

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Brevard Zoo releasing sea turtle in Cocoa Beach**

MELBOURNE, Fla., June 15, 2021 — Brevard Zoo's Sea Turtle Healing Center is celebrating World Sea Turtle Day tomorrow by releasing Kemp's ridley sea turtle Wandering Wylie. The event, which will take place at 1:30 p.m. at Lori Wilson Park in Cocoa Beach, will be the Healing Center's first public release in over a year.

Wandering Wylie was brought to the Zoo by Sea Turtle Preservation Society on March 11 after being found emaciated in Cocoa Beach. In addition to providing fluids, vitamins and rest, Healing Center staff used a specialized feeding tube to ensure Wandering Wylie received enough sustenance until the patient could eat on their own.

Kemp's ridley sea turtles are the smallest and rarest sea turtle species in the world. They are critically endangered due to human hunting, entanglement in fishing equipment, marine debris, shrinking beaches, pollution and climate change.

Prior to the release, media are invited to see Wandering Wylie up close, meet Healing Center staff and attend the ribbon-cutting of a new educational sea turtle exhibit at 9 a.m. tomorrow. Interested parties should contact Elliot Zirulnik at [ezirulnik@brevardzoo.org](mailto:ezirulnik@brevardzoo.org).

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*Brevard Zoo is home to more than 900 animals representing 195 species from all over 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](http://www.brevardzoo.org).*

*Treetop Trek features five aerial obstacle courses that whisk guests above parts of the Zoo and through lush Florida landscapes. More information is available at [www.treetoptrek.com](http://www.treetoptrek.com).*

*The Aquarium Project is a plan to construct a world-class aquarium and conservation center at Port Canaveral. More information is available at [www.theaquariumproject.org](http://www.theaquariumproject.org).*