

TURTLE-Y AWESOME!

The Care for Hedland Environmental Association aims to connect people and the environment to create a more sustainable, inclusive and environmentally aware town. With BHP as Principal Partner since 2008, Care for Hedland receives the support it needs to facilitate these great programs. One of Care for Hedland's diverse range of conservation-based volunteer programs is flatback sea turtle monitoring.

On Tuesday 12th of January, volunteers from the BHP Rail Engineering Team woke up early and gave their time to support Care for Hedland's Morning Turtle Monitoring program. On arrival, Ashley the Morning Turtle Coordinator greeted the team and gave them background information on the program, information on the turtles and a tour of the beach.

With hatchling season in full swing, the volunteers assisted with counting and recording hatched nest locations, as well as the tracks of the turtles. They were also tasked with escorting any stragglers to the water's edge. However, as luck would have it, Mother Nature had other plans, and no hatchlings were seen by the team on the day.

After all the hard work was done, the team had some time to reflect on all the things they learned about turtles, whilst enjoying a morning tea by the beach.

The team described their experience as awesome, meaningful, interactive and that they learned a lot about turtles and the challenges they face in reproduction, both environmentally and humanely. Great effort by all!



Team Highlights

Understanding the process and importance of turtle monitoring!

Seeing what Care for Hedland does and learned how city lights affect the survival of turtle hatchlings!

