

MEDIA RELEASE

10.07.08

Swamp Burn Protects Environment

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA) advises a controlled burn at Ilparpa Swamp, located south of Alice Springs, will be conducted throughout July and August 2008.

NRETA's Senior Natural Resource Scientist Dave Waterson said that the controlled burn was necessary to protect sensitive vegetation from a potential wildfire, in addition to protecting important infrastructure and homes.

"The area is an important habitat for regionally significant plant species and these need to be protected from uncontrolled fires," Mr Waterson said.

"Controlled burns at Ilparpa Swamp are an essential part of the management plan of the area and are undertaken every couple of years.

"Burning is expected to be undertaken in the late afternoon, or as favourable burning conditions arise, to minimise disruptions to residents.

"The controlled burns may cause traffic delays along Ilparpa Road, and residents and motorists are advised that smoke may be a hazard in the area."

Bushfires NT, the Alice Springs Volunteer Bushfire Brigade, the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service Volunteers and Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation will be assisting with the fuel reduction burn.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Dave Waterson 0427 971 308

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