Lauren Moss
Minister for Tourism and Culture

Ready to ride - MTB progress report released

13 April 2017

Minister for Tourism and Culture Lauren Moss has today released the Mountain Bike progress report following the development of the Northern Territory Government’s award winning Master Plan for Mountain Biking (MTB) in the NT.

The report comes at an exciting time for MTB in the Territory with the 3-day staged race, Lassetters Easter in the Alice Mountain Bike Trail Muster beginning tomorrow.

“Alice Springs is a top adventure riding destination in Australia and Territorians trust the Territory Labor Government to continue to build on our already fantastic tracks and facilities,” Minister Moss said.

“MTB trail riding in the NT creates a great sense of community, something that this government is very passionate about.

“An event like Easter in the Alice generates fantastic tourism opportunities, offers a welcome boost to the economy and creates a range of community benefits for local MTB enthusiasts.

“Our vision is to have the NT recognised world-wide as a unique destination with world-class bike trails and we are making excellent progress in achieving this goal.”

The Mountain Biking Master Plan features five strategies to guide investment and development of sustainable world-class mountain biking opportunities. The progress report card has been developed to outline what has been achieved and sets out future plans.

Since the development of the Mountain Biking Master Plan significant work and planning has been done across the Territory including:

- Undertaken trail sustainability work on the Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve trails. This included repairing erosion issues and the overall riding experience on the Ilentye and Apwelantye Trails as well as the installation of rubber treads across otherwise challenging creek crossings.
Engaged expert MTB consultants Destination Trails to produce an Alice Springs MTB Destination Development Plan, focussing on the informal network of the East side trails with the priority to develop more trails for both beginners and highly advanced riders.

Commenced work to install a bike maintenance station including pump at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

In the Top End, five new trails have been developed at Casuarina Coastal Reserve at Lee Point with the Lee Point MBT Trails set to open to riders at the end of this month.

In 2017-18, $1.3 million will be spent on trail development projects across the Territory including tracks in Darwin, Alice Springs, Litchfield and Katherine.

Minister Moss also announced a partnership between the Northern Territory Government and Flow Mountain Bike, the leading online channel for Australasian mountain bikers to create a multi-part video and editorial series titled Ride the Centre.

“The series will showcase the Red Centre and Alice Springs as a pivotal mountain biking destination,” Ms Moss said.

“I would also like to acknowledge the local MTB club, Central Australian Rough Riders for their contribution towards the Master Plan for Mountain Biking and helping to develop the sport in the region.

“I wish all riders in Alice a safe and fun trail ride at this weekend’s Easter in the Alice event.”

A copy of the progress report is attached.

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MTB Progress Report