



Beluga Whale Sanctuary





belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary TOUCHDOWN 🇮🇸 Lit Grey & Little White have arrived safely in Iceland after their epic flight in their special @cargoluxofficial plane from C. The whales are in good health and our care team will continue to assess their well-being as they continue to their new home.

Para ti



matteo_giann putting two free animals in captivity is something that I do not conceive all this is so absurd



scottmairs6599 @flywithcaptainjoe Well done!



vithita_s @poom_seri



cazmikk Poor things. What humans have done putting them through all this trauma ❤️ Whales on flights!!! All because of their captivity. But it was desperately needed to rescue them and well done for saving them and giving them the freedom they deserve ❤️👍😊



sarah_roseeeee @bobbyck555



779 Me gusta
19 de Junio de 2019



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary UPDATE! 🐳

Little Grey and Little White are doing well, but helping them prepare for a more natural life in the sanctuary is taking a little longer than we'd anticipated. They will now be released into their new open water home in spring 2020 giving them more time to prepare at their own pace. Link for more details in the bio.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support ❤️

Editado · 272 sem Ver traducción

Para ti



palinagudmundsdottir ❤️



ruthparkinsonart Wonderful news... slowly but surely ... thank you 🌟❤️



alitwindow I've read the bit in the link and it doesn't make it any clearer why they need longer before they are released. Have they still not gained enough weight? Do they still need more time to acclimatise to colder temperatures? Are they not fit enough yet? Is there not enough time for them to get used to finding food for themselves before it gets tougher for them when winter arrives? Or some other reason?

272 sem 3 Me gusta Responder Ver traducción



627 Me gusta
27 de ago. de 2019



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belugawhalesanctuary Update: 1st July 2020

We have been working to relocate Little Grey and Little White from their landside care facilities to their sea sanctuary care pools at Klettsvik Bay this week – which we had planned for Friday. However, our vets have confirmed that both Little Grey and Little White have a very mild bacterial stomach infection. This was discovered as part of their planned final health assessments ahead of the move and verified with an endoscopy, which our vets carried out on site yesterday.

The positive news is that the infection is very mild and treatable, but unfortunately it will mean there will be a few weeks delay before they are able to take part in their relocation to the bay whilst Little Grey and Little White finish their course of medication.

Little Grey and Little White continue to feed well and are behaving and interacting as usual with their expert care team.

Whilst this is incredibly disappointing for the expert care team in Iceland and our wider supporting team (made up of the island community and the documentary crew including John Bishop), who have worked tirelessly in preparation for the move and had everything ready for this week, we ultimately have to always do what is right for Little Grey and Little White. Their health and wellbeing continue to be our top priority and therefore we will always do what is right for them.

We want to thank everyone for your continued support and understanding and look out for a further update in the next few weeks!



914 Me gusta
1 de julio de 2020



Añade un comentario...

Publica



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belugawhalesanctuary We can now announce the fantastic news that Little White and Little Grey are safely in the bay! They will stay in the sea sanctuary care pools for a short amount of time to acclimatise until they are ready to move out into the wider bay.

Stay tuned for our next update!

#belugasanctuary #Whalesofinstagram #iceland #nature #naturelover #marinelife #sealife #heimaey #worldfirst

Editado · 222 sem · Ver traducción

Para ti



vanessaclark657 ❤️❤️❤️❤️

190 sem · Responder



liz.thurler @thay.rox ❤️

195 sem · 1 Me gusta · Responder

Ver respuestas (1)



m0mmavc @puppygirl_20_07

212 sem · Responder



m0mmavc @paulcoughlan1975

212 sem · Responder

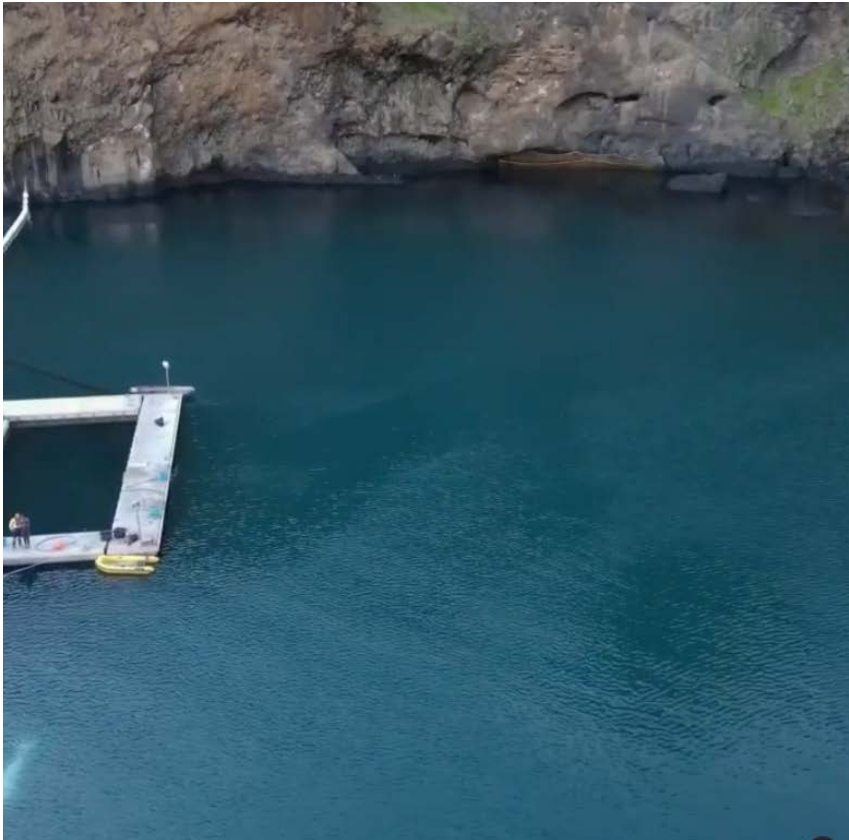


hannah.shenherd.1048 Of course they are better



27.120 reproducciones

10 de ago. de 2020



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



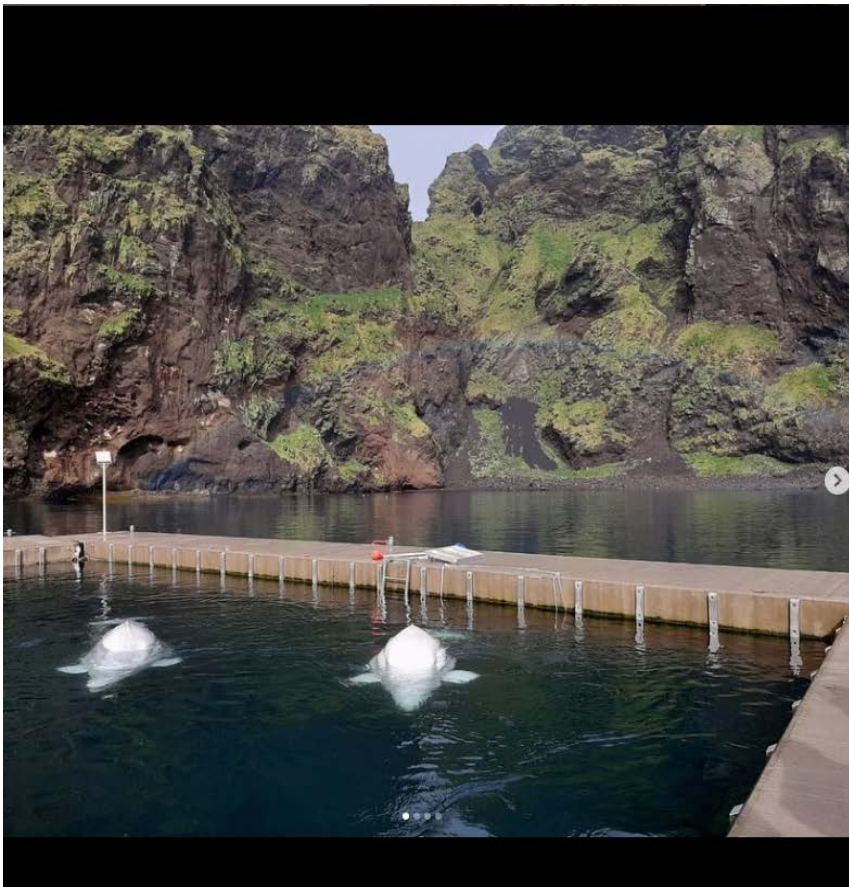
belugawhalesanctuary We're delighted to share the video you've been waiting for - Little White and Little Grey exploring Klettisvík Bay for the first time! 🐳 With their expert care team they will continue to be able to swim out into the bay and then return to their sea sanctuary care pools. During this time we will be carefully monitoring their health and wellbeing to ensure their gradual introduction to the wider bay is as smooth as possible. It's all part of what we're calling their 'Little Steps' programme. Thank you for all your support and best wishes in getting to this significant stage.

215 sem Ver traducción



19.943 reproducciones

28 de septiembre de 2020



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary As guardians of these two amazing beluga whales, Little White and Little Grey's welfare will always be our top priority. It is vital for the long-term goal of this world's first project that Little Grey and Little White's transition into the sea sanctuary continues to be positive and allows safe management of their health and wellbeing for many years to come.

Whilst we are thrilled at the progress that both whales have made in adapting to a more natural environment in the last few weeks, as the Icelandic winter storm season approaches we have decided to go ahead and move Little White and Little Grey back to the landside care facility for the winter months 2020/2021. This move was completed safely and successfully on 8th December. Using the landside care facility for this purpose has always been part of the long-term planning for the sanctuary to keep Little Grey and Little White safe and healthy. The move will allow our team to continue to provide expert care, ensuring the belugas have positive experiences and are prepared to go back into the bay in early 2021.

We want to thank everyone for your support and reassure you all that we'll keep you updated with all the continued work and welfare updates with Little Grey and Little White in this temporary winter period.

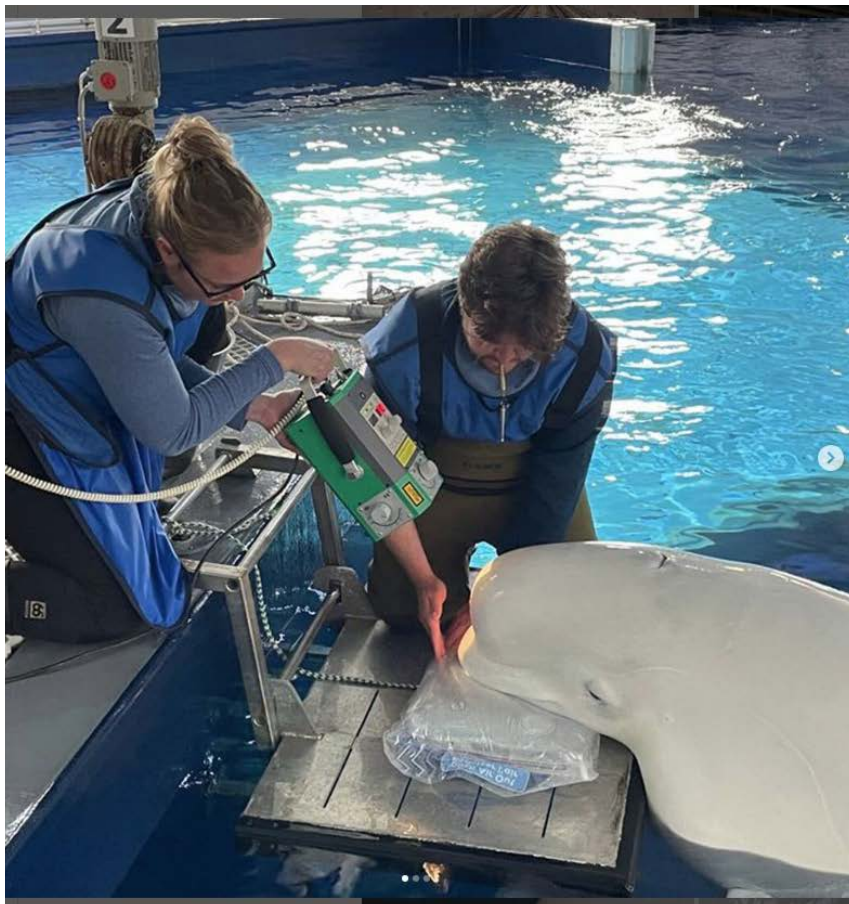
The welfare of these beautiful belugas is always our priority, and we know it's yours too, so we thank you for your continued support!

205 sem Ver traducción



3699 Me gusta

8 de diciembre de 2020



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary Beluga update! 🐋🌞

Little White and Little Grey had a visit from the veterinarians today.

As part of the visit local vets and our specialist international veterinarian worked with the team on new dental checks. They took x-rays and thermal scans to make sure the belugas' teeth are healthy!

173 sem Ver traducción

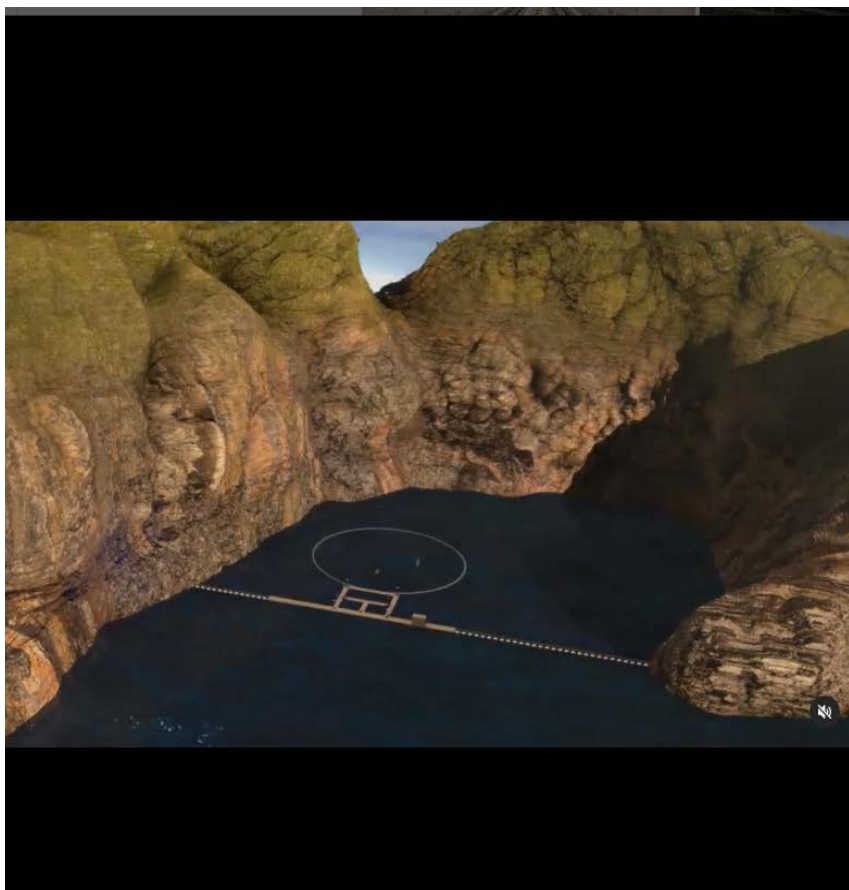


4282 Me gusta
14 de julio de 2021



Añade un comentario...

Publicar



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary Little Grey and Little White's welfare will always be our top priority which is why our expert care team are building an intermediate habitat within the bay, to enable a safe and successful transition for the whales from the sea care pools to the main bay. This will help to create an additional and important step for both whales to transition into the bay, as well as other beluga whales who will join them in the future.

The belugas stay in their landside facilities was planned to be just for the winter season after spending 4 months in the bay, but following significant supply chain issues due to the COVID pandemic, the planned necessary adaptations to the sanctuary won't be completed before they can be safely returned to the bay for the summer months. They will move back as soon as the works are completed and the weather conditions permit, in spring 2022.

For more information - LINK IN BIO

172 sem Ver traducción



14.128 reproducciones
27 de julio de 2021



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary Little White and Little Grey are continuing to do well in the land side care facility as our team prepares for their return to the sea sanctuary in 2022. We are often asked how we can tell the two belugas apart, so here are some tips on how our team knows who is who!

Little Grey has the notches in her upper left lip, along with larger eyes and a more rounded rostrum. She is also more grey along the edges of her pectoral fins and fluke. Little White has smaller eyes, is brighter white along her entire body and has a more pointed rostrum. You can tell the belugas apart not only by their physical differences, but also by their behaviour. Little Grey is often more curious and bold in her actions, while Little White tends to be more reserved.

Editado · 160 sem Ver traducción



4007 Me gusta

15 de octubre de 2021



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary Little White and Little Grey are doing well, and they acted very interested in having their photos taken today. We've given you tips before on how to tell them apart. Can you tell who is who in this side-by-side? #belugas #belugasanctuary #iceland

143 sem Ver traducción



3261 Me gusta

9 de febrero de 2022

**After many weeks of waiting and
16 hours of transportation...**



belugawhalesanctuary • [Seguir](#)

Adrián Berenguer • Little Things



belugawhalesanctuary Our construction update is here! We are happy to announce that the intermediate habitat structure has finally been transported to Vestmannaeyjar harbour where the team is working hard on last tweaks before it will be installed in Klettsvik bay.

This is a big milestone in Little Grey and Little White's journey as this is the last step before they move into the bay this summer.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved as without you all, the Little Steps project would not be what it is today.

133 sem [Ver traducción](#)



1770 Me gusta

21 de abril de 2022



They will continue to be cared for
in the landside facility



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir

Audio original



belugawhalesanctuary Unfortunately, we've got some sad news to share with you all.

Little Grey and Little White are both safe and well, but their planned return to the sea sanctuary has had to be postponed due to an unprecedented incident last week.

The main diving contractor's boat, who provides specialist services to our habitat in the bay, sank in Klettsvik Bay in the middle of the night and just hours before we were due to move Little Grey and Little White into their halo habitat. The resulting loss of some equipment and most significantly a substantial oil and fuel leakage led to an immediate inspection being launched by both ourselves and the island authorities to understand the damage caused to the habitat and infrastructure. Inevitably the oil and fuel contamination from the boat means it is currently unsafe for the whales to return to the bay.

We don't yet know the length of time it will take to conduct the clean-up, nor the full extent of repairs required in the bay caused by the boat sinking adjacent to the habitat. This combined with the onset of the fast-approaching harsh winter, means Little Grey and Little White's acclimatisation time in the bay will be severely shortened. With their welfare always uppermost in our minds, we have taken the very difficult decision to postpone the whales' return to the sea sanctuary until next spring.

After months of careful planning and preparation, we are totally devastated and shocked by this unexpected news. Little Grey and Little White's welfare continues to be the team's top priority and we would like to thank the team and the local community for their continued hard work and commitment to making this pioneering world first project possible. We also appreciate all the help from the local community as well as all those involved in the salvage and clean-up last week.

116 sem Ver traducción



1040 Me gusta

24 de ago. de 2022



This desensitization is part of the belugas preparation to move back to the bay in spring



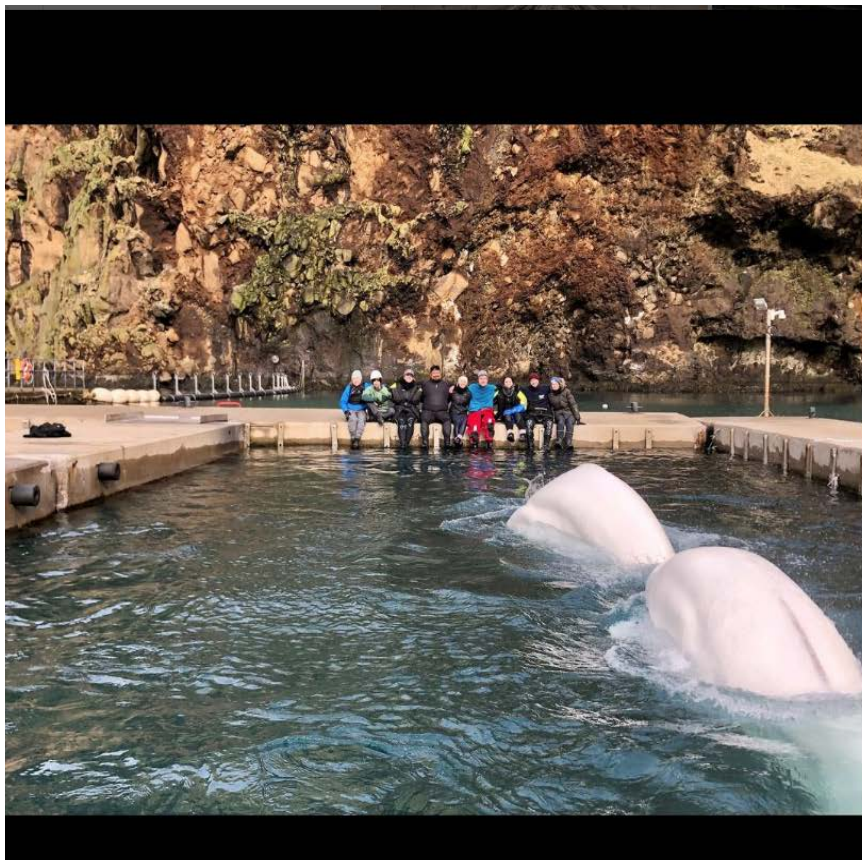
belugawhalesanctuary

Little Grey and Little White continue to be in good health and their care team are preparing the belugas for their spring move back to the bay. Some of this work is desensitization to transport equipment, including practice gating (swimming through the open gate) into the medical pool, where the lifting floor is used to help secure each beluga in a transport stretcher for the move.

98 sem · Ver traducción



3061 Me gusta
23 de diciembre de 2022



belugawhalesanctuary · Seguir



belugawhalesanctuary

We're excited to share that Little White and Little Grey have now moved to the outdoor sea pools in their Sea Sanctuary, ahead of their transition to their new world-first Intermediate 'Halo' Habitat this spring.

The whales were moved early this morning and we're pleased to share everything went as expected, and they are now settling into the outdoor sea pools before their final transition into their new environment. We'll be sharing a full update in the coming days about how Little White and Little Grey are doing, but keep following us here for more exciting news and information in the weeks to come.

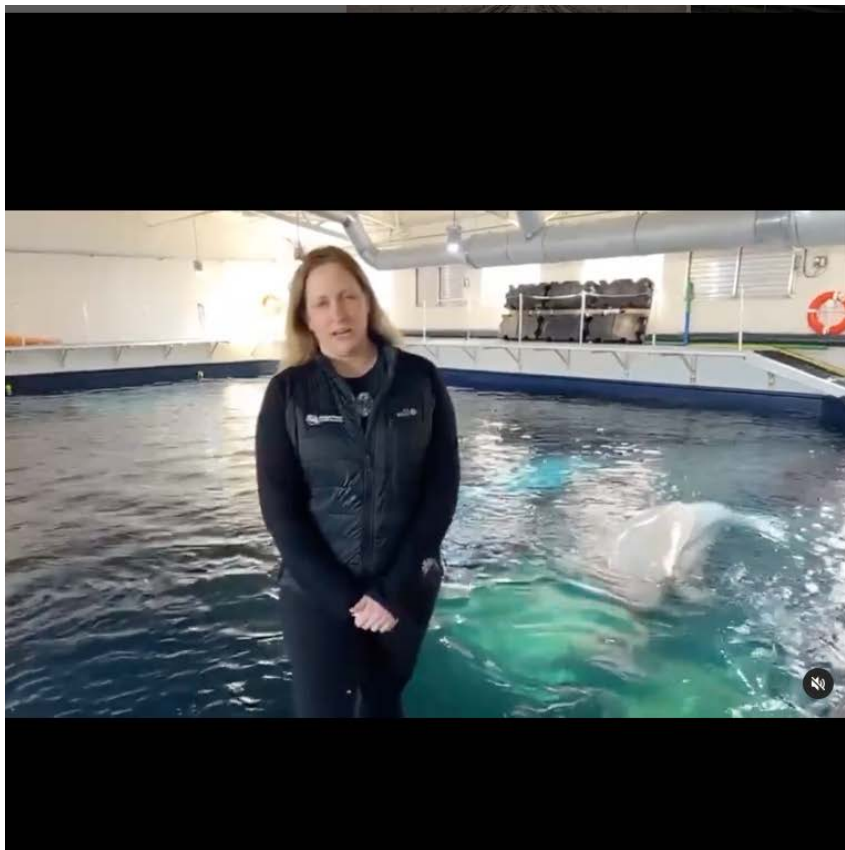
A huge thank you to all the teams, staff, volunteers, friends and family who helped ensure today's smooth transition!

Hvalirnir voru fluttir út í Klettsvík snemma í morgun og það er okkur ánægja að segja að allt gekk eins og best var á kosíð. Þær eru núna að koma sér fyrir og kynnst útilaugunum áður en þeir fara svo endanlega yfir í nýja umhverfið sitt. Við munum deila meiri upplýsingum til ykkur á næstu dögum og segja ykkur betur frá hvernig Litlu Hvít og Litlu Grá gengur. Fylgjast með okkur hér til að fá fleiri spennandi fréttir og upplýsingar á næstu vikum.

Við þökkum kærlega öllum þeim sem aðstoðuðu við þetta verkefni, starfsfólk, sjálfbóðaliðar, vinir og fjölskylda sem hjálpuðu til við að tryggja hnökralausa flutninga í dag. Þið eruð ómetanleg.



3878 Me gusta
28 de abril de 2023



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir

Audio original

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belugawhalesanctuary Our curator, Courtney Burdick, is here to share our latest update about Little White and Little Grey and their move back to our indoor care facility.

Following their return to the natural surroundings of their outdoor sea pools in the sanctuary at Kletttsvik Bay in April, it was observed by the animal care team that Little Grey's appetite was decreasing over recent days. Working alongside our expert veterinary team and advisors, immediate action was taken to ensure the whales' health and welfare remained a top priority.

Despite initial signs of improvement over 24 hours, a further decrease in her appetite saw all parties unanimously agree and make the difficult, but right, decision to move Little Grey and Little White immediately to their landside care facility.

Inside, veterinarians were able to do a thorough exam of Little Grey, where they discovered ulcers in her stomach (the likely cause of her decreased appetite and behavioural changes out at the bay).

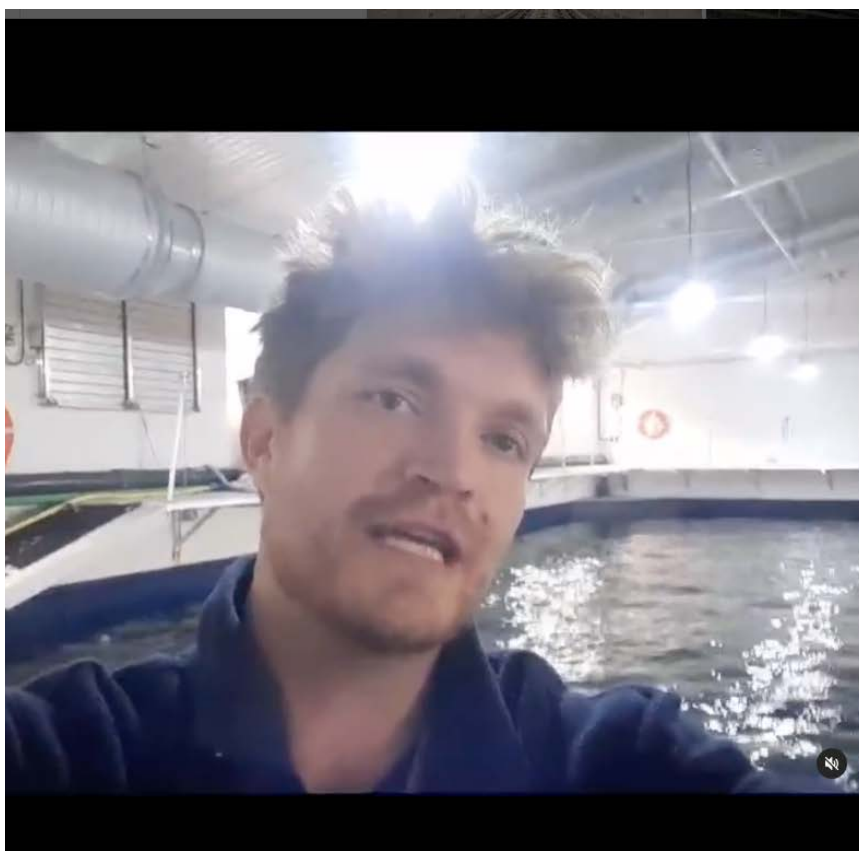
Little Grey and Little White's welfare continues to be the team's top priority. After months of careful planning and preparation, this is hugely disappointing and unexpected and hopefully a temporary setback. As always with this pioneering project, the team will always be led by the whales and their welfare is the priority. Today, the landside care facility is now running as it was designed to allow us to monitor Little Grey's health more closely and aid her recovery.

A huge thank you to our incredible team, volunteers and



1440 Me gusta

3 de Junio de 2023



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir

Audio original

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belugawhalesanctuary We're pleased to share that Little Grey is recovering well from her stomach ulcers diagnosed earlier this year, for which she has been receiving ongoing treatment in the Sanctuary's landside care facility. The ulcers may have been caused by a number of factors, but thankfully the course of treatment administered by the whales' dedicated care team and third party veterinarians is working as expected and we expect her to make a full recovery.

Treatment of Little Grey's condition will continue, and due to the ongoing nature of this treatment and the length of time required to help both whales build up their fitness and stamina for their move as part of the Little Steps programme, we have had to make the difficult but right decision to postpone the whales' return to the sanctuary's outdoor care pools until next year.

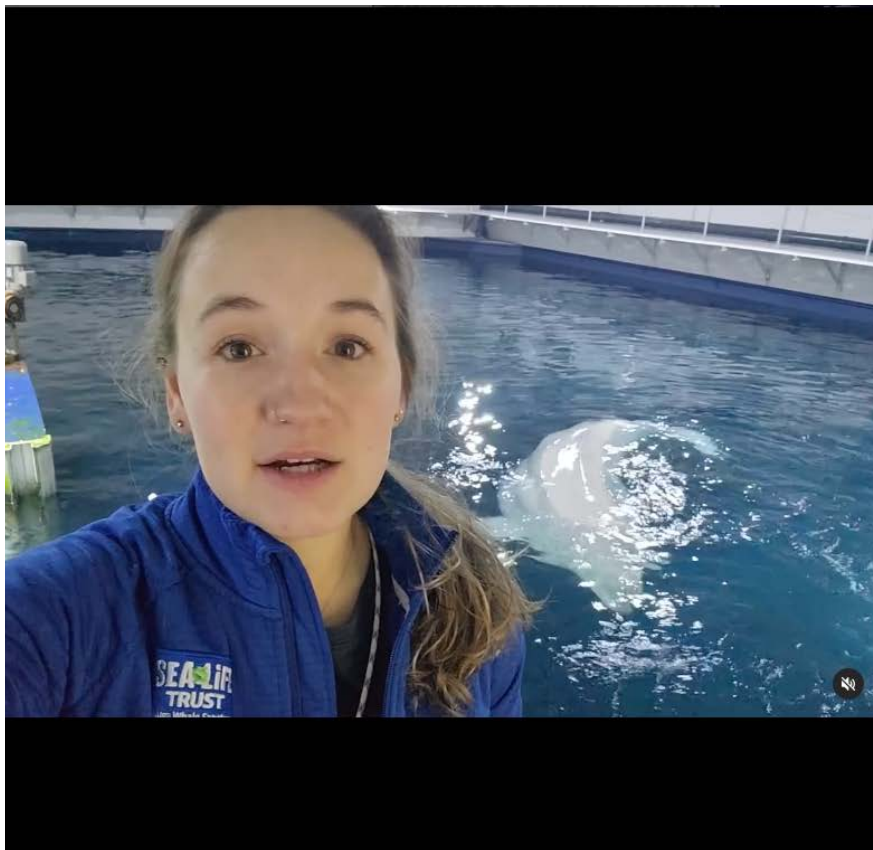
This is disappointing news for everyone involved, yet our priority is always to put Little Grey and Little White's welfare first. It is vitally important that we allow the whales to have the necessary amount of time to acclimatise in their natural surroundings before winter begins and, with that window having now passed, it is best to focus on the preparation of Little White and Little Grey for next year.

Our long-term goal for Little Grey and Little White to live in the open-water sea sanctuary throughout the year has not changed and, with the support of their dedicated welfare team and third-party experts, we will continue to help them to be ready for moving back to the bay next year as they continue on their Little Steps programme.



1608 Me gusta

29 de septiembre de 2023



belugawhalesanctuary • Seguir
Audio original

belugawhalesanctuary Here's our latest update from dedicated animal care team member Emily, who's here to share some great news about Little Grey!

For those who have been following our story, we're thrilled to announce that Little Grey has now fully recovered from her ulcers, thanks to expert care from our animal care team and veterinary partners.

As always, we'd like to thank our whole team for their incredible work to ensure the whales' welfare remains our number one priority.

Keep following us for more updates as we continue to move through this project in 2024!

47 sem Ver traducción

Para ti

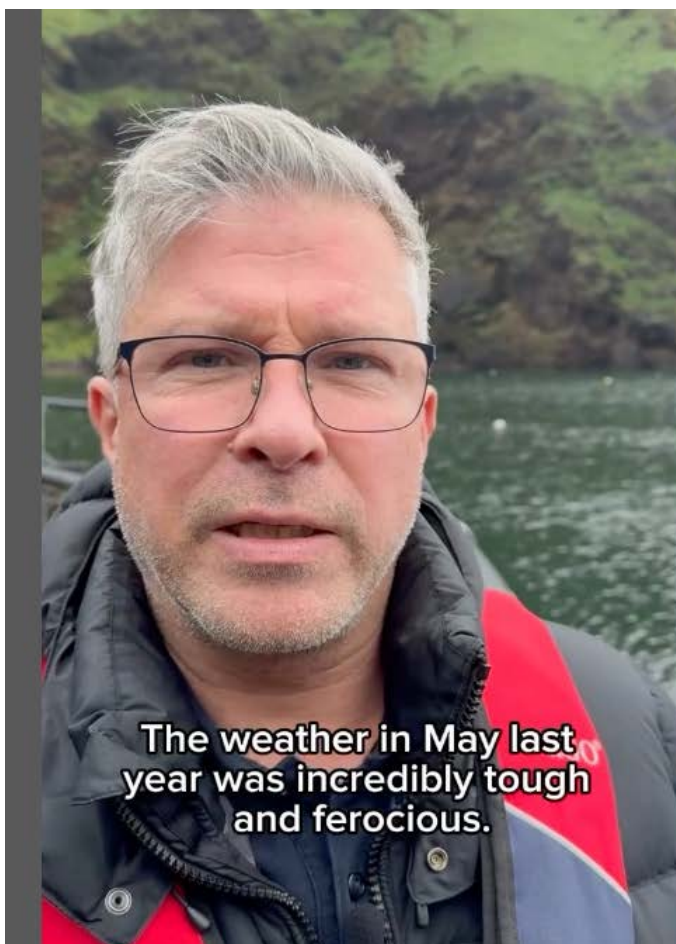
julihansen7 Yay! So glad she is better!
47 sem Responder Ver traducción

natasha1722 Great news. Hopefully they will acclimate better this time. Im rooting for them.
47 sem 1 Me gusta Responder Ver traducción

bigfisherpa564 Return them to the wild
47 sem Responder Ver traducción



Les gusta a maryline.rmd y personas más
19 de diciembre de 2023



belugawhalesanctuary A quick update on the progress of our amazing beluga whales, Little Grey and Little White

For those that have been following the journey of the whales, we are delighted to let you know they are doing extremely well, swimming, resting, eating and interacting with the animal care team daily.

After Little Grey became unwell last year and needed to return to the landside care facility for treatment, it brought to light that we need to enhance the existing structure we already have at Klettsvik Bay before the whales make a full return. Therefore, we have had to make the difficult decision to postpone their return until early 2025.

This will allow us to improve the infrastructure, create better access for the whales to be treated if they become unwell and build an area of respite which shields the whales from the underwater currents and extreme weather conditions.

We understand this might be disappointing news, however the whales' welfare is at the forefront of every decision we make. We want to reassure all our supporters and donors across the world that we remain totally committed to returning the belugas to the sea sanctuary.

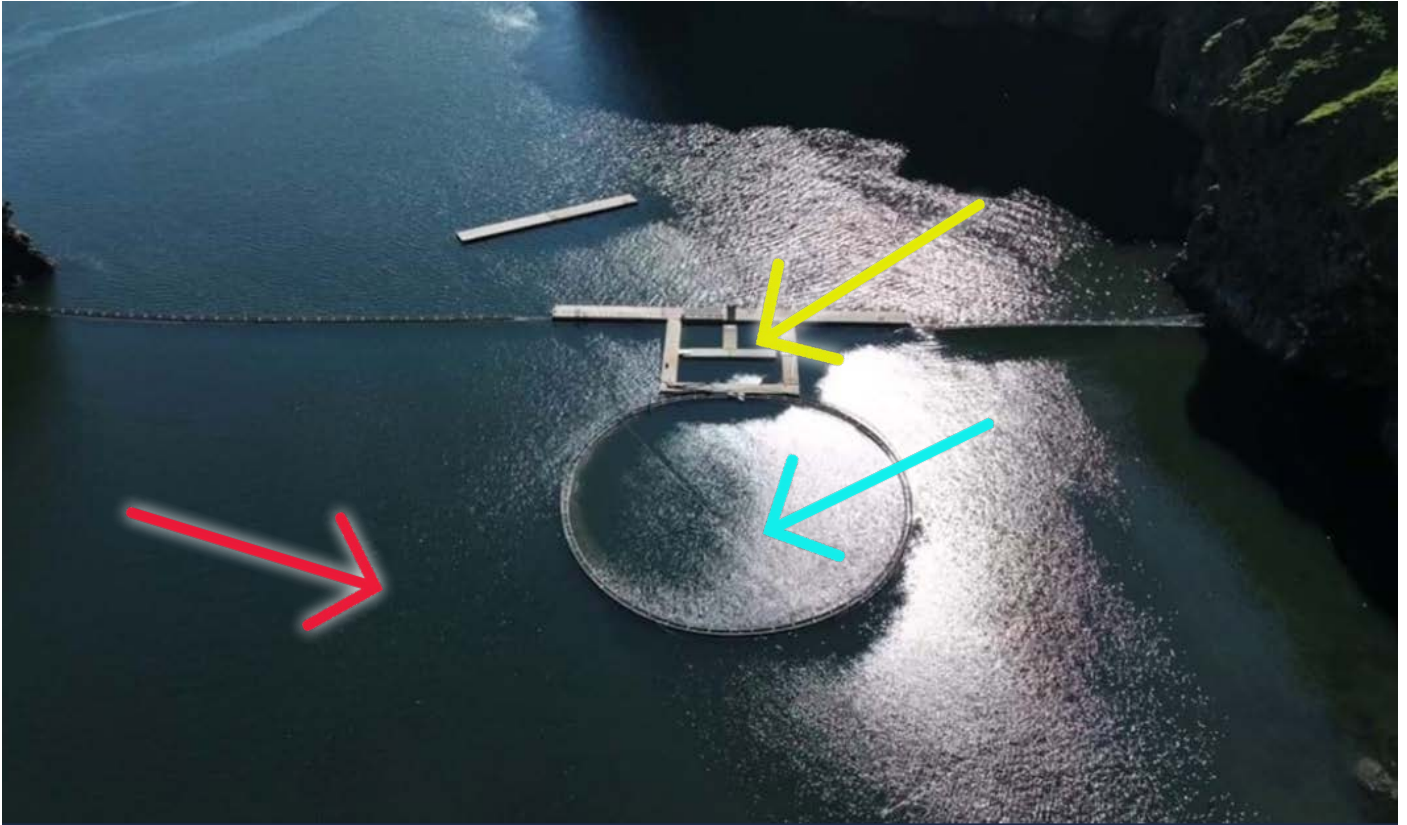
We look forward to spring next year, to return the whales to their wonderful new and upgraded home.

15 sem Ver traducción



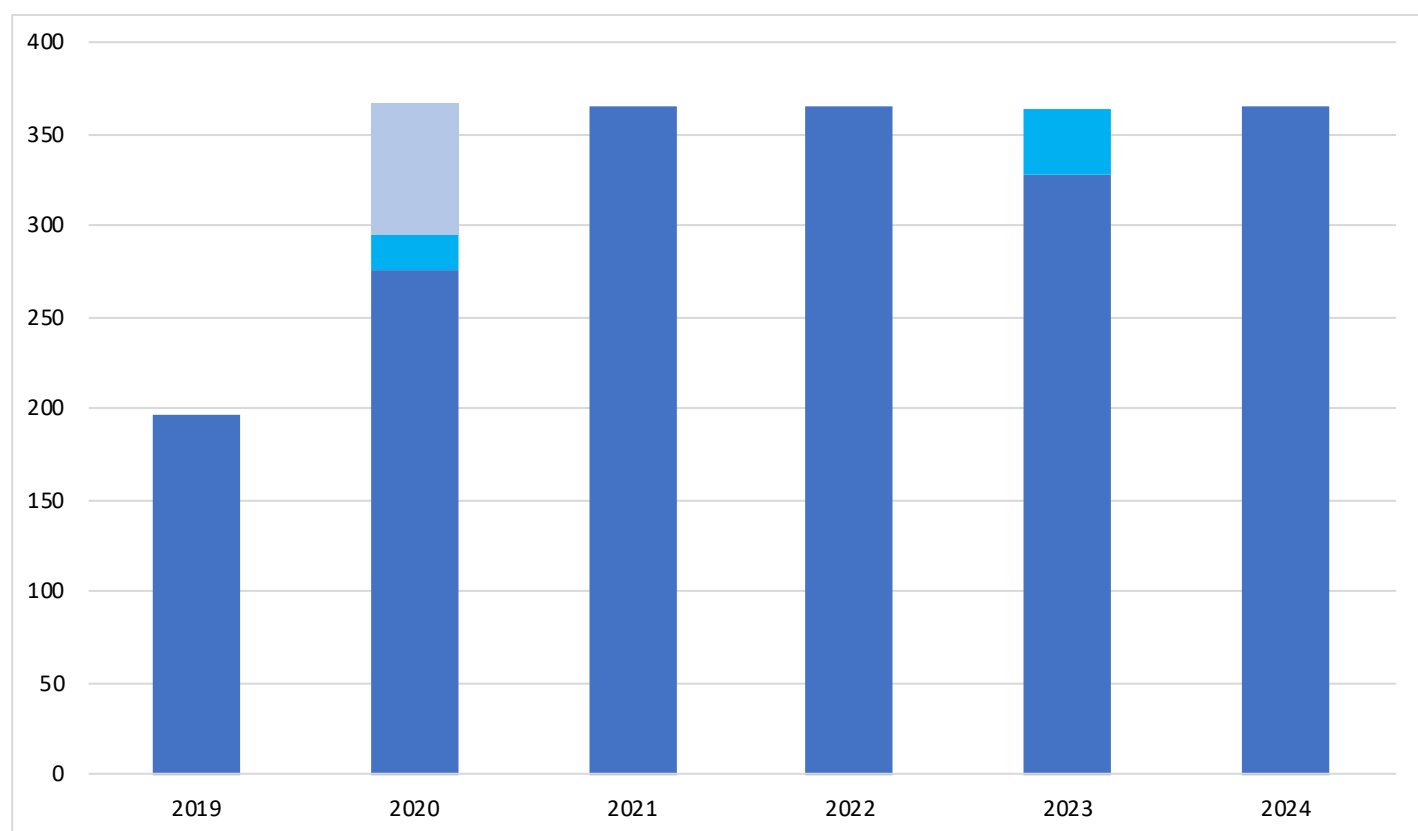
467 Me gusta
30 de julio

Cronología



- **19 JUN 2019** Las belugas llegan a Islandia y son ubicadas en la cuarentena ("Landside care pool").
- **10 AGO 2020** Se las mueve a la zona pequeña de la bahía, también llamada "Sea sanctuary care pools" (flecha amarilla).
- **28 SET 2020** Por primera vez se les permite salir a la bahía grande (flecha roja, zona final del santuario, pudiendo entrar y salir a las "Sea sanctuary care pools").
- **8 DIC 2020** Las belugas son trasladadas a la piscina interior ("Landside care pool") por condiciones meteorológicas y dificultades de una de las hembras. El traslado al exterior se va aplazando hasta que en agosto 2022 un barco se hunde en la bahía y el traslado se cancela.
- **27 JUL 2021** Se anuncia que se va a construir un recinto intermedio (flecha azul, también llamado "halo").
- **28 ABR 2023** Las belugas son trasladadas a las "Sea Sanctuary care pools" (flecha amarilla).
- **3 JUN 2023** Las belugas son trasladadas al interior "Landside care pool" debido a las úlceras de una de ellas.
- **19 DIC 2023** Se anuncia que la beluga está recuperada de las úlceras y permanecen en el interior.
- **30 JUL 2024** Se anuncia que no está previsto llevar a las belugas al exterior hasta la primavera de 2025 debido a mejoras que se deben hacer en el recinto.

Total de días habitando los distintos recintos



- Bay
- Sea sanctuary care pools
- Laneside care pools