



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Territory Wildlife Park Plays Host to Evacuees

The Territory Wildlife Park is set to play host tomorrow to more than 30 volunteer workers who were evacuated from East Timor during the past week.

The visit has been organised by Reef to Outback – Youth with a Mission Australia, a non-denominational Christian organisation.

Reef to Outback Northern Territory regional manager David Giltinan said the visit was aimed at lifting the spirits of the 33 people expected to tour the Territory Wildlife Park tomorrow.

Mr Giltinan said the group comprised of people from various nations, such as Norway, Brazil and Ecuador, with a few from Australia.

“Some of these people have never been to Australia before so the visit is partly our way of giving them a warm Aussie welcome,” Mr Giltinan said.

“We are conscious of the difficult time these volunteers, who pay their own way to be in East Timor, have gone through during the past week.

“They truly are heroes for the work they do in East Timor, ranging from teaching to construction, and many of them have not had contact with the friends they left behind, so we are doing what we can to take their minds off things.”

Territory Wildlife Park manager Stuart Traynor said park staff are really delighted the park is involved in tomorrow’s positive activity.

“It will certainly be a new experience for many, if not all, of tomorrow’s visitors and we hope they all enjoy themselves and leave with many happy memories,” Mr Traynor said.

The Territory Wildlife Park is located 60km south of Darwin and is set within 400 hectares of natural bushland including wetlands, monsoon forest and a crystal clear spring.

Ends

**Media Note – For more information contact David Giltinan on 0412 186 003 or Stuart Traynor on 8988 7200.**

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