

Media Release:

03.03.11

Crocodile Removed from Litchfield National Park

A 2.8 metre male estuarine (saltwater) crocodile has been removed from a crocodile trap located in Cascade Falls Creek at Litchfield National Park today.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service Senior Ranger Tom Nichols said the crocodile was removed from a permanent trap located 2km downstream from Cascades in Cascade Falls Creek.

The creek where the crocodile was caught is not accessible for swimming.

“This is the second crocodile removed from this trap in just over a week,” Mr Nichols said.

“The trap in Cascade Falls Creek is located approximately 2km downstream from Cascades lower section swimming area and this swimming area is currently closed for swimming.

“This lower swimming area is separate from the designated safe for swimming area in the upper section of Cascades, which is open for swimming all year round, as its location at the top of Cascade Falls and prevents estuarine crocodiles entering the area.

“It is likely that the crocodile would have entered Cascade Falls Creek downstream from Reynolds River.

“This is another reminder to people to be extremely cautious about any waterways in the Top End, because estuarine crocodiles can move around throughout the year.

“During heavy monsoonal weather estuarine crocodiles can move into waterways they may not have previously been, so it is critical that people stay away from swollen creeks, rivers, stormwater drains and low-lying areas that are subject to flooding.”

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) urges the public to **BE CROCWISE** and remember that croc danger is real, so don't risk your life.

For more information go to www.nt.gov.au/becrocwise

The report estuarine (saltwater) crocodile sightings in the Darwin region phone 0419 822 859 or in the Katherine region phone 0407 958 405.

For up to date information regarding access to parks and reserves administered by NRETAS go to www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tom Nichols on 0419 822 859.

Issued: 3.45pm Thursday, 3 March 2011.