

**MEDIA RELEASE**

February 2011

**ENDANGERED TURTLES RELEASED BACK TO WILD**

Something very special will be happening on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 10am as UnderWater World releases two of their endangered rescued turtles back into the ocean after months of intensive rehabilitation. With the first release of rescued turtles for the year, UnderWater World is making sure these turtles are safely returned to their homes for another happy ending.

The two turtles who were rescued in November from Yaroomba and Peregrine, are lucky to have survived as both were found washed onto the beach, floating, weak and dehydrated. The Hawksbill is a critically endangered turtle and the Green Turtle is endangered and both have been healing, resting and regaining their strength in the care of the dedicated rehabilitation staff at UnderWater World. This now marks the 572<sup>nd</sup> and 573<sup>rd</sup> turtle rescued by UnderWater World since launching our Turtle Rehabilitation Program.

Clint Chapman, Head Curator at UnderWater World is well aware of the fragility of the species, "After months of caring for these beautiful creatures and seeing their recovery, it really is an amazing thing to watch as they are released back into the ocean. The message we really want to send is prevention is the best cure and we can all do this by protecting our waterways to keep it clean and safe for all the animals who have this as their home".

**Media Opportunity**

- There will be media and photographic opportunities available prior to the boat releasing the turtles.
- Interviews with Head Curator Clint Chapman or Vet Technician Blake Chapman

**When**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011, 10am (weather permitting)

**Where**

UnderWater World Wharf Marina, Mooloolaba

For further information, please contact UnderWater World, Parkyn Pde, Mooloolaba, Qld, 4557 on 07 5458 6280. [www.underwaterworld.com.au](http://www.underwaterworld.com.au)

**ENDS - For media information and/or imagery please contact:**

**Off-site**

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**On-site**

Neil Swann

UnderWater World

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