12 November 2010

Have your say on Joint Management of Flora River

Minister for Parks and Wildlife, Karl Hampton today called for public comment on the draft joint management plan for Flora River (Giwining) Nature Park.

“Located 122 km south west of Katherine, the Flora River Nature Park is a hidden jewel of the Territory attracting around 1500 visitors every year for its bushwalking, boating and fishing qualities,” Mr Hampton said.

“My department has been working with Wardaman Traditional owners, the Northern Land Council and the tourism industry to prepare a Draft Joint Management Plan for the park.”

The Draft Joint Management plan will be open for comment until Wednesday, 22 December 2010.

“The final Joint Management Plan will be in operation for up to 10 years, so it is essential that everyone is given the chance to have their say,” Mr Hampton said.

“The plan is still in its draft stages, so it is the ideal time for the public to be involved in the plan’s development.”

Mr Hampton said the plan had the potential to strengthen tourism and employment in the region through the Park’s future management.

“Giving Traditional Owners a strong say through joint Management has social, environmental and economic benefits,” Mr Hampton said.

“Our indigenous culture is a growing drawcard for tourists from across Australia and the world.

“This formalised plan will create employment opportunities for indigenous people whilst enriching the experience for visitors with the added experience that joint management brings.”

To download the draft Plan go to [www.nt.gov.au/consult](http://www.nt.gov.au/consult) or plans are available to inspect at Parks and Wildlife offices in Katherine, Timber Creek and Palmerston. Phone 8973 8817 with any queries.

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