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**Photo credit:** Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network

## SEAWORLD'S TEXAS AND FLORIDA RESCUE TEAMS JOIN FORCES TO SAVE ENTANGLED DOLPHIN

**SAN ANTONIO (August 16, 2016)** – Yesterday, the SeaWorld San Antonio Rescue Team joined forces with the SeaWorld Orlando Rescue Team as well as The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and members of the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network to help rescue a bottlenose dolphin that was found entangled in fishing gear near South Padre Island in Texas.

After hours of searching, the devoted rescue teams retrieved the dolphin and removed more than three pounds of fishing gear that entangled the animal, including hooks, leaders, fishing line and more.

Once the dolphin was rescued and detangled, a SeaWorld Veterinarian and Animal Care Staff assessed the animal, gave it a complete physical checkup, took blood samples and cultures and gave the dolphin antibiotics for possible infection due to the entanglement. The animal was released back in to the ocean.

Entanglement in fishing gear and similar items can lead to suffocation or internal bleeding if hooks and lures are swallowed by the animal. To help prevent harm to wild dolphins and other animals, it is best to dispose of old line and hooks properly and be mindful of fishing locations where animals are known to surface to breathe, so they do not become caught in cast lines.

The public can always assist injured marine animals by calling the local Marine Mammal Stranding Network. The Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network hotline number is 1-800-9-MAMMAL (1-800-962-6625).

Immediately report entangled, injured, or dead marine mammals to 1-877- WHALE HELP (1-877-942-5343).

SeaWorld San Antonio's Animal Rescue Team is on call 24/7 to save and care for injured, orphaned or ill animals. In collaboration with the government and other members of accredited stranding networks, SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment operates one of the world's most respected programs to rescue ill

and injured marine animals, with the goal to rehabilitate and return to the ocean. SeaWorld animal experts have helped more than 28,000 animals in need - ill, injured, orphaned and abandoned - for more than five decades.

Stay connected with us at [SeaWorldCares.com](http://SeaWorldCares.com) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

#### **About SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment**

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment™ is a leading theme park and entertainment company providing experiences that matter and inspiring guests to protect animals and the wild wonders of our world. The company is one of the world's foremost zoological organizations and a global leader in animal welfare, training, husbandry and veterinary care. The company collectively cares for what it believes is one of the largest zoological collections in the world and has helped lead advances in the care of animals. The company also rescues and rehabilitates marine and terrestrial animals that are ill, injured, orphaned or abandoned, with the goal of returning them to the wild. The SeaWorld® rescue team has helped more than 28,000 animals in need over the last 50 years.

The company owns or licenses a portfolio of recognized brands including SeaWorld, Busch Gardens® and Sea Rescue®. Over its more than 50-year history, the company has built a diversified portfolio of 12 destination and regional theme parks that are grouped in key markets across the United States, many of which showcase its one-of-a-kind zoological collection of over 800 species of animals. The company's theme parks feature a diverse array of rides, shows and other attractions with broad demographic appeal which deliver memorable experiences and a strong value proposition for its guests.

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment is a wholly owned subsidiary of SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc., a publicly traded company. Visit [www.seaworldentertainment.com](http://www.seaworldentertainment.com) for more.

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