



Avenida Loro Parque, s/n 38400 Puerto de la Cruz Tenerife, España - Spain Tfno.: +34 922 37 38 41

Fax: +34 922 37 31 10

www.loroparque-fundacion.org / email: lpf@loroparque-fundacion.org

To whom it may concern,

Loro Parque hosts a group of 8 bottlenose dolphins, 5 orcas and 12 Californian sea lions. We involved our marine mammals in research projects because we believe it is essential to promote the scientific knowledge of the species under our care in order to improve the conservation actions of their wild counterparts and other afine species. Learning how to find better ways to protect wild marine mammals is important to us, as we consider this is one of the most relevant roles of a zoological facility.

Loro Parque has established a network with over 75 universities, museums and research centers worldwide, offering them the possibility to access our animals for scientific purposes. This collaboration has been beneficial for our park, our employees, and the animals. The possibility to have access to trained animals is an extraordinary resource for the science, which is very much appreciated by scientists.

Through research, we have been able to better educate our guests, to mentally challenge our animals by training them for the different projects, and to challenge our staff to reach new goals. Besides, the research activities and the scientific results have given us an extraordinary communication potential that has been essential to reinforce our external image and reputation as a modern zoological facility.

We would encourage every facility to perform research with their animals. There is a lot that we need to discover about them, to better protect them in the wild, and to provide the very best care for them at our facilities. In conclusion, our facility is involved in numerous research projects. We feel very proud for contributing to advance the knowledge about this species and the positive changes this knowledge can lead to.

Sincerely,

Dr. Javier Almunia

Director



