



Welcome to this month's summary of news relevant to the [Northern Australian Environmental Resources Hub's](#) goal of supporting sustainable development in northern Australia. These clips are an informal 'round-up' of what comes across our desks so please send in anything you'd like included. **We wish everybody a very merry festive season – we'll be back in early February with a round-up of news from December and January.** Cheers and best regards, Clare Taylor & Jane Thomas.

Pan-northern news

- [Nth Aust Investment Forum showcases opportunities, more, more.](#) [Ciobos opening info, more, more, NT report, WA promo](#)
- [NAIF report on Investment Forum & update, article on NAIF progress & NAIF asks for patience](#)
- [Canavan meets CRC for Developing Nth Aust & NAIF to plan roads, dams & jobs, more](#)
- [CRC for Dev Nth Aust receives 115 EOIs for latest funding round](#)
- [State of the red meat & livestock industry reports shows NT, Qld & WA value, herd size, jobs etc](#)
- [Nth cattle stations moving from private to corp ownership & challenges of Nth feedlots](#)
- [Are camping tourists a biosecurity threat for Nth Aust? New beef industry biosec strategy](#)
- [Maps of mango & other tree crops to help response after cyclones & biosec threats](#)
- [Largest single permit for NT land clearing issued for 20k ha \(Ord 1 = 14k ha\) nr Katherine for improved pastures, 395k ha land cleared in Qld in 2015-16 up by one-third, one of world's top rates, more, more. Fact check - is Qld clearing land as fast as Brazil?](#)
- [Project seadragon secures non pastoral use permit, more](#)
- [Kakadu Plum powder wins engagement award](#)
- [Nth Aust rangers exchange knowledge in Kenya](#)
- [Analysis of One Belt One Road](#)
- [Seaweed farmers take class action over Nth Aust oil spill & offshore oil & gas reg changes inc. improved consultation, publishing environment plans earlier](#)
- [Female first mate in Gulf prawn fishing fleet](#)
- [Mozzies may threaten Nth development thru susceptible residents & higher #s due to climate change, more on mozzies](#)
- [New research monitoring heat stress in mine workers](#)
- [Hot & humid Nth cities may get harder to live in with Darwin urban temps up to 67C due to high heat absorbance, low wind speeds & heat released by traffic & A/C, more & Darwin street art drops city temps](#)
- [Dec-Feb climate outlook shows avg wet for NW, west Top End & E Gulf but below avg for S&W Gulf & CYP, & avg temps for Nth Aust except Sth Gulf & far nth CYP where higher, more](#)
- [La Niña likely but bringing more heat than rain, more & first cyclone for season tracks to NW Aust](#)

Northern Australia Hub news

- [Our latest eNewsletter summarises our project news from the dry season & more!](#)
- [Aquatic surveys via a water sample... new project developing eDNA methods for tropical waters](#)
- [New research to assess patterns & trends of mangrove dieback in the Gulf](#)

State & Territory news

- [Labor likely to retain gov in Qld, what Nth Qld voters care about, pledges to GBR tourism](#)
- [Why Qld development should focus on knowledge, services & tech \(& link showing FNQ innovation leader\)](#)
- [Agritourism hot topic in Nth Qld & 10,000 avocado trees for CYP's Lakeland in push north](#)
- [\\$100m Hughenden meat plant awarded major project status, more](#)
- [New zinc mine opens nr Cloncurry & confusion over Mt Isa super pit](#)
- [Discussion of future of Qld Indigenous rangers](#)
- [Calls to accelerate sealing of CY development road, Western Qld welcomes airfare inquiry & \\$50m to Mt Isa – TSV railway](#)
- [Call for net-free zones in Nth Qld after snubfin dolphin & dugong deaths](#)
- [Cairns enviro centre mag](#)
- [Refreshed 'Drive NW Qld' site](#)
- [NQ property wins GA award for weed clearing & habitat restoration](#)

- [NT economic snapshot shows small amt of economic growth but challenges ahead](#)
- [Gunner guns for a bigger NT with new Our Life Out Here campaign & population plan](#)
- [NLC CEO Joe Morrison explains NT native title & development links including response to township lease issue](#)
- [NT gov consulting on empowering Indigenous rangers until 28 Feb, more, more](#)
- [Arnhem Land space base moves forward but uncertainty over whether it will benefit local Indigenous communities](#)
- [Scullion urges NT businesses to up share of defence contracts](#)
- [Landline on NT's Vietnamese \\$40m vegetable industry](#)
- [NT commercial plant nursery owner explains using organic pesticides for 8 yrs](#)
- [NLC calls for native title holders to be consulted on non-pastoral use permits & sub-leases](#)
- [New NT landuse map shows dryland agriculture covers 197,887 ha, residential & peri-urban 63,414 ha, plantation forests 54,337 ha \(inc 3316 ha sandalwood\), mining related activities 41,884 ha, utilities/industry/commercial services 41,263 ha & irrigated ag 22,648 ha \(inc 6,643 ha mangoes & 2,461 ha melons\)](#)
- [Min launches Katherine region agribusiness opportunities report](#)
- [Timorese mango pickers return home w new skills but SWP red tape still an issue for growers](#)
- [Miners think NT is risky](#)
- [Fisho access to intertidal waters extended for 12mths, more](#)
- [Barge co ships out Arnhem Land recyclables \[related Hub research\]](#)
- [Darwin region female hunters & fishers Facebook page takes off & NT wet season tourism campaign](#)
- [5.7-magnitude Indonesian earthquake felt in Darwin](#)
- [Diverse views on Fitzroy futures with clashes on irrigation proposal](#)
- [Ord agreements reached for 7400ha with plans for \\$5m grain processing & \\$40m cotton gin, more](#)
- [Ord could be big producer of gluten-free husk with waste going to cattle or prawns](#)
- [Drone tech for Kimberley cattle stns & chopper mustering 1000s of birds to protect Ord grain crops](#)
- [Rare diamonds break records with Argyle closure only 3 yrs away](#)
- [36 Kimberley Indigenous ranger jobs lost in Green Army cut, more despite such jobs producing multiple benefits \[e.g. related Hub research\]](#)
- [Kimberley pastoralists encouraged to test cattle for bovine Johne's disease](#)
- [Plans for more water points, fences & fodder for Yougawalla with HK investment](#)
- [Broome-Singapore flight trial in June](#)

Water

- [NT releases Aboriginal Water Reserve policy to facilitate economic development, more](#)
- [NT water licence review finds errors in water allocation calculations, licence application handling, Indigenous water & more, with ex-CLP candidate allocated excess water, more, report](#)
- [Qld LNPs 'Qld Dam Co' plans](#)
- [Broome's wastewater plant upgrade nearing completion inc second irrig pivot](#)
- [Treatment plant, water savings, &/or new borefield to extract extra 1000ML from the Daly Rv to avoid Katherine's PFAS contamination, more. Darwin residents consider PFAS action](#)
- [Is the NT water ready? – article p10](#)

Energy

- [NT fracking report delayed after community consultation concerns to disappointment of gas industry](#)
- [Canning Basin fracking agreement terminates as inquiry continues & Broome locals start wet season camp-out to protest mini-fracks](#)
- [NT gov commits to 50% renewables by 2030, more](#)
- [Graziers concerned about biosec, mgt with Kidston powerline](#)
- [Ichthys LNG project on track to start up next March](#)
- [Qld Labour say no to Adani NAIF loan & Canavan warns mine may not go ahead due to Qld election result](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [Tilapia poised to invade Gulf, threatening fisheries & biodiversity, more](#)
- [Highlights of Qld gov 16/17 invasive plant & animal research](#)
- [Cane toads reach Fitzroy Valley & WA toads bolder than their shy Qld counterparts](#)
- [Feral pigs culled in attempt to stop spread of Panama disease \[related Hub research\]](#)
- [Katherine neem blitz underway & interim Kimberley neem management plan](#)
- [Palaszczuk gov promises \\$5m for wild dog fencing](#)
- [Water hyacinth weed sold online in NT & cabomba battle continues](#)
- [One feral cat left on West Island in central Gulf thx to rangers](#)

Biodiversity & Protected Areas

- [80% of Kimberley corals bleached in 2016](#)
- [Two genetic groups of stripey snapper off Dampier Peninsula & Roebuck Bay threadfin tagging project](#)
- [Kimberley whale pop'n provides feeding bonanza for sharks & crocs & male dolphins gift \(or throw?\) sea sponges to woo females](#)
- [X-ray pics of Kimberley wildlife win awards](#)
- [Kimberley rangers investigating Wilji \(endangered wallaby\) video](#)
- [Each to their own in the Roper Rv with one barra moving 185km over 2 yrs, & another staying home & research team snags AFANT award](#)
- [Sawfish research shows sustainability assessment needed before aquarium harvests](#)
- [10-yr mgt plan for Arnhem Land's Arafura Swamp released](#)
- [Box jellies back in force in Darwin & where do they go in the Dry – die, go to deeper water or up the creeks?](#)
- [Top End spearfishers face sharks & box jellies](#)
- [NT fisher netting in protected area, but apparently legally & was Darwin creek fish kill caused by sewage?](#)
- [Removal of two Darwin osprey nests & get to know Katherine's sea eagles](#)
- [Citizen science app shows only some Top End dragonfly species herald end of Wet](#)
- [NT artists' exhibition at National Museum highlights traditional Yolŋu plant use](#)
- [Landholder wins ward for wetland restoration nr TSV](#)
- [GBR 'source' reefs reassuring but intervention still needed while lab-grown coral larvae can repopulate damaged reefs, GBR spawning provides science opportunities & major GBR research mission underway amid fears of 3rd straight bleaching event this summer](#)
- [Giant octopus seen on GBR](#)
- [Monitoring the human dimensions of the GBR](#)
- [Qld bee boom after rain while bees poisoned near Katherine](#)
- [Using drones to look for crocs in FNQ swimming areas, Qld grazier who loses stock to crocs opposes mass cull & Outback Wrangler TV show features Top End croc expert](#)
- [Scientists investigating Wet Tropics frog recoveries, app IDs frogs by their calls, potential for new Top End species discovery & world-first ecosystem listening station in Nth Aust wetland](#)
- [New Kakadu rainbowfish species & crowdfunding saves rare Qld rainbowfish](#)

Fire & carbon

- [Big Wet + arson means Kimberley had one of its worst fire seasons in a decade](#)
- [Decreased fuel availability due to dry conditions in the 2nd year after an El Niño resulted in fewer Sept/Oct fires](#)
- [New fire danger prediction app combines BOM & CSIRO info](#)
- [Researchers say Indigenous fire mgt could be key to \\$40m boost to NT economy & 'smoke money' to help unique Arnhem Land swampland \[related Hub research\]](#)
- [MLA says red meat industry could be carbon neutral by 2030, more & carbon farming roadmap](#)
- [KLC a partner in new international savanna fire management project](#)

Events

- 29 Nov-7 Dec, [NT demography roadshows](#), Darwin, Alice, Katherine
- 4-7 Dec, [Qld Weed Symposium](#), Pt Douglas

2018

- Mid-March, Gamba Grass Field Day, Kimberley TBC
- 15 May, [How will rainfall change in northern Australia over the coming century?](#) webinar
- 5-7 Jun, [National native title conference](#), Broome

- 18-19 Jun, [Developing Northern Australia conference](#), Alice Springs
- 2-4 Jul, [Northern Australia Food Futures](#), Darwin

Please note

- This is an informal compilation & views don't necessarily reflect those of the Northern Hub or affiliates
- We welcome your input & feedback to help us improve the Round-up
- We focus on the semiarid & tropical parts of northern Australia (i.e. don't include Central Australia, Pilbara or Lake Eyre Basin, etc)
- We mostly avoid linking to subscriber-only news sources (e.g. The Australian) so all can access
- Previous News Round-ups are available [here](#)

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