Improving Fire Management in Territory Parks

Parks and Wildlife Minister Karl Hampton today inspected a modified grass fire unit to help rangers manage fires in Territory parks and reserves.

“Parks and Wildlife rangers have played a huge role managing fires within parks and reserves this year and helping Bushfires NT where necessary,” Mr Hampton said.

“Thanks to the vision and foresight of ranger Simon Rathbone, based at Ormiston Gorge, there are now three new or replaced slip on grass fire units that are easier and safer to operate than standard grass fire units.

“Simon designed and built a prototype of the new grass fire units that were enhanced and built at Ingkerreke Outstations Resource Services, an Alice Springs-based Aboriginal organisation with a commercial fabrication workshop.

“Indigenous apprentices at the Ingkerreke workshop collaborated with Parks staff in finalising the design and construction of the new slip on grass fire units.

“I congratulate everyone involved in this project as it will make it easier to manage fires in our parks and reserves.”

Key features of the new grass fire unit include:

- driver operated spray jet;
- foam injection system;
- storage rack for crew equipment;
- lifting frame for safe lifting, loading and tie down; and
- low mounted pump and motor to minimise the need for personnel to climb onto the back of the vehicle to operate the unit.

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