

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 18 June 2019

**Subject:** Visitor numbers to NT Parks

**Member:** Mr Gerry Wood

**To:** Hon Lauren Moss MLA

**Agency:** Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture

---

**Number:** 8.4

**Question:** Minister, could you provide visitation numbers for all Territory Parks over the last 3 years.

**Answer:** Visitor numbers are calculated from traffic counters for 22 parks and reserves that receive about 5000 or more visitors annually, in addition to George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Territory Wildlife Park and Alice Springs Desert Park. All together an estimated 3.756 million visits were made to NT-managed parks in 2018, compared to 3.671 million in 2017, about a 2.3 per cent increase.

These visitor numbers for NT parks over the last five years are attached, and are also publicly available on the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture website <https://dtsc.nt.gov.au/parks-and-wildlife-commission>

The calibration rates listed for each park are complex calculations derived and vary per park, depending upon local traffic, tour bus traffic and average vehicle occupancy.

Parks and reserves that receive less than 5000 visitors annually are not monitored so no statistics are available.

## ATTACHMENT A - 8.4 - Visitor numbers to NT Parks

Park/Reserve	Comment	2018 visitor numbers	2017 visitor numbers	2016 visitor numbers
Reported top 22 Parks /Reserves	Excluding Darwin Botanic Gardens and Wildlife Parks	<b>3,222,100</b>	3,130,700	2,999,000
Other Parks	Darwin Botanic Gardens and Wildlife Parks	<b>534,600</b>	540,300	583,700
Total		<b>3,756,700</b>	3,671,000	3,582,700

Park/reserve	Calibration	Comment	2018 visitor numbers	2017 visitor numbers	2016 visitor numbers
<b>DARWIN REGION</b>					
Berry Springs Nature Reserve	2.58	Traffic counters located at entry point.	<b>150,300</b>	138,900	142,700
Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Whole of Park	1.95	Traffic counters located at the five entry points.	<b>1,106,900</b>	1,062,200	956,200
Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve		Traffic counters located at entry point.	<b>55,900</b>	63,200	56,100
Howard Springs Nature Park	1.6	Traffic counters located at entry point.	<b>152,200</b>	143,300	150,800
Litchfield National Park - Whole of Park	3.2	Traffic counters located along Peninsula and Batchelor road.	<b>331,300</b>	329,600	367,700
Mary River National Park – Shady Camp Conservation Reserve	1.2	Traffic counter located along Shady Camp road.	<b>23,800</b>	36,400	28,300

## **ATTACHMENT A - 8.4 - Visitor numbers to NT Parks**

## ATTACHMENT A - 8.4 - Visitor numbers to NT Parks

KATHERINE REGION					
Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park	2.4	Based on Cutta Cutta Cave Tour numbers.	<b>11,100</b>	13,000	11,800
Elsley National Park - Whole of Park	2.4	Traffic and pedestrian counters located at Bitter Springs, Mataranka Thermal Pool and John Hauser Drive.	<b>218,400</b>	190,900	170,700
Judbarra/Gregory National Park - Whole of Park	0.8	Traffic counters located on Bullita Access Road, Joe Creek, Sullivan Creek and Big Horse Campgrounds.	<b>32,000</b>	33,800	31,100
Keep River National Park	1.2	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>12,800</b>	13,300	10,300
Limmen National Park - Hodgson River Crossing	1.2	Traffic counter located at Hodgson River Crossing.	<b>14,700</b>	13,000	10,300
Nitmiluk National Park (whole of Park)	2.92	Traffic counters located at Katherine Gorge and Edith Falls.	<b>263,500</b>	270,400	268,800
BARKLY REGION					
Karlu Karlu (Devils Marbles) Conservation Reserve	1.2	Traffic counters located north and south of sealed access road.	<b>123,200</b>	107,600	108,500
Tennant Creek Telegraph Station	0.6	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>12,900</b>	10,500	11,100

## ATTACHMENT A - 8.4 - Visitor numbers to NT Parks

<b>ALICE SPRINGS REGION</b>					
Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve	3.37/2.11 (dependent on time of year)	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>230,200</b>	237,900	207,800
Arltunga Historical Reserve	0.6	Traffic counters located at Visitor Centre and Crossroads intersection.	<b>6,800</b>	5,700	6,200
Chambers Pillar Historical Reserve	0.6	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>4,600</b>	4,400	5,400
Finke Gorge National Park	0.6	Traffic counter located at entry to Palm Valley.	<b>19,900</b>	17,800	17,200
Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve	0.6	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>9,100</b>	7,500	10,600
Trephina Gorge Nature Park	0.6	Traffic counter located at entry point.	<b>28,000</b>	28,100	23,200
Watarrka National Park	4.83	Traffic counters located along Luritja Road at two separate entry points.	<b>257,500</b>	250,100	246,600
Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park (whole of Park figure)		Traffic counters located at Simpsons Gap, Ellery Creek Big Hole and Ormiston Gorge.	<b>157,000</b>	153,100	157,600
<b>OTHER</b>					
George Brown Botanic Gardens		Traffic counters at 2 entry points and event data	<b>407,800</b>	410,800	457,800
Territory Wildlife Park		Point of Sales	<b>60,300</b>	61,200	57,300
Alice Springs Desert Park		Point of Sales	<b>66,500</b>	68,300	68,600