The Marine Mammal Center advances ocean health through marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, research, and education.

## **Stewardship Saturday: Learning through Paddling**

Thank you for joining us at July's Stewardship Saturday event in collaboration with The Marine Mammal Center and Marine Science Institute.

The Marine Mammal Center uses the "What, So What, Now What" framework to link its efforts to broader issues of ocean health and climate change. We've applied this framework to reflect on and highlight key takeaways from our recent event.

## What?

What contributions do wetland and aquatic ecosystems have to the overall health of the Bay?

## So What?

Through our partnership with the Marine Science Institute and The Marine Mammal Center, we gained first-hand experience and a deeper understanding of how sloughs and wetlands support the health of the Bay and its marine life. By canoeing through sloughs, monitoring water quality, and studying invertebrates in the mud, we explored how these ecosystems function and respond to environmental changes. We learned about ocean acidification, algal blooms—both harmful and non-harmful—and how human activities affect water systems. These organizations helped us see the interconnectedness of wetland ecosystems, marine species, and our role in protecting them.

## **Now What?**

You can help protect coastal habitats by reporting sick or injured marine mammals to The Marine Mammal Center, or volunteering or participating in programs offered by the Marine Science Institute and The Marine Mammal Center.

During this event, the following next-step ideas were shared, and we've provided resources to help you explore these topics in more depth.

Marine Science Institute	The Marine Mammal Center
High School Opportunities	Report a Sick or Injured Marine Mammal
Marine Biology Course	<u>Volunteer</u>

To learn more about the Center's work and explore further opportunities to get involved, check out our <u>website</u>. Stay in touch! <u>Sign up for email</u>, connect with us on <u>LinkedIn</u>, and follow us on <u>social</u>.

