

**Media Release:**

**29.4.08**

## **Wildlife Deaths Prompt Warning**

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts has issued a warning to all Territorians and visitors that it is illegal to kill wildlife without acquiring a permit and abiding by permit conditions.

Parks and Wildlife Service Alice Springs wildlife officer Jon DeLaine said the warning comes following the recent discovery of a number of euros and kangaroos killed near the Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

“Rangers found five euros (*Macropus robustus*) on Herbert Heritage Drive, just outside the Alice Springs Telegraph Station gates on 22 April,” Mr DeLaine said.

“A further three euros, a young bullock carcass and two red kangaroos (*Macropus rufus*) were discovered further south on Herbert Heritage Drive heading towards the Stuart Highway.

“It appears all were killed with a firearm and then butchered using an axe or similar weapon, although it remains unclear if they were destroyed on site, or at a different site and their carcasses dumped at these locations.”

Mr DeLaine said it was concerning that such a high concentration of animal remains were discovered so close to residential areas – particularly with a firearm being used – and warned that such acts are illegal.

“The *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* stipulates that a person must not, except in accordance with a permit, damage, injure, destroy or otherwise interfere with wildlife or face a maximum penalty of \$2000,” Mr DeLaine said.

“Permits are subject to strict conditions including a reason for destroying wildlife and the proper disposal of carcasses.”

Rangers from the Alice Springs Telegraph Station have increased surveillance of the area to record and report any further deaths or suspicious activities.

“The public are our eyes and ears for these kinds of incidents and any suspicious behaviour can be reported to the Parks and Wildlife Service or their local police station,” Mr DeLaine said.

“Some of the euro carcasses were wrapped in distinctive blue garbage bags and if anyone has any information about this incident they should contact Parks and Wildlife Service.”

Ends

**Media Note – for more information contact Jon DeLaine on 8951 8283**

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