

## **Clearwater Marine Aquarium Rescues & Releases Dolphin**

Clearwater, FL (July 4, 2016) – The Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) rescue team responded to a call about a dolphin in distress at Fred Howard Park in Tarpon Springs on July 3, 2016.

There were two lifeguards on scene that had been able to set up an umbrella and had placed a blanket on the animal to protect it from the sun exposure prior to the team's arrival.

The dolphin was confirmed to be an adult male Atlantic bottlenose dolphin in good body condition, who appeared to be caught in the shallows due to the low tide. While alert to what was going on around him, he remained calm while the team collected blood from his flukes, positioned him on the closed cell foam mat and administered oxygen.

Due to his condition, the CMA team waited with the animal until the tide was to come back in to see if he would swim away. At 9:44 pm the dolphin moved from the deep water where he was released to an area further out into the surrounding water passing a couple of mud flats. The CMA team monitored for respirations until they could no longer be heard for at least 30 minutes. The dolphin is presumed to be back to a normal condition.

Pictures are available <u>here</u> for download.

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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 any other aquarium in the world.