Catriona R.: Northern Australia has an absolutely massive coastline. We're talking over 10,000 kilometres of sparsely populated land and this is seriously beautiful country, but it's also where our country is especially vulnerable to the introduction of exotic pests, weeds, and diseases.

We need you to be vigilant. If on your travels you see maybe a number of dead animals, like birds or fish, or if you see animals like dogs or pigs acting strangely, you need to alert the department and they'll follow up on your report.

Of course, the different areas of Northern Australia, obviously, they are susceptible to totally different risks. Far North Queensland has the beautiful Torres Strait, which neighbours PNG. This is a pathway where pests and diseases can easily enter Australia from our northern neighbours. Far North Queensland also has the World Heritage Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest, which are so sadly susceptible to damage caused by invasive pest species.

The magnificent Gulf of Carpentaria. Well, this bridges Queensland and the Northern Territory, and is a place where winds and tides can bring marine debris, such as timber, ghost nets, and rubbish from the ocean. Foreign fishing vessels that wash up on our beaches, they also carry the risk of harbouring invasive marine species from international waters, which, if allowed to establish, can out-compete native species, causing unbelievable environmental damage as well as causing damage to infrastructure and affecting fisheries and our wonderful tourism industry.

Don't forget WA. Western Australia has the world famous Kimberley region, such a beautiful part of the world and is vitally important for tourism in Western Australia. The northern region of WA is a high risk area for migratory birds, which can carry diseases such as avian influenza. Please follow all biosecurity regulations when you're traveling into agricultural, regional, and remote areas. Because I should warn you, the penalty for biosecurity risk taking are high.

It's important that we all work together to keep a top watch on what is entering into Australia. Exotic pests and diseases can put into jeopardy industries like tourism and agriculture. The banana farmer, the mango farmers, citrus, and the effects, well, they don't only lasts for years for us, but also for our markets overseas. We really do have to be careful. It is serious.

Biosecurity is all about looking towards our future. Protecting Australia. Bio security really is everyone's business.

Speaker 2: (singing).