

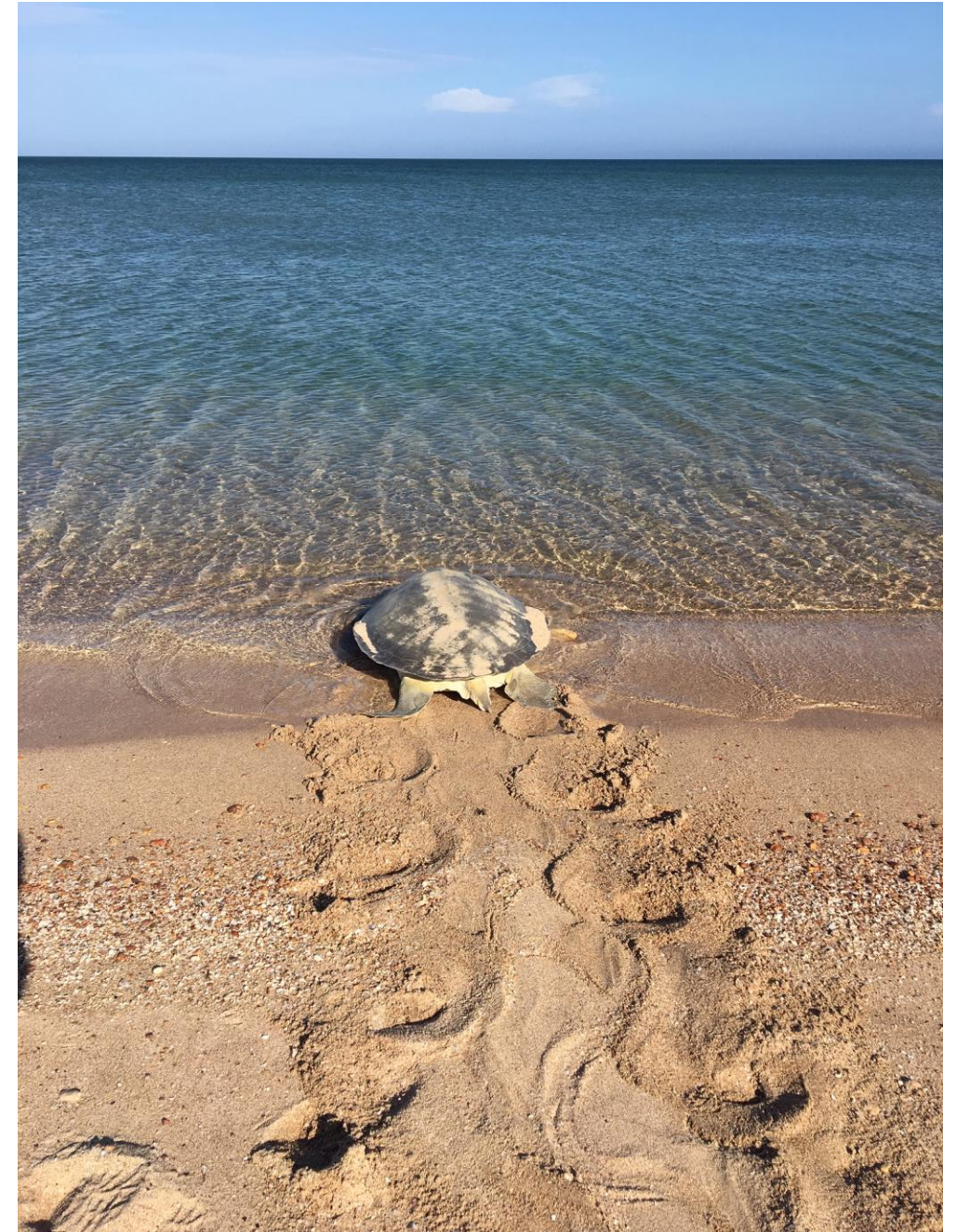
Barrow Island Turtle Season

Oct 2021 – Apr 2022

Marine turtles are present in Barrow Island (BWI) Port waters all year round, however Flatback Turtle numbers greatly increase from:

- October to January during the breeding / nesting season, and;
- February to March during the turtle hatchling season

All vessels within the Port of BWI are required to minimise lighting and follow vessel procedures to avoid interactions with marine turtles throughout the year. Increased diligence is required during the turtle season.



Barrow Island Turtle Season

Lighting management

Marine turtles are highly sensitive to the presence of artificial light.

- Female turtles may be deterred from leaving the water to nest on east coast beaches if the beach is light.
- Turtle hatchlings are attracted to, and become trapped in light spill over water, exposing them to increased predation.

In accordance with the Barrow Island – Port Information Manual, all vessels entering the Port Area must make best endeavours to reduce light spill and direct overboard lighting to the absolute safe minimum level at all times. This includes, where practicable:

- Removal / switching-off unnecessary task lights when not required
- Shielding, directional and downward facing lights to prevent light halo
- Blinds / shutters on windows and portholes to manage light spill from cabins and internal work areas
- Directing lights on to work areas and away from beaches and water
- Checking that lights are the lowest wattage (for safe operations) and yellow to red spectrum where fitted.



Barrow Island Turtle Season

Vessel speeds

Vessel movements, including any imposed speed restrictions within the Port of Barrow Island, are under the control of Port of Barrow Island.

- Vessels operating within the Port of BWI during Turtle season are required to maintain a safe manoeuvrable speed (exemptions: Emergency or directed by Port of BWI) to ensure that the vessel Master maintains the ability to avoid interactions with marine fauna.
- Speed restrictions may apply to certain areas of the Port. Such restrictions will be communicated via announcement on VHF Ch10 by the BWI Marine Communications Officer.
- Any interactions with marine turtles and other marine fauna (i.e. vessel strikes, entanglement, sightings of injured or dead fauna) shall be reported to the Port.



References:

- *Barrow Island Port Information Manual GOR-COP-0716*
- *Gorgon Gas Development and Jansz Feed Gas Pipeline Long-Term Marine Turtle Management Plan GOR-COP-01728*
- *Gorgon Operations Lighting Guideline – LNG Ships and Condensate Vessels GOR-COP-01821*

