Media Release

Willem Westra van Holthe, Member for Katherine
Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Minister for Land Resource Management

**NT water monitoring buoyed**

22 July 2015

Waterways across the Northern Territory will be monitored more closely than ever before, with the help of new gauging boat the ‘Snowy Klose’.

Minister for Land Resource Management Willem Westra van Holthe said the vessel will be used to undertake river and harbour water surveys and the collection of water quality samples.

“The ‘Snowy Klose’ will be used to measure river flows across the Northern Territory, including the Katherine, Daly, Victoria, Roper and McArthur Rivers,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“Equipment on board the vessel allows us to determine how much water there is in a particular river both during floods and low flows.

“This data assists with improved flood forecasting, verifies river model predictions and informs assessments related to water allocation planning.

“DLRM works tirelessly on gathering the latest scientific information to better inform the key decisions made by government,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

The ‘Snowy Klose’ is a five metre vessel with a hull shape which allows for it to be launched into rivers at locations which may not have boat ramps. It also provides a stable and safe work platform for scientists when they are on the water undertaking surveys.

Minister Westra van Holthe said the Country Liberals Government is unwavering in its commitment to good water management practices.

“The ‘Snowy Klose’ is a $44,000 investment to ensure DLRM scientists have access to state of the art equipment as they carry out their important work,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“Water is our most precious natural resource in the Northern Territory and it is vitally important it is managed properly.”

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