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[Navy sonar systems affect on sea life]

URGING THE NAVY TO RESERVE UNDERWATER SONAR WEAPONS SYSTEMS FOR WARTIME USE ONLY, AND RECOGNIZING THE DILIGENT WORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS TO PROTECT WHALES AND OTHER SEA LIFE.

WHEREAS, The Navy has developed an underwater sonar system to enhance its ability to detect enemy submarines; and,

WHEREAS, Under this new system surface ships are outfitted with acoustic devices dropped into the water which emit sounds that resemble those made by humpback whales; and,

WHEREAS, Intense underwater noise or explosions recently caused the stranding of about a dozen healthy beaked whales in the Bahamas, while the navy was conducting tests in the area; and,

WHEREAS, While it is not conclusive that navy sonar tests or explosions caused the deaths, the report to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says that hemorrhages found in or around the animals' ears are consistent with a distant explosion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges the U.S. Navy to reassess its use of sonars in peacetime training, and to reserve these weapons systems for wartime use only; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the diligent work of environmental activists to protect whales and other sea life.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 001165

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the Navy to reserve underwater sonar weapons systems for wartime use only, and recognizing the diligent work of environmental activists to protect whales and other sea life.

June 26, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee
Absent: 2 - Ammiano, Leno

File No. 001165

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on June 26, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr. /v

JUL - 7 2000

Date Approved