



Messages of Hope for Maui's & Hector's Dolphins

A collection of petition comments
from March and April 2012



www.hectorsdolphins.com

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The following pages are filled with messages left by petitioners who participated in a public consultation by the New Zealand government about the introduction of interim measures to better protect the world's last 55 adult Maui's dolphins. It is their personal response to the question "Why is this important to you?"

These inspirational answers represent the thoughts from every corner of the globe, including New Zealand. Together they provide an inspirational message of hope for the world's smallest and most endangered marine dolphin.

Comments

I'm signing this because action needs to be taken NOW. It's totally unbelievable that we've let this situation get to this stage already. I feel ashamed to be a New Zealander.

There are so few of them left. This may be the only chance for them to be saved.

We simply can't allow another species to enter extinction at our own hands - this is a disgraceful situation and if we don't do everything we can to stop this insane loss of endemic biodiversity in our waters and on our soil then I'm ashamed to call myself a New Zealander. Bugger the fisheries - that's a disgrace as well - people can find other work, once the dolphins are gone, they ain't coming back!

We should be retaining our endemic species, once they are gone they cannot be brought back. We need to focus on our country as a whole rather than just being concerned with profits and industry. We live in a global community but our tourism is also important, how will it look once the things that make our country unique are extinct. It is a disgusting reflection on our fisheries and our country that we have let this species deplete to this level. There are a lot of things about NZ that make me proud, but there are an increasing number that the more I look into our practices make me ashamed to be a Kiwi. Policies and legislation should have been put in place a long time ago to prevent this. ACT NOW, you can prevent this but you must ACT NOW.

I work with the Hector's dolphins in the Marlborough Sounds, I know how beautiful and special it is to have these little guys around and I want my kids to be able to share the same experiences I've had.

Because the dolphins are a threatened species and it's my duty as a citizen of this planet to help with their survival.

Maui's dolphins only live here in New Zealand, it is our responsibility to preserve these marine creatures. It is simply not acceptable that they become extinct on our watch. The fishing industry makes a good living out of our seas but it cannot be at the expense of creatures that are a valuable chain within the marine ecosystem. There is strong public feeling for extending the existing protected area. Pure New Zealand? Let's start trying to live up to that claim.

Extending the MPA area will not only benefit the Maui's dolphin but will also have further flow on effects that will be beneficial to the marine ecosystem.

I don't want to say to my grandchildren that I did nothing to stop the snuffing out of a species

Natural treasures should be preserved. Thinking otherwise is strange and alien. It makes no sense at all.

I so strongly object to the mindless and senseless killing of dolphins. These beautiful creatures below in our oceans where they teach us about beauty, trust and survival. Their killing brings shame and bad karma on our planet and on their killers.

It's simple. Maui's and Hector's dolphins are protected by the marine mammals act and should not be killed.

Save Maui's dolphins, stop netting

This is an abject lack of respect for life, and for material gain. If those who kill these creatures are that insensitive and mercenary, we must bring in immediate

legislation to prevent them from continuing with this slaughter.
The estimated population has dropped by half in 7 years, as protection hasn't been good enough to date. More needs to be done immediately.
PLEASE - this is Maui Dolphins' last chance - soon it will be too late - make a stand Mr Carter and ban these lethal nets to save this gorgeous Dolphin
Does this even need to be filled out? Extinction of a species in this day and age is unacceptable, especially when this species is not on our food chain, but impacted by it.
I am absolutely dismayed that our Government are once again part of the problem and not part of the solution! Please see sense and stand strong for the rights of this precious creature and the rights of your people to want to save it. I would like to understand the reasons not to make the change needed in the legislation... the economy? Extinction is IMMIDENT. Please do the right thing immediately.
Because once they are gone they are gone- Act now before it is too late
Because these creatures have as much right to live as us so we should be doing everything possible to protect them.
With a population of only 55 these changes to protect Maui's Dolphins need to happen yesterday (well actually 30 years ago, but that's hindsight). It's now or never - do the right thing.
The lack of action over this issue is simply another manifestation of the National governments couldn't care a less attitudes. As leader of the New Zealand Peoples Mandate Party, I am personally appalled. There is no time for talk, no time for research, no time for inaction. Get off your royal rear ends and act now to ban all gill net fishing within the Hectors and Maui dolphins range of habitat. No excuses, no delays, get on with it. National, Never Again! Robert Kaiviti. Leader. New Zealand Peoples Mandate Party.
These dolphins can and must be saved, plus Hector's dolphins. Prohibit gill nets & trawlers in Maui's & hector's dolphins range to save the species.
So important to protect and conserve these amazing little dolphins!
We are watching the NZ government from around the World!
It breaks my heart to read this. Save these dolphins!
We've already lost too many animal species. Please help to not add Maui's Dolphins to this list. Seems inexcusable when it can be prevented, and disgusting that there has to be "strong public support" to do so.
Please extend the protected area for the Maui's dolphins! It is in your hands to keep them a viable species of the world, Hon. David Carter! Thank you!
Quiero conocer estos bellos animales y que las generaciones futuras tambien tengan la oportunidad de vivir esa experiencia... por favor dejen el planeta Tierra y sus ecosistemas en paz!!! no mas absurdo consumismo!!!
Too many species becoming extinct because of human intervention, stop gill and trawl net fishing to help this beautiful species survive!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE, ONLY A FEW LITTLE DOLPHINS LEFT. STOP THIS MURDER NOW!!
I dream of the day that I shall be able to visit NZ. As someone who is interested in nature, it is a place I have always wanted to go; particularly to hike the Milford trail. I am also very interested in marine mammal protection and am shocked and dismayed that the government of NZ would not do all possible to protect a species as rare as the Maui dolphin. Of all the commonwealth countries, I have always held NZ above others in regard to prioritizing its environment and people's well-being. I would be greatly saddened if convinced otherwise.
Because it's about time we started caring about this planet.
This situation is disgraceful. Please stop trawling and the use of gillnets before it is too late!

Our special species of dolphin are worth protecting. Why should we just let them become extinct without a fight!
There is no reason to NOT avoid this mammal's habitat. Please do the right thing.
I live on the west coast of Auckland & have never seen one of these beautiful mammals. I have not eaten fish for years in the vain hope that this will help the creatures of the sea. We need a marine reserve from Kaipara to Whatipu at the very least! We don't want to see another dolphin species disappear.
Successive governments have offered little protection to Maui's dolphins and time has almost run out. You will not get a second chance once they have become extinct. ACT now (not in 6 months!)
I grew up at the beach, I've fished my whole life but one of the best aspects of fishing and boating is finding a pod of dolphins. Watching them play with the bow of the boat and the waves. We can't just allow a species to become extinct, makes us just as bad as those that go out to kill dolphins and whales. We are meant to be a clean, green country, we must preserve our wildlife.
We can't let these dolphins endemic to New Zealand go extinct.
I am signing this because I can't abide knowing that another species of animal, especially one only found in NZ, could be extinct within just a few years if not a lot sooner.
PLEASE, for the love of dolphins and our oceans, ban trawling and gillnets in the range of Maui's dolphins! The public support is there, from all over the world! Please save this species!
These beautiful animals need our help!
It needs to be done, or our own children will never see these amazing marine organisms.
It's the 21 Century and I believe that the fishing laws around the world should be changed towards seriously protecting the Species of fish both near extinction the others. What world do we leave our grand children??
These precious creatures are part of our environmental heritage - we must protect them before it is too late!
The slaughter has to stop before it's too late.. Extend the protected area, do whatever it takes to save the dolphins..
This is a disgrace! Come on National put some money into this and help Doc fight!
They only exist in NZ waters, we will NOT let them go. The world is watching and our clean/green brand is at stake
The Maui's dolphin needs protection so please extend the existing protected area and try to ban fishing with gill and trawls everywhere where there is Maui dolphin - please
Marine mammals/life play a big part in my life and I find hard to believe that this can still happen to one of species of dolphin with all the technology that we have.
We sometimes see Maui dolphins while out Surfing or surfing at Muriwai. It is really sad to think these beautiful playful creatures are so threatened.
because diversity will keep our planet earth alive and healthier
It's a disgusting disgrace to anyone who can't see that we should.
There are an estimated 55 Maui's dolphins left in New Zealand waters. They will not survive unless something is done. Please extend their protected area and ban gill and trawl net fishing until the population has recovered. The New Zealand Government CANNOT let one of its endemic dolphin species become extinct, not when they have the power to stop it!
They are a beautiful mammal that I have surfed and played with off the west coast of NZ....
It is simple. These mammals needed saving before it ever reached this. It is disgusting that so-called clean green New Zealand can't or won't do this. This is how

we peddle ourselves isn't it? Clean and green. Yet nothing is done in real terms to save the best of the best. Makes me sick and ashamed.
I'm signing because as a kiwi living abroad I am saddened at the thought of our beautiful marine life being massacred because of trawl nets.
Cetaceans - including dolphins - evolved over the years throughout the pre-historic times - even before humans came to existence - and their populations were quite abundant. This is a fact. However, due to all kinds of human threats, numerous cetacean populations have been experiencing a considerable decline. While its population continues to decline, one dolphin species in particular is on the brink of extinction. The species that I am speaking of is Maui's. These dolphins swim off the west coast of New Zealand and have been facing all kinds of human threats - especially by-catches via gill and trawl nets used by commercial and recreational fishermen regularly. The existing protection zones that incorporate the ban of net and trawl nets are not enough to save Maui's dolphins from getting caught and entangled in nets. The ban needs to be extended to the areas where Maui's dolphins have already ventured to from their usual spots. But that is not all! Since the population is so extremely low - only 55 of them left - the ban needs to take effect immediately via emergency measures! You - the government - have the power to impose the ban to all areas where Maui's dolphins go about their lives so that they won't have to run into nets while seeking their food source. Sure, the fishing industry will suffer a bit from the emergency ban and will be compromised as well. However, there is always a chance for the industry to bounce back from a setback or two. If the Maui's dolphins continue to disappear one by one, they are gone for good. Remember this: Extinction Is Forever!
Please stop the extinction of an entire sub species. A supposedly eco friendly country can't let that happen to a part of its wildlife. Kind regards, M. Heidinger
Terrible state of affairs, can't be allowed to continue.
They were here before us-where's the respect man?
Cause the Dolphins have to live!!!!!!!
Protect our future!
We have to help the defenceless...
I really don't understand why the NZ government is not doing everything possible to prevent these deaths. I don't see how Maui dolphins can ever get back to a healthy population, so very sad that they will probably be the next amazing animal to go on the 'extinct' list.
The government of New Zealand should do everything possible to save Maui's Dolphins from extinction and act now..There should be a ban on the use of nets , this will give the dolphins a chance to recover before it's TOO LATE !!
Wake up!!!! They are almost ALL GONE - how could we let it get this bad?? We all feel so helpless and yet the people who have the power to help AREN'T!
EXTINCTION IS FOREVER, SHAME ON YOU NEW ZEALAND FOR NOT PUTTING A BEAUTIFUL & EXTREMELY ENDANGERED SPECIES FIRST, SHAME ON YOU!
Extinct is forever! This would be a terrible shame, and due to overfishing.
Why are you signing? Insane despotic behaviour has to be arrested as and where possible within the family-school-worklife and political lives of all nations at all levels. The extinction of Maui's Dolphins would be insane ~ all normal free thinking people need to agree and convince those who would support insanity that they need time in the white room not the executive board rooms of political office. Yes, they need more applied science but not related to evidence collecting about about this Dolphin species imminent extinction. They need carefully administered guidance towards more rational thought.
My heart told me to...
I'm a Spearo and I know what over fishing, legal and illegal is doing to the oceans. Be conscious, respect the planet!!!
Because they are my relations and my spiritual, and ecological responsibilities invested in my humanity is meaningless if I stand by and do nothing.
Extinction is forever, act now!

Why wouldn't I sign. WTFs going on? Why are dolphins going extinct?!
We, as supposed stewards of this planet and all it's inhabitants must understand we cannot allow anymore of them to be lost forever! In our arrogance, we think they do ot matter...well, you will soon discover THEY DO MATTER!!! The Maui's must be saved and completely protected forever!
Please help to stop these poor mammals becoming no more. Do people dot realize the implications of this. We have a responsibility to save them
Because maui's dolphins are amazing creatures and the deserve to live just as us humans deserve to have a place in this world . i love dolphins
Extending marine protected areas is a positive initiative providing benefits to all marine species. This in terms of protecting tourism and promoting sustainable aquaculture as a whole should be encouraged.
Animals don't have a voice or choice so we have to speak for them. We have to end this cruelty to save these angels. Animals need only love and respect
Maui's dolphins are critically endangered it is within your power to help their recovery before they are lost to the world forever. Please do all in your power to give them the best chance of recovery before it is too late.
for the children of the world.....
Sometimes commercial decisions must give way to ecological ones. We have to stop using the seas as an unrestricted source, netting is extremely destructive to populations of all sea creates. When a species is that close to the edge, it is simply criminal to not do everything you possibly can to protect them and their habitat. Do the right thing NZ, you have an excellent record in balancing the needs of the people with the needs of the environment, please keep it that way.
PLEASE extend the protected area! Extinction is forever...
Should be obvious to anyone with a brain! This species faces extinction without a radical and urgent change to fishing practices which are pushing the species rapidly toward extinction!
Because we just absolutely cannot let these dolphins die out!
As people we have the power to do great harm to the environment as we often do for the purpose of our own greed. We're constantly in denial about just how much harm we're doing to other forms of life, going about our day not standing for what is right but rather standing for what is easy. Although we might see physically kill the Maui dolphins we're ignorant enough to buy and eat fish from companies helping them financially to carry on their unethical practice in which they fish and feeling as though we aren't supporting the killing of the dolphins. We ignorantly don't do our part for the environment causing greater carbon admissions, change in the water temperatures, effecting the dolphins and their food supply. It's hard to look at ourselves in terms of the negative impact we have on the environment and how we are damaging it for not only ourselves but selfishly for the other creatures living on it too. Watching the numbers on dolphins diminish to the point of almost extinction is sickening. We've interfered with the lives killing them off its our job to interfere with their lives now helping more to live before its too late.
Dolphins and all other cetaceans are essential members of our marine ecosystem. Please be properly informed and not waste our resource. A broken ecosystem will destroy our air, climate, and life.
As i work in Marine mammal tourism in a area where Hectors Dolphins inhabit i pretty ashamed that this is happing in "clean and green" New Zealand which is meant to be at the forefront of conservational movements, this must be stopped to avoid embarrassment to our nation and its people
the Maui dolphins are too precious a part of our ecosystem to lose
because greed must not be the reason that these dolphins become extinct
We cannot allow them to become extinct
as with all conservational issues unless we make it heard it can just go on unabated or recognised.

We don't want these beautiful animals disappear in the world
This is disgusting. Our government needs to act NOW!
Once they are gone - they can't come back. It's our job to protect these amazing marine creatures! It's our fault they are in this situation!!!!!!!
All marine mammals should have the opportunity to survive and thrive in the oceans!! Come on NZ government...DO SOMETHING BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!!
We are responsible for all life on the planet. We have to take responsibility for the consequences of actions that have previously taken place, which have resulted in the decline of many species and the loss of lives. If it means we have to restrict ourselves, curb our rampant use of natural resources then that is what we do. Do not allow the shame of the loss of the Maui dolphins to be our legacy. Take responsibility extend the protected area and severely punish those who breach it.
We pride ourselves on being a clean green country, yet we can't even make minimum efforts to prevent extinction of an endemic species. It's kind of embarrassing really.
We have already lost so much of the irreplaceable to craven compromise with vested interest .
We have to save the dolphins!!!
These dolphins deserve our support. It's almost criminal (if not completely) to stand by and just let it happen.
This is probably our last chance and theirs
I would hate for Maui's dolphins to follow the fate of the Chinese River Dolphin. What a tragedy that we have to do our best to prevent!
ANIMALS ARE IMPORTANT .THEY HAVE FEELINGS JUST LIKE US.
Because someone with a very sincere heart is fighting very hard to save these wonderful creatures. Man's greed has done enough damage. We need to stop now.
Protect New Zealand's Dolphins. The world is watching.
All the governments should ban any kind of net. No nets in sea water!!
We are the keepers of this earth and have driven these beautiful animals to the brink. Please stop the needless killing.
This Dolphin is threatened with extinction
We cannot let these beautiful animals become extinct. This would be tragic. We must do the right thing and take action NOW to save them. New Zealand government - please help them - the world is watching. Thank you.
I can't just watch and let it happen!!!!
We are living in a very sad world, where so many people don't care about anyone else only themselves!!
keeping god's creation alive is my honest true will! help is needed please!! thank you sir!
I don't understand why a petition is needed for moral obligation. We are a pathetic species and I'm, both, embarrassed and tremendously saddened.
Dolphins are one of the few animals known to be self aware - humans are another. They will be aware when one of their number dies, but only we will know the extent of their plight and only we can do something about it. We go to great lengths to preserve small pockets of indigenous groups of our own self aware species, why not another?
Maui dolphins are our wholeness and beauty; we need them to be whole, please protect these cetaceans and extend their protection, this is so important.
Protect the environment and our nature
lets help our buddies and our beautiful earth!

It is vital for the planets health and vitality that we protect our oceans eco-systems.
I am signing because I care about these fabulous, intelligent creatures. And PLEASE, tell these people: all of us TRAVEL...
We must save all things before they parish. Each generation will suffer for each loss.
National species should be protected from extinction
Even fisheries will profit from an extended marine no take zone, as fish stocks will also replenish.
the Earth & her creatures mean the world to me...
Do whatever is necessary to save what remains of these beautiful creatures!
No animal should be used to extinction! People are the only species that can fix the mess we have made!
We need to stop causing so much stress to, and decimation of, other species.
I'm signing because these creatures are in dire trouble and need help.
There is something worse than any government not providing shelter/funding fully the protection of all our creatures and that is a government pretending to be green and caring but not protecting. I expect the Maui dolphin, in this particular submission, to be protected by all governments on behalf of present and future New Zealanders.
We are simply losing our wildlife way too fast - help these dolphins now - do whatever is necessary.
its time to stand up for all creatures on this planet
Please, you can change the future. We only get a few chances to make it better.
It would be an irremovable blemish on NZ's clean green reputation.
Because we don't own this planet. We have no right to kill off other animals whether deliberately or by omission.
We are all one big family & family takes care of family.
it must stop now one persons present profit or a future for everone
Don't allow the Maui's dolphins to go the way of the Baiji (Yangtze river dolphin). The lives of each one of these animals is precious. Surely the incumbent government of New Zealand would not like the extinction of a species of cetacean to enter the annals of history. It is time to take decisive action 'now' before it is to late.
I am shocked. I thought New Zealand was more sophisticated than this. Protect endangered, intelligent species like the humane people I think you are.
An extension is needed to the existing protected area. Thank you <3
Its time to close the inshore fishery that's been plundered for years...not just the dolphin will benefit... Come on, do the right thing!
There are believed to be less than 80 individuals left... They are just as important as the Kakapo and just as beautiful. In fact I believe the most beautiful dolphin ever! And it's for EVER they will be gone, if nothing is done to help protect them! Please help!!
Extend the protected area - please please please. How dreadful to be the Minister of Primary Industries when the Maui's dolphin becomes extinct, on your watch, because you listened to greedy fishermen. The world is watching, and as a Kiwi I beg of you to do all you can to save them - once they are gone they are gone.....
Please save them before it is too late
I cannot believe that we would allow the world have 7 billion souls and only 55 of this fish
Please, please, please listen to - please act now to protect & preserve these precious incredible wonderful creatures now, before it is too, too, too late.

POYO ESTA PETICION
this is murder.
Every signatures adds a little more weight.
I shared it to my people - it's our mission to help and support animals - in the water, on land and in the air!!
Only 55 breeding adults remain... Do something. Do more. Do it NOW!
Have to do more to save this species before they die out completely. Only 55 left the west coast of New Zealand's North Island.
We must take care of all life. It is a circle we cannot break. Thank you for extending their sanctuary it is the right thing to do. Ta.
Save the Dolphins!!
From many centuries ago and throughout the history of exploration, seafaring, oceanography and marine sciences, it is clear that even as little as a century or so ago, avoiding sealife whilst navigating was not an easy task. Over a decade ago, global fisheries peak capture was recognised and we now find year on year reductions of both CPUE and TAC, yet with increasing regional and localised depletions. Today, some 4.3 million vessels compete to reach quota's with most vessels running at a loss - subsidised by governments. How leadership can overlook simple math, let alone obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020, is not just deplorable, it is insulting to those who understand the principle, and misleading by deception to those unaware. With recommendations left right and centre calling for more extreme measures and rapid fundamental change to fishing practices and technologies, I implore you heed such scientific advice and use this issue as a serious attempt and measurement of success to address the predicted impending issues onset by past and present overfishing and the combined impacts of coastal degradation, habitat fragmentation, sea temperature rise, pollution, ocean acidification, reduced water quality, whilst CO2 mitigation is explored - is this too much to ask? Then get out and give someone else a stab, oh, and take your children with you. Hurry up, we were warned 3-4 decades ago!
These beautiful innocent animals need our help!
With thousands of species going extinct every day on this earth, largely due to mankind's carelessness, the least we can do is try to SAVE THE REMAINING ONES BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE FOR THEM TOO.
Take a bold step to protect these rare mammals from extinction, for all future generations. Eco-tourism and solid policies are always advantageous. Thank you New Zealand.
Porque represento a espécie mamífera mais mortífera à face da terra, e tenho consciência de que somos todos um, mais tarde ou mais cedo, acabaremos igualmente extintos.
They need to be saved asap
Dolphins are such sweet entertaining and happy sea life. Stop hurting dolphins. Leave these beautiful creatures alone. We need for them to recover and reproduce. When will man stop doing stupid things to wildlife.
If we don't help ourselves and those indigenous to this country who will...
Cause I agree killing needs to stop.
Biodiversity is one of the main factors for maintaining a healthy environment. The extension of the existing protected area for Maui's dolphins shouldn't need a strong public support: any government should put their priorities on projects like these in stead of populism.
There is no reason not to sign this petition
To help protect this beautiful creature.

Get your head out of the sand NZ Government!!!
We need to protect marine life before it's too late. We need sea reserves all over the world to protect marine life from over-fishing and pollution. Act now!
I dream of oceans like paradise: clean, impressive and full of colorful life.
The fishing method of trawling should end all around the world. It is such a wasteful method and if something similar occurred on land - let's face it - it would be banned immediately for the amount of destruction caused. This is a chance for New Zealand to take a stance, show initiative and ban trawling throughout the range of the Maui dolphin. Although this is a dramatic ask - the survival of a species must account for something. I urge New Zealand to lead the world in ending the unsustainable fishing method of trawling - starting with the Maui dolphin area. Not just for the good of the Maui dolphin - but for the good of the marine ecosystem - and ultimately, humans.
the more area we put under protection now will help to lessen our impact and hopefully prolong the extinction till we can come up with a way to prevent it. and many more
I love and advocate for all animals around the world, Norm , Native American
These are our own beautiful endemic dolphins - more important than fish and chips!
Do we really want to be witnesses to extinction? How can it be that we still continue to ignore lessons from the past (think Baiji river dolphin).
Humans have caused this, humans can stop this!!
These along with many species are on their way directly caused by man's intervention and lack of thought in their practices.
Why do we have to have strong public support? It should be the government's obligation to protect iconic and beautiful species like this. Why do we time and time again have to put \$\$\$ (ie fisheries income) first.
Too much has been lost from this world due to greed and carelessness. We cannot allow yet another species to disappear and deprive our future generations of having the pleasure of knowing the Hector dolphins.
Because when they are gone it is too late, let's do something now while we still can
My nation and people need to take responsibility for the continuing diversity of the flora and fauna we are privileged to have here.
We must stop with the destructive fishing practices, in all reality we shouldn't be fishing at all. It will be a tragedy to lose these Dolphins, I'm repulsed by what humanity has wrought in the quest for money.
Because this is bullshit these amazing creatures are suffering basically because of human greed.
It would be such a shame to see them fall to extinction due to lack of action!
We must not let another species go extinct! Please protect these animals!
Just kick the damn trawlers out of their range. We need more fish breeding areas anyway to have a more sustainable fishery.
The Maui's' decline is an indictment on the human race. We must change our ways immediately or we will be guilty of annihilating all animals on this beautiful planet
We need to protect these amazing mammals.
To allow an extinction to occur would be a blight upon our stewardship of this earth and ocean.
There is not a single reason why we would not save all and any beautiful mammals
Tomorrow is too late
This dolphin is bordering on becoming extinct. We need to save it for our environment, our children, and for the dolphins themselves. It is not acceptable in 2012

to allow with our full knowledge, the extinction of a species.
We face a short-term economic loss of a few years' worth of fishing in a small area, or a long-term social loss of the rarest marine dolphin on Earth.
While extinction may seem almost inevitable to me in the long run, this does not mean that people should lay down and give up. May we at least preserve this species' existence for as long as possible? Those with the power to act should do so. To abandon an intelligent and wonderful species such as the Maui's Dolphin to die would be an utter waste.
We have a responsibility to all earthkind - can't bear the death and destruction resulting daily from our degraded "civilization".
Just wish people could give all living things a chance in life. Instead of killing them and leaving it for other people to fix.
We must save these rare mammals before they go the way of so many other species.
It makes me ill that such a precious animal can be afforded so little protection when this is so easy to provide. We need to do everything we can to save this species!
Because commercial actors have to face up to associated external effects and adapt practices now
The government to allow overturning of the initial ban extensions is shameful and weak. Why, when there is such strong support from the public majority, does the government allow such blatant economically motivated opposition, the culprits of the induced deaths of maui's dolphin - the fishing industry, to overturn ecologically critical and sound scientifically based proposals? I acknowledge the socio-economic consequences of exclusion for small business based fishery sectors which will be directly affected by these bans, but gillnets and trawling are by NO MEANS the only method of capture which can be used in these sectors. furthermore, S&T will not evolve alternative techniques of fishing for these sectors without an incentive! so implement the bans and give them one!
It is up to you to save this beautiful species. Industry or the planet? We can have both but we need to get smarter.
New Zealand has a pretty good worldwide reputation for conservation. The extinction of any species affects all species, including humans. Please make all efforts to save this incredible fellow mammal! Thanks!
coz dolphins are awesome
This would be essential for Maui's dolphin and to a wider degree the rest of our sea creatures. Specific fishing only.
For every species close to extinction there are dozens at risk and they all need safe breeding grounds and places to feed. Please create a park for these beautiful animals to preserve them for future generations. Thank you.
The government needs to act now, and act decisively. Shame on NZ if the world's rarest dolphin goes extinct.
Because these rare dolphins should be protected and New Zealanders need to take responsibility for making this happen.
The Maui dolphin is a unique part of our ecosystem, and deserves protection. Allow the Maui to become extinct and you upset a small part of the wider balance of our marine life. Stop gill and trawl netting and you save Maui, and stop the wider destruction of our sea bed. It's simple.
Once these beautiful animals are gone, THEY ARE GONE!! WE need to stop this from happening through human greed animals and the environment suffer. save these dolphins before it is too late!
Dolphins are such beautiful creatures I don't want them to become extinct.
because I cannot bear the thought of our world ceasing to coexist with these wonderful beings amongst many other of our species missed and soon to be missed if we don't stop the insanities still ever present in what we call humanity!
We can make a difference if we ALL stand up for these beautiful creatures & many like them. NZ Government, stop thinking about the \$ signs, & do something while we still have the chance!!!Time can't be reversed, once they're extinct!!!!

I'm boycotting fish for the rest of the year if they continue to fish like this.
This was their world first!!
I care for dolphins!
The fact that we are about to loose these beautiful animals due in a large way to human action is absolutely disgusting - especially for NZ a country that takes pride in its "clean, green" image. This is not something we can wait on - action needs to be NOW and it needs to be decisive! These guys deserve every chance they can get!
this is disgusting, why would i wanna come skiing in a country that cares nothing for its land and oceans or species on the brink of extinction.
Extinction is forever! You know the rest...
this is a sad state of affairs when you see beauty like that and the facts to follow are shocking
Now is the time for ALL of US to get involved with protecting marine life for our future generations! Let them see what IS out there, not by looking in a book as to what WAS out there!
Because i believe DEEPLY about this cause!
These are our precious taonga of the waters, and we can't let them get extinct!
Something so easily remedied deserves swift policy change! Do the right thing NZ
Because for mankind the internet has made the world a smaller place, in turn perhaps it can make a small world larger for endangered species.
It would be sad to see a beautiful animal driven to extinction by man in this day and age. More so that it would be in such a stunning a beautiful country such as New Zealand.
Because know one wants to see our beautiful animals become extinct and lessen our biodiversity!!!!!!
e Maui's dolphin live only in New Zealand and are both the smallest and rarest marine dolphins on earth. Entanglement in gill and trawl nets has devastated Hector's and Maui's dolphins to near extinction. Unless things change, Hector's and Maui's dolphins will become extinct.
We need to protect our native flora and fauna from harm
this is crazy, another amazing animal species this close to extinction. IT MUST BE STOPPED!
It seems to allow a wonderful species like the Maui dolphins to become extinct. Why allow it?
Because it is possible to save this animal from extinction if direct action is taken now.
With such a low population every individual is of great importance. Unlike a number of endangered bird species captive breeding is not an option.
Please only you can save this ancient species.
Chill, people; the dolphin in the picture is just sunbathing.
Because I had the privilege of surfing with Maui & Hector's dolphins over the years on the West coast and it is beyond sad that we are allowing this to happen.
There is no more time..please save these poor creatures!
Dolphins Have Rights!
I have enjoyed swimming with Hector's Dolphins wen they visit Kakanui, to think they and more so their cousinthe Maui Dolphin are at risk because of greed is shameful..
MOst impOrtant reasOn....."ONLY 55 LEFT"DO we need any Other!????? Our COuntry will be and is respOnsible fOr this! This is CRAZY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Were

making this beautiful species EXTINCT!!!! We live in NZ, we should be living sustainably. Absolute Madness that we have to petition to our own country. NZ Minister Of Primary Industries ACT NOW. Or live with this on your conscience forever

It's about time New Zealand stood by its 'clean green - 100% pure' branding. If we screw this one up, the world will know it's all a facade.

Born in NZ and proud of the heritage of respecting the environment (e.g. no nuclear power or weapons), and establishing marine reserves.

To forsake an eternity of existence for a few jobs in one lifetime is morally incorrect, spiritually wrong, selfish, and just hard out NAH

I am amazed that I never even heard about it when the Yangtze river dolphin went extinct 5 years ago, until today. It frightens and saddens me that the Maui dolphin is so close to coming to the same fate, and for similar reasons (different industries, but for the sake of money all the same). Please do whatever can be done to stop this from happening.

Because animals don't have a voice that we listen to and they deserve someone to stand up for them

It is sad that even Dolphin species are facing extinction

Because enough is enough!

Extinction is FOREVER... Does NZ really want to be responsible for this... come on.

to prevent the Maui's dolphins from extinction

This is disgusting treatment of such a beautiful creature ..STOP NOW!!!!

extinction of these dolphins must be avoided.

David Carter. Your time is up. The world is watching, and we are not OK with you or your refusal to do the right thing. You will regret this for the rest of your life. We know that all you care about is money because your comments in countless news stories demonstrate that clearly---just like with any business---revenues are based on supply and demand. We can remove the demand, and quite willing to do so. We can remove huge demand not just for precious fishing industry but for all export industry from NZ and tourism and movies too if need be. You will be hearing from us. We are prepared to fight you and we will win. You can avoid this fight, and the extinction of a species, by doing the right thing. If you are so arrogant as to think you can get away with this, you are grossly, profoundly off your rocker. You forget that every consumer counts, and you forget how beloved dolphins are. You not just a bad man, Mr. Carter, you are also a very foolish one. Wake up.

I would like our human influence on this planet not to be the most dominant thing, thinking of everything as a resource for our use and exploitation. Let's have respect and admiration and try to preserve what might otherwise be lost to us - imagine a world in the future otherwise where our grandchildren wouldn't know what a Maui dolphin is!

David Carter. Your time is up. The world is watching, and we are not OK with you or your refusal to do the right thing. You will regret this for the rest of your life. NZ is a small island that depends on the rest of the world to make the money it makes---just like with any business---revenues are based on supply and demand. We can remove the demand, and quite willing to do so. We can remove huge demand not just for fishing but for all export industry from NZ, and tourism and movies too if need be. You will be hearing from us soon. We are prepared to fight you and we will win. You can avoid this fight, and the extinction of a species, by doing the right thing. If you are so arrogant as to think you can get away with this, you are grossly, profoundly misinformed. You forget that every consumer counts, and you forget how beloved dolphins are. You not just a bad man, Mr. Carter, you are also a very foolish one. Wake up.

Once these beautiful creatures are extinct, they are gone forever! It's already happened to too many others, and it's got to stop!

How could this even be a question? This rarest of dolphins is becoming extinct, their numbers plummeting right before your very eyes. YES, stop the nets. Stop WHATEVER one must stop, do WHATEVER it takes to protect them. They are a world and national treasure and NZ has the responsibility to shepherd them!

Caring more, not less.
Swift action to protect these dolphins is needed otherwise they will become extinct
Inaction is inexcusable.
Unless we act now this fellow creature will become extinct
I'm signing this petition because every living being should have a right to live.
Surely we live in a world where the annihilation of ANY species can be avoided. Especially one proven far more intelligent than us. Proof undeniable that the ability to create wonderful technology is a lifetime away from the ability to use it for its greatest purpose.
You have the power to make good decisions to save the Maui's dolphin. Stopping human-induced deaths would be a wonderful first step towards helping this critically endangered species.
Seriously, what a stupid question!
I cannot believe the government has not extended the existing protected area already.
Once they are gone, they are gone! Please, please help them! Before it is too late!
I support the protection of these animals, that they continue to be around for years to come.
To help protect the dolphins!
WE HAVE TO TRY BEFORE ITS TOO LATE-
Too precious to lose!!!!!!!!!!
No species on this planet deserve to be driven to extinction! Whatever is necessary to ensure that these dolphin are able to recover should and must be done!
ITS INHUMANE WHY WOULD I NEED TO STATE A REASON ITS OBVIOUS ISN'T IT ??
Extinction is forever
To stop the slaughter of innocent mammals!
because i believe quick action must be taken to save this dolphin from extinction .
we must take care about earth now , or it will be too late ...
I just saw a news flash this morning where it`s predicted ALL of our tigers in the wild will be extinct in 12 years. Is this the way it`s going to be? One by one.
they must be saved, how could any government allow a species to become extinct? Ignorance?
I love Maui Dolphins!
Extinction of any and all endemic and indigenous is a genocide on all of us
We need to act very quickly before it is too late
We need to protect these beautiful creatures before it is too late and learn from the mistakes of our past (extinction of species from human impact). To do nothing, simply watch the Maui dolphin cease to exist would be disgusting and goes against what us Kiwis stand for
I find is disgusting that as a Clean & Green nation that we are letting these dolphins become extent. Spending 2.5million on legal for the Urewera raids was a complete waste of time and resources. Imagine what 2.5mill could do for the maui dolphins

Govt needs to act now, Nick Smith has gone, maybe now we can get change? 22/03/12
New Zealand has always been a world leader in conservation ... Now the rivers are poisoned and native fish gone for ever ... You have a chance to save these wonderful dolphins if you act NOW ... Don't let NZ become notorious for crimes against wildlife !!!
love of dolphins and want to see my govt do the right thing!
I love animals and no species existing today should ever become extinct especially when measures can be taken to prevent it. because of stupid commercial fisherman with their nets!
i need the New Zealand Government to take immediate emergency action to extend the set net ban and extend the marine reserves to try and rescue this sub-species from extinction..
So important to keep this unique species of dolphin alive!
This cannot be allowed to happen their habitat should be made into a Marine National Parks an they should be monitored 24X7 to make sure that all the pod is safe they have been here for thousands of years and what have humans done brought them to this state just to sad to think about make this situation history for future generations
taking responsibility.
We are able to stop the extinction of a endemic species, it needs to be done. To Save the Maui Dolphin from extinction
The government needs to do more. Use your legislative powers and act to save the MÄ ui dolphins. Have you no shame!?
Because we as humans cannot cause the extinction of any species or subspecies or maybe species, none.
For my children
Yes, the world is watching. Extinction is forever.
We can't be so pro saving whales yet let something like this die out in our own backyards! If anyone has had the pleasure of encountering a pod, they will know that they are extraordinary creatures!
I love dolphins!
Oceanwise programs change how we fish for consumption. There is no reason with how fast technology can change and educate that we can not change how we fish for a living.
because Im a bodyboarder who loves mother nature n our oceans
Because we need to start thinking about helping the rest of the world out if we (the human race) wish to continue living here.
All animals deserve the right to exist. We should consider this and respect their environment. We can fish else where! They can't live else where.
Because my niece and nephew deserve to see these guys in our beautiful oceans.
Dolphins are better than money
These Dolphins are just as uniquely kiwi as any of our flightless birds. Seems its ok to allow their extinction in-order to keep some fishermen happy, it's disgusting & shameful esp considering farmers & dog owners are made to bend to allow for Kiwi/ native bird survival.
because i lived in new zealand for 2 years, my partner is kiwi and when we plan to return we would like it to be to all the marine life that was there when we left

To save the most beautiful surfing dolphin in the world!
Because I'm concerned about losing a species.
They are much more valuable than all the money in the world.
Please please please these beautiful dolphins are almost gone, give them a chance to survive.
How many more species are we gonna allow to become extinct before we wake up and do something. This world cannot take care of us if we do not take care of it, we will become extinct.
i love dolphins and we need to protect them!
I am signing because this Must stop... My Heart Breaks ... I cry out to G-d but the only thing I can do in this world is sign a Petition... its not enough Diana Dodson
I believe it is extremely important to do everything we can to protect these very special dolphins. They are amazing creatures and are unique to New Zealand. The Maui dolphins need our help as they are on the brink of extinction. I fully support extending their protected area. I really hope that you are able to follow this petition through and do more to help protect the Maui Dolphins!
Once these beautiful beings are gone...that's it! :'(
I have studied these beautiful mammals and understand the need to save this species.
Signing because it is the right thing to do.
Extinction is near..Please stop !
Please help save these rare dolphins - thank you
The Kaipara Harbour was my home, it should be more protected, those dolphins deserve better than extinction! Fishing is one thing abusing our resources and destroying other living species in the process is another. I demand something be done about it now!
The World is watching !
I care about dolphins destiny around the globe.
Must act now, because once they are gone it is too late...
Something needs to be done before it's too late.
I believe strongly in the conservation of animals & natural environment.
Something has to be done to save these beautiful animals!
We've already lost a river dolphin in China. Why should we lose another dolphin, when all that is required is to ban the use of trawls and gillnets in the Maui dolphins' range? I applaud the New Zealand government's decision to extend the protected area for the dolphins.
The world has to step in to save these poor dolphins who live around 'clean, green' New Zealand. Put your wildlife first john key and national govt.
It shouldn't be in the power of men to extinct other species than itself.
I am signing, because their is absolutely no reason for mankind to let any other creature or plant go extinct. Especially these beautiful dolphins.
OVER FISHING AND BIG TRAWLER FISHING IS KILLING OF ALL OF THE WORLS SEA LIFE AND IT HAS TO STP
Preserve the natural life!
Gill and trawl nets can be replaced with better options.

I am a lover of all creatures and these non human people need to be saved!
because i love the earth!
I live in the islands and love the people, the land, the ocean and all animals...
Because I care about what happens to this planet, even if it doesn't directly affect me
There IS no time to 'decide' if more measures are needed: The whole world can see more measures should already have been implemented. You KNOW the right thing to do is to at least stop further harming of these dolphins, so please do it fast! You still have time to walk out in triumph as people who act instead of dither. Please save these dolphins NOW?
We need to be good shepherds of our oceans & earth - what better place to show that care than with the Maui dolphins.
Industry uses the OCEAN as a toxic dump site: http://www.ecodelmar.org/pcb
Acredito que a forsa de todos ns, salve em parte o meio animal, tanto os golfinhos, como o resto.
These dolphins are overdue the right to survival and protection. Give them that right before it's too late
Can you? Will you? Would you... PLEASE? Why allow transitory profit to wipe out a beautiful animal from it's existence on our planet? Will you allow this on you watch? I certainly hope you will do all you can to prevent it!! Thank You!!!!
Carelessness bringing extinction to a small remnant of Dolphins is NOT acceptable; please take the necessary steps to assure survival of this species. For extinction is NOT just a word, it means that the Children and Grandchildren will learn in future schools what roles their parents played who had the means to make the difference. So please Mr. David Carter think about the future generations and how proud you will make them for being on the team who cared enough to assure they have wild sea mammals so unique to only New Zealand. Life is precious and divine and deserves conservation when so direly endangered. Thank You most kindly Sir for understanding we are thinking of the future for all life on earth. .
La disparition d'une espce est toujours catastrophique.
To save the world, one action at a time. Words are like gusts of wind, soon forgotten when everything has calmed down. Too many of the bold actions are being taken by the wrong people for the wrong reasons.
I used to see them when out surfing when i was younger from time to time...not anymore
Something MUST be done!
The people who choose fisherman over this severely endangered species are making a huge, permanent, and irresponsible mistake. It can't be taken back.
The biodiversity is essential for the life on earth! we have to protect the other species!
These are some of the most beautiful sea mammals out there. It shocks me that I have been swimming and surfing with such an endangered, yet playful, species.
Once lost we lose an irretrievable part in the balanced bio-diversity of this planet. As custodians we must demonstrate responsibility to the other creatures on Earth
Humans will be the reason for the extinction of all the beautiful animals on earth - I hope we can make a change before it is to late ;-(
we should respect all life and they have the right to live!!
To protect the sea life and the most intelligent one's: The dolphin.
Please extend the protective area so that the Maui dolphin doesn't go extinct. We must protect all living things, and not allow the careless use of gillnets to be the cause of their extinction.
I want to help protect an endangered species.

No animals should suffer or find themselves extinct because of humankind. Also, I love dolphins.
The reason is obvious; they need protection.
How could you not??
55 left....every one should sign in....to many of us, and just 55 dolphin....
Banning gillnets should not even be an issue and should have been done already! Protect these beautiful mammals before it is too late. Once they are gone - they are gone forever! Do the right thing now and thank you. Please help us here in NJ - 450 families are already living in poison - who else may be in the future with further testing? Sign and share and thank you for caring. Stop DuPont Chemical from Poisoning New Jersey Families - http://www.change.org/petitions/stop-dupont-chemical-from-poisoning-new-jersey-families
Save this beautiful majestic species!! Dolphins are the "people" of the sea!!!
We've recently returned from Maui and had the opportunity to experience the amazing marine life there. These Dolphins are a big part of their culturei and deserve to be protected.
Extinction is forever~
To save our humanity.
to save these beautiful dolphins
Live and let live. We share this planet together, It's all we have. It's that simple
We cannot allow this and any other species to become extinct.
Save the Dolphins any way we can!!!!
PLEASE, Mr. Carter. Please protect our dolphins. Thank you.
These amazing animals need help, let's do something positive to make a difference.
Who doesn't love Dolphins??
We are the keepers of our Earth...we need to step up!!!
Extinction is imminent and I have seen the Maui dolphin off the coast of NZ.
New Zealand needs to protect its fragile dolphin species. I will not travel to NZ until its fishing policies change and protect these dolphins.
ITS A WHITE, CLEAR AND SUNNY SUNDAY
The right thing to do!
NZers are accountable if we do nothing to save this important marine mammal. We are turning our heads and it's time we took action to stop the practices that will destroy this species
I spend 3 months of the year in Hawaii and have gained more knowledge and respect for the creatures of the sea. It is my belief that dolphins are the "humans" of the sea. They are smart and social and want to communicate with us. Please extend the protected area and preserve these beings. If they are gone, we will never have the opportunity to know them better and they have a right to live and thrive in the ocean.
Because it's so important!!! We do have whales in Quebec too, that are in jeopardy..... and we do live on the same planet!! xXXXXOo

Responsibility for loss of anything remains with us. Not doing anything is a flagrant demonstration of all that is bad about humans.
Because the human species is the only species that has the power to prevent extinction as well as cause it.
because we need to be the voice for those that cannot speak for themselves
Dolphins are intelligent mammal's that deserve to be protected!
Because I am concerned about this species. I don't what it to get extinct.
What can be done to save this very special and very rare species?: AS both Maui.s and Hector's dolphins are on the brink of extinction, Maui's, more so, we need a better management of fishing for one. Another is to stop polluting/littering the sea with our rubbish. Perhaps we should ban all fishing activities in the regions where both Hector's and Maui's roam. Just like WWF's slogan reads: "Once they are gone, they are gone forever!"
High urgency!
Please save them! Hon David Carter, if you are a compassionate man, you will help save these dolphins!
I lived on Maui for 13 years, we have to save the Dolphins
Because I believe we should live in harmony with the nature and all living creatures.
I love Cetaceans & I hate industrialized over-fishing!!
Because we have already lost too many species. Humanity needs to take responsibility for its actions on the planet!
We are the problem AND the solution.
a prime minister that doesn't care about wildlife doesn't care about anything ,is not fit to stand in office
Because to lose a species is to lose a fellow inhabitant, population which is vital to this planet....
protection of the whales, to have them for our kids & grandchildren!
I'm asking the NZ Minister of Primary Industries to step in and ban destructive fishing practices.
Because i so love dolphins and nobody should ever hurt them any animal they are all gods creatures !!
Defending environmental friendly lifestyle, supporting societies on other principles than overconsumption.
If I have to explain why I sign this, then there's no point.
free dive free spirit!!!!
Hawai'i has lost so many of her beautiful birds and animals due to human greed or just plain ignorance. THIS MUST STOP NOW. These mammals must be protected before they too join that long list of formers inhabitants of this planet of which we can show picturesf to our children and grandchildren. Have we no shame (or conscience)?
Because it is our responsibility as leading mammals on this planet.. We need these other species and will benefit from having them around.
There is no time to hesitate! The reasons for this imminent catastrophe as well as the remedies and actions needed to possibly save these dolphins are known and scientifically documented.
top of the page explain it all, there is no other reasons why we shouldn't save these beautiful animals.
I Love Life in this Planet!

I would like generations after mine to be able to experience these beautiful creatures.
Let's not witness the loss of another beautiful animal.
its not fair that nature dies for human greed
Environmental stability requires diversity. If you keep letting entire species disappear too quickly, before new ones can evolve, we will end up with a hopeless situation and terrible consequences for all living things including humans. It takes millions of years to bring in a new species but man is killing them off in just a few decades. Act quickly, please.
We all must act NOW - tomorrow is too late
My heart aches to hear this, and I wish to support any attempt to save this wonderful species.
Because we have to
The Maui dolphins deserve protection as an endangered species.
I am signing this petition because it is our job as caretakers of the land and sea to protect these rare and beautiful creatures. Their demise is solely at the hand of humans which means we can fix it, we can change this.
Because in my next life I want to be a marine mammal and sign a petition to "save the humans"!
I signed because I'm hoping that when countries like NZ and others stand up and say enough is enough that countries like Japan might, just might, say okay maybe it is about time we started caring for other species more.
Save them!!
It's such a small and simple gesture but every little contribution counts... hopefully it will make the government realise that not all NZers think \$ is the most important thing in life
The loss of such a beautiful creature would certainly be NZ's loss, we cannot stand by and let this happen because a few fishermen might get disgruntled.....this is EXTINCTION we are talking about!!!!
Something has to be done about NOW! Otherwise, the Maui dolphin will go the way of the Chinese river dolphin.
Logic really
New Zealand needs these dolphins as does the world. When population numbers are so low governments do not have time to procrastinate...its really that simple.
After swimming with wild spinner dolphins I feel a moral responsibility to help protect wild dolphins. All New Zealand fish have been struck off my shopping list until the NZ government takes swift and decisive action to protect their remnant dolphin populations
There is no time left.
Because I don't want to see Maui's Dolphins extinct. We're killing enough wild-life as it is!!!
There are just too many things that we are destroying on this beautiful Earth that we share with so many other creatures... It has to stop, before there is nothing left. Are we so short-sighted and blinded by our own selfishness, that we don't care at all? I certainly hope not...
I have surfed near them and would be devastated if they became extinct
I cant believe that we even have to sign a petitionyou would Think that as human's we would already know right from wrong and have respect for all living things and also know the importance of all living things
Because New Zealanders should care about the species that live in our water. Come on New Zealand government it is your job to protect our most vulnerable

species.
SAVE THE DOLPHINS , THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE AS MUCH AS ANY ONE OR ANYTHING
a shame - cruel and inhumane
how can civilized people agree to this terrible behavior !!!
Maui dolphins are indigenous to the world. It is critically important that we ensure this beautiful dolphin doesn't become extinct.
i have 3 maui dolphins tattooed on my arm i hope that its not about an extinct species. if the set nets are not banned from the maui dolphin range of coastline there will soon be too few to breed from .genetic mutations will occur as gene pool is reduced..may need to introduce the south island Hector's dolphin to the maui to strengthen gene pool.?
90% of their kind already lost...try explaining to your grandchildren that you had a part in their final demise, quite frankly, anyone with a "good spirit" couldn't, could they? Not the legacy I would leave behind !!!
EXTINCTION IS FOREVER. GET IT?
I have a keen interest in the marine world and would hate to see the extinction of such a rare species.
the who of us that care, we need to do what we can to save the Maui's dolphin, if we don't help they will die all together and it would be humans fault.
...WHEN OF A SPECIES REMAINS ONLY 55 UNITS MEANS THAT IS THE END OF SPECIES...I THOUGHT THAT NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT WAS NEAR TO THE PROBLEM OF SEA BUT.....
We need to protect our environment
NZ, don't be stupid, be an example! Yes, the world is watching you.
Please give these dolphins all the help they need now, before it is too late. Once they are lost ,we can never get them back.
New Zealand has a 100% Pure New Zealand image so why don't we turn this tourism mantra into a reality and put conservation top of the list. We must look urgently at alternative fishing methods to save our wildlife.
This Is Important. Extinction is imminent.
It is highly time, that we save life, instead of destroying it !
Dolphins bring joy to all that encounter them - I think we owe something back.
The decline in species diversity is a sure sign that what we human beings are creating is our own death knell.
Such beautiful animals should not become extinct when it can be prevented so easily. They add so much to the beauty and positive energy around the world. Please help them. Thank you.
I'm signing this petition in hopes of inducing New Zealand to protect the remaining Maui's Dolphin.
To protect the endangered Maui dolphin and New Zealand as a destination for eco-tourism.
Because I believe in the cause & want to support the fight to stop the needless & senseless massacre of such a beautiful & peaceful creature by those whose only concern is raping our oceans for profit & greed. Currently the NZ Government supports this by turning their backs & looking the other way, I would like the Government to make a stand, to see the impact that this is having on our fragile economy, by gradually destroying the eco surroundings of our country we as a nation are so dependent on. Time to wake up & think to the future of our children & what we are intending to leave them!
A simple glance at an animal can speak a great language but when you open your minds to actually get out there and care for them, they will soon return the

favor.
We are the reason that they are in this mess.
Extinction is forever
55 left, what???????, this should have been handled when their numbers got below 1000!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
John Key has to be stopped. We need a responsible government who understands that you cannot take Australia's mining model and apply it to a country not even a quarter of the size of Australia. New Zealand is about the wilderness, the tourism, not mining. John Key has his head in the very sand that he is going to allow to be mined. He is using an old outdated capitalist model which has been proven many a time to be ineffective. John, WAKE UP!!
Because we in New Zealand don't seem to care about the fate of our animals and marine life - especially since the National Government has come to power
Urgent action is required to prevent loss of this species.
j'aime les dauphins et je prie pour que le respect qu'ils nous tÃ©moignent leur soit doublement rendu!
These Maui dolphins need help. Like hell i'm just gonna sit by and watch them die!
It is very important that we save Maui's dolphins and all marine mammals from extinction. Please save the dolphins!
To protect the dolphins
I can't imagine why you would need to ask that question!!
Some things are worth fighting for!!!!
It is the way of my ancestor's to protect nature.
Trawling and the use of gillnets must be banned near these dolphins domain.
Many mammals are as clever as us, we must not persecute or abandon them just because they don't speak our language.
it is high time we give something back to mother nature. These animals are in danger and the NZ government can help them. Please protect the Maui's Dolphin.
As avid scuba divers, we want our children to be able to experience the same wonders in the World's oceans, as we have.
Commercial fishers need to be held responsible for their impact on our marine reserves. Hopefully it is not too late to save these very rare dophins that are unique to our waters.
I've swum with dolphins and I've been in boats while dolphins have swum with us - it's amazing to see. If the Maui dolphins become extinct, which breed would be next? Not only sad for dolphins and the people that wouldn't have the opportunity to appreciate them, but also surely it can't be good for our eco system?
Extinction is forever!
Seriously!!?! Are the National Government THAT freakin EVIL that they do not care one iota about the extinction of this incredibly beautiful, ONLY in NZ magically gorgeous creature?!?! Fishermen have THOUSANDS of miles of coastline where this animal does NOT live to plunder, & it is ONLY the set nets that need to be banned in the area, for shame on this pansy assed, greedy, lily livered govt if they do not do this NOW! By the way National you could actually score some much needed environmental kudos for doing this ONE very simple thing, at the mo you are known as total corporate whores with absolutely ZERO care or action on ANY environmental issues, NZers actually CARE HUGELY about their nature & environment & with this you could actually stand up & point to this very simple & achievable one thing that YOUR govt DID, as a sign to NZers that you actually are human beings & give a damn about this country like the rest of us do. Come ON, grow some balls National, do something strong, right & praiseworthy for ONCE!!
Life is more important than money.
Because it is outrageous that we even need a debate on the survival of our Tutumairekurai o Maui, our special ocean dwellers. If we fail now it is goodbye

FOREVER to our claim of being 100% pure NZ!
At the brink of extinction, for the sake of Maui's dolphins gill and trawl nets MUST be banned throughout their range!!!! Save these rarest marine dolphins on Earth!!!!!!
We are about to wipe out a species forever, and can choose not to. We must take responsibility for our consumption.
Well why wouldn't I be signing for this very good cause? I am sick to death of the sea and its inhabitants being plundered to extinction for any reason, least of all corporate profit!
This kind of wasteful slaughter brings shame on those who allow it to continue.
Im signing for these dolphins to have a 'safe haven' bc its the least we can do to help them survive. We are literally sucking the life out of our earth with our need to over consume/ over populate/ over produce. Its disgusting. And unfortunately man kind will not stop until there is nothing left unless we continue to fight for the species that have no words.
As a proud New Zealander I would love NZ to lead the world in conservation action. These beautiful creatures deserve our attention.
They should have been more protected a long time ago!
what's going on out there is what's going on in here... One planet for one human kind
Humans don't deserve this gorgeous earth we live on. The plight of Maui's dolphins, thanks to humans, is proof enough. WE ought to be come extinct.
we MUST do as much as we can to protect our environment and species.
Maui Dolphins are the rarest on earth, Im sick n tired of our beautiful creatures entrusted to us worldwide... disappear!..the fishing industry should be accountable ..too much taking..this is a crime..and i cannot sit back a watch anymore..soon i will stop eating fish..in disgust.. to seeing these amazing mammals disregarded as garbage..let the living live!! freely.... no more " SLAUGHTER!!!!
These dolphins are in urgent need of help to survive. It's shocking to learn that the numbers have been so critical for so long and the main cause of death is well known, & yet nothing has been done to protect them! It's unbelievable that we have to resort to frantically signing petitions in a last minute dash to save the few that are left.
to save our earth environment and lovely/ freindly marine animals for our present and future generations.
because they have the same right to live like the rest of humans. we can not do this to our planet.. and is time to make a very big and radical change . I prefer to live in harmony freedom and peace the rest of my life and i dont know why, but i think that the dolphins want the same.
THERE IS SUCH INCREDIBLE LIFE IN OUR OCEANS....WE MUST PROTECT THEM!
i am a marine biology major and am extremely concerned about our oceans and the beautiful creatures that live in them. each and every individual species is important to our oceans and should not be lost due to carelessness, neglect and gluttony.
this is a terrible tragedy and the NZ government needs to extend the protected area today... not because of 8000 signatures but because its their environmental responsibility.
PREVENT DOLPHINS' MORTALITY IN MAUI. PLEASE SIGN THIS PETITION TO PREVENT THE GILL AND TRAWL NETS, THE CAUSE OF THEIR DANGER.
The dolphin population has much to teach us yet we remain impervious to their collective plight of "management": slaughter, terror, slavery, familial/social disregard, psychological trauma, breeding programs, separation anxiety.....etc. Indiscriminant fishing is an abhorrent and barbaric practice. As a result of its continuance, one of our most intelligent, sensitive and complex species is doomed unless immediate intervention is embraced. Stop....please....the use of trawling and gillnets. Susan Gorris, British Columbia, Canada

I don't want these exquisite creatures to become something my children look at in a museum and say wow I wish I could have met one of those!
I & hearts; dolphins!!!
It would be a great loss to have these dolphins become extinct. It doesn't have to happen but it is close. There are things that must be done NOW. PLEASE, I implore you to get rid/BAN the gill and trawl nets. Do extend the existing protected area.
The destruction of a species is just wrong, especially a beautiful creature like this. We're not talking about Snakeheads here..
because the human impact on this world sucks
As a native Floridian I have seen first-hand the results of mankind's ignorant misuse of our precious natural resources for commercial purposes, and I am horrified by the relentless destruction of fragile habitats and the escalating mortality rates of once-plentiful marine mammals such as the Maui's dolphin.
Animals are also part of us. We need them more than they need us
To save the Maui dolphin from extinction and show my support for extending the existing protected area and ban trawling and the use of gillnets throughout their range.
Though I live far from the ocean, I still care about what happens to animals, wherever they may be. Let us do everything we can to ensure their existence. I am standing up to be one of their protectors.
we must protect defenceless animals, if they disappear, we, human beings, will be in danger too.
With so Few Left they need to be Saved before they are Extinct!
New Zealand has already led the way globally in establishing successful Marine Protected Area's and championing the importance of marine wildlife protection. Extend this protection to the Maui Dolphin a beautiful animal that can be saved if you act now! Lisa Clarke, Marine Vertebrate Zoologist, UK
To help this group of animals
saving one species at a time
It is our responsibility to look after the earth and show respect with how we interact with all the actions that we do on earth. My family of six was taking a vacation to New Zealand but we will not go until this is taken seriously. Whenever we take a vacation we go to places that are doing their part in looking after the environment around them. It is not hard to find amazing places that are being responsible and it is our responsibility to help support these places. Please don't take the typical government route of lip service, be forward thinking and think outside the box. Once a species is gone, there is no looking back, taking for granted the animals and plants put on this earth is a serious issue.
Not only as a scuba diver but as someone who wants to protect the good things that are on our planet.
We love dolphins and they love us, it is time to recognize all living beings as ourselves and care for each other first. The NZ government and all governments need to establish laws protecting all life.
Elimination is a crime... They do not harm anything and contribute to our world. Life needs to be honoured and our children need to be taught this lesson otherwise they will continue the cycle of destruction rather than honouring life.
Endangered animals need protection
Because its vital we do what we can whilst species can be saved - and not leave it too late!
Extinction is forever and there are no second changes. We must act now! Implement immediate emergency responses and then debate with the fishing industry. There is no time for political wangling. This is urgent - don't you guys get it?!
I love dolphins.

I can't believe the New Zealand Govt won't act or do everything in their power without a set number of signatures but I also don't want to have to explain to my grandchildren why we sat back and did nothing to save these beautiful dolphins
The WORLD is watching New Zealand's government actions on the Maui's dolphins matter. Please don't let the good image of your country be wounded by not extending the existing protected area. Make the right decision!
Protect precious dolphins and all marine life - the world depends on you, NZ, to do the RIGHT thing.
me gustan los delfines, una especie como esta en peligro de extinci3n requiere una acci3n urgente para protegerla
Once they're gone, there's no going back. The NZ government needs to walk the talk.
These beautiful mammals must be preserved. There are plenty of places to fish elsewhere and allow these dolphins to re-populate their breed.
There must be a ban on fishing in waters of their habitat, and stiff penalties to those not freeing the species from their nets when and if they are caught. Better communication to fleets and ships captains of the dangers involved, and of their responsibility to endangered species.
In today's technology there is no rhyme or reason for ANY animal or Marine Life to go into extinction at all, we can clone sheep and make babies in a petri dish but WE CAN'T keep a entire group from going extinct,,,
Humans have to stop other humans from destroying our beautiful planet and the animal and plant life on it
because its the right thing to do
Everything needs to be done to save these animals - NOW!
Justice
They don't deserve to die
Extinction is not reversible. These creatures are worth more than money. We must alert the fisheries, help them to stop the killing of these rare animals. act immediately
Protected marine areas are vital to the survival of many rare & endangered sea species. We must do all we can to protect as much as we can.
ALWAYS REMEMBER "WHY ARE WE CONDITIONED TO BELIEVE WHAT WE ARE LED TO BELIEVE ? WHY DO WE CONTINUALLY SANCTION THE TERRIBLE ACTIONS OF OTHERS THROUGH OUR INACTION? WHEN WILL COMMON SENSE PREVAIL BEFORE TOO LATE IS REALLY TOO LATE" - GJK ' WE NEED TO SAVE THE MAUI DOLPHINS BEFORE HUMANITY WILL BE FORCED TO REMEMBER ANOTHER FALLEN TRAGIC LEGACY OF TOO LATE BEING TOO LATE.!!
This must not be allowed to happen, in the 21st century. Has history taught you nothing? Will you not realize the worlds eyes and ears are upon you? Don't let this happen, future generations will be ashamed of their ancestors and that is YOU!!!
I grew up in the best place in the world on the west coast Kariotahi, and these are some of my best kiwi friends :(
Because something needs to be done, its appalling that they have let the numbers get so low in the first place. Something should have been done ages and I hope that they take this seriously. There should be massive fines for anyone fishing who hurts or injures one of these lovely animals.
Enough already. Is a fish diet that critical? If so, start breeding farms on land, not ocean. Only when the fishing stops, will the species of the oceans be safe
Because those species should be protected. Because we have to find new ways to keep interacting with the planet and other species living here without killing them all.
I am president of the Australian Underwater Federation, the government recognised body here in Australia for all underwater sports activities. We have a deep understanding of the delicate eco systems that support all sea creatures, there is no argument that can sustain the continued use of trawl nets as a safe option for

commercial fishing. Please NZ show that you are true world class citizens in protection of your marine environment and save these wonderful creatures.
enough is enough, action has to be taken for this dolphins future
i love dolphins
http://current.com/community/91825903_scientists-say-dolphins-should-be-treated-as-non-human-persons.htm
Maui's dolphins are amazing creatures - New Zealand Aotearoa cannot afford the dubious honour of being the first country in the world to have an oceanic dolphin species become extinct through human impact.
Because every day man pushes yet another species fighting for its life, close to extinction, purely out of greed.
Protection of the rarest dolphin on Earth is a moral duty of the nation of New Zealand.
There is no excuse with our awareness today of past extinctions.
I am a diver and can see the base line has moved for many species. Maui's dolphins are at the extreme end of the spectrum with so few individuals left. The numbers are so low that we need to remove any potential threat now and set netting and gill netting are known threats. Please stop netting in Maui's dolphin habitat areas.
Because these beautiful creatures are more in harmony and in tune with this planet than we humans will ever be. We can continue to conquer and destroy the other life forms we share this earth with or we can work 1000+++ harder to salvage, save and rescue what we have left.
Being a proud New Zealander, I am signing this petition because, apart from my love of Maui and Hector's dolphins, I don't wish to witness the first indigenous animal extinction in my lifetime.
Please don't let these dolphins die out, don't let Clean, Green NZ lose these dolphins forever. time to put nature before industry!!
The Maui dolphin does not need to be one of the world's rarest species if we are able to act swiftly to put an immediate ban on harmful fishing techniques and offer protection. No doubt this is a watershed species that is symbolic to the effects that gill netting and trawling have on our world's delicate ecosystems.
We can choose to condemn them to extinction or save them as our evolutionary contemporaries I choose the latter..
Protecting Maui's dolphins by banning use of nets and trawling throughout their range is an action that the government can easily undertake. There is no valid reason not to implement these measures to ensure that the permanent destruction of this species does not occur. The marginal benefits to fishermen of using these techniques in the dolphin's range pale in comparison to the cost of the possible extinction of this species. The dolphin has bequest value, existence value, and ecological value that should not be ignored. The time for New Zealand's government to act is now.
If we in NZ don't do something to save and repopulate the species it's very likely that this will cripple 100%PureNZ brand we've taken so long to build and promote. Extinction is forever! We simply can not afford to be recorded in history as the first developed nation to cause the extinction of any species or its sub-species in the 21st century. It would be catastrophic if we were further found to be guilty of this extinction for the sake of commercial gain. The perceived gain for commercial fishing would be only be short lived because if we continue to over-fish the worlds seas at current rates there will be little left by 2050. We can make changes NOW that we can see the benefit of in our own lifetime, as well as that of future generations. It starts here with our signatures to save the first of many threatened sea species.
These poor mammals need the help of their "fellow mammals!"
These dolphins are going extinct because New Zealand will not enforce its own environmental laws. Why? Money, pure and simple. This will be your legacy for the remainder of human history if you refuse to act - a species of dolphin consigned to extinction for money. It's not worth it.
How many more amazing and beautiful species do we have to loose from this precious planet? If the New Zealand government will not protect the

whales/cetaceans in the Antarctic New Zealand territory, then here is a golden opportunity to do something right off the NZ coast. The fate of the last Maui's dolphins rests in your hands, please act now NZ Gov. Each second that goes by is a second where another dolphin could be trapped in a fisherman's net and another second closer to extinction.
It just doesn't make sense that the leaders of NZ could allow this to happen. Surely they are intelligent and caring people??
because these animals need our protection.
there is enough extinctions in this world already, we don't need any more!
Our planet needs all wild life to be protected, there is far too much ignorance amongst all of us to make things happen properly, hopefully I will help make an impact.
I believe that we need to act now and save the Maui Dolphin before it is too late and gets to the point of unnecessary and unfortunate extinction. Through banning, trawling and gillnets within and beyond the Maui Dolphin range, and also the extension of the protected area is a great start in the recovery of this rare and beautiful dolphin.
we need to save this beautiful species it would be very sad if it comes to a time where there is no more
Endangered or not, dolphins, whales, even sharks for that matter shouldn't be killed for simply living in its own habitat. But this case is critical, us humans must repair what we have done to this species.
Do unto others as you would have them do unto you...all living souls belong to each other...if you destroy one living soul...you destroy all others as well...for we all live within the spirit of life...live and let live!
Because no species should become extinct due to our intentional actions (or inaction)
Because Maui's dolphin are on the brink of extinction and an important icon of New Zealand. I have seen these dolphins in the wild and it's an experience that you never forget. The beauty of the dolphins is wonderful. We must save them for future generations. Please Prime Minister, I urge you to do all that you can to save these intelligent gentle dolphins.
Maui Dolphins are an endangered species and need protecting.
for a friend
We do not have the right to negatively impact any species' survival, it is within our gift to protect and preserve all life...
The NZ government needs to act now.
NZ Govt MUST take swift and decisive action to protect this dolphin
To help the cause and see if New Zealand can step up to the mark. We do not have the right to let these go extinct.
Because we have to take care of our sea and specially it's species in danger of extinction, not destroy them!!! https://www.facebook.com/Surfindeed
The human race is decimating the marine environment with little regard to the long term effect on the planet on which we all depend. These dolphins have a right to life. We have no right to exterminate a whole species.
Unbelievable that this has gone on so long. Yet another of the horrible gill and trawl net casualties. Glad to have it brought to our attention
THAT IS WRONG! WE NEED TO SAVE THESE DOLPHINS! i have never heard of these dolphins until i saw this article. it's time that we STAND UP to the fisheries!
Fishing that endangers any form of social animal is barbaric and prehistoric. If you can't fish responsibly, you should not be allowed to fish at all. Protect these

creatures, they cant protect themselves.

Act NOW we need to do something before it is too late

We cannot afford to allow these precious species to die due to our ignorance, arrogance, and ineptitude. What's the difference if we kill them like in Japan, or allow them to die in New Zealand's waters. Don't delay, protect New Zealand's dolphins now!

Professor Dustin Byrd, USA

There should be no question as to why anyone is signing this. I think the question should stand, why aren't you signing this?

Because I care.

We have to stop this!

To save these rare Dolphins. there's not many left.

BECAUSE IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT NOW.....THEY WILL BE EXTINCT..AND THAT WOULD BE SUCH A SHAME

to stop this needless killing off of one of the worlds most intelligent marine animals...

I think its a disgrace that some financial reasons are enough to keep on allowing these waters to be net fished..

Why cant people see past greed for the greater good..

We MUST protect these animals before it's too late. Thousands of species are already lost forever-- we've learned too much and come too far to allow human greed and ignorance to drive animals into extinction.