

Media Release:

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Kings Canyon Rim Walk Under Repairs

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) advises that the Kings Canyon Rim Walk in Watarrka National Park, 450km south-west of Alice Springs, will be undergoing repairs and maintenance between 25 October and 1 December 2009.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service senior ranger Sheridan Martin said Territory contractor CH Services will undertake the \$124 000 repair and maintenance works.

“It is anticipated that the works will provide a safer, more comfortable walk for visitors and also assist in the protection of Watarrka’s natural resources,” Ms Martin said.

“The Kings Canyon Rim Walk is a 6km round trip which takes approximately 3-4 hours to complete and takes in the spectacular views from the Canyon Rim while passing by the ‘Garden of Eden’, a sheltered valley with permanent waterholes and lush vegetation.

“The repairs and maintenance include works on the rock steps of the ascent, paving of the damaged track surface at the top of the ascent and along the path prior to the descent.

“Some disruptions to normal traffic flow may be experienced during this period, and sections of the track may be narrower or require temporary detours to ensure the safety of visitors.”

Ms Martin said more than 220,000 people visit Watarrka National Park each year, and the Kings Canyon Rim Walk is a major attraction.

“It is important we keep these walking tracks in top condition so people keep coming back to enjoy this magnificent place,” Ms Martin said.

“In the 2008-09 financial year, more than \$140 000 was spent on repairs and maintenance to the Kings Creek walk to make it a safer and more accessible walk for all ages and abilities.

“We also remind all visitors undertaking walks within our parks to consider their personal health, fitness and conditions at the time, and make sure they carry all the essentials.”

The Kings Creek walk, the Giles Track and Kathleen Springs walk will all be open for visitors to access during this period.

For more information about parks and reserves administered by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport visit www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks.

Ends

**Media Note – for more information contact Sheridan Martin on 8956 7460
Image – Kings Canyon Rim Walk ascent**

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