



WELFARE ANIMAL INSTITUTE

annual report 2016



ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

65th annual report
July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016



who we are

For over 60 years, the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), a nonprofit charitable organization, has been alleviating suffering inflicted on animals by humans.

our aims

Through engagement with policymakers, scientists, industry, and the public, AWI seeks to:

Abolish factory farms, support high-welfare family farms, and achieve humane slaughter for animals raised for food;

Improve the housing and handling of animals in research, and encourage the development and implementation of alternatives to experimentation on live animals;

End the use of steel-jaw leghold traps and reform other brutal methods of capturing and killing wildlife;

Preserve species threatened with extinction, and protect wildlife from harmful exploitation and destruction of critical habitat;

Protect companion animals from cruelty and violence, including suffering associated with inhumane conditions in the pet industry; and

Prevent injury and death of animals caused by harsh transport conditions.

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FARM ANIMALS



AWI seeks an end to cruel methods of housing, handling, transporting, and slaughtering farm animals. We advocate for pasture-based farming systems that allow animals to express natural behaviors as an alternative to factory farming.

ANIMAL EXPORT CONDITIONS

In 2011, AWI submitted a rulemaking petition to the US Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS), requesting a revision to animal export regulations to prevent animals too young, weak, or sick to travel from being exported. In 2015, the USDA finally proposed to overhaul the export regulations, incorporating AWI's requested measures into the proposal. In early 2016, the rule was finalized, and it incorporated several additional animal protection measures recommended by AWI. These include (1) maintaining a means of humanely euthanizing animals who become sick or injured during transport, (2) not housing hostile animals in the same pen, (3) having replacement parts to repair major life-support systems in case of malfunction, and (4) submitting a report to the USDA with the number of animals who became injured or sick during transport. These new regulations will not end arduous long-distance journeys for farm animals, but they will help reduce the suffering experienced by thousands of such animals who are shipped internationally each year.

BIRDS AT SLAUGHTER

In April 2016, AWI published *The Welfare of Birds at Slaughter in the United States*, a report that summarizes the findings of a first-ever survey of federal government oversight of the manner in which chickens, turkeys, and other birds are treated at slaughter. It is based on federal food inspection documents produced by the USDA between 2006 and 2014. The report concludes that the USDA's response to the mistreatment of birds has been inadequate, and that the strategy of voluntary industry compliance with "good commercial practice" standards has been ineffective in preventing cruelty.

As the report indicates, abuse and unnecessary suffering can occur before the birds even enter the slaughter plant. One of the most egregious examples of mistreatment uncovered is the abandonment of birds for extended periods—often during extreme weather conditions—in the holding areas of slaughter plants. Thousands of birds have died in such incidents; but according to the USDA, its inspection personnel are powerless to force the slaughter companies to provide proper care. AWI's report on poultry slaughter reinforces the need for government regulation of bird handling, as called for in a 2013 rulemaking petition submitted to the USDA by AWI and Farm Sanctuary.

HIGHER WELFARE FOOD LABELS

A report published by AWI in December 2015 entitled *USDA Gives Producers Free Reign over "Free Range" Product Labels* exposes the USDA's inadequate regulation of *free range* and similar higher-welfare label claims on chicken and turkey products. AWI's investigation found that the USDA requires little or no evidence for approval of the claims *free range* and *range grown*. In addition, the investigation showed that the USDA does not require producers to meet even its vague definition of *free range*, which is simply that birds "have been allowed access to the outside."

Coinciding with the release of the report, AWI petitioned the USDA to improve its *free range* definition and label approval process. AWI is asking the USDA to ensure that producers wishing to use the claim *free range* or the equivalent on their product labels must show that the birds have, for a majority of their lives, daily access during daylight hours to an outdoor area that is mostly covered in vegetation and provides shade and protection against adverse weather and overhead predators. Additionally, we are asking that the department require producers to submit photographic evidence of the range conditions and a signed affidavit attesting to compliance with the improved definition.

ANIMALS RAISED ORGANICALLY

AWI has long worked toward strong animal welfare standards for animals raised by producers certified through the National Organic Program. AWI's Dena Jones has testified at meetings of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) and served on an animal welfare working group that advised the board's Livestock Committee. We have also engaged thousands of supporters in calling on the NOSB and the USDA to adopt strong animal welfare standards.

This year, the USDA finally acted, announcing a proposed rule in April 2016 that would make the program better for animals and more consistent with consumer expectations. For the first time, the regulations would have specific indoor and outdoor space and enrichment requirements for birds. They would also prohibit certain physical alterations, such as de-beaking of birds and tail docking of cattle. Organic producers would be required to provide group housing for pigs in most circumstances and for dairy calves after they are weaned. Substantive on-farm transport and slaughter standards are also included.

AWI received extensive media coverage for its expertise on the National Organic Program and the needed change

in animal welfare standards. The *Wall Street Journal*, *Politico*, *National Geographic*, and *Reuters* all featured AWI in articles highlighting the proposed rule.

While AWI is pleased with these changes to the program, there are further improvements to be made. Thus, we led a coalition of animal welfare, environmental, and consumer advocacy groups in urging measures to strengthen the proposal.

RESTAURANT INDUSTRY

AWI is part of the Good Food Now! coalition. This year, the coalition is urging Darden Restaurants—the largest US restaurant conglomerate and parent company of several popular restaurant chains, including Olive Garden—to abide by five principles outlined in the Good Food Purchasing Principles. The principles, which include strengthened animal welfare standards, were first adopted by the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles Unified School District in 2012.

The coalition collectively gathered 130,000 signatures on a petition encouraging Darden to do more to protect animals, the environment, and workers by substantially improving their food sourcing and labor practices. The coalition then held protests in May 2016 at Olive Garden locations in seven major metropolitan cities across the United States—including a demonstration co-organized by AWI in metro Washington, DC—to deliver the petition signatures. As a result of our efforts, Darden publicly stated that it will phase out gestation crates by 2025 and battery cages by 2019. Much more work needs to be done, however, (including shortening the long phase-out periods) and we will continue to pressure Darden to change its practices.





ANIMALS IN LABORATORIES

AWI fosters species-appropriate housing, compassionate care and handling, and minimization of fear, distress, and pain for animals in research. We promote research methods that reduce the total number of animals subject to experimentation.

SANTA CRUZ BIOTECHNOLOGY SETTLEMENT

Previous annual reports chronicled the shocking case against Santa Cruz Biotechnology (SCBT), one of the world's largest suppliers of research antibodies derived from animals. Over the course of more than a decade, SCBT has been issued numerous citations by USDA inspectors, alleging a number of egregious violations of the Animal Welfare Act with respect to SCBT's treatment of goats and rabbits. Since the situation first came to AWI's attention, we have relentlessly pursued justice for these animals. Though it took some time, the USDA eventually heard us loud and clear; this year, we were able to declare a resounding victory, one that will spare countless additional animals from suffering at the facility.

AWI helped get the story publicized in tens of thousands of media outlets—most notably, the prestigious scientific journal *Nature*, which quoted us in multiple articles covering the case. Thousands of AWI members wrote to the USDA, and a key ally in Congress, Representative James Moran (D-VA, now retired), sent a stinging letter to

the department questioning whether "failing to act with the urgency this situation demands" was undermining the public's trust in the USDA.

In the end, the USDA filed multiple complaints against SCBT and a hearing before an administrative law judge began in August 2015. However, after damning testimony from USDA personnel and a former SCBT veterinarian, the hearing was abruptly halted, leading to speculation that an alarmed SCBT was eager to settle. But if SCBT was hoping for a tap on the wrist, it was disappointed: the USDA held firm and another hearing was originally scheduled for April 2016, but later rescheduled for August.

Before this second hearing took place, however, SCBT finally threw in the towel. In May, a settlement was reached with the USDA that resulted in unprecedented penalties being levied against the company. It called for the cancellation of the facility's research registration, revocation of its dealer license, and payment of a historic \$3.5 million civil penalty—well over 10 times any previous such penalty under the Animal Welfare Act.

The settlement required SCBT to pay the fine and cancel its research registration by May 31, 2016. The facility's dealer license will also be revoked by December 31, 2016. After that date, the company is permanently banned in the United States from selling antibodies derived from species covered under the Animal Welfare Act.

The outcome of this case will reverberate throughout the industry, and put facilities that seek to flout the law and abuse animals on notice.

BETTER HOUSING AND HANDLING

This year, AWI published the 10th edition of *Comfortable Quarters for Laboratory Animals*, a guide to the humane housing and handling of animals in research. This book—which AWI has been producing for over half a century—is intended for anyone involved with animals subject to experimentation, including technicians, veterinarians, scientists, institutional officials, enrichment specialists, inspectors, and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees.

Comfortable Quarters describes the unique biological and social needs of various animals and provides practical advice on how caretakers in the laboratory can better accommodate those needs. Fourteen of the chapters in the newest edition are dedicated to a specific animal group (e.g., mice, dogs, cats, primates). Ferrets and zebrafish are covered for the first time, and there are additional chapters discussing (1) the human-animal bond in the context of the laboratory setting, and (2) extraneous variables that negatively affect the well-being of the animals and, thus, the reliability of the science.

AWI provides free copies of this volume to individuals in research facilities around the world. At the 66th National Meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, held in Phoenix in November 2015, AWI distributed more than 650 copies of the book at

no charge to animal caretakers, scientists, and others involved in animal research.

Since 2002, AWI has sponsored the Laboratory Animal Refinement & Enrichment Forum (LAREF), an online discussion group founded by AWI Scientific Committee member Dr. Viktor Reinhardt. LAREF was created to facilitate the exchange of ideas and the sharing of personal knowledge and experience by animal care personnel who strive to improve the conditions under which animals in research are housed and handled, while shielding those animals from unnecessary pain and distress.

A sampling of the topics discussed within LAREF this year:

- + Mitigating the effects of external noises and vibrations (e.g., from external construction sites or interior renovation) that can cause distress in rodents
- + Changes in housing to address stereotypical repetitive behaviors in cats
- + Training fearful dogs to cooperate with procedures
- + Novel enrichment items and creative housing structures for rabbits
- + Foraging devices for primates
- + Keeping cage mates together during procedures to mitigate stress
- + Enrichment for rats kept in metabolic cages
- + Eliminating self-injurious behaviors
- + Providing extra enrichment to primates who, for medical or behavioral reasons, are required to be housed singly
- + Keeping pigs occupied who, for experimental reasons, are not allowed normal enrichment (such as items to bite or chew on) for an extended period





MARINE MAMMALS

AWI works around the globe to prevent inhumane and ecologically harmful commercial exploitation of marine species and destruction and degradation of their habitats.

CAPTIVE CETACEANS

Two major wins this year bring us closer than ever to our goal of ending cetacean captivity for entertainment purposes in the United States. AWI also worked to address cetacean captivity abroad.

SeaWorld

The California Coastal Commission (CCC) made a crucial decision in October 2015 concerning a permit application by SeaWorld to enlarge its Shamu Stadium in San Diego. The CCC conditioned approval of the permit on SeaWorld ending its captive orca breeding program—a move that would inevitably lead to the end of orca exhibition in the state. The testimony and outreach efforts by AWI's Dr. Naomi Rose played a big part in the CCC's determination.

Initially, SeaWorld sought to overturn this decision. But in March 2016, the company reversed course with the stunning announcement that it would indeed end its captive orca breeding program, include no orca exhibits in any expansion abroad, and phase out the glitzy orca shows at all its facilities. Given that SeaWorld had previously pledged to take no more cetaceans from the wild, this means that the current generation of orcas at SeaWorld will be the last—a monumental victory for orcas and all those who have worked to end cramped, lonely captivity for these family-oriented and free-roaming animals.

Georgia Aquarium

In 2012, Georgia Aquarium applied for a Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) permit to import 18 wild-caught beluga whales from the Sakhalin Bay-Amur River region of Russia's Sea of Okhotsk. After strong opposition from AWI and other organizations, however, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) denied the permit, the first time the agency had ever denied a public display permit of any kind. In 2013, Georgia Aquarium sued to overturn the decision, and AWI led a group of organizations that was granted intervenor status in the lawsuit on behalf of NMFS. In September 2015, the ruling finally came in: The permit denial was upheld. In the face of this ruling and the publicity we generated, Georgia Aquarium announced in June 2016 that it would no longer attempt to acquire any cetaceans from the wild.

AWI and its allies also filed a petition with NMFS to designate the Sakhalin-Amur beluga population as "depleted" under the MMPA. Doing so would help US agencies promote stronger protections for this population and ensure that no US aquarium could import belugas from it in the future. In April 2016, NMFS responded as hoped—proposing to list the population as depleted.

China Cetacean Alliance

The China Cetacean Alliance (CCA), a coalition of international and Chinese animal welfare organizations of which AWI is a founding member, published *Ocean Theme Parks: A Look Inside China's Growing Captive Cetacean Industry* in December 2015. Naomi contributed to the report and took part in CCA's media event in Beijing. The report includes detailed information on known captive cetacean facilities in China and brings to light the serious welfare issues associated with the capture and keeping of whales at these facilities. The coalition also started a major public awareness campaign in China, with a website, an account on Weibo (a popular social media platform in China), and public education events.

WHALING

Commercial Whaling

In July 2015, AWI and five other organizations released a report entitled *Convenience Kills*, which documents the links between global supermarket retail giant SPAR International and the Norwegian whaling industry. The coalition then launched a campaign urging SPAR customers to contact the company to protest the sale of whale meat by SPAR stores in Norway.

AWI partnered with the German group Pro Wildlife and Switzerland-based OceanCare to publish *Frozen in Time: How Modern Norway Clings to Its Whaling Past* in June 2016. Co-written by AWI staff and designed by AWI's graphics team, the report documents how Norway quietly became the biggest whaling nation. It chronicles Norway's loosening of national whaling regulations, defiance of whaling and trade bans, and escalation of trade in whale products, as well as the failure of the international community to act in opposition. The report recommends steps that should be taken by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and its member nations to compel Norway to cease commercial whaling and trade in whale products.

Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling

Around 40 aboriginal subsistence whaling experts and stakeholders gathered in Maniitsoq, Greenland, in September 2015, for an IWC-sponsored Expert Workshop on Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling. AWI was the only conservation nongovernmental organization represented at the workshop, the purpose of which was to improve IWC procedures for considering aboriginal subsistence whaling catch limits—a contentious topic in recent years.

Welfare Issues

In May 2016, the IWC held a groundbreaking workshop—hosted by South Africa and chaired by the United Kingdom—on welfare threats to cetaceans. A group of

experts from around the world, including AWI's Sue Fisher, met in Kruger National Park for four days to discuss how best to measure the welfare implications of various threats and to consider best practices in dealing with whale strandings. The group is working to develop a model that could be used to assess, and subsequently address, the impacts of threats such as noise, entanglement, contamination, vessel strikes, and habitat degradation on cetacean welfare.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Taiwanese Humpback Dolphin

Fewer than 75 Taiwanese humpback dolphins are thought to be living in the shallow waters along Taiwan's densely populated western coast. In March 2016, AWI and three other organizations petitioned the US government to list this dolphin under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In May, NMFS responded positively, issuing a formal finding that such a listing may be warranted—thus triggering a review process. Aside from the awareness that an ESA listing would bring, such a designation would enable the United States to provide resources to help Taiwan mitigate the threats the dolphins face (e.g., pollution, illegal fishing, boat traffic) and initiate recovery actions.

Thorny Skate

Similarly, NMFS issued a positive finding in October 2015 on our petition to list the Northwest Atlantic population of the thorny skate, a species of cartilaginous fish akin to rays, as threatened or endangered under the ESA. AWI and allies had submitted a listing petition for these skates in 2011 that NMFS rejected, claiming that the scientific evidence did not support an ESA listing. Internal agency documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, however, reveal that NMFS initially planned to publish a positive finding, but then inexplicably changed its mind. The new petition provided additional evidence of the thorny skate's decline that undeniably demonstrates that the species warrants protection.





WILD ANIMALS

AWI seeks to reduce the detrimental impacts of human activities on wild animals. We work to strengthen national and international wildlife protection and advocate for humane solutions to conflicts with wildlife.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

AWI's D.J. Schubert participated in the 28th meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Animals Committee, held in Tel Aviv in late August/early September 2015. The Animals Committee provides technical support pertaining to decisions about species subject to CITES trade controls. This year's meeting resulted in encouraging changes to the Review of Significant Trade process, whereby overtrading of species is investigated.

In January 2016, D.J. took part in the 66th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, held in Geneva. Meeting discussions included compliance and enforcement of the treaty, national ivory plans, reviews of significant trade in Appendix II-listed species, and arrangements for the fall 2016 Conference of the Parties in Johannesburg. D.J. participated in several working groups in Geneva, as well as an AWI-cohosted event on trade affecting two critically endangered marine species: the vaquita porpoise and the totoaba fish. AWI also cohosted an unprecedented meeting involving the CITES secretariat and a number of animal protection groups regarding how CITES could do more to address individual animal suffering in connection with wildlife trade.

RED WOLF

Despite major court victories by AWI and coalition partners in recent years, resulting in important protections for red wolves, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced in June 2015 that it was suspending red wolf reintroductions pending a review of the program.¹

In November 2015, AWI and its allies sued the USFWS in federal court, asserting that the agency's attempts to scuttle the recovery effort constituted an ESA violation. In June 2016, we again went to court, asking for a preliminary injunction to stop the USFWS from capturing or killing red wolves that are not posing a threat to human safety or the safety of livestock or pets, and to stop the agency from authorizing private landowners to kill wolves.² The coalition also launched an online advocacy campaign this year, "The Truth about Red Wolves," to help secure public support for the animal. The campaign website, which educates visitors about the ecological and economic benefits of red wolves, is designed and maintained by AWI staff.

¹On September 12, 2016 (following the end of the fiscal year), the USFWS announced, per its review, that it intended to breed more red wolves in captivity but drastically reduce the range of the existing wild population.

²The preliminary injunction was granted on September 29, 2016.

CANADA LYNX

When the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (NHFGD) proposed a spring 2016 bobcat hunting and trapping season, AWI sounded the alarm about possible ESA violations, as endangered Canada lynx could be injured or killed in traps or be shot by hunters mistaking them for bobcats. In April, the New Hampshire Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) voted to oppose the bobcat hunting and trapping season—prompting the NHFGD to withdraw the proposal. In explaining its decision, the JLCAR made specific reference to the concerns raised by AWI.

In Maine, AWI went to court to seek protection of Canada lynx. Each year, Maine trappers targeting coyotes, foxes, mink, and other furbearing wildlife seriously injure and kill lynx, as well. Because lynx are endangered, the state cannot authorize such harm to members of the species without an “incidental take” permit issued by the USFWS. In August 2015, AWI and allies sued the USFWS for issuing a permit to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) without including sufficient protection for the lynx. Later that month, the DIFW released new trapping regulations that addressed some of the danger. Serious issues with the trapping rules remain, however, and the lawsuit will continue.

WILDLIFE SERVICES

AWI continued its campaign to stop counties in California from maintaining wildlife management contracts with the USDA’s deadly Wildlife Services program. The program is responsible for killing thousands of predators and other wild animals in California every year, often via cruel, indiscriminate, and outdated means.

In Mendocino County, we scored a clear victory for wildlife: AWI was part of a coalition that sued the county in 2014—and again in 2015 when it breached a lawsuit settlement by refusing to prepare an environmental

impact report (EIR), as required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In April 2016, however, the county relented—finally suspending its Wildlife Services contract and committing to prepare a full EIR and weigh nonlethal predator control options before attempting to enter into any future contracts with Wildlife Services.

In June 2016, the coalition filed suit challenging the renewal by Monterey County of its Wildlife Services contract. The lawsuit is based on similar grounds to that of the successful Mendocino suit: that the county failed to follow the requirement under CEQA to analyze the environmental impacts of allowing Wildlife Services to “manage” wildlife in the county.

CHRISTINE STEVENS WILDLIFE AWARDS

This year’s Christine Stevens Wildlife Awards were announced in August 2015. Named in honor of AWI’s late founder and president for over 50 years, the award provides grants to support innovative and creative research on humane, nonlethal tools and techniques for wildlife conflict management and improved methods of wildlife study. The award recipients, their affiliations, and study focuses are as follows:

- + Dr. Brian Darby, University of North Dakota, noninvasive methods to monitor polar bears
- + Pieter Folkens, Alaska Whale Foundation, less invasive methods to free entangled whales
- + Kristine Inman, Wildlife Conservation Society, ranch fencing that allows wildlife to access key migration routes
- + Dr. Mary Beth Manjerovic, Lincoln Park Zoo, noninvasive methods to monitor amphibian health and stress
- + Dr. Christine Sheppard, American Bird Conservancy, new method to test window glass to reduce bird collisions with buildings





COMPANION ANIMALS

AWI promotes responsible care of companion animals. We develop resources to help law enforcement officials prosecute animal abusers and help social service agencies address the relationship between animal cruelty and family violence.

THE ROLE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

In November 2015 in Pittsburgh, AWI participated in the 5th National Animal Cruelty Prosecution Conference, hosted by the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (APA). This is the primary conference for prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and veterinarians seeking to hone skills for investigating animal abuse crimes and bringing effective cases. AWI funds the APA's Animal Cruelty Advisory Council, which AWI's Nancy Blaney co-chairs and which serves as the conference's planning body. In addition, AWI continues to provide all the editorial and graphics support for *Lex Canis*, the APA's newsletter on animal cruelty and fighting.

As detailed in previous annual reports, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) adopted a policy in 2014 to use the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to collect specific information on animal cruelty crimes and report such crimes as a separate category within the agency's Uniform Crime Report—the primary source of information on crime in the United States. This year, the policy went into effect: The FBI began collecting such data on January 1, 2016.

Due to their pivotal role in bringing about this important change, Nancy and AWI colleague Dr. Mary Lou Randour

conducted numerous media interviews to explain how the new system will operate and how it will be useful to law enforcement personnel and animal advocates.

Mary Lou chairs the National Coalition on Violence Against Animals working group that is tasked with helping animal control officers and humane society personnel report animal cruelty incidents. The working group is preparing a number of resources, including a universal reporting form consistent with the NIBRS format. Mary Lou and other working group members are also meeting with local, state, and national groups to advise them on reporting under NIBRS.

ANIMAL ABUSE AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

AWI continued to work with the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence this year to address the connection between interpersonal violence and violence to animals. We also began discussions with the Battered Women's Justice Program (BWJP) to examine the cross-training needs and practices of animal control officers and domestic violence advocates. The January 2017 BWJP newsletter will be devoted to this topic, with AWI staff and consultants creating the content for the newsletter.

When children are involved in animal abuse, there is another troubling connection: Recurrent animal abuse by a child is a strong predictor of later serious delinquent and criminal behavior. Recognizing this relationship can lead to more timely and focused intervention on behalf of both troubled children and animal victims. In March 2016, Mary Lou spoke at the 29th Annual Research and Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Behavioral Health, held in Tampa. As the conference's only speaker to address the connections between child abuse, animal abuse, and future antisocial behavior, she offered guidance for early identification and intervention.

HUMANE EDUCATION

AWI encourages teachers and educators to incorporate animal-friendly science education into their lessons and teach respect for rather than exploitation of animals.

SCIENCE CONFERENCES

Each year, AWI hosts educational booths at various biology and science teacher conferences across the country. This year, AWI's Regina Terlau attended the November 2015 Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching in Fort Worth, Texas, and the April 2016 National Science Teachers Association National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. These conferences allow us to reach thousands of educators to promote humane education in schools, including the replacement of animal dissections with suitable alternatives and the incorporation into curricula of materials teaching respect for animals and a greater understanding of the natural world. AWI continues to offer one of the proven-effective dissection alternatives—Digital Frog 2.5—free to any school that pledges to discontinue its animal dissection program.

A VOICE FOR ANIMALS

For the second year in a row, AWI partnered with the Humane Education Network in hosting the "A Voice for

Animals" contest. The contest gives young people an opportunity to investigate one cause of animal suffering or mistreatment of one animal species, or one species threatened with extinction, and explore solutions through writing, photographs, and video. Among the prize winners:

Aleia Free, Indiana (video, 16- to 18-year-olds) for "Don't Buy an Easter Bunny This Year," which explores the problem of neglected and unwanted pet rabbits.

Kassidy Manning, Indiana (essay with photos, 16- to 18-year-olds) for "Animals Have Feelings, Too" detailing the plight of animals on factory farms.

Abigail Ulsamer, Connecticut (essay, 14- to 15-year-olds) for "The Search for the Ghost Bird," which examines the history and lore of the critically endangered and possibly extinct ivory-billed woodpecker.

"Active involvement" prizes were also awarded. One such honoree was Kayla Kezema of Saskatchewan, for her work on behalf of stray and abandoned animals in her hometown. She helped bring about a successful spay and neuter program for feral cats, stricter penalties for abandoning animals, and the placement of hidden cameras at the local landfill to catch offenders in the act.





GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Since the 1950s, AWI has been a leader, at both federal and state levels, in securing landmark laws and tougher enforcement to shield animals from cruelty and needless suffering.

TRAPPING

The United States lags far behind most other nations in terms of regulating barbaric and antiquated forms of trapping; each year in this country, millions of animals are trapped and killed via steel-jaw leghold and other body-gripping traps. In order to spur efforts at reform, this year AWI worked with congressional offices to commission a comprehensive study, through the Congressional Research Service, of international trapping laws and regulations. AWI then worked with the offices of Representatives Alma Adams (D-NC) and Nita Lowey (D-NY) to introduce in June 2016 the Public Safety and Wildlife Protection Act (HR 5560), a bill that would prohibit interstate commerce in and shipment of steel-jaw leghold and certain other traps.

ANIMALS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AWI cohosted and spoke at a Congressional Animal Protection Caucus briefing on the Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act (HR 1258/S 1559) in September 2015. This bill would expand federal domestic violence protections to

include pets and authorize a federal grant program to provide help and shelter to victims and their at-risk pets. At the briefing, AWI's Nancy Blaney gave an overview of the problems presented by the lack of resources for domestic violence survivors who have pets they are afraid to leave behind with their abusers. A number of new House cosponsors were added as a result of the briefing, and support for the bill continues to grow in both the House and Senate. In December 2015, AWI cohosted a panel discussion on the issue with two PAWS Act sponsors, Senators Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and Gary Peters (D-MI).

In February 2016, AWI—in cooperation with the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus and various animal protection groups—led a briefing on the Hill to discuss the ramifications of the new FBI policy of tracking animal cruelty crimes (see Companion Animals, page 19). Speakers at the briefing included Dr. Mary Lou Randour of AWI, Lisa Vincent of the FBI, and John Thompson of the National Sheriffs' Association.

EXOTIC PETS

AWI brought Polly Schultz, founder and director of OPR Coastal Primate Sanctuary in Longview, Washington; Dr. Robert MacArthur, veterinarian and OPR board member; and Kari Bagnall, founder and director of the Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary in Gainesville, Florida, to Capitol Hill in March 2016 to speak at an AWI-cohosted congressional briefing on the Captive Primate Safety Act (HR 2920)—a

bill to prohibit interstate commerce in primates as pets. The trio spoke about their firsthand experiences in caring for abused and neglected primates, as well as the many dangers associated with keeping these wild animals as pets. AWI also arranged private meetings between them and representatives from congressional offices.

CETACEAN CAPTIVITY

Two years ago, AWI's Dr. Naomi Rose worked closely with California Assemblymember Richard Bloom to introduce legislation in the California Assembly to prohibit orca captivity in the state for performance or entertainment purposes. Initial opposition by captivity proponents led to several delays, but as the fiscal year drew to a close, a version of this truly historic bill was back on track and poised for passage.¹

The legislative effort to end orca captivity went national, as well. In November 2015, US Representative Adam Schiff (D-CA) and Jared Huffman (D-CA) introduced the federal Orca Responsibility and Care Advancement (ORCA) Act, a bill that would prohibit the breeding, wild capture, import, and export of orcas for the purpose of public display in the United States. Naomi was once again centrally involved in this effort, working closely with Rep. Schiff's office to prepare this bill and speaking at the Los Angeles press conference announcing it, alongside Rep. Schiff, Asm. Bloom, and former orca trainer Samantha Berg.

FEDERAL BUDGET

In December 2015, Congress finally released the federal budget for fiscal year 2016. AWI worked to ensure that key animal welfare measures remained in the spending bill and fought against measures harmful to animals and their habitats. Among the positive items included in the bill:

- + \$80 million to combat the transnational threat of wildlife poaching and trafficking
- + Language defunding horse slaughter plant inspections by the USDA (without federally funded inspections, plants are unable to operate commercially)

- + A prohibition on sending federally protected wild horses to slaughter
- + A prohibition on funding the issuance or renewal of licenses to Class B dealers who sell random source dogs and cats for use in research
- + A restriction on funding to the USDA's Agricultural Research Service until it ensures its animal care policies are up to date and it has functioning Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees at each facility conducting animal research

While numerous important provisions were included in the bill, it also contained a detrimental rider aimed at undermining wildlife protections for sage grouse. However, other attempts by lawmakers to insert language that would have removed gray wolves from ESA protection and severely impeded the USFWS' ability to crack down on the illegal ivory trade were staved off.

STATE LEGISLATURES

In addition to our work on the California cetacean captivity bill noted above, over the course of the year AWI provided testimony in support of an Ohio bill to strengthen the state's animal cruelty law, a Michigan bill to allow pets to be included in protection orders, a New Hampshire bill to create a separate crime of bestiality, and a Hawaii bill to prohibit the trafficking of protected species. All of these bills (in their original or slightly altered form) subsequently became law. AWI provided testimony in support of a Delaware bill to restrict intrastate ivory trade that passed the state Senate. AWI also worked to get bills introduced in the Illinois legislature providing for mandatory arrests in animal cruelty cases, and providing that in cases of animal cruelty involving multiple animals, separate charges may be filed with respect to each animal.

¹The original bill, AB 2140, was initially reintroduced as AB 2305 in the spring of 2015, renumbered AB 1453 in August 2016, and finally passed as part of a resources budget trailer (SB 839). It was signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown on September 13, 2016.



awi quarterly

THE *AWI QUARTERLY* MAGAZINE IS DISTRIBUTED TO APPROXIMATELY 36,000 INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING PUBLIC LIBRARIES, DEANS OF MEDICAL AND VETERINARY SCHOOLS, LABORATORY TECHNICIANS, SCIENTISTS, FARMERS, TEACHERS, SHELTERS, ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, AND AWI MEMBERS. THE FOLLOWING ARE SUMMARIES OF SOME OF THE ARTICLES FEATURED IN THE MAGAZINE THIS YEAR.

SUMMER 2015

Each year, hundreds of millions of frogs are eaten domestically or traded internationally for the meat, pet, laboratory research, and dissection markets. In an effort to stem a worldwide decline in amphibians, AWI cohosted joint international amphibian trade workshops in Washington, DC, and Singapore in March 2015. Some of the world's leading amphibian experts were assembled to identify species most at risk from disease, habitat loss, and trade for the meat and pet markets, and to develop species or taxon-specific conservation actions.

AWI and the Center for Biological Diversity have petitioned the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to review the status of Mexico's upper Gulf of California, home to the critically endangered vaquita porpoise, and insist on immediate remedial action by Mexico to maintain the region's Biosphere Reserve/World Heritage standing. Scientists warn that if vaquita bycatch and a growing illegal fishery for totoaba

are not shut down immediately, the tiny porpoise could be extinct by 2018.

A recent study tested empathy in rats using a decidedly non-empathetic method: two rats were placed in connected boxes, one of which was filled with water. To escape drowning, the rat in water had to rely on a companion's decision to open a door. In almost every case, the companion rat did open the door, even choosing to do so over receiving a food treat. It is troubling, however, that the scientists chose such a highly stressful scenario to prove a point others have demonstrated without inflicting such trauma on the animals.

For years, AWI and other animal protection groups have been calling on the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) to expel its Japanese subsidiary (JAZA) for allowing members to source dolphins from the unspeakably cruel Taiji, Japan, drive hunts. Despite growing



pressure, WAZA refused to act—until now. On April 22, 2015, WAZA's council voted unanimously to suspend JAZA for violating WAZA's Code of Ethics and Animal Welfare. Following the suspension, JAZA polled its 152 member facilities; the majority chose to remain with WAZA—meaning, for them, no more dolphins acquired from Taiji.

The use of vague "performance standards" as opposed to more exacting "engineering standards" with respect to the care and handling of animals in research was the subject of an April 2015 roundtable discussion hosted by the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research. AWI laboratory animal advisor Dr. Kenneth Litwak gave a presentation on AWI's concerns and objections to the use of performance standards—which historically have been used by those seeking to maintain the status quo and hinder progress toward real improvements in laboratory animal care.

In a paper published in *Marine Mammal Science* in May 2015, John Jett and Jeffrey Ventre examined captive orca survivorship. For years, the captive display industry, most notably SeaWorld, has implied that captive orcas survive as well or better than wild orcas. Jett and Ventre,

however, found the opposite: While survivorship rates of captive orcas have improved over the years, the survival of captive orcas to certain age milestones remains poor compared to that of orcas in the wild.

Surveying raptor nests typically involves climbing to the nest or flying over it in a small airplane or helicopter—causing significant disturbance to nesting birds and putting biologists at serious risk. With support from an AWI Christine Stevens Wildlife Award, James Junda and Dr. David Bird tested unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, or "drones") as a safer, less intrusive alternative. They found that UAVs were highly effective at gathering information while causing significantly less disturbance to the birds.

AWI recently published a brochure aimed at helping individual consumers support better welfare for farm animals. The brochure, *5 Ways You Can Help Farm Animals*, provides tips on what foods to avoid because of their association with animal cruelty, how to stop a factory farm from becoming your neighbor, and what to look for in animal welfare claims on food labels.

FALL 2015

AWI and allies achieved a major legal victory on behalf of marine life this spring when a federal court struck down NMFS' authorization of US Navy training exercises that would severely harm whales, dolphins, seals, and sea lions in the Pacific Ocean. For the first time ever, the Navy will put important habitat for numerous marine animal populations off-limits to both mid-frequency active sonar training and testing and the use of powerful explosives.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced on November 18, 2015, that it would retire all of its remaining 50 chimpanzees held for use in research and relocate them to sanctuaries. In addition, the NIH

will begin phasing out support for research on those chimpanzees not owned, but supported by the NIH. This decision, coupled with the recent designation of captive chimpanzees as endangered—a designation previously bestowed only on their wild counterparts—effectively ends all invasive research with chimpanzees.

Thanks to public pressure and heightened awareness of animal abuse as a serious crime in its own right and as a factor in interpersonal violence, law enforcement authorities are taking animal cruelty crimes far more seriously. Training in best practices for investigating and prosecuting these crimes is giving officials the tools

they need to bring cases to court, and win. Although the punishment isn't always as severe as it should be, any time a court rejects the "it's only an animal" mindset, the closer we come to securing justice for all animals.

The USDA Office of Inspector General (OIG) issued an interim report in September 2015 on its investigation into severe animal abuse at the US Meat Animal Research Center (MARC), as reported in the *New York Times*. The report describes the OIG's less-than-diligent attempts to determine the veracity of 33 allegations in the *Times* article. Disappointingly, this interim update appears to indicate that the OIG's full investigation will be anything but thorough, and that the OIG intends to whitewash the problem rather than fix it.

Ashley Nicole Richards pleaded guilty in September 2015 to five counts of producing and distributing crush videos that depicted the torturing and killing of dogs and cats. The federal prosecution against Richards and her accomplice, Brent Justice, was the first under a federal crush video law passed in 2010. (A previous federal law covering such activity was struck down by the US Supreme Court on First Amendment grounds.)

Between January and June 2015, nearly 50 million chickens and turkeys were killed in an effort to combat avian flu. USDA-APHIS proposed allowing ventilation shutdown (VSD) as a "last resort" killing method, despite the fact that VSD results in prolonged suffering and is not sanctioned by any veterinary authority. The justification: VSD requires no special equipment and can be carried out quickly—sending a clear signal that efficiency is a priority, while the humane handling of birds is not.



Globally, it is estimated that over 1 billion ornamental fish from some 5,400 species are traded annually for the home aquarium industry. Some studies suggest that aquariums help reduce anxiety, stress, and blood pressure in people. The effect on the fish, however, is not so benign. The ecological impacts of overly aggressive and destructive practices for collecting fish in their native environments can be severe; many fish die before they are even sold, and the aquariums themselves often fail miserably in providing adequate environs for the fish.

A federal court, on August 11, 2015, struck down a decision by the USFWS to allow wind energy developers to obtain 30-year permits to accidentally kill or injure ("take") bald and golden eagles. The court ruled that the USFWS failed to provide adequate justification for extending the take permits from 5 to 30 years without first preparing an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Colorado rancher and livestock hauler Tom Davis bought approximately 1,800 horses from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program from 2008 to 2012, telling the BLM that the horses would be sold to families as pets. Instead, he sent nearly all of them to Mexico to be slaughtered, at a profit of over \$150,000 (while the BLM itself spent over \$140,000 delivering the horses to Davis). In the uproar, the BLM announced limits on high-volume horse sales to individual buyers. Davis himself, however, escaped prosecution.

The House Natural Resources Committee voted on October 7, 2015, to advance HR 2406, the Sportsmen's

Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act. AWI and others have helped quash previous versions of this bill—which represents a clear assault on wildlife both at home and abroad—but it keeps resurfacing. The current rendition seeks, among other things, to expand the use of brutal body-gripping traps on public lands, facilitate trophy hunting of imperiled species, and undercut USFWS efforts to limit the sale of and trade in ivory.

Colonel Milton M. ("Milt") Kaufmann died on October 29, 2015, aged 97. After retiring from a 30-year career with

the US Air Force, Milt spent the next 40+ years working as a volunteer on conservation issues, most notably in the Caribbean. He was a good friend to and frequent collaborator with AWI. AWI's Susan Millward now sits on the board of Monitor Caribbean, an organization Milt founded, and continues to work on implementation of the SPAW Protocol—a key treaty to protect Caribbean wildlife and habitats that was initially drafted in Milt's basement. Milt is gone, but his work endures.

SPRING 2016*

It is commonly asserted that African wildlife agencies must put more boots on the ground to stem the elephant poaching epidemic. But agencies can also benefit from "better" boots on the ground. John Irwin, a retired US Marine Corps (USMC) drill instructor, and AWI's Bill Clark, who also served in the USMC before pursuing a career in wildlife law enforcement, are partnering with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to apply proven USMC training techniques to help mold KWS recruits into effective rangers—ones ready and able to take the fight to an increasingly dangerous foe.

In 2012, AWI investigated the USDA's Process Verified Program (PVP) and found that the department was putting its seal of approval on food packages with unverified animal welfare claims. After its investigation, AWI asked the USDA OIG to evaluate the PVP as an initial step toward reform. Three years after AWI's request, the OIG conducted its evaluation, and confirmed the existence

of major problems with the program. Unfortunately, the USDA continues to allow producers to use the PVP seal to deceive consumers.

An AWI Refinement Grant helped Janet Wolforth, a veterinary technician at the University of Michigan, test a new device to reduce the distress mice feel when restrained for routine laboratory procedures. Unlike typical restraint devices, her Laboratory Animal Cube (LACube) has a square interior and textured base for surer footing. Preliminary results suggest that the mice are more at ease in the LACube than when subjected to other restraint methods. Researchers have begun to inquire about using the device, and Ms. Wolforth is submitting the results of her tests for presentation at national conferences.



*This edition of the *AWI Quarterly*, formally designated as the winter edition, is now published in March and has been renamed the spring edition.

Each year in the United States, more than 6 million animals are trapped on both public and private land. The majority are caught in steel-jaw leghold traps—popular with trappers because of their propensity to readily catch any animal. However, this means the traps are also capable of catching raptors, deer, songbirds, endangered and threatened species, and domestic dogs and cats. In this article, AWI explores a few of the tragic stories of companion animals maimed or killed by these devices.

Dr. Naomi Rose of AWI and Dr. Lori Marino of the Kimmela Center for Animal Advocacy conducted a workshop in December 2015 on sea pen sanctuaries for cetaceans retired from captive display, in conjunction with the 21st Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, in San Francisco. The workshop reviewed a number of logistical issues, including veterinary care, training and husbandry, engineering, and governing laws. As the workshop made clear, although establishing sanctuaries will be complex and challenging, it can and will be done.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced in November 2015 that it had approved genetically engineered (GE) salmon for human consumption—the first such approval for a GE animal—and that it would not require GE salmon to be labeled as such. Thankfully, in late 2015, Congress intervened, passing a law that requires the FDA to develop labeling guidelines to help inform consumers about GE salmon.

Unlike federal- and state-inspected slaughterhouses, “custom-exempt” slaughter establishments are excused from the continuous inspections intended to keep meat safe and prevent animal abuse. Meat processed at these facilities is supposed to be for personal use only, and cannot be sold, traded, or given away. However, a bill has been introduced in Congress—the Processing Revival and Intrastate Meat Exemption (PRIME) Act—that would

expand this inspection exemption to slaughterhouses that process meat sold in-state. If such a bill passed, it would increase the number of animals slaughtered without any oversight.

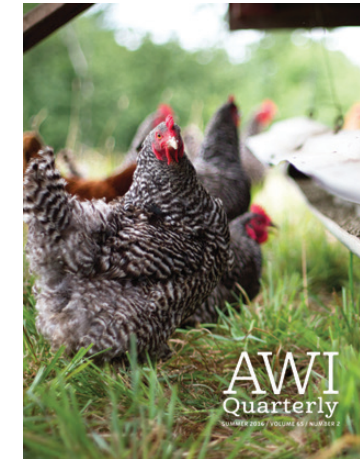
In February 2016, USDA-APHIS proposed a rule concerning space requirements and other matters for captive cetaceans. The rule, which comes after a 14-year delay, is a grave disappointment. Space requirements for cetaceans were last updated over 30 years ago, yet the agency claims it is unaware of any science in the intervening years that would support an increase. AWI intends to offer detailed comments on the proposal and provide the agency with the large body of recent research (which it somehow missed) that supports changes to the regulations.

AWI officially notified the USFWS in December 2015 of its intent to sue the agency for failing to decide in a timely fashion on whether to list the pygmy three-toed sloth as endangered, pursuant to an emergency petition previously filed by AWI. Although the USFWS initially issued a positive 90-day finding on the petition, it failed to meet the statutory deadline for making its final determination. Meanwhile, as few as 48 of the sloths may be left in the wild, down from an estimated 79 in 2013.

Dr. Jay Kirkpatrick, founder of the Science and Conservation Center at ZooMontana in Billings, died in December 2015 at the age of 75. A longtime collaborator with AWI, Jay was a pioneer in the research and development of immunocontraceptives as a safe, effective, nonlethal method of wildlife population management. He was particularly instrumental in demonstrating the efficacy of porcine zona pellucida (PZP) as an immunocontraceptive vaccine. Countless animals—from horses on Assateague Island to elephants in South Africa—have benefitted from Jay’s enormous contributions to the field.

SUMMER 2016

Although the vast majority of laying hens are still confined in endless stacked rows of cramped, barren “battery” cages, an industry transformation is underway. Much of the reform, however, focuses on going “cage free,” where the birds typically still live indoors in massive sheds (albeit ones with perches and nest boxes). Today, consumers can support the shift toward higher welfare by seeking out eggs not just from cage-free operations, but from the growing number of pasture-based, third-party certified farms.



The USFWS issued an alarming proposal in May 2015 that would require individuals or organizations petitioning to list a species under the Endangered Species Act to first solicit and include information desired by (potentially uncooperative) range states, and get certifications from the states that this has been done. AWI vigorously opposed this significant new roadblock, and called on our supporters to do the same. The USFWS listened: a revised April 2016 proposal would require petitioners merely to notify the states, which would then have the responsibility to submit additional materials if they so desired.

Animal cruelty crimes are being pursued more aggressively. The Virginia and New York attorneys general have established animal cruelty units within their offices. Equally important is the fact that this is becoming more widespread among local prosecutors’ offices, as well. There are now more than 30 such offices nationwide—the latest under Staten Island District Attorney Michael McMahon, who stated, “designating one unit to handle animal abuse cases is a critically important step in showing the public that our office

understands the seriousness of these crimes and that we are committed to being a voice for the voiceless.”

For the past few years, AWI and fellow members of the “Don’t Buy from Icelandic Whalers” coalition have brought our message to more than 20,000 commercial seafood buyers and other participants attending Seafood Expo North America (SENA), held in Boston each March. This year, Wegmans supermarket chain and Iceland Seafood International—a global sales and marketing company based in Reykjavik—joined the list of seafood buyers that have agreed not to purchase products from companies tied to commercial whaling.

On April 30, 2016, surrounded by a host of rangers, government officials, and guests, Kenya’s President Uhuru Kenyatta put the torch to 105 metric tons of elephant ivory and 1.35 tons of rhino horn in Kenya’s Nairobi National Park. The destruction of this contraband was a dramatic show of resolve in an increasingly urgent campaign to end the illicit trade in ivory and horn. At the ceremony, President Kenyatta said that the ivory may have been worth \$150 million to criminals, “but for us, ivory is worthless, unless it is on our elephants.”

One key challenge to the recovery of critically endangered California condors has been abysmally low wild population growth, due to low nestling survival rates. The Santa Barbara Zoo, in partnership with the USFWS and others, initiated a nest guarding program in 2007 to understand and address anthropogenic and other factors contributing to this nest failure. An AWI Christine Stevens Wildlife Award has assisted the

effort, which thus far has resulted in an increase in nest success and a greater understanding of effective long-term management solutions.

The Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), with its striking white coat and two long, straight horns (that can appear as one when viewed from the side), may have inspired legends of desert unicorns. Sadly, by the 1970s, this “mythical” beast had been hunted out of existence in the wild. Today, thanks to the foresight of an Israeli general and a program to breed native wild animals and reintroduce them to Israel, the Arabian oryx has triumphantly returned to the Negev Desert.

Just after midnight on March 11, 2016, a National Airlines 747 landed in Fort Worth, Texas, with 17 of Swaziland’s wild African elephants aboard. The elephants are victims of a controversial agreement involving three US zoos, the USFWS, the Swaziland government, and that country’s wildlife management trust. The USFWS issued the import permit despite strong public opposition, a host of legal issues, and the ever-growing scientific evidence of the physical and psychological deprivation, injuries, and reduced life expectancy of elephants in captivity.

The Dallas Crown plant in Kaufman, Texas—a notorious former horse slaughter establishment—was finally demolished in April 2016. The plant converted in the 1970s from slaughtering cattle to horses when it came under foreign ownership. It quickly became an example of everything that was objectionable about horse slaughter. Long associated with animal suffering, overpowering odors, environmental problems, community opposition, and tax evasion, the plant finally closed in 2007 after a legal challenge by AWI based on a Texas ban on the slaughter of horses for human consumption.

Poultry engineered to quickly grow freakishly large is a big welfare problem in animal agriculture. So it was good news when Global Animal Partnership (GAP), a third-party animal welfare rating system for food, recently announced that it will require slower growth-rate genetics for all chickens raised under its program. The first US animal welfare food certification program to establish limits for the growth of birds—Animal Welfare Approved—was founded and originally administered by AWI. AWI had urged GAP to likewise adopt this very important improvement.



speeches and meetings

BY AWI REPRESENTATIVES

2015

AWI staff organized and participated in a rally to raise awareness about the plight of the vaquita porpoise as part of International Save the Vaquita Day; July 9

Susan Millward, Kate O'Connell, and Naomi Rose met with officials from the Mexican Embassy to urge greater protections for the vaquita; July 9

Naomi Rose attended the Compassionate Conservation Conference; Vancouver, BC; July 28–31

Naomi Rose participated in a workshop on cetacean sanctuaries; Vancouver, BC; August 1

Dena Jones met with students from the animal law class of Lewis & Clark Law School to discuss truth in food labeling; August 3

Naomi Rose participated in a workshop and roundtable discussion at the International Congress on Conservation Biology; Montpellier, France; August 3–6

Dena Jones coordinated and participated in a meeting between representatives of animal protection organizations and the outgoing and incoming humane handling enforcement coordinators for the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service; August 19

Susan Millward gave comments at a public meeting of the federal Advisory Council on Wildlife Trafficking to urge that trade in whale products be addressed at a future session of the council; August 24

Kate O'Connell participated in a Q & A panel on Icelandic whaling following a screening of the documentary film *BREACH*; West Hartford, CT; August 24

D.J. Schubert participated in the 28th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee; Tel Aviv, Israel; August 30–September 3

Dena Jones, Nancy Blaney, and Cathy Liss met with the USDA Under Secretary, Chief of Staff, and Deputy Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture; Director of Investigative and Enforcement Services; and Associate Administrator of APHIS; the discussion covered a wide range of issues, including Animal Welfare Act enforcement, poultry slaughter, organic standards, and the Wildlife Services program; September 3

Sue Fisher and D.J. Schubert participated in an IWC Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling Working Group meeting; Maniitsoq, Greenland; September 8–14

AWI cohosted and Nancy Blaney spoke at a congressional briefing on the PAWS Act; September 17

Chris Heyde gave a presentation on federal legislation affecting horse welfare at the Homes for Horses Coalition Conference; Irving, TX; September 25

Sue Fisher gave a presentation on whaling at the Animal Law Conference at Lewis & Clark Law School; Portland, OR; October 16–18

Dena Jones coordinated and participated in an AWI-hosted "Current Thinking and Future Outlook on Farm Animal Welfare in the EU" meeting between Dr. Andrea Gavinelli, head of the European Union's animal welfare unit, and representatives of US animal protection organizations; October 20

Dena Jones gave a talk on key animal welfare trade issues, including live animal transport, horse slaughter, and whaling, at the Women in International Trade seminar; October 20

Kate O'Connell met with the US Embassy's scientific and conservation representative and Mexico's environment minister and other officials from the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources and the National Commission for Protected Areas to urge greater protection for the vaquita; Mexico City, Mexico; October 25–29

Cathy Liss and Brittany Horton staffed an AWI booth at the 66th National Meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science; Phoenix, AZ; November 2–4

Naomi Rose participated in a press conference introducing the federal ORCA Act; Los Angeles, CA; November 6

Dena Jones presented an update on national and international farm animal welfare issues at the annual meeting of the National Black Farmers Association; Birmingham, AL; November 7

Naomi Rose gave a presentation and participated in a Q & A session after a screening of *Blackfish* at the PlanetOn Film Festival; Bogota, Colombia; November 10–13

Kenneth Litwak participated in a meeting at the US Meat Animal Research Center about animal welfare issues at Agricultural Research Service facilities; Clay Center, NE; November 11

Regina Terlau staffed a booth to promote humane education at the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching; Fort Worth, TX; November 11–14

AWI helped organize and AWI staff participated in panel discussions at the "International Law and Wildlife Well-being" workshop hosted by George Washington University; panels: Environmental Conventions and International

Organizations (Cathy Liss, Tara Zuardo, Sue Fisher), CITES (Georgia Hancock, D.J. Schubert), World Trade Organization (D.J. Schubert), Oceans: Whaling and Fishing (Sue Fisher, Kate O'Connell); November 13–14

AWI board of directors meeting; November 18

Naomi Rose visited three dolphinariums, gave the keynote address at an NGO workshop, and participated in a press conference on captive cetaceans; Taipei, Taiwan; November 22–December 1

Naomi Rose spoke at a media event on cetacean captivity hosted by Chinese NGOs; Beijing, China; December 4

AWI cohosted and Nancy Blaney participated in a panel discussion on the PAWS Act with Senate sponsors Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and Gary Peters (D-MI); December 8

Naomi Rose co-organized and conducted a workshop on sea pen sanctuaries at the Society for Marine Mammalogy's 21st Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals; San Francisco, CA; December 13

2016

AWI assisted in organizing a public screening of *Blackfish* and Naomi Rose participated in a Q & A session afterwards; Olympia, WA; January 20

Susan Millward, Georgia Hancock, and Naomi Rose attended a meeting with NMFS officials regarding various marine mammal issues; Silver Spring, MD; February 2

Naomi Rose participated in an online panel discussion, sponsored by the Pacific Whale Foundation, about efforts to end cetacean captivity; February 6

Sue Fisher and Naomi Rose participated in a National Biodiversity Teach-In webinar for high school students; February 11

Tara Zuardo participated in a screening of *Red Wolf Revival* and panel discussion sponsored by the Carnegie Institute for Science; February 22

Mary Lou Randour spoke at a congressional briefing on the new FBI policy re tracking of animal cruelty crimes; February 26

Tara Zuardo participated in panel discussions on the ESA and trapping laws at the 2016 Public Interest Law Conference; Eugene, OR; March 4

Kate O'Connell attended Seafood Expo North America to urge a boycott of Icelandic seafood companies tied to whaling; Boston, MA; March 6–8

Cathy Liss presented an award to Representative Don Beyer (D-VA) at an Endangered Species Coalition reception to honor members of Congress who have defended wildlife and the ESA; March 16

Kenneth Litwak attended the Symposium on Social Housing of Laboratory Animals at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine; Davis, CA; March 17–18

AWI cohosted and Nancy Blaney spoke at a congressional briefing on the Captive Primate Safety Act; March 22

Kenneth Litwak attended the Science of Enrichment Symposium, sponsored by the Michigan Society for Medical Research; Ann Arbor, MI; March 23

Dena Jones gave a presentation on farm animal welfare at a meeting in the Executive Office of the President and hosted by the Office of Management and Budget; March 25

Naomi Rose gave a Skype lecture to students at Willamette University; March 28

Regina Terlau staffed a booth to promote humane education at the National Science Teachers Association National Conference; Nashville, TN; March 31–April 2

Naomi Rose gave a presentation at the Dolphinarium-Free Europe annual conference; Brussels, Belgium; April 7–11

Naomi Rose testified at a California Assembly hearing in support of AB 2305 (California Orca Protection Act); Sacramento, CA; April 12

Naomi Rose gave a presentation entitled "*Blackfish*, the Case Against SeaWorld, and Marine Mammals in Captivity" at Stanford Law School; Palo Alto, CA; April 19

Naomi Rose gave a lecture to animal policy students at Tufts University; North Grafton, MA; April 22

AWI board of directors meeting; April 22

Cathy Liss and Chris Heyde met with Office of Management and Budget staff regarding enforcement of the Horse Protection Act; May 2

Sue Fisher participated in an IWC workshop on cetacean welfare; Kruger National Park, South Africa, May 3–6

Mary Lou Randour gave a presentation on the link between animal cruelty and interpersonal violence at the 7th Annual Animal Control Officers' Conference; Albany, NY; May 10

Cathy Liss and Joanna Grossman coordinated and participated in a meeting between USDA staff and representatives from animal protection organizations regarding enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act; Riverdale, MD; May 11

Naomi Rose gave a presentation and conducted a Q & A session via Skype for the "Where Do We Go from Here? Marine Mammals in Canada" symposium; May 15

Georgia Hancock and Naomi Rose attended a meeting with NMFS officials to discuss cetacean sanctuaries; Silver Spring, MD; May 26

Naomi Rose participated in the 66th meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee; Bled, Slovenia; June 4–20

Cathy Liss gave a presentation at a Capitol Hill event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Animal Welfare Act; Chris Hyde, Joanna Grossman, and Nancy Blaney also attended; June 8

AWI hosted a presentation by Joseph Hinton of the University of Georgia regarding the red wolf reintroduction program in North Carolina; June 16

Elizabeth Neville, AWI legal intern, testified against a proposed black bear hunt at a public meeting of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Franklin County, FL; June 22

AWI board of directors meeting, June 23

ALL MEETINGS HELD IN WASHINGTON, DC, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

statement of activities and changes in net assets

	YEAR ENDED JUNE 30,	
	2016	2015
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
REVENUES:		
Contributions - Foundations and trusts	\$ 437,400	\$ 484,353
- Legacies and bequests	1,669,138	665,017
- Memberships and other	1,146,068	950,943
Tenants net rental income	92,048	59,762
Sale of publications and reports	1,598	2,932
Dividend income	136,472	138,417
Interest income	17,244	16,063
Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on securities	(297,358)	(11,600)
Gain on sale of building	283,199	
	<u>3,485,809</u>	<u>2,305,887</u>
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS:		
Satisfaction of program restrictions:		
Roger L Stevens Publication Fund	84,913	81,789
Animal Welfare Approved program	—	350,000
Public education and programs	—	290,477
Bosnian Stray Dogs	2,085	—
Marine mammals	5,200	—
Total net assets released from restrictions	92,198	722,266
Total unrestricted revenues and other support	<u>3,578,007</u>	<u>3,028,153</u>
EXPENSES:		
Program service	2,802,772	3,442,243
Management and general	193,465	230,429
Fundraising	58,631	55,214
Total expenses	<u>3,054,868</u>	<u>3,727,886</u>
Increase (Decrease) in unrestricted net assets	523,139	(699,733)
CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
Grants and contributions	25,700	537,462
Net assets released from restrictions	(92,198)	(722,266)
(Decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets	(66,498)	(184,804)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	456,641	(884,537)
NET ASSETS - beginning of year	10,960,478	11,845,015
NET ASSETS - end of year	\$ <u>11,417,119</u>	\$ <u>10,960,478</u>

statement of functional expenses year ended June 30, 2016

	PROGRAM SERVICES	MGMT & GENERAL	FUND RAISING	TOTAL
Salaries	\$ 1,307,492	\$ 75,964	\$ 19,433	\$ 1,402,889
Payroll taxes and unemployment insurance	101,499	6,322	1,545	109,366
Employee benefits	151,948	11,440	2,195	165,583
Retirement Plan	26,267	1,610	399	28,276
Advertising	14,302	80	2,527	16,909
AWI Quarterly	138,188	—	1,396	139,584
Printing and publications (except for Quarterlies)	154,363	196	5,383	159,942
Research, writing, and editing	19,287	—	—	19,287
Grants	154,219	—	—	154,219
Conferences, meetings, and travel	106,463	1,002	12	107,477
Postage, mailing, and addressing costs (except for Quarterlies)	24,182	197	100	24,479
Telephone, duplicating, and office supplies	68,047	13,730	17,820	99,597
Professional services	96,955	10,125	4,625	111,705
Memberships and subscriptions	19,890	4,155	164	24,209
Acquisition of books and other educational materials	241	—	—	241
Consultants	180,665	—	—	180,665
Internet services	62,725	3,499	—	66,224
Occupancy costs	93,380	59,993	456	153,829
Miscellaneous	38,865	—	—	38,865
Total expenses before depreciation	2,758,978	188,313	56,055	3,003,346
Depreciation	43,794	5,152	2,576	51,522
Total expenses	\$ 2,802,772	\$ 193,465	\$ 58,631	\$ 3,054,868

A complete financial statement audited by Marks Paneth & Shron LLP, Certified Public Accountants, is available from AWI and upon written request from the District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Business and Professional Licensing Administration, Corporations Division, P.O. Box 92300, Washington, DC 20090

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