

**SEA WORLD OF FLORIDA
ANIMAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

ANIMAL PROFILE

Updated 07/09

TILIKUM (Orcinus orca) I.D. #SWF-Oo-9201

Sex: Male
Age: 27 yr. 8 mths.
DOB: 12/81

Length: 22 ft.
Weight: 11680 lb.

Differentiating Characteristics

- .. Skin rough in appearance especially in area such as lower rostrum, in dorsal, and underneath flukes
- .. Dorsal fin bends to the left
- .. Downward curve of the tips of flukes, as well as wearing and abrasions
- .. Flat tongue
- .. Head and chin rounded in appearance, very bulbous rostrum
- .. Pox marks along left side of body, posterior to dorsal fin
- .. Large indentation in skin on left side of body, just below dorsal fin
- .. Large indentation in skin on left side of body, just below dorsal fin
- .. Notch in base of dorsal fin

Secondary Reinforcers

- .. Bridge (whistle)
- .. Body tactile - group tactile
- .. Group attention
- .. Brush tactile
- .. Fish play
- .. Fish catch
- .. Cart follow with fish toss
- .. Visual stimulation
- .. Audible stimulation
- .. Watching other whales
- .. Variable feed
- .. Ice cubes
- .. Water bucket
- .. Sprayers

.. Bubbles
.. Fire hose
.. Barrel
.. Kelp
.. Rope barrel
.. Ropes
.. Boomer ball
.. Raspberry game
.. Big Blue disc
.. Firehose

Finds Aversive

.. Repetition during learning with repetitive incorrect responses
.. Prolonged social access to other whales
.. Prolonged separation without visual access to other whales, esp. Taima
.. Birds stealing his fish
.. Too much change

Aggressive Tendencies

.. Has negative history with trainers in water
.. Please be advised that this whale was involved in the accidental drowning of a trainer at Sealand of the Pacific in 1991 and involved in an incident with a guest in his pool in 1999 at SWF.

Summary

Tilikum spent most of his life with two other females at Sealand of the Pacific, Victoria, BC. Both displaced him physically with some regularity. Tilikum, as with many male killer whales, is typically a sub-dominant animal.

Tilikum's training history has been inconsistent for the most part. Tilikum has made substantial progress with learning new behavior and adapting to his new home at Sea World of Florida. During times of frustration due to social stress in the environment, Tilikum has exhibited aggressive behavior by mouthing the stage, vocalizations, tightening body posture, banging gates, a deep fast swim and sometimes lunging toward control trainer. It is important to remember his previous history and potential. He was involved in the accidental drowning of a trainer at Sealand of the Pacific in 1991. He was also involved in an incident in July 1999 resulting with the drowning of a guest in his pool, although his participation is not known.

Summary (cont.)

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In his previous facility, Tilikum was very inconsistent with separations. Since his arrival at Sea World of Florida he has become very consistent with separations and has done very well with the reconditioning of his existing repertoire and learning new behaviors. Occasionally, he has displayed possessive behavior of objects and whales in his environment.

Tilikum has also learned several husbandry behaviors and performs them daily with predictable results. The most significant behavior being voluntary semen collection. We utilized socialization with Taku, and more recently, Trua. Tilikum has been successful with semen collections in solo social settings since that time. Tilikum has had an extensive history with being raised on the false bottom for husbandry procedures. He currently is getting ten gallons of gelatin daily to increase his hydration level. Tilikum is also trained on a stomach tube for hydration, as well as trained to drink water from a cup.

On the whole, Tilikum is a very tactile oriented animal and enjoys relationship-building interactions. He is very alert and aware of his environment and therefore, enjoys visual and audible stimulation from trainers.

Tilikum has fathered 12 calves in total. He is the natural father of Kyuquot, Taku, Unna, Sumar, Tuar, Tekoa, Nyar, Ikaika, Skyla, and Malia. Nakai and Kohana were produced through artificial insemination. Most recently, Tilikum was introduced to Taima and her calf on March 25th, 2007, marking his first direct exposure to a newborn calf.