CLP CROC CUTS RISK LIVES

The CLP needs to reverse its decision to cut Parks and Wildlife Rangers from the Gove Peninsula because of the frontline work they undertake in crocodile management, Shadow Minister for Parks and Wildlife Natasha Fyles said today.

"The CLP need to step up in their May budget and fund two critical ranger positions that are slated to be axed on 30 June this year," Ms Fyles said.

"The rangers are crucial to protecting locals from the dangers of crocodiles as they are the frontline of crocodile management; tracking and removing problem crocodiles as they get too close to communities.

“First on the scene, these rangers help protect the community from feral dogs, buffalo and crocodiles and assist with search and rescue when needed or retrieval in the event of fatal crocodile attacks.

"The rangers also provide a vital role in working closely with local Indigenous rangers by providing ongoing mentoring and training. Their loss would be significant."

Ms Fyles said other services which would go include critical wildlife monitoring and threatened species research working closely with local communities, CSIRO and major universities.

“To have funding stopped for these Rangers is completely unacceptable. It’s yet another example of the CLP Government not supporting Territorians in the bush," Ms Fyles said.

“The CLP Government must continue to fund these positions in next month’s Budget and ensure these two Rangers are not lost from North East Arnhem Land. The results could be disastrous."

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