

Torres Strait Protected Zone and the Special Quarantine Zone

The islands of Torres Strait, while part of Australia, hold a special quarantine designation. Under the *Quarantine Act 1908*, no plant or animal material or soil can be moved from Papua New Guinea into the Torres Strait Protected Zone; southwards from the Torres Strait Protected Zone to the Torres Strait Special Quarantine Zone; or onto the Australian mainland or Tasmania without meeting quarantine regulations.

This is in recognition of the additional risks posed by proximity to Papua New Guinea and the traditional movement of indigenous people between certain villages in Papua New Guinea and islands in the Torres Strait Protected Zone.



Map showing movement restrictions in Torres Strait, restricting the movement of prohibited items from Papua New Guinea to the Torres Strait Protected Zone, the Torres Strait Protected Zone to the Special Quarantine Zone, and any Torres Strait island to mainland Australia or Tasmania without a permit.



Map of Northern Australia, illustrating the Torres Strait. The closest commercial production area is more than 600 km away from the southern part of the Torres Strait, in Lakeland Downs.