

Australia's Great Northern Savanna

Australia's great northern savanna is the crown of outback Australia and part of our national identity

It's comparable to the Great Barrier Reef or Amazon rainforest, but not as well recognised yet

Australia's northern savanna presents an unprecedented opportunity for sustainable development and conservation

Using and managing the savanna to create lasting jobs aligned with our values is not only possible, but essential

This savanna is diverse, not one endless plain, and its soils and systems are fragile

And because the location of its species' food and reproduction needs is constantly changing due to changing conditions

it needs to remain intact to maintain its health and productivity

Loss of intactness will reduce productivity and longterm economic values, expose Australia to biosecurity risks, & lead to loss of future options

We need place-based planning and effective policy to get development right

We need whole-of-landscape mechanisms and new means to care for country

Let's -

Consider the purpose of development, its beneficiaries and the values we want to maintain into the future

See the possibilities of development that is socially, culturally and environmentally beneficial

Undertake collaborative, longterm, landuse planning at regional and local scales

Support Indigenous communities achieve their aspirations for their land

Reform the policy framework and approvals process for major projects

Create a development and conservation Report Card for the North

Strengthen regional capacity to develop and care for country

Celebrate the uniqueness and irreplaceability of the North

Acknowledge the connections needed for success

Heed the science and listen to local knowledge

Leadership by Traditional Owners is critical

As steward of the world's largest intact savanna, Australia has a duty of care

Let's keep the world's greatest tropical savanna great, from Kimberley to Cape