



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Toad Bust at TWP**

The Territory Wildlife Park has urged the community to help protect wildlife from poisonous cane toads by attending a toad bust night at the Park on Saturday, 3 February at 7pm.

Territory Wildlife Park curator Dion Wedd said the toad bust night at the park would be held with the assistance of Graeme Sawyer of FrogWatch and all volunteers are encouraged to come out and lend a hand.

“The first toad was caught at the TWP at Goose Lagoon on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2005, since then we have operated toad traps after signs that the animals on park were being affected by the poisonous toads,” Mr Wedd said.

“We don’t see the flood plain monitors (*Varanus panoptes*) any more and Water monitors are becoming scarce, although there is no scientific evidence that cane toads are the actual cause of the demise.”

Mr Wedd said this will be the first toad bust at TWP and those who wish to attend should meet at Territory Wildlife Park front gate at 7pm.

“Staff will provide people with directions on where to go on park, and people will be able to drive their own cars to the designated clean-up areas,” Mr Wedd said.

“The toad catching areas will include the Billabong and the track leading down to the billabong, the main station area and the link road around the Park. Small groups will be assigned areas that restrict vehicle access, so foot slogging will be involved.

“We will also provide gloves and bags for collection and disposal.

“The toads will then be handed over to FrogWatch to be disposed of humanely.

For more information contact the Territory Wildlife Park on: 8988 7200.

Ends

**Media Note – For more information contact Dion Wedd or Tegan Christophersen on 8988 7200.**

Issued: 9:00am Thursday, 1 February 2007