



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS AND MUSEUMS

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MINISTER TO OPEN THREATENED SPECIES EXHIBIT

The Territory's threatened species will come under the spotlight tonight as an exhibition and competition to mark National Threatened Species Day is unveiled by Parks and Wildlife Minister Marion Scrymgour.

National Threatened Species Day commemorates the anniversary of the death of the last Tasmanian Tiger and aims to raise public awareness to avoid similar losses of biodiversity in the future.

"The NT Government has a large commitment to threatened species conservation. In the Territory there are more than 150 threatened plant and animal species," Ms Scrymgour said.

"The species of most concern is the northern quoll, a carnivorous marsupial that lives in the Top End and is declining mostly as a result of the cane toad."

Ms Scrymgour said the NT Government was involved in ongoing conservation projects including:

- Translocation of northern quolls to offshore islands;
- Management of species such as the mala in predator-proof enclosures;
- Survey and monitoring of rare and threatened plants;
- Preparing recovery plans for threatened species;
- Addressing management of threatening processes such as feral animals and weeds.

The NT Government has also committed more than \$1 million towards battling cane toads.

"The public has a major and increasing role to play in threatened species conservation in the Territory," Ms Scrymgour said.

"The Threatened Species Network is a vital link in threatened species conservation as it increases the profile of threatened species in the community and provides opportunities for the public to be involved."

The NT Government has provided \$1000 as first prize of the art and photography competition – to be awarded to the best overall adult work.

The art will be on display at the Entertainment Centre until Saturday.