

Media Release:

29.10.08

Keep River Information Centre Revamped

Visitors heading west to see the marvels of Keep River National Park will be delighted to discover the new and improved Information Centre featuring interpretive signage about the cultural significance and natural wonders of the area.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service senior ranger Cameron Sharpe said the Park is well renowned for its unique blend of Aboriginal sites, spectacular geology and many different habitats that host a variety of native species.

“The new interpretive signage provides visitors with information about the area with an insight into the natural environment, native wildlife and Indigenous perspectives,” Mr Sharpe said.

“The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory donated a number of display cabinets, which are now adorned with examples of the local flora and mineral formations.

“We had extremely positive and encouraging discussions with the Traditional Owners about incorporating information about the history, traditions and culture of the Miriwoong and Gadjerong people.

“From these discussions a total of 16 panels were developed - some featuring photographs of the Traditional Owners with paintings of their country within Keep River National Park and others displaying the park’s many natural wonders.

“These panels were mounted using recycled old bore casing found in the park’s workshop, which we left untreated to give a more rustic and natural look, and they now stand in a box shape at four stations within the Information Centre.

“An additional three panels hang along one of the walls and depict the unique environments found within Keep River National Park – stone country, wetlands and woodlands.”

Mr Sharpe said that more than \$12,000 was spent on the new interpretive signage and the refurbishment of the Information Centre, which also included sealing the floor to prevent moisture contamination and painting it with non-slip paving paint in a natural ochre colour.

“An official opening was held with the Traditional Owners in the form of a Joonba (corroboree), followed by a barbecue with all the people who assisted on the project and a special performance by the local Miriwoong dancers,” Mr Sharpe said.

“The feedback we have received so far has been fantastic, we sincerely thank everyone involved for their efforts and encourage all Territorians and visitors alike to come and seek out the natural wonders of Keep River National Park.”

For information and the latest access reports to parks and reserves administered by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport go to www.nt.gov.au/parks.

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Media Note – for more information contact Cameron Sharpe on 08 9167 8827

Images – Visitors looking at new interpretive signage at Keep River Park Information Centre

Issued: 2.15pm Wednesday, 29 October 2008