

**Media Release:**

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## **Alice Springs Desert Park Collects More Brolgas**

The Alice Springs Desert Park (ASDP) is celebrating after winning two Brolga awards – for Major Tourist Attraction and Ecotourism – at the Northern Territory Tourism Awards on Saturday night, 29 November 2008.

This is the fifth consecutive year the ASDP has won the Major Tourist Attraction Brolga, and the seventh overall in its twelve year history.

ASDP Manager Gary Fry said he was deeply honoured to accept the Brolgas on behalf of the Desert Park and the people of Alice Springs.

“The people of Central Australia should be justifiably proud that given the wealth of tourism opportunity in the Northern Territory, the Desert Park operates at a consistently high level,” Mr Fry said.

“Accolades such as the Brolgas come this way because of the Desert Park staff, our business partners Wildlife Park Services and the support from the local community.”

Mr Fry said the Ecotourism Brolga is especially important to the Desert Park and is their second award in this category.

“The Desert Park’s management of its botanical and zoological collections is in line with the world’s best practices, and is in accordance with the aspirations of the Park’s Traditional Owners,” Mr Fry said.

“The Park provides a sensitive and realistic insight into Aboriginal culture through displaying and interpreting the traditional use of plants and animals.

“We want visitors to leave the Park with an increased desire and ability to respect, enjoy and look after the Australian desert environment and all its inhabitants.

“This year the Desert Park has opened a new evening experience, the Mulga Walk, where visitors are taken on guided tours spotlighting nocturnal species such as bilbies and bettongs.

The Alice Springs Desert Park is a Northern Territory Government business enterprise operating from 7.30am – 6pm seven days a week. The Park is open everyday except Christmas Day.

For more information about the Alice Springs Desert Park phone 8951 8788 or go to [www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au](http://www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au).

Ends

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