MINISTER FOR PARKS AND WILDLIFE

WANGI VISITOR CENTRE OPEN

3 June 2013

Minister for Parks and Wildlife Matt Conlan said the new Visitor Centre at Wangi Falls in Litchfield National Park is now open.

“The Territory’s parks and reserves are some of the best in the world, offering magnificent recreational areas and world class facilities,” Mr Conlan said.

“Wangi Falls situated in Litchfield National Park, about 100kms from Darwin, is one of the Top End’s great tourist attractions. The park has cultural and natural significance to the Territory and attracts over 100 thousand visitors each year.

“The new Visitor Centre boasts a cafe with indoor and outdoor seating, an Aboriginal art gallery and a first aid room and will make a visit to Litchfield National Park even better.

“The Northern Territory Government is committed to growing our tourism industry and our National Parks play an important role in promoting the Territory to potential visitors.

“A thriving tourism industry will help to develop our regions, benefit local businesses, create more jobs and build a bigger Northern Territory economy.”

The new Wangi Visitor Centre is located at the old kiosk site at Wangi Falls and was developed by local architect Genevieve Hoeben from the Department of Infrastructure. The building aims to showcase ecologically sustainable design and development, with recycled and locally sourced material.

The Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT worked with the Department of Infrastructure to develop and design the Centre. In January 2012, local company TCS Constructions was awarded the tender to complete the construction of the facility.

The Centre is commercially run by Joan Growden – Litchfield Art and Culture Centre and Julian Sharples – Wangi Centre Cafe.

Comprehensive community consultation was undertaken in the development of the Visitor Centre. A specific reference group consisting of representatives from Parks and Wildlife, Tourism NT, Tourism Top End, Batchelor Tourism Working Group, tourism operators and Traditional Owners, was established during consultation to ensure all key stakeholders were involved in the design and planning.

The Northern Territory Government contributed $2.4 million to construct the Visitor Centre which is stage three of a capital works program for the Park.

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