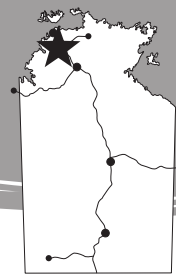


# Manton Dam Recreation Area



Fact Sheet

**Manton Dam is a great spot for watersports. The Dam is often a hive of activity.**

Built in 1942, Manton Dam was Darwin's first reliable water supply. Today it is a popular recreation area, although its water is still used in emergencies. Its relatively undisturbed drainage area is also a valuable catchment and conservation area.

This area is important to Aboriginal people from a number of language groups: Larrakia, Limilngan, Wulna, Waray and Koongurrukun.

## Access (see map)

**Park entry fees - Parks Pass applies. (NT residents exempt).** Travel about 70 km south of Darwin on the Stuart Highway and turn west into the Reserve. All roads are sealed and accessible throughout the year.

## When to Visit

The Recreation Area is open from sunrise to sunset everyday, including public holidays.

## What to See and Do

Manton Dam is a pleasant destination for an easy day trip from Darwin.



**Picnicking** - picnic tables and wood barbecues are situated among lawns and large shady trees.



**Fishing** - is permitted in Manton Dam. The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade regularly releases farm-bred fingerlings into the Dam.



**Boating** - power boats and water skiing are popular here, and the

area has been zoned for these activities. There is a separate zone for Low Speed Boating (see map). Please ensure you read the By-laws displayed at the boat ramp and ski beach.



**Jet-skiing** - enjoy the open water in the Jet-ski Zone set aside for this activity.

All craft must carry required safety equipment.

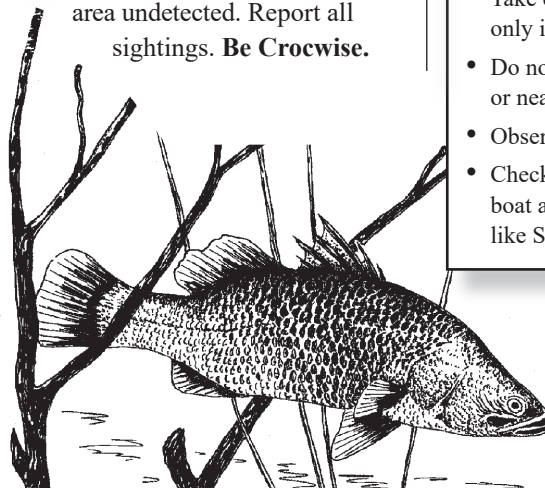
## History

The Manton River was impounded in 1942 to build the Dam which was Darwin's first water supply reservoir. In 1951, its catchment was declared as Woolnough Water Catchment and Flora and Fauna Reserve. In 1972 a dam was constructed on the Darwin River, to the north-west, which then became the main water supply for Darwin's expanding population.

Manton Dam was opened for recreation in 1989. Some areas of the Dam are closed to protect water quality.



**Saltwater Crocodiles** - are removed from the Dam through an ongoing crocodile management program, however they may enter the area undetected. Report all sightings. **Be Crocwise.**



**Barramundi**  
*Lates calcarifer*

## Safety and Comfort

- Observe park safety signs.
- Emergency Call Device located in the carpark.
- Observe recreation zones, speed limits and restrictions.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Carry a first aid kit.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Ensure your vehicle and/or boat is well maintained and equipped.
- Beware of theft. Lock vehicles and secure valuables.

## Please Remember

- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Pets are not permitted in this Park.
- Camping is not permitted.
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted.
- A permit is required for Drone use - conditions apply and it must be obtained prior to your arrival in the Park.
- Take care with fire, light fires only in fireplaces provided.
- Do not use soaps or detergent in or near waterways.
- Observe all fishing regulations.
- Check that your vehicle and boat are not transporting weeds like Salvinia.

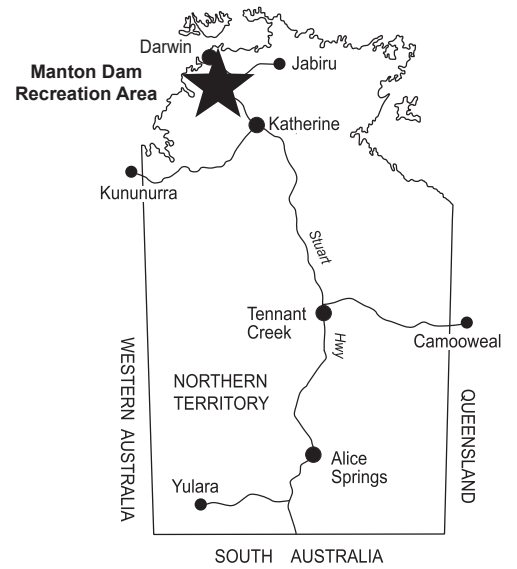
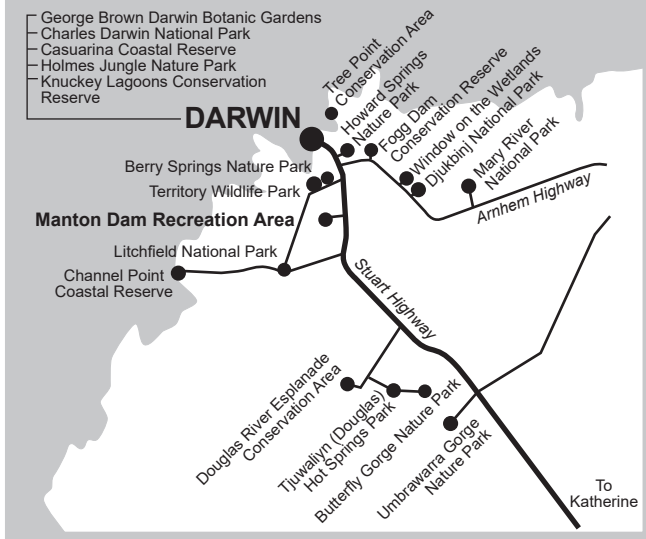
Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

[nt.gov.au/parks](http://nt.gov.au/parks)  
[nt.gov.au/park-bookings](http://nt.gov.au/park-bookings)  
PO Box 496  
PALMERSTON NT 0831

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25 Chung Wah Terrace,  
Palmerston, NT, 0830  
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# Manton Dam Recreation Area



ZONE	ACTIVITY
	Power Boat and Water Ski Zone (Jet-skis towing skiers also permitted) 
	Jet-ski Zone 
	Low Speed Boat Zone (Less than 5 knots) 
	Prohibited Access Zone No entry

