

Weekly Update: 2/9/2022

[Video Update](#)

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Unified Command is continuing the supplemental feeding trial for manatees at the Temporary Field Response Station in Brevard County 7 days a week. There are now three coolers on-site to accommodate the increased amount of lettuce needed for the trial effort.

Staff also continue to prioritize manatee rescues. The FWC and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service appreciate the hard work and dedication of our many partners within the Manatee Rescue & Rehabilitation Partnership, which have been working to accommodate the increased number of manatees in need of rescue. Unified Command staff have been working with both long-standing and new partners to increase capacity for manatees in need of care.

Unfortunately, the increased number of manatee mortalities will likely continue into the foreseeable future, and staff are working hard to collect and evaluate as many carcasses along the Atlantic coast as possible.

Statewide Rescues:

2/3 - FWC staff received a report of a small, emaciated manatee at the Fort Myers power plant. The female manatee was captured and transported to Sea World for rehabilitation.

2/3 - FWC staff found an emaciated adult manatee in Port Everglades where it became stuck in shallow water. Due to the time of day the rescue was postponed. The following day the manatee was relocated and rescued by FWC and Clearwater Marine Aquarium staff then transported Sea World for rehabilitation.

2/4 - A manatee calf with no mother was observed in the DeSoto canal. A rescue team from the FWC and University of Florida captured the calf. It was transported to Jacksonville Zoo for rehabilitation. The manatee passed away a few hours after arriving.

2/4 - FWC staff received a report of an emaciated adult manatee stuck behind a rock pile after high tide in Riviera Beach. The manatee was rescued and transported to Sea World for rehabilitation.

2/6 - While on patrol, FWC Law Enforcement came across an adult manatee with deep watercraft wounds. The manatee, which was mostly unresponsive, was rescued and transported to SeaWorld, where it was euthanized due to the extensive trauma.

Statewide Releases:

2/3 - A young male manatee was rescued at Big Pine Key for buoyancy issues last October. He was rehabilitated at Miami Seaquarium and then SeaWorld Orlando. He was released last week at Big Pine Key with help from Sea World, Brevard Zoo, Miami Seaquarium, the FWC and Aquarium Encounters.