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[Wildlife Conservation] New Record: Only 70 Chinese White Dolphins Remains [Wildlife Conservation] New Record: Only 70 Chinese White Dolphins Remains (Chinese Version)

The Liberty Times (2010/01/24), CNA News (2010/01/12) & China Times E-paper (2010/01/08) Taiwan Sustainable Union and Yunlin County government presented a book introducing the survival predicament of Chinese White Dolphins on January 23. Because of mistaken capture, environmental pollution, food shortage etc., the dolphins in Taiwan Strait are facing extinction crisis. In previous years, over 120 Chinese White Dolphins were recorded, but now, according to the most recent statistics of the investigation of Matsu's Fish Conservation Union, only 70 remains.

Dozens of environmental activists gathered in fornt of the Executive Yuan on January 12, performing action dramas to draw public attention to White Dolphins' crisis. Legislator Chiu-Chin TIEN showed up to support the action, urging the fishers to take actions against netfishing in order to prevent a comprehensive open-up to netfishing and the consequential eco-catastrophe in Taiwan's coastal sea areas. Taichung County Government's Department of Agriculture said, by DNA matching it was found that White Dolphins in China sea area and those in Taiwan sea area belong to the same species, and hence Council of Agriculture has determined to extend the conservation scope of White Dolphins to the sea areas around Xiamen and Kinmen, hoping that the cross-strait cooperation can enhance the salvage.

Related Historical Message: [Wildlife Conservation] Groups urge COA to protect at risk Chinese White Dolphins 2009/03/02

Further Information: <u>Matsu's Fish Conservation Union Blog</u> (Chinese) <u>The Liberty Times 2010/01/24</u> (Chinese) <u>CNA News 2010/01/12</u> (Chinese) <u>China Times E-paper 2010/01/08</u> (Chinese)

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