



2022 NATIONAL LANDCARE CONFERENCE

**TUESDAY 23 TO THURSDAY 25 AUGUST, 2022
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE,
DARLING HARBOUR, SYDNEY**



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY





Our Eylandt Home



Groote Eylandt is in the Gulf of Carpentaria in the Northern Territory

Situated 60km off the East Arnhem Land Coastline

Is home to the 14 clan groups of the Groote Archipelago

Anindilyakwa is the first spoken language

We worked for the Rangers for 17 years before retiring in 2020

We are now both senior cultural advisors for the Rangers and are very pleased to be here and the Biosecurity program being nominated for a National Landcare Award

Our Ranger Team

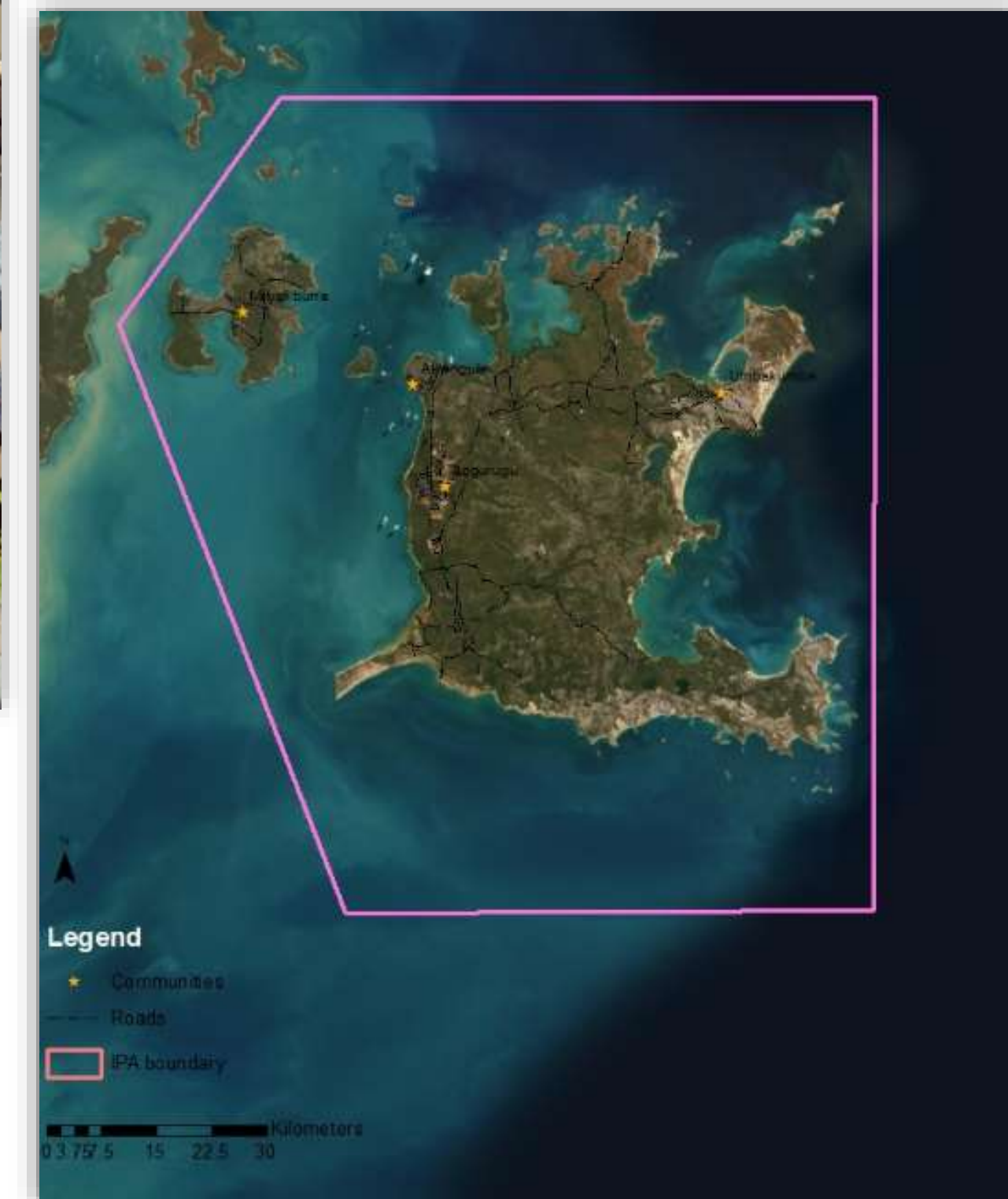
Working across 10,000 square km of the Anindilyakwa Indigenous Protected Area, undertaking a range of cultural and natural resource management activities

10 full time indigenous rangers, working out of two bases

Increased focus on biosecurity – Groote is relatively free of many introduced and invasive species that are common on the mainland



Anindilyakwa
Land Council
LAND & SEA RANGERS





The Program

Commenced in Feb 2017 as part of a collaboration between the Anindilyakwa Land Council and South32 GEMCO

Aims to protect the values of the Anindilyakwa Indigenous Protected Area

Setting a high standard in island biosecurity

Finalist - 2019 Best Collaboration in TNRM

Winner - 2021 Australian Government Biosecurity Award

Winner - 2021 Partnerships in Landcare Award (NT)

Finalist - 2022 National Landcare Award

Environmental Values

The archipelago has exceptionally high conservation values and provides critical island refuge for many species. The islands contains at least 900 plant and 330 vertebrate species

There are 12 threatened and endangered species on Grootte, some of them do not occur anywhere else in the world

The Rangers undertake monitoring programs and surveys of threatened species under the IPA structure, funded primarily by NIAA

The absence of many introduced and invasive species is vital in the protection and preservation of these species and their habitats





Economic Values



The Groote Archipelago has a long history with mining, however this will not last forever

There are several economic opportunities for “future Groote” post mining such as sustainable forestry

The absence of many introduced and invasive species is vital for these potential industries and business opportunities





Cultural Values

The Anindilyakwa people have a strong connection to culture, language and country

Social values such as what we do on the weekend or at home can be impacted by invasive and introduced species

The absence of many introduced and invasive species is vital for social and cultural values for future generations



Cane Toad Biosecurity

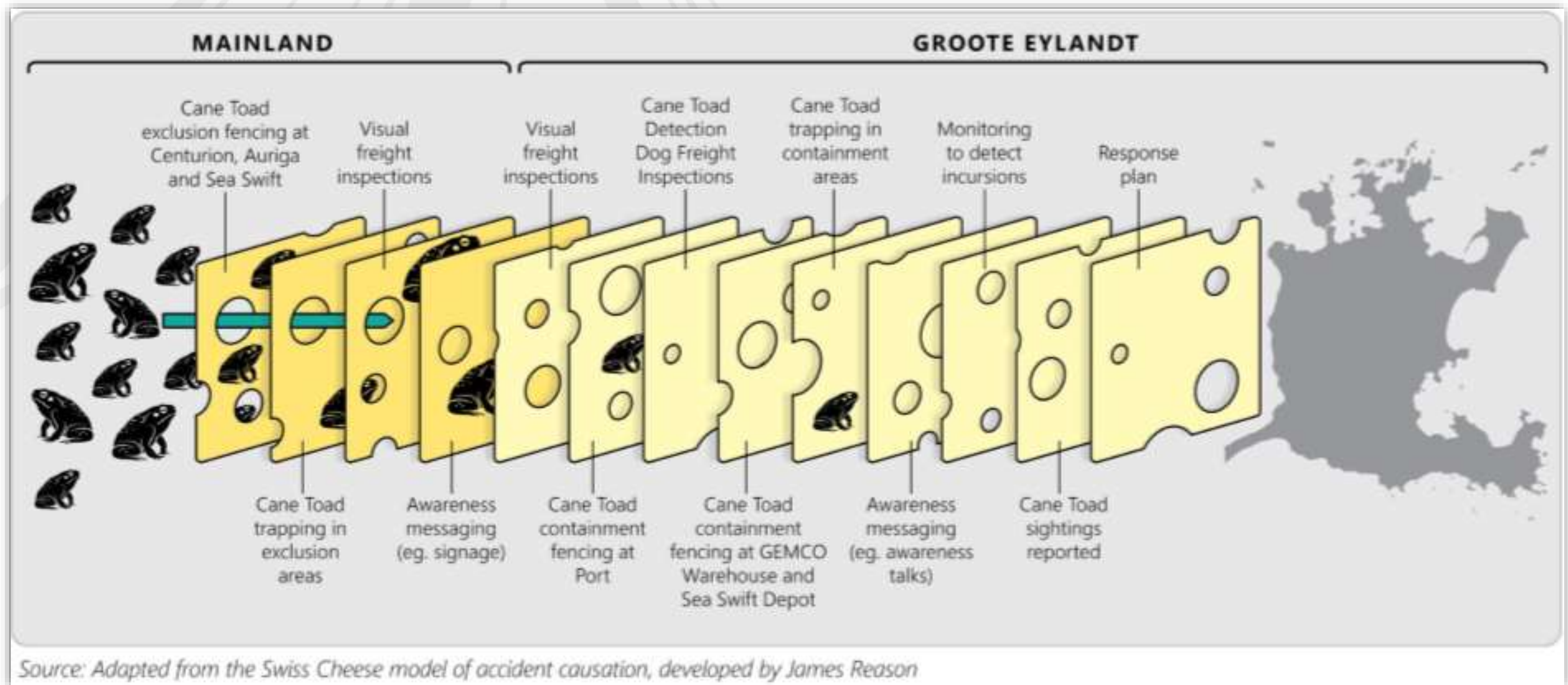
The Groote Archipelago is one of the last island groups in Northern Australia that is free of cane toads

SOUTH32 classify cane toad establishment on Groote as one of the businesses top material risks

A range of cane toad biosecurity activities are implemented to ensure that the risk of cane toad incursion and establishment is managed appropriately



Cane Toad Biosecurity



Cane Toad Biosecurity



Cane Toad exclusion fencing and visual inspections at all major freight ports on the mainland that service Groote

Cane toad containment fencing at the Port on Groote Eylandt

Industry and community awareness

eDNA water monitoring and post border surveillance



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP INVASIVE CANE TOADS OFF GROOTE EYLANDT

PLEASE CHECK YOUR LUGGAGE BEFORE YOU FLY TO GROOTE EYLANDT AND CHECK AGAIN WHEN UNPACKING



Cane Toad Biosecurity

Edna is a specialist trained cane toad detection dog

We conduct detection dog surveillance of all “high risk” barge freight and random screening of baggage at the airport

Trained and maintained on a passive indication

Expansion of the dog unit in September with additional dog and Biosecurity Coordinator coming onto the team

Other Biosecurity Activities



The Rangers undertake a range of other biosecurity activities, managing the other invasive and introduced species we have on Groote

Community engagement and awareness

Feral cat management

Invasive ant surveys

NAQS fee for service activities such as mosquito monitoring, aquatic biosecurity surveys, plant host mapping and coastal surveillance



Plant Biosecurity



The Groote Archipelago is relatively free from introduced and invasive plants



Weeds such as Gamba Grass, Grader Grass and Mission Grass can transform habitats

The establishment and spread of weeds on Groote is a significant biodiversity risk



A range of preventative biosecurity activities are implemented to ensure that dirty machinery, equipment and freight do not travel to Groote Eylandt



The Future



Continue to working together to keep Groote free of cane toads and other invasive and introduced plants and animals, and showcasing what can be achieved when industry, Traditional Owners, communities and stakeholders work together

Expansion of the Biosecurity Program with additional Coordinator and Detection Dog and a dedicated Plant Biosecurity Coordinator

Highlight the need for specific Island Biosecurity Legislation to better protect special places like the Groote Archipelago



THANK YOU



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Australian Government

National
Landcare
Program



National
Landcare
Network



Landcare
Australia