

Welcome to this month's summary of recent 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. Cheers & best regards, Clare Taylor, Jane Thomas & Patch Clapp.

Pan-northern news

- [\\$3.3b in federal budget for Nth Aust roads \(\\$1.9b\), GBR \(\\$557m\) & remote housing NT \(\\$550m\) with more thru biosec \(\\$100m\), labour initiatives \(\\$53m\), trade initiatives, regional GPS etc \(\\$260m\), regional airstrips \(\\$24m\) etc, more, more](#)
- [Budget includes \\$5b for Indigenous Advancement Strategy](#)
- [CRC for Developing Nth Aus announces \\$260k for nth farmers to export ag products to Asia](#)
- [NAIF announces first NT funding w \\$7.2m loan to barra farm but farmed vs wild-caught barra debate as price drops 40%](#)
- [Labor critical of NAIF rate of loan approvals & wants to see projects in nth Qld](#)
- [Japanese co to acquire big share of Seafarms Group for mega-prawn farm on WA/NT border](#)
- [New data reveals possible copper hot spots on Qld/NT border](#)
- [62k t CYP bauxite shipment first of 4-year China deal & Indigenous-run NT bauxite mine makes first shipment](#)
- [Self-herding tech trials in nth, birthing sensors for nthn cattle, Indian buffalo exports reduce demand for Aus live cattle by 16% & Beef Aus 2018 focuses on digital tech, meat alternatives & consumer choice](#)
- [AACo halts Darwin abattoir but not looking to sell, more, Qld wants workers & Broome abattoir contrast](#)
- [2023 Aust Tropical Fruit Strategy IDs enviro-sustainable production systems & taste & colour opportunities to export to Asia](#)
- [Budget doesn't address mobile blackspots inc nth Aust](#)
- [Broome airport strikes deal for cheap flights & Mt Isa airport discounting selected flights for locals](#)
- [Strong Women on Country rpt highlights multiple benefits & calls for more female Indigenous rangers, more, more \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Healthy bush tucker bread](#)
- [ILC Our Land Our Future open for projects that increase the value of Indigenous lands](#)
- [Enviro reconstruction & genetics show settlement was by purposeful marine voyages to nth Aust over 50k yrs ago](#)
- [Very dry May in NT, Qld & WA, about av rainfall but above av temps for nth Aust in Jun-Aug outlook, more](#)
- [Nth WA wet season rainfall record for Derby & Broome](#)

Northern Australia Hub news

- [New project investigating links between Gulf rivers & food for migratory shorebirds](#)
- [Hub project leader Alan Andersen elected as a fellow to Aust Academy of Science](#)
- [New Hub paper investigates divergence between Cape York traditional Aboriginal & contemporary fire mgt](#)
- [Hub project researchers & Traditional Owners from Qld & Kimberley present at Reconciliation Wk in Canberra 30/5 \[\\(science summary\\)\]\(#\)](#)
- [Check out our eNewsletter](#)

State & Territory news

- [Nth Qld federal budget comment](#)
- [Qld introduces ban on clearing remnant vegetation, more, govt to work with farmers, Traditional Owner group may fight new laws, conservation groups welcome them](#)
- [Qld Govt starts legal action after CYP land-clearing breaches obligation to Indigenous heritage & draft report recommends approval of 2000ha clearing on same station](#)
- [Global sugar prices drop as exports from India & Pakistan increase](#)
- [CYP development road \\$s in budget but completion date unknown](#)
- [Torres Strait fishers take govt to court over reduced rock lobster limits, hookah apparatus banned & PNG boat & rock lobsters seized](#)
- [Photo of 4.3m croc shot sparks investigation in nth Qld + 4 crocs killed by fishing & crabbing gear](#)
- [News from \[Terrain NRM\]\(#\) & \[Southern Gulf NRM\]\(#\)](#)

- [Kimberley budget breakdown, more](#)
- [\\$65.7m+ to Broome-Cape Leveque Rd, \\$228m to Grt Nthn Hwy, \\$33.6m to Gibb Rv Rd, \\$9.7m to Broome boating & \\$7m to Broome Port cruise ship capacity](#)
- [Climate change challenge for NW devt discussed](#)
- [Singapore trial flight touches down in Broome in plan to boost WA tourist numbers](#)
- [Sheffield Resources sign 20-year deal to use Derby Port but still face Native Title challenge](#)
- [Celebration for native title recognition over Middle Dampier Peninsula, w Traditional Owners hoping this will resolve gas processing facility dispute, more, more](#)
- [WWF looking for new Kimberley program manager](#)
- [Rangelands NRM news inc new CEO](#)

- [NT budget overview](#)
- [NT seabed mining moratorium extended until 2021 but impact report still ongoing](#)
- [NT cattle stations struggling to find workers](#)
- [Decentralisation moves Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations from CBR to DRW](#)
- [Mt Peake mine approval means refinery construction in Darwin is likely](#)
- [\\$500k for 7 NT Aboriginal Ranger Groups & Indigenous rangers become fisheries inspectors](#)
- [NT's non-resident workforce in 2016 was 79% male, had more than doubled since 2006, mostly in Darwin & is not just mining](#)
- [Direct Darwin-Shenzhen China flight touches down](#)
- [Barra to be official NT emblem, but design needs work](#)
- [NLC's Land Rights newsletter inc treaty update, pastoral bill, close the gap, economic devt, leases, essay on legal recourse after land degradation](#)

Water

- [Minister recommends to keep Gulf water plan until 2028, more w submissions open til 22 Jun \[related Hub research \[here\]\(#\) & \[here\]\(#\)\]](#)
- [LNP announces plan for nth Qld dams, more](#)
- [Drought declarations revoked in Townsville, Mareeba & Tablelands](#)
- [\\$28m to modernise Atherton's Mareeba-Dimbulah water infrastructure, more, local avocado & mango farmer improves irrign efficiency & Nat'l Water Infrastructure Devt Fund now fully committed](#)
- [Broome wastewater funds community grant scheme](#)

Energy

- [Inpex LNG project to cost \\$53bn & delayed until early 2019](#)
- [Nth Qld Bio-Energy to close Ingham renewable energy project](#)
- [Qld Govt approves new 29-turbine wind farm on Atherton Tablelands & \\$29m Longreach solar progressing](#)
- [Roc Oil takes half of Kimberley Ungani Oil project in \\$84m deal](#)
- [NTG reps head to US to learn about fracking](#)
- [Adani hoping to sell part of Abbott Pt coal port ops](#)
- [NW LNG ops consider sharing pipelines in contrast to existing spaghetti](#)
- [New areas for 2018 petroleum exploration include NW WA](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [Citrus canker found in WA areas & further restrictions placed on NT citrus-growers](#)
- [Gene tech investigated to help manage feral cats & WA feral cat symposium \[related Hub research\]](#)
- [Aquatic weeds create compost in nth Qld](#)
- [FNQ researchers discover east Asian origins of chytrid fungus, a deadly frog fungus](#)
- [WA Govt wants to eradicate donkeys in land mgt trial](#)
- [15L spraying drone could be mgt tool in heavy wet seasons](#)
- [New cane toad trap uses UV light & an advanced sound lure, toad-smart research continues in Top End, & sniffer dog works to keep Groote toad-free](#)

Biodiversity & protected areas

- [Nth Aust spp included in concerning EBPC listings & others in listing assessments open for comment, more](#)
- [5 new lizards described in NT, WA](#)
- [\\$500k each for Oikola & Croc Is Indigenous Protected Areas](#)
- [GBR monitoring boosted with funding for 40 additional Indigenous rangers](#)
- [GBR water quality limited by governance failures](#)
- [Program produces 5-fold increase in green sea turtle hatchling success](#)
- [Terek Sandpipers set off from Broome to Siberian breeding grounds \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Qld Govt spends \\$4m to ensure a conservation space nth of Cairns](#)
- [Critically endangered Purple Wattle thriving at abandoned nth Qld mine](#)
- [Critically endangered Far Eastern Curlew down to about 2 in Cairns](#)
- [Smuggler says demand & access to native animals is increasing](#)
- [Nth Aust marine debris info inc Great Aust garbage map](#)

Fire & carbon

- [Aboriginal Carbon Fund launches private carbon trading as alternative to govt offsets & training for verification of benefits piloted in Mapoon \[\\[related Hub research here & here\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Carpentarian Grasswren protection focus of a strategic burning program near Mt Isa](#)
- [Aus shipping industry to halve sulfur emissions by 2020 & greenhouse gases by 2050](#)
- [Labor & Nats look to increase carbon farming diversity & opportunity](#)
- [Download fire histories for 2000-16/15/14/13/12 periods from NAFI](#)
- [ILC Inpex savanna fire management program calling for EOIs](#)
- [Collaboration for Dampier Peninsula fire mgt](#)

Events

- 5-7 Jun, [National Native Title conference](#), Broome
- 18-19 Jun, [Developing Northern Australia conference](#), Alice Springs
- 19-20 Jun, [IPA & economic development conference](#), Cairns
- 2-4 Jul, [Northern Australia Food Futures](#), Darwin
- 12 Jul, [Food Futures Regional Roadshow](#), Katherine
- 18-20 Jul, [Aust Population Assoc'n conference](#), Darwin
- 26-27 Jul, [Aust Water Assoc'n Nth Qld Regional conference](#), Cairns
- 20-26 Aug, [Ecosystems, climate & land-use change across Asia & Australasia](#), Darwin
- 8-9 Sep, [BirdLife Aust Congress](#), Broome
- 10-11 Oct, [Kimberley Economic Forum](#), Broome
- 13-15 Nov, [Territory NRM conference](#), 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 Roundup
- We focus on the semi-arid & tropical parts of northern Australia (i.e. don't include Central Australia, Pilbara or Lake Eyre Basin, etc)
- Increasingly, online media outlets are subscriber-only (e.g. Cairns Post, The NT News, Townsville Bulletin, The Australian) so this limits the outlets we are able to link to
- Previous news roundups are available [here](#)

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