

Proposed Development (Industrialization) of Northern Australia

FARMERS NETWORK is saying:

The loss of extensive areas of native vegetation is the main cause of wildlife decline across the world.

The savannas of Northern Australia are internationally significant and ecotourism in these areas is a growing and sustainable use. Agricultural expansion in Northern Australia is inappropriate if the natural values of the north are to be protected. This will effect indigenous communities, the fishing industry, the water cycle and tourism.

Potentially, an area almost the size of Victoria, (including the damming of our wild rivers) will be cleared to make way for AGRICULTURE EXPANSION for Cotton, Rice, Sugar Cane and array of cash crops. These crops demand a high uptake of nitrogen, and water usage). [See evidence \(commissioned by John Howard\), that Northern Australia is not suitable for agriculture.](#) A REFERENDUM and DISCLOSURE OF VESTED INTERESTS ARE REQUIRED.

Refer: Website: www.csiro.au/en/NAWRA :The Federal Government employed more than 100 scientists at a cost of \$15million, to investigate three priority river catchment areas across three states in 2.5 years, to enable expansion of irrigated agriculture. **an area almost the size of Victoria** These include:

- the Fitzroy catchment in Western Australia
- the Finnis, Adelaide, Mary and Wildman river catchments in the Northern Territory
- the Mitchell catchment in Queensland. This information is taken from the Federal Government Website

www.csiro.au/en/NAWRA

Western Australia

The Assessment investigated the Fitzroy River catchment in Western Australia, a river 700 km long and a catchment 94,000 km². The largest of the three study areas included in the Assessment.

The Fitzroy catchment

With major aquifer systems in the Fitzroy catchment, groundwater is likely to provide the initial development pathway to enable expansion of irrigated agriculture.

NAWRA reports



Northern Territory

The Assessment investigated the Finniss, Adelaide, Mary and Wildman catchments in the Northern Territory, a



Queensland

The Mitchell River catchment in Queensland covers 72,000 km² and flows into the Gulf of Carpentaria.



The Mitchell River

In the Mitchell River catchment, the Assessment found large instream dams could provide the best development opportunity in the catchment.



Are you passionate about Australia's landscape and biodiversity?