

What are we doing?

12 [We all know sound travels much faster and further below the water than above it.

Science indicates dolphins and whales know where each other are located by using their sonar. Science has now shown us they each say their own name (as a unique sound signature) plus the individual's name they are calling to. We know they are a high order of sea life and that they have a sophisticated social system.

Possibly, their communication system is helpful when whaling ships are approaching, likely their biggest threat to survival today? Also, their food supply is dwindling due in no small part to the chemicals leaching into the oceans through the polluted and dirty water that continuously drains from landfills and other contaminated areas throughout the world. They have no other place to live!

Whales and dolphin are facing these major challenges to their survival and now the Navy has escalated its war on this species by blasting them with incomprehensible sonic sound levels that surely confuses and disorients them, disables their communication system, physically damages them internally, and makes their world uninhabitable. Likely, they commit suicide by beaching themselves in ever increasing numbers because they have been unable to tolerate this war being waged upon them.

The earth needs these gentle beings for the important role they play in its ecology. They demonstrate very rare interspecies compassion, by the many instances of dolphins and whales protecting human lives from sharks.

What are we doing?]

13 [Surely, the Navy with all its resources can confine testing to small areas at limited times and save this harmful technology for a true emergency were it necessary? [Why not develop other methods of detection and demonstrate our compassion for another species as they have demonstrated their compassion for us?]

Thank you.

Ron Asher

[REDACTED]

Virginia Beach, VA

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1 analysis for. The reason they are not in the data
2 records is because there have been no directed
3 surveys in the winter months in our area which is
4 when those animals occur, not because those
5 animals are not in our area.

6 Finally, we encourage the Navy to
7 attempt to avoid training in areas and at times
8 when marine mammals are present and to constantly
9 and continually seek new data, new collaborations
10 to update the marine mammal density analyses.

11 Thank you very much.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Ms:
13 Barco.

14 Mr. Asher.

15 MR. ASHER: [I'm grateful for the
16 privilege of speaking. I would like to speak from
17 the perspective of these mammals that are affected
18 by this activity.]

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Asher,
20 before you do that, can I ask you to state your
21 full name please and are you from Virginia?

22 MR. ASHER: [I'm Ron Asher and a
23 citizen of Virginia Beach.]

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

25 MR. ASHER: ³¹² [Science indicates

1 dolphins and whales know where each other are
2 located by using their sonar. Signs have now
3 shown that they each say their own name with the
4 unique sound signature, plus the individual's name
5 they are calling out to. We know they are a high
6 order of sea life and they have a sophisticated
7 social system. Possibly their communication
8 system is helpful when whaling ships are
9 approaching, likely their greatest threat to
10 survival today. Also their food supply is
11 dwindling due in no small part to the chemicals
12 leeching into the ocean through the polluted and
13 dirty water that continuously drains from
14 landfills and other contaminated areas throughout
15 the world. They have no other place to live.

16 Whales and dolphin are facing these
17 major challenges at this time to their survival,
18 and now the Navy has escalated it's war on this
19 species by blasting them with incomprehensible
20 sonic sound levels that surely confuses and
21 disorients them, disables their communication
22 system, physically damages them internally and
23 makes their world uninhabitable. Likely, they
24 commit suicide by beaching themselves in ever
25 increasing numbers because they have been unable

1 to tolerate this war being waged on them. The
2 earth needs these gentle beings for the important
3 role they play in its ecology. They demonstrate
4 very rare interspecies compassion by the many
5 instances of dolphins and whales protecting human
6 lives from sharks.

7 What are we doing?] [313 Surely the Navy
8 with all its resources can confine testing to
9 small areas at limited times and save this harmful
10 technology for a true emergency were it necessary]

11 314 [by developing other methods of detection and
12 demonstrate our compassion for another species as
13 they have demonstrated their compassion for us.

14 Thank you.]

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr.
16 Asher.

17 Is there anyone else who would like
18 to participate in the first round of comments?
19 Apparently not.

20 Mr. James, would you like to take
21 some additional time?

22 MR. JAMES: Yes, sir.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'll give you
24 three minutes and if we have another round, we'll
25 have another round. Go ahead, sir.