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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Temporary Beach Closures to Assist Turtle Nesting Season

To limit the impact of vehicles on nesting turtles in Broome, Cable Beach will be closed at night to vehicles throughout the turtle nesting season from 8pm to 7am from 1 October 2009 until 28 February 2010.

Cable Beach will also be closed during the day to vehicles two hours either side when the high tide is nine metres or greater.

A gate will be installed at the Cable Beach Amphitheatre access ramp and locked in place during the temporary closures.

Shire of Broome Director of Engineering Neville Lavey said the closure times were primarily at night and during the period when the beach is least used and turtle nesting season is underway.

“Having a lockable gate will ensure the turtles are undisturbed at night by vehicles when the females come up the beach to lay their eggs and later on when the hatchlings make their dash to the sea,” he said.

Council resolved to undertake the seasonal closures following reports from the Department of Environment and Conservation highlighting vehicle damage to turtle nests and their habitat.

Ends

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