

**Media Release:**

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## **Territory Wildlife Park's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

The Territory Wildlife Park is celebrating 20 years as one of the Territory's top tourist attractions with lots of family fun activities, prizes and special presentations at the Park tomorrow, Saturday 3 October 2009.

The Territory Wildlife Park attracts more than 70,000 visitors each year, showcasing the Top End's unique fauna and flora through a series of natural habitats that engage visitors in an interesting and informative way.

Territory Wildlife Park Acting Curator Damian Stanioch said tomorrow's festivities include a birthday cake, face-painting, jumping castles, an outdoor rock wall and helicopter scenic flights (charges apply to scenic flights).

"There will also be Life Be in It activities, Bunnings DIY workshops for the children, an Animal Ark display and plants for sale from Greening Australia," Mr Stanioch said.

"Another highlight will be old photos of the Territory Wildlife Park on display and poster giveaways for the children, so it really is a great day for the whole family.

"Visitors will also receive entry forms to go into the draw to win one of three major prizes of a fully set-up 5ft Aquarium, 4ft Terrarium or a garden pond package, winners will be notified Monday, 5 October 2009."

Throughout its 20 years the Territory Wildlife Park has celebrated some major milestones and accomplishments, including the world's first captive bred Beach Stone-curlew in 2009 and the Park's first captive bred northern death adders in 2008.

"Our Northern Quoll Breeding Program commenced in 2006 to help support the threatened species by maintaining a viable captive population which have suffered a massive decline in numbers due to cane toads in the Top End," Mr Stanioch said.

"Territory Wildlife Park started regular Cane Toad Busts in 2005 involving volunteers and school groups to help protect native species in and around the Park from these deadly pests.

"Other recent highlights include the Twilight Tours, run through the Dry season, which commenced in 2008 to give visitors the chance to see the Top End nocturnal species come alive at night, and the Ooloo Sandbar experience which opened earlier this year to educate and showcase another important Top End ecosystem.

"We invite all Territorians and visitors to the Top End to come and celebrate this special occasion with us."

For more information about the Park go to [www.territorywildlifepark.com.au](http://www.territorywildlifepark.com.au) or phone 8988 7200.

Ends

**Media Note – for more information contact Damian Stanioch on 8988 7200**

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