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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Turtle Watching Code of Conduct

DIGGING BODY PIT

2

Lots of sand flicked into the air using front flippers only. Turtle may move and repeat this process until finding the correct spot.
Estimated time 20-40mins

EXCAVATING EGG CHAMBER

3

Sand stops being flicked as turtle scoops out egg chamber with rear flippers only. Rocking motion side to side.
Estimated time 10-20mins

LAYING EGGS

4

Turtle remains very still, with a gentle heaving motion. If her flippers are moving and sand is being flicked she is NOT laying yet.
Estimated time 3-10mins

COVERING NEST

5

Turtle covers egg chamber with sand using rear flippers then gradually moves forward, camouflaging nest, flicking lots of sand into air.
Estimated time 20-40mins

1

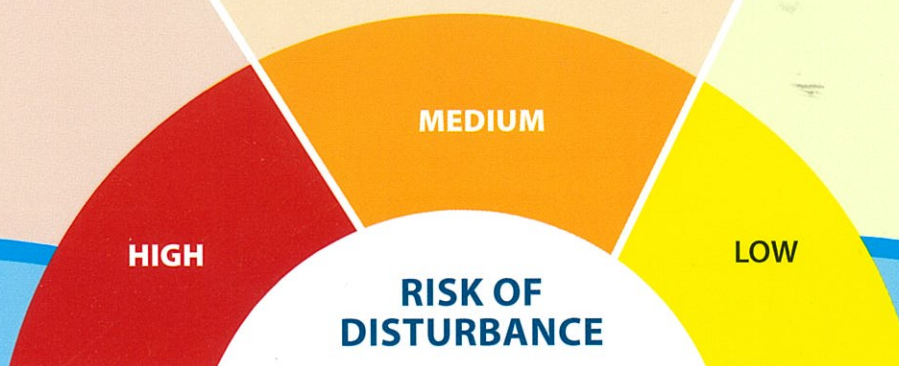
EMERGING TURTLE

Crawls from ocean towards potential nesting area.
Estimated time 5-20mins

6

RETURNING TURTLE

Crawls back from beach to ocean. May stop to rest at water's edge to restore energy.
Estimated time 20-40mins



NO GLOW: turtles are easily disturbed by lights, use the moon to light your way.

MOVE SLOW: at all times to avoid disturbing turtles, walk along the water's edge and slowly follow an emerging track.

STAY LOW: out of sight of nesting turtles - sit, crouch or lie in the sand.



No flash
photography
at any time