



**Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**  
**Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts**

Levels 8 -10, Tower C,  
International Waterfront Complex,  
1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain,  
Trinidad and Tobago

Phone: 624-1403  
Fax: 624-6737

---

March 14, 2023

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Ministry Commends Entities for Speedy Response in Leatherback Turtle Rescue**

A Leatherback turtle has been safely returned to sea, thanks to the effective, combined rescue efforts of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (UDeCOTT), the Turtle Village Trust, the Las Cuevas Eco Friendly Association, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) and the Emperor Valley Zoo.

Early this morning, March 14, 2023, UDeCOTT alerted the Projects and Facility Management Unit of the Ministry that a Leatherback turtle was discovered trapped near the wash-room area of the Maracas Beach Facility. UDeCOTT then contacted the TTPS, the Turtle Village Trust, the Las Cuevas Eco Friendly Association and the Emperor Valley Zoo who quickly arrived on site to assist with the rescue.

The Ministry wishes to commend these entities for their speedy response and collaborative efforts toward safeguarding one of Trinidad and Tobago's prized wildlife.

The turtle nesting period generally runs from the beginning of March to the end of August annually. In the event of an encounter with turtles or nesting spots, please contact any UDeCOTT personnel on site or the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts at 1(868) 624-1403 Exts. 542 or 275.



*Members of the UDeCOTT, the Turtle Village Trust, the Las Cuevas Eco Friendly Association, the TTPS and the Emperor Valley Zoo assisting with the rescue.*

**###END###**