

FREEDOM FOR CORKY

Help Corky Go Home

WILCOCKA PHOTO: JEFF K. JOESER



Corky's Story

Corky is the longest surviving captive orca whale in the world. Now, held at Sea World San Diego, she was captured as a four-year-old and taken from her mother in Pender Harbor, British Columbia in 1969. The 12 other orcas taken captive from Corky's family pod in 1968-69 have all died in marine parks. The average life span for female orcas in the wild is 50 years, with some living 80-90 years. Corky is young at 36 years old with a strong will to live. But how much longer can she last in captivity?

Retirement Plan for Corky

Corky has done thousands of shows at Sea World playing "Shamu the Killer Whale" and has earned her retirement. Can she survive in the wild again? Yes, with some help. Corky will need a rehab program to learn to catch live fish. Then she will be transported to a "halfway house," a netted-off bay in British Columbia, where her family still lives. When she has shown the needed survival skills, the nets will be removed. Corky will be free to rejoin her family, allowing her to live out her life in the ocean where she belongs.

PHOTO: ALEXANDRA MORTON



How to help Corky:

Anheuser-Busch owns Sea World and has rejected past appeals. Write to August Busch, III and ask him to let Corky go home:
1 Busch Place, St. Louis, MO 63118



Corky's Freedom Banner

Nearly two miles long, this banner is composed of patches from 22 countries & is the longest children's banner in the world. www.orcalab.org