



MEDIA RELEASE

World Ranger Day

Rangers around the world are set to celebrate *World Ranger Day* tomorrow.

The Day was conceived by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) which was founded to support the work of Rangers as the key protectors of the world's protected areas.

At the 2006 IRF World Ranger conference in Scotland - which was attended by Parks and Wildlife Service senior ranger Phil Wise who works at the Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Area and Dhimurru Land Management Director Djawa Yunupingu - delegates decided that 31 July would be a day dedicated to world rangers.

This year the main event to recognise World Ranger Day is the simultaneous World Premiere of the Documentary, *The Thin Green Line* in hundreds of locations throughout the world.

All of the money collected from all the premieres will go towards supporting Rangers in their conservation efforts in protecting wildlife, including the International Ranger Federation's Dependency Fund, which supports the families of Rangers killed while protecting the environment.

The documentary was made by Australian ranger Sean Willmore who spent most of 2004 filming the lives and stories of rangers on six continents and in 19 countries.

His journey included some incredible experiences – mountain gorilla protection in volatile Uganda, helicopter rescues in the Rockies and dangerous anti-poaching patrols and chases in South Africa and elsewhere.

Through the documentary Willmore shows the wider community the real picture behind the postcards of international parks and reserves, and give audiences the chance to see the selfless commitment of individuals who face the real prospect of death from poachers, wild creatures and other challenges.

These experiences set the tone for the life stories and challenges facing the professional Park Ranger.

In Darwin a short documentary on the Dhimurru Rangers and the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service in Arnhem Land will be screened prior to the world premiere of *The Thin Green Line*.

The Thin Green Line will screen at the Deckchair Cinema in Darwin at 7.30pm on Tuesday 31 July and at the Alice Springs Desert Park Exhibition Centre at 7pm on Friday 3 August.

More information on *The Thin Green Line* can be found at <http://www.thingreenline.info/newsfront>

Ends

Media Note - For further information contact Anton Kajlich on 8987 2302

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