

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MARINELAND DOLPHIN ADVENTURE TO RELEASE RESCUED GREEN SEA TURTLES**

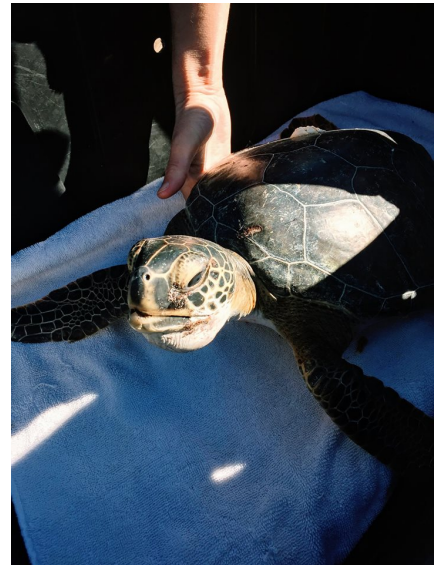
**MARINELAND, Fla.** — Marineland Dolphin Adventure and its local conservation partners will release rescued green sea turtles back to the wild on Thursday, March 29, 2018.

The release will take place Thursday morning at 10 a.m. at the River to Sea Preserve boardwalk just south of Marineland Dolphin Adventure. The eight green sea turtles to be released are the final group of a large number of cold-stunned turtles rescued this year at Marineland.

The rescue team led by Dr. Craig Pelton of the University of Florida, along with Dan Palmer, Curator of Fishes and Invertebrates at Marineland Dolphin Adventure, has the turtles tagged, rehabilitated, and healthy after receiving lifesaving care. Thursday's temperature and ocean conditions are expected to be just right for the release.

Marineland Dolphin Adventure took in 20 cold-stunned green sea turtles this winter. Cold-stunning is a hypothermic reaction that occurs when green sea turtles are exposed to cold temperatures for a prolonged period. This serious condition can lead to shock, pneumonia, and even death.

“Our team’s lifesaving rescue efforts for turtles this winter represent another successful chapter in our 80-year story of conservation and education,” said Marineland Vice President and General Manager Gary Inks.



*Marineland is releasing rehabilitated green sea turtles back to the ocean.*

The green sea turtle rescue initiative was made possible through a partnership between Marineland Dolphin Adventure, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Sea Turtle Hospital at UF Whitney Lab. Marineland is officially licensed to take in the cold-stunned green sea turtles by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (permit MTP 134).

Currently celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Marineland opened in 1938 as the world’s first oceanarium. Since that time, marine conservation and educational outreach have been important hallmarks of the non-profit organization’s mission.

More information about Marineland Dolphin Adventure is available online at [www.Marineland.net](http://www.Marineland.net), or by calling 877-933-3402.

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