

# Discover the **News!**

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## DOLPHIN DISCOVERY PARTICIPATES IN THE MANATEE RESCUE IN TABASCO

Since May, there have been reports of deaths of Manatees in the municipalities of Macuspana and Centla in Tabasco. Approximately 50 specimens have been found lifeless to date. Therefore, the Mexican Association of Habitats for the Interaction and Protection of Marine Mammals A.C. (AMHMAR) decided to join the investigation on the causes of death and rescue plan of Marine Mammals. Dolphin Discovery, as a member of AMHMAR, sent veterinarians to contribute to this cause.

The Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA), Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco (UJAT), The South Border College (ECOSUR), Zoo Association, Breeders and Aquariums of Mexico AC (AZCARM) and the Mexican Association of Habitats for the Interaction and Protection of Marine Mammals A.C. (AMHMAR), investigate the possible causes of this occurrence.

De acuerdo a la AMHMAR, el plan de rescate considera las etapas de localización, captura, manejo, transporte, resguardo temporal y finalmente, la reubicación de los Manatíes al medio silvestre. Por ahora, se encuentran analizando a los Manatíes vivos huérfanos que se encuentran en el área.



**"Our priority is and always will be Animal Welfare, Marine Mammals under our care and those that inhabit wildlife. For Dolphin Discovery this research is very important, it is crucial to find out what is causing the death of these Manatees, to stop it and take the necessary measures to prevent it from happening in the future. We will continue to work with authorities and associations to find a solution to this unfortunate event,"** said MVZ Roberto Sánchez Okrucky, Director of Veterinary Medicine and Research at Dolphin Discovery.



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# RESCUES 3 BEACH TURTLES

In the month of July, the Zoomarine team rescued three turtles that presented difficulties. The first turtle, an adult female of about 27 kg and 80 cm long, was found off the erracina coast, face down, with beginning stages of drowning.

The second turtle, a female of 23 kg and 69 cm in length, was found in difficulty, floating off the coast of Ponza by some navigators. The diagnosis speaks of the occlusion of the intestinal tract due to the ingestion of plastic material found in the sea, one of the most frequent reasons of suffering for the turtles.



A third turtle was found near Ventotene in clear difficulty given the twisting of a rope in its right flap.

The first two turtles were housed for approximately 20 days at the Zoomarine First Aid Center until their complete recovery, while the third turtle is still under observation.



**"Stranding is mainly due to human behavior: low selective fishing, boat accidents, and pollution,"** explains Dr. Renato Lenzi, one of the world's experts in Marine Animals, and CEO of Zoomarine since 2015.





## DOLPHIN DISCOVERY PARTICIPATES IN THE ANIMAL WELFARE FORUM

Experts from Dolphin Discovery participated in the Animal Welfare Forum held at the World Trade Center in Mexico City, as part of the LatinZoo Veterinary Congress, attended by more than 17,000 veterinarians from Mexico and Latin America. The Mexican Association of Habitats for the Interaction and Protection of Marine Mammals A.C. (AMHMAR) confirmed by leading Mexican companies of the sector, served as organizer of this event, where experts gave talks about the protection and conservation of various species.

### "Activism and legislation in favor of animal welfare?"

Was the talk given by MVZ Roberto Sánchez Okrucky, Director of Veterinary Medicine at Dolphin Discovery, where he explained the difference between activism and conservation, and mentioned that legislation is not bad, but that it is necessary to analyze the proposal law thoroughly and consider the opinion of experts, before taking effect so that the incident with circus animals does not happen again.



### "Animal welfare: trends, problems, and strategies",

was the talk given by Travis Burke, Corporate Director of Dolphin Discovery and Ted Molter, member of the International Association of Amusement Parks (IAAPA). They talked about the current problems faced by companies and Marine Mammal Veterinarians and the strategies they can implement to counteract or reduce the impact of these conflicts.

In addition to the conferences mentioned, there were others related to animal welfare in aquariums, myths, and realities about horse abuse in Mexico, animal welfare in zoos, veterinary care, management of wildlife, and actions to strengthen the commitment to animal welfare.

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## DOLPHIN DISCOVERY IS HEAD OF THE MARVET PROGRAM FOR THE TENTH OCCASION

For 10 years, Dolphin Discovery Puerto Aventuras hosted the veterinary educational program, Marine Veterinary Medicine (MARVET), focused on the medicine and management of Marine Mammals with an emphasis on marine conservation.

**Dolphin Discovery opened its doors to 21 international students, 18 from the United States, 1 from Mexico, 1 from Germany and 1 from Spain.**

The students received theoretical-practical classes about anatomy, physiology, medicine, and Marine Mammals management, for which the Habitat offered experiences, knowledge, and information about conservation medicine and animal welfare.



## GULF WORLD PREPARES FOR HALLOWEEN AND DAY OF THE DEAD



Our Park in the United States, Gulf World will have special activities and shows throughout October such as Mermaid Monday, Witch Wednesdays and Enchanted Wednesdays, where our guests can experience the Haunted House and enjoy a Party, Halloween style.

Gulf World will also join the Mexican tradition "Day of the Dead". Guests can enjoy the decorations and special activities that will take place on November 1st and 2nd.





# THE PERIMETER WALL OF TRANSFORMAR EDUCANDO A.C. IS INAUGURATED

Transform Educating A.C. presented the perimeter wall that was built thanks to the donation by the Dolphin Puerto Aventuras Race, organized by Dolphin Discovery Foundation and the Association of Settlers of Puerto Aventuras.



At the beginning of this year the 10th Dolphin Puerto Aventuras Race took place, which had three main objectives:

- Encourage family and social interaction through sports.
- Support the Cáritas Foundation of Quintana Roo A.C.
- Raise funds for the construction of the perimeter wall of Transformar Educando A.C. located in the town of Puerto Aventuras.

The first two objectives were carried out on the same day of the race and with the inauguration of the wall, the third objective is met, which will provide more safety to the school.

"Supporting our community is one of our priorities, we are pleased to support causes such as Transformar Educando because they are a place where children, adolescents, and adults can go in search of psychological and of course educational support. This will provide more opportunities to find a decent job that will help them get ahead because everyone deserves to have a decent life," said Guadalupe Jiménez, Director of Human Value at Dolphin Discovery Group.



## SUCCESSFUL STERILIZATIONS ARE HELD AT MAHAHUAL

On July 16, 2018, 80 dogs and cats were sterilized in Mahahual, this was carried out as an initiative of the Wayak Community Center in conjunction with Dolphin Discovery, Vets in Action, ADO, Costa Maya, and Maya Lost Kingdom.

For two days, the inhabitants of Mahahual had the opportunity to take their pets to the "Free Sterilization Day" that took place at the Vicente Kau Chan elementary school, which was attended by approximately 65 dogs and cats with their respective owners.



The other 15 animals sterilized were living in street and volunteers of the campaign undertook the task of capturing them to sterilize and then return them to where they were found.

The inhabitants also obtained identification tags for dogs and cats as part of the "Love is caring" campaign of Dolphin Discovery, with the aim of giving the pet the opportunity to return home in case it goes missing.