

Media Release:

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Repairs Underway on the Larapinta Trail

The Larapinta Trail, which extends over 223 kilometres of the West MacDonnell Ranges, is currently undergoing repairs and maintenance by walking track specialists *Track and Trail Management Services*.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife chief district ranger Chris Day said the contractors specialise in ensuring works are aesthetically appropriate for the environment and often use natural stone from the area works are being undertaken in.

“Part of the work involves creating steps with natural stone to sections of the trail,” Mr Day said.

“The contractor has worked on tracks throughout New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, and on completion of the Larapinta Trail they’ll be heading over to Papua New Guinea to work on the Kokoda Trail.

“Another important aspect of the work is a training component, with Parks and Wildlife Service rangers and two Indigenous organisations - the Ingkerreke Outstation Resource Services and Tjuwanpa Resource Centre, out in the field with the contractors learning skills to enable them to carry out future repairs.

“We’re all learning really valuable specialist techniques required for maintaining a remote walking track.”

The repairs commenced on 8 June and are expected to be completed by the end of July, with the Northern Territory Government providing approximately \$54 000 to carry out the work.

Earlier this year the first ‘eco-venture’ took place on the Larapinta Trail which involved interstate volunteers organised by Trek Larapinta working with rangers to prune vegetation and carry out repairs caused by heavy rains.

The Larapinta Trail traverses a range of naturally stunning landscapes, and has become a ‘must do’ remote walking trail for both experienced hikers and casual day walkers.

For more information on the Larapinta Trail or any parks and reserves managed by Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service go to www.nt.gov.au/parks

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Chris Day on 8951 8201

Image – Benching a section of the re-aligned Larapinta Trail.

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