



## **MEDIA RELEASE September 2010**

### **Lucy the Turtle looks to be returning to Eco Beach!**

After seven months in her foraging (feeding) grounds off the far north coast of WA, Lucy Roscoe, a nesting sea turtle from Eco Beach appears to be heading back to the shores of Eco Beach!

In early November 2009 during their nesting season, two Australian flatback turtles (*Natator depressus*) were each tagged with a high tech satellite transmitter pack as part of an ongoing study at Eco Beach. The Platform Terminal Transmitter is attached to a specially made harness and monitors daily the migratory movements of each turtle.

After having nested several times last season, the turtles moved towards their foraging ground however enroute Lucy Roscoe encountered severe tropical cyclone Laurence. This storm was Australia's first cyclone of the season and was rated as a category five cyclone, with its strongest winds being very destructive and with gusts of over 280 kms per hour. The beloved Lucy Roscoe made it safely through the eye of the storm and shortly after arrived north of the Van Cloon Shoal where she remained for more than 200 days.

Lucy Roscoe to date has been at large for more than 300 days and has travelled a total of 4,871kms (most of it in circles) and she is currently 450kms from Eco Beach.

"Flatbacks don't normally nest consecutive years and the research program is keen to try and establish where the breeding ground is after having now established the foraging ground for these West Kimberley turtles". Said Glenn McFarlane, Marine Species Manager for Conservation Volunteers Australia.

By using the information obtained from the tracking device fixed to Lucy Roscoe we are giving the public the opportunity to select when they think she may return to Eco Beach. The competition is easy, you simply enter your details and guess Lucy Roscoe's return date, and the closest guess wins an amazing accommodation package at Eco Beach!

**Our LUCY RETURNS competition is now open. Visit our website to enter: [www.ecobeach.com.au](http://www.ecobeach.com.au)**

In addition to this, from November to January each year, in-house guests at Eco Beach are given the unique and amazing opportunity of joining the Conservation Volunteers Australia team on the moonlit beaches not far from the Retreat, to experience the nesting turtles.

**For more information please contact Kristy Bailey, Sales & Marketing Manager on 0408 020 886, email [Kristy@ecobeach.com](mailto:Kristy@ecobeach.com) or visit our website: [www.ecobeach.com.au](http://www.ecobeach.com.au)**

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