

Rescued Turtle Being Treated in Newquay

On Friday 10th November a stranded loggerhead sea turtle was discovered by a member of the public on Hayle beach, Cornwall. British Divers Marine Life Rescue were contacted by the finder for advice and assistance, and trained volunteer Medics were quickly dispatched to the scene.

BDMLR's Area Coordinator for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Dan Jarvis, commented "When we arrived the turtle was surprisingly alert and active. Usually when they wash up here they are hypothermic, malnourished and weak, so it was encouraging to see one still moving around so much."

"We gave it a visual assessment and first aid before taking it for rehabilitation with our colleagues at the Blue Reef Aquarium in Newquay."

Senior Aquarist Abby Wheston said "When the turtle arrived at the aquarium we checked for any injuries and to see its body condition. Apart from a cluster of goose barnacles attached to the end of its shell, the overall external condition was good."

The recent stormy weather and strong currents could have possibly caused the turtle to be taken off course and stranded in the UK.

"There has been an initial response from the turtle who has been taking fluids and showing some signs of getting stronger. Although it is still very early days, we are hopeful for the turtle's survival" Abby added.

It is hoped that this juvenile turtle will be recovered enough in time to join the other 3 rescued turtles from earlier in the year to be released back into the wild very soon.

If you find a live stranded turtle or marine mammal in distress it can be reported to the British Divers Marine Life Rescue 24hr hotline 01825 765546.

Issued by Blue Reef Aquarium. For more information please contact Melissa Hallam or Lara Heaney on 01637 878134; or Dan Jarvis on 07810 460603.