



MEDIA RELEASE

Restriction Placed on Wallaby Gap Access Road

Some incidents of visitor misbehaviour has prompted Parks and Wildlife Service to place a lock on the gate to the Wallaby Gap access road at the intersection with Larapinta Drive.

West MacDonnell National Park ranger Mark Trower said legitimate users (Larapinta Trail walkers) of the Wallaby Gap area will be able to borrow a key from the ranger station to access the site through the gate.

“There have recently been a number of instances where people have used this area inappropriately through acts of vandalism, littering, camping and off road driving along old tracks,” Mr Trower said.

“There is a need to minimise the number of vehicles using the access track, which is a four-wheel-drive track receiving very little maintenance.

“Unnecessary use contributes to maintenance requirements.

“Regular traffic also poses a significant safety hazard with vehicles crossing the Simpsons Gap bicycle patch.

“Some people are using this track to gain access to the Larapinta Trail for the purpose of mountain bike riding.

“Use of mountain bikes and vehicles on the Larapinta Trail detracts from the experience of trail walkers, presents a safety risk to walkers and riders and is causing significant damage to the trail surface and infrastructure.”

Mr Trower said legitimate users of the track needing to access Wallaby Gap can organise for the use of a key from the Simpsons Gap ranger station by phoning 8955 0310.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Mark Trower on 8955 0310

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