

Welcome to a summary of June'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 & cross-region knowledge sharing, & more informed conversations about the future of northern Australia. They're an informal 'round up' of what comes across our desks rather than a systematic collection, so please send any relevant news in & let us know what you think. Also, please let us know if you don't wish to receive this email. Cheers & best regards, Clare Taylor & Jane Thomas, Northern Australia Environmental Resources Hub.

Pan-northern news

- [Stronger Ministerial Forum for Nthn Devt](#)
- [Concerns the momentum to develop the North has been lost](#)
- [Developing Nth Aust conference held in Cairns – most presentations available on conf site soon, 2 contrasting keynotes now \[Joe Morrison\]\(#\) & \[Rinehart\]\(#\) but \[not everyone thought it a success incl some Adani protestors\]\(#\)](#)
- [NAIF under more criticism for lack of transparency](#)
- [‘Sustainable infrastructure in the Tropics’ report shows huge deficit that Nth Aust could help fill, \[more\]\(#\)](#)
- [Are the tropics headed for a permanent heatwave? \[Tradies already suffering\]\(#\)](#)
- [World's tropics are expanding with concerns for Aust](#)
- [Census shows Darwin & Cairns have highest pop growth since 2011, increasing 16,000](#)
- [Aust. Govt support economic opportunities for sea & freshwater country TOs](#)
- [25 years on, \[Mabo decision\]\(#\) is \[inspiring next generation\]\(#\), \[Kimberley perspective\]\(#\) & \[passing of last surviving Mabo plaintiff\]\(#\)](#)
- [Nthn cattle producers should improve genetics & embrace tech](#)
- [Should live-ex beef still be labelled as “Made in Australia”? \[more\]\(#\)](#)
- [Debate over live-ex cattle deaths incs suggestion that fewer cattle die on ships than die in northern rangelands](#)
- [12 stories of life & nature in the modern outback, \[more\]\(#\), \[more\]\(#\)](#)
- [Northern banana prawn catch almost doubled & \[Gulf barra catches up 50% after big Wet\]\(#\)](#)
- [Early mango flowering in Katherine & the Ord, while \[researchers use chemicals to induce early flowering\]\(#\)](#)
- [ON Prime program for researchers working on Nth Aus enviro, social & economic dev due 28 Jul 2017.](#)

Nth Aust Hub news

- [Hub researchers assist Cape York land managers with gamba grass work](#)
- [Update on project investigating the benefits of Indigenous Land Management Programs](#)
- We participated in the Developing Northern Australia conference – thank you to presenters & organisers

State, Territory, etc, news

- [NT Economic Development Framework released, \[gas industry response\]\(#\)](#)
- [NT has biggest growth in visitors & 2nd biggest visitor spending](#)
- [Gina Rinehart has big plans for Helen Springs Station, \[more\]\(#\)](#)
- [Outlook is good for Top End pastoralists](#)
- [US Marines bring investment to RAAF Darwin](#)
- [Berrimah Research Farm gets \\$31.55m investment](#)
- [EIS for McArthur Rv mine expansion falls short & \[protest artists contest removed artwork\]\(#\)](#)
- [Nhulunbuy looking for a future after mining](#)

- [Indigenous art auctions fund community env'l legal centre](#)
- [In Arnhem Land, ancient artworks exist alongside modern life](#)
- [Tern egg harvest underway on NT islands but some concern about sustainability](#)
- [Darwin fish markets now selling fish caught by Top End TOs](#)
- [Darwin food markets booming](#)
- [NT Junior Rangers celebrating 25 years](#)
- [Malaysia Airlines pulls the pin on Darwin route](#)
- [Proposed hotel subdivision incl plans for residential & restricting public access to foreshore](#)
- [Dragonfly citizen science project & photo competition](#)
- [Environmentally friendly pest management used by Top End farmers](#)

- [Argyle mine royalties not alleviating community poverty](#)
- [Study of NW coast finds biodiversity, landscape, & Aboriginal culture most valued, identifies places of potential conflict & highlights importance of social values in land use planning](#)
- [Related study is modelling a future picture of Kimberley marine enviro](#)
- [Kimberley reefs grow under extreme conditions as do seagrasses](#)
- [Extreme levels of human epidemic risk IDed in Kimberley](#)
- [Report on the condition trend of the Kimberley pastoral resource base](#)
- [Browns Range pilot mine underway](#)
- [Renewed interest in WA resource activity](#)
- [Boutique mine preserves biggest deposit of rare zebra rock, more](#)
- [Prelude vessel on its way to the Browse basin](#)
- [Enviro Protectn Act Strategic Assessment for Pilbara iron ore area](#)
- [Aqua Broome aquarium open, with future aquaculture plans](#)
- [Broome Shire proposed rate hike unpopular with pastoralists](#)
- [Fitzroy pastoralist restricting access to fishing & camping spots after bad behaviour](#)

- [Qld budget focus on jobs, regional support, infrastructure & household bills, & powering Nth Qld, more, more, more, QFF opinion](#)
- [Land clearing policy changes resulting in increased 'thinning' & Qld land clearing on par with Brazil](#)
- [Qld Govt bought FNQ property to stop erosion while considering mining](#)
- [Plans stall for Etheridge Shire geopark](#)
- [Cairns locals kayaking to raise funds & awareness for beach rubbish, 25,000 pieces of rubbish picked up in FNQ, & marine debris turned into artworks on display internationally](#)
- [Quintis investigating takeover bids after share crash](#)
- [NRM forums discuss how to improve pasture & production](#)
- [Road train access to Rockhampton processing plants to benefit Nth Qld cattle producers](#)
- [Cane Supply Agreements signed by Qld canegrowers](#)
- [Nth Gulf videos on improving banana & on mango productivity](#)
- [Small pineapples harder to sell](#)
- [Comments open for Nth Qld Regional Plan, ag & food RD&E roadmap, monitoring & sampling manual & Burdekin basin water plan postponement](#)

Water

- [WA State Admin Tribunal supports Water depts cut to Ord entitlements, more](#)
- [Gina pushes for more water in WA's Fitzroy, more](#)

- [Satellite data tracks efficiency of water use in agric in water scarce areas](#)
- [Darwin River Dam closed due to water contamination & safety issues](#)
- [Historical pics of wildlife rescue when Ord was dammed](#)

Energy

- [Qld LNP commit to coal on re-election](#)
- [Final financial go-ahead for Adani & Palaszczuk opens regional HQ while former AIMS chief scientist petitions Govt to revoke permit & farmers' petition reaches >30,000 signatures. WA native title finding could impact Adani & Editorial: Can't justify Adani](#)
- [Qld irrigated ag. electricity prices to increase by up to 5.1% & solar penalised in WA power supply charge increase](#)
- [Finkel report & how it applies to solar in the NT](#)
- [Broome's 10% cap on solar due to battery limitations & rec. for Aust. to go all-renewable](#)
- [McConnell Dowell awarded NT Northern Gas Pipeline construction contract](#)
- [First commercial-scale advanced biofuels pilot plant opens in Qld](#)
- [Buru Energy restarts oil production after 18-month hiatus](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [BJD Biosecurity guidelines coming but with 3-month grace period](#)
- [Toads' own toxin used in traps against them while natural & cultural sites focus of Fitzroy toad work](#)
- [New chemical potentially safer way to control aquatic weeds in Ord](#)
- [Surveillance after Asian green mussel detected near Weipa](#)
- [Threatened species not found in dingo poo](#)
- [Top End growers having a banana party after region declared free of banana freckle](#)
- [Comments open on Qld biosecurity plan & RSPCA domestic cat mgt paper](#)
- [Camel grazing knocks back invasive weeds](#)
- [Siam weed found at Tinaroo Dam](#)
- [Indian mynah birds reported around Proserpine](#)

Biodiversity & Protected Areas

- [Study shows NW marine fish species groups vary greatly between habitats, recruitment patterns, & globally high rates of seagrass grazing](#)
- [New citizen science project on cross cultural biodiversity assessment in Arnhem Land](#)
- [Economic, social & econ value of the GBR \(incs video\)](#)
- [GBR report shows WQ goals won't be achieved by 2050 but Reef 2050 Plan still valuable & new projects set to improve GBR WQ](#)
- [Climate change might benefit crown-of-thorns](#)
- [WA Gov wants to test effects of poisonous baits on Kimberley wildlife](#)
- [New projects targeting sea turtle egg predators, new marine turtle recovery plan is published & Kimberley turtles are genetically distinct while medications & chemicals found in sea turtles' blood](#)
- [New MoU to protect Nth Qld biodiversity](#)
- [Litchfield mgt plan features adventure activities & glamping](#)
- [Complex NW dolphin behaviour to attract females & Nth Qld cockatoos play drums to attract mates](#)
- [Search broadens for Tasmania tiger on Cape York](#)
- [Kimberley a waterlily hotspot](#)

- [New species of truffle found in FNQ](#)
- [Nicobar pigeon going back home](#)
- [Ulysses butterfly may be on the increase in FNQ](#)
- [Comments open for GBR marine infrastructure](#)

Fire & carbon

- [Fire makes native animals more susceptible to cats & foxes](#)
- [\\$700k for study into increasing woody cover in savannas to inform trade-offs between alternative land-uses](#)
- [ARC savanna fire grant focuses on granivorous finches & grass diversity impacts across Nth Aust](#)
- [Three large fires near Darwin deliberately lit \(video here\)](#)

Events

- 2-6 Jul [Aust Marine Science Conf](#), Darwin (NT)
- 3-7 Jul, [National Indigenous Fire Workshop](#), Nth Qld
- 9-14 Jul, [International Mammalogical Congress](#), Perth (WA)
- 14-15 Jul, [Kununurra Agricultural Show](#)
- 16-18 Jul, [Aust. Coral Reef Society conference](#), Townsville (Qld)
- 19 Jul, South Cape York Catchments general meeting, Cooktown (Qld)
- 27 Jul, [Territory NRM Top End forum](#), Darwin (NT)
- 1-3 Aug, [Northern Australia Ranger Forum](#), Kimberley
- 14-15 Aug, GM Mitchell River Group, Northern Gulf Resource Management Group, Gulf Cattlemen's Assoc, Chillagoe (Qld)
- 22-23 Aug, [Dept Ag & Water Resources National Science Exchange](#), Cairns (Qld)
- 29-31 Aug, [WA State NRM & Coastal Conference](#), Perth (WA)
- 4-7 Sep, [Qld Coastal Conference](#), Airlie Beach (Qld)
- 18-20 Sep, [Riversymposium](#), Brisbane (Qld)
- 22-23 Sep, [Kimberley Economic Forum](#), Kununurra (WA)
- 24-28 Sep, [Aust Rangeland Society Biennial Conference](#), Port Augusta (SA)
- 21-23 Nov, [Territory NRM conference](#), Darwin (NT)
- 29 Nov-3 Dec, [Ecological Society of Australia conference](#), Adelaide (SA)

Please note

- this is an informal compilation & views don't necessarily reflect those of the Northern Hub or affiliates
- we focus on the semiarid & tropical parts of Nth Aust (i.e. don't include Central Aust, Pilbara or Lake Eyre Basin)
- 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 us to your address book, though sometimes this is due to an uncertified link that we don't know about
- previous news roundups are available [here](#) (& earlier editions by the [Kimberley to Cape](#) initiative are [here](#))

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