

Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries releases 14 endangered sea turtles from Jeju

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(Seogwipo = Yonhap News) Reporter Park Ji-ho = As reports of sea turtles suffering from suffering with plastic straws stuck in their noses and sea turtles that died by swallowing waste plastic and plastic have continued, international preservation of sea turtles, an endangered species Interest is increasing.



Reporter Park Ji-ho (Seogwipo = Yonhap News) Reporter Park Ji-ho = At the 'Sea Turtle Release Event' hosted by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries at Saekdal Beach in Jungmun, Seogwipo City, Jeju on the afternoon of the 28th, Aqua Planet officials are sending sea turtles back to the sea. 2019.8.28 jihopark@yna.co.kr

On the afternoon of the 28th, an event was held at Saekdal Beach in Jungmun, Seogwipo, Jeju, hosted by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, to

release 14 sea turtles.

The sea turtles released this time are 14 animals, including 4 rescued from the sea and treated, 3 artificially hatched, and 7 imported from overseas for ecological research.

By type, there are 2 red sea turtles, 5 blue sea turtles, and 7 hawk-billed sea turtles.

In the release event, more than 100 residents and related organizations such as Jeju Island, Marine Environment Corporation, National Marine Biological Resource Center, National Maritime Museum, and Hanwha Aqua Planet participated in the release event, wishing that the sea turtles lived in a healthy way.

According to the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, seven species of sea turtles are distributed around the world, and the World Conservation Federation (IUCN), an international environmental organization, protects and manages sea turtles by rating them by species.



Sea Turtles Returning to Their Hometown (Seogwipo = Yonhap News) Reporter Park Ji-ho = On the afternoon of the 28th, Aqua Planet officials are sending sea turtles back to the sea at the 'Sea Turtle Release Event' hosted by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries at Saekdal Beach in Jungmun, Seogwipo City, Jeju. 2019.8.28 jihopark@yna.co.kr

However, despite the international community's protection efforts, the number of sea turtles continues to decrease due to various threats such as catching.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries has also designated and managed four species of marine organisms to be protected, including blue sea turtle, red sea turtle, hawksbill sea turtle, and longevity turtle that appear in our seas.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries has also been supporting the 'Sea Turtle Species Conservation Research' conducted by Hanwha Aqua

Planet Yeosu from 2014.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries succeeded in incubating blue sea turtles for the first time in Korea with the Korea Marine Environment Corporation and Hanwha Aqua Planet Yeosu in 2017, and thus far, 85 animals have been released into the sea.

Last year, they succeeded in spawning hawksbill sea turtles, raising 11 of them.



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Jungmun Saekdal Beach, the place of release, was confirmed as a spawning site for sea turtles in 2007, and the average water temperature is maintained above 14 degrees even in winter.

In addition, it is known that the food is abundant and it is easy to move to the warm Pacific Ocean, so it is suitable for young individuals raised indoors to survive.

Minister of Oceans and Fisheries Moon Seong-hyuk said, "This release was possible because of the efforts of related organizations such as rescue and treatment of endangered sea turtles, research on species restoration, and the public's interest in the recovery of sea turtles." I hope to see the sight of spawning after swimming in the vast ocean and returning to the Jeju sea."

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