



Australian Government
Director of National Parks



kakaduTM
NATIONAL PARK

TOURISM INDUSTRY UPDATE

15 June 2011

JIM JIM FALLS AND GARNAMARR CAMP GROUND

The road to Jim Jim Falls is now open to the public and the Garnamarr camp grounds have been cleared and prepared for campers.

Major road works are being conducted on the Jim Jim Falls road. Please drive with care and observe road work signs and speed limits. There are still hazardous washouts in some sections of the road. Police will be enforcing speed limits on this road.

Jim Jim Falls road



Workers concreting floodway section on the Jim Jim Falls road.

West Alligator Head

The road to West Alligator Head is still closed with depths of water over the road at .6 metres at the first creek and .7 metres at the second creek.



Water over road at the first creek West Alligator Head road

Koolpin Gorge Access

Gimbat road remains closed as it is still waterlogged and boggy in parts. The NT Department of Construction and Infrastructure is waiting for the road to dry to commence work. Previous work was stopped when the grader got bogged.



Gimbat road looking towards Koolpin Gorge

Welcome Yatu Widders



Imelda Dover has accepted a new post with the Canberra Mint - we thank Imelda for her contribution to the management of the park over the past two and a half years.

Yatu Widders will be acting in the role of Manager, Tourism Visitor Services. Yatu joins us from the Canberra office of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. Please feel free to contact her at yatu.widders@environment.gov.au.

For more information about Kakadu National Park contact Bowali Visitor Centre on (08) 8938 1120 or visit our websites www.parksaustralia.gov.au/kakadu or www.kakadu.com.au

KAKADU ROAD AND ACCESS REPORT

Daily road reports are available on our website: www.kakadu.com.au/access **NB.** The following forecast times are based on our best predictions and may change. Please check the road report for the daily update.

Visitor Site	Current Status	Forecasted Opening	Comments
Arnhem Highway	Open		
Kakadu Highway	Open		
Old Darwin Rd/Old Jim Jim Rd	Closed	Mid June	South Alligator crossing impassible at 0.8 of a metre – closed by Department of Construction and Infrastructure. Sections of the road have been graded though a number of muddy sections still need to dry out before the road is opened.
Jabiru Region			
Burdulba Campground	Open		Prescribed back burning operations to take place around the campground as the surrounding woodland dries out. No interruptions to visitor services.
Malabanjbandju Caravan Area	Open		Prescribed back burning operations to take place around the campground as the surrounding woodland dries out. No interruptions to visitor services.
Malabanjbandju Tent Area	Open		Prescribed back burning operations to take place around the campground as the surrounding woodland dries out. No interruptions to visitor services.
Illigadjarr Walk	Closed	End of June	High water levels are continuing to present a significant crocodile risk. Asset protection and fuel reduction burning will take place in the area during June with no interruptions to walkers.
Nourlangie Region			
Nourlangie Rock	Open		Back burning operations to take place along the walking track on Monday 13 June. No interruptions to visitor services.
Nanguluwur Art Site	Open		
Nawurlandja Lookout	Open		
Gun-warddehwardde Lookout	Open		
Gubara	Open		
Mirrai Lookout	Open		Some burning has taken place but there are plenty of flowers and woodland birds to see along the track. We again plan to trim some selected trees to open up the view - especially to the north towards Jabiru, east towards Bubba Wetlands and Nourlangie Rock, and southeast towards Deaf Adder and the main escarpment.
Sandstone Barrk Walk	Open		District rangers undertook this walk last week to carry out track maintenance and install or replace track markers. Please tell us what your clients say about this walk – we'd welcome the feedback.
Muirella Park Campground	Open		
Anbangbang Billabong	Partially Open		The road into Anbangbang is now open to all traffic and people can enjoy the flowers and birdlife surrounding the billabong. The walk itself is open on the section parallel with the road but the section of walk crossing over the billabong is still wet and therefore remains closed. There is also a small section of the walk open on the Nawalandja side. Signs advising visitors where the walk ends are in place.
Sandy Billabong	Open		The campground has been modified this year with all the campsites now situated on the northern side of the billabong. The eastern side of the billabong is set aside for a day use area. This decision was mainly driven by the crocodile risk which existed while the campsites were down near the waters edge. In addition, past setups meant that opening times were always delayed because the campsites were under water. The areas where the old sites stood are currently still wet. We envisage that the sites further away from the toilet block will be reserved for Tour Operators and the remainder for independent travellers. The road in still has some wet patches but please stay on the road and do not attempt to drive around what look like boggy areas. The road is hard underneath.
Bubba Wetland Walk	Closed	End June	This is predominantly a wetland walk and we have been unable to bring machines into the area to slash and maintain the track. Currently water levels are still fairly high but are now dropping fast. There is also the risk of crocodiles being close to the track while levels are still high. We hope to open the walk in stages as certain areas dry out. Prescribed burning will take place when the surrounding woodland areas dry out.
Yellow Water Region			
Jim Jim Billabong Campground	Open		
Mardugal Campground 1 (Caravans)	Open		
Mardugal Campground 2 (Tents)	Open		
Gun-gardun Walk	Open		
Yellow Water Road	Closed to Traffic	Mid June	Water levels dropping quickly however water still running across the road. Once water has receded, the road will be opened to public traffic and small vehicles. Weight restrictions will be removed approximately one week later. In the meantime, please proceed directly to Cooinda where shuttle buses are transferring clients to Yellow Water.
Yellow Water Boardwalk	Closed	Mid June	Water levels are still too high. The last of the vegetation will be cleared this week and will be accessible when the Yellow Water Road is opened.
Mardugal Billabong Walk	Closed	Mid June	Water across track in a couple of places. Track will be cleared once it has dried out.
Home Billabong Walk	Closed	End July	Water across track in a number of places presenting a high crocodile risk.
Jim Jim and Twin Falls Region			
Garnamarr Campground	Open		The campground is now ready for campers.
Jim Jim Falls	Open		Roadwork's are still being carried out in section of the road that are high flood area and concrete foam works are in place to complete. Please drive with care as workers are visible carrying out the work roads.
Barrk Marlam Walk	Open		Staff have cleared the tracks and marked the trail in anticipation of the area being opened.
Budjmi Lookout	Closed	Mid June	There are two major washouts along the road to the Jim Jim creek crossing. These will require a few truckloads of rock and with any luck will be completed next week. If not, this road will be closed from the Jim Jim/Twin Falls junction. The track itself will be opened once buffalo have been removed and the track has been cleared.

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Twin Falls	Closed	Late June	Staff has installed two crocodile traps. Initial surveys have revealed a couple of salt water crocodiles present in the plunge pool and main pool. The area will be opened once these crocodiles have been removed, surveys are completed and walkways and shuttle boats are installed.
Twin Falls Plateau Walk	Closed	Late June	Track clearing of fallen trees and over growth of branches has been completed. A number of walking and safety signs still need to be installed
Maguk	Closed	Late June	There is a washout on other side of first the creek crossing restricting vehicle access to the area. Crocodile traps have been installed and surveys are due to commence next week.
Bilkbilkmi (Graveside Gorge)	Closed	Mid July	Aerial surveys have revealed significant water across low lying sections of the road. Until this dries out staff will be unable to access the area by vehicle.
Mary River Region			
Kambolgie Campground	Open		
Yurmikmik Walks	Open		
Gunlom	Open		Drive with care along road to Gunlom - numerous floodways and roadside hazards are present
Ikoymarrwa Rock Holes	Open		
Bukbukluk Lookout	Open		
Gungurul Campground	Open		A fire has recently burnt through the area and may have affected the southern side of the campground
Gungurul Lookout & River Walk	Open		A fire has recently burnt through the area and may have affected the walks.
Gimbat Road	Closed	Mid-Late June	The Gimbat Road is closed with signs indicating this after the Gunlom Road junction. Staff are waiting for water to stop flowing across the road before Flying Fox Creek so that the Department of Construction and Infrastructure can repair the road and clear a three metre high sandbar that is present on the other side of the creek.
Jarrangbarnmi (Koolpin Gorge)	Closed	Mid-Late June	See above for Gunlom/Gimbat Road conditions – once accessible, a crocodile trap will be installed and survey procedures will proceed. Staff will also prepare the campground and day use area concurrently.
Guratba/Gimbat Day Use Area	Closed	Mid-Late June	Opening is dependent upon the Gimbat Road being fixed so that staff can access the area. See Gimbat Road entry on page 1 for more details.
East Alligator Region			
Ubirr Art Site	Open		
Magela Creek (road to Ubirr)	Open		
Cahills Crossing	Open		
Merl Campground 1 & 2	Open		
Bardedjilidji Sandstone Walk	Open		
Manngarre Walk	Partially Open	June	The first half of the walk is now open. However, on the second section, clearing work continues. There is still water on track in places and in particular in the middle of the loop. Unsafe due to croc risk
Sandstone & River Walk	Closed	July	Still water on track. Track is close to river/creek in places Unsafe due to croc risk. Clearing has begun but it will take some time.
South Alligator Region			
Mamukala	Open		
Gungarre Walk	Closed	Mid June	Water levels still over the path presenting a crocodile risk and track still needs to be cleared.
West Alligator Head	Closed	Late July	Water still over the Manassie flood plain.
Red Lily Billabong	Closed	Mid-late June	Water across black soil roads. A number of major washouts are present that are likely to require significant road works.
Bucket Billabong	Closed	Mid-late June	Barrantonia Crossing still around 0.8 of a metre.
Alligator Billabong	Closed	Mid-late June	Access dependant on Red Lily and Bucket Billabong conditions
2 Mile Hole Billabong	Closed	Mid June	Creek crossings still at 0.9 of a metre, sections of road damaged
4 Mile Hole Billabong	Closed	July	Water lying across the black soil road after 2 Mile Hole Billabong