

Purpose of the Report

This Annual Report provides a record of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts and Sport and the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division's achievements for the 2010–11 financial year.

Pursuant to Section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*, the report aims to inform Parliament, Territorians and other stakeholders of:

- The primary functions and responsibilities of the Agency;
- Significant activities undertaken during the year highlighting specific achievements against budgeted outputs; and
- The Agency's fiscal management and performance.

In the report 'the Agency' is used when referring to the Chief Executive's complete area of responsibility, including both the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport and the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division.

When referring to the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport in isolation the term 'the Department' is used.

The Government Business Division, Territory Wildlife Parks, is responsible for managing the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Territory Wildlife Park.

Target Audience

This Annual Report provides information to numerous target audiences on the Agency's activities and achievements for the 2010–11 financial year. It is tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly primarily as an accountability reporting mechanism for the Agency's respective Ministers to the Parliament. The Annual Report is a finalisation of the Agency's achievements, income and financial expenditure from the Northern Territory Budget 2010.

The Agency works in partnership with the Northern Territory community to ensure the Territory's natural and cultural heritage, and its values, are protected. The Agency also works in collaboration with our stakeholders in such areas as sport and recreation, environment protection, natural resources, wildlife management, arts, film and museums, national parks estate and tourism to achieve this protection.

For such a wide ranging stakeholder audience, this Annual Report provides a summary of the range of Agency services and activities undertaken. This Annual Report also formally acknowledges the achievements carried out by Agency employees. It also provides another source of information to Northern Territory Government employees and tax payers about the full scope of Agency programs that may not be fully appreciated from the perspective of individual workplaces.

Additionally, this Annual Report provides information for other government agencies and the wider public about the wide range of activities undertaken by the Agency – a lot of which occurs outside the main population area – the purpose of these activities, and how successful they are.



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, THE ARTS AND SPORT

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Dear Ministers

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport for the financial year 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.

The report describes the performance and key achievements of each of the Department's Output Groups and the Territory Wildlife Parks, as required by Section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

With regard to my duties as Accountable Officer, pursuant to Section 13 of the *Financial Management Act*, and Section 131 of the *Information Act*, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the system of internal control and audit provides reasonable assurance that:

- a) proper records of all transactions affecting the Agency are kept and that employees under my control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*, its regulations and applicable Treasurer's Directions;
- b) procedures within the Agency afford proper internal control and a current description of such procedures is recorded in the accounting and property manual which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*;
- c) no indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error in or omission from the accounts and records exists;
- d) in accordance with Section 15 of the *Financial Management Act* the results of internal audits have been reported to me and the internal audit capacity is adequate;
- e) the financial statements included in the Annual Report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with Treasurer's Directions;
- f) all Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment have been satisfied; and
- g) in respect of my responsibilities pursuant to Section 131 of the *Information Act*, I advise that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the department has implemented processes to achieve compliance with the archives and records management provisions as prescribed in Part 9 of the *Information Act*.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Grant'.

Jim Grant
Chief Executive
19 September 2011

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