

**From Dolphin Hunting to Dolphin Watching
against the drive fishery/killing & Capturing of Dolphins**

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**To the heads of the Japanese Government, the Fisheries Agency, and
all the persons concerned about this issue,
and
the head of the local government, Shizuoka Prefecture Fisheries Section and
all the persons concerned**

Dolphin Watching was started by an active fisherman at Futo, where the drive fishery has been carried out. On the other hand, the Ito City Fishing Cooperative and its Futo Branch are planning to carry out the drive fishery for mainly capturing dolphins alive, complying with the Fisheries Agency directive to not show bloodletting.

Criticism has increasingly arisen worldwide not only against killing and slaughter of dolphins in drives, but also against their capture to sell to the aquarium industry, for research on dolphin ecology in recent years is showing that the very act of capturing dolphins and keeping them in tanks is cruelty to animals.

Drive fisheries, killing and capturing dolphins, greatly harm the image of Ito-city, which is a tourism and hot-spring recreation city with scenic beauty. The drive hunt of dolphins will bring a future crisis to Ito city, for it makes difficult for the city to survive as a tourist resort.

And not only Ito city but also Japan itself would be a target of increasing global criticism as a "wild animal consumer" that profits financially from them.

I/We sincerely request the Japan Fisheries Agency and the local government of Shizuoka prefecture

- 1) To call a complete halt of killing and capturing dolphins to the Fishing Cooperatives at Ito and Futo and
- 2) To make them switch to dolphin watching from the dolphin hunt and support the dolphin watching business, which is aiming at coexistence with dolphins,

by playing a leading role properly as well as by discussing this issue with fishermen at Ito & Futo.

Comments:

Name & Address:

Signature:
