



**Northern Territory Government**

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Parks and Wildlife Rangers Rescue Tourists**

The chief district ranger at Watarrka National Park today praised his staff that helped in the evacuation of a man and woman from the park earlier today.

The man and woman were involved in separate incidents but both required medical assistance.

The pair was airlifted to Alice Springs Hospital, 350km northeast of where the incidents took place.

Chief District Ranger Mike Heywood said rangers received the first alert about 10.20am today via an emergency call device, which was one of four spaced around the 6.5km Kings Canyon Rim Walk.

“A tourist alerted us to the fact a man had fallen about 20m down The Garden of Eden and he wasn’t doing so well,” Mr Heywood said.

“Our staff immediately organised for a helicopter to meet the stretcher patient at the emergency landing site.

“It was shortly after this incident that we were told about a woman collapsing because of what we believe was heatstroke.

“She was first treated and stabilised at the Kings Creek Health Clinic and then ambulated out to Kings Creek Station where they met with staff from the Royal Flying Doctor Service who flew the injured pair to Alice Springs Hospital.

“I would like to thank and congratulate all staff involved in both incidents earlier today as they all did a wonderful job in helping the pair to safety.”

Mr Heywood is unaware how the man, believed to be 35, managed to injure himself.

He emphasised the importance of tourists being well hydrated when visiting the park and keeping well away from the many cliff edges near the Walk.

**Media Note \_ For more information contact Mike Heywood on 8956 7460**

Ends

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