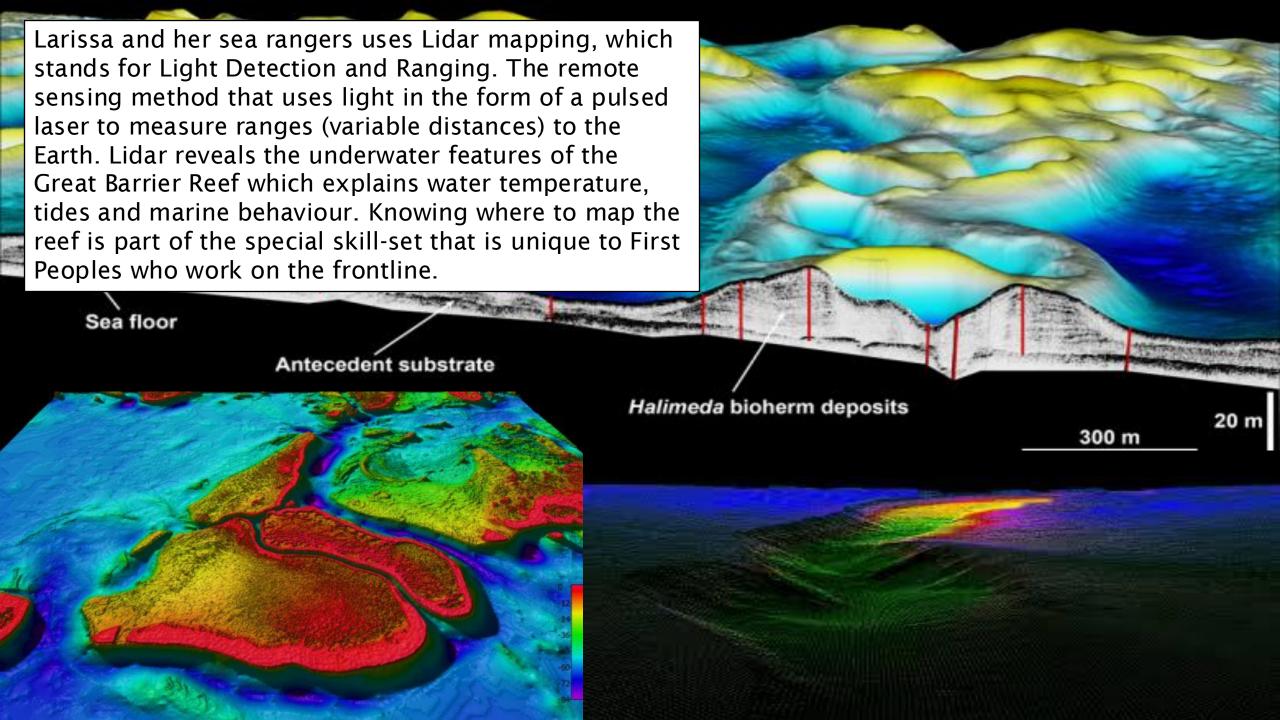
# 1 x 60 FRONTLINE RANGERS EMPOWERING WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A powerful force threatens to destroy the delicate balance of nature along the Great Barrier Reef and Rainforests of far north Queensland. Hearing the call of the ocean Larissa Hale begins a quest that will save the future of her homeland. She must balance her many responsibilities at home, with her passion for sharing her knowledge with environmentalists all around the world. Embracing her identity as a traditional owner she learns to trust herself and her abilities. Facing her fears she embraces futuristic super tech to pioneer solutions to bring these critical ecosystems back to balance. With team work, respect and sharing traditional knowledge she raises and army of women rangers merging ecological expertise with technology. Can their work change the way environmentalists approach conservation is the question which resolves in the final scene of the program.







What the women say about Ranger work.

I feel such a strong sense of pride carrying on the work of our ancestors.

We are always here to help the planet, with our knowledge and skills we can keep people, animals and ecosystems protected.

When I put this uniform on every day, I feel so proud that I'm a ranger.

Scene 2: The cameras observe the rangers studying species throughout the reef, creeks, rivers, rainforest and mangroves. What's changing about their size, arrival into the reef and how long they stay. Underwater drones broadcast live footage to Elders many kilometres away, for their feedback. The super high tech is breaking barriers & stewarding the future. This groundbreaking work helps them win the prestigious Prince William Earth Shot prize. The global support brings Western Science into their community to learn more which sets the stage for what will become breakthrough international conservation collaborations. In a 360 degree moment we'll re-create the moment Larissa's mother and her Great Grandfather meet Queen Elizabeth 50 years earlier in Cooktown (Photo above, winning Earth Shot right)





Larissa talks about growing up on the water and climbing the spindly tendrils of mangrove trees. We hear how she becomes the very first female ranger in Queensland and why she decides to make a difference by creating an environment where women can collectively thrive and train as rangers. Her vision to create a global groundswell of First Nations female-led conservation programs is the story arc we'll follow. In this scene we reach the climax and resolution of the episode, as we observe the visible impact of frontline ranger operations on the Great Barrier Reef.



Larissa Hale, Founder and Managing Director, Indigenous Womens Ranger Network. - "I'm a sea country woman," she says. "We have a very strong connection to the reef, on a cultural and resource level as well, for food and medicine. I've always had love and respect for it."

Larissa made a promise to her Grandfather to continue the environmental stewardship of the 8000 year old Great Barrier Reef which her family have been connected to for generations. In far North Queensland, Larissa's ancestors observed, managed and adapted to untold climate shift before, during and after the Ice Age. Those deep time observations can still be heard in oral history and seen on protected rock art sites in the area. To bring Larissa's family stories to life, First Nation designers and 3D animators from Studio Gilay will re-imagine this history, for a new generation to get excited about. What can the past tell us about managing untold climate shift both now and in the future?







Walking with Larissa and the rangers, we'll see how Country still bears the scars of Tin mining and the Gold Rush in the early 1870s, when Larissa's ancestors are forced to live in the Bloomfield River Mission. The agricultural and Cultural abuse would last for 7 generations as roads are cleared, invasive crops are planted and cattle destroys the pristine ecosystems that have been cared for since the first dawn. 15 years ago when her Grandfather's traditional land was finally returned to her family, Larissa and a small team of rangers began the work of regenerating what was lost. Some Black and white archive exists of Larissa's Great Grandfather George Doughboy - The King Of Bloomfield and audio recordings of people describing the environmental skills of Larissa's ancestors and local Bama Warriors.



Bama warriors with their families Bloomfield River Mission, Queensland, ca. 1884

In remote North East Arnhem Larissa travels thousands of kilometres from home to witness the visceral connection Yolngu Rangers have to clan & Country. Here Rangers use ancient songs like a guide book for managing one of the most biodiverse areas of Australia. Yolngu have maintained Cultural conservation practices, uninterrupted for over 100,000 years. This will be a transformative and deeply personal experience for Australia's most famous female ranger.





#### Scene 7:

For thousands of years, Indigenous women have played an important role in stewarding nature. A new generation of rangers is carrying on that legacy.

Dhimurru women rangers conduct biodiversity surveys as well as tracking marine life.

Yolnu rangers use ceremony, song and dance like the very first people did, and are considered to be the original care-takers of earth.

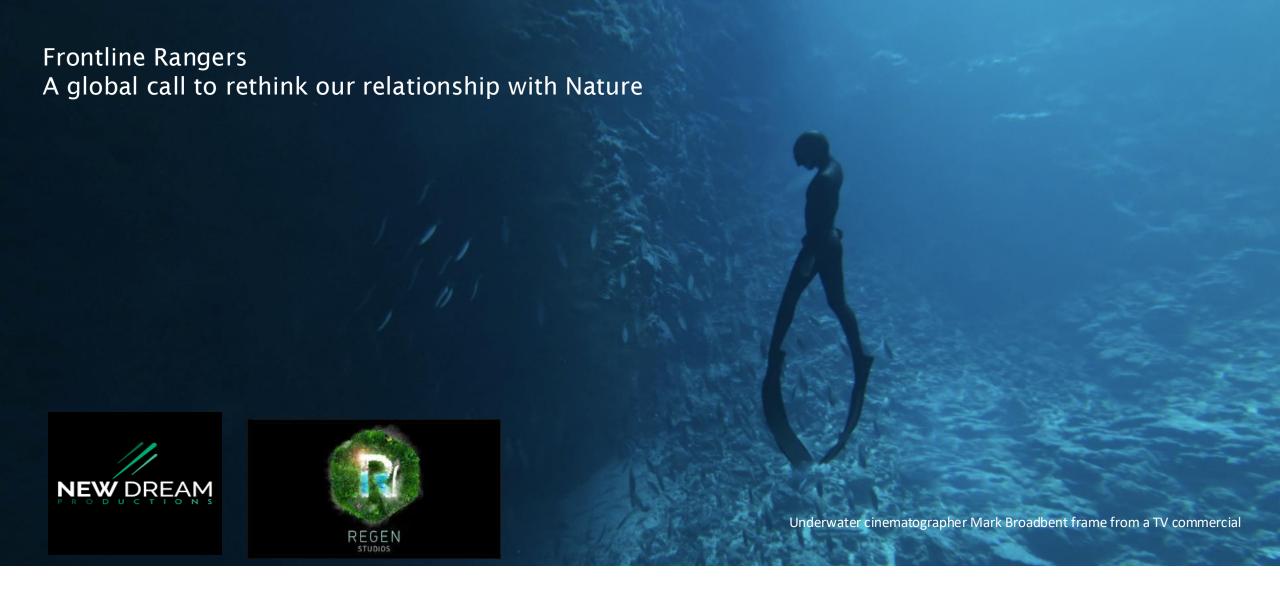


## THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE INNOVATION SUMMIT



The story concludes with Larissa being hailed a hero by her people. She has grown into a confident, compassionate and powerful leader ready to face new challenges as she continues her exploration of the vast Pacific. In Larissa's words. "To be showcasing our work right across the world is a powerful way for First Nations women to see and imagine their futures in conservation management".





Story teller Larissa Hale
Producers David Cook, Margee Brown & Anna Kaplan
Cinematographer | Mark Broadbent
Education and Impact | Regen Studios