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Sabah resort does its bit for turtle conservation

AS part of its comprehensive environmental conservation plan, Nexus Golf Resort Karambunai, near Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, recently released its first turtle hatchlings into the sea.

The resort has identified several turtle nesting ground to be protected by its conservation team, with round-the-clock security and monitoring.

In collaboration with the State Wildlife Department, the resort and its sister companies Gregawarni, Macro Force Security and Karambunai Resorts are also building a turtle hatchery and education centre.

"Anyone who has witnessed the giant sea turtles laying their eggs or the hatchlings scrambling to the sea will remember it for life," said Darren McPartland, the resort's sports and recreation manager.

"The more turtles eggs we allow to hatch, the more turtles will return in the future," he added.

He said the resort hoped to have local schoolchildren and tourists visit to enjoy and learn about the turtles.

To emphasise its strong commitment to turtle conservation, senior sales manager Susanna Yong said the resort has named its coffee house The Penyu.

She said the coffeehouse has already been the venue for a special lunch attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who visited the resort recently.

The resort's other environmental projects include mangrove protection, and planting of native fruit trees to encourage more bird life to the area.

Located on a secluded 18ha Karambunai Peninsula, 30km east of Kota Kinabalu, the 485-room resort is set to open business in June.

Complete with an 18-hole championship golf course, seven food and beverage outlets, a range of sports and recreational facilities, the resort promises to be one of Asia's finest holiday destination.

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