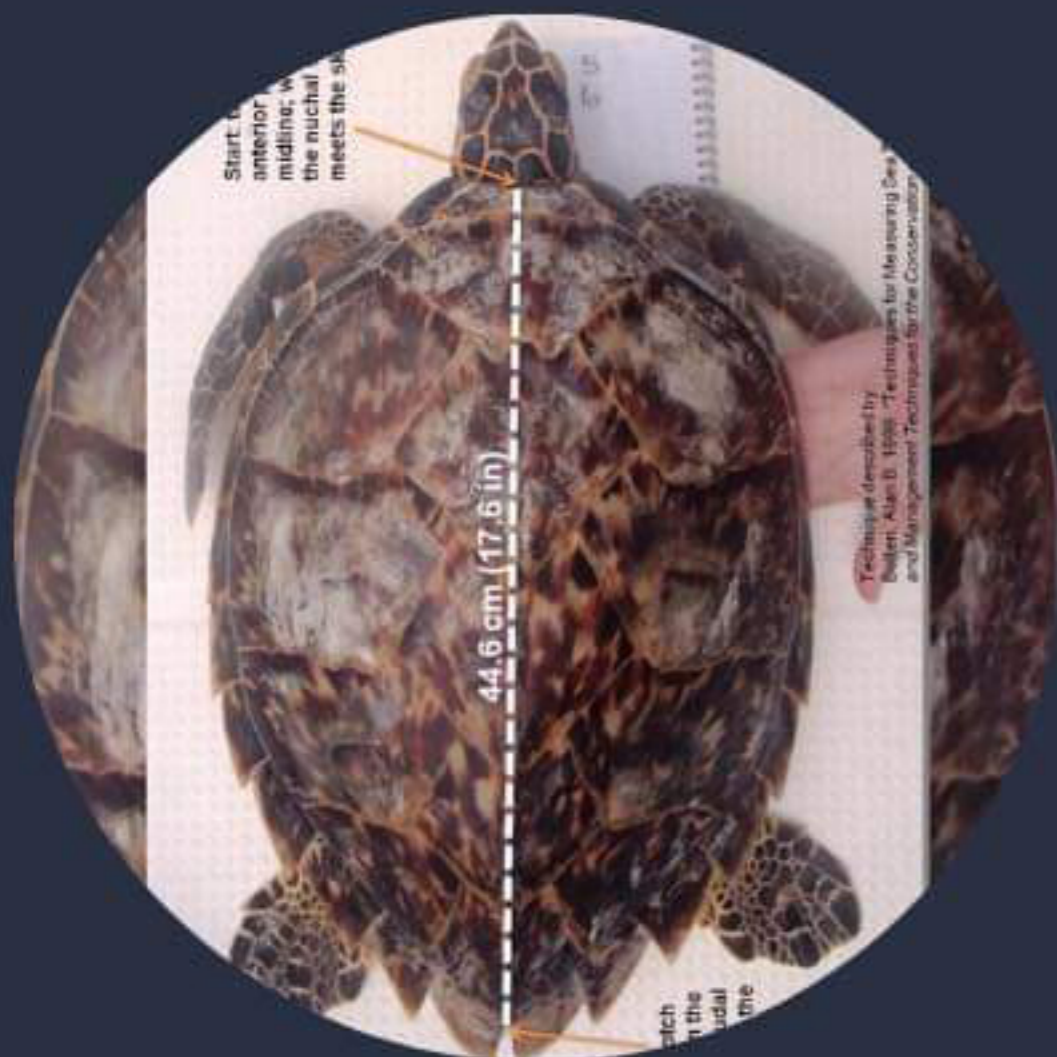




**QUOIN ISLAND**  
TURTLE REHABILITATION CENTRE



# What to do when you find a sea turtle

You've just found a stranded or floating sea turtle. What to do now?

## What to do:

Before taking any action, call us immediately on **0408 431 304**

Info we will need:

- location (GPS coordinates)
- circumstances (i.e. beach stranding/floating)
- injuries
- size (length of shell only, see top photo)
- photos (1. of top of shell, 2. of front area in between head and front flippers - see middle photo-, 3. of any injuries etc.)

Based on the relayed information we will decide if the sea turtle will need come into care.

## What not to do:

- Please do not put the sea turtle back into the water unless instructed (a sea turtle will generally swim away, but this doesn't mean it's not injured/sick and needs urgent care)
- Please do not pick up sea turtle unless instructed/rescue from water (picking up sea turtles incorrectly can cause deadly injuries)
- Please do not remove any barnacles, see bottom photo (this can cause deadly injuries)
- Please do not remove fishing hooks/line/net unless instructed/animal can't breathe (this needs to be done by a professional to prevent infection/further damage)

## What happens when the sea turtle comes to us:

- We do a full assessment and start medical treatment
- We take measurements and collect data for the QLD government database of marine strandings
- We'll do a swim test and try to feed the sea turtle
- If nobody has adopted the sea turtle, we'll let you pick the name
- The sea turtle will be kept in ICU until strong and healthy enough to go into the main pool
- It'll stay in the main pool until injuries have healed, the turtle is at a healthy weight and strong enough to be released into the wild
- If the turtle is released on the mainland we'll invite you to attend
- Please feel free to contact us in the interim for updates on the turtle you found

**Thank you for your help! We wouldn't be able to save sea turtles without you!**

Please phone our centre directly if you have spotted a beached or floating sea turtle:

**Turtle Rescue Hotline**  
**0408 431 304**

