

Media Release:

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Forging Relationships at Finke Gorge

A Tourism Information Day held by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts (NRETA) at Finke Gorge National Park has been hailed a great success in fostering relationships between tour operators and rangers.

NRETA Parks and Wildlife Service Ranger Leanne Rathbone said the objective of the day was to provide information to tour operators about Finke Gorge National Park.

“One of the major focuses was to discuss the management of the park and to define the role of the rangers,” Mrs Rathbone said.

“We also gave the tour operators the opportunity to ask questions and share their ideas about the park.

“Finke Gorge National Park holds great cultural significance to the Western Arrernte Aboriginal people as well as displaying evidence of early European settlement of Central Australia.”

Rangers and tour operators met at the impressive Palm Valley within the park which is home to a diverse range of plant species which are rare and unique to the area, including the well known Red Cabbage Palm.

“There was a great turnout with 23 people attending, representing seven different tour companies including two staff members from Tourism NT,” Mrs Rathbone said.

“We’ve had an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from everyone involved which has encouraged us to look at running these events more often.

“Overall the day was a great success and will ensure there is ongoing communication between park staff and tour operators, which will greatly benefit the many visitors coming to see the spectacular Finke Gorge.”

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Leanne Rathbone on 8956 7401 or Chris Day on 8955 1119

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