

# PETS IN PARKS POLICY



## PREAMBLE

The Parks and Wildlife Commission recognises that:

- introduced animals can adversely affect wildlife and other conservation values in parks and reserves;
- uncontrolled animals can provide a hazard and a nuisance to other users of parks and reserves;
- horse riding and related activities can be accommodated as a recreational activity in certain parks and reserves;
- visitors to parks, particularly those from interstate, are frequently accompanied by pets; and
- resident staff and communities within parks frequently desire to keep pets.

The Commission has determined the following policy.

## POLICY

In respect of the introduction and residence of animals in parks, reserves and other land committed to its care, control and management:

- a) there are reserves of high conservation value where pets and other introduced animals will not be allowed;
- b) for the purpose of introduction of animals to parks or reserves, riding animals such as mules, donkeys and camels will be subject to the same restrictions as apply to horses;
- c) horses, mules, donkeys, camels and dogs may be taken into specified areas of certain parks and reserves, in accordance with signs erected and conditions required under the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation By-laws.

They may be taken into other parks and reserves when allowed by permit or written permission and subject to conditions as may be specified thereon;

- d) seeing and hearing guide dogs employed by persons with disabilities, on leash and accompanied by the owner, may be taken into all parks and reserves;
- e) animals other than those covered above may only be taken into parks and reserves in accordance with permits or written permission issued under the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation By-laws;
  - approvals for birds, reptiles, fish and amphibians will only be granted subject to the animals being within a cage or aquarium tank or being otherwise confined within a vehicle, vessel or residential premises;
  - approvals in respect of cats shall only be given subject to the cat(s) being securely caged or confined in a vehicle or vessel and, in any event, accompanied by the owner; and
  - animals being taken into parks and reserves by permit or written approval will be controlled by the applicant of said permit or written approval at all times.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The policy will be implemented in accordance with schedules to the policy which identify those parks and reserves where certain types of animals may or may not be allowed.

The schedules may be varied from time to time by the Director in order to meet specific management needs. Such variations shall be subject to endorsement by the Commission at its next meeting.

The policy will be implemented in accordance with the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*, section 71 and the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation By-law 22.

Charges may be made for the issue of permits or written approvals in accordance with a scale approved by the Director from time to time.

Where issued, all permits shall have a specified period of validity, not exceeding 21 days and all written permissions shall have a specified period of validity, not exceeding 12 months. These approvals shall specify the park, reserve or other land and the area within that park, reserve or land where the animal is permitted entry and to remain under the control of the person to whom the approval is issued and the conditions of entry, if any.

## **SCHEDULE 1**

**Animals of any kind may not be taken into the following parks and reserves:**

### **Darwin Region**

Berry Springs Nature Park  
Black Jungle  
Blackmore River Conservation Reserve  
Butterfly Gorge Nature Park  
Cobourg Marine Park  
Douglas Hot Springs Nature Park  
Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve  
Howard Springs Nature Park  
Indian Island Forest Reserve  
Manton Dam Reserve  
Melacca Swamp  
Sampan Creek Landing  
Shady Camp  
Swim Creek Rainforest  
Territory Wildlife Park (excluding designated residential areas)  
Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park  
Vernon Islands

### **Katherine Region**

Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park  
Kintore Caves Nature Park  
Mataranka Pool Nature Park

### **Alice Springs Region**

Anna's Reservoir Historical Reserve  
Barrow Creek Telegraph Station  
Connells Lagoon  
Corroboree Rock Conservation Reserve  
Ellery Creek Bighole  
Glen Helen Gorge Nature Park  
Illamurta Springs Conservation Reserve  
Kyunba Conservation Reserve  
Mac Clark Conservation Reserve  
Native Gap Conservation Reserve  
N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park  
Olive Pink Flora Reserve  
Redbank Nature Park  
Ruby Gap Nature Park  
Serpentine Gorge Nature Park

## **SCHEDULE 2**

**Birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, cats and dogs may only be taken into parks and reserves by visitors or kept in parks and reserves by residents after a permit or written permission has been obtained from the Commission.**

### **Darwin Region**

Djukbinj National Park  
Gurig National Park  
Litchfield National Park  
Point Stuart Coastal Reserve  
Stuart's Tree Historical Reserve  
Territory Wildlife Park (residential area only)  
Tree Point  
Wildman River Reserve (proposed)

### **Katherine Region**

Eley National Park  
Katherine Low Level Nature Park  
Keep River National Park  
Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park  
North Island

### **Alice Springs Region**

Arltunga Historical Reserve  
Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation Reserve  
Finke Gorge National Park  
Ormiston Gorge and Pound National Park  
Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve  
Simpson's Gap National Park  
Trephina Gorge National Park

### **SCHEDULE 3**

**Dogs may only be taken into designated areas in the following parks and reserves.**

#### **Darwin Region**

Casuarina Coastal Reserve  
Daly River Nature Park  
Holmes Jungle Nature Park  
Leaning Tree Lagoon Nature Park  
Mary River Crossing  
Ooloo Crossing  
Botanic Gardens

#### **Katherine Region**

Gregory National Park  
Gregory's Tree Historical Reserve  
Victoria River Depot Historical Reserve

#### **Alice Springs Region**

Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve  
Attack Creek Historical Reserve  
Central Mount Stuart Historical Reserve  
Chambers Pillar Historical Reserve  
Devil's Marbles Conservation Reserve  
Dulcie Ranges  
Emily and Jessie Gaps Nature Parks  
Heavitree Gap Police Station Historical Reserve  
Henbury Meteorites Conservation Reserve  
John Flynn's Grave Historical Reserve  
John Flynn Historical Reserve  
Junction Reserve  
Ryan's Well Historical Reserve  
Tennant Creek Telegraph Station  
Watarrka National Park

#### **SCHEDULE 4**

**Horses, donkeys, mules and camels may be taken into the following parks and reserves providing a permit or written permission has been obtained from the Commission.**

#### **Darwin Region**

Litchfield National Park  
Adelaide River Foreshore Reserve  
Douglas/Daly Esplanade

#### **Katherine Region**

Elsey National Park  
Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park

#### **Alice Springs Region**

Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve  
Arltunga Historical Reserve  
Attack Creek Historical Reserve  
Central Mount Stuart Historical Reserve  
Chambers Pillar Historical Reserve  
Devil's Marbles Conservation Reserve  
Emily and Jessie Gaps Nature Parks  
Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation Reserve  
Finke Gorge National Park  
Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) Conservation Reserve  
Henbury Meteorites Conservation Reserve  
John Flynn's Grave Historical Reserve  
Ormiston Gorge and Pound National Park  
Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve  
Ryan's Well Historical Reserve  
Simpson's Gap National Park  
Trepina Gorge Nature Park  
Watarrka National Park

## **SCHEDULE 5**

**Horses, donkeys, mules and camels may only be taken into designated areas in the following parks and reserves:**

### **Darwin Region**

Casuarina Coastal Reserve  
Holmes Jungle Nature Park

### **Katherine Region**

Gregory National Park

### **Alice Springs Region**

Nil.

## **SCHEDULE 6**

**Dogs may be taken into the following parks and reserves for approved hunting purposes and unleashed if a hunting permit has been obtained from the Commission.**

### **Darwin Region**

Lambells Lagoon

Harrison Dam

Howard Springs Hunting Reserve

Marrakai Conservation Reserve

Mary River Conservation Reserve

### **Katherine Region**

Nil.

### **Alice Springs Region**

Nil.

**STATUS:** Endorsed 80<sup>th</sup> PWCNT May 1998

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