

Dear Supporters:

If you thought you missed a Liferforce News you didn't. We have been very busy setting up our Web Site. The Web Site will include not only current issues but also a photo library of animals in research laboratories and other abusive situations. The Liferforce History section will look at our strategies that can be applied to issues of the day. We will give you the Web Site address in our next newsletter scheduled for Winter 2002.

Since our last newsletter Liferforce Accomplishments included the following:

MARINE LIFE PROGRAMS

* Liferforce thanks TD Canada Trust who donated \$2500 to update our Whale Watch Guidelines and Shell Environmental Fund who donated \$5000 for a pontoon and sling system to refloat stranded dolphins.

* Liferforce sent out a Press Release announcing the distribution of the Whale Watch Guidelines to marinas and schools/libraries. Whale Watch operators were also sent the new guidelines. The Southern Orca Community has been designated an endangered species in Canada and we must reduce boat traffic which harms them. The Blaine Elementary School thanked us for the whale cards.

* Liferforce continues to distribute the Field Guide of Orca Behaviour and Identifications and the Whale Watch Guidelines card. Liferforce will continue to collect video for an Orca Behaviour video (For education and our web site).

* This Summer we will have a new 24' boat to expand the Lifewatch Boater Education Program and Marine Wildlife Rescue. Liferforce is grateful for the support of the Vancouver Foundation, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Volvo Canada and Streamline Boats.

Liferforce will continue to obtain information to develop an Eco Boat and Library to help develop ecologically friendly boating life-styles. This includes containing all boat wastes and utilizing modern technology to reduce/ eliminate boat pollution.

* In 2001, we conducted the Marine Life Programs with the aid of students provided through BC Government Youth Options. This program was called Marine Mammal Census and Boat Interaction Study. The BC Ferry Corporation donated space and parking at the Tsawwassen Ferry Dock. Unfortunately, the BC Liberal government cut this and other environmental programs.

* Visitors to Point Roberts Lighthouse Marine Park continue to enjoy watching the False killer whale who follows our boat. We are able to do this "False Killer Whale show" at scheduled times during the weekends.

* Two young orcas were found apart from their families. A73, from the Northern Community has been in Puget Sound and L98, from the Southern Community, is off the West Coast of Vancouver Island. Liferforce alerted organizations, government and media that aquariums planned to capture A73. After public debate, the US National Marine Fisheries Services agreed with Liferforce and others that she was not on death's doorstep as claimed by the Vancouver Aquarium. The skin "problem" and her closeness to boat traffic is exactly the same situation that the False killer whale has thrived in since the early 90s. However, A73 was captured in June. Liferforce continues to discuss this issue with officials in hope that she will not end up in an aquarium. We also hope that L pod will eventually pass the area were L98 is and they will reunite.

* For two weeks during May Liferforce advised Canadian and US geologists how they could avoid contact with and possible harm to the endangered BC orcas. They were using loud underwater air guns 24 hours a day to study earthquake faults. Both teams thanked us for being a vital part of the monitoring program which helped protect the orcas and other marine life.

OTHER ANIMAL ISSUES

* Grouse Mountain businessman and a former Vancouver Game Farm vet plan to open a zoo under the guise of conservation. Liferforce reminded the North Vancouver Council of their bylaw that prohibits the exhibition of animals. Liferforce fought for the bylaw several years ago. The Vancouver Courier wrote an article about our opposition to this new zoo.

* Liferforce continued our opposition to the Vancouver Aquarium's fake Salmon Stream. The Aquarium was also given the old Bear grotto that was supposed to have been demolished. A lot of land for more animal prisons. They were also allowed to expand their research area and will conduct experiments on sea otters, sea lions and other wildlife.

* Bjossa continued to be sick and in August 2000 the Vancouver Aquarium said that they would send Bjossa to Sea World. We urged them to return her to Iceland to be with Keiko, the Free Willy male orca who was returned to his home waters. In a letter from the Association for the Protection of Fur Bearing Animals they credited this "end of orca captivity" to Liferforce's ongoing work. She was sent to Sea World and died in October 2001. In January, 2002 a Pacific white-sided dolphin died while a staff member stuck their arm down the throat into the stomach without any sedation to remove stomach debris (junk thrown into the pool).

* Liferforce continues to oppose the shooting of coyotes and bears in Vancouver and urges non lethal hazing methods to reduce any human conflicts.

Wildlife in Rough Seas:

Lifewatch Battles Boat Bullies

The Whale Watch Industry

Notes from the Lifewatch Boat Log:

Date/Time: September 1, 2002 12:25 PM Weather Condition: Clear sky, 15 mph winds and 3' rough seas Boats: 4 Whale Watch Boats Problems: Orcas heading north past Pt. Roberts, Wa were continuously harassed by boats which blocked them by leap frogging and continuously staying within 100 meters. Some boats drove at them to get closer and were within 20 feet of passing orcas.

Date/Time: September 21, 2002 Approx. 3 PM Weather Condition: Clear Sky, 10 mph winds and 1' chop Boats: 6 Whale Watch boats and numerous pleasure boats fishing/travelling

Problems: Two Whale Watch boats do their "funneling" routine in which they try to force the orcas to pass within 10' of their bows. Other company boats repeatedly block the paths, approach from rear within 10 feet and continuously stay within 100 meters. One of the operators agrees with Lifewatch that they must have left the guidelines at home.

These types of whale abuses depict the many problems that we encounter on the waters while conducting our Lifewatch Program. Some operators have even referred to these beautiful, intelligent creatures with demeaning references such as "Where are the buggers?" and "Let's find the bastards". One operator said he didn't worry about the orcas becoming extinct because, as in the case of depleted fish stocks, they would find other species to profit from.

Repeated attempts to discuss issues and wanton violations with the Whale Watch Operators Association Northwest have not resulted in immediate action. Excuses have ranged from the "members are very busy at this time of the year" to "there wasn't enough time to discuss it". Even in 1998 when we sought their support in stopping skin biopsies and sound experiments which could harm the orcas some of them questioned why they would get involved. They should have considered protecting the orcas who have made them rich. It is these people who say they can police themselves.

One major area of concern is Active Pass located between Vancouver and Victoria in British Columbia. Boats run over top of the orcas, block their paths and drive them against the shore. Lifewatch advice to stop and watch the orcas enter this crowded pass in a safe location which does not restrict the orcas was not implemented. This year operators, talking about getting too close in Active Pass, remarked "Granny (an 80 year old orca from J pod) didn't like that" and then joked about reporting this violation of the guidelines. Active Pass should be designated a No Whale Watch Zone.

The Need for Regulations

Pleasure boats also pose threats to species at risk. Public perception has been influenced by the Aquarium Industry which treats its captives like pets who they ride and swim with. Lifewatch has had to stop boaters from attempting to swim with the wild orcas. Another problem is with lone dolphins, such as a False Killer whale, who follows boats near Vancouver, and the orca, Luna. Boaters have to be told that the behaviour of these isolated dolphin is totally different and they must not approach any marine wildlife.

Although some populations are endangered there are no Orca Recovery Plans in place. It may take until take until 2005. Regulations that are enforced are immediately needed to protect marine wildlife. However, in Canada, it will take approximately two years.

Write to your local politicians and tell them that the animals can't wait.

Springer Helped, Luna Left Behind?

The lone orca, Springer A57 who was in Puget Sound, WA for several months appears to have been successfully reunited with the family pod in Northern BC. Lifeforce had urged the public to "Donate to Freedom Not Captivity". The Aquarium Industry should have used its blood money that they made from imprisoning instead of begging for \$80,000 in public donations.

Lifeforce has urged the government to immediately reunite another lone orca, Luna L98, with her mom and relatives. In October, Luna's was seen with a new baby. Their lack of action looks as if it will have to be put on hold until next year when L pod returns to the area. Let's hope Luna survives.

West Edmonton Mall now has only two dolphins following the death of two adults. In July another newborn died. One female had lost two babies and now the remaining female has lost three.

Marineland, Niagara Falls, Canada, had a death of a 3 year old orca this summer. This makes it the tenth death of a cetacean in the past 5 years (38 dolphins in total). During the past three years this amusement park has bought 14 belugas and 10 Black Sea dolphins from Russia. Russia has stated that they will capture orcas for \$1 million each. Other countries with poor economies will try to profit if captivity of whales and dolphins is not banned in "civilized" countries.

Tiger at Shopping Mall

In August Lifeforce took action to stop a recent exhibit of exotic cats by a magician. We advised the Brentwood Mall in Burnaby, BC, that they would not be allowed to display exotic animals, such as a tiger and lynx, under a bylaw that we fought for in the 90s. Lifeforce called the Burnaby Bylaw enforcement people and they were going to advise the mall management. Lifeforce also complained to the BCSPCA about their inspector who the mall management said gave his blessing.

In the past Lifeforce succeeded in stopping hamster races, tiger photo gimmicks and lion shows at this mall. The Burnaby bylaw bans the display/performance with exotic animals. Lifeforce convinced Burnaby Council to kick stripper Jane Jones and her tiger out of Burnaby. Our discovery of numerous animal abuses at the Tarzan Zerbini Circus led to the first bans on animal acts in circuses and helped convince Burnaby Council to implement such a bylaw.

Animals in Advertising

During the Christmas holidays Lifeforce has issued "Abusive Awards" to companies who used animals in their ads. This included ads which depicted puppies and kittens as Christmas gifts and using orangutans in a cell phone ad. Many of the ads were cancelled in the following year.

Unfortunately, throughout the year there have been other ads which can directly and indirectly result in the exploitation of animals. We have been able to ban many types of animal acts in circuses but there are still numerous businesses keeping animals in appalling condition for performances in the film industry. There should be bans on the breeding, selling and keeping of such animals.

Below is an excerpt from a Lifeforce letter to BC Telus which ads included a sloth, a wallaby, a beaver, monkeys and amphibians. We also have contacted the BC Film Commission with our recommendations outlined below.

Dear Mr. Oosterman:

On behalf of the Lifeforce Foundation I would like to bring to your attention our concerns over the use of exotic animals in BC Telus advertisements. Your ads promote keeping exotic, wild animals as pets and that they are mere objects for so-called human entertainment. It condones keeping animals to force them to do idiotic tricks. Your ad campaign does not instill a respect and understanding of their natural lives in the wild.

In general, these animals are often abused and kept in inhumane conditions. They are beaten to be "tamed" and dominated by humans. They are imprisoned in small cages and are only let out for brief periods when performing. For example, the orangutan in the Clint Eastwood movies was found beaten to death at the holding compound. Animals in lower mainland compounds are imprisoned for life. Can BC Telus guarantee that these abuses do not occur? Of course not, you would have to monitor the companies continuously.

Being an "animal trainer" does not mean that the person is compassionate or understands the needs of their victims. It means that they have learned the tricks of the trade to make animals perform unnatural tricks. The methods often involve pain and suffer. During an NDP commercial shoot, one of the "better" trainers kept a chameleon under hot movie lights and the lizard died.

Claiming that the animals are "born in captivity" does not resolve the problem that captive animals can suffer just as much as wild animals. In addition, these animals have not been domesticated for hundreds of years and therefore they are innately wild. Captive populations have and will continue to depend on captures from the wild. For example, it is our understanding that the original sloths at the Vancouver aquarium were taken from the wild.

Recently, a local company was not aware that the sea lions who they used in an ad were inhumanely taken from their mothers in the wild and subjected to experiments at the Vancouver Aquarium.

There has been growing public opposition to the exploitation of animals forced to perform. Numerous cities have ban animal acts in circuses now that the truth of behind the scenes abuses have been revealed.

These animals do not make "good pets" and they can be a threat to public safety. They can pose both physical threats and health dangers. We obtained two Japanese Snow Monkeys from a woman who was unaware that they can carry Herpes B and cause death.

A win-win situation for companies such as yours and the animals would be to use stock footage of animals in the wild and/or non-invasive film animals in their natural habitats. Organizations, such as Lifeforce, who work to protect animals can be contacted to locate such populations. For example, Lifeforce studies orcas and other marine wildlife and we can locate them every day. Donations can be given to animal protection organizations instead of to institutes and businesses which exploit them.

ON THE VIVISECTION FRONTLINE

Lifeforce continues to expose the inhumane, scientifically fallacious use of animal models. We provide film/photos to numerous organizations exposing these atrocities. We would like to bring to your attention a few more examples of this waste of scarce health care funds.

Animal labs at UBC

The University of British Columbia requires third-year premedical students to perform tracheotomies, suturing, IV placement and other invasive procedures on live pigs. Dean John Cairns said that the school is reviewing the use of animals for surgical training because there are more effective teaching methods. He noted that observation during human surgeries is critical. There is also a lifelike human model now being used.

Write to: John A. Cairns, MD, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Undergraduate Program, Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre, 3250 - 910 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4E3. Urge him to replace all live animal labs with modern non-animal teaching methods. His students are not studying to be veterinarians!

ICORD

Principle Investigator Dr. John Steeves (the guy who we stopped from acquiring Canada Geese from Stanley Park) continues promoting horrible spinal cord experiments on animals. The Canada Foundation for Innovation gave \$12.8 million to build a new International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD) Centre at Vancouver General Hospital. Their partner is the Rick Hansen Institute. They promote "animal-based discovery research".

Cancer Research Concert

On October 10th \$1.5 million was raised for a new cancer research facility by Canadian musicians - Bryan Adams, Jann Arden, Barenaked Ladies, Chantel Kreviazuk and Sarah McLachlan. It was organized by the Vice President of Clear Channel Entertainment, Canada, Shane Bourbonnais, whose wife died last year.

Here is one of many frivolous, inhumane experiments supported by such fund-raisers. Joanne Weinberg and UBC colleagues look at the effects of "social housing condition and behaviour on growth" of tumor cells injected into mice even though relevant studies of environmental factors affecting breast cancer in women are being conducted.

At Christmas (or any other time) don't donate to Health Organizations which fund vivisection. Ask them to provide a detailed list of the research that they fund and to clearly define their position on experiments on animals. Please forward any response to Lifeforce.

NEWS BRIEFS

GROUSE MOUNTAIN ZOO- MORE CAPTIVE BEARS

This new zoo in Vancouver is deceiving people into thinking that they are a "Grouse Mountain Refuge for Endangered Wildlife". This summer they got two more grizzly bear cubs. Now they have four which are hand fed and treated like pets. The bears would have been conditioned for release if they went to the Hillsprings Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre in Northern BC.

Demand that the District of North Vancouver Animal Performance By-law prohibiting exhibition of wildlife be enforced. Write to: Mayor and Council, 355 West Queens Road, N. Vancouver, BC, V7N 4N5

MILITARY SONAR AND SEISMIC TESTS

The US Navy have been deploying Low Frequency Active Sonar (LFAS). Active sonar has been linked to the stranding of whales and dolphins. With a high noise level of 240 decibels it can cause "acoustic or impulse trauma". The Navy plans to use LFAS in over 75% of the planet's oceans. A lawsuit has been filed to stop the Navy.

A federal judge has ordered the US National Science Foundation to stop firing blasts from air guns to map the ocean floor because it harms whales.

KEIKO'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

The "Free Willy" orca left the sea pen in Iceland and travelled hundreds of miles with wild orcas. Keiko may stay in a bay in Norway until the orcas return in January.

CALENDARS AND GIFTS

Calendar sales can support organizations that violate the rights of animals. Various Wildlife Federations support hunting and some Firefighters Associations donate to the Burn Foundation of the International Association of Fire Fighters which supports burn experiment on animals, including dogs.

Help the groups who really help animals and know where your gifts go. Ask them to state their position on the various animal rights issues. Pro-hunting groups include Ducks Unlimited and the World Wildlife Fund. Please send any responses to Lifeforce.

WHALE PROTECTION?

Some groups proclaiming to protect dolphins and whales have close ties with the Aquarium Industry. Aquariums are trying to portray themselves as conservationists but continue to exploit marine wildlife. Before making a donation you should check their web sites to see their links (who they refer people to). Ask if they are against keeping animals in captivity?

LION CUBS AT VANCOUVER GAME FARM

Two sets of lion cubs were born in September. Management said they will be sold/traded. This is a common practice - separating family members. Their email:mailbox@greatervancouverzoo.com

Thank you for your support

It has been very nice to hear from some long time Lifeforce supporters. Some of you have been members since we began in 1981.

Since Revenue Canada took away our charitable we have lost a lot of potential donations. However, individuals can still help Lifeforce and themselves. For example, if someone received a tax-deductible receipt for a \$100 gift the actual tax reduction is \$30 to \$50 (not the full amount of \$100). Therefore, if this person donated \$50 to Lifeforce they would have immediately save \$50 instead of having to wait for income tax time.

Not for the faint of heart:

It is not completed yet, but the Lifeforce Web Site will be located at:

www.LifeforceFoundation.org

Events and Meetings Attended

Oct. 15 - Lifeforce has been a member of the Green Boating Work Group for the past three years. The group's goals are to protect marine ecosystems by encouraging eco friendly boating practices.

Oct. 4 - Lifeforce participated in an Orca Pass meeting for the development of an International Marine Sanctuary in Southern BC and Washington.

Aug 3-4 - Lifeforce had a display at the Point Roberts Arts and Music Festival in Washington.

June 29 - Lifeforce donated our Orca Field Fields to a fund-raising event to return the captive orca Lolita to her family. She has been imprisoned at the Miami Seaquarium since her capture in 1970. There were 48 orcas taken from the Southern Orca Community.

May - Lifeforce spoke at the Whale Watch Operators Association Northwest to urge them to act responsibly with orcas travelling through Active Pass, BC.

Lifeforce Christmas Wish List

Besides wishing for a "Peace on Earth For All Life", Lifeforce is wishing for a high resolution scanner that can copy film negatives, a photo quality printer, a computer monitor and a lap top computer. As they say "'Tis the Season".

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

* To conduct fund-raising activities for projects such as the Marine Life Programs and to stop vivisection, factory farming and the exploitation of animals for so-called "entertainment". We need volunteers for special event displays and for writing grant applications. We will also do consulting services and rent our equipment, such as the Marine Wildlife Rescue Trailer and Lifewatch Boat, to other organizations.

* To distribute Lifeforce Orca Field Guides and Whale Watch Guidelines to marinas, boating organizations, schools and libraries.

* To help with our Marine Life Programs. For example, we need whale spotters.

* To help with bookkeeping and miscellaneous office work.

Here is my Gift of Hope

* This is my Christmas Ocean Friends Membership for a trip on the new Lifeforce boat:

\$75.00 Adult \$35.00 Children under 13

*Please give your available times between July and October.

DAYS REQUESTED (Vancouver Departure) _____

* Please circle your preferred weather/sea conditions.

Sky: Rain/Shine Sea: Calm/Moderate

THANK YOU BUT I CANNOT HELP ON THE WATER

HOWEVER, I DO WANT TO HELP BY JOINING/RENEWING AND/OR DONATING

Membership is still only:

\$10 Senior/Student \$15 Individual \$25 Family \$100 Business

Here is my Gift Membership of \$ _____ for _____

Here is my membership/donation of \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Prov/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

YOUR BEQUESTS

If you want to help the Lifeforce Foundation continue our important work in the future you can leave us a gift in your will. You may wish to bequeath funds for a program of your choice or for the general work and perpetuity of Lifeforce. Program(s) could be given your name for your lasting legacy. Funds will be gratefully acknowledged. A general form of bequest is suggested:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Lifeforce Foundation, located in Vancouver, BC, the sum of \$ _____ and/or (specifically described property).

Lifeforce hopes that you will act now to make sure that your wishes will be carried out.

The Lifeforce email address is lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com

LIFEFORCE (604) 669-4673 * Box 3117, Vancouver, BC V6B 3X6

* Box 121, Pt. Roberts, WA 98281-0121

Lifeforce is a non-profit organization registered under the Society Act of British Columbia

THANK YOU AND MEDIA COVERAGE

* Thank you to the Endswell Foundation for donating a computer to expand our educational programs. Their generous grant also helped us obtain equipment for the Lifewatch Program.

* Media coverage included the UK Isle of Wight Preservation and Action Group reprint of our False killer whale newsletter story; In Defense of Animals obtained our photos of primates to oppose experiments and abuses by Stephen Lisberger at UC San Francisco (the experiments were first exposed in the 80s by Lifeforce), Local BC and WA state newspapers did stories about "Wilma" the False killer whale following our boat; CBC Health Matters showed our footage of a cat in a vivisection laboratory with electrodes implanted into the brain and the Point Roberts Chamber of Commerce used one of our orca photos for their map. Also, BCCTV did a great 3 minute story about our Lifewatch program. If you would like to view this video contact us and we will send you a copy.

Lifeforce had our vivisection photos published by the pro-health group SUPPRESS. We also found our vivisection photos on several web sites. We hope that all organizations will ask us for permission and make a donation for using our copyrighted photos for their fundraising. This will help us continue to expose research atrocities.

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Please Sign Me Up for a 2002 Lifeforce Membership/Donation

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City _____ Prov/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

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