

Media Release:

24.11.08

Drowning at Edith Falls

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) advises that a male in his early twenties drowned whilst swimming at Leliyn (Edith Falls) in Nitmiluk National Park, Katherine at around 3pm yesterday, Sunday 23 November 2008.

NRETAS Director of Parks Graham Phelps said the man was part of a large group visiting the popular swimming area.

“The man swam approximately 150m from the plunge pool entrance to the other side of the falls, but it appears he started to struggle returning back to the group,” Mr Phelps said.

“Parks and Wildlife Service rangers attended the scene immediately and attempted to revive the man until the ambulance arrived.

Mr Phelps said visitor safety at parks and reserves administered by NRETAS is the number one priority.

“We have numerous safety signs in place and life buoys on hand in case of emergencies,” Mr Phelps said.

“We strongly urge all visitors to adhere to park safety signs and particularly to observe warning signs regarding swimming.

“Visitors are reminded that parks and reserves are natural changing environments and therefore need to be aware of the risks and exercise care, taking into account their own physical abilities and health when entering these environments.”

Ends

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