

Media Release:

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Territory Wildlife Park Hosts Threatened Species Week

The Territory Wildlife Park is marking National Threatened Species Day, held annually on 7 September, with a week-long program of educational and entertaining activities.

Territory Wildlife Park Curator Dion Wedd said visitors are encouraged to come to the Park during Threatened Species Week to learn more about Australia's threatened species from Monday, 5 September 2011 to Friday, 9 September 2011.

"We currently have 15 threatened species on display at the Park, including the critically endangered Northern quoll and Carpentarian Rock-rat," said Mr Wedd.

"Our Endangered Species Conservation Unit is very active and we want to give people a chance to learn about the threatened species that we're working hard to help and how they can help, too.

"As part of those efforts, the Park will host more than 300 students from Territory schools next week through our Threatened Species Week education program.

"These students will have the opportunity to complete a threatened species adventure trail, attend a zookeeper presentation on threatened species and receive a bird box to take back to their school."

Mr Wedd said the public can also get involved in Threatened Species Week by taking part in the Park's free Toad Bust event on Friday, 9 September 2011.

"There are threats to our native animals that are not yet fully understood, but poisonous cane toads are likely to be contributing to those threats and any effort to reduce their numbers is a step in the right direction," said Mr Wedd.

"This event gives people an opportunity to join in the fight against cane toads, and we urge everyone to come down and do their part to protect our wildlife."

The Toad Bust begins at 7pm and participants are asked to RSVP by Thursday, 8 September 2011. Gloves and bags will be provided, and the person who finds the largest toad will win the coveted Toad Bust trophy.

For more information on Threatened Species Week activities, contact the Territory Wildlife Park on 8988 7200 or go to www.territorywildlifepark.com.au.

Ends

Media Note – For more information, contact Dion Wedd on 8988 7208.

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