



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Manton Dam Re-opens**

A strong caution remains to users of Manton Dam after the popular recreation site, 76km south of Darwin, re-opened today.

The dam had been closed since Tuesday after the second suspected saltwater crocodile sighting in as many weeks.

Senior Wildlife Ranger Tommy Nichols led spotlight and helicopter surveys of the dam during the week but failed to locate a saltwater crocodile believed to be more than 2m long.

Mr Nichols said Manton Dam is well known for being the home of many freshwater crocodiles and that users of the dam should always make safety their number one priority.

“We currently have two permanent traps set and baited but again, I urge people to refrain from swimming, canoeing or water skiing at the dam as this could be dangerous,” Mr Nichols said.

“The difficult part about trying to capture the suspected crocodile is the area where it has twice been sighted is very dense and hard to access.

“The area south of the dam wall where the crocodile is believed to be is quite shallow and weedy, making it difficult to spot a crocodile if there is one there.”

The last saltwater crocodile removed from Manton Dam was just under 2m long in 2004.

**Media note – For more information contact Tommy Nichols on 0419 822 859**

Ends

Issued: 3.40pm Friday, 18 November 2005