



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Alice Springs Junior Rangers Graduate

More than a dozen junior rangers capped off a year of fun and adventure by receiving Certificates of Participation in Alice Springs last week.

The 15 junior rangers were presented their certificates at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station after having completed an activity challenge trail on Saturday.

Parks and Wildlife senior ranger community education Emily Findlay said the Junior Ranger Program inspired children to explore and have fun in the natural environment.

“The program allows young people to develop a sense of environmental responsibility and encourages positive environmental attitudes,” Ms Findlay said.

“This year, the children in the Alice Springs program completed 18 activities covering topics such as cultural heritage, animal surveys, careful camping, bush navigation and recycling.

“And I would like to congratulate all the children for taking part in what has been a fantastic year of fun activities.”

The Parks and Wildlife Services Community Education Unit manage the Junior Ranger Program.

It provides Territory children aged 9-14 with a chance to learn more about the natural and cultural environment, develop scientific skills and contribute to the environment’s conservation.

This is achieved by running practical activities in parks such as bush navigation, bush survival, cultural heritage, Territory fauna, fire, ethnobotany and spotlight walks.

The children participate in a variety of ranger-led outdoor activities that aims to give them an appreciation and awareness of the bush and natural environment.

The 2006 Junior Ranger Program is scheduled to start after April’s Easter school holidays.

**Media Note \_ For more information contact Emily Findlay on 8951 8247**

Ends

Issued: 2pm Thursday, 27 October 2005