

Media Release:

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Top End Parks Affected by Tropical Cyclone Helen

The George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Window on the Wetlands and Territory Wildlife Park will remain closed for visitors as the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Helen takes affect.

Territory Wildlife Park acting manager Jodie Clarkson said these Parks would remain closed and not reopened to visitors until any damage to the Parks is evaluated and it is safe for visitors to return.

“It is expected that the Botanic Gardens will remain closed for a week as a lot of large trees have fallen and it will take time to remove them,” Ms Clarkson said.

“The Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre will reopen to visitors on January 6.”

The Territory Wildlife Park is expected to reopen on January 7 but may be closed longer depending on the cleanup required.

“A lot of trees have fallen at the Park, damage to fences have been sustained and the phone lines are currently down,” Ms Clarkson said.

“No animals were injured during the Cyclone and all animals were given extra food yesterday to get them through the night.”

“The dingos are in their kennels, buffalo and pigs are in their night yards, glass fronted reptile exhibits were taped up while venomous snakes were moved to padlocked holding boxes inside. The wallabies, birds and bandicoots remained outside and weathered the storm.”

“The nine staff who live at the Park are tidying up as best they can today and feeding animals as needed,” Ms Clarkson said.

“Our staff have worked tirelessly for the past two days to ensure all animals were safe, and the equipment and infrastructure of the Park was protected as much as possible.”

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Jodie Clarkson on 0419 827 804

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