

Northern Australia News Roundup – February 2017

Welcome to a summary of February's news on topics relevant to the Northern Hub's goal of supporting sustainable development in northern Australia. These clips aim to facilitate cross-sector and cross-region knowledge sharing, and more informed conversations about the future of northern Australia. They're an informal 'round up' of what comes across my desk rather than a systematic collection, so please send any relevant news in and let me know what you think. Also, please let me know if you don't wish to receive this email. Cheers and best regards, Clare, Knowledge Broker, Northern Australia Environmental Resources Hub.

Pan northern news

- [CRC for Developing Northern Australia announces Sheriden Morris as chair + 6 other board members more more more more](#) and [\\$3M project funding round closing 20 Apr](#)
- [Canavan supports new coal fired power station for Nth Qld with help from NAIF and Ian MacFarlane More more](#)
- [Aust Institute NAIF discussion paper and NAIF doesn't disclose dates of board meetings More](#)
- [Govs watching appeal case on how to compensate for loss of native title rights](#)
- [Bishop spruiks Irish investment in Nth Aust](#)
- [Research post on the importance of o/s migration to the NT and Nth Aust](#)
- [US stealth F-22 fighter planes arrive in Top End more](#)
- [Senate inquiry into Aust Gov's responsibility for the rehab of mining & resources projects invites submissions until 10 Apr](#)

- [Project Sea Dragon to make decision if 'going ahead' or 'would like to but cant' in March](#)
- [Net ec rtn for Nth Prawn Fishery grows from \\$5.2M in 12/13 to \\$12.3M in 13/14](#)
- [Buffalo live-ex to ramp up with new stunning method that meets animal welfare + Halal standards](#)
- [Indonesian lifts weight limits for live-ex cattle and reinvigorates exports](#)
- [High cattle prices and big wet mean slow start for truckies and Truckies can drive an extra hour for animal welfare](#)
- [Cattle rustlers foiled by motion sensing GPS collar that sends alert to phone](#)

- [Average Mar to May rainfall outlook for most of Nth Aust](#)
- [Calls to rebadge wet season to waterfall season and drone footage of Kimberley wet](#)

Nth Aust Hub News

- [Mapping of refugial, leading-edge and buffer littoral rainforest to help Qld managers](#)
- [Find out about our Cape York Penisnula project on defining success in feral animal management](#)
- [Keep in touch with more news through our facebook page or tweets](#)

State, Territory etc news

- [Concerns taxes collected by NT Govt to clean up ex-mines not used for intended purpose](#)
- [The end for traditional Top End mining towns?](#)
- [Update on NT fracking inquiry](#)
- [Modelling sustainable development in the Daly catchment](#)
- [NLC's Jan edn Land Rights News incs Land Rights Act, IAS audit, Kenbi, CDP & women rangers](#)
- [NT TOs meet to discuss constitutional recognition](#)
- [Katherine yards trialling feedlot to fatten cattle before sale](#)
- [Holmes a Court's Heytesbury Cattle Co remains largest in NT, with >16.7k sqkm over 4 leases, compared to Rhinehart's ~16k, AACo's 39.1k, Consolidated's 31.7k sqkm](#)
- [NT cell grazing trial and Rain shuts AACo's Livingstone abattoir](#)
- [Buffalo farm within Kakadu NP raising qs](#)
- [Strong demand for NT pomelos](#)

- [Labor pledges \\$104M for the Kimberley including a Fitzroy Rv Ntn Park More](#)
- [Ord Valley farmer learns Brazilian lesson on tropical agriculture and wet season cropping](#)

- [WA Indigenous ranger program election promise by Labour](#) [More](#) [More](#)
- [Rangelands NRM facilitating conversations on Fitzroy futures](#)
- [Info & interactive maps on Indigenous knowledge partnerships and sea country governance](#) now on the [North West Atlas](#) [More](#)
- [Broome moving to reduce marine litter](#)
- [Ord quinoa heading to China for first time](#)
- [Qld Treasury to issue green bonds to investors to promote sustainable development](#)
- [Palaszczuk questions Aust Gov northern dev agenda](#) [More](#) and [provides extra \\$50M in concessional loans to primary producers](#)
- [NQ mourns passing of Noeline Ikin eulogy](#)
- [Cloncurry copper mine JV approved and \\$100M found for Kidston solar project nr Twynville](#)
- [Burdekin sugar producers hit Canberra over marketing arrangements](#)
- [Nth Qld sugar growers to describe how robots, drones can help, more](#) [more](#) and new Qld gov [cane changer program](#) [More](#)
- [Nth Qld coffee farmer invests in healthy soil](#) and [Farm nr Twynville first for achachas \(Bolivain lychee-like fruit\)](#)
- [Ex grazier helps others in business highlighting finance, natural resources & livestock](#)
- [Ex Tynville mayor Les Tyrell to chair NQ Dry Tropics NRM](#) and [Keith Noble replaces Mike Berwick as chair of Terrain NRM](#)
- [Aust Defence Force drops forced land sales](#)
- [Coal washing up on GBR beaches](#)
- [Recycling coming to Mount Isa](#)

Water

- [\\$2B concessional loans for water infrastructure now open](#) tho Lake Argyle local says opportunity lost
- [Shire seeking \\$s to investigate piping water from Lake Argyle for irrigated agric nr Halls Crk](#) [more](#)
- [WA Labor promises to protect Kimberley's Fitzroy from dams](#) inc audio on various perspectives
- [Katter's opinion on case for Hell's Gate Dam nr Twynville & more on Qld Fitzroy's Rookwood weir](#)
- [Kimberley's Anna Plains Stn trials sub-surface drip irrigation for fodder crop](#)
- [\\$1.1M for Flinders Rv stabilisation project](#) and [graziers prevent erosion in Bowen region rivers](#) [More](#)
- [Updated Qld waterway and fish passage maps help development planning, & Mackay fishways get makeover](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases etc

- [6 of 10 recent biosec outbreaks in Nth Aust](#) [more](#)
- [Funds to target feral cats with 99.8% of Aust covered by 2.1M to 6.3M cats](#) [More](#) [More](#)
- [Cats driving rabbit-rats to extinction on Tiwi Is and Kakadu](#) [cat blog](#)
- [Bulk cane toad sausages to help protect Kimberley wildlife](#) and [Rains open roads to toads or not](#)
- [WA intros new border controls for BJD cattle disease](#)
- [Sentinel cattle herd in Timor to help protect against Foot and Mouth](#)
- [Genetically modified banana trials approved to resist Panama Tropical Race 4 disease](#)

Biodiversity and Protected Areas

- [Draft recovery plans on brush-tailed rabbit rat, lungfish, white throated snapping turtle, littoral rainforests & coastal vine thickets of E Aust](#) open for comment
- [New/changed EPBC Act listings - Critically endangered: freshwater crayfish/spiny crayfish \(Tsville area\). Endangered: Antbed parrot moth \(CYP\); Christmas Island frigatebird, Andrew's frigatebird \(Christmas Is\). Vulnerable: Julia Creek dunnart \(Gulf\), Bare-rumped sheathtailed bat \(nth Aust\); \(Greater\) Large-eared horseshoe bat & Semon's leaf-nosed bat, Greater wart-nosed horseshoe-bat \(CYP & Wet tropics\)](#)
- [New dragonfly id app for Nth Aust](#) [More](#) [More](#)

- [Northern bettongs found Nth of Cairns and Tanami study on bilbies + root-dwelling larvae & fire](#)
- [Using sniffer dogs to find quolls and more](#)
- [GBR may face more coral bleaching in coming month and Huff post article on sugar and the GBR](#)
- [Nth Austs cathedral termites arrived 20M yrs ago descending from tree-nesting Asian or Sth American termites](#)
- [Cassowary rehab centre to open on Tablelands and Banana box frog rescue service](#)
- [Trackers to help reveal 'lost years' of Qld flatback turtles](#)
- [Beach reshaping & fencing helps turtles nesting on 'Galapagos of Australia' Raine Is](#)
- [Counting Kimberley Camden Sound whales from space](#)
- [2min video on Kimberley gouldian finch work and Magpie geese breeding in inland NSW](#)

Fire and carbon

- [NAFI improves fire scar tags, finalises 2016 scars and updates 2000-2016 Nth Aust fire histories](#)

Events

7-8 Mar, [ABARES Outlook conference](#), Canberra ACT
 21-24 Mar, [Aust mangrove and saltmarsh network conf](#), Hobart
 23-24 Mar, [Rainforests of Subtropical Australia](#), Gold Coast
 23-24 Mar, [Kimberley & Pilbara Cattlemen's conference & field day](#), Munderoo Stn
 6 Apr, Climate in the Top End, Darwin (Katherine 7 Apr) info Eva.Zinkovsky@csiro.au
 1-4 May, [Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference](#), Canberra ACT
 5-7 Jun, [National Native Title conf](#), Townsville
 19-20 Jun, [Developing Northern Australia Conference](#), Cairns
 26 Jun-7 Jul, [Drone flying course](#), Darwin
 2-6 Jul, [Aust Marine Science Conf](#), Darwin
 4-7 Sep, [Qld Coastal Conference](#), Airlie Beach Qld
 24-28 Sep, [Aust Rangeland Society Biennial Conference](#), Port Augusta SA

Please note

- this is an informal compilation and views don't necessarily reflect those of the Northern Hub or affiliates
- being on this email list adds you to the Northern Hub Network which simply means you're interested in the sustainable development of Northern Australia (it doesn't mean lots of emails!)
- if you get a phishing message, please try adding me to your address book, though sometimes this is due to one uncertified link that I don't know about
- previous news roundups are available [here](#) (and earlier editions by the [Kimberley to Cape](#) initiative are [here](#))