

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE



FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SANCTUARIES AND CENTRES FOR THE
REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION OF MARINE MAMMALS
AND THE PROHIBITION OF CAPTIVE BREEDING FOR
RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

1. Prohibit breeding for entertainment purposes in captivity.
2. Regulate measures and create confinement spaces for marine mammals in sea pens, the tanks will only be used in natural disasters as a shelter or quarantine.
3. Activities with marine mammals are limited to observation, snorkelling and scuba diving in open spaces only.
4. Prohibiting forced and conditioned interactions with humans. Avoiding diseases known as zoonoses to be transmitted from animals to humans and viceversa.
5. Information on marine mammal management will be made public and research programmes will be carried out for rehabilitation purposes to create Marine Sanctuaries.

Senators and Deputies

Help us to give a voice and a dignified life to the
creatures of the sea.



Gracias por no ser indiferente!

Selene Tejeda

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21th September 2022

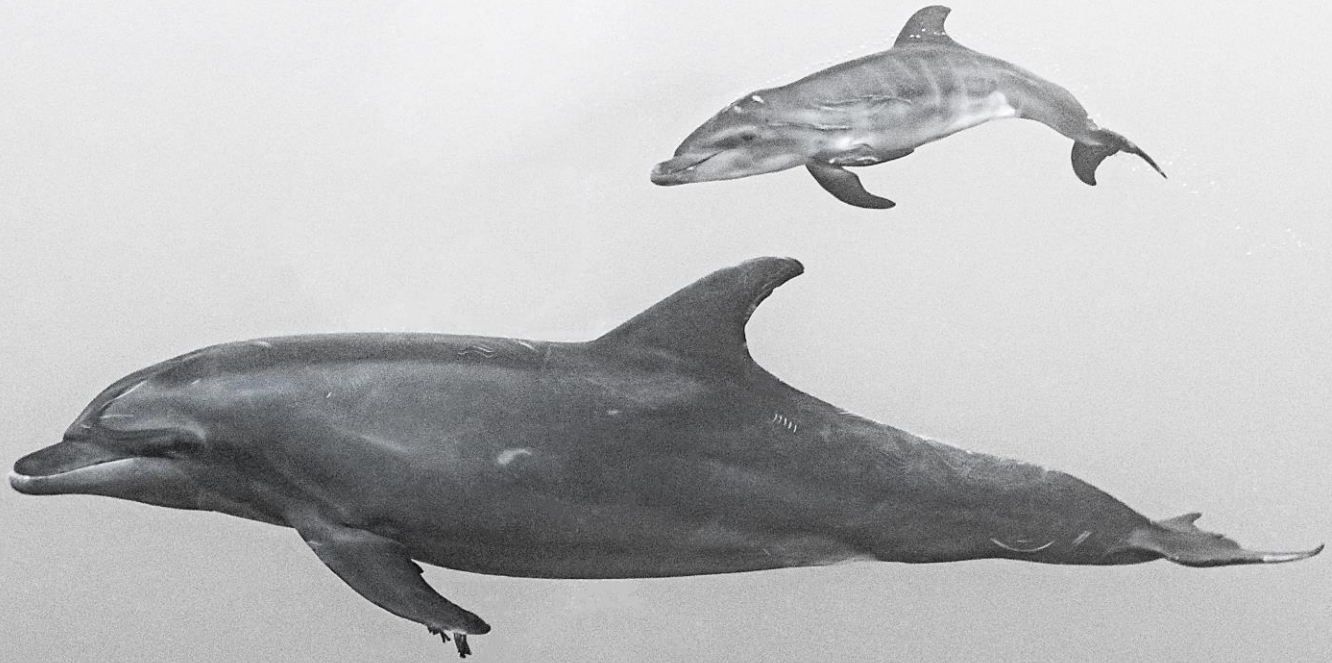


LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
SANCTUARIES AND
REHABILITATION AND
REINTEGRATION CENTRES
FOR MARINE MAMMALS

Mexico,
19th September 2022





“THE GREATNESS OF A NATION AND ITS MORAL
PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS
ARE TREATED”

- Mahatma Ghandi

AGENDA 2022/2023

OBJETIVE

- Achieving a model shift from UMAS and PIMVS to Marine Sanctuaries and Rescue Centres for Rehabilitation
- Respectful Mexico, Attracting sustainable ecotourism

CURRENT SITUATION

- More than 450 specimens in confinement.
- No constant supervision and monitoring by PROFEPA & SEMARNAT DGVS.

PROBLEMATIC

Exploitation of dolphins and sea lions for training, precarious swimming pool facilities in hotels and sea pens. Risks to human and animal health/ Zoonosis and COVID Confidentiality agreements due to trade secrets of dolphinarium.

ALTERNATIVE & PROPOSED LAW

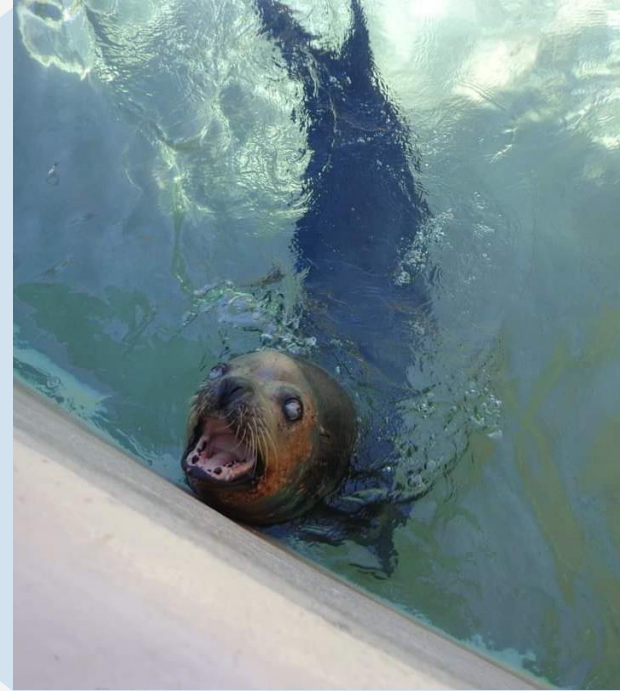
- Modification of the NOM-135-SEMARNAT-2004 of reproduction of marine mammals and Art 60 y 78 bis LGVS, Codigo penal Art. 420.
- Create sanctuaries at sea for rescue and reintegration in alliance with research centres and local ecotourism communities.

01

02

03

04



Photograph. Sea lion blinded by exposure to sunlight and chemicals in the pool of the dolphinarium in SONORA

OBJECTIVE

STEP 1

KNOWLEDGE

To understand the current situation and to recognise the problems of animal health and welfare due to confinement and stress.

STEP 2

DEVELOPMENT

Make changes to improve the situation

- Laws: Prohibit Exploitation and Abuse and entertainment with marine mammals in Mexico.
- Construction of phased sanctuaries / Opportunity to change the dolphinarium model in Mexico.
- Develop international alliances for research projects for reintegration and their study in free living, education and conservation.

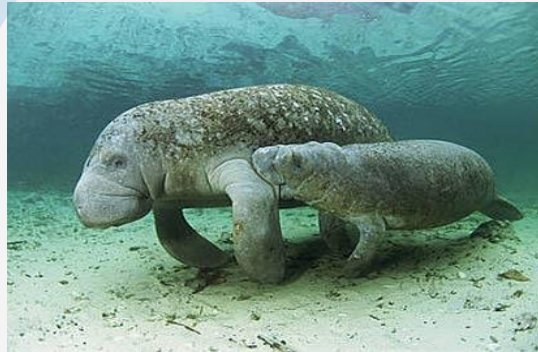


For a MEXICO that is more just, respectful and in solidarity with the inhabitants of the sea.

CAPTIVE MARINE MAMMAL SPECIES IN MEXICO



- o California sea lion/ *Zalophus californianus*
- o Bottlenose dolphin/ *Tursiops truncatus*
- o Atlantic bottlenose dolphin/ *Tursiops gillii*
- o Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin/ *Tursiops aduncus*
- o South American fur seal / *Otaria flavescens*
- o Manati / *Trichechus manatus*
- o Polar bear / *Ursus maritimus*



DOLPHINARIUMS IN MEXICO

36 active dolphinaria in 11 states of the Mexican Republic with more than 450 specimens in captivity.

Only 4 installations are in sea pens, the rest in concrete tanks..



Marine mammal registered sites in Mexico

41

Dolphins, sea lions, manatees and polar bears in captivity

+450

ACTIVITIES

- Disguise them
- Riding them by their fins
- Hugs and kisses
- Jaw Tugging
- Pushing tourists
- Any show
- Therapies not recognised by SSA
- Impeding their movement by brushes on the muzzle

REPRODUCTION PURPOSES

- NO restrictions
- Forced in vitro
- Separation of offspring
- > For training
- > Increase stock of dolphins for replacement or exchange within the industry.

CURRENT SITUATION IN CAPTIVITY



FOTOS 1 & 2

Dolphinaris Riviera Maya facilities with reduced spaces in tanks with more than 25 dolphins in chlorinated pools.

INVASIVE PROGRAMMES AND PAINFUL PROCEDURES



FOTO 1

Gastrointestinal tube hydration from consumption of frozen fish



FOTO 2 & 3

Skin lesions caused by forced invasive human interaction, poor water quality, sun exposure, aggressions and chemicals..

EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE OF ANIMALS FOR TRAINING AND PROFIT



FOTO 1, 2 & 3

Invasive, conditioned and forced interactions such as flipper riding or pushing result in axial fractures and mandibular dislocations in dolphins.

RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH 1

CONTAMINATED WATER AND LACK OF ANIMAL WELFARE IN DOLPHINARIA



FOTO 1 & 2

Dolphin Pond with rotting algae and faeces at Dolphin Discovery's Puerto Aventuras Marina, Quintana Roo, 21 February 2020.

RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH 2

INJURIES TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS DUE TO BITES



FOTO 1 & 2

Injuries to children and adults not reported to DGVS.
Photo 3. Dolphin bite to a girl at Isla Mujeres Garrafón Park, 2021.

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

IN CAPTIVE DOLPHINS (2007-2017)

- Bacterial Pneumonia ○
- Endotoxic Shock or Septicaemia ○
- Myopathy and Chronic Stress ○
- Bacterial Fungal Infection ○
- Renal Hepatic Insufficiency ○
- Cancer ○
- Neurogenic Shock ○
- Trauma ○
- Heart Attack ○
- Drug Toxicity ○
- Asphyxia, Bronchial Aspiration ○
- Gastric Ulcers ○



CAUTIVERY= Exploitation & Animal Abuse

Motor deprivation, psychological abuse, masturbation for reproduction, the 5 freedoms are violated as well as the rules in force, suicide and death by septicaemia and stress among other causes.



ALTERNATIVE

Sea sanctuaries for rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of captive dolphins and sea lions in Mexico



ECOTOURISM= Education & Conservation

SANCTUARIES AND RESEARCH, REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION CENTRES

Art. 38 General Wildlife Law promotes the creation of sanctuaries and CIVS..



CHANGE IN BUSINESS MODEL

converting UMAS and PIMVS to Sanctuaries and Rescue Centres



ACTIVITIES

- Only non-invasive activities
- To understand rehabilitation behaviour and capacity
- To include local communities



EXAMPLES

Sanctuaries and rescue centres in Indonesia, Brazil, in process Canada, France, Italy and USA.

PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

In Marine Mammal Sanctuaries and Research, Rehabilitation and Reintegration Centres



ECO TOURISM

Diving, snorkelling and remote observation activities without direct interaction. Established schedules and in open spaces and sea pens.



REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation and reintegration activities in their natural habitat by certified researchers.



RESEARCH

Academic research that does not endanger their physical and emotional health and integrity and contributes to the aims of the Marine Sanctuary.



EDUCATION

Observation and guided tours for educational purposes without human interaction of any form

Law Initiative for the Creation of Sanctuaries for the Rehabilitation, Rescue and Reintegration of Marine Mammals in Captivity in Mexico

1. REPRODUCTION

Prohibit breeding for captive training purposes.

2. CONFINEMENT

Regulate measures and create confinement spaces in sea pens. Pools remain in exclusive use for natural disasters..



3. ACTIVITIES

Activities are limited to observation, snorkelling and open water diving.

4. INTERACTIONS

Prohibit forced interaction and human contact.

5. PUBLIC INFORMATION

The information and management will be public and will carry out research programmes.

VISION



THANK YOU



Doubts or questions??

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“Iniciativa de Ley para la creación de Santuarios de Rehabilitación, Rescate y Reintegración de mamíferos marinos en cautiverio en México”

1. Prohibir la reproducción con fines de entretenimiento en cautiverio.
2. Regular las medidas y crear espacios de confinamiento de mamíferos marinos en corrales de mar, los tanques únicamente serán utilizados en desastres naturales como resguardo o en cuarentena.
3. Las actividades con mamíferos marinos se limitan a la observación, snorkel y buceo en espacios abiertos únicamente.
4. Prohibir las interacciones forzadas y condicionadas con humanos. Evitando las enfermedades transmitidas de animales a humanos y viceversa conocido como zoonosis.
5. La información en el manejo de mamíferos marinos será pública y se llevarán a cabo programas de investigación con fines de rehabilitación para crear Santuarios Marinos.



Allies for conservation



CORAL REEF ALLIANCE



- ✓ Dolphin Project
- ✓ Conservation of Marine Mammals of Mexico COMARINO A.C.
- ✓ Alternative Movement for the Recovery of Affected Ecosystems MAREA AZUL A.C.
- ✓ Naturalia A.C.
- ✓ Global Reef Alliance ORG
- ✓ Cozumel Coral Reef Restoration A.C.
- ✓ Cozumel Ocean Research A.C.

JOIN US!