



CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

PRESS RELEASE

Clearwater Marine Aquarium Rehabilitates Young Dolphin

Clearwater, FL (December 18, 2014) – Clearwater Marine Aquarium has successfully rehabilitated a young dolphin that was rescued July 4, 2014 on Redington Beach, Florida. The female *Stenella frontalis* (Atlantic Spotted dolphin) was in critical condition, weak and malnourished, believed to be without her mother for approximately one week.

The medical care to rescue, stabilize and restore this animal back to health required 24 hours a day, 7 days a week of care giving ever since her intake into Clearwater Marine Aquarium. For the first 3 months, the young dolphin was unable to swim consistently on its own and caregivers remained in the water, holding her as needed. She received fluids every few hours to provide nourishment along with hosts of medical tests taken on a daily and weekly basis. At rescue, the dolphin weighed 53 pounds and now weighs in at a healthy 75 pounds.

After six months of state of the art rehabilitation, National Marine Fisheries Service declared the one year old *Stenella* dolphin as nonreleasable, due to the young age at stranding and lack of survival skills. National Marine Fisheries has selected Dolphin Research Center, a nonprofit marine mammal education and research facility in the Florida Keys, as her permanent residence. Dolphin Research Center has a large 24 dolphin group, providing multiple opportunities for pairings, as she is a unique species.

David Yates, CEO of Clearwater Marine Aquarium stated, “I am very proud of the dedicated team of staff and volunteers at Clearwater Marine Aquarium who have worked tirelessly to save this animal’s life and restore its health. We hope she has a long and healthy life.”

Clearwater Marine Aquarium is a nonprofit working marine rescue center.

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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 rescue dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter, the dolphin’s story of survival after 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 any 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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A Florida non-profit 501(c)(3) organization