

## **UME Weekly Update: 3/2/2022**

### [Video Update](#)

As water temperatures increase, manatees are beginning to move away from warm-water sites into areas along Florida's Atlantic coast. This natural dispersal also means people will be more likely to see them while enjoying the warming weather on our waterways. Public reports about distressed manatees to the FWC's Wildlife Alert hotline are essential to allow trained, expert staff to determine the best course of action. If you see an injured, sick, orphaned or dead manatee, please contact Wildlife Alert at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

The FWC and USFWS greatly appreciate the dedicated efforts of our many partners within the Manatee Rescue & Rehabilitation Partnership in caring for rescued manatees in need of help. Staff are also working hard to respond to manatee mortalities by collecting and examining carcasses to add to our understanding of this ongoing mortality event.

The supplemental feeding trial for manatees continues at the Temporary Field Response Station. The FWC and the USFWS Unified Command staff are offering supplemental forage at the field site in ways that avoid manatees from associating people with food and that prevent negative impacts to habitat.

### **Statewide Rescues:**

2/28 - An adult female manatee who was excessively buoyant was rescued at Merritt Island by FWC Biologists and Law Enforcement, Brevard Zoo, and USFWS. She was taken to SeaWorld for rehabilitation. Staff identified her by microchip as a manatee from southeast Florida that was previously rescued, rehabilitated and later released.

### **Statewide Releases:**

There were no releases this week.