



CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

PRESS RELEASE

Clearwater Marine Aquarium and FWC Rescue Mother Manatee and Her Calf

- **Adult manatee was entangled in a crab trap in Clearwater**

Clearwater, FL (September 1, 2014) – A mother manatee and her dependent calf were successfully rescued in Clearwater, FL on August 26 due to a joint effort by Clearwater Marine Aquarium and FWC. The incident was initially reported to FWC by concerned citizens after seeing a distressed manatee swimming in Allen Creek.

A team of more than a dozen rescuers found that both of the adult's flippers were entangled in rope from a crab trap and the left flipper was deeply embedded. Staff also rescued the dependent young calf, who did not have any visible injuries but seemed underweight and is dependent on her mother. Both manatees were transported to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo where they are currently receiving treatment. Once recovered, both manatees will be released back into the wild.

Photo credit must be stated as: Activities were conducted under USFWS permit # MA770191.

Photo credit courtesy of FWC.

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About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

Clearwater Marine Aquarium 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 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*, will premier 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