

MEDIA OP



Immediate Release

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Cold Stunned Sea Turtles Recovering at the Texas State Aquarium

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas— On Tuesday, January 23, forty-three cold stunned green sea turtles were transported to the Texas State Aquarium SeaLab facility for medical care and rehabilitation. Thirty-five turtles were placed in a large pool at the Aquariums' SeaLab and eight turtles were brought to the Texas State Aquarium's main building for acute medical care.

The sea turtles were weighed, measured, fluids were administered, and further diagnostic testing, including blood work, was conducted. Two of the eight turtles that were most critical did not survive.

Through the collaborative work of the Texas State Aquarium, Padre Island National Seashore's Division of Sea Turtle Science, Sea Turtle, Inc., Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ARK/University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Marco Sales, University of Texas Pan American Coastal Studies Lab, Oso Creek Animal Hospital, H.E.B. and the public, more than 100 green sea turtles have been rescued.

Efforts now focus on providing care for the turtles at Sea Lab and continuing to handle any new strandings that are found. In Texas, green sea turtles are a protected species with a threatened status.

The media is invited to photograph/film the green sea turtles on **Friday, January 26 at the Texas State Aquarium Sea Lab facility**. Please contact Kristin Ralls for an appointment.

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www.texasstateaquarium.org