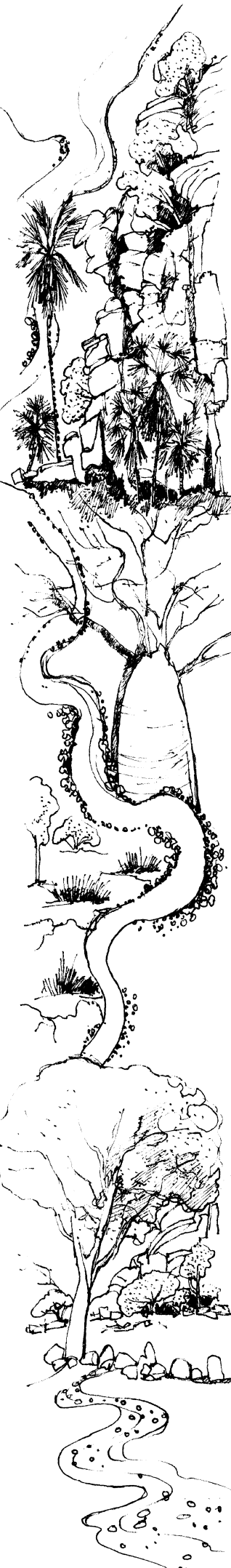


Elsley National Park



Fact Sheet



The serene Roper River begins its life within the boundaries of the 13,840 hectare Elsey National Park. Numerous springs within the Park feed the Roper River which, in the “dry season” (April-Sept), flows gently through large waterholes and then tumbles over rocks and tufa dams. During the wet season, flood waters cause the river to swell and rage on its journey to the sea.

The Rainbow Spring and Thermal Pool sector of the park are a major attraction to visitors. The spring water rising from underground at 30.5 million litres per day, and at a temperature of 34 °C is then contained in a relaxing swimming pool surrounded by a paperbark and palm forest.

Access


The Park has three access points. To access the main Thermal Pool take the Homestead Road turnoff (1.5 kilometres south of Mataranka) and follow it for approximately 7 kilometres. To access the facilities along John Hauser Drive turnoff Homestead Road approximately 4 kilometres from the Highway. The Bitter Springs access is via a sealed road leading directly from Mataranka township.

When to Visit


The most comfortable months to visit the park are from May to September. The wet season causes flooding of the Roper River which may restrict access


to some facilities in the Park.


What to See and Do


 **Camping** - An established campground, suitable for tents and caravans, is located at the 12 Mile Yards. The campground offers grassed areas, hot water, ablution facilities but *not* powered sites. Generators are not permitted.

Alternate accommodation and camping facilities are available from commercial establishments in the area.

 **Boating/Canoeing** - A boat ramp and canoe launching area is provided at the 12 Mile Yards and Mataranka Homestead. Outboard motor sizes are limited to a maximum of 15hp.

 **Swimming** - The springs of the Park provide excellent opportunities for swimming. Facilities are provided at Bitter Springs and the Thermal Pool. Swimming is also possible along the Roper River.

 **Fishing** - Fishing is a popular pastime for many visitors. Traps, nets and spears are prohibited and barramundi fishing regulations apply within the Park.

 **Walking** - A 1.5 kilometre Botanical Walk is located along John Hauser Drive access road. Also a 4 kilometre (one way) walk to Mataranka Falls starts at the 12 Mile Yards. Various day use areas are connected by short riverside walks. A short loop walk is also available at Bitter Springs.

Safety and Comfort

- Observe park safety signs
- Swim only where recommended, observe warning signs
- Carry and drink plenty of water
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear
- Carry a first aid kit
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.

Please Remember

- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you
- Keep to designated roads and tracks
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected
- Pets are not permitted in the Park
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted
- Take care with fire, light fires only in fireplaces provided
- Avoid using soaps and detergent in or near waterways
- Camp only in designated camping areas
- Collect firewood before arriving at your picnic or campsite
- Generators are not permitted in this Park
- Observe all fishing regulations
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting pests like weeds and cane toads.

Visitor Facilities

Picnic areas complete with tables, wood barbecues and toilet facilities are provided at Bitter Springs, 12 Mile Yards, Mulurark and the 4 mile.

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

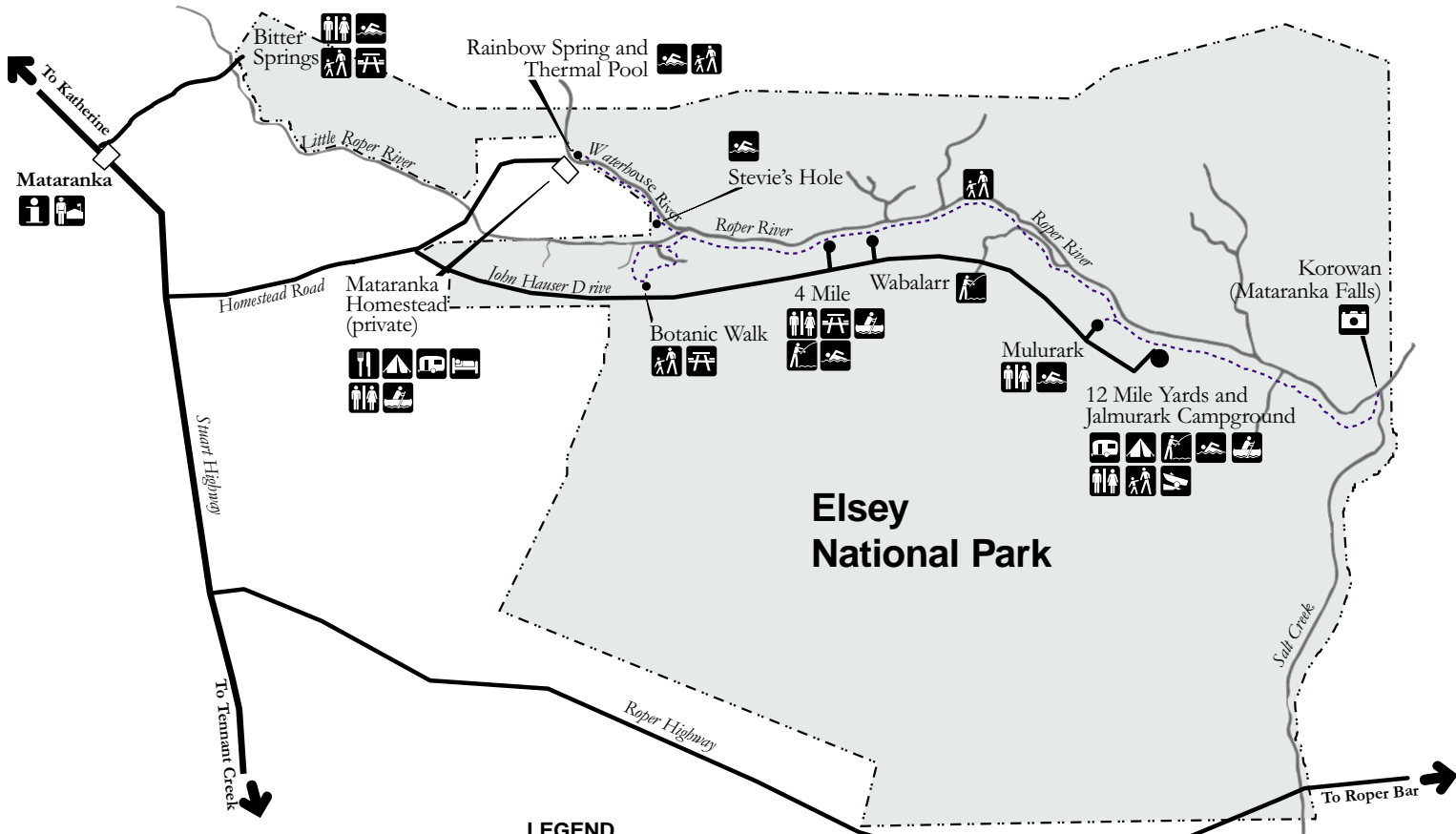
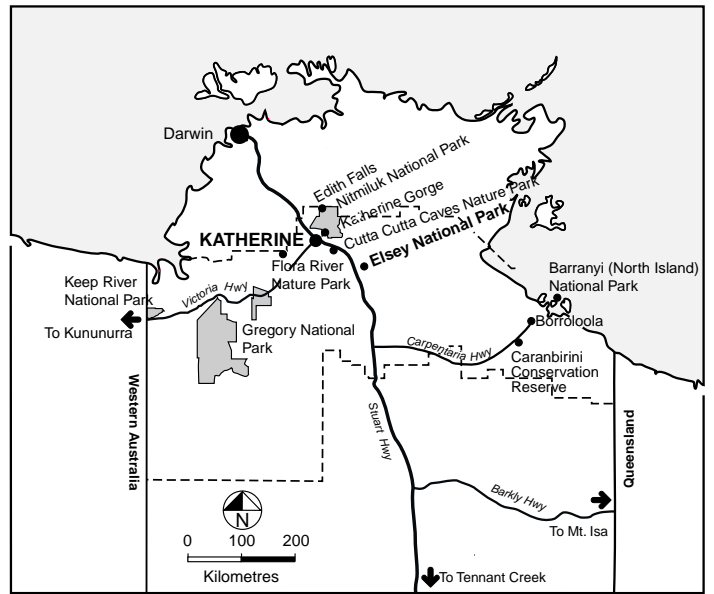
Mataranka Office
Ph: (08) 8975 4560
Fax: (08) 8975 4696

Head Office
32 Giles St KATHERINE NT 0851
PO Box 344 KATHERINE NT 0851
Ph: (08) 8973 8888



Eseley National Park

Fact Sheet



LEGEND

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------|------------------|
| Information | Picnic | Park Boundary |
| Ranger Station | Swimming | Watercourse |
| Toilets | Walking | Walking Track |
| Camping | Canoeing | Sealed Road |
| Caravan Camping | Kiosk | Highway |
| Accommodation | Fishing | 0 1 2 Kilometres |
| Photo Opportunity | | |