



CLEARWATER MARINE
AQUARIUM™

PRESS RELEASE

CMA to Release Satellite-tagged Loggerhead Sea Turtle

Only the 3rd time in CMA's history

Clearwater, FL (October 26, 2016) – Xenophilus (Xeno), a sub-adult loggerhead sea turtle, will be released at Clearwater Beach behind the Sandpearl Resort this Thursday, October 27th at 11am. Xeno arrived at CMA on September 17th 2016, found about 15 miles offshore, floating and unable to dive, by CMA dive coordinator Brian Mahardy. Xeno arrived with slight edema (puffiness) and moderate epibiota on her carapace. Taken to Morton Plant Hospital for an x-ray the same day she arrived at CMA, it revealed an extensive amount of shell-like material in her GI tract that likely caused her buoyancy problem. Xeno was able to pass the shell material rather quickly (about 5 pounds worth). Xeno weighs approximately 130 lbs, and was given a series of vitamin injections and daily glucose checks and fluids. After completing her round of antibiotics and being dewormed she has been cleared for release by the CMA team.

For only CMA's third time, with assistance from the Sea Turtle Conservancy CMA will fit Xeno with a satellite tag, allowing CMA to track her for a number of months to monitor her release success.

What: Sea turtle release with satellite tag

Where: Clearwater Beach behind the Sandpearl Resort.

When: Thursday, October 27th, 11am

Sponsored by Duke Energy, long-term CMA partner.

For further information contact David Yates at DYates@cmaquarium.org or 727.409.6282.



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 any other aquarium in the world.

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

249 Windward Passage | Clearwater, FL 33767 | 727.441.1790 |
727.445.1139 SeeWinter.com

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