



## CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

### PRESS RELEASE

#### A second wave of cold stun sea turtles leave CMA team in need

**Clearwater, FL (February 10, 2016)** – As cold weather continues, Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) turtle department and stranding team have been working day and night to rescue and rehab an ever-growing population of sea turtle patients.

Last month, the turtle team at CMA reported nearly 30 cold stun intakes over a single weekend, and hospital activity hasn't shown any sign of slowing down in February. The 2016 total intake count is over 140, with 69 live sea turtles arriving at CMA, including 12 arrivals yesterday and 11 arrivals today.

Most of the cold stun turtles are also battling the fibropapilloma virus, requiring critical care and treatments from the team. With more turtles arriving hourly, the team is stretched thin, needing all the help they can get.

Duke Energy is a proud sponsor of the sea turtle program, but with the incredible number of intakes, the CMA team has an urgent need for additional supplies to help the new patients survive. Donations are being accepted to help care for the turtles under CMA's webpage: Operation Cold Stun  
[www.Seewinter.com/OperationColdStun](http://www.Seewinter.com/OperationColdStun)

Download the message from Abby Stone, one of the stranding team's leaders, as she explains more about Operation Cold Stun:  
<https://www.hightail.com/download/ZWJXTG0zTmFrUmtYRHRVag>

Photographs of the intakes can be downloaded below:  
<https://www.hightail.com/download/ZWJXTG0zTmExUU14SjhUQw>

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**About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:**

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release. CMA is home to rescued dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin's story of survival, after an injury that caused her to lose her tail, has impacted millions of people around the world. A major motion picture, *Dolphin Tale*, highlighted her life story in 2011. The sequel, *Dolphin Tale 2*, was released in September 2014 and features the incredible story of Hope, a young resident dolphin of CMA. The mission and potential to change people's lives differentiates Clearwater Marine Aquarium from every other aquarium in the world.

WE BELIEVE in preserving our marine life and environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release.

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