The Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services Paul Henderson today called on Territorians to put up their hand to become an Emergency Service volunteer at the launch of a new recruitment video.

*Enjoy the Challenge*, a 12 minute video, features just some of the Northern Territory’s 582 volunteers talking about their own experiences in the organisation, from boat rescues and abseiling to land searches and care parcel drops.

"We’re seeking an additional 70 volunteers, but of course, the Northern Territory Emergency Services would take as many volunteers as they can," said Mr Henderson. "The Emergency Service volunteers provide a much-needed service to the community and I urge all Territorians to consider taking up the challenge of this rewarding role."

The video will be shown by volunteer units at Shows, public displays, schools and libraries around the Territory as part of the drive to encourage more people to sign up as volunteers.

"The Northern Territory Emergency Service may be the second smallest in the country, but our dedicated volunteers play a vital role in our community," Mr Henderson said. "During a cyclone, after a car accident, or when someone is lost in the bush, the volunteers lend a hand to get the public through safely."

Mr Henderson said the title "Enjoy the Challenge" reflected the spirit of the "bionic carrots", as the volunteers are affectionately known.

"In recent times, NTES volunteers have been involved in meeting victims of the Bali bombing, the rescue operations following flooding in the Katherine and Daly region and the East Timor evacuation operation," he said. "Their bright orange uniforms have been a welcome sight for more than one Territorian over the years."

Mr Henderson said the Northern Territory Emergency Service plays a vital role in the Territory’s emergency Tri-Service with Police and Fire and Rescue.

"Our civilian Tri-Service is unique in Australia and its inter-service co-operation is envied in other states," he said. "Their year-round training means volunteers are always ready to help and can assist our other emergency personnel in a diverse range of situations."

The launch of "Enjoy the Challenge" comes in the middle of National State Emergency Services Awareness Week. Displays will be held in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs, with information nights in smaller centres.