

**Media Release:**

**17.12.2008**

## **Crocodile Sighting in Leanyer**

The Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service advise a member of the public has reported a crocodile sighting within a drain, approximately one kilometre from Leanyer Recreation Park.

Parks and Wildlife ranger Tom Nichols said he has sighted a photograph of the crocodile located in the drain and has indicated the crocodile is definitely a saltwater crocodile, possibly up to 2.5 metres in length.

“We put a spotlight across the area last night but didn’t sight anything,” Mr Nichols said.

“We’ll be going back out to the area today to set up a trap, and we’ll be monitoring it regularly.

“At this time of the year with the monsoonal rains causing flooding, it’s not uncommon for crocodiles to start popping up in places you wouldn’t usually find them, such as drains.

“It’s either come out of Buffalo Creek or the top end of Mickett Creek through the mangrove system, combined with high tides and flooding rains it’s quite easy for a crocodile to have come out of either one of those areas.”

Another baby crocodile, 15cm in length was found by a family yesterday at Rapid Creek near the v-section culvert.

“A mother and her daughter found the baby saltie which was in fairly poor condition and very skinny,” Mr Nichols said.

“We collected the crocodile and took it to the Darwin Crocodile Farm.

“It’s likely this crocodile was dumped there as spotlight checks last night in the area didn’t reveal any sign of any hatchlings in the area.”

If anyone spots a crocodile in the Darwin region they should call 0419 822 859 or 8999 4691.

Ends

**Media Note –For more information contact Tom Nichols on 0419 822 859**

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