



**GLOBAL
ORCA CHARITY**
OrcaCharity.org

2024 - GLOBAL ORCA CHARITY ANNUAL REPORT

For the calendar year ending December 31, 2024, the Global Orca Charity (GOC) contributed to the following charitable endeavours in furtherance of the Goals and Objectives of the GOC to provide charitable assistance for scientific research, public education and professional expertise to better understand and protect wild and captive orca (killer whales, *Orcinus orca*) and to advance global awareness of the species, as well as environmental threats and human impact on orca health and welfare:

Publications

Scientific publications and reports were published covering distribution (orca in Fiji) and a case study of a mass stranding (Venezuela) and welfare (orca in captivity in Japan).

Two publications currently nearing the submission stage or have been submitted. These cover aspects of orca behaviour a case study of the teeth of orca from a mass stranding.

The 2024-25 photo-identification guide to the orca of Punta Norte has been published, available free of charge to the public (downloadable via the website www.pn-orca.org). The guide was translated into Spanish to facilitate local use in Argentina.

A book about the orca of Punta Norte has been published. This book is scientifically correct but written for the general public and is lavishly illustrated with photographs.

Research & documentation

A three-month field season was completed at Punta Norte, Argentina, documenting the unique ecotype of orca which hunts by intentionally stranding.

A three-month field season was completed in New Zealand, documenting the unique ecotype of orca which specialising foraging on elasmobranchs.

A visit to a cetacean sanctuary site in Greece, with a representative of the French Government, in anticipation of induction of cetaceans from the French captivity industry.

Visits to two facilities holding orca captive in China.

Visits to three facilities holding orca captive in Japan.

Conferences / workshops / presentations

Attendance at, and presentations given, at conferences/workshops in Australia, New Zealand, Spain and virtually. Topics were mass strandings and rescues in New Zealand; intertidal hydrophones in Argentina; orca sanctuaries; and interactive orca in Venezuelan waters – requirements and designs.

Presentations given to groups in person and virtually, including to members of the Jane Goodall Institute.

Preparation to hold the inaugural workshop on Orca in Captivity, at the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain.

Preparation to hold the inaugural workshop on Orca Strandings and Rescues, at the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain.

Social Media/ Fundraising/ Online Presence

Global Orca Charity website continues to be enhanced with content, including listing the Candid Platinum Transparency rating <https://app.candid.org/profile/14645076/global-orca-charity>

Created content for the Facebook page with a donation option for GOC <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalOrcaCharity/>

Received Candid Platinum Transparency recognition <https://candid.org/>

Equipment/ supplies/construction

An office/bedroom with toilet and shower completed at Punta Norte, Argentina in time for the 2024 orca research season.

Donations & Funding Applications

The GOC received funding applications from two researchers, to attend the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain. Both requests were granted as both researchers were going to present at the conference.

The Orca Research Trust made a donation on behalf of the Global Orca Charity to allow a third researcher to attend the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain.

Collaboration with other entities

GOC collaborated with World Orca Day to prepare social media for 14 July 2024

Dr Visser provided fact checking and interviews given for a documentary series about sentience, featuring orca (due to air in 2025).

Dr Visser provided consultation as an expert for two legal cases by Sea Shepherd France for captive orca in France, to prevent them going to another facility, but instead for them to go to a sanctuary.

Dr Visser provided consultation with the French Government on captive orca.

Dr Visser provided interviews with various journalists covering a range of topics to do with cetaceans.

Dr Visser worked on site with WeWhale and Sea Shepherd France to evaluate the Iberian orca behaviour near the Strait of Gibraltar to deescalate the interactions between the orca and boats.

The GOC continues to collaborate with the Orca Research Trust (New Zealand) and Punta Norte Orca Research (Argentina) to support dissemination of information and the conducting of field work.

Director Cazenave conducted two months of field research at Punta Norte (Argentina) and is preparing submissions to the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain.

Directors Fraleigh, Makowski, Sommer and Visser are collaborating on a project exposing some of the issues for captive orca. These findings will be presented at the 5th International Orca Symposium (16-22 February 2025), at Tarifa Spain.