

Media Release:

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Cooee: Darwin Junior Rangers

The call is out for local Darwin kids aged 9-14 who are interested in exploring, the environment and native wildlife to become a Parks and Wildlife Service Junior Ranger for 2008.

Parks and Wildlife Service's ranger David Rochford said the program, established in 1990, will celebrate its 18th birthday with a great line-up of activities.

"Some of the activities we have lined up include the popular spotlight walks, bike-riding through national parks and visits to the Territory Wildlife Park," Mr Rochford said.

"Another popular event from last year which we aim to continue is the annual turtle release on Casuarina beach.

"The program also runs fun activities for the whole family such as slideshows, quizzes and family bushwalks in places such as Blackmore River Conservation or Manton Dam.

"Although we're still finalising details I can also reveal that our first event of the year will involve crocodiles."

The Darwin Junior Ranger program runs from April to October in two groups, kids aged 9-11 and kids aged 12-14.

"The program gives children the opportunity to learn more about the Territory environment and an insight into the role Parks and Wildlife Services play," Mr Rochford said.

Mr Rochford said Junior Rangers receive a free uniform, which includes a new hat this season, along with copies of the quarterly Junior Ranger Review magazine.

"The Review is a great read and packed full of information and puzzles on our local native flora and fauna."

Junior Ranger programs in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek have already filled up but there are limited spots still available for the Darwin program.

Registrations can be made by calling 8999 4565 or forms are available on the website www.nt.gov.au/nreta/kids.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact David Rochford on 8999 4565 Image – Parks and Wildlife Service's Ranger David Rochford with Junior Rangers Chantel and Ellie Braam

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