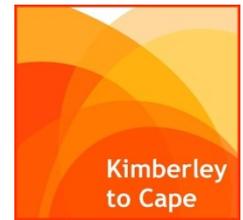


Welcome to a summary of news in May (NN#13) on topics relevant to Kimberley to Cape's goal of keeping the world's greatest tropical savanna¹ great via sustainable development, land and water management and conservation. These clips aim to facilitate cross-sector and cross-region knowledge sharing, and more informed conversations about the future of Northern Australia. They're a 'round up' rather than hot off the press, and what comes across my desk rather than a systematic collection, so apologies for any major omissions - pls do send these in, and any other relevant items! Please let me know what you think and what you'd like more/less of. Also, please let me know if you don't wish to receive this email. Cheers and thanks, Clare, Coordinator, [Kimberley to Cape](#).



Note Kimberley to Cape Phase 1 will conclude on June 30th - as its legacy please look out for 'Our Great North'! I plan to continue this news roundup via another pathway (more information in July) but please let me know if you don't want to remain subscribed. Thank you for your interest in news from Kimberley to Cape

Northern Australian News Roundup for May 2016

Pan Northern

- Election campaign comments on [North1](#), [North2](#), [Qld](#), [FNQ](#), [Kimberley](#)
- [NQld disappointed at federal budget](#), [NT disappointed at fed budget](#), citing northern dev funding of \$3M compared with Qld \$63M on beefroads and WA \$34, but [Turnbull promises more](#). [more](#)
- [Budget deemed underwhelming for Indigenous groups including for ranger funding](#)
- [NAIF legislation passes senate, region extended in WA, and skills based board announced](#) [3 of 7 live in North](#), (4 of 7 qld) [Warburton to Chair](#), [Way-McPhail](#), [more](#)
- [25 Qld projects in line for NAIF](#) [more](#)
- [Labour commits \\$1B of NAIF to tourism](#) [More](#)
- [Qlder Shane Neumann appointed shadow Minister for Nth Aust](#) [More](#)
- Chinese President Xi has linked its priority One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative with Australia's northern development plan potentially giving greater legitimacy and priority to Nth Aust investment proposals. [Aust OBOR group established](#) [more](#)
- [Singapore investment a boost for the North via defence spending and more](#) [More](#)
- [ANZ comment on the Nth](#)

- [Indigenous Protected Areas generate returns on investment of up to \\$3.40 for every \\$1](#)
- [Indigenous ranger scheme used as model for Canada and Labor commits to double Indigenous ranger program jobs](#)
- [Langton piece on Indigenous business highlighting Nth Aus](#)
- Info on [Indigenous Property Rights project](#) (seeks a dialogue on leveraging economic potential of Indigenous Estate) inc commmique from May Roundtable

- [Ciabo comments on safe clean green food, free trade and Nth Aust similar from China](#)
- [CPC says E-Y cattle indicator could reach 600c/kg, report on World Braham Congress in Rockhampton](#)
- [Swiss co buy Gulf cattle station but other foreign owned in Nth on market. Crowd funding for Kidman](#)
- [Qld state gov corp takes 80% stake in NA Pastoral Co](#) [More](#) [More](#) [Shanghaidaily](#)
- [Backpacker tax backdown welcomed by Ord growers & tourism ops, NT Farmers comment, tax delayed 6mths](#) [more](#). [Nth Aust seasonal tourism workers pilot launched](#)
- [Elders' profit rises with demand for cattle stations, recovery of cotton regions in Nth Aust and higher livestock earnings due to high cattle prices, but live ex made a loss and earnings from feedlots fell because of the high price of cattle. Ruralco story similar. Record profit for AACo](#)
- [Demand for feral cattle catchers & Indigenous cattle stations learn low stress stock handling](#)
- [Social licence is real - message post live-ex ban](#)
- [Mixed response to report indicating bigger barra from net-free zones & barra farming in victoria](#)
- [Greg McMahan new chairman of Aust Mango Industry Assn with plan to double exports](#)
- [Austs clean green regulations an opportunity to drive aquaculture in Nth Aust](#)
- [Concern around unprecedented dieback of Nth Aust mangroves](#) [more](#) [more](#) [Some keeping pace](#)

- [New map shows 85% of NT & most of Kimberley's Canning Basin covered by gas exploration](#)
- [Tennant Creek earthquake Austs biggest](#)
- [Report finds Northern gas pipeline may be white elephant due to lack of customers and profits going offshore more. Video on Qld lessons on gas for the NT at NTCA conf](#)
- [Wild sorghum, Arun, growin on Nth Aust roadsides yields >10,000L of bioethanol per ha/year](#)
- [Big pic update on dev in the tropics for Global Sustainable Dev Rpt](#)
- [Report quantifying impact of international trade on ecosystem services shows tropical countries subsidise countries importing their agri commodities, ie benefits from trade dont compensate for ecosystem loss](#)
- [Article on importance of integrated landscape approaches for the tropics](#)
- [Lessons for Nth Aust in book on learning from agriculture-environment schemes](#)
- [Unseasonal Kimberley rain good for graziers but bad for growers and rain changes may be good for Qld growers](#)
- [Zoom into Nth Aust on hurricane tracker map](#)
- [Apl&May hottest on record across the Nth, NT had warmest May av overnight temps on record, >3 x av May rain; Qld had hottest May on record; best rain for 3 yrs in Longreach area Record breaking rain for Nth Qld](#)

State/Territory/Regional General News

- [Advance Cairns, Cairns Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Tropical North Queensland release joint statement on election priorities](#)
- [Rising electricity prices hurt Qld farmers](#)
- [Nth Qld pumped hydro/solar on track , geothermal for Roma region & Qld renewables issues paper, bioenergy nr Townsville, Ergon deal for new wind farm 50km sth of Cairns](#)
- [Cairns developing Plan B for marine industry and Cape York Ghost Bat listing may halt mine](#)
- [Cape York tourism increasing due to better road & less rain and more funds for Cape York roads](#)
- [Qld graziers learn about organic beef industry \(from March\)](#)
- [84% of Qld in drought with Mareeba & Tablelands added and Clonclurry, Sth Burnett & Cherborg removed](#)
- [Qld barra farm calls for country of origin labelling & qld graziers turn to barra farming](#)
- [New self drive tours along rebranded 'Great Barrier Reef Drive' from Cairns to Cape Trib](#)
- [Qld agriculture growing, link to qld ag feb,mar,apr landline features and sugar may move inland due to more macadamias and avocados Atherton dairy farmers urge buy local](#)
- [Cape York NRM launches Atlas and planning by doing](#)
- [Vegetation clearing consultation in Cape York and strong opinions aired, Agforce comment on veg laws \(contrasting 2009 comment \), ACF comment](#)
- [Half page summaries of Outcomes of NESP Tropical Water Quality hub year 1 projects inc sediment & gully erosion, seagrass & coral health, cumulative impacts, emerging contaminants, monitoring & governance, & investment frameworks for dredging, box-jellyfish and CoT starfish](#)
- [NT budget released highlights on bush roads, ag research & mining/gas support](#)
- [NT establishes \\$1M Office of Chief Scientist and \\$0.5M bushtucker hub \(Alice based\)](#)
- [Trials show continuous grazing and rotational grazing about on par at Beetaloo Stn](#)
- [Mungbeans trialled in Douglas Daly, more poppies, banana plants for tiwi, 20000 more mango trees planted in top end tho hot temps troubling flowering early mangos surprise sydney](#)
- [Cuts hurt Environment Centre NT and NT EDO raising \\$ thro art auction](#)
- [INPEX told to honour enviro commitments, \\$25M darwin port expansion inc comment re seeking approvals & locals concerned over Darwin developments](#)
- [Contamination fears for Darwin creek, call to ban lead shot after kids show elevated levels](#)
- [Calls to close McArthur Rv mine, FOI on mine bond etc docs and mega new zinc deposit found 10km away. Door open for more U mining at Ranger](#)

- [NT EPA drops charges against Redbank copper mine pollution](#) leaving unanswered questions [More more](#) [Another \\$10M for rum jungle rehab](#) [more](#)
- [NT amends legislation to appoint independent inspector for fracking, opposition wont support change & Shorten on fracking moratorium](#) [more](#)
- [NT mudcrab fishery may be in trouble or not](#)
- [Malarndirri McCarthy to replace Nova Peris](#)
- [Nuclear waste may go through Darwin port](#)
- [Growing interest in Indigenous healing](#)

- [Indigenous aquaculture venture disappointed by licencing decision](#)
- [High value quinoa crop fits Ord crop rotations](#)
- [KLC undertake UN training](#)
- [KNX beekeeper concerned about new federal biosecurity laws](#)
- [Broome casino concept found to have high social and economic risks](#)
- [Barnett promotes Kimberley ecotourism benefits](#)
- [Indigenous recruitment program working well for WA sandalwood co.](#)
- [Schools, street signs etc reviving Yawuru language around Broome](#)
- [Mustering underway over expanded Heytesbury properties](#)
- [New self guided tour of Broome's cultural and natural heritage](#) & [Wandjina light up opera house](#)
- [Kimberley stone axe fragments dated at 49,000 yo making them worlds oldest](#) [more](#) and [bigger context](#)

Water

- [Joyce announces \\$1.8M to investigate new NW Qld water storage, \\$400k to complete business case for raising Burdekin Falls Dam, and \\$2.2M for Hell's Gate Dam feasibility study. Also \\$0.82M for Lakeland \(b/w Cooktown & Laura\) and \\$0.75M for sth Tablelands irrigation feasibility studies](#)
- [NT Gov and ex Qld gov call for extension of EPBC water trigger to cover Shale Gas](#) (see end of clip)
- [AWA magazine feature on irrigated agric in Nth Aust](#) (p38-49) [summary](#) , [Canavan on Nth dams, more on regional dams](#)
- [Rprt on NT Water Forum \(incs presentations\), concern over NT water allocations inc in NTs Daly region and NT gov re-instates water advisory committees](#) [more](#)
- [14000ML licence to NT cattle stn tho concern from TOs and water licence reliability reduced after gov water audit finds modelling errors](#)
- [New great artesian basin atlas released and 1 year extension proposed for GAB water plan](#)
- [Public consultation first step for new Cape York Peninsula water plan](#)
- [WA Indigenous communities call on gov to clean up drinking water supplies](#)

Ferals, weeds & pests

- [First Barkly Regional Weed Management Plan](#) [more](#) & [win against prickly acacia in VRD](#)
- [Moths released to tackle parkinsonia in NW Qld](#)
- [Both major parties promise crazy ant money but more needed](#) [more](#)
- [CRC for plant biosecurity has developed a bi-cultural engagement model to help build knowledge, empowerment and ownership in Indigenous communities](#) when responding to biosecurity threats.
- [Call for national myrtle rust plan](#) to address threat to Myrtaceae plants inc Nth Aust eucalypts and paperbarks
- [Update on project looking at Nth Aust windborne entry paths for pests and diseases](#)
- [Cairns Dengue fever alert and MVE in NT](#)

Biodiversity and Protected Areas

- [49 species quietly declared under EPBC Act](#) – nth Aust species inc Ghost Bat (whole of north), Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby (central west Qld), Stylidium ensatum (trigger plant Darwin region) Mount Claro/Sharman's Rock Wallaby (Townsville region), Arnhem Leaf-nosed bat (Topen),

Carpentarian grasswren (Gulf), several migratory birds and orchids, *Didymoglossum exiguum* (fern from nr Cairns – extinct) [List](#)

- [New national park laws recognise Cape York Traditional Owners](#)
- [Environmental DNA method \(analysing water samples for fragments of DNA\) used to locate critically endangered sawfish in the Daly Rv](#)
- [\\$1M to Greening Aust for GBR Wetlands and Coastal Ecosystems project](#)
- [3 cassowaries die in a week but new signs may help and poo tracking](#)
- [Funding to protect Cape York and TI turtles. TI reef mapping](#)
- [GBR Water Science report released \(easy animation\) and lessons for the GBR & beyond from the Murray Darling. GRB removed from UN report on climate change & tourism and commentary on whats to hide here . Reuters on bleaching. Climate change and anemones. New citizens of GBR initiative](#)
- [Wyndham and Broome crocs getting bold with boats & article on Q of culling crocs & trophy hunting](#)
- [Mapping to predict Irukandji jellyfish blooms](#)
- [Eco services study of 3 forest types in Qld wet tropics bioregion](#)
- [Multimedia on Coral Triangle on Nth Austs doorstep](#)
- [Workshop on environmental monitoring in Nth Aust](#)
- [Fossils of extinct snail-eating marsupials found at Riversleigh fossil site](#)
- [Survey shows Qld plastic covered beaches](#)

Fire and carbon

- [Nth Aust projects inc veg retention, fire & waste in third ERA auction but price down to \\$10/kg More](#)
- [Carbon credits sold at Katherines junk festival](#)
- [Nth beef produces encouraged to decrease emissions](#)

Invitation

- Kimberley to Cape is hosting a 'thankyou' celebration at 5pm on Tues 21 June at Darwin's waterfront, please let me know if you'd like to come along!

Events

- 1-2 Jun Gulf Graziers/MLA [BeefUp Forum](#), Mt Surprise
- 1-3 Jun [National Native Title Conference](#), Darwin
- 6-8 Jun [National NRM Knowledge Conference - "People, Planet and Profits"](#), Coffs Harbour
- 8-9 [Strengthening Indigenous Economic Development](#), Cairns
- 21-22 Jun [Develop the North Conference](#), Darwin
- 16-25 Jul [Int Rangelands Congress](#), Canada
- 15-18 Aug [Northern Beef Research Update](#) conference, Rockhampton
- 30 Aug [Conservation through the Sustainable Use of Wildlife](#) Conference, Brisbane
- 11-15 Sep [Australasian Weeds Conference](#), Perth
- 14-15 Sep [Northern Territory Resources Week](#), Darwin
- 7-10 Nov [Qld Pest Animal Symposium](#), Townsville
- 22-24 November 2016 Territory NRM Forum, Darwin

Please note

- being on this email list adds you to the Kimberley to Cape [network](#) which simply means you engage, or are willing to engage, with others to discuss how to achieve a sustainable and prosperous future for Northern Australia, and that you're generally supportive of Kimberley to Cape's guiding [principles and goals](#) (it doesn't commit you to anything more or mean loads of extra emails!). We'll assume this is okay unless you say otherwise.
- previous news roundups are available [here](#)
- the views expressed above dont necessarily represent those of the Kimberley to Cape initiative
- thank you to the [BK Dahl Trust](#), [Earth Welfare Foundn](#), [Aust Communities Foundn](#), [CDU](#) and [ECNT](#)
- any [support](#) for Kimberley to Cape is appreciated (current funding ceases Jun 16), you can donate [here](#)

¹ Northern Australia hosts the world's largest intact tropical savanna ([Woinarski et al 2007](#))