

PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND NORTHERN TERRITORY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 29 June 2007

Issued at: 1010 hrs CST

Cracker Night Celebrations at Casuarina Coastal Reserve

The Parks and Wildlife Service and the NT Fire and Rescue Service today urged Territorians to act responsibly when making small fires on the beach at Casuarina Coastal Reserve on Territory Day.

Parks and Wildlife Service Chief District Ranger, Dal Hartley said the beach between Rapid Creek and the northern tip of Lee Point is the only area within the Reserve where fireworks and fires are permitted.

He said all fires must be small and built below the high tide mark.

“High tide will be at 6.15pm on the day and fires must be constructed after this time”, Mr Hartley said.

NT Fire and Rescue Service Assistant Director, Alan Stephens said that people who do not follow this instruction can be fined or charged a fee for fire service attendance.

“There are a number of safety measures people can take to ensure this is an event the whole family can enjoy. Before you light fireworks, ensure that a four metre area is clear of flammable material and children should not hold or light fireworks,” he said.

Mr Hartley reminded Territorians that it is everyone’s responsibility to protect the delicate nature of the park and ensure public safety.

“People should bring their own firewood that is free of nails and other fixtures to prevent injury to people, especially children, who use the beach.

“This is a sensitive area that should be returned to its natural state when people leave. Please don’t burn or bury your rubbish.

“Parks and Wildlife Service rangers will be handing out garbage bags on the night for revellers to take their rubbish home, or to leave by a bin for collection the next day.”

Mr Hartley said Buffalo Creek beach is off limits to beach fires and fireworks to protect the habitat of migratory birds.

Mr Stephens said that Territory Day will be busy for fire fighters. The Fire Service will respond to every call for assistance as quickly as possible however people should have a hose or water on hand in case of fire.

Media Opportunity: There is a vision and interview opportunity with Parks and Wildlife Service Chief District Ranger, Dal Hartley and NT Fire and Rescue Service Assistant Director, Alan Stephens at the Casuarina Coastal Reserve on Friday 29 June at 2.00 pm.

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