

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

Lauren Delgado, Communications Manager

321-254-9453, ext. 236

ldelgado@brevardzoo.org



Brevard Zoo Releasing Green Sea Turtle Nemo

MELBOURNE, Fla., June 10, 2025 — Brevard Zoo's Sea Turtle Healing Center will be releasing green sea turtle Nemo following a 4-month rehabilitation.

Nemo will be released Thursday, June 12 from Pelican Beach Park, 1525 Highway A1A, in Satellite Beach. **Flippers will be in the water at 9:30 a.m., so media are advised to arrive early.**

All parking fees will be waived only during the duration of the release, which will be held rain or shine, although we may delay or cancel the release if lightning is in the area.

Nemo came to the Healing Center in February with a heavy epibiota, like leeches, along with a moderate amount of fibropapillomatosis (FP) tumors on their body. The disease FP produces internal and external tumors that can grow large enough to impact a sea turtle's vision, ability to swim, and ability to evade predators.

Nemo hadn't eaten in a while, so they were also thin, dehydrated and hyperglycemic. The green sea turtle is missing a rear flipper, but the wound has been fully healed for some time.

A beachgoer found Nemo stranded on the beach, and the Sea Turtle Preservation Society brought the sea turtle to the Healing Center.

The Healing Center team treated Nemo with fluid therapy, vitamins and antibiotics during their stay. Nemo also underwent surgery to remove their FP tumors.

Nemo will be fondly remembered as the nosy neighbor by the Healing Center team.

"They would always be watching their roommates through the barriers, even sticking their head and neck in between the holes to have a chance at stealing their lettuce," said Jess Patterson, Healing Center coordinator. "They were a busy little turtle, always swimming and using their enrichments."

All media personnel are asked to RSVP to Communications Manager Lauren Delgado before the release and check in with the Zoo's communications team upon arrival.

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Brevard Zoo is home to more than 800 animals representing 170 species from all across the world. As a not-for-profit organization, it is a leader in the fields of animal wellness, education and conservation. More information is available at www.brevardzoo.org.