



Save the Nature of the Kimberley

environs
KIMBERLEY
INC

PO Box 2281 BROOME WA 6725

Phone: 08 91921922

Fax: 08 91925538

Email: envrkimb@broome.wt.com.au

Web: www.environskimberley.org.au

Media Release

2nd January, 2009

Endangered Turtles versus vehicles in Broome

Environs Kimberley welcomed the recent decision by the Shire of Broome to investigate ways of protecting nesting turtles and hatchlings from vehicles on the beach as a step in the right direction but is concerned that the strategies will take too long to implement.

“The Shire can take immediate action to help protect turtles nesting on our shores by restricting vehicle access at key times, this has been done on 80 mile beach since 1995” said Environs Kimberley Director Martin Pritchard.

“Marine turtles found on Broome beaches are listed on the international Red List of Threatened Species¹ as ‘Endangered’ or ‘Critically Endangered’ the same categories of threat as the Orangutan’s of Borneo and Sumatra”

“We can help turtles by making a very small sacrifice of not driving on beaches at critical times so that the nests don’t get crushed and to ensure that hatchlings have a greater chance of survival by not getting caught in deep wheel ruts where they are vulnerable to dehydration and predators” said Mr. Pritchard.

“We call on the Shire to place immediate restrictions on driving on beaches were turtles are nesting so that future generations can continue to see them returning to Broome as they have done for thousands of years.” Mr. Pritchard said.

Media Contact:

Martin Pritchard: 08 9192 1922 or 0427 548 075

¹ <http://www.iucnredlist.org/static/introduction>