

Welcome to a summary of July'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

- [Canavan resigns as Min for Nth Aust & Cabinet due to potential dual citizenship with Barnaby Joyce taking on Ministry for now, more, more](#)
- [New 7 member Nth Aust Advisory Council incs church rep & meets in Townsville to advise to Min, more, more](#)
- [NAIF July 2017 newsletter, NAIF overview presentation more & 5 projects inc Nth Qld pumped hydro project under due diligence, NAIF considering toll roads & energy projects in FNQ.](#)
- [Productivity Commission raises concerns over NAIF governance & political pressure, more, more, more. Govn Inquiry submissions closed 28 Jul with report due Dec](#)
- [Shorten commits \\$1b to Nth Aust tourism infrastructure if elected](#)
- [Nth Aust development promoted in US](#)
- [WA and NT have weakest economies in Jun quarter, downturn in Darwin CBD & Broome & Nth development population boom unlikely without more migration](#)
- [2page Nth Aust economic infographic](#)

- [Federal court upholds landmark Native Title compensation claim awarding \\$3.3m, more, more](#)
- [Indigenous groups call to expand ranger program more from Burke & 60 Indigenous ranger groups from WA, NT & Qld meeting at Kimberley Ranger Forum](#)
- [NLC questions IAS funded project for land & water based Indigenous enterprises on Indigenous lands \(p25\) more](#)
- [Site nr Kakadu shows humans arrived in Aust >65,000 years ago, more](#)
- [CRC for Developing Nth Aust new CEO is ex Cattle Council CEO Jed Matz](#)
- [Ord report highlights high cost per job created \(260\) tho figs questioned by Irrig coop & Ord promo'd by Min more](#)
- [Cattle price cools and live ex cattle to be tracked from conception to consumption](#)
- [Nth Aust tourism inquiry on the road eg. Cairns, Top End](#)
- [WA regional airfares subject of inquiry, Broome airfare action & Expensive NT airfares a reason for leaving](#)
- [Concern re ACCC inquiry into Nth Aust insurance premiums](#)

- [Exceptionally hot July for much of north \(hottest NT on record +3degree\), Expanding tropical climate & Summary of Nth Aust climate change science](#)
- [Early wet forecast for Kimberley & Cape York](#)

Nth Aust Hub news

- Hub project highlights [war on waste on Cape York Peninsula](#)
- Hub Leader Prof [Michael Douglas speaks at Nth Aust Food Futures Roadshow more](#)
- [Our Daly Rv research showcased at fish conference](#)

State, Territory, etc, news

- [Talks underway to make Top End home to Aust space industry & plans for satellite launch station in Arnhem land](#)
- [Does Darwin need a missile defence system? Also, Nhulunbuy defence training proposed but likely too remote](#)
- [More flights between Adelaide, Alice & Darwin while direct Shenzhen to Darwin flights may start with freight.](#)

- [NT court rules Glencore must reveal McArthur mine bond & NLC criticizes draft EIS & poor Gov regs \(p5-8\)](#)
 - [Future of Jabiru uncertain with looming closure of Ranger mine](#)
 - [Fracking report says water & risks must be managed for fracking in NT, both sides call report 'balanced', while analyst says NT fracking would be a mistake, more. Construction starts on Nth gas pipeline to mixed opinions](#)
 - [NT govt retains 20% stake in Darwin Port](#)
 - [NLC welcomes Audit Office rpt on effectiveness & governance \(p4\). NLC now supporting 5 community development projects \(p28\)](#)
 - [\\$6m for Indigenous ranger grants & rangers work to document & protect new rock art site in Arnhem Land](#)
 - [NT govt looking at expanding donkey exports and NT sheep farmer looking for rams](#)
 - [New Tourism NT campaign after falling visitor numbers](#)
 - [Darwin's faster, cheaper 3D metal printer may revitalise manufacturing](#)
 - [Asian mangoes harvested months earlier than other varieties but bumper crop likely](#)
 - [New ponds produce and more tech for barra farm](#)
 - [Katherine raising rates for new waste management facility](#)
 - [Seafood in Darwin creeks safe to eat despite PFAS chemicals](#)
 - [4.2 tonnes of rubbish collected from Darwin Harbour & tender open to design artificial reef & fish attracting devices off Darwin](#)
 - [NT Seafood Council & AFANT extend MoU for NT's mud crab fishery](#)
 - [NT croc industry worth >\\$100m & safari hunting still supported by NT govt](#)
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- [Qld intros 'buy local' policy](#)
 - [Qld Disaster Resilience Plan, Farmers recovering from cyclones & TC claims highest in Whitsundays & Mackay](#)
 - [Landline on could farming be the future for Cape York?](#)
 - [Qld Climate Transition & Adaptation Strategies released tho opposed by LNP](#)
 - [Tequila agave coming to FNQ, with pulp to fuel power station while creating jobs](#)
 - [Costa co. secures FNQ avocados plus bananas, blueberries & grower concerns over importing limes](#)
 - [New \\$39m blueprint for NW minerals province & Katter calls rail & energy forum to boost investment](#)
 - [New phosphate mine in NQ, Gulf copper mine to restart](#)
 - [UNESCO-listed rock art in Cape York may close to visitors](#)
 - [Renewed mine dredging at Gulf port paves way for live-ex too](#)
 - [Hughenden meat processing plant given green light & new cattle train car design more adaptable](#)
 - [Milk shipped 2,000km after Atherton dairy farmers lose contract](#)
 - [Qld Env Min signs cane commitment, Top jobs slashed as QSL looks to compete in world of marketing 'choice', sugar exports to China & 2m tonnes of sugar exported thro Tsville Port](#)
 - [Hann Highway upgrade completes inland link between Cairns & Melbourne](#)
 - [New Aust-Singapore military training liaison position for north & central Qld to ensure local benefits](#)
 - [Volunteers collect 2.2 tonnes of rubbish from Mapoon](#)
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- [WA govt reorganisation info more](#)
 - [Domestic side of WA economy tipped for growth](#)
 - [WA Pastoralist assocn to develop rangelands reform B after Min commits to picking up A](#)
 - [Cattlemens' Assoc'n wants automatic right to clear land & highlights dev barriers](#)
 - [Prelude arrives at Browse Basin, Ichthys Venturer on its way & New oil & gas supply base proposed for Kimberley's Cockatoo Is more. Broome crude oil shipped from Wyndham](#)
 - [Oil & gas explorer to pay >\\$200k court costs for Native Title challenge](#)
 - [New dysprosium rare earths mine for use in electric cars & Argyle Diamond Tender features Fancy Reds](#)
 - [Trial wet season cotton crop in Ord looks promising while Ord grapefruit had a late harvest](#)

- [ALT estate divestment plan proposed](#)
- [Camping with Custodians initiative opens 2 campgrounds & good to remember video story from Kalumburu more](#)
- [Broome to Cape Leveque road to be fully sealed](#) and [Broome Cable Beach Foreshore Master Plan for comment](#)
- [Billfish tournament intros touch rule to protect small fish](#)

Water

- [Productivity review warns NAIF not to support irrigation dams](#) noting only 3 of 11 built in Nth Aust are still in operation, Ord & Burdekin have excess capacity, & likely to end up subsidising farms, [more](#)
- [Plans by NSW cotton co. to dam WA's Fitzroy Rv, more](#)
- [95,000 megalitres of water from Flinders & Gilbert becoming available at a fixed price, more, more](#)
- [New NT water licensing portal to provide access to allocation info, maps, license info etc](#)
- [Soil & water survey for Mitchell Rv's Arriga Plains](#)

Energy

- [Genex pumped hydro approved for stage 2 by NAIF & declared "critical infrastructure" by Qld Govt](#)
- [Bonaparte Basin gas development proposal open for comment & Beetaloo's ancient gas reserves](#)
- [Plans for Darwin factory to produce batteries for large-scale energy storage](#)
- [NT gov installs >10k solar panels at 10 remote Aboriginal communities](#)
- [Adani has slow 'official start' planned & More on NAIF & Adani](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [Some graziers encouraging dingoes to keep keep roos & ferals down](#)
- [Researcher calls for Top End buffalo cull & muster](#)
- [New toad 'tune traps' on trial on Groote Eylandt & Roundup may make toads more toxic](#)
- [Banana Panama disease found in FNQ but farmers hopeful for resistant variety](#)
- [Limnocharis weed found in Mission Beach & Cairns & more Siam weed at Tinaroo dam](#)
- [Feral cats causing havoc in residential areas](#)
- [Exotic mamcao pest wasp on Cocos Is](#)
- [White spot disease testing service at JCU](#)
- [Qld livestock producers need farm biosecurity plans by Oct 1](#)

Biodiversity & Protected Areas

- [Marine reserve draft maps released with 76% \(up from 46%\) of Nth Aust's Coral Sea open to fishing](#)
- [Kimberley reefs have lots of sharks which keeps reefs healthier & Humane Society taking GBRMPA to court over shark drumlines](#)
- [Humpbacks on their way to the Kimberley & whale beached on Groote](#)
- ['Shorebird locations in Qld' atlas shows half of Qlds shorebirds are in the SE Gulf \(concentrations are second only to WAs Roebuck Bay & 80mile beach\)](#)
- [Mine will affect habitat for endangered Black-throated Finch](#)
- [Rainbow bee-eaters give clues to invasive Asian bee locations](#)
- [Scientists & locals work to save quolls in FNQ](#)
- [Qld land clearing damaging Reef as Cape York landholder clears >100ha, potentially removing habitat for endangered species](#)
- [On-farm practices aid productivity & water quality of Horseshoe Lagoon while Burdekin cane growers find new ways to improve GBR water quality by minimising water run-off](#)
- [Comments open on Reef 2050 Plan draft policies, Reef Alliance grant EOIs open & Reef Trust money now open for tenders in NQ. UN World Heritage committee concerned about coral bleaching](#)
- [New croc mgt zones for Mareeba, more crocs removed & new Qld croc survey boat](#)
- [Nth Aust octopus walks on land & Day in the life of a croc wrangler](#)

Fire & carbon

- [Early Dry burns emit less carbon](#)
- [Nth Aust seasonal bushfire outlook & High bushfire risk in Kimberley after big Wet](#)
- [Aboriginal carbon fund shares savanna burning lessons with Canadian First Nations people](#)
- [NAFI daily updated automated 250m res mapping now available & for CYP areas 30m res images](#)

Events

- August, [Biosecurity Planning Workshops](#), across Qld
- 1-3 Aug, [Northern Australia Ranger Forum](#), Pender Bay, Dampier Peninsula
- 4-7 Aug, [Garma Festival](#), Arnhem Land
- 14-15 Aug, [GM Mitchell Rv Group](#), [Northern Gulf NRM Group](#), [Gulf Cattlemen's Assoc](#), Chillagoe
- 22-23 Aug, [Dept Ag & Water Resources National Science Exchange](#) with Nth Aust focus, Cairns
- 29-31 Aug, [WA State NRM & Coastal Conference](#), Perth
- 9-12 Sep, [Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services/Australasia Pacific Extension Network International Conference](#), Townsville & Hinchinbrook
- 18-20 Sep, Int [Riversymposium](#), Brisbane
- 18-22 Sep, [KLC, KALACC, KLRC & Aarnja AGMs](#), Dampier Peninsula
- 24-28 Sep, [Aust Rangeland Society Biennial Conference](#), Port Augusta
- 21-23 Nov, [Territory NRM conference](#), Darwin
- 2-4 Jul 2018, [Northern Australia Food Futures Conference](#), Darwin

Please note

- This is an informal compilation and views don't necessarily reflect those of the Northern Hub or affiliates
- We are scoping moving to Mailchimp to find out what links you like best so look out for new format soon...
- We focus on the semiarid and tropical part of Nth Aust (i.e. don't include Central Aust, Pilbara or Lake Eyre Basin)
- We try to avoid linking with subscriber-only news sources (eg the Australian)
- Previous news roundups are available [here](#) (& earlier editions by the [Kimberley to Cape](#) initiative are [here](#))

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