

**Media Release:**

**10.06.11**

## **Parks to explore this Queen's Birthday long weekend**

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) encourages locals and visitors to make the most of the dry season weather and explore some of the Top End's glorious natural sights and parks this Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Several Top End parks and reserves have recently reopened, and it is important for locals and visitors to stay up to date on park closures before heading out this long weekend in case of any last minute changes.

Berry Springs Nature Park has recently opened for swimming, and Manton Dam Recreation Area is open for all water-based activities and swimming.

Cascades, Florence Falls and Buley Rock Hole within Litchfield National Park are open for swimming, and Florence Falls 2WD, Buley Rock Hole and Wangi Falls campgrounds are also open. Florence Falls 2WD campground will be closed for refit of the toilet block from Tuesday, 14 June to Friday, 17 June 2011.

Parts of Mary River remain closed however access to Shady Camp is open. Point Stuart access road is open however a weight limit of 4.5 tonnes applies, and Couzins' Rockhole/Lookout is open.

Due to the late wet season, access to Tjuwaliyn (Douglas) Hot Springs Park has been restricted due to significant water inundation.

Butterfly Gorge Nature Park, Keep River National Park and parts of Gregory National Park also remain closed as they are currently inaccessible.

At Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve the Woodlands to Water Lillie's walk is open however the Monsoon Walk remains closed due to extreme weather damage, and the Dam Wall walk remains closed to walking.

The Parks and Wildlife Service want visitors to have safe and enjoyable experiences in our national parks and trust they will do the right thing and be considerate of other visitors.

Rangers will be on patrol over the Easter long weekend. If anyone knows of, or witnesses, irresponsible or dangerous behaviour, they are encouraged to pass on any details to Parks and Wildlife Service so that rangers and police can take action.

We remind people to be extremely cautious about any waterways in the Top End, because estuarine crocodiles can move around throughout the year.

**BE CROCWISE** and report estuarine (saltwater) crocodile sightings in the Darwin region to 0419 822 859 or in the Katherine region to 0407 958 405.

For the latest updates on parks and road closures throughout the Territory visit [www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/](http://www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/) and [www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/roadreport/](http://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/roadreport/).

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