

Welcome to a summary of August'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

- [First meeting of new Ministerial Forum on Nth Dev inc'd Indigenous leaders & focused on Indigenous business, innovation & growth](#)
- [Joyce on taking up Nth Dev portfolio, more, Joyce NZ citizen & plans to stay Min for Nth Aust](#)
- [MP Christensen says NAIF changes on the way after councils ask for better access](#)
- [NAIF audit may be in Auditor General's 17/18 program, NAIF Senate Inq continues more](#)
- [Bank submission expresses concerns over NAIF lack of transparency & lender of last resort, more](#)
- [Scientists seek NAIF loan to trial water mixer to keep GBR corals cool](#)
- [Joyce promotes Indigenous rangers program, esp biosec role, with 2500 jobs created & Tiwi Is e.g.](#)
- [60 Nth Aust Indigenous ranger groups meet in Kimberley for training, celebrating etc, program](#)
- [New \\$8m biosec hub for Nth Aust & catchy new Nth Aust biosec song](#)
- [One Belt One Road & Nth Dev article \(NT focus\), more](#)
- [Nth Aust Investment Forum outreach program targets US & Asia](#)
- [Nth Aust demography blog](#)
- [Garma festival in pictures inc call for makarrata/settlement, more, more & youth](#)
  
- [Seadragon mega prawn farm agrees to provide Indigenous jobs, protect sacred sites & fund rangers & moves HQ to Darwin](#)
- [Overview shows no. of cattle by NRM region with Qld Fitzroy having most](#)
- [More women in Nth cattle industry, Rinehart on red tape, call to consolidate red meat research, Strong exits AACo & Burke now CPC](#)
- [Sterile leucaena research for Nth cattle industry, more](#)
- [Live-ex co. reports \\$77m loss due to high cattle prices & demand drop, new JV looks to export boxed beef from Nth Aust to China & Kimberley abattoir to export boxed beef to US](#)
- [Ord & Daly sandalwood co. has 6mth lifeline](#)
- [Demand for bushfoods growing, more & could coconuts be new industry for Nth Aust](#)
- [Qld bans full FIFOs & Gunner wants end to FIFO](#)
- [New megaLNG platform arrives in NW & new film on social & ec impacts of Nth Aust oil spill](#)
  
- [Indigenous seasonal info incs Nth Aust, more and more](#)
- [Valuing Indigenous people in climate change lecture by KLC CEO](#)
- [Hottest winter on record for NT, WA & Qld, extra warm dry season for Nth Aust, Aug in WA Qld NT](#)
- [Even chances of early or late rainfall onset across the Nth, tho slightly higher chance of early rain for FNQ and slightly lower for NT/WA border. Hotter build-up than usual](#)

### Northern Australia Hub news

- [Update on Gulf rivers research at Chillagoe forum](#)
- [Update on feral pig work on CYP](#)
- [Valuing how communities benefit from nature](#)

### State & Territory news

- [NT Economy snapshot infographic & Aug update from NT's Nth Aust Dev Office](#)
- [Fly through future Darwin](#)
- [Discussion on growings NT's population & Building the Territory conf](#)
- [Paul Burke \(ex AgForce\) new NT Cattlemen's CEO & Greg Owens new NT Farmers CEO](#)

- [NT Rangers Assoc forum, more & Facebook](#)
- [New NT Administrator Vicki O'Halloran](#)
- [Pilot program launched to boost local defence jobs](#)
- [NT pineapple farm expands to >3m plants](#)
- [Low geese numbers prompt hunting cuts, more](#)
- [Oversupply of NT hay with quieter cattle exports & Vietnamese farming success stories inc Nth](#)
- [200k tonnes of manganese shipped from Darwin since Feb & Indigenous leaders call for rejection of Gulf iron ore mine](#)
- [3D app like Pokemon Go tells Kakadu stories](#)
  
- [Views on where Nth Qld is, more](#)
- [Native title & dev in Cape York, more & vision for Olkola country](#)
- [New policy to raise Gov procurement awarded to Indigenous businesses to 3% & business forum](#)
- [Qld Govt initiative to bring more film & tv productions to FNQ & Qld tech industry growing fast](#)
- [Gold & copper prospects extend nr Cloncurry & bauxite leases granted nr Weipa tho 2 mines rejected at high value site](#)
- [Overview of Cyclone Debbie sugar losses, think tank for recovery but tough going for veggie growers](#)
- [Mangoes looking good & cocoa shortlisted for award](#)
- [Overview of cattle feed across Nth Qld & 200k cattle to sail from Tsville this yr, with 20k since 1 Jul](#)
- [Takeover & expansion of Ayr aquaculture thru bioremediation tech](#)
- [Contention over Qld veg clearing laws continues & move to scrap new sugar industry code](#)
- [New rec lake for Hughenden & scope for skywalk, & graziers happy re Hann Hwy upgrade](#)
- [7t of new rubbish for Cape York beach & \\$s from banana waste](#)
- [Qld landuse planner Robin Clark appointed as a director of Terrain NRM](#)
- [Ancient stories re Nth Qld volcanics & Cape York's drone rangers](#)
- [Why Townsville is dry](#)
  
- [Soil & water surveys nth of Ord for potential new 30kha irrign area, more on recent Ord report & commercial mung bean harvest allows double cropping](#)
- [Call for high conservation land to be protected in applications to graze crown land](#)
- [Bulls break Fitzroy records](#)
- [Regional airfares inc visits Broome which has 4<sup>th</sup> cheapest fees of 10 NT & WA regional airports, PM considers dereg & discounted airfares for NW, more via tourism inq](#)
- [Concern over lack of consultation for Mitchell Plateau copper](#)
- [Indigenous training deal by Kimberley mineral sands co](#)
- [Nth Kimberley TOs launch visitor pass more & survey coral hotspots](#)
- [Rare pink diamonds rarer with 2021 closure of Argyle mine & strong Kimberley pearl harvest](#)
- [Cultural revitalisation centre, arts workshop, campground & training centre for the Kimberley](#)

### Water

- [Analysis of how much to charge for water in Gulf & Nthn Qld, new Gilbert/Cloncurry/other Gulf releases at \\$125/ML & call for gov to help irrign development](#)
- [Water treatment plant for Katherine to address contamination, more](#)
- [Burdekin exports water to China & call for dam for Hughenden](#)
- [Broome water recycling funds community projects & Halls Ck hip hop saves water](#)
- [Radical radish plan to increase infiltration & reduce soil & water irrigation losses](#)
- [Burdekin automated irrign trials save time & energy](#)
- [Mitchell River Mgt Group newsletter](#)

### Energy

- [Katter shows off nth Qld renewables & more on Nth Qld renewables boom, more](#)
- [Exporting solar from NW Aust to Indonesia feasible with aim for pilot & subsea cable by 2030](#)

- [Pros & cons of fracking for small NT businesses](#) & [Scullion criticised for promoting fracking](#), [more](#)
- [Adani to start work on Carmichael mine in Oct](#)
- [Powering Nth Qld Plan](#)

### Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [Landholders shoot feral pigs to halt spread of Panama disease](#), [more on CYP pig problem](#)
- [\\$411m for red fire ant eradication](#), [more](#)
- [Fish surveys to monitor effectiveness of weed control at Sheepstation Ck](#)
- [Meet Arnhem Land's buffalo wranglers](#)
- [Concerted effort needed to manage prickly acacia in Gulf](#), [more](#)
- [Bluetongue virus zone expands south in NT](#) & [JBAS framework has broad support](#)
- [Indigenous rangers learn about biosecurity at Kimberley ranger forum](#)

### Biodiversity & Protected Areas

- [IPA & WOC programs awarded bronze on world stage](#) & [country needs people 2017 achievements](#)
- [Black-footed tree rat found in Kimberley for first time in 30 years](#)
- [Cape York wetland monitoring program contributes to GBR report card](#)
- [Major integrated effort to improve GBR water quality in Burdekin & Wet Tropics](#)
- [New nature refuge on Gilbert River](#)
- [NT birding operators travel to UK bird fair to promote Top End tourism](#)
- [Little red flying foxes roosting in Nitmiluk](#)
- [New birdwatching platform at Broome wastewater treatment plant](#)
- [Tracking dogs reducing fox predation of sea turtle eggs](#)
- [New book about Top End wildlife](#) & [new guide to Darwin's unique sandsheet heath](#)
- [Billfish prevalent in Darwin waters](#)

### Fire & carbon

- [Long term data highlights impact of fire on Kakadu bio](#)
- [Big Wet leads to large fuel loads in the Kimberley](#)
- [Fires in Darwin area](#), [Modis fire snapshot](#) & [TNC work on fire](#)

### Events

- 6 Sep [Cape York Weeds & Ferals AGM](#), Cooktown
- 6 Sep [Mosaic agric field walk - pasture and fodder trials for beef production](#), Broome
- 8 Sep [Sth Cape York Catchments AGM](#), Cooktown
- 9-15 Sep [Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services/Aust Pacific Extension Network Conf](#), Tsville
- 18-20 Sep [Int Riversymposium](#), Brisbane
- 18-22 Sep [KLC, KALACC, KLRC & Aarnja AGMs](#), Dampier Peninsula
- 20 Sep [ABARES Regional Outlook](#), Kununurra
- 21-22 Sep [Kimberley Economic Forum](#), Kununurra
- 24-28 Sep [Aust Rangeland Society Biennial Conference](#), Port Augusta
- 25-27 Oct [Kimberley Pilbara Cattlemen's Assoc'n AGM & conference](#), Kununurra
- 28 Oct [Cape York NRM AGM](#), Cooktown
- Oct-Nov [Growing the Growers native foods roadshow](#), Malanda, Broome, Darwin
- 19-21 Nov [Nth Aust Investment Forum](#), Cairns
- 21-23 Nov [Territory NRM conference](#), Darwin
- 2-4 Jul18 [Northern Australia Food Futures](#), Darwin

## Please note

- This is an informal compilation and views don't necessarily reflect those of the Northern Hub or affiliates
- We are moving to Mailchimp next month 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 can't link with subscriber-only news sources (e.g. The Australian)
- Previous news roundups are available [here](#) (& earlier editions by the [Kimberley to Cape](#) initiative are [here](#))

**Clare Taylor** | Knowledge Broker

NESP | **Northern Australia Environmental Resources Hub**

t 08 8946 7476 | m 0405 730 999 | e [clare.taylor@cdu.edu.au](mailto:clare.taylor@cdu.edu.au)

3.15 Red 1, Charles Darwin University, Darwin NT

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