



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

- [Public hearing by Joint Parliamentary Cmte into engaging TOs in the economic devt of nth Aust hears from Nat'l Native Title Tribunal, Office of Nth Aust & AIATSIS, more](#)
- [\\$74m NAIF loan for WA fertiliser project as part of \\$250m project, more](#)
- [\\$505k CRC for Developing Nth Aus research collaboration for specialty rice](#)
- [Remote Community Devt Program achieves only 1% improvement in employment, more](#)
- [Comment on Indigenous estate, new labour markets, transition planning & more rel to nth Aust](#)
- [\\$12m in grants to facilitate new Indigenous Protected Areas \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Seafarms Grp lost \\$13m in last 6 mths but work well underway for Project Seadragon prawn farm](#)
- [NT cotton growers learn from Qld growers w 100ha being grown in Top End this yr](#)
- [Broome pearling co. expands to NT waters](#)
- [Beef exports to China on rapid rise](#)
- [Campaign to reduce cattle on & nr roads in nth Aus goes nat'l](#)
- [Office of Northern Australia newsletter](#)
- [More species threatened as nth Aust suffers more heat events \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Aust Institute suggests nth Aust could be too disaster-prone for insurance](#)
- [Aerial accessibility across the nth remains an important topic for residents regularly isolated](#)
- [BOM autumn outlook confirms summer broke temp records](#)
- [How the Madden-Julian Oscillation influences the wet in the nth](#)

Hub news

- [Follow up on the latest Hub research & products presented in Canberra 18-21 Feb](#)
- [Getting Back to Jilundarina short film thoughtfully conveys Waanyi Garawa desires for a future connected to country](#)
- [Qld Hub researchers discuss innovations in tracing energy through food webs](#)

State & Territory news

- [NT govt pledge to underwrite loans for major projects](#)
- [Treaty negotiations b/w NT govt & Aboriginal people to be led by Mick Dodson, more, more](#)
- [NLC full council will meet before Scullion's mtg to discuss audit rpt which has been rejected by interim CEO, more, more](#)
- [New Federal laws to enable further Aboriginal land claims in the NT](#)
- [Second biggest mango crop on record & bumper dragon fruit crop seeks market](#)
- [NT govt denies fault over \\$10m grant to water bottling company](#)
- [Manganese clean up required near Katherine after derailment & manganese mine dam safety risk](#)
- [PFAS env'l precautions disregarded at Darwin Airport](#)
- [Persistent high temps lead to spontaneous combustion & smouldering cattle yard](#)
- [Limited wet season for nth leaves sthn NT baking & March not likely to offer any substantial rainfall](#)

- [FNQ Reg'l Org. of Councils 2019 election priorities, more](#)
- [NW Qld flood devastates livestock farmers, TSV-Mt Isa railway reopen not expected until May, NW Qld farmers ask BoM for updated radar services, BoM classifies Qld event as 'exceptional', Biosecurity Qld brought in to manage carcass disposal & multibillion \\$ recovery package for graziers](#)
- [Qld summer of disasters costs \\$1.5b](#)
- [Giant flood plumes hit GBR & Gulf, NW Qld flooding topic on Qld Globe \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)
- [Adani issued a 'show cause' notice over coal-laden floodwater release](#)
- [Qld communities in transition project for clean growth choices](#)
- [New laws on waste mgt & draft FNQ Waste Infrastructure Plan \(4th article\) \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)

- [\\$16m for 8 FNQ Landcare projects](#)
- [Wet Tropics Waterways podcasts](#)
- [More from Terrain & Southern Gulf NRM](#)
- [New film on devt perspectives 'Undermined – Tales from the Kimberley'](#)
- [Global nickel boom gives Kimberley mine second wind & nickel loaded at Wyndham](#)
- [Kimberley mineral sands project delayed but not mothballed](#)
- [Popular west Kimberley parks to take on Bunuba language names](#)
- [Kimberley ag leaders meet to discuss cattle welfare & prevention of livestock losses, more](#)
- [Kimberley algae biofuel trial to start on Indigenous-run stations](#)
- [Round 2 of WA Aboriginal Ranger Program open for EOIs](#)
- [Documentation reveals early contact with nth American whalers on NW WA coast](#)
- [Eco-guide to gardening in Broome](#)
- [Dry NW WA pastoral season forecast](#)

Water

- [NT Water Amendment Bill referred to Economic Scrutiny Cmte with submissions due 11 Mar](#)
- [Territorians use more water than others in Aust, triple the amount of some places](#)
- [FNQ Regional Org of Councils establish Drinking Water Quality Alliance with Qld Health \(3rd article\)](#)
- [New Inventory page on standard methods for collecting & managing wetland-related data](#)
- [New Lower Burdekin Walking the Catchment story map](#)
- [NT businesses may pose backflow risk to water supply](#)
- [Rpt on improving modelling of gully erosion & river sediment transport](#)

Energy

- [Min. Canavan declares NT's Beetaloo Basin as best immediate prospect for oil & gas & confusion over whether companies are looking for \(& fracking rules apply to\) gas or oil or both](#)
- [Nat'l resources statement incs ref to Beetaloo MOU & commitment to local community benefits](#)
- [NLC submission on amendment to NT petroleum legislation](#)
- [New Tanami gas pipeline testing goes ahead](#)
- [Santos aligns equity & operations in offshore nth Aust](#)
- [Glencore sets limits to coal production incl. from Qld mines](#)
- [Proposed Katherine solar farm sold to Italian company, Eni Australia Ltd](#)
- [Rio Tinto gets \\$2m from ERF to switch Arnhem Land mine to diesel power](#)

Weeds, ferals, diseases, etc

- [Tropical diseases more common with more extreme weather events & melioidosis \(post-flood disease\) info](#)
- [Murray Valley encephalitis warning in nth WA, but no human cases this season](#)
- [Conversation article on feral cat cull target](#)
- [Toxic parthenium weed costing farmers \\$22m/yr still found in Katherine](#)
- [Cane toad inquiry lacks WA reps & holding hearings in only Canberra](#)
- [Genetically altering cane toads to reduce toxicity](#)
- [Call to extend funding to eradicate yellow crazy ant in FNQ](#)

Biodiversity & protected areas

- [Atlas of butterflies & diurnal moths of nth Aust](#)
- [Rangers risk all in croc-inhabited Top End waters for dugong conservation](#)
- [Do nth Aust crocs swim to Timor? & croc trap theft puzzles rangers near Darwin](#)
- [Worm goby fish caught nr Kakadu](#)
- [Qld's new laws for harvesting croc eggs sparks emotive response from Australia Zoo](#)
- [Endangered nthn quolls could be surviving in Darwin suburbs](#)
- [Top End hopping mouse subject of surveys to better understand their dist'n](#)
- [\\$330k Landcare project to maintain mahogany glider pop'n in FNQ](#)
- [White lemuroid possum could be climate change victim](#)
- [Trials to cool turtle nests to ensure a better ratio of male to female hatchlings](#)
- [GBR position statement on coastal ecosystems](#)
- [Celebrated sighting of Asian fairy pitta in WA darkened by likely cat predation](#)
- [Threatened Species cmte appointments inc Jaru/Kija woman Cissy Gore-Birch](#)

Fire & carbon industry

- [Completed 2019 fires scars & 2018 fire histories available via NAFI](#)
- [Farmers & land managers in nth Aust included in expanded scope of ERF rebadging](#)
- [200 people at Nth Aust Savanna Fire Forum to look at carbon farming, more \[\\[related Hub research\\]\]\(#\)](#)

Events

- 14 Mar, [North Queensland Agribusiness Future Forum, Townsville](#)

- 15 Mar, [Impact Assessment... social & cultural sustainability in developing the North](#), Darwin
- 28–29 Mar, [NT Cattlemen’s Conference](#), Darwin
- 3 Apr, [Northern Australia Fire Managers \(NAFM\) forum](#), Darwin
- 9 Apr, [NT Agriculture: Pathways to Potential Field Day](#), Katherine, NT
- 11–15 Jun, [Australian Meteorological & Oceanographic Society meeting](#), Darwin
- 3–5 Jul, [Australasian Ornithological Conference](#), Darwin
- 11–12 Jul, [Developing Northern Australia Conference](#), Karratha
- July, [Northern Australia Arts Fest](#), Townsville
- 10–18 Aug, [National Science Week](#), national
- 14–15 Aug, [Australian Water Association NQ regional conference](#), Townsville
- 21–23 Aug, [Qld Coastal Conference](#), Gold Coast
- 2–5 Sep, [Australian Rangeland Society Conference](#), Canberra
- 4-8 Sep, [NT Resources Week](#), Darwin
- 12–13 Sep, [Australasia Pacific Extension Network Conference](#), Darwin
- 20–24 Oct, [Riversymposium](#), Brisbane
- 12–14 Nov, [TNRM 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 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)
- 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 round-ups are available [here](#)

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