



Media Release:

01.10.08

Reminder to Waterfowl Hunters

Northern Territory Park and Wildlife Officers at the Shoal Bay Coastal Reserve found a shot pelican left floating in a lagoon at the Reserve while carrying out an early morning patrol.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service Chief District Ranger, Dal Hartley said it was disappointing to find the pelican, a species that is protected wildlife.

“Obviously pelicans are not one of the species that can be shot under the waterfowl hunting permit, and hunters need to ensure they follow the conditions stipulated in the permit,” Mr Hartley said.

“The penalty for interfering with Protected Wildlife under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* is \$55,000 or imprisonment of up to 5 years.”

Rangers patrolling the Harrison Dam Reserve last weekend also reported a hunter was found to be in possession of lead shot on the hunting reserve and was issued an infringement notice of \$330 under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*.

Any person convicted of any wildlife offence will not be able to get a permit for five years.

Mr Hartley said that while most hunters continue to act within the confines of the law and their hunting permits since the season commenced in early September there remained a few who did not.

“Hunters are required to obtain a permit and ensure they follow conditions of that permit - use of lead shot is prohibited on all Parks and Wildlife hunting reserves, and hunters are also responsible for ensuring they do not target protected species,” Mr Hartley said.

Throughout the waterfowl hunting season that runs from 3 September 2008 to 28 December 2008 regular joint patrols by Parks and Wildlife Service Officers and Northern Territory Police will be carried out.

The Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service hunting reserves include Shoal Bay Coastal Reserve, Howard Springs Hunting Reserve, Lambells Lagoon and Harrison Dam Hunting Reserve.

For further information go to www.nt.gov.au/waterfowl or call permits on 8999 4795

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Dal Hartley on 8947 2305

Issued: 4.05pm Wednesday, 1 October 2008