

Turtle Rehabilitation The Living Seas at Epcot

- For more than 15 years, The Living Seas at Epcot has been part of an endangered sea turtle rehabilitation program in cooperation with the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission, which works directly with the National Marine Fisheries Service.
- Many sick or injured sea turtles that are found along the United States coast are taken to The Living Seas where Disney animal care experts will work to rehabilitate the turtles for return to the wild.
- Since The Living Seas' opening in 1985, more than 100 turtles have been successfully rehabilitated and returned to the ocean by the staff at The Living Seas.
- Green sea turtles, Loggerheads, Kemp's Ridleys, and tribrid hatchlings have all been part of the rehabilitation program at The Living Seas.
- In 1999, The Living Seas took in 12 Kemp's Ridley turtles and one loggerhead turtle that were rescued from the icy waters along the shores of New England. The turtles were cold-stunned when rescued by the New England Aquarium, and they were sent to the Living Seas for rehabilitation and to prepare for a return to the warm waters along Florida's coast.
- The Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund has contributed more than \$150,000 to sea turtle research being conducted around the world. Part of DWCF funding comes from special Guest programs at The Living Seas – DiveQuest and Dolphins in Depth. DWCF distributes cash awards to non-profit organizations that protect and study endangered and threatened animals and their habitats.