

SeaWorld

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The first SeaWorld park opened in 1964 in San Diego, followed by one in Aurora, Ohio, in 1970; in Orlando, Florida, in 1973; and in San Antonio in 1988. The Ohio location was closed in 2000. During this time, SeaWorld acquired many marine mammals—some wild-caught, some acquisitions from other facilities, and others as a result of captive breeding.

All three current SeaWorld locations have failed to meet minimum federal standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited SeaWorld for failing to dispose of expired medications and surgical materials; repeatedly failing to provide drain covers, resulting in the death of a sea lion; failing to handle a sea lion expeditiously (the animal died from overheating while being loaded onto a transport trailer); failing to have sufficient barriers between animals and the public; failing to handle animals properly, resulting in injuries to the public; failing to provide sufficient shelter for protection from cold weather; failing to provide animals with sufficient space; failing to maintain exhibits and other areas that animals may have contact with; and failing to take required water samples and conduct required water testing.

Park visitors have been bitten by dolphins during interactive sessions, and a number of employees have been seriously injured while performing with orcas in the water in front of audiences. A senior trainer at the Orlando location was killed by an orca in front of a crowd in 2010.

Many of the dolphins and whales who have died at SeaWorld's parks were younger than the average age of their wild counterparts at death.

Contact PETA for documentation.

DANGEROUS INCIDENTS

February 22, 2014/San Antonio, Texas: A dolphin latched onto the hand and wrist of a 9-year-old girl so tightly that the child's mother was unable to free her and a SeaWorld employee had to intervene.

November 21, 2012/Orlando, Florida: An 8-year-old

girl sustained three puncture wounds to her hand when a dolphin she was feeding grabbed it with his mouth.

February 24, 2010/Orlando, Florida: Dawn Brancheau, a senior trainer, was grabbed by a 6-ton orca, Tilikum, and pulled underwater while park guests observed what the park called a "relationship session." Tilikum repeatedly struck and thrashed the trainer and refused to allow her to leave the tank. The autopsy report lists Brancheau's cause of death as drowning and traumatic injuries. One of her arms was torn from her body, and her scalp was almost completely removed from her head.

Following an investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the agency cited and fined SeaWorld for three safety violations, including exposing employees to the hazards of interacting with orcas.

Following SeaWorld's attempts to have the OSHA decision overturned, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled against SeaWorld and affirmed that the company had exposed trainers to life-threatening dangers.

June 14, 2009/San Diego, California: A trainer was hospitalized after a sea lion bit her during a performance.

April 10, 2007/San Diego, California: Orkid, a 5,900-pound orca, knocked a trainer off a retaining wall while the orca was undergoing a sonogram. The trainer fell and hit her head and side, and she was taken to the hospital for an examination.

November 29, 2006/San Diego, California: A trainer was seriously injured when Kasatka, an orca who was then 23 years old, bit and dragged him underwater, "rag-dolling" him violently back and forth under the water during a performance. He suffered puncture wounds to both feet and a broken bone in his left foot, which required surgery. Kasatka had made at least two other attempts to injure this trainer during past shows. (See the 1993 and June 12, 1999, incidents.)

November 15, 2006/San Diego, California: A trainer sustained a torn ligament in his left ankle after an orca grabbed him by the ankle during a show and dragged him underwater.

August 21, 2006/Orlando, Florida: A 7-year-old boy, who was bitten by a dolphin he was petting, sustained a bruised and swollen thumb.

August 3, 2006/Orlando, Florida: A 6-year-old boy was bitten by a young dolphin, leaving a bruise.

April 4, 2005/Orlando, Florida: A trainer was

hospitalized after being bumped by an orca during a show.

July 27, 2004/San Antonio, Texas: A trainer was repeatedly slammed by an orca underwater during a performance. There were no reported injuries.

July 31, 2002/San Diego, California: Two orcas pulled a trainer into the water. She sustained a broken arm that required the insertion of a pin.

July 6, 1999/Orlando, Florida: An employee found the body of a nude 27-year-old man draped over the orca Tilikum. It was assumed that the man had hid in the park until closing and then evaded the 24-hour security at the facility.

June 12, 1999/San Diego, California: Orca Kasatka tried to bite a trainer in front of hundreds of spectators. This was the second of three noted acts of aggression to the same trainer. (See the 1993 and November 29, 2006, incidents.)

1993/San Diego, California: Orca Kasatka attempted to bite a trainer during a show. This was the first of three noted acts of aggression to the same trainer. (See the June 12, 1999, and November 29, 2006, incidents.)

November 21, 1987/San Diego, California: A trainer was seriously injured when Orky, a 12,000-pound orca, landed on him during a show. He sustained a fractured femur, pelvis, and ribs.

September 30, 1987/San Diego, California: A trainer was rammed by an orca during a performance while he was working with another orca.

September 28, 1987/San Diego, California: An orca bit a trainer's hand during training.

June 15, 1987/Orlando, Florida: Kandu, a 6,000-pound orca, landed on a trainer during rehearsal. The trainer sustained a fractured bone in her neck, a bruised skull, and a permanent loss of head movement.

March 4, 1987/San Diego, California: A trainer was attacked by two orcas during a performance. The orcas grabbed him in their jaws and repeatedly dragged him to the bottom of the tank and smashed him against the floor. He spent nine days in the hospital with bruised ribs and kidneys, heavy internal bleeding, and a 6-inch laceration on his liver.

November 2, 1984/San Diego, California: Kandu, a 4,500-pound orca, briefly grabbed a trainer's legs in her mouth.

August 12, 1984/San Diego, California: A trainer sustained bruising after two orcas grabbed his legs and pinned him against a glass retaining wall during a performance.

February 23, 1984/San Diego, California: Orca Kandu grabbed a trainer with her mouth and pinned him against the wall during a performance.

1971/San Diego, California: A SeaWorld secretary riding the original Shamu as part of a publicity stunt was tossed into the water and seized by her legs. She sustained lacerations and puncture wounds.

INJURIES TO ORCAS

September 27, 2012/Orlando, Florida: Photos emerged from a park visitor of a serious injury to 11-year-old orca Nakai, who was missing a large chunk from his chin, exposing bone and underlying tissue. The injury was reportedly a result of his coming into contact with the tracks of the tank gates.

July 19, 2012/San Antonio, Texas: PETA obtained video footage from a whistleblower of an injured and bleeding dolphin lying on the concrete outside a tank. An eyewitness said that the dolphin had been performing a trick, collided with another dolphin, and been thrown from the tank onto the concrete.

June 2010/Orlando, Florida: Orca Kayla collided with orca Kalina in the center of the pool, causing a gash above one of Kalina's eyes.

June 22, 1987/San Diego, California: In a complaint written to the National Marine Fisheries Service, witnesses reported observing aggressive behavior by orca Kandu V toward orca Corky. The complainants said the following: "[T]he two killer whales collided violently. In but a couple of seconds, we witnessed blood boiling from a 2½ to 3 foot slash along the lower abdomen ... of the whale." Kandu V died two years later after colliding with Corky again. (See the August 23, 1989, entry under Deaths: Orcas.)

1987/Orlando, Florida: Orca Kotar bit orca Kanduke's penis, severely injuring him. Kotar was then shipped to the San Antonio location.

DEATHS: ORCAS

December 21, 2015/San Antonio, Texas: Unna, an 18-year-old orca, died after suffering from candida, a fungal infection.

October 4, 2010/Orlando, Florida: Kalina, a 25-year-old female orca, died from a sudden invasion of bacteria into her bloodstream and a systemic infection.

September 7, 2010/San Diego, California: Sumar, a 12-year-old orca, died from a sudden twisting of the intestines, causing obstruction, perforation, and/or death of the intestinal tissues.

June 6, 2010/Orlando, Florida: Taima, a 20-year-old orca, died from complications while giving birth. The calf was stillborn.

June 15, 2008/San Antonio, Texas: Halyn, a 2½-year-old female orca, died from an acute inflammation of the brain and the death of nervous tissue.

October 17, 2007/San Antonio, Texas: Taku, a 14-year-old orca, died of what was later determined to be the West Nile virus. Mosquito-transmitted diseases in wild orcas have not been reported, and according to a peer-reviewed scientific paper in the *Journal of Marine Mammals & Their Ecology*, captive orcas' vulnerability to mosquito-transmitted diseases is increased because they spend more time at the surface of the water.

April 5, 2005/San Diego, California: Splash, a 15-year-old orca, died from a sudden perforation of the stomach from a deep gastric ulcer and a subsequent infection in the abdomen.

April 11, 2002/San Antonio, Texas: Winnie, a 26-year-old orca, died from a gastrointestinal tract obstruction. She had been caught near Iceland.

October 8, 2001/San Diego, California: Bjossa, an orca in her 20s, died after developing a lung infection. She had been transferred to SeaWorld San Diego the previous April after spending 20 years at the Vancouver Aquarium.

August 1, 2001/San Antonio, Texas: Haida, a 21-year-old orca, died from what was later determined to be a brain abscess caused by a fungal infection. She had been taken from the wild in 1980.

May 5, 1999/San Antonio, Texas: Katerina, a 10-year-old orca, died of severe bacterial pneumonia.

April 1, 1996/Orlando, Florida: Nyar, a 2-year-old orca, died from a severe infection of the brain tissues.

February 25, 1996/Orlando, Florida: Orca Gudrun died from a uterine infection that resulted in the invasion of bacteria into her bloodstream only days after a stillborn calf was pulled from her with a metal hook, cable, and winch.

April 3, 1995/San Antonio, Texas: Kotar, a 20-year-old orca, died after a tank gate closed on his head, crushing his skull. He had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1978.

December 28, 1994/San Antonio, Texas: A 1-month-old female orca calf died of pneumonia.

September 14, 1994/Orlando: Nootka, a 13-year-old orca, died nearly a month after giving birth to a dead calf. She had quit eating earlier that day and become sluggish.

March 14, 1992/San Antonio, Texas: Samoa, a 14-year-old orca, died while trying to give birth. The calf also died. It was later determined that they both died from inflammation of the brain tissues from an unknown cause. Samoa had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1983.

August 6, 1991/Orlando, Florida: Kenau, a 17-year-old orca, and her unborn calf died of bacterial pneumonia, which may have been caused by an infected tooth. Kenau had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1976.

May 15, 1991/San Antonio, Texas: Kahana, an orca estimated to be between 14 and 16 years old, died from severe trauma after she collided with the side of a tank and sustained multiple skull fractures, cerebral contusions, and blood loss. She had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1978.

September 20, 1990/Orlando, Florida: Kanduke, an orca believed to be in his mid-20s, died from inflammation of the brain from a viral infection. He had been taken from Pedder Bay, British Columbia, in 1975.

March 13, 1990/San Diego, California: Knootka, an orca believed to have been in her mid- to late 20s, died of pneumonia. She had been taken from Pedder Bay, British Columbia, in 1970.

August 23, 1989/San Diego, California: Kandu V, a 14-year-old orca, died after colliding with Corky, a 25-year-old orca who outweighed him by 2,000 pounds. Kandu V sustained a fracture, which triggered a massive hemorrhage in her nasal passages. She bled to death in front of spectators within 45 minutes. Corky sustained minor rake marks from Kandu V's teeth. The two orcas had had several skirmishes in the past. Kandu V had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1977.

September 26, 1988/San Diego, California: Orky II, a 30-year-old orca, died of acute pneumonia. He had been caught off the coast of British Columbia and held at Marineland of the Pacific until he was bought by SeaWorld in 1987.

October 15, 1987/Orlando, Florida: Kona II, a 12-year-old orca, died from a lung abscess, along with her fetus. She had been caught off the coast of

Iceland in 1977.

April 29, 1986/San Diego, California: Winston, a 23-year-old orca, died from chronic cardiovascular disease and eventual heart failure. He had been taken from Penn Cove in Washington state in 1970.

January 16, 1986/San Diego, California: A 12-day-old orca calf died after showing signs of respiratory problems and failing to respond to treatment.

January 12, 1982/Orlando, Florida: Ramu, an 18-year-old orca, died from cardiovascular failure and an infection of the cavity surrounding the lungs. He had been taken from Washington state's Yukon Harbor in 1967.

August 2, 1981/San Diego, California: Canuck II, a 6-year-old orca, died of chronic kidney disease. He had been caught off the coast of Iceland in 1977.

September 3, 1979/San Diego, California: Shawn, a 2-year-old orca, died of pneumonia. She had been caught off the southeast coast of Iceland the previous year.

September 23, 1978/San Diego, California: Kilroy, a 13-year-old orca, died of pneumonia. He had been taken from Washington state's Yukon Harbor in 1967.

December 1, 1974/Orlando, Florida: Canuck, a 4-year-old orca, died from a fungal infection. He had been taken from Washington state's Carr Inlet in 1972.

August 23, 1971/San Diego, California: Shamu, a 9-year-old orca, died from an infection of the uterus and a subsequent invasion of bacteria into her bloodstream less than six years after being taken from the wild to be a companion for another captive orca.

DEATHS: OTHER DOLPHINS

February 2016/San Antonio, Texas: Dart, a 12-year-old Pacific white-sided dolphin, died from an unknown cause.

June 15, 2015/Orlando, Florida: Lagos, an 8-year-old dolphin, died suddenly. He had been reluctant to eat the previous night.

March 6, 2015/Orlando, Florida: A 22-year-old Atlantic bottlenose dolphin died suddenly.

May 31, 2013/San Antonio, Texas: A 2½-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from a severe fungal infection that caused a progressive obstruction of her airway.

January 29, 2013/Orlando, Florida: A bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia. She had been taken from the wild in 1986.

June 4, 2012/Orlando, Florida: An 18-year-old female false killer whale died of bacterial pneumonia.

November 14, 2011/Orlando, Florida: A 14-month-old bottlenose dolphin died from gastric impaction and subsequent liver disease.

November 3, 2011/San Antonio, Texas: A 29-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden twisting of the intestines, causing obstruction, perforation, and/or death of the intestinal tissues.

August 9, 2011/Orlando, Florida: A 2-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden hemorrhage into the intestines, a condition most commonly caused by an overgrowth of bacteria in the intestines.

July 24, 2011/San Diego, California: A Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a sudden onset of a severe fungal infection affecting the heart. She had been taken from the wild in 1981.

January 3, 2011/Orlando, Florida: A 16-month-old male bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden onset of pancreatitis, resulting in the death of the pancreatic tissues.

April 4, 2010/San Diego, California: A bottlenose dolphin was euthanized for a "[l]ife threatening condition involving pain/suffering." She had been taken from the wild in 1975.

March 25, 2010/Orlando, Florida: A 17-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia.

June 21, 2009/Orlando, Florida: A 29-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from a ruptured uterus and a subsequent infection of the abdomen.

March 22, 2009/Orlando, Florida: A 13-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died from an endocrine disease characterized by an inability to modulate and respond to stress.

December 22, 2008/San Diego, California: A 24-year-old female false killer whale died of severe acute pneumonia.

December 8, 2008/Orlando, Florida: A 6-year-old bottlenose dolphin died of severe acute bacterial pneumonia.

November 7, 2008/San Diego, California: A 16-year-old male bottlenose dolphin called DNC died of

chronic pneumonia.

April 26, 2008/Orlando, Florida: Sharky, a 30-year-old dolphin, died from head injuries after colliding mid-air with another dolphin while performing an aerial stunt for tourists.

October 31, 2007/San Diego, California: An 11-year-old saddleback dolphin died from a bacterial invasion into his bloodstream and sudden, severe hemorrhaging into the lungs.

June 20, 2007/San Antonio, Texas: A 38-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from a perforated stomach, resulting in the release of bacteria and toxins into the abdomen and bloodstream.

May 28, 2007/San Diego, California: A bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden rupture of the liver capsule. He had been taken from the wild in 1970.

May 7, 2005/San Diego, California: A 22-year-old female false killer whale was euthanized for a "[i]f threatening condition involving pain/suffering."

January 30, 2007/San Diego, California: A 9-month-old bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden twisting of the intestines, causing obstruction, perforation, and/or death of the intestinal tissues.

November 6, 2006/Orlando, Florida: A 4-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from severe acute trauma that resulted in hemorrhaging into the abdomen and chest.

October 17, 2006/Orlando, Florida: A 17-month-old bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden inflammation of blood vessels and surrounding tissues of the brain.

July 4, 2006/San Antonio, Texas: A 5-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden inflammation of the brain tissues accompanied by hemorrhaging and cell death.

May 10, 2006/San Antonio, Texas: A 16-month-old bottlenose dolphin died from severe oxygen deprivation after developing acute respiratory disease syndrome.

October 15, 2005/Orlando, Florida: A 9-year-old bottlenose dolphin died of severe, chronic respiratory disease.

April 12, 2005/Orlando, Florida: Lazarus, a 3-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died after inhaling water.

February 7, 2005/San Antonio, Texas: An 8-year-old Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a bacterial invasion into her bloodstream.

November 29, 2004/San Antonio, Texas: A 14-month-old Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a sudden twisting of the intestines, causing obstruction, perforation, and/or death of the intestinal tissues.

November 3, 2004/San Diego, California: A bottlenose dolphin died from inflammation and/or an infection in her abdomen. She had been taken from the wild in 1975.

September 12, 2004/Orlando, Florida: A 15-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from acute pneumonia.

August 26, 2004/San Antonio, Texas: A 1-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from severe, chronic upper airway inflammation.

August 12, 2004/San Diego, California: A 23-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from severe inflammation of the tissues surrounding her heart.

May 30, 2004/San Antonio, Texas: A 5-year-old bottlenose dolphin died of severe, acute pneumonia.

January 18, 2004/San Diego, California: An 8-year-old male Commerson's dolphin died of severe liver disease.

December 28, 2003/San Diego, California: An 8-year-old female Commerson's dolphin died from a sudden onset of liver disease.

December 15, 2003/San Diego, California: A 2-year-old female Commerson's dolphin died of severe liver disease.

October 27, 2002/Orlando, Florida: A 7-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from an acute bacterial infection.

October 19, 2002/San Diego, California: A 6-week-old bottlenose dolphin died of fungal pneumonia.

July 25, 2002/San Diego, California: A 21-year-old false killer whale died of pneumonia with subsequent hemorrhaging into his lungs.

July 24, 2002/San Diego, California: Stormy, a 3-year-old saddleback dolphin, died from inflammation of the brain.

March 31, 2002/San Antonio, Texas: A 20-month-old female Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a systemic fungal infection.

January 3, 2002/San Antonio, Texas: A 2-year-old Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a bacterial infection throughout the entire body.

December 22, 2000/Orlando, Florida: A 9-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died of severe pneumonia.

October 26, 2000/San Diego, California: An 18-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia.

October 23, 2000/Aurora, Ohio: A 12-year-old female Commerson's dolphin died from chronic inflammation of the stomach, intestines, and kidneys.

April 14, 2000/San Diego, California: A 14-month-old bottlenose dolphin died from a sudden-onset bacterial infection.

March 18, 2000/Aurora, Ohio: A 4-year-old Commerson's dolphin died from a bacterial infection of the intestines and an invasion of bacteria into his bloodstream.

March 9, 2000/Aurora, Ohio: A 12-year-old Commerson's dolphin died from a bacterial infection of the intestines and an invasion of bacteria into his bloodstream.

March 7, 2000/Aurora, Ohio: A 15-year-old Commerson's dolphin died from a bacterial infection of the intestines and an invasion of bacteria into his bloodstream.

February 28, 2000/San Antonio, Texas: A 20-month-old female bottlenose dolphin died from a fungal infection.

January 15, 2000/San Antonio, Texas: A Pacific white-sided dolphin died from a fungal infection of the intestines. She had been taken from the wild in 1981.

May 18, 1999/San Antonio, Texas: A Pacific white-sided dolphin died from severe inflammation of the tissues surrounding her lungs and inflammation of the brain tissues caused by a virus. She had been taken from the wild in 1980.

May 12, 1999/San Antonio, Texas: A 6-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died from an inflammation of the kidneys, loss of proper kidney function, and severe pneumonia.

February 13, 1999/San Antonio, Texas: A 5-year-old bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia.

January 14, 1999/Orlando, Florida: A bottlenose dolphin died from a perforated ulcer with subsequent hemorrhaging and a release of bacteria into the abdominal cavity. She had been taken from the wild in 1981.

September 25, 1998/Orlando, Florida: A 7-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died of severe pneumonia.

August 18, 1998/San Diego, California: A bottlenose dolphin died from an invasion of bacteria into his bloodstream. He had been taken from the wild in 1977.

July 30, 1998/San Diego, California: Anne, a bottlenose dolphin, died of pneumonia. She had been taken from the wild in 1982.

June 24, 1998/Orlando, Florida: A 1-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from possible zinc intoxication.

June 20, 1998/San Diego, California: A 13-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from a fungal infection of her bladder and lungs.

May 25, 1998/Orlando, Florida: A 4-year-old female false killer whale died from a severe bacterial infection resulting in death of the intestines from bacterial toxins.

March 12, 1998/Orlando, Florida: A 10-month-old female bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia.

January 15, 1998/San Diego, California: A 10-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia.

January 2, 1998/San Diego, California: A 9-year-old Commerson's dolphin died from a sudden invasion of bacteria into her bloodstream.

November 4, 1997/San Antonio, Texas: A bottlenose dolphin died from a severe bacterial infection of the lungs and brain tissues. She had been taken from the wild in 1980.

October 24, 1997/San Diego, California: A 29-day-old Commerson's dolphin died from disease affecting her stomach and kidneys.

August 5, 1997/San Antonio, Texas: A female Pacific white-sided dolphin died from kidney failure. She had been taken from the wild in 1980.

July 24, 1997/Orlando, Florida: A 7-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died from a severe bacterial infection of the gastrointestinal tract, with fluid buildup in the lungs.

September 20, 1996/San Diego, California: A male saddleback dolphin died from asphyxiation.

July 2, 1996/Aurora, Ohio: Echo, a 12-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died from multiple fungal granulomatous neoplasia.

May 25, 1996/Orlando, Florida: A female false killer whale acquired in 1983 died from a twisting of the

stomach, which caused an obstruction of the gastrointestinal tract, bloating of the stomach, and subsequent death by secondary complications.

March 6, 1996/San Diego, California: A bottlenose dolphin died from an infection of the uterus, which led to an invasion of bacteria or bacterial toxins into her bloodstream and subsequent shock. She had been taken from the wild in 1968.

December 7, 1995/San Diego, California: A Commerson's dolphin died from chronic inflammation of the intestines and kidneys. He had been taken from the wild in 1983.

September 6, 1995/Orlando, Florida: A 14-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from liver and kidney failure from an unknown cause.

March 25, 1995/San Diego, California: A 10-year-old bottlenose dolphin died of pneumonia and a fungal and bacterial infection of the tissues surrounding her lungs.

June 5, 1993/Orlando, Florida: A 9-month-old bottlenose dolphin died of acute pneumonia.

November 12, 1992/San Diego, California: A nearly 14-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died from a fungal infection of the intestines and lymphatic system.

July 29, 1992/Orlando, Florida: A 6-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died from severe inflammation of the intestines.

December 14, 1991/San Diego, California: A 7-year-old female bottlenose dolphin died of acute bacterial pneumonia.

January 16, 1991/Orlando, Florida: Bonnie, a 23-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died from circulatory system failure from an undisclosed cause.

June 19, 1990/San Diego, California: Asia, a false killer whale of indeterminate age, died after suffering from an internal infection for at least three weeks.

November 8, 1989/San Antonio, Texas: A 10-day-old female bottlenose dolphin died.

January 15, 1989/San Diego, California: A 2-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from bacteria and/or bacterial toxins in her bloodstream and subsequent shock.

September 11, 1987/San Diego, California: A 7-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from an invasion of bacteria into the bloodstream.

August 12, 1987/San Diego, California: Splash, a bottlenose dolphin, died of pneumonia. She had been taken from the wild in 1966.

April 18, 1987/San Diego: Billy, a 2-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died from hemorrhaging into the lungs from an unknown cause.

February 24, 1987/San Diego, California: Echo, a 30-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died from an infection.

February 19, 1987/San Diego, California: Sundance, an 8-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died from a skull fracture and a cerebral hemorrhage sustained during a fight with other males.

December 1, 1985/San Diego, California: A 9-year-old male bottlenose dolphin died of chronic pneumonia.

September 12, 1985/San Diego, California: A 7-year-old bottlenose dolphin died from a severe infection of the tissues surrounding his lungs.

DEATHS: OTHER MARINE MAMMALS AND FISH

November 13, 2015/San Antonio, Texas: Stella, a 2-year-old beluga whale, died after being treated for gastrointestinal complications.

July 12, 2015/San Antonio, Texas: A newborn beluga whale died three weeks after being born prematurely.

February 20, 2015/Orlando, Florida: Nanuq, a 31-year-old beluga whale on a breeding loan from the Vancouver Aquarium, died from an infection after her jaw was shattered into at least five pieces by another whale.

July 31, 2014/Orlando, Florida: Johnny, a 24-year-old polar bear died unexpectedly while recovering from a physical examination.

August 26, 2013/San Antonio, Texas: Bella, a 4-year-old beluga whale, died after a brief illness.

April 23, 2012/San Diego, California: Sully, a young male short-finned pilot whale, died of liver disease.

October 26, 2010/San Antonio, Texas: Singer, a female sea lion, got stuck and drowned in the drain of a holding tank. The USDA later cited SeaWorld and issued it an official warning for repeatedly failing to install drain covers.

November 2, 2009/San Antonio, Texas: Nico, a 25-year-old beluga whale, died while temporarily being

held at SeaWorld San Antonio while the Georgia Aquarium made renovations to its tanks.

August 27, 2008/San Antonio, Texas: A 1-month-old female beluga whale died of acute bacterial pneumonia.

November 9, 2007/Orlando, Florida: A beluga whale died from an acute fungal infection of her brain tissue.

April 20, 2005/San Antonio, Texas: A 7-year-old beluga whale died from severe acute trauma to her neck and head.

October 7, 2003/Orlando, Florida: A 4-year-old beluga whale died from a sudden twisting of the intestines, followed by excessive clotting of the blood, obstruction of the vascular system, and subsequent shock.

May 17, 2001/San Antonio, Texas: A 9-day-old Pacific walrus died. SeaWorld stated that his mother may have rolled on top of him.

December 1, 2000/San Antonio, Texas: A beluga whale died from neurological disease. He had been acquired by SeaWorld in 1987.

May 11, 1998/San Antonio, Texas: A nearly 3-year-old female beluga whale died from an undetermined cause.

February 6, 1998/San Antonio, Texas: A beluga whale died from neurological disease affecting the brain. He had been acquired by SeaWorld in 1987.

June 27, 1997/Orlando, Florida: A sandbar shark donated by SeaWorld Orlando to the Minnesota Zoo died en route to Minnesota.

October 1, 1996/San Antonio, Texas: A beluga whale died from acute kidney failure. She had been acquired by SeaWorld in 1988.

May 22, 1996/San Antonio, Texas: A beluga whale died from a bacterial infection of the tissues underlying the skin. He had been acquired by SeaWorld in 1979.

February 17, 1996/San Diego, California: April, a 5-year-old sea otter, died while trying to give birth.

August 2, 1995/San Antonio, Texas: A beluga whale died from chronic inflammation of the tissues surrounding the heart and subsequent cardiac arrest. She had been acquired by SeaWorld in 1987.

February 16, 1995/San Antonio, Texas: A 17-month-old beluga whale died from a chronic infection

of the bones of his spine.

November 16, 1993/San Antonio, Texas: A 2-month-old beluga whale died. He was being treated for pneumonia.

June 14, 1989/San Diego, California: Little Girl, a 15-year-old beluga whale on a breeding loan from the Minnesota Zoo, died unexpectedly. She had been in San Diego since 1987.

November 27, 1986/San Diego, California: Kathy, a 15-year-old beluga whale, died. Her death was listed as "senile changes, old age."

February 15, 1983/San Diego, California: Sixteen sharks died after workers waited too long to shut off water being pumped from Mission Bay into the aquariums. It was believed that the sharks died of an unknown illness caused by a contaminant stirred up by the previous month's storms.

AWA VIOLATIONS

December 16, 2015/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the holding area for an exhibit displaying clawed otters and failing to maintain the flooring in the area used to prepare food for orcas. It was eroding, making it difficult to clean properly.

July 21, 2015/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to take all required water samples and conduct water tests on a daily basis.

January 13, 2014/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to dispose of expired suture materials and failing to maintain a portion of the Sea Lion and Otter Stadium stage flooring. It had loose rubberized pieces and paint flakes that posed a danger to the animals if they ingested them.

January 22, 2013/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the exhibit tank used by dolphins. It had several cracks in the concrete at the edge of the rock ledge along one corner of the tank.

December 3, 2012/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for stocking expired surgical materials, some almost a decade old, and having structures that were in disrepair. A tank for dolphins had cracked and crumbling concrete as well as rusty beams overhead, and the areas surrounding the performance tank for orcas had loose, worn, and chipped flooring and worn paint that could pose a threat to the health and safety of both the animals and workers.

June 7, 2012/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the dry resting area in the “North Pinniped pool.” Its rock surface was cracking, and the loosened material could pose a risk to the animals if it fell into the tank and was ingested.

January 11, 2012/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA issued SeaWorld an official warning for the October 26, 2010, death of Singer, a female sea lion, which was caused by SeaWorld’s repeated failure to provide drain covers. Singer got stuck and drowned in the drain of a holding tank.

May 4, 2010/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain safe enclosures and having structures in disrepair. The pipe frame of the enclosure housing lemurs had rusted so much that it was almost breaking in several places. Orcas were kept in a show tank in which an area of the wall adjacent to the viewing window had broken off. And the tank used to hold cetaceans contained peeling and flaking paint.

July 22, 2009/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the freshwater trough, which had chipping paint on the bottom and sides, in an off-exhibit holding area for two monk seals, and failing to keep in good repair the ceiling in the “Shamu Prep Kitchen.” There was a hole with exposed insulation, which could contaminate the food.

April 12, 2007/San Antonio, Texas: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to dispose of expired medication.

April 2, 2007/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to provide sufficient barriers between animals and the public. At the time of the inspection, there was only one employee to monitor the Pacific Point exhibit, and the public had dropped three “paper feeding trays” and a hat into the exhibit within reach of the pinnipeds, which could cause an injury if ingested. SeaWorld was also cited for allowing the Sea Lion and Otter Stadium stage areas to deteriorate, as the wooden stairs used by the otters had peeling wood/resin material, several areas in the exhibit had peeling paint, and the “pelleted rubberized flooring material” had eroded in several areas.

August 29, 2006/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to handle animals properly. There had been several incidents in which people had been scraped or bitten at the “Key West exhibit,” where the public is allowed to feed the dolphins. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to provide 15 California sea lions, who were being held in two enclosures, with sufficient tank space.

August 9, 2006/San Diego, California: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the floor in the

Wild Arctic food-preparation area in a manner that would allow for adequate cleaning and sanitizing—the paint was chipping. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to clean the tank housing the polar bears. An abundant growth of algae was on the ledge at the back of the tank.

July 5, 2005/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain several surface areas that were in contact with sea lions, walruses, and harp seals. There were large areas of peeling paint, making it difficult to clean and sanitize those areas adequately.

May 17, 2005/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to handle a sea lion properly. The animal died from overheating while being loaded onto a transport trailer with two other sea lions. The facility was also cited for failing to have a safe enclosure to transport a sea lion named Pocus, who was in a wooden transport crate that had been previously chewed on, resulting in splintering and sharp protrusions. Pocus also chewed on a square section of wire mesh, which also resulted in sharp protrusions as well as a hole large enough for the sea lion’s head to fit through. SeaWorld was also cited for not having a veterinarian-approved travel plan available.

March 16, 2005/San Diego, California: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to label a squeeze bottle that was sitting on the counter with two other medications in the Sea Lion and Otter food-preparation area. This could lead to a mistake during the administration of drugs. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to maintain the food-preparation area properly. Sections of walls had peeling paint, making it difficult to clean and sanitize.

January 12, 2005/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to use some form of identification for two dogs and having insufficient housing for one dog whose shelter consisted of slatted metal bars, which wouldn’t provide protection from cold weather. The enclosed den also wasn’t tall enough for the dog to stand up. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to provide two polar bears with tanks that met the minimum space required by the AWA. The animals were being rotated between compliant and noncompliant enclosures with tanks, which isn’t permitted.

March 25, 2004/San Diego, California: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to have a safe tank in the Sea Lion and Otter Stadium. Several metal viewing panel supports had rust, some with severe flaking, which could be a potential health hazard. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to maintain a food receptacle properly in the Dolphin Stadium. Paint was peeling on the feed box insert, which could contaminate the food.

June 25, 2003/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to handle animals properly in the “Key West interactive” tank area. A few members of the public were touching some of the dolphins around the blow hole and the mouth, and small children were straddling the tank wall with both feet off the ground and without any adults holding them.

April 7, 2003/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to either perform weekly water-quality tests or not recording them and for failing to maintain accurate medical records.

June 3, 2002/San Diego, California: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to maintain the Sea Lion and Otter Stadium exhibit. It had cracks and small gaps at the junction of the wall and floor of the staging tank and peeling paint on several sections of a tank enclosure, making it impossible to clean and sanitize these areas properly. The paint flakes also posed a health hazard, as the animals could swallow them. SeaWorld was also cited for having rotted door jams in the main food-preparation area, which couldn’t be adequately cleaned or sterilized, and having a bank of unprotected fluorescent bulbs in the ceiling back stage at the Sea Lion and Otter Stadium, which could be a potential cause of injury if the bulbs were to shatter.

August 20, 2001/San Diego, California: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to dispose of expired medication and failing to maintain the prop in the enclosure holding a river otter. It had been heavily chewed on, making it impossible to clean and sanitize properly. SeaWorld was also cited for failing to keep exhibit areas in good repair. Paint was peeling on the ramp and stage floor of the “Sea Lion and Otter Show” area.

February 3, 1999/Orlando, Florida: The USDA cited SeaWorld for failing to provide two polar bears, who were confined to separate holding enclosures, with tanks that met the minimum space requirement of the AWA.

MISC.

March 17, 2016: SeaWorld announced that it would end its orca-breeding program and phase out its theatrical orca shows at all of its marine parks. It planned to keep the remaining orcas at the parks until they die.

March 8, 2016: SeaWorld announced that Tilikum, the orca highlighted in the documentary *Blackfish* and linked to the deaths of three people, might be dying from an incurable lung infection.

February 25, 2016: SeaWorld admitted that it had

employees pose as animal rights activists to spy on PETA.

October 8, 2015: The California Coastal Commission approved a permit for SeaWorld to build new tanks for the orcas at the San Diego location but under the condition that SeaWorld San Diego end its orca-breeding program and no longer sell or trade captive orcas or transfer them to or from the facility.

April 24, 2015: Mattel announced that it wouldn’t sell any more SeaWorld-themed Barbie dolls or accessories.

January 26, 2015: The NFL’s Miami Dolphins ended its contract with SeaWorld.

December 2014: SeaWorld announced that CEO and President Jim Atchison was departing with an exit package valued at roughly \$10.8 million. The next day, SeaWorld announced the layoffs of 311 workers.

November 4, 2014: Hyundai Motor America ended its association with SeaWorld.

December 3, 2013: San Diego’s Point Loma High School students created a 53-second film titled “Dear SeaWorld.” It began by thanking SeaWorld for all the happy memories that they had made while visiting the park and then followed up with questions like “Is it true the orcas in your exhibits were kidnapped from their families?”

December 2013: After a survey of parents found that several students of the Point Dume Marine Science School, located in Malibu, California, weren’t going to attend the annual spring field trip to SeaWorld, school administrators canceled it. The school conducted the survey after receiving complaints from students and parents about the unethical treatment of orcas at the park.

December 2013: The rock bands Barenaked Ladies, Cheap Trick, REO Speedwagon, 38 Special, and Heart, along with country singers Willie Nelson, Trisha Yearwood, Martina McBride, and Trace Adkins canceled their upcoming gigs at SeaWorld Orlando.

July 20, 2013: According to The Huffington Post, an audience watched in horror and became increasingly angered when a distressed pilot whale was left stuck and struggling on a ledge of a tank for at least 25 minutes. During this time, other pilot whales came up and tried to help the animal while members of the audience screamed for trainers to help. Two trainers eventually came and pushed the whale back into the water.

December 24, 2011: According to the *New Zealand Herald*, several organizations were outraged after SeaWorld San Diego took 10 dependent emperor penguin chicks from Cape Washington, Antarctica, and flew them to California to be used for research purposes.

March 28, 2011: SeaWorld veterinary records submitted as an exhibit to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in a dispute over an orca on loan to the notorious Canadian facility Marineland revealed that as recently as 2006, diazepam was used as a way to control orca behavior. In one example listed, it was given to orca Ikaika as a way to “try to mellow him” when he was attempting to breed with a days-old calf. It was also given to the calf’s still-nursing mother whose “swimming speed and attitude toward the calf [were] not favorable.”

May 20, 2003: SeaWorld Orlando sold six baby sea lions to the U.S. Navy. They were to be trained by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center in San Diego to look for enemy intruders and underwater mines.