAZA Annual Meeting

Futo Dolphin Drive & The Vancouver Aquarium

- By purchasing dolphins from the Enoshima Aquarium, the Vancouver Aquarium is financially supporting the Enoshima Aquarium which, in turn, is a financial supporter of the Futo Dolphin Drive.
- According to PBS, the Enoshima Aquarium supports the notorious Futo Dolphin Drive, and apparently obtained dolphins from that Drive shortly before selling their existing dolphins to the Vancouver Aquarium.

http://www.pbs.org/odyssey/odyssey/20050214_log_transcript.html

Futo Dolphin Drive & The Vancouver Aquarium

- Sakae Hemmi, Director of the Marine Mammal Project of the Elsa Nature Conservancy, Japan, claims that the Enoshima Aquarium likely sold Helen and Hanna to the Vancouver Aquarium in order to make room for newly acquired dolphins required for a breeding program.

Facilitating the Dolphin Drives

- The breeding program needed 'new blood' for their gene pool, and this was provided by wild specimens captured in the recent dolphin drive at Futo. Hemmi suggests that Enoshima was probably anxious to sell off Hana and Helen in order to make room for these new dolphins .

Conclusions:

- Although neither Helen nor Hanna were purposefully caught from the wild, purchasing these dolphins from the Enoshima Aquarium contributed to other dolphins being taken in the notorious Dolphin Drives:
 1. By purchasing Helen and Hana from the Enoshima Aquarium, the Vancouver Aquarium is financially contributing to the practices of the Enoshima Aquarium
 2. When the Vancouver Aquarium bought the two dolphins, it created more room at Enoshima for the new dolphins taken in the notorious Futo Dolphin Drive.

The Solution:

The only way to ensure that the Vancouver Aquarium does not contribute to the notorious Dolphin Drives is to rigorously enforce the bylaw. It should also strengthen the bylaw by restoring it to the wording that was originally proposed by the Parks Board – i.e., without the exceptions that have been invoked in this case:

Section 9(e):

No person shall bring into, or in any way keep or maintain within, any park or any part thereof, any animal that is an aquatic mammal of the cetacean order, except that this prohibition shall not apply to an animal that was already being kept or maintained within a park prior to September 16, 1996 and that has been continuously so kept or maintained since that date.