



TAF - *The Animal Fund*. Newsletter #1

August 2016

Dear TAF supporters,

Welcome to the first TAF newsletter, which will keep you informed about some of our progress and plans and an update about the threats facing whales, dolphins and the environment.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Please send it on to your friends, look at our newly updated website www.theanimalfund.net and check out the latest news at our [Facebook page](#).

Please email info@theanimalfund.net if you would like to join us or have questions.

Thank you so much for your support.

TAF – *The Animal Fund*

Content:

- **News - also posted on TAF's facebook**
- **Achievements and Future projects**
- **Videos**
- **Take action**

NEWS

Illegal Slaughter of Whales and Dolphins



115 Whales killed for "science"

Japan and their Scientific Research again ? And.. what are they researching ?

The Japanese Fisheries Agency has announced that 90 Sei whales and 25 Bryde's whales have been slaughtered by their whale hunting fleet in the north western Pacific.

Norway now kills more Whales than Japan and Iceland

combined; <http://www.mintpressnews.com/norway-now-kills-whales-japan-iceland-combined/217186/>



One more Grindadráp in the Faroe Islands

200 pilot whales chased - 50 managed to escaped but the remaining 150 pilot whales were driven into the whale bay to be slaughtered. One more "Grind" within a couple of months ! Dolphins are also killed in their Grindadráp- the Faroese claim that they don't eat dolphins so what do they use them for then ? ... To feed their salmon farms or ...? If so, you indirectly eat dolphins when you eat salmon from there!

Please see TAF's report from our visit to the Faroe

Islands: <http://www.theanimalfund.net/#!faroe-island-1/e3uey>



Finally, a Faroese woman of compassion speaks up for the Whales from the Faroe Islands

Marna Frida Olsen witnessed the horror of the last Grind. These are her words:

"The grind in Hvannasund was outrageous animal cruelty. Whales were alive and swimming in the fjord for a long time, whilst their family lay dead on the beach, and the sea was red with their blood."

Captivity



Kerteminde Fjord & Bæltcenter in Denmark

TAF visited the only aquarium in Denmark with 3 Harbour porpoise (marsvin) left in captivity. The aquarium contains sea water, is small (only 4 meter deep) and is used to entertain and educate the public who can touch and interact with the Harbour porpoises.



46 years of captivity for Lolita.

At only 4 years old, she was torn away from her family and ocean home during the largest capture of wild orcas in history. For only \$6,000, Lolita was sold to the Miami Seaquarium to be confined for human "entertainment."



Say NO to Swim With Dolphin Programmes

"Swim with dolphins" or "dolphin encounters" are terms used to describe a variety of dolphin-themed activities. While people have good intentions when they decide to get up close and personal with these astonishing animals, most are unaware of the suffering this lucrative industry inflicts on dolphins torn away from their ocean homes, where they lived in vast, fascinating and complex habitats.

China now has over 39 marine parks and 14 new under

construction: <http://www.takepart.com/feature/2016/06/14/big-business-marine-mammal-captivity?cmpid=organic-share-facebook>



TAF's visit to Marineland in Antibes, France

The trainers in Marineland are no longer in the water with the Orcas after the accident at Sea World but the Orcas are still performing shows. The trainers confirmed that they are NOT following the rules of Sea World in the US but are under the rules of Marineland France, which means that they are still breeding and they are all optimistic about having more Orcas, Stella Sea Lions and Dolphins in their cramped filthy pools. The trainers were enthusiastic and definitely defenders of captivity. Two local organisations are in legal court with Marineland. News to follow..

Human impacts on the ocean and the sea life



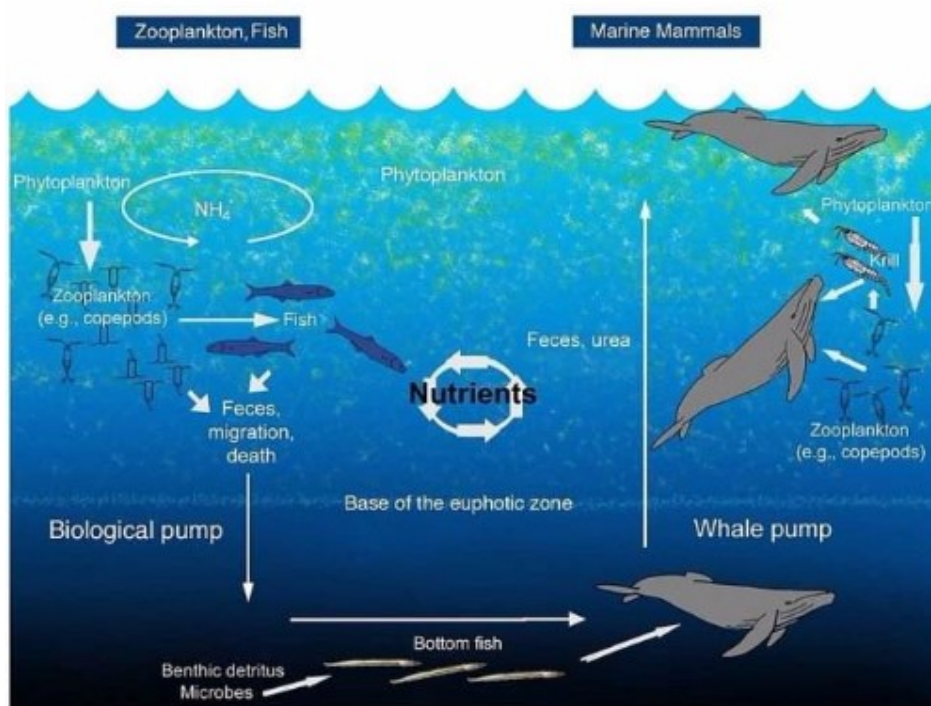
Is Human Overpopulation killing the planet?

Urban sprawl and mountains of garbage, industry and industrial agriculture, extinction-inducing levels of hunting, poaching and fishing—these are but a few notorious trademarks of the twentieth century, along with an ever-accelerating human compulsion to consume, consume, consume. Our growing numbers mean this is simply no longer sustainable.



Our fleeces keep us warm but poison marine life

"Scientists have found that the polyester fabric from which fleeces and other clothing are made typically releases nearly 2,000 tiny fibers into the environment every time a garment is washed — with most ending up in the sea, where they are toxic to marine life."



Why are whales so important to us all?

Whale poop helps stimulate the growth of phytoplankton which pull carbon from the atmosphere to provide a cleaner and healthier breathing environment for all. Between 50-85% of our oxygen comes from the ocean.

Phytoplankton also help feed the fish allowing them to thrive and reproduce, and the fish feed many other species that require fish to survive, thus keeping the food chain stable.



The ocean is getting empty - Sushi Obsession!

Overfishing is a serious threat to the survival of countless marine animal species. Highly sophisticated and aggressive commercial fishing methods such as radar, long line fishing bottom trawling, and the usage of purse seine nets frequently devastate large areas of the ocean by removing far more fish than was intended.



Plastic is taking over everywhere!

We swim in it, we digest it and we will die from it!

We need to stop this.

Use canvas bags instead of plastic bags, glass bottles instead of plastic bottles and recycle all. Humans dump 8.8 million tons of plastic every year into the ocean. It takes thousands of years to break down and contains toxic compounds and pollutants that pose a serious threat to marine life and us. >700 marine species are in danger of extinction because of our plastic habit and massive whales are washed ashore with bellies filled with plastic trash.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE PROJECTS

TAF - *The Animal Fund* was launched on December 10th, 2015. Aspiring to inform and educate about the ocean and sea life's deterioration and seeking to end dolphin and whale captivity and slaughter, the association has

accomplished numerous achievements since then:

- Grown to reach 93 members as of July 2016;
- 3 general members' meetings and some specific manager/ambassador meetings, with enthusiastic and fruitful discussion (Feb., April and June 2016);
- Set up 3 *Special Interest* Groups: 'Cosmetics', 'Plastic' and 'Overfishing';
- Connected and shared information with important co-workers/associations;
- Provided marketing materials (clothing, bags, mugs, pens etc.) available for stands and to be purchased;
- Given 5 presentations in schools and organizations;
- Taken part in 3 press conferences and several articles in local magazines;
- Published a Marineland report (Antibes, France) aiming to raise awareness and end captivity;
- Visited the Faroe Islands, followed by a report and film;
- Attended with a promotional stand the Schengen World Peace Foundation Conference in Luxembourg;
- Visited only aquarium in Denmark upholding 3 captive Harbor porpoises for educational purposes;
- Daily updates of TAF's website (i.e. mobile site, translations, improvements) and Facebook page with vibrant and informative news.

Projects under development:

- Recruit more members and important contacts outside and within the field;
- Promote the association: e.g. at sports events (i.e. World Championships in Rowing, Scuba clubs), at schools and associations (e.g. SOS Grand Bleu, Schools in MC, France and Italy), in TV programs (i.e. Danish TV, French TV), in articles (e.g. Nice/Monaco Matin);
- More specific groups to be set up (e.g. Spiritual, Oil Spill);
- TAF Benelux currently under development, with the first presentations

to start in September 2016;

- TAF Germany positively launching in November 2016;
- Regular interesting and informative newsletters;
- Webpage to be in french language.

VIDEOS

If you have a spare moment over the summer months, please watch the following interesting videos:

BLACKFISH: <http://www.documentary-movie.com/blackfish/>

TAF's visit to the Faroe Islands: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ILyU6nP50o

Aleks, an Osteopath's view on whales and dolphins importance for humans: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjOFzbhIxjE&feature=youtu.be>

THE COVE and COWSPIRACY to be found on the net

TAF has a collection of t-shirts, mugs, pens, bags and caps; if you like to order please email: info@theanimalfund.net Thank YOU!



TAKE ACTION

We would like to thank our volunteer and members for their great help and support, some are listed on our homepage as advisor or ambassador. Without volunteer, it would be impossible to proceed with our mission to protect and save the dolphins and the whales.

**TAF's next meeting will be held wednesday 21st September
at 7.00 pm at [Maison des Association in Monaco](#)**

We hope you will join!

Thank you