Please note that four orca arrived at Loro Parque on 14 Feb 2006 (transferred from SeaWorld, USA). Loro Parque claims that they are conducting ‘scientific research’ at their facility. However, the paucity of peer-reviewed papers speaks volumes. The first peer-reviewed paper was published four years after the orca arrived. Only three (3) papers in total have been published to date (15 October 2015), since Loro Parque acquired orca (i.e., a time span of 9 years and 8 months). That equates to less than one paper every three years, despite the fact that the orca are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Morgan, who was transferred to Loro Parque on 29 November 2011, under the premise of ‘scientific research’ has not been included in any peer-reviewed scientific studies that have been published to date (i.e., 3 years, 11 months).

An extensive search (in October 2015) using Google Scholar (www.scholar.google.com) and Research Gate (www.researchgate.net) was conducted to locate the publications listed below. The following key words were used to search (in various combinations and separate): Loro Parque, Orcinus orca, killer whale, Morgan. Author profiles and publication lists and affiliated (universities etc) were investigated for the following names (which were either coauthors on the following papers, in conference proceedings or noted in documentation submitted by Loro Parque’s in their submission for import of the original four orca in 2006 and/or the Dolfinarium Harderwijk and Loro Parque’s application for the transfer of Morgan in 2011); Almunia, Baltanás, Bernal, Bowles, Cirillo, García, Guadarrama, Guinet, Hultsch, Lemasson, Luke, Lüke, Kremers, Marichal-Hernández, Mundry, Pérez, Rosa, Tiscar, Tixier, Todt and Wanker.

Luke, J P, Marichal-Hernández, J G, Rosa, F, Almunia J (2010). Real time automatic detection of Orcinus orca vocalizations in a controlled environment. Applied Acoustics. 71 (8) 771–776. doi:10.1016/j.apacoust.2010.04.003. Received 27 November 2008, Accepted 12 April 2010. [NOTE TO READERS: this study did NOT include Morgan. She had not entered into captivity when the data was gathered for this study and she had not yet been transferred to Loro Parque when it was published.]

Luke, P, Almunia, J, Rosa, F (2011) Framework for developing prototype bioacoustic devices in aid of open sea killer whale protection. Bioacoustics: The International Journal of Animal Sound and its Recording. 20 (3) 287-296. DOI: 10.1080/09524622.2011.9753652. [NOTE TO READERS: this study did NOT include Morgan. She had not been transferred to Loro Parque when the data was gathered for this study.]

Kremers, D., Lemasson, A., Almunia, J., & Wanker, R. (2012). Vocal sharing and individual acoustic distinctiveness within a group of captive orcas (Orcinus orca). Journal of Comparative Psychology, 126(4), 433. Received 30 August 2011, Accepted 23 April 2012. [NOTE TO READERS: this study did NOT include Morgan. Despite the date of publication (i.e., after Morgan had been transferred to Loro Parque), an extract from ‘Methods’ of this paper clearly delimits the study and states “Underwater vocalizations of .... orcas (Orcinus orca) were recorded in the captive facility of Loro Parque (Tenerife, Spain) between February and May 2009.”]