

Beat: Health

Large crocodile kills fisherman in northern Australia

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USPA News - Australian police on Sunday recovered the remains of a man who was snatched by a large crocodile while fishing with his family in the country's northern region, just months after a young boy was killed by a crocodile while swimming with a group of friends. The latest incident happened on Saturday afternoon when a 62-year-old man was on a boat with his wife, son, and daughter-in-law at the Flying Fox Waterhole on the South Alligator River in Kakadu National Park, which is located in Australia's Northern Territory, some 170 kilometers (105 miles) southeast of Darwin.

The family told police that the man, whose name has not been released, was fishing in the river when he was snatched by a large crocodile. Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services (PFES) spokeswoman Sarah Gotch said the victim's remains were found on Sunday when police located the reptile. "Police and Kakadu National Park Rangers conducted spotlight searching through the night, continuing the search with a helicopter and vessels throughout the day," she said. "A 4.63 meter (15-foot, 4-inch) crocodile was located and shot by Park Rangers shortly after noon and the body recovered." The recovery of the man's body makes it Australia's second fatal crocodile attack so far this year, both of them in the same national park. "This is a tragic event and our thoughts are with the family during this very difficult time," said Bruce Porter, Commander of PFES' Northern Command. In late January, a 12-year-old boy was attacked by a saltwater crocodile measuring between 2 and 2.5 meters (between 6.5 and 8.2 feet) while swimming with four other young boys in Mudginberri Billabong, an isolated pond in Kakadu National Park. Evidence confirming the boy's death was recovered two days later. Police said the boy had been snatched by the crocodile after the reptile bit another 12-year-old boy on the arm, but he was able to fight it off. Before that, in August 2013, a 26-year-old man was killed by a large saltwater crocodile while swimming in the Mary River near a camping ground in Australia's Northern Territory. The man, who was celebrating a birthday party, was swimming in a river that is known for having the world's largest population of saltwater crocodiles.

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