

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARINELAND DOLPHIN ADVENTURE HELPS SAVE COLD-STUNNED SEA TURTLES

MARINELAND, Fla. — Marineland Dolphin Adventure continues to support regional efforts to save cold-stunned green sea turtles during the recent cold snap, working in partnership with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Sea Turtle Hospital at UF Whitney Lab.

Marineland has taken in 20 cold-stunned green sea turtles this winter, with 16 turtles currently in care. Upon arrival, each turtle receives a thorough exam to measure heart rate, respirations, and body condition. Cold-stunning is a hypothermic reaction that occurs when green sea turtles are exposed to cold temperatures for a prolonged period, and it is a serious condition that can lead to shock, pneumonia, and even death.

“Conservation has been an important part of Marineland’s mission for 80 years, and we are honored to help care for these remarkable turtles,” said Marineland Vice President and General Manager Gary Inks.



Cold-stunned green sea turtles are receiving life-saving care at Marineland.

Marineland is officially licensed to take in the cold-stunned green sea turtles by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (permit MTP 134). Conservation is an important hallmark of the non-profit organization’s mission, along with community education.

Green sea turtles are the second largest of all sea turtles and can grow to 500 pounds, with a record weight of 871 pounds. Their herbivorous diet means that green sea turtles are not often seen in deep water habitats, as the plants they feed on occur in shallow, well-lit waters. They are called green sea turtles not for their shell color, but for the color of their fat.

While generally and internationally considered an endangered species, green sea turtles were removed from the Endangered Species Act in the United States in 2016 and classified as threatened. They tend to nest in the Marineland area from June to September.

Currently celebrating its 80th anniversary, Marineland opened in 1938 as the world’s first oceanarium. In January and February 2018, Florida residents can save 20% off of admission and dolphin encounter programs with a valid Florida ID. This limited time offer may not be combined with any other promotion or discount.

More information about Marineland Dolphin Adventure is available online at www.Marineland.net, or by calling 877-933-3402.

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