MEDIA RELEASE

Natasha Fyles
Shadow Minister for Natural Resources,
Environment & Heritage

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TREES STILL UNDER THREAT FROM CLP

Shadow Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Natasha Fyles today called on the CLP to reinstate the Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee that they scrapped.

Ms Fyles said the Territory Government had been caught out on plans to prune and fell trees along Rapid Creek.

“This latest CLP debacle wouldn't have occurred if the Government had been taking advice from the now defunct Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee, Landcare group and consulted with residents,” Ms Fyles said.

“Infrastructure Minister Peter Styles needs to explain why he said the trees were being surveyed when trees were marked 'prune' in pink paint with other trees obviously tagged for removal.

“It is time for the Minister to come clean and confirm that trees won’t be bulldozed or pruned without consultation and without releasing any reports or studies into flood mitigation. Terry Mills said a report was due for release in December 2012 but it has been withheld from the public.

“Land Resource Management Minister Willem Westra van Holthe decided to scrap the Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee yet Lands, Planning and Environment Minister Peter Chandler is putting together a working group. Why not use an existing group instead of causing more delays and confusion?

“My colleague, the Member for Johnston, Ken Vowles has offered to provide the conference room in his Rapid Creek office for a community briefing and the sooner this happens the better.

“The Territory Government needs to meet with Rapid Creek residents and users to discuss flood mitigation options and explain the content of the report.”

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