Understanding the early offshore movement of flatback turtle hatchlings and the effects of anthropogenic light

Status Underway, Phillipa Wilson, PhD Candidate

Aims To determine the impacts of artificial light of near shore movements of flatback hatchlings and identify cures used for navigation from field and laboratory experiments.

Relevance Light pollution is considered a primary risk to marine turtle populations and particularly on their early life-history stages. Although he negative impacts of artificial light on the orientation of marine turtle hatchlings from the nest to the sea has been well documented, the impact of artificial light on their in water behaviour is poorly understood. This project will fill critical knowledge gaps that could be used for mitigation of impacts through advice to new developments or managing existing light in urban or industrial areas.

NWSFTCP Code P1Ra

Collaborators DBCA, UWA, AIMS, Pendoley Environmental