

# “Cetaceans in captivity”

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# Personal Experience

Dolphins Plus, Florida



Dolphins Reef, Israel



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# Trade and Capture

- CITES Convention
- Bern Convention
- EU directive 92/43 → no capture
- EU directive 338/97 → no trade for commercial purposes
- ACCOBAMS prohibition of take for shows

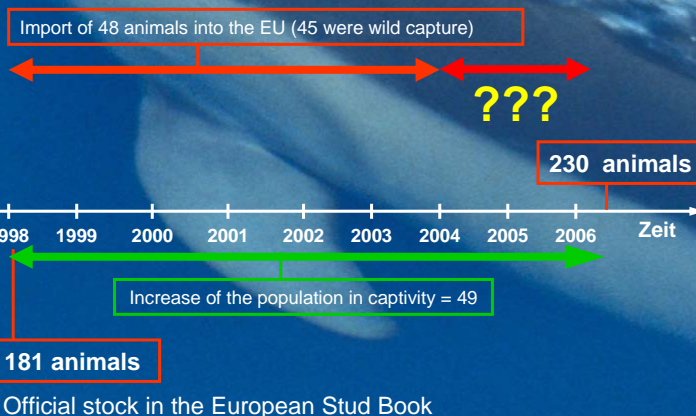


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# Recent situation in the EU

Testimony of the German government, following a question from the Green party in May 2006



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# Nürnberg - just a case

- 18.5.06 Anke (24y wild capture, first birth) → cause of death: birth was head first
- 19.6.06 Daisy (35y wild capture from Soltau, second birth) → cause of death: U- shape malposition of the head
- 24.7.06 Nynke (24y wild capture, second birth) (first birth death) → cause of death: aunt ANKE
- 9.6.07 Sunny (8y born in Soltau, first birth) → cause of death: starved
- 25.6.07 Jenny (20y wild capture, first birth) → cause of death: weakness

Director of the zoo Dr. Enke in the press: Because of the fact that it was always a different cause of dead, we do not know, what we can do to improve the situation next time.



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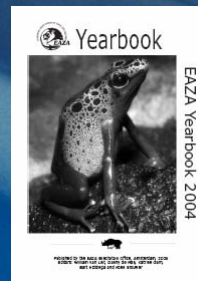
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# EAZA

European Association of Zoos and Aquaria

Neonatal mortality is a major problem, rendering the total *ex situ* bottlenosed dolphin population so far not being self-sustaining.

In spite of thorough pathological investigations the problem has not been solved.



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# COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 1999/22/EC

## Article 3 / 3:

accommodating their animals under conditions which aim to satisfy the biological and **conservation requirements** of the individual species...

**Article 1 The Aim:**  
The objectives of this Directive are to protect wild fauna and to conserve biodiversity



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# COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 1999/22/EC

## Article 3 / 1: participating in research

- from which conservation benefits accrue to the species,
- training in relevant conservation skills
- exchange of information relating to species conservation
- where appropriate:

captive breeding  
Repopulation  
reintroduction of species into the wild

## Article 3 / 2: promoting public education and awareness

- in relation to the [conservation of biodiversity](#)
- particularly by providing information about the species exhibited
- and their natural habitats

## Article 3 / 3: biological and conservation requirements

## Article 3 / 4: preventing the escape of animals...

Article 3 / 5: keeping of up-to-date records of the zoo's collection appropriate to the species recorded.



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# public education in relation to the conservation of biodiversity

## Article 1: The Aim:

... to protect wild fauna and to conserve biodiversity

## Florida:



"In the Southeast Region, which is North Carolina to Texas and the Caribbean, feeding dolphins is pretty widespread," said Stacey Carlson, Bottlenose Dolphin Conservation Coordinator for NOAA Fisheries Service. "What we're seeing is a domino effect."



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# USA - TODAY

http://www.usatoday.com - U...

**USA TODAY Quick Question**

**Where do you think elephants belong?**

- In a zoo. They can adjust the care. **50%**
- In a sanctuary. Let them roam. **45%**
- Not sure. We need more research. **5%**

**TOTAL VOTES: 3649** [Latest results](#)

Internet



[http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/2006-10-31-elephants-zoos\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/2006-10-31-elephants-zoos_x.htm)

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# Tanks in Germany



# Tanks in Germany



# Proposed Investments

**Rumour?**

Joint statement on the plans to build a new tank for the dolphins of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen...

June 2006

The organizations that have signed the statement, represent a great number of people who are concerned about the future of the dolphins of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen...

Doing things in the past, both rescue teams dolphins and have been very successful. Dolphins in the wild are still very rare and their numbers are still very low. We must do everything to ensure that the dolphins of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen and one of dolphins in the other habitats of Rügen...

The signing bodies therefore demand:

- Cancellation of the construction of the new dolphin tank in Rügen
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# Study about DAT at the Nürnberg Zoo 2000 - 2006



- Dr. E. Breitenbach (Universität Würzburg)
- Dr. L. v. Fersen (Zoo Nürnberg)
- Dr. E. Stumpf (Universität Würzburg)

## Changing their hypotheses...

- participation in dolphin assisted therapy is increasing...
- in the **perception of parents**, children are profiting of participating in dolphin assisted therapy...

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# Risk of Injuries

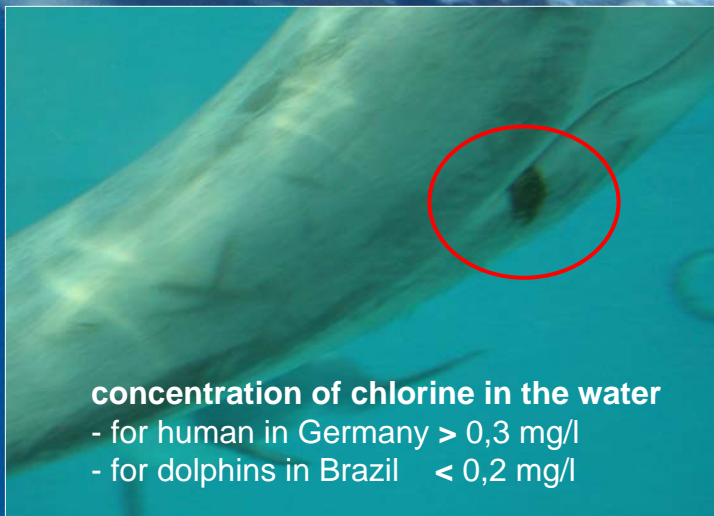
Location	Date	Details of incident
Dolphinarium, hotel, Wakayama prefecture, Japan	2003	Broken ribs and bone in back after dolphin struck woman swimmer
Marineland, Canada	2000	Beluga whale bit hand of visitor
Theater of the Sea, USA*	1999	Dolphin fluke hit swimmer in face, causing bruise on cheek and cut on lip
Theater of the Sea, USA*	1994	Contact with dolphin caused small bruise to swimmer's throat area
Dolphin Quest, USA*	1993	Interaction with dolphin caused scratches to swimmer's foot
Dolphin Quest, USA*	1993	Interaction with dolphin caused bruise to swimmer's thigh
Dolphin Quest, USA*	1993	Dolphin's teeth 'raked' swimmer's skin
Theater of the Sea*	1992	Dolphin injured swimmer's sternum
Dolphins Plus, Inc., USA*	1992	Dolphin broke swimmer's face mask and caused facial lacerations and bruised nose
Dolphin Quest, USA*	1992	Dolphin caused abrasions on swimmer's leg
Dolphin Research Center, USA*	1990	Dolphin broke one swimmer's arm and fractured the rib of another
Dolphin Quest, USA*	1990	Dolphin cause skin abrasions on swimmer's leg
Dolphins Plus, Inc., USA*	1990	Dolphin's dorsal fin caused bruising to swimmer's ribs
Pittsburgh Zoo, USA*	1990	Dolphin bit swimmer's finger, resulting in loss of fingertip
Theater of the Sea, USA*	1990	Swimmer struck face on raft in pulling away from approaching dolphin



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# Disease Transmission



**concentration of chlorine in the water**

- for human in Germany > 0,3 mg/l

- for dolphins in Brazil < 0,2 mg/l



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# ACCOBAMS

Third Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Contracting Parties  
Dubrovnik, 22-25 October 2007

- Appeal to all member states to correct the public misconception about dolphin assisted therapy
- **Prohibition** of interaction programs in the wild



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# Expert Conclusion BMVEL - 1996

 Bundesministerium für  
Verbraucherschutz, Ernährung  
und Landwirtschaft

**Gutachten**  
über Mindestanforderungen  
an die Haltung von Säugetieren



**Expert conclusion**  
about the minimum  
requirements for  
mammals in captivity

## Not included:

- regulations for interaction programs (APHIS9 in the USA)
- **Article 3 / 3:**  
providing species specific enrichment of the enclosures



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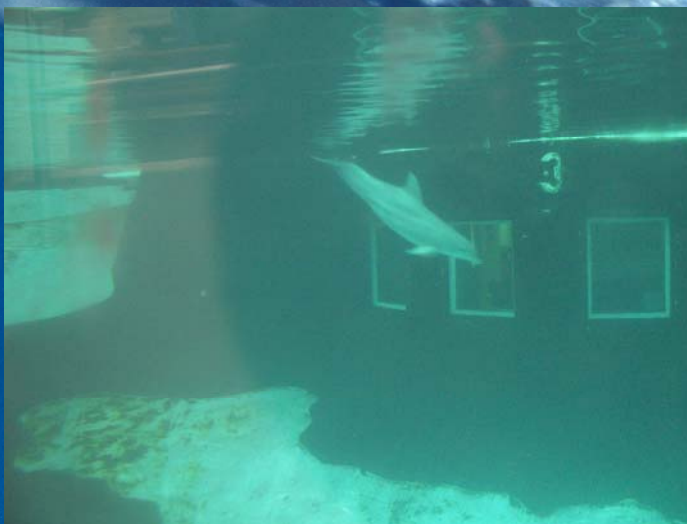
# Duisburg



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# Duisburg



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## 3D living, without walls



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## Species Specific Enrichment

Suggested by the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Oceanographic Museum of Stralsund:

- Irregular shape of the pool
- deep water areas >20m
- shallow areas with sandy beaches and seaweed
- corals or rocks or other nature structures
- artificial waves
- fish and other living beings from natural environment



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# Conclusion

The ex situ bottlenose dolphin population is so far not self-sustaining in Europe. Any expansion of the population has been dependent on imports into the European Union, of which 95% of animals were captured from wild. This fact and the ongoing discussion about sufficient housing conditions for bottlenose dolphin and other cetaceans result in the following recommendation:

- housing conditions for Cetaceans need to be scientifically evaluated
- recommendations for housing conditions, especially in Germany, but also elsewhere need to be renewed to meet the requirements of the European Zoo Directive
- all related data (such as the studbook and relevant expert statements) needs to be accessible by the public

