



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Special Tour at Joint Management Park**

There will be a unique opportunity to have a guided tour by Traditional Owners and Parks and Wildlife rangers at the Ochre Pits, West MacDonnell National Park, this Sunday at 1pm.

Chief District Ranger of West MacDonnell National Park, Chris Day, said the tour was evidence of Traditional Owners and Parks and Wildlife working together as part of joint management programs.

“It’s an opportunity for park visitors to learn about the cultural significance of places from traditional owners themselves, and find out about park joint management arrangements on the ground,” said Mr Day.

“The tour will involve an easy walk over about one hour.

“Visitors will get an understanding of traditional uses of ochre and contemporary aspects of the lives of Aboriginal traditional owners. “

Joint management arrangements are being progressed in 28 Territory parks and reserves.

Of these, nineteen parks are in the southern region and include high profile parks like Watarrka and the West MacDonnell Ranges.

Amendments to Parks and Wildlife legislation passed earlier this year lock in joint management principles that will see park management decision-making shared with Aboriginal Traditional Owners.

“The Parks and Wildlife Service are working in partnership with the Central Land Council to progress the agenda,” Mr Day said.

“Aboriginal employment and enterprise development opportunities are also part of the joint management parcel.

“There is a lot of goodwill between rangers and traditional owners and this Sunday’s tour is a sign of that.”

For more information about Sunday’s tour, the public should telephone 89567799

**Media note: for more information contact Chief District Ranger, Chris Day, on 8955 1119**

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