

Media Release:

12.12.11

Have Your Say on Casuarina Coastal Reserve through Survey

The Casuarina Coastal Reserve Advisory Committee is seeking public comment on the future direction of the Reserve through a community survey.

Advisory Committee Chair Darrell Higgins said the survey is now available online and the public is encouraged to fill it out and share any suggestions or ideas they may have for the Reserve.

“This is one of the most visited parks and reserves in the Territory,” said Mr Higgins.

“We know that locals are very passionate about Casuarina Coastal Reserve and this survey is their chance to have their say on everything from recreation uses to conservation.

“The current Plan of Management for the Reserve expires next year and we are now working on the new Management Plan, which will be in place for the next ten years.

“By taking the five to ten minutes required to fill out the survey, you can provide us and the Territory Government with a much clearer picture of what you would like to see happen with this Reserve over those ten years.”

The survey will be available at www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks until 17 February 2012. A hard copy of the survey will also be mailed to approximately 12,000 homes in the Casuarina area in late January 2012.

The survey is an important part of the Casuarina Coastal Reserve Advisory Committee’s efforts to obtain more direct and ongoing input by the local community in the management and future direction of the Reserve.

Established in July 2011, the Advisory Committee includes 21 local representatives who work closely with the Parks and Wildlife Service and provide advice on ways to ensure the Reserve’s natural, cultural and visitor values are maintained and enhanced.

Comprising more than 1500 hectares, Casuarina Coastal Reserve is a popular spot for a number of recreational activities, featuring sandy beaches, dramatic cliffs and native coastal flora and fauna communities.

The stability and sustainability of this natural area and its biodiversity is important to Darwin residents including the Larrakia people, who traditionally have strong ties to this land and sea and are custodians of sacred and significant sites in the Reserve.

For more information on Casuarina Coastal Reserve, go to www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/find/casuarina.html.

Ends

Media Note – For more information, contact Maria Wauchope at Parks and Wildlife Service on 8946 5149.

Issued: 9am Monday, 12 December 2011