

Aussie crocs 'traumatised' by cyclone

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Photo illustration of saltwater crocodile. A group of ferocious Australian crocodiles were so traumatised by a maximum-strength cyclone last week that they hid under water and stopped eating, wildlife park officials said Friday.

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Bob Flemming from Townsville's Billabong Sanctuary in Australia's northeast said the 12 saltwater <u>crocodiles</u>, some more than four metres (13 feet) long, took days to recover from Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi.

"They were traumatised for a couple of days," Flemming told AAP news agency.

"They stayed underwater for some time and didn't even surface for



food."

However, Flemming said he did not lose any <u>animals</u> during Australia's worst storm in nearly a century, which remarkably also failed to cause any direct human casualties.

"Lots of trees came down on the aviary and some <u>birds</u>, including wedgetail eagles, flew away but they have since returned home," he said.

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