



**Marion Scrymgour**  
MINISTER FOR PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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## **TERRITORIANS TO HAVE SAY ON PARKS MASTERPLAN**

Territorians will have the opportunity to have their say on the draft NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan, launched today by Parks and Wildlife Minister, Marion Scrymgour.

The draft Northern Territory Parks and Conservation Masterplan has been developed by the Northern Territory Government, in association with Parks Australia North, the Northern and Central Land Councils and other key stakeholders.

Ms Scrymgour said the purpose of the Masterplan is to provide a vision and blueprint for the conservation of the Northern Territory's plants and animals - our biological diversity - over the next 15 years.

"Territorians love to be outdoors, and more than any other part of the world the natural environment is an integral part of our life," Ms Scrymgour said.

"This Masterplan is for all Territorians and visitors who respect and value the rich natural and cultural assets of the Territory.

"It provides a vision and framework for a sustainable future where development takes place within a context of land and seascape conservation."

In order to achieve a sustainable future, the Masterplan focuses on three key areas:

- The Northern Territory's biodiversity – setting priorities for conservation.
- Establishing partnerships in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Providing new directions for the Territory's parks and reserves.

"The Masterplan recognises that the future of the Northern Territory depends on flourishing tourism, pastoral, mining and fishing industries and culturally and economically strong Indigenous communities," Ms Scrymgour said.

"It identifies 114 sites of conservation significance in the Territory including 20 sites of international significance."

Ms Scrymgour said the eight-week public exhibition and comment period for the Draft NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan begins today and ends November 4.

People are encouraged to review the draft plan and provide a written submission to the Masterplan team by 4 November 2005.

The draft plan is available online at [www.parksmasterplan.nt.gov.au](http://www.parksmasterplan.nt.gov.au).

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