

# MANATEE MISSION

**A LARGE manatee has been rescued in South Carolina, USA.**

Members of the SeaWorld Rescue team, along with several other organisations, helped save a large, male manatee who was suffering from cold stress. He was then transported to Jacksonville Zoo for treatment.

Last year was SeaWorld Rescue's biggest year for manatee rescues ever. They saved 69 manatees, with 23 already returned to the wild.



SeaWorld

# WHY DOES JAPAN WANT TO HUNT WHALES?



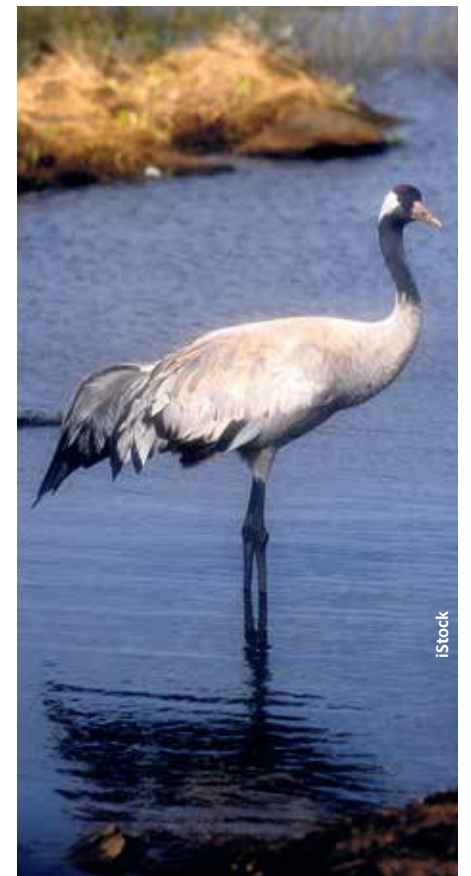
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**JAPAN has revealed that it is going to start commercial whaling again for the first time in 30 years – but why?**

In 1986 a global ban was put in place on commercial whaling. In July this year, Japan will defy that ban. Whales have been hunted for their meat for centuries in Japan, so some people say it is an important tradition. They also claim that stocks of some species of whales are now big enough to support hunting again. The country plans to only hunt whales in Japanese territorial waters and the 200-mile 'exclusive economic zone' around its coasts.

However, conservationists have criticised the move to start hunting whales again, as it could have a terrible effect on whale populations. The International Whaling Commission originally banned commercial whaling due to numbers of the creatures falling around the world. Since then, some whale populations have come back from the brink of extinction. But with Japan starting hunting again, the creatures' futures are uncertain.

# CRANE COMEBACK

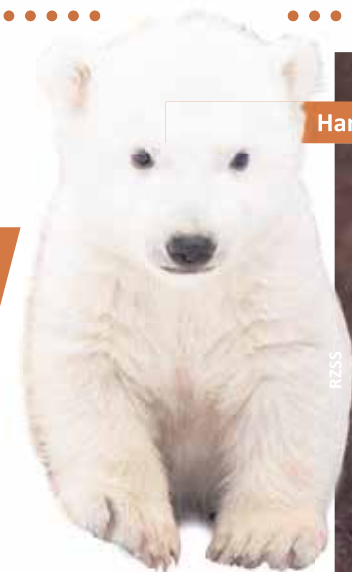


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**THE UK's tallest bird has had its most successful year in 2018.**

The RSPB has released figures that reveal a record 54 pairs of the common crane (measuring 120cm tall) have produced 25 chicks, bringing the national total population to around 180 birds. This is the highest number since 1979.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAMISH!



Hamish on his first visit outside in March 2018...



RZSS

...and here he is celebrating his birthday with his mum, Victoria

**THE UK's only polar bear cub has celebrated his first birthday.**

Hamish lives at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's Highland Wildlife Park and was born in December 2017. He celebrated his big day with his mum, Victoria, and a special ice birthday cake filled with his favourite treats.

In the wild, polar bear cubs stay with their mums for two to three years. When Hamish is ready to leave Victoria, it is hoped he will play a role in the European endangered species breeding programme.