

January 25, 2022

To Whom it May Concern;

Dolphin Quest has actively collaborated with leading marine mammal researchers for over three decades. This collaboration has advanced our scientific understanding of the animals in our care and contributed to more than 120 scientific publications while providing enormous benefit to our organization.

Through research conducted at Dolphin Quest, scientists have advanced diagnostic procedures benefiting animals in human care. Morphometric and physiological data collected at Dolphin Quest help veterinarians and scientists interpret data collected in the wild, which informs our understanding of the health status of wild populations. Additionally, conservation tools and methods have been developed and applied to multiple marine mammal species across the world, enhancing our understanding of human impacts on wild populations.

The scientists we work with are always sensitive to demands on our behaviorists' time and respectful of the dolphins' commitment to public programming. Often data collection takes place during public programs, minimizing demands on the animals while adding creative activities to the guest experience.

As pressures on wild marine mammals continue to accelerate, we need to double our efforts to better define these pressures and create innovative conservation solutions. Making our staff and dolphins available to collaborate with the world's leading marine mammal researchers is essential, now more than ever.

Sincerely,

Rae Store, D.V.M.

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