



AGENDA ATTACHMENTS

8TH DECEMBER 2020

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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Central Highlands Council

Draft Minutes – ORDINARY MEETING – 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

Draft Minutes of an Open Ordinary Meeting of Central Highlands Council held at Hamilton Hall, on Tuesday 17th November 2020, commencing at 9am.

1.0 OPENING

The Mayor advises the meeting and members of the public that Council Meetings, not including Closed Sessions, are audio recorded and published on Council's Website.

Mayor L Triffitt opened the meeting at 9.00am.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3.0 PRESENT

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner, Cllr J Poore, Mrs Lyn Eyles (General Manager), Mr Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager) and Mrs Katrina Brazendale (Minutes Secretary).

4.0 APOLOGIES

Nil

5.0 PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATIONS

Nil

6.0 CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING

Regulation 15 (1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that at a meeting, a council by absolute majority, or a council committee by simple majority, may close a part of the meeting to the public for a reason specified in sub-regulation (2).

As per *Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, this motion requires an absolute majority

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr A Campbell

THAT pursuant to *Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council, by absolute majority, close the meeting to the public to consider the following matters in Closed Session

Item Number	Matter	<i>Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015</i>
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2020	Regulation 15 (2)(g) - information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential
2	General Manager's Report	Regulation 15 (2)(g) information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition that it is kept confidential

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3	Tenders Stage 4 and Stage 5 Pelham Road	Regulation 15 (2)(d) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal
4	Consideration of Matters for Disclosure to the Public	Regulation 15 (8) - While in a closed meeting, the Council, or Council Committee, is to consider whether any discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to that closed meeting are to be kept confidential or released to the public, taking into account privacy and confidentiality issues

6.1 MOTION OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr R Cassidy

THAT the Council:

- (1) Having met and dealt with its business formally move out of the closed session; and
- (2) Resolved to report that it has determined the following:

Item Number	Matter	Outcome
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2020	Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20 October 2020 were confirmed
2	General Manager's Report	The report and correspondence provided by the General Manager was received and noted
3	Tenders Stage 4 and Stage 5 Pelham Road	Council accepted the tenders from AWC Pty Ltd for Stage 4 and Stage 5 Pelham Road Reconstruction & Seal
4	Consideration of Matters for Disclosure to the Public	Matters were considered

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC

James Johns, Tony Hart, Josie Kelman (Facilitator, The Derwent Catchment Project) and Graham Rogers (Manager Development Services) were in attendance when the meeting resumed at 10.15 a.m.

James Johns and Tony Hart discussed with Council the feasibility study for the development of a Great Lake Walking Trail, the discussions concluded at 10.29 a.m. and they both left the meeting

Jack Beattie attended the meeting at 10.30 a.m.

Josie Kelman discussed with Council the Climate Change Policy and Josie Kelman is able to go through the document and make some suggestions for Council. The discussion concluded at 10.44 a.m. and Josie Kelman left the meeting.

Jack Beattie (newly elected President) discussed the cancellation of the event in relation to the Hamilton Show Committee. They would like to hold a smaller event in the early part of the new-year, the Hamilton Show Committee is also calling for interest of committee members. Jack Beattie left the meeting at 10.50 a.m.

7.0 DEPUTATIONS

10.00 a.m.	James Johns & Tony Hart
10.15 a.m.	Josie and Eve – Derwent Catchment Project Update
10.30 a.m.	Hamilton Show Committee

7.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

8.0 MAYORAL COMMITMENTS

19 October 2020	Business of Council / Rate Payer Call / Councillor Calls
20 October 2020	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
20 October 2020	Rate Payer calls x 2
20 October 2020	Meeting with Councillor
21 October 2020	Business of Council
21 October 2020	Meeting with Councillor
23 October 2020	Business of Council
23 October 2020	Meeting with Tasmania Police and General Manager
27 October 2020	Business of Council
28 October 2020	Business of Council / Meeting with 2 Rate Payers / Tele meeting with Ratepayers x 2
28 October 2020	Meeting with DES Manager / Meeting with Councillor
29 October 2020	Business of Council / Meeting with General Manager / Meeting with Rate Payer
30 October 2020	Tele meeting with Councillor / Meeting with Councillor / Tele meeting with Works Manager
2 November 2020	Business of Council
3 November 2020	Business of Council / Meeting General Manager and Mr Dermody / Meeting with Rate Payer
4 November 2020	Business of Council / Rate Payer Meeting
5 November 2020	Business of Council / Rate Payer Meeting x 2
6 November 2020	Meeting with Councillor
8 November 2020	Tele Meeting with Rate Payer
10 November 2020	Meeting with Council employees / Meeting with General Manager / Opening Tenders / Meeting with General Manager and Works Manager / Remembrance Day Poster distribution with staff member
11 November 2020	Swimming Pool Meeting / Pre Tender Meeting / Meeting with Rate Payers x 2 / Meeting with Councillor

8.1 COUNCILLOR COMMITMENTS

Deputy Mayor Allwright

20 October 2020	Council Meeting
28 October 2020	Tas Water Owner Group Meeting via zoom
4 November 2020	Tas Water General Meeting

Clr T Bailey

20 October 2020	Council Meeting
3 November 2020	Rate Payer Phone call
5 November 2020	Meeting with Works Manager
5 November 2020	Business of Council
6 November 2020	Meeting with Mayor
11 November 2020	Meeting with Mayor

Clr A Campbell

21 September 2020	Audit Panel Meeting
20 October 2020	Council Meeting
27 October 2020	Webinar, Cyber safety for business
28 October 2020	Hatch working group meeting via teleconference
30 October 2020	Phone call Business of Council
11 November 2020	Swimming Pool Committee Meeting

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Clr R Cassidy

20 October 2020
8 November 2020
9 November 2020

Council Meeting
Business of Council email to General Manager, Deputy General Manager and Mayor
Council matters, with fellow Councillor and General Manager

Clr J Honner

20 October 2020
21 October 2020

Council Meeting
Afternoon tea with Minister Shelton

STATUS REPORT COUNCILLORS

Item No.	Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Task	Councillor Responsible	Current Status	Completed Date
1	18-Feb-20	12.1	Derwent Catchment Project - Strategic Plan for the development of Agriculture and Tourism	Deputy Mayor Allwright	On going to provide Council with updates each Council meeting	
2	18-Feb-20	16.3	AFLT Statewide Facilities Plan	Deputy Mayor Allwright	On going to provide Council with updates each Council meeting	
3	18-Feb-20	16.5	Cattle Hill Wind Farm Community Fund Committee	Mayor Triffitt, Cllr Campbell & Cllr Honner	On going to provide Council with updates each Council meeting	

8.2 GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMITMENTS

20 October 2020 Council Meeting
21 October 2020 LGAT Webinar Planning Reform
21 October 2020 State Growth Road Safety Webinar
23 October 2020 Meeting J Parker
27 October 2020 Cyber for Business Webinar
28 October 2020 Enterprise Bargaining meeting
2 November 2020 LGAT Code of Conduct Webinar
3 November 2020 Meeting B Dermody
3 November 2020 Meeting L Robinson Ellendale Hall
3 November 2020 Meeting HATCHM
4 November 2020 Meeting Visitors Centre Management
5 November 2020 Meeting R Sanderson Microwise
10 November 2020 Meeting with staff
10 November 2020 Enterprise Bargaining Meeting
11 November 2020 Swimming Pool Committee meeting
11 November 2020 Meeting Planning Matter
16 November 2020 Meeting Mayor & Gretna Residents

8.3 DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMITMENTS

20 October 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting
26 October 2020 Meeting with HATCH
27 October 2020 Cyber for Business training
28 October 2020 Central Highlands Council ASU Bargaining EBA Meeting
29 October 2020 Strengthen Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND) Site Contact Briefing
2 November 2020 Recovery Coordinators Meeting to discuss COVID-Safe Evacuation Management Plan
2 November 2020 Meeting about MicroWise software
3 November 2020 Meeting with Lee Robinson re Ellendale Hall Committee
3 November 2020 Meeting with HATCH
4 November 2020 LGAT Communications Teams Meeting
5 November 2020 Meeting about MicroWise software
9 November 2020 Update RPM User Group
10 November 2020 Staff Meeting and Training
11 November 2020 Central Highlands Council ASU Bargaining EBA Meeting

9.0 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD

Nil

9.1 FUTURE WORKSHOPS

Thursday 26 November 2020 - Bothwell Town Hall 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon - meeting with Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania

10.0 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

11.0 MINUTES

11.1 RECEIVAL DRAFT MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

Moved: Cllr A Campbell

Seconded: Cllr J Honner

THAT the Draft Minutes of the Open Council Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 20th October 2020 be received.

FOR the Motion:

CARRIED

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

11.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

Moved: Cllr A W Bailey

Seconded: Cllr J Poore

THAT the Minutes of the Open Council Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 20th October 2020 be confirmed.

FOR the Motion:

CARRIED

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

11.3 RECEIVAL DRAFT MINUTES OF BOTHWELL SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEE

Moved: Cllr A Campbell

Seconded: Cllr J Poore

THAT the Draft Minutes of the Bothwell Swimming Pool Committee held on Wednesday 11th November 2020 be received.

FOR the Motion:

CARRIED

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

12.0 BUSINESS ARISING

- 15.1 Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
- 15.2 Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
- 15.3 Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
- 15.4 Development & Environmental Services Manager to organise public submission
- 15.6 Deferred item to November Council Meeting

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- 15.7 Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
- 17.1 Deputy General Manager updated Business Continuity Plan
- 17.2 Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
- 17.3 Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
- 17.5 Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
- 17.6 Council policy on council website
- 17.8 Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
- 17.9 Correspondence sent by General Manager
- 18.1 Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager

13.0 DERWENT CATCHMENT PROJECT REPORT

Moved: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

Seconded: Cllr J Honner

THAT the Derwent Catchment Project report be received.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

14.0 FINANCE REPORT

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cllr J Honner

THAT the Finance Reports be received.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

15.0 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

In accordance with Regulation 25(1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Mayor advises that the Council intends to act as a Planning Authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, to deal with the following items:

Moved: Cllr A W Bailey

Seconded: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

THAT the Development & Environmental Services Report be received.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

15.1 MOU BETWEEN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL AND THE SALVATION ARMY EMERGENCY CATERING

Moved: Cllr J Poore

Seconded: Cllr S Bowden

THAT the General Manager be authorised to sign the MoU between Central Highlands Council and the Salvation Army Version 1.2, 21 September 2020.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

15.2 COVID 19 INCIDENT RESPONSE UPDATES

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr R Cassidy

THAT Council accept the Incident Response into the Covid Safety Plan.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

15.3 STRENGTHEN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGAINST NATURAL DISASTERS (STAND) SITE CONTACT BRIEFING

Noted

15.4 DES BRIEFING REPORT

PLANNING PERMITS ISSUED UNDER DELEGATION

The following planning permits have been issued under delegation during the past month.

NO PERMIT REQUIRED

Permit No.	Applicant	Location	Purpose
2020 / 00072	L M & S F Saville	19 Drysdale Road, Miena	Dwelling
2020 / 00073	S B Loring	7 Bannister Road, Tods Corner	Dwelling
2020 / 00078	Pettit Designs	73 Wilburville Road, Wilburville	Dwelling Addition

PERMITTED

Permit No.	Applicant	Location	Purpose
2020 / 00075	C Ellis	268 Marked Tree Road, Gretna	Alterations & Additions to Existing Dwelling

DISCRETIONARY

Permit No.	Applicant	Location	Purpose
2020 / 00059	J F Downie	205 Clarendon Road, Gretna	Farm Shed

ANIMAL CONTROL

IMPOUNDED DOGS

No dogs have been impounded over the past month.

STATISTICS AS OF 9 SEPTEMBER 2020

Registrations

Number of Dogs Registered – 950

Number of Dogs Pending Re-Registration – 9

Kennel Licences

Number of Licences Issued – 29

Number of Licences Pending – 0

Jason Branch (Manager Works and Services) attended the meeting at 11.03 a.m.

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr A W Bailey

THAT Council consider the matters on the Supplementary Agenda.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

18.1 FIRE HAZARD – FRANKLIN PLACE HAMILTON

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cllr A W Bailey

THAT Council mow the subject property, and facilitate grazing.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

Graham Rogers (Manager Development Services) left the meeting at 11.10 a.m.

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr R Cassidy

THAT Council move back to item 16.0.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

16.0 WORKS & SERVICES

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cllr A W Bailey

THAT the Works & Services Report be received.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

16.1 BLACK SNAKE LANE BRIDGE

Moved: Cllr A W Bailey

Seconded: Cllr R Cassidy

THAT Council approve the General Manager to sign and seal the grant Deed

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

16.2 GRETNAL PLAY EQUIPMENT

Noted

16.3 HAMILTON TENNIS COURT

Noted

16.4 LETTER – WESTERWAY COMMUNITY HALL ASSOCIATION

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

THAT the Works Manager be approved to erect the signage for the engine breaks and that a support letter is sent to Derwent Valley Council for the changes of the speed limit.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cllr A W Bailey

THAT Council write a letter to State Growth to investigate control measures with the rocks falling from the Lyell Highway.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

Jason Branch (Manager Works and Services) left the meeting at 11.33 a.m.

17.0 ADMINISTRATION

17.1 REQUEST FROM COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF BOTHWELL FOR COMMUNITY GRANT

Moved: Cllr A Campbell

Seconded: Cllr A Archer

THAT Council approve the community grant application for the Country Women's Association of Bothwell and provide a donation of \$250.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.2 POLICY NO. 2013-17 – USE OF COUNCIL SPORTING FACILITIES POLICY

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr J Poore

THAT Council approve Policy No. 2013-17 - Use of Council Sporting Facilities Policy.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.3 ELLENDALE HALL COMMITTEE – COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION

Moved: Cllr A W Bailey

Seconded: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

THAT Council approve the community grant application for the Ellendale Hall Committee and provide a donation of \$1551.00 to fix the commercial refrigerator.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.4 SCHOOL PRESENTATION AWARDS

Noted

17.5 T21 VISITOR ECONOMY ACTION PLAN 2020-2022 - REVIEW OF THE VISITOR ECONOMY NETWORK ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Cllr J Poore

THAT Councillors provide their comment on the review of the Visitor Economy Network and the roles and responsibilities to the General Manager by 5.00pm on Thursday the 19 November 2020 so that a Council submission can be completed by Friday the 20 November 2020.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.6 REMISSIONS UNDER DELEGATION

Moved: Cllr J Honner

Seconded: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

THAT the remissions under delegation be noted.

CARRIED

01-0805—2638	24.11	Penalty email noticed not rec'd
03-0224-01148	16.79	Penalty paid to incorrect property
01-0823-04010	39.23	Penalty Supplementary 200
01-0812-02020	12.69	Penalty Supplementary 200

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.7 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS AND ANNUAL REPORTS

Moved: Cllr R Cassidy

Seconded: Cllr A Campbell

THAT Council change the date and time of the Annual General meeting from Tuesday 8 December 2020 to Tuesday, 16 February 2021 with the meeting to be held at Bothwell commencing at 8.45 am.

CARRIED

FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr R Cassidy, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

17.8 AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT 2021

A tentative meeting date suggested was 30th November 2020 to be held after the Audit Panel Meeting.

18.0 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

Previous discussed Item 18.1

18.2 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

Moved: Deputy Mayor J Allwright

Seconded: Cllr S Bowden

THAT Council give 'in principal' support for the Great Lake Walking Trail

CARRIED 7/2

FOR the Motion:

Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr A Archer, Cllr A W Bailey, Cllr S Bowden, Cllr A Campbell, Cllr J Honner and Cllr J Poore.

AGAINST the Motion:

Cllr R Cassidy and Mayor L Triffitt

19.0 CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 11.50 p.m.

MINUTES

AUSTRALIA DAY COMMITTEE MEETING

30th November 2020

Minutes of the meeting for the Australia Day Committee held at the Hamilton Council Chambers on 30th November 2020 commencing at 11.30 a.m.

ATTENDEES Clr T Bailey (Chair), Mayor L M Triffitt and Clr A Campbell

APOLOGIES Nil

IN ATTENDANCE Katrina Brazendale (Minute Secretary)

GRANTS RECEIVED

Council has been successful in receiving 2 grants one for \$1,100 for marketing materials, a purchase order has been issued to Thing Big Printing for these items.

The second was for \$6,050 for the set up / additional charges due to Covid restrictions. A list is currently being put together for items to be purchased.

NOMINATIONS

Council has received 2 nominations with another 2 being suggested for Appreciation Awards

TIME AND LOCATION

With lengthy discussions and follow up the Australia Day Event next year will be held at the Ouse Country Club on Tuesday 26th January 2021, commencing at 11.00 – 1.00 p.m. The Ouse Country Club has been confirmed and booked. It was suggested earlier in the meeting that it be held at the Great Lake Community Centre but in checking their facebook page it was listed as already having an event there at the same time.

FOOD

The Club has been asked to see if anyone from the club would be interested in the catering, it would be hot/cold finger food with a BBQ.

MUSIC

Lynda Grey has again been asked to provide the music for Australia Day and it's yet to be confirmed.

AWARDS

The Mayor would like them to be awards with the glass plaques again as last year and a pen from the Hamilton Men's Shed along with the certificate.

CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 12.10 p.m.



Central Highlands Council

DRAFT MINUTES AUDIT PANEL MEETING – 30 NOVEMBER 2020

Draft Minutes of the Central Highlands Audit Panel Meeting held at the Hamilton Council Chambers, Hamilton on Monday 30 November 2020 commencing 9.00am.

1.0 OPENING

Ian McMichael (Chair) opened the meeting at 9.00 a.m.

2.0 PRESENT

Ian McMichael (Chair), Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cllr J Poore, Cllr A Campbell (proxy), Lyn Eyles (General Manager), Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager), David Doyle (Accountant) and Katrina Brazendale

3.0 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cllr J Poore Seconded Deputy Mayor J Allwright

THAT the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday, 24 August 2020 be confirmed.

For the motion: I V McMichael (Chair), Deputy Mayor J Allwright and Cllr J Poore

Carried

5.0 PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATIONS

In accordance with Regulation 8 (7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Chair requests Members to indicate whether they or a close associate have, or are likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any Item of the Agenda.

NIL

6.1 Segregation of Duties and Internal Controls Review Report

As part of implementing recommendations from the Segregation of Duties and Internal Review Report, I have attached the following documents for review:

1. Authorisation Matrix
2. Draft Internal Compliance Plan

It was also recommended that the Staff Code of Conduct Policy and the Fraud Control policy be reviewed and then re-launched to staff.

The Staff Code of Conduct Policy was reviewed and adopted on 18 August 2020 and the Fraud Policy was reviewed and adopted on 20 October 2020.

A staff meeting was held on 10 November 2020 where the Deputy General Manager gave an overview of both policies. Staff were to sign a document for each policy confirming that they had read and understood the policy.

The Audit Panel agreed that Council engage an external source to conduct the internal review on an annual basis and that the initial review be used as a benchmark to report against for future annual reviews.

Moved Deputy Mayor J Allwright

Seconded Cllr J Poore

THAT the Authorisation Matrix and the Draft Internal Compliance Plan be received.

THAT Council engage an external source to conduct the internal review on an annual basis and that the initial review be used as a benchmark to report against for future annual reviews.

Carried

For the motion: I V McMichael (Chair), Deputy Mayor J Allwright and Cllr J Poore

7.0 STANDING ITEMS

- Statutory Financial Requirements Report - **Noted**
- Financial Report - **Noted**
- Risk Management Register - **Noted**
- Policy Review - **Noted**

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Audit Panel Annual Work Plan – This Plan is due for review. - **Noted no changes required**

8.2 Audit Panel Charter – for review and recommendation to Council - **Noted previously completed**

8.3 Review of CHC Long Term Financial Plan & Strategy- **Noted will be completed at next meeting**

8.4 Review of CHC Asset Management Plans - **Noted will be completed at next meeting**

9.0 OTHER BUSINESS

10.0 NEXT MEETING

Monday 22nd February 2021 9.00 a.m. (TBC)

11.0 CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 10.25 a.m.

PLANNING REPORT



Tasmania Fire Service

Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay Central Highlands LGA

May 2019



**Tasmania Fire Service
Bushfire Risk Unit**

GPO Box 1526
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Appendix A – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

Executive Summary

The Tasmania Fire Service ('TFS') is working with Local Government to prepare and implement the bushfire-prone areas overlay for Tasmanian Local Government Areas ('LGA'). Mapping for the Central Highlands LGA has now been completed following collaborative work between TFS and Council officers.

The purpose of the bushfire-prone area mapping is to spatially define land where potential exposure to bushfire hazard is sufficient to warrant a building and/or planning response to achieve a tolerable level of residual risk. The mapping does not imply that there is nil risk to use and development outside of the overlay, rather that residual risk to use and development outside of the overlay is deemed to be tolerable through reliance on other external measures, such as firefighter intervention.

The starting point for the map preparation was the production of a 'modelled overlay' that was generated by applying a 100m buffer to existing vegetation map data. The overlay was then progressively refined based on assessment of local conditions including bushfire behaviour and fuel management regimes. The local knowledge provided by Council officers was critical to this process.

By spatially defining bushfire-prone areas the mapping will provide clarity for permit authorities, landowners, developers, consultants and the broader community with respect to the application of existing statutory requirements for bushfire protection. The process of reviewing local conditions has also allowed for some areas that would currently trigger bushfire requirements to be 'mapped-out', thereby reducing compliance and development costs for the local community.

For the mapping to serve its intended function it needs to be incorporated within the relevant planning instrument established under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* ('LUPAA'). It is anticipated that the overlay will ultimately be included within Council's Local Provision Schedules as part of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

To introduce the overlay sooner, Council may initiate a draft amendment to the Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015. In this transitional period before the Tasmanian Planning Scheme is enacted, Schedule 6 of LUPAA provides the statutory basis for amending interim planning schemes under the 'former provisions'.

Adoption of the bushfire-prone areas overlay is consistent with the Schedule 1 Objectives of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the State Policies created under the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* and the relevant regional land use strategy.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This report has been prepared in support of the draft bushfire-prone areas overlay for Central Highlands. This report provides the following information:

- The background and context of the mapping;
- Description of the mapping process;
- Options for implementation; and
- Consideration of the applicable statutory and strategic planning framework.

The information in this report is provided to inform the Planning Authority and general public on the proposed draft overlay.

1.1 Background

The Tasmania Fire Service is working with Local Government to produce and deliver the bushfire-prone area mapping for Tasmania. Once completed for each municipality the mapping is intended to be integrated within the relevant planning instrument to formally identify 'bushfire-prone areas' for the purpose of planning and building control.

Bushfire has been a constant, natural phenomenon in Australia for thousands of years and south-eastern Australia is one of the most bushfire-prone regions in the world. Whilst fire has important ecological functions in the Australian context, its effects on human life, built assets and economic resources can be catastrophic if risk is not adequately managed. Not surprisingly, bushfire is identified in the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan as Tasmania's most prominent natural hazard due to its prevalence and historical impacts on communities¹. Recent analysis of climate data confirms that this is unlikely to change with fire danger in some parts of Tasmania expected to progressively increase over the course of this century².

Managing bushfire risk to communities requires a multifaceted approach that considers all aspects of the potential emergency (i.e. Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery). Government interventions accordingly include a combination of measures including land use and development control, community education, fuel reduction, firefighter response and emergency management. Regulation of land use and development is a 'preparedness' strategy in this context as it aims to improve the resilience of communities and their built assets when exposed to a bushfire hazard.

Planning and building controls are now recognised in Australia as an important tool that can be used to facilitate more resilient and sustainable communities. Bushfire protection requirements are applied to use and development for the purpose of ensuring a tolerable level of residual risk is achieved. It is essentially a form of market intervention that seeks to achieve a better outcome for society than the market would otherwise deliver. Numerous public enquiries have recognised the importance of planning and building as a means for supporting

¹ Department of Police and Emergency Management 2015, *Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan - Issue 8*, DPEM, Hobart.

² Fox-Hughes P, Harris RMB, Lee G, Jabour J, Grose MR, Remenyi TA & Bindoff NL (2015) *Climate Futures for Tasmania future fire danger: the summary and the technical report*, Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre, Hobart, Tasmania

community fire safety, most notably the 2004 National Enquiry on Bushfire Mitigation and Management and the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.

The Tasmanian Government responded to the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission by initiating significant planning and building reforms, including the introduction of Planning Directive No.5 Bushfire-Prone Areas Code within planning schemes in 2012 and state variations to the Building Code of Australia. This provided – for the first time – state-wide consistency in relation to use and development standards for bushfire protection. The importance of these reforms was confirmed by the 2013 Tasmanian Bushfires Inquiry, which recommended that the Tasmanian Government make land use planning and building construction for bushfire a high priority and that it progress improvements in this area³.

The planning and building regulatory system in Tasmania includes bushfire protection requirements to mitigate risk to communities and assets in bushfire-prone areas. The existing framework includes:

- The Bushfire-Prone Areas Code, which applies through local planning schemes under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*; and
- The Director's Determination – Requirements for Building in Bushfire-Prone Areas, which applies through the *Building Regulations 2016* and *Building Act 2016*.

This framework is structured in a way that enables application of bushfire controls through the planning approvals process for proposals involving land subdivision, vulnerable and hazardous uses. Bushfire requirements for other types of use and development are applied through the building approvals process.

For the purposes of both planning and building permit approvals it is necessary to determine whether proposed works are located within a 'bushfire-prone area'. This term is currently defined as follows:

Bushfire-prone area

Means:

- (a) Land that is within the boundary of a bushfire-prone area shown on an overlay on a planning scheme map; or
- (b) Where there is no overlay on a planning scheme map, land that is within 100m of an area of bushfire-prone vegetation equal to or greater than 1 hectare.

In the absence of mapping, planning authorities, permit authorities, landowners and developers are reliant on interpretation of subclause (b).

Incorporation of the mapping within the relevant local planning scheme overlay map will enable the use of subclause (a) of the abovementioned definition, thereby reducing the amount of assessment required to determine applicability.

The 100m rule that forms the basis of the abovementioned definition has historically been accepted as a benchmark for the application of development control for bushfire and is the maximum distance considered in Australian Standard 3959-2009. Post-fire investigations have indicated that 85% of building loss resulting from major bushfires has historically occurred at distances within 100m of the urban interface⁴. Notwithstanding this, bushfire

³ Department of Premier and Cabinet, 2013 Tasmanian Bushfires Inquiry, DPAC, Hobart.

⁴ Ahern, A., and M. Chladil (1999), *How far do bushfires penetrate urban areas?* paper presented at 1999 Australian Disaster Conference, Emergency Manage. of Aust., Canberra, A. C. T.

behaviour is not uniform across all situations some circumstances application of a 'blanket' 100m buffer is considered unnecessarily conservative.

2 Study Area

The study area for the purpose of this mapping project is the Central Highlands Local Government Area ('LGA') as shown in Figure 1. Central Highlands covers a total area of 8,010 square kilometres, which equates to 11.6% of the State.

The LGA supports a large agricultural industry including forestry, livestock production and horticulture. A number of rural townships are dispersed across the LGA.

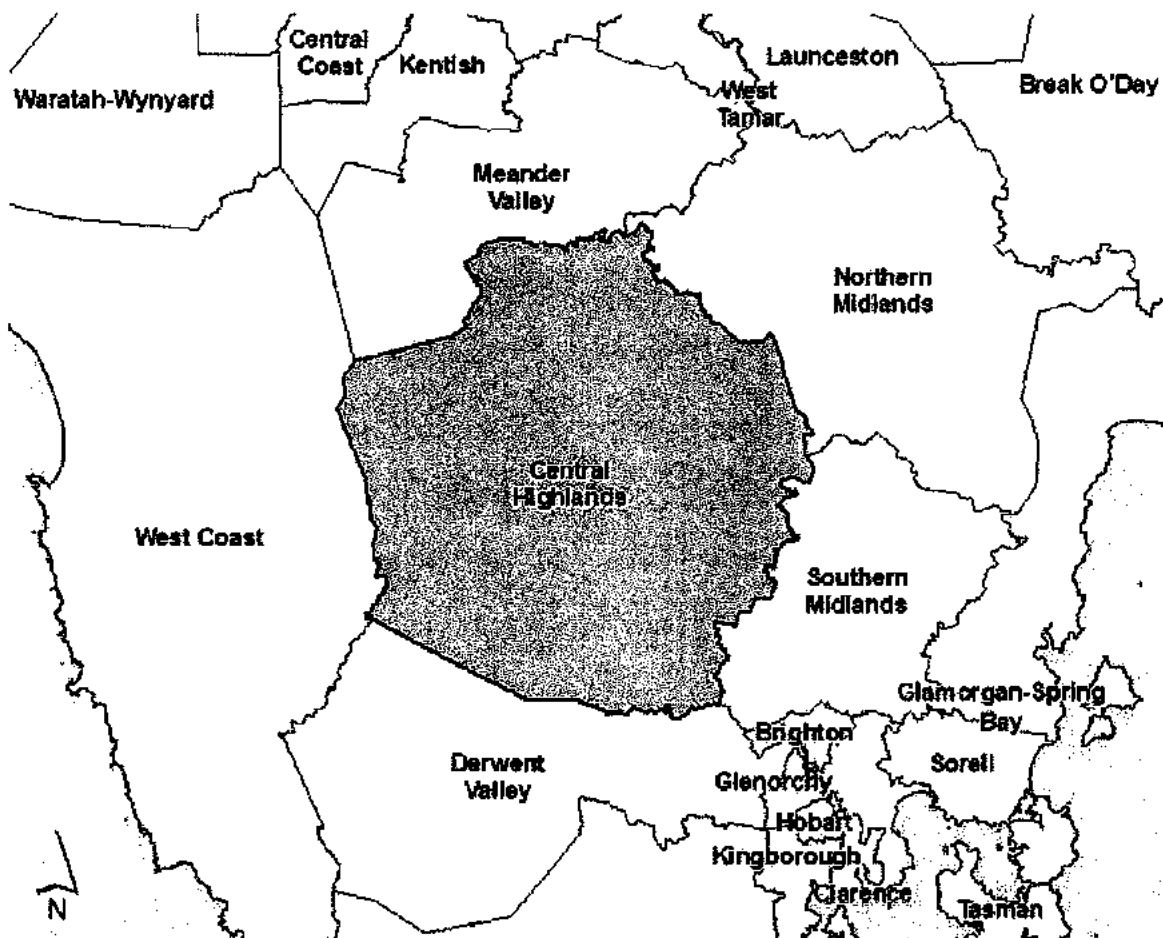


Figure 1 - Location map

3 Bushfire-Prone Area Overlay

Bushfire-prone area mapping for the Central Highlands LGA has been completed following collaborative work between the Tasmania Fire Service and Council officers. The draft maps are enclosed as **Appendix A** to this report.

3.1 Purpose of Overlay

The bushfire-prone area overlay primarily relates to use and development control. Its purpose is to spatially define areas where risk is sufficient to require specific bushfire protection measures in order to achieve a tolerable level of residual risk. The mapping will provide a definitive trigger for assessment under the existing planning and building requirements for bushfire protection. Spatially defining bushfire-prone areas is consistent with the approach adopted for other natural hazards within Tasmanian planning schemes (inundation, landslip hazard).

The mapping is not intended to identify all land that may be impacted by bushfire hazard, nor does it imply that there is nil residual risk to use and development outside of the overlay. Rather, residual risk to use and development outside of the mapped areas is deemed to be tolerable through reliance on other external measures, such as firefighter intervention.

By removing the need to evaluate whether vegetation is 'bushfire-prone' before confirming whether a site is within a 'bushfire-prone area', the mapping will remove ambiguity and improve the development assessment process to the benefit of permit authorities, land owners and developers.

The mapping also provides a more sophisticated mechanism than the standard 100m rule trigger that is currently relied upon. Evaluation of local conditions and likely bushfire behaviour has informed the mapping process and has allowed for some reductions to the standard 100m buffer in situations where it has been determined that the risk does not warrant application of planning or building standards to achieve a tolerable level of residual risk. In doing so, the mapping will refine application of bushfire requirements and reduce circumstances whereby a bushfire report is required for low-risk development.

The overlay can also have other uses. It can be used to support community education in support of bushfire safety as people will be able to view the map on multiple sites such as the LIST, iplan, and the TFS website. Additionally, TFS will use the map as the basis for issuing fire permits and in advising the community about using fire and burning off. TFS will not issue Fire Permits outside bushfire-prone areas and will advise the community to not use fire for fire hazard removal outside bushfire-prone areas. Council staff will be able to use the mapped areas when dealing with hazard complaints and abatement issues.

3.2 Mapping Process

The process that has been followed in preparing the bushfire prone areas mapping is summarised conceptually in Figure 2. The mapping has been prepared by the TFS in collaboration with Council's planning and environmental management officers.

The starting point for the mapping was the generation of a 'modelled overlay', which was created by applying a 100m buffer to all TASVEG 3.0 vegetation communities, excluding those types deemed to be 'low threat' and exclusions as specified under AS 3959-2009.

The mapping provided in TASVEG 3.0 provides high-level guidance with respect to vegetation distribution and as such, its accuracy is limited when applying it to individual properties. The modelled overlay was therefore based on imperfect spatial data and it was important to verify

the boundaries that were produced and adjust accordingly. An initial desktop assessment was undertaken to identify obvious discrepancies and ascertain key sites and areas that required closer examination.

Verification of the condition of specific sites was completed through physical inspection and/or enquiries into the development status and management regime of particular properties where necessary. As discussed previously, bushfire impact is not uniform across all situations and in some cases, relaxation of the standard 100m buffer has been adopted where site characteristics will effectively limit fire intensity, spread and subsequent impact on surrounding development. Relevant factors include the total area, type and location of vegetation, fire run potential, effective slope, prevailing wind and the use, development or land management status of the property.

The overlay was then aligned with cadastral title boundaries. This was necessary to ensure that application of the overlay to specific properties and future developments can be easily determined. For urban lots in particular there is little merit in mapping a property as partially bushfire-prone, hence this has been avoided as far as possible. For lots 2,000sqm (or lesser) in area the overlay was aligned to include the entire title if an area of 15% (or greater) was affected. For these lots, it is considered increasingly unlikely that a future development on the site would be able to wholly avoid the overlay and - as vegetation communities are not static - the actual separations from hazardous vegetation should be verified at the time a development is proposed. Where the overlay covered less than 15% of an urban title, the title was generally excluded entirely from the overlay, as it is considered increasingly likely that future development will be 100m or further from the hazard source.

The approach used is consistent with that used for the existing bushfire-prone areas overlays within the Clarence, Hobart and Kingborough interim planning schemes. Furthermore, in preparing the overlay TFS has sought to ensure consistency with Tasmanian Planning Commission's *Practice Note 7: Draft LPS Mapping Technical Advice*.

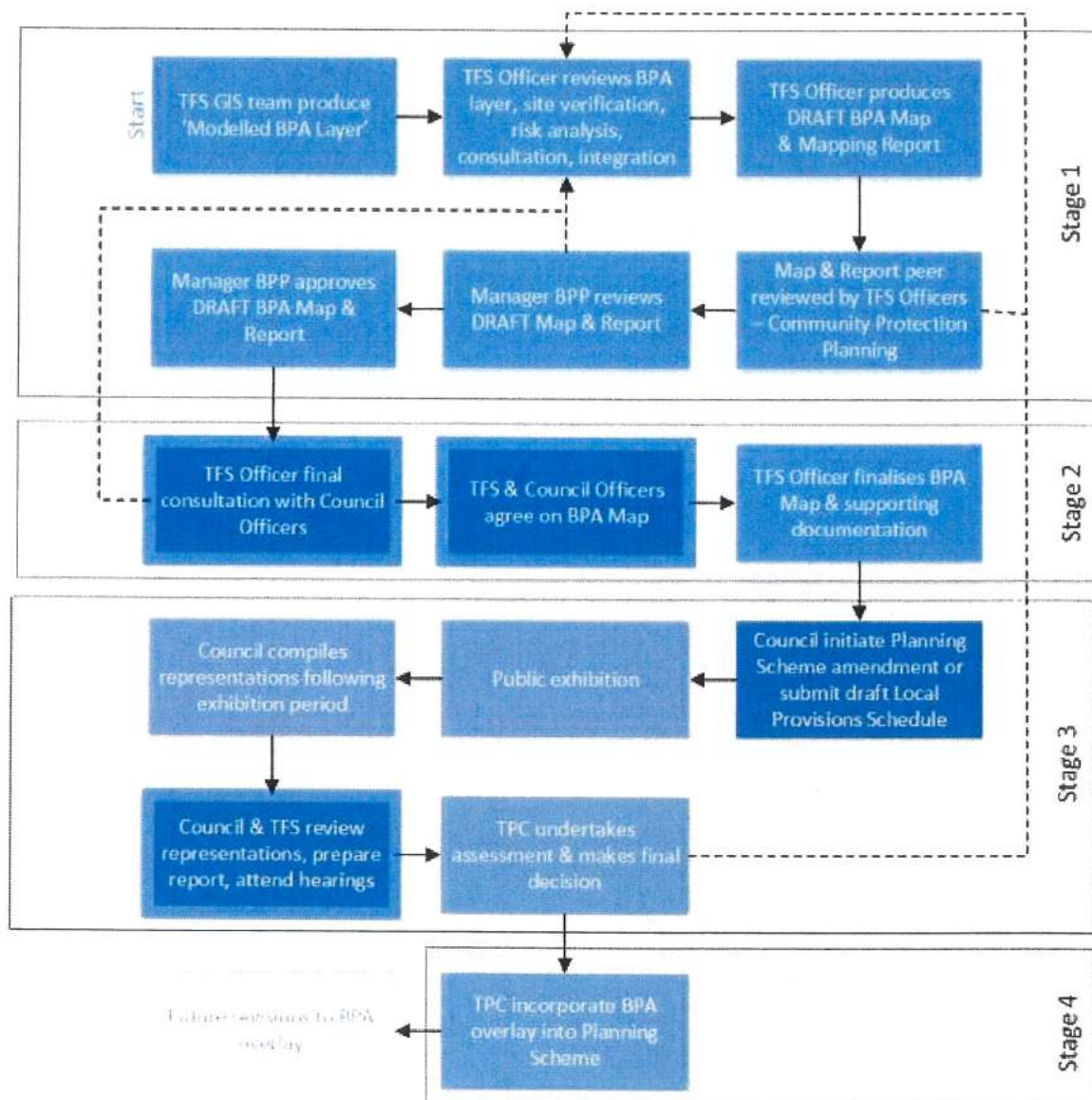


Figure 2 – Overview of mapping preparation and implementation

3.3 Overlay Refinement

The relatively small size and/or linear development pattern within many townships in Central Highlands and limited subdivision activity has meant that there is limited scope for further refinement, after accounting for grassland fuels and alignment with cadastral parcels.

It is noted that the prevailing winds during peak bushfire conditions will typically originate from the north and west, which has implications in terms of potential exposure to head-fires and ember penetration into urban areas. A higher level of conservatism was accordingly adopted when refining the overlay as it applies to sections of the urban interface exposed to the north and west.

3.3.1 Grasslands

Where Grassland fuels were found to be the predominant fuel type in an area the overlay has been reduced to include properties within a maximum of 50m (a relaxation from the standard 100m). This relaxation reflects the reduced ember potential associated with Grassland fuels and is consistent with the minimum distance required for a BAL-LOW rating under AS 3959.

Agricultural land directly west of the Hamilton Township ('Willowdene' – 5540 Lyell Highway) is an irrigated dairy farm, as shown in Figure 3. Pasture along the river flats are irrigated and grazed as part of the dairy farm operations and are unlikely to sustain a grassfire under the current regime. Land to the east within the Hamilton Township has accordingly been excluded from the overlay.

In the event that irrigated agriculture ceases occurring or the land is used for a crop that requires curing prior to harvest Council will need to evaluate the area and determine whether hazard abatement is required to protect built assets (it is noted that the majority of Village-zoned land to the west is separated by >50m from the farmland by the Clyde River, Council-maintained public open space and River Street road reserve).



Figure 3 - Irrigated agricultural land west of Hamilton

3.3.2 Subdivisions

There are no approved subdivisions that are under construction at present.

Council has approved a 43-lot subdivision within the Low Density Residential Zone at Lot 1 Arthurs Lake, Arthurs Lake. The approved lots have not been created at this time and vegetation removal has not occurred. Depending on the extent of development on this site in the coming years, there may be some minor modifications to the overlay that could be considered as part of a future review of Council's LPS.

3.3.3 TFS Bushfire Mitigation Plans

TFS – in consultation with relevant stakeholders – is preparing bushfire mitigation plans for at-risk communities across the State. These plans identify strategic fuel management units and fuel breaks.

At present there is one published plan within the Central Highlands – the *Derwent Bridge Community Bushfire Mitigation Plan* (November 2016). The strategic fuel breaks identified in the plan have not yet been implemented and have not influenced the draft overlay.

Future implementation of bushfire mitigation plans within the municipality potentially may inform future amendments to the bushfire-prone areas overlay.

3.4 Outcomes of Mapping

It is clear that the majority of the land within the Central Highlands LGA is designated as bushfire-prone as a result of the mapping process.

Table 1 provides a comparison of the number of lots that intersect with the computer generated modelled overlay versus the final draft overlay. The modelled overlay more closely reflects the number of lots that would currently be subject to bushfire requirements under the current 100m rule that operates in the absence of the overlay, as it is based on a 100m buffer from TASVEG mapping. The statistics show that the overall number of properties affected has been reduced as the overlay has been refined.

Table 1 - Comparison of cadastral parcels affected by modelled overlay versus final draft overlay

Cadastral type	Modelled overlay	Final draft Overlay	Difference
Authority Land	1,070	1,064	-6
Local Government Reserve	16	16	0
Private Parcel	4,864	4,797	-67
Public Land Classification	365	366	+1
Total cadastral titles intersected	6,315	6,243	-72

Of most significance in Table 1 are the statistics for private parcels. The mapping process has enabled the identification of approximately 67 private properties that will no longer require further bushfire assessment, should they be developed or redeveloped in future.

Economic benefit to the owners of these properties is derived from the avoided cost of bushfire assessment, the reduced time required for building work to be designed, documented and approved and avoided constructions costs (if an exemption were not obtained).

4 Implementation Options

For the mapping to serve its intended statutory function it is necessary to incorporate it within the relevant planning instrument established under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* ('LUPAA').

4.1 Tasmanian Planning Scheme

All Tasmanian Councils are required to transition into the Tasmanian Planning Scheme ('TPS') as part of the Government's reform agenda.

The TPS will be comprised of the State Planning Provisions ('SPP') and Local Planning Schedules ('LPS'), the latter of which is to be prepared by Local Government. It is anticipated that Council's LPS will include the bushfire-prone areas overlay.

It is understood that Central Highlands Council will likely submit its draft LPS to the Tasmanian Planning Commission for assessment by mid-2019. Once the public exhibition and hearing process is completed and the Commission completes its assessment, the TPS will become active and will supersede Council's interim planning scheme. This timing of this process is unclear at present and may not be completed before mid-late 2020.

4.2 Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015

Should Council seek to introduce the overlay sooner, there is provision to amend the Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 under the Savings and Transitional Provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

Schedule 6 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* provides the statutory mechanisms to amend interim planning schemes under the former provisions. Council may initiate a Draft Amendment of its own motion under s.34(1)(b) of the former provisions.

Amending the interim planning scheme will allow for the benefits of the overlay to be delivered within a relatively short timeframe and would avoid unnecessary delay. Accordingly, this is TFS's preferred mode of implementation.

5 Statutory Planning Requirements

5.1 Requirements for Local Provision Schedules

It is anticipated that the overlay will be included as part of Council's draft Local Provision Schedules that will form part of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. At that time, the overlay will need to be considered under s.34(2) of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993* (current provisions).

S.34(2) states:

34. LPS criteria

(1) ...

(2) *The LPS criteria to be met by a relevant planning instrument are that the instrument –*

(a) contains all the provisions that the SPPs specify must be contained in an LPS; and

(b) is in accordance with section 32 ; and

(c) furthers the objectives set out in Schedule 1 ; and

(d) is consistent with each State policy; and

(e) is consistent with the regional land use strategy, if any, for the regional area in which is situated the land to which the relevant planning instrument relates; and

(f) is consistent with the strategic plan, prepared under section 66 of the Local Government Act 1993 , that applies in relation to the land to which the relevant planning instrument relates; and

(g) as far as practicable, is consistent with and co-ordinated with any LPSs that apply to municipal areas that are adjacent to the municipal area to which the relevant planning instrument relates; and

(h) has regard to the safety requirements set out in the standards prescribed under the Gas Pipelines Act 2000 .

(3) ...

Incorporating the mapping as an overlay is consistent with the relevant provisions of the State Planning Provisions (specifically clause 1.2.3 and the definition of 'bushfire-prone area' in clause C13.3.1). The overlay is therefore consistent with s.34(2)(a).

Relevant to s.32, the map overlay will provide for the spatial application of the State Planning Provisions to particular land and is accordingly consistent with s.34(2)(b).

With respect to the strategic considerations referred to in s.34(2)(c),(d),(e) and (f):

- The Schedule 1 Objectives of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993* are considered in section 6.2.1 of this report;
- The State policies are considered in section 6.2.2 of this report;
- The Regional Land Use Strategy is considered in section 6.2.3 of this report; and
- Council's Strategic Plan is considered in section 6.2.4 of this report.

The overlay has been designed to integrate with the draft mapping completed for adjoining LGAs. The overlay accordingly satisfies s.34(2)(g).

The overlay will not introduce any new development standards, rather it will support the application of an existing Code. As such, it is not considered to be in conflict with the *Gas Pipelines Act 2000* and therefore satisfies s.34(2)(h).

The overlay will not introduce any new development standards, rather it will support the application of an existing Code. As such, it is not considered to be in conflict with the *Gas Pipelines Act 2000* and therefore satisfies s.34(2)(h).

5.2 Requirements for Interim Planning Scheme Draft Amendments

Section 34 (1) of the former provisions of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993* is relevant to an amendment of an interim planning scheme and allows a planning authority to initiate such an amendment of its own motion.

Prior to certifying a draft amendment, s.35 of the former provisions requires that the planning authority be satisfied that it meets the requirements of s.32, which states:

32. Requirements for preparation of amendments

(1) A draft amendment of a planning scheme, and an amendment of a planning scheme, in the opinion of the relevant decision-maker within the meaning of section 20(2A) –

(a) – (d) ...

(e) must, as far as practicable, avoid the potential for land use conflicts with use and development permissible under the planning scheme applying to the adjacent area; and

(ea) must not conflict with the requirements of section 30O ; and

(f) must have regard to the impact that the use and development permissible under the amendment will have on the use and development of the region as an entity in environmental, economic and social terms.

The introduction of the proposed overlay will clarify the application of existing planning and building requirements – no new requirements will be introduced. Accordingly, a draft amendment that introduces the overlay will not create any new land use conflict issues and is considered to satisfy (e).

With regards to (ea):

- s.30O(1) requires consistency with the relevant regional land use strategy. As is discussed further in this report, the overlay is consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy;
- s.30O(2)-(5) relates to conflict between local and common provisions. No changes to any development standards are proposed.

The draft amendment will therefore satisfy (ea).

Introduction of the overlay will provide a range of social and economic benefits, as discussed previously in this report. As it relates to existing development standards, it will have no significant environmental effects. The draft amendment will therefore satisfy (f).

6 Strategic Considerations

6.1 LUPAA Schedule 1 Objectives

Schedule 1 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* specifies the strategic objectives for the Resource Management and Planning System and for the planning process established by the Act.

The Schedule 1 Objectives are considered in Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2 - Schedule 1, Part 1 Objectives

Objective	Response
<i>(a) to promote the sustainable development of natural and physical resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity; and</i>	<p>The proposed overlay will support the application of an existing Planning Directive and existing building regulations. Its introduction will not facilitate any loss of natural values, nor any development of physical resources.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (a).</p>
<i>(b) to provide for the fair, orderly and sustainable use and development of air, land and water; and</i>	<p>The proposed overlay will improve clarity for the community, for developers and for regulatory authorities responsible for assessing planning and building permit applications.</p> <p>In developing the overlay, some areas that could currently be considered as being within a 'bushfire-prone area' but which have been deemed to be suitably low threat. This was based on expert judgement of bushfire behaviour and evaluation of local conditions. By refining the application of the bushfire requirements in this way, the overlay will facilitate fairer outcomes for landowners.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (b).</p>
<i>(c) to encourage public involvement in resource management and planning; and</i>	<p>In developing the bushfire-prone areas overlay the Tasmania Fire Service has considered advice from Council's officers. This dialogue has provided important local knowledge in relation to land use practices, developments and hazard management on specific sites.</p> <p>Whether the overlay is introduced via an amendment to the Interim Planning Scheme or via the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, the general public will have an opportunity to review the overlay and submit a representation on any aspect they wish the Planning Authority to consider.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (c).</p>
<i>(d) to facilitate economic development in accordance with the objectives set out in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); and</i>	<p>The overlay will improve clarity with respect to whether a site is within a 'bushfire-prone area' for the purposes of planning and building approval. This will support property development in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will ensure landowners and developers can easily determine whether their site is in a bushfire-prone area

	<p>early in the development process and therefore factor this into concept design and feasibility assessments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By removing areas from the mapping that have been deemed to be suitably low threat by the Tasmania Fire Service, the planning scheme amendment will reduce costs and delays from the approvals process for applicants (e.g. costs of engaging a bushfire hazard practitioner to certify an exemption, delays associated with s.54 requests). <p>The overlay will not facilitate any loss of natural values, nor any development of physical resources.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (d).</p>
<p><i>(e) to promote the sharing of responsibility for resource management and planning between the different spheres of Government, the community and industry in the State.</i></p>	<p>The Tasmania Fire Service has collaborated with Council officers in preparing the mapping to ensure that it is technically sound and appropriate to local circumstances.</p> <p>By incorporating the mapping within local planning provisions it will support the application of the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code (Planning Directive 5.1), which Local Government is obliged to enforce.</p> <p>The approvals process requires the support of both Council and the Tasmanian Planning Commission for the mapping to be implemented.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (e).</p>

Table 3 - Schedule 1, Part 2 Objectives

Objective	Response
<p><i>(a) to require sound strategic planning and co-ordinated action by State and local government; and</i></p>	<p>The introduction of the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code as a state-wide Planning Directive in 2012 was a strategic response by the Tasmanian Government to the recommendations produced by the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. Incorporating the proposed overlay as part of Council's planning instrument will support the local application of the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code.</p> <p>The approach used in developing the overlay is consistent with that used in other Tasmanian municipalities that have now implemented their overlay. Tasmania Fire Service seeks to maintain a consistent approach as it progresses bushfire-prone area mapping for all remaining Local Government Areas.</p> <p>As is discussed further in this report, the overlay is consistent with current State Policies and the relevant regional land use strategy.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (a).</p>
<p><i>(b) to establish a system of planning instruments to be the principal way of setting objectives, policies and controls</i></p>	<p>As discussed previously in this report, introduction of the overlay will support the efficient application of the Bushfire-Prone Areas</p>

for the use, development and protection of land; and	<p>Code (and building regulations) by clearly identifying which land is subject to its provisions.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (b).</p>
(c) to ensure that the effects on the environment are considered and provide for explicit consideration of social and economic effects when decisions are made about the use and development of land; and	<p>Introduction of the overlay will not facilitate any loss of biodiversity or any other impacts on natural values because it is not associated with the introduction of any new development standards.</p> <p>The key economic benefit of the overlay will be to improve clarity with respect to what land is considered bushfire-prone and to avoid application of the planning/building regulations to land that has been deemed to be suitably low threat.</p> <p>With respect to social effects, the overlay is part of a range of measures designed to facilitate community fire safety. In addition to supporting the consistent application of development requirements it is expected that the overlay will increase community awareness of bushfire risk within their local environment.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (c).</p>
(d) to require land use and development planning and policy to be easily integrated with environmental, social, economic, conservation and resource management policies at State, regional and municipal levels; and	<p>As occurs at present, future development in bushfire-prone areas will be required to comply with all other applicable statutory planning and environmental requirements. Introduction of the overlay is not considered to be in conflict with any environmental, social, economic, conservation or resource management policies.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (d).</p>
(e) to provide for the consolidation of approvals for land use or development and related matters, and to co-ordinate planning approvals with related approvals; and	<p>At present, bushfire requirements are triggered either at the planning approval or building approval stage, depending on the type of development proposed. Under each process the definition of 'bushfire-prone area' refers to planning scheme overlay mapping (where available). The completion of the overlay will ensure that assessments as to whether a site is bushfire-prone will be consistent throughout the entire process.</p> <p>Single dwellings, visitor accommodation and some other types of buildings are triggered through the building approvals process and not at planning. This can give rise to situations whereby a development may receive planning approval that does not account for the vegetation removal required to comply with the bushfire requirements at the building approvals stage. Inclusion of the overlay will ensure that assessing planning officers and developers consider - at the development application stage - any requirement to consider vegetation removal.</p> <p>Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (e).</p>
(f) to promote the health and wellbeing of all Tasmanians and visitors to Tasmania by ensuring a pleasant, efficient and safe environment for	<p>The overlay will support the application of planning and building requirements for bushfire protection, the key purpose of which are to reduce risk to life and property. Furthermore, as it will be a publically accessible layer it will support community awareness of bushfire risk.</p>

<i>working, living and recreation; and</i>	The overlay will therefore support the aim of securing a safe environment for working, living and recreation. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (f).
<i>(g) to conserve those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value; and</i>	As no new development standards are proposed to be introduced, the overlay is not considered to be in conflict with the conservation of any places identified as holding heritage, aesthetic, architectural or other cultural value. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (g).
<i>(h) to protect public infrastructure and other assets and enable the orderly provision and co-ordination of public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community; and</i>	The overlay will not affect the requirements of the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code – it will simply clarify its application. The overlay is therefore not considered to be in conflict with public infrastructure and will not compromise the orderly provision and co-ordination of public utilities. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (h).
<i>(i) to provide a planning framework which fully considers land capability.</i>	As the overlay relates only to existing use and development controls its implementation will have no significant effect on the ability of land within the municipality to be sustainably used or developed for its intended purpose. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with (i).

6.2 State Policies

Current State Policies created under the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* include:

- State Policy on the Protection of Agricultural Land 2009;
- State Coastal Policy 1996; and
- State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997.

No new development standards are proposed. As the overlay relates only to the application of existing requirements and only to land that would already be considered 'bushfire-prone', it will not facilitate the loss of productive agricultural land, nor the degradation of coastal land or water resources. Introduction of the overlay is accordingly not considered to be in conflict with any of the abovementioned State Policies.

Section 12A of the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* also requires that a national environment protection measure is taken to be a State Policy. The current NEMPs provide objectives for the protection of air, land and water quality, the protection of amenity from noise, the control of hazardous wastes and recycling of used materials. The adoption of the bushfire-prone areas overlay is considered to have no impact with respect to compliance with the current NEMPs.

6.3 Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035

Local Provision Schedules must be consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy. For the Tasman LGA, this is the *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy* ('STRLUS').

The key section of STRLUS is Section 8, which provides regional policies for managing risks and hazards. The majority of the policies pertaining to bushfire hazard relate to ensuring that planning schemes provide suitable requirements for vegetation removal and subdivision design, which is not directly relevant to the scheme amendment. The relevant policies are considered in Table 4.

Table 4 - Regional Policies

Regional Policy	Response
MRH 1.1 <i>Provide for the management and mitigation of bushfire risk at the earliest possible stage of the land use planning process (rezoning or if no rezoning required; subdivision) by the identification and protection (in perpetuity) of buffer distances or through the design and layout of lots.</i>	Incorporation of the proposed mapping will mean that bushfire-prone land will be easily identifiable early in the land use planning process. In doing so, it will help signal to developers that there are Code requirements that require consideration when looking at subdivision or rezoning opportunities. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with MRH 1.1.
MRH 1.4 <i>Include provisions in planning schemes for use and development in bushfire prone areas based upon best practice bushfire risk mitigation and management.</i>	The existing '100m from 1ha' criteria for determining application of bushfire requirements is a simplistic, broad brush approach that is used in the absence of mapping. The proposed mapping will provide a more refined mechanism for triggering the bushfire requirements as the spatial extent of the overlay has been adjusted based on expert judgement. Implementation of the overlay is accordingly consistent with MRH 1.4.

6.4 Central Highlands Strategic Plan 2015-2024

The Strategic Plan 2015-2024 is the relevant strategic plan prepared under s.66 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Strategic Plan provides goals and strategies designed to guide Council's actions and priorities in a way that reinforces the vision and values of the community.

The relevant strategies are addressed in Table 5.

Table 5 – Relevant strategies

Strategies	Response
<i>4.5 Ensure the Central Highlands Emergency Management Plan is reviewed regularly to enable preparedness for natural events and emergencies</i>	Whilst not directly related to Council's Emergency Plan, the overlay may be a useful reference document for confirming the presence of potential bushfire hazards in an area.
<i>6.1 Ensure Council fulfils its legislative and governance responsibilities and its decision making is supported by sustainable policies and procedures</i>	The overlay will spatially define areas that are subject to the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code and Part 1A of the <i>Building Regulations 2014</i> (or Division 6 of the <i>Building Regulations 2016</i> , once the Tasmanian Planning Scheme is enacted). Introduction of the overlay will remove ambiguity with respect to the application of existing requirements that Council is obliged to enforce.
<i>6.8 Ensure that customers receive quality responses that are prompt, accurate and fair</i>	The overlay is property-based and will enable Council officers to quickly ascertain whether a particular planning or building permit application is subject to bushfire regulations.

7 Future Revisions

The bushfire-prone areas overlay will need to be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it remains accurate. This will logically form part of Council's five-year review process for their Local Provision Schedules under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

The *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* allows Council to initiate amendments to their Local Planning Provisions at any time. It may be appropriate at times to review and amend parts of the overlay as development occurs, land uses change or new management regimes are introduced.

In the situation where a scheme amendment is required to facilitate a new development (e.g. a combined rezoning and green-field subdivision) it would be appropriate to review the overlay and potentially amend it as part of the draft amendment.

It is anticipated that TFS will be consulted as part of any future review or amendment process involving the bushfire-prone areas overlay.

8 Conclusion

The Tasmania Fire Service in collaboration with Council officers have completed a draft bushfire-prone areas overlay for Central Highlands.

The overlay identifies land where potential exposure to bushfire hazard is considered sufficient to warrant a planning or building response to reduce risk to life and property. In doing so, it will ensure reliability, certainty and simplicity of process to the benefit of landowners, designers, the planning authority, the permit authority and the wider community.

In the process of developing the overlay, a significant number of properties have been able to be mapped out on the basis of insufficient risk to warrant a built response. Introduction of the overlay thereby presents an economic benefit to those landowners should they seek to develop their site in future.

The overlay will also support community education on community fire safety and will provide a useful resource for the administration of the fire permit system and hazard abatement programs.

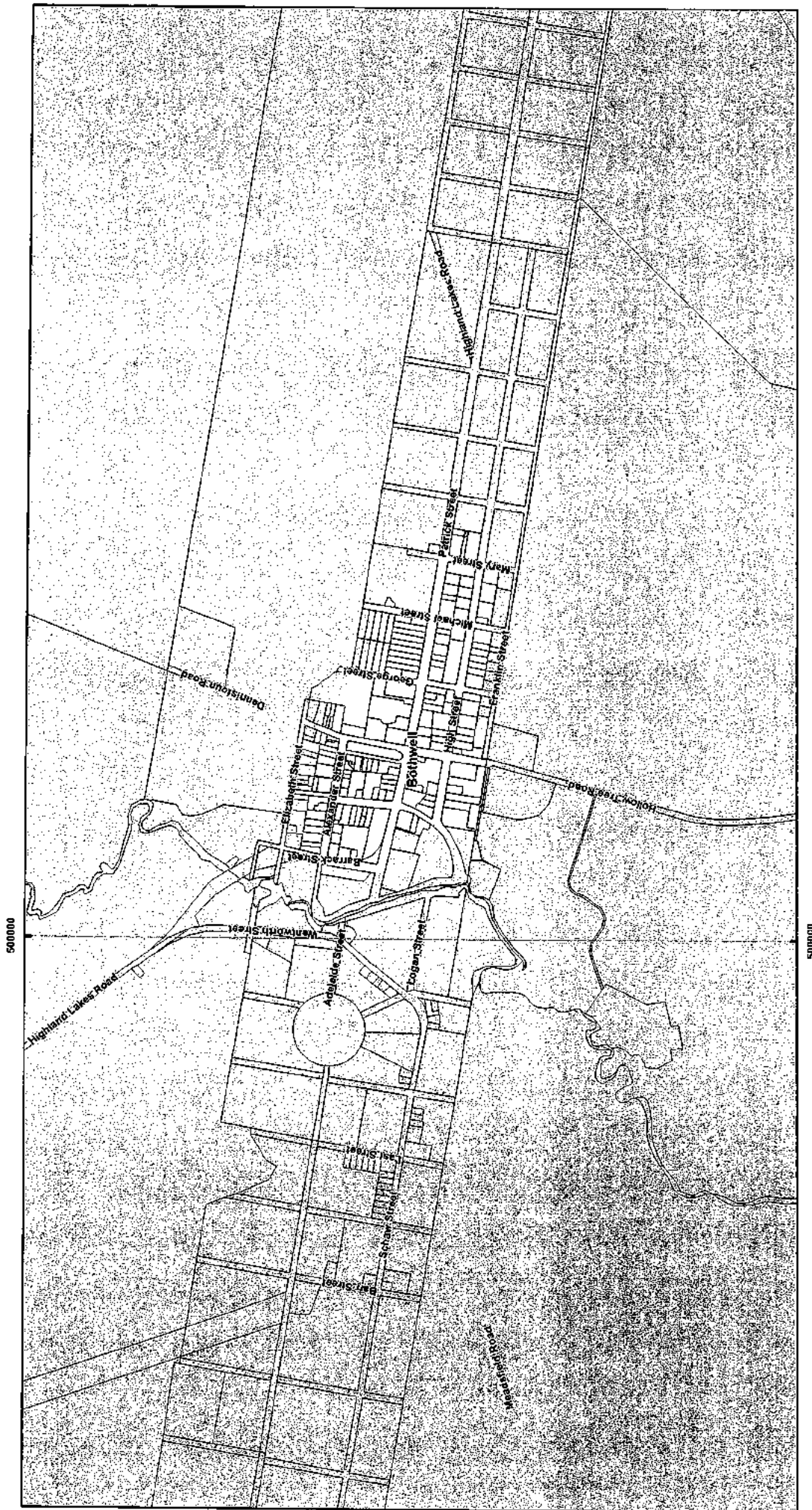
For the overlay to serve its statutory purpose it must be incorporated into Council's planning provisions. This can be achieved through an amendment to the Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 or through the Tasmanian Planning Scheme process. Due to the timeframes associated with the Tasmanian Planning Scheme process, TFS recommends that Council consider initiating an amendment to the Interim Planning Scheme.

Implementing the overlay as part of Council's planning provisions is considered to be consistent with all relevant strategic planning considerations.

APPENDIX A

Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

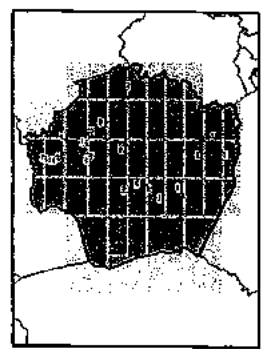
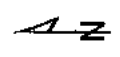
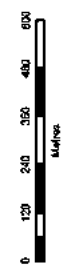
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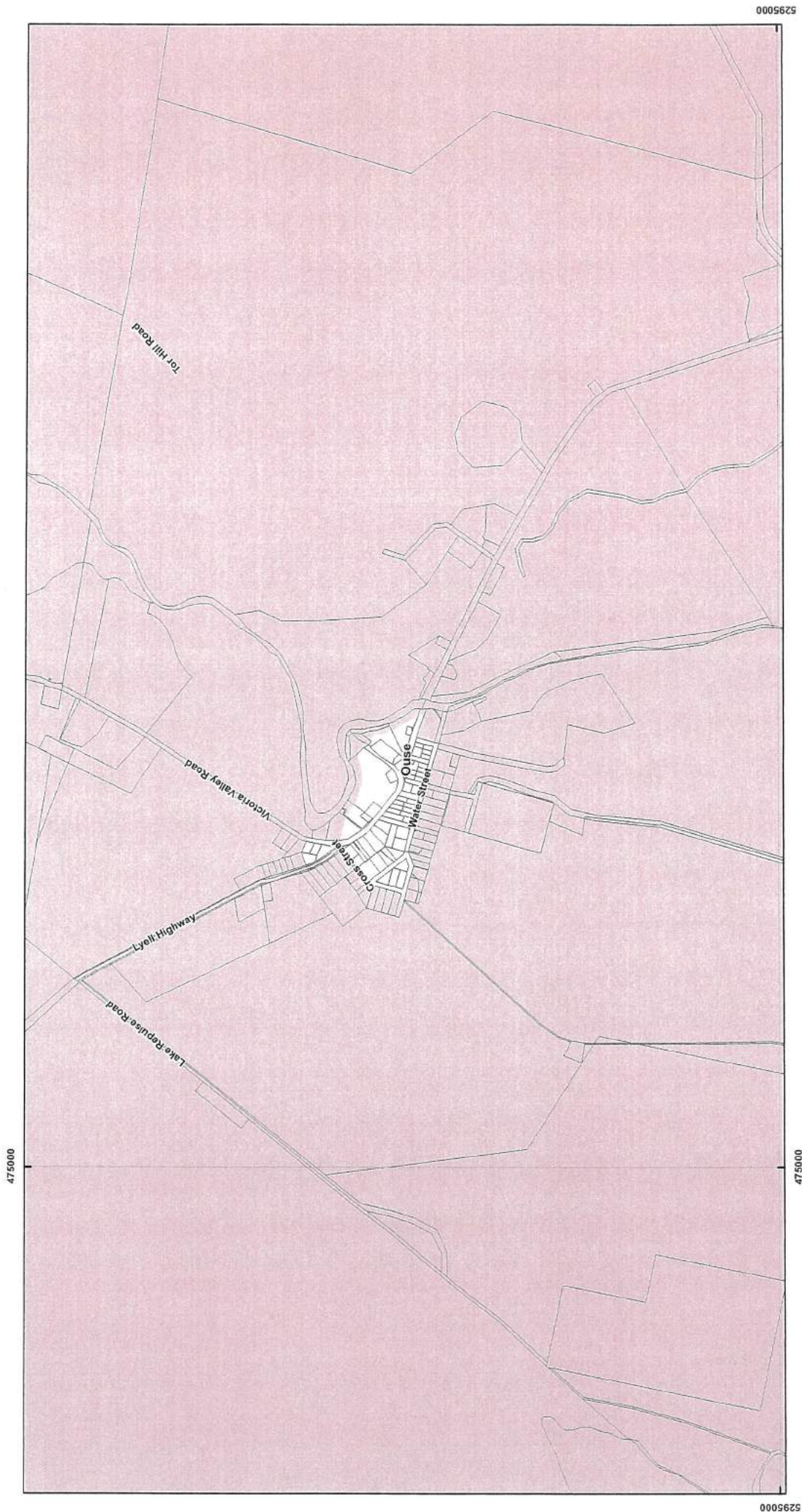
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 1 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
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 Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania
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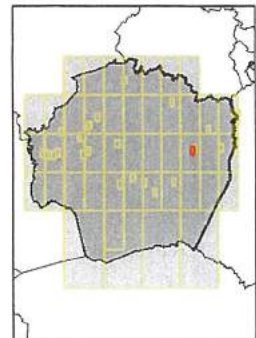
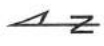
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

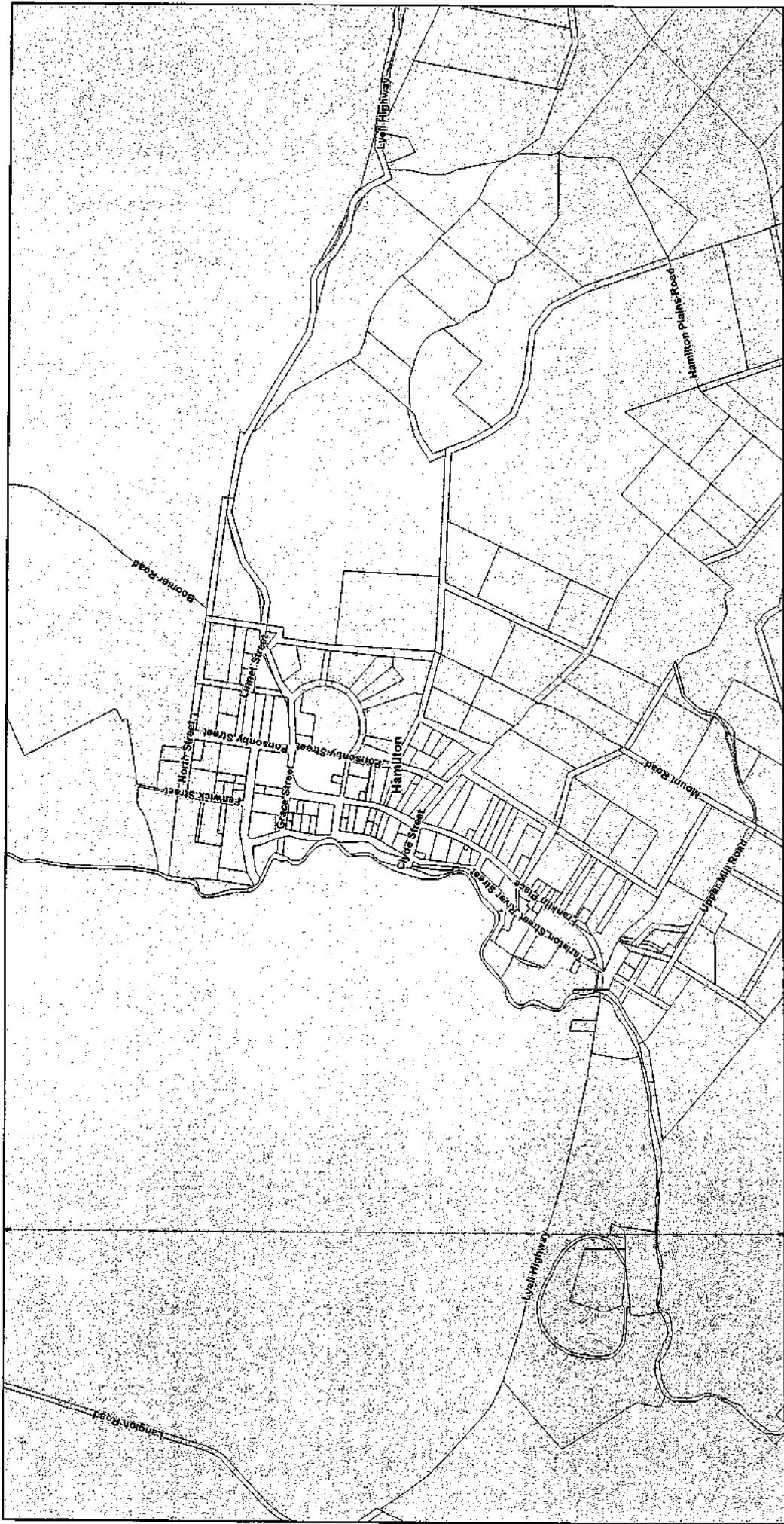
Map 2 of 74



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 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

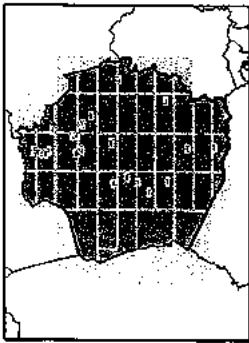


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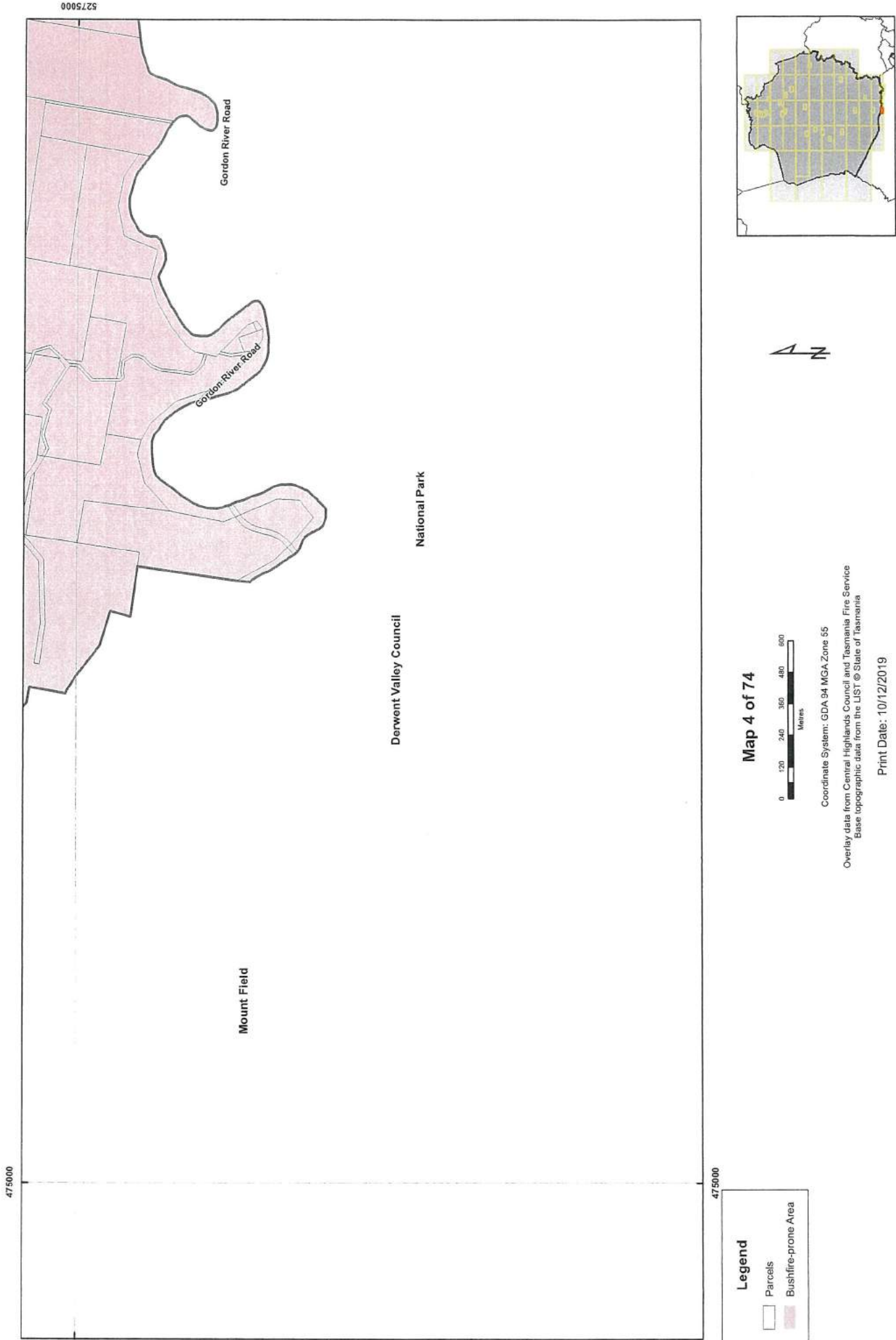
Bushfire-prone Area

Map 3 of 74

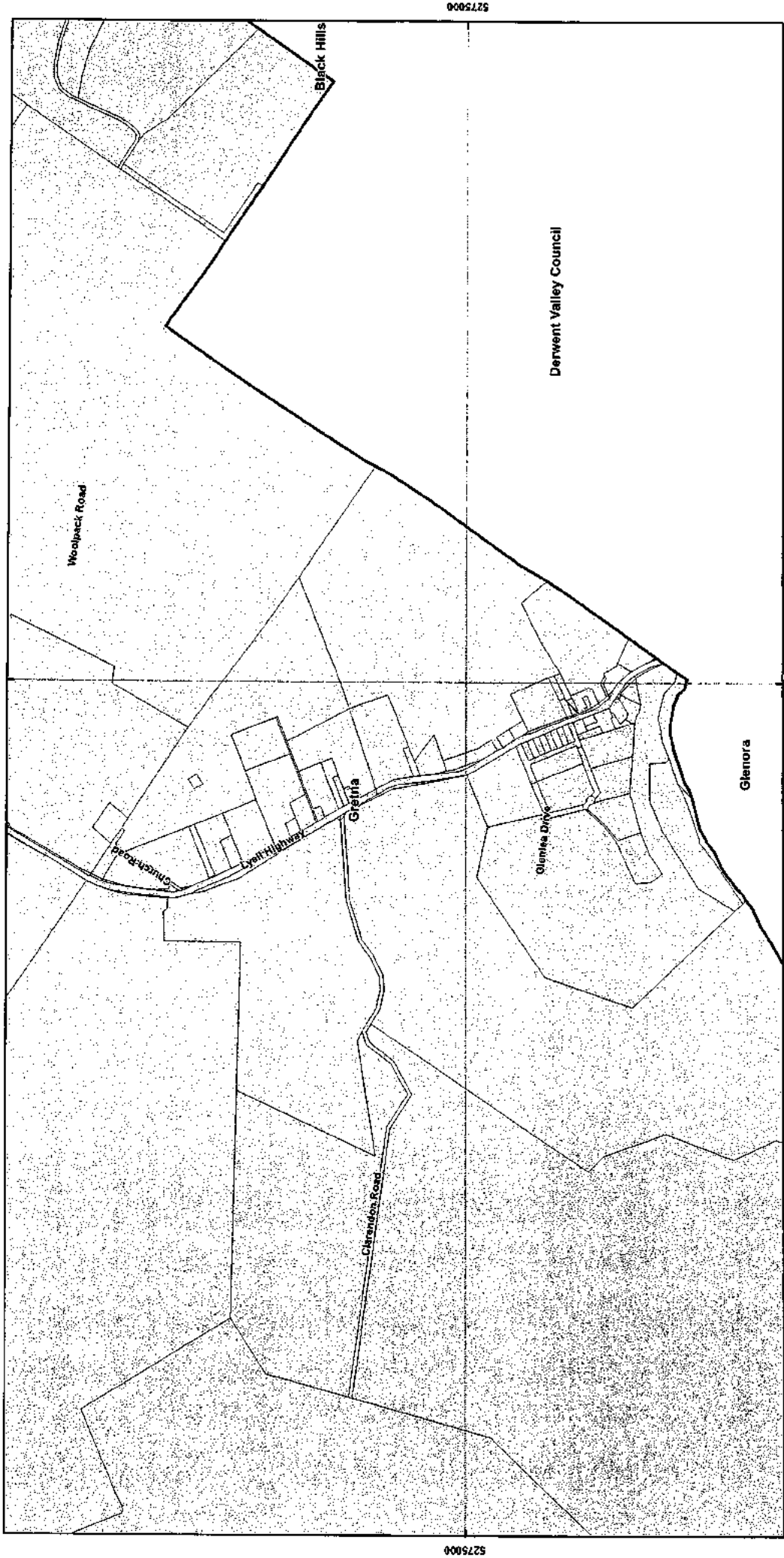


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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

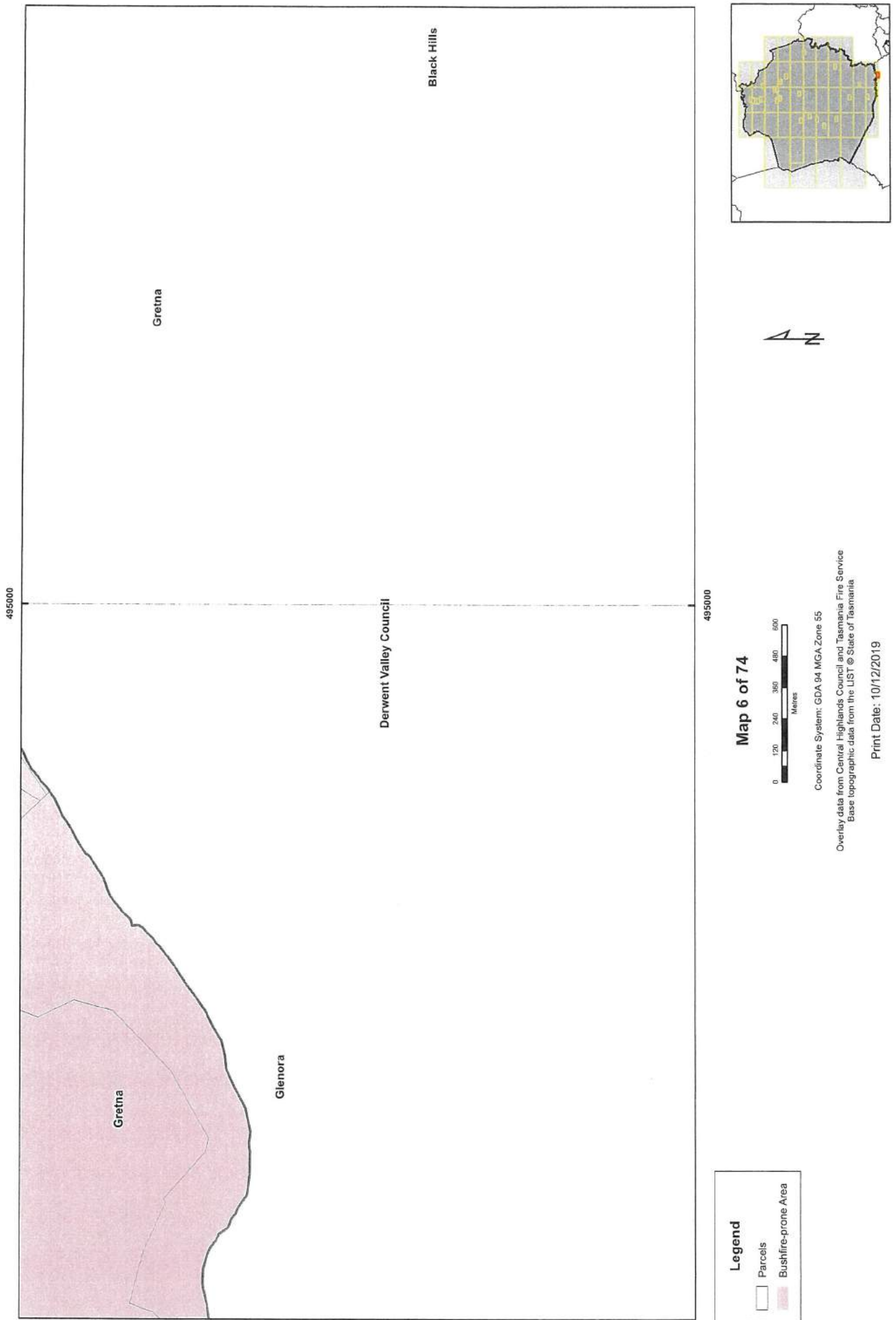
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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
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Base topographic data from the UST @ State of Tasmania
Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



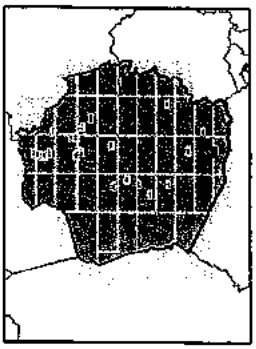
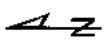
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

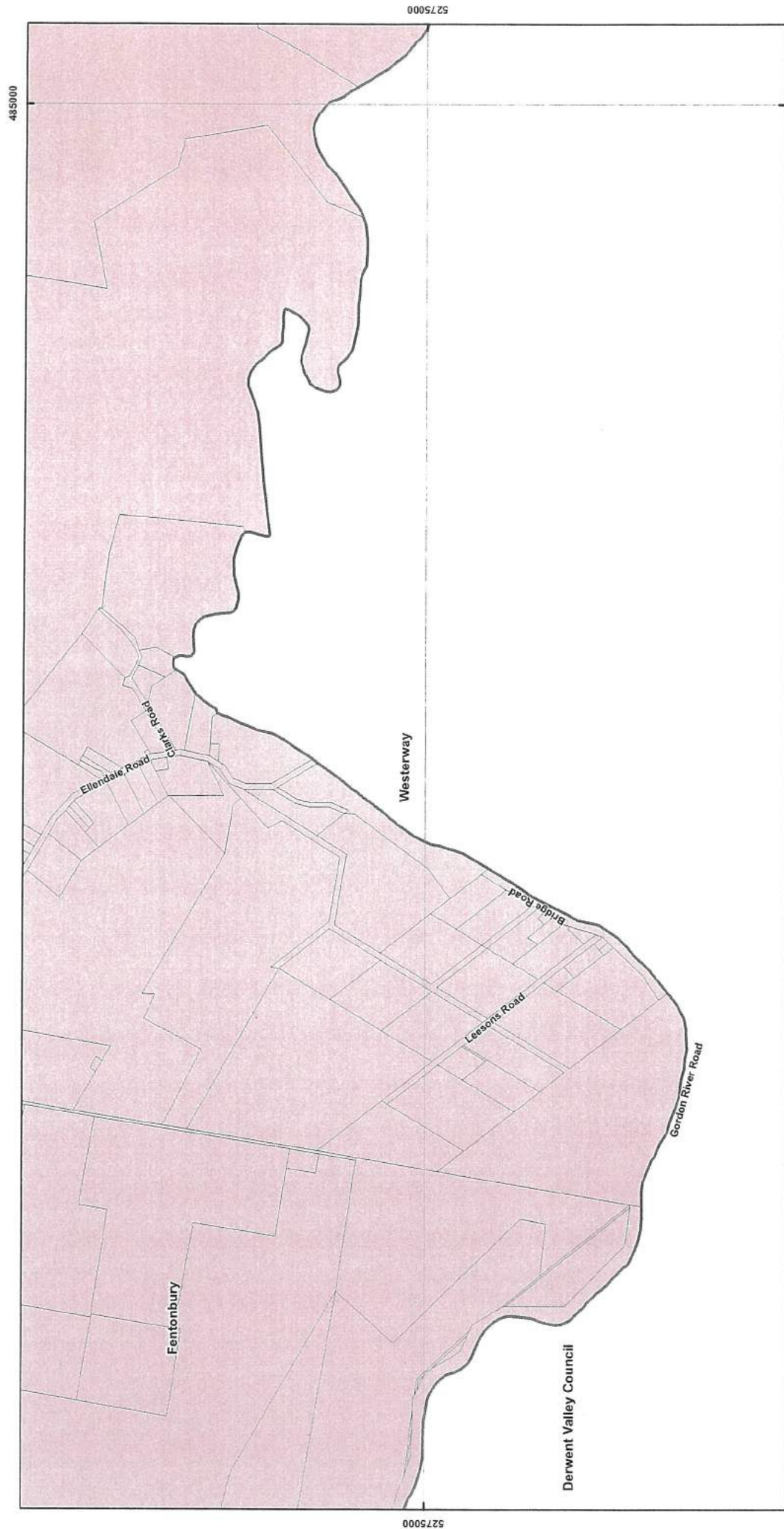
Map 7 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MCA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Map 8 of 74

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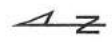
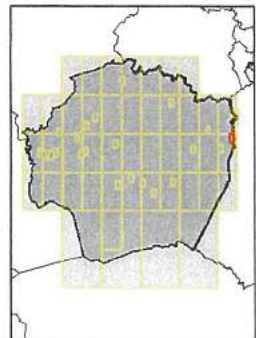
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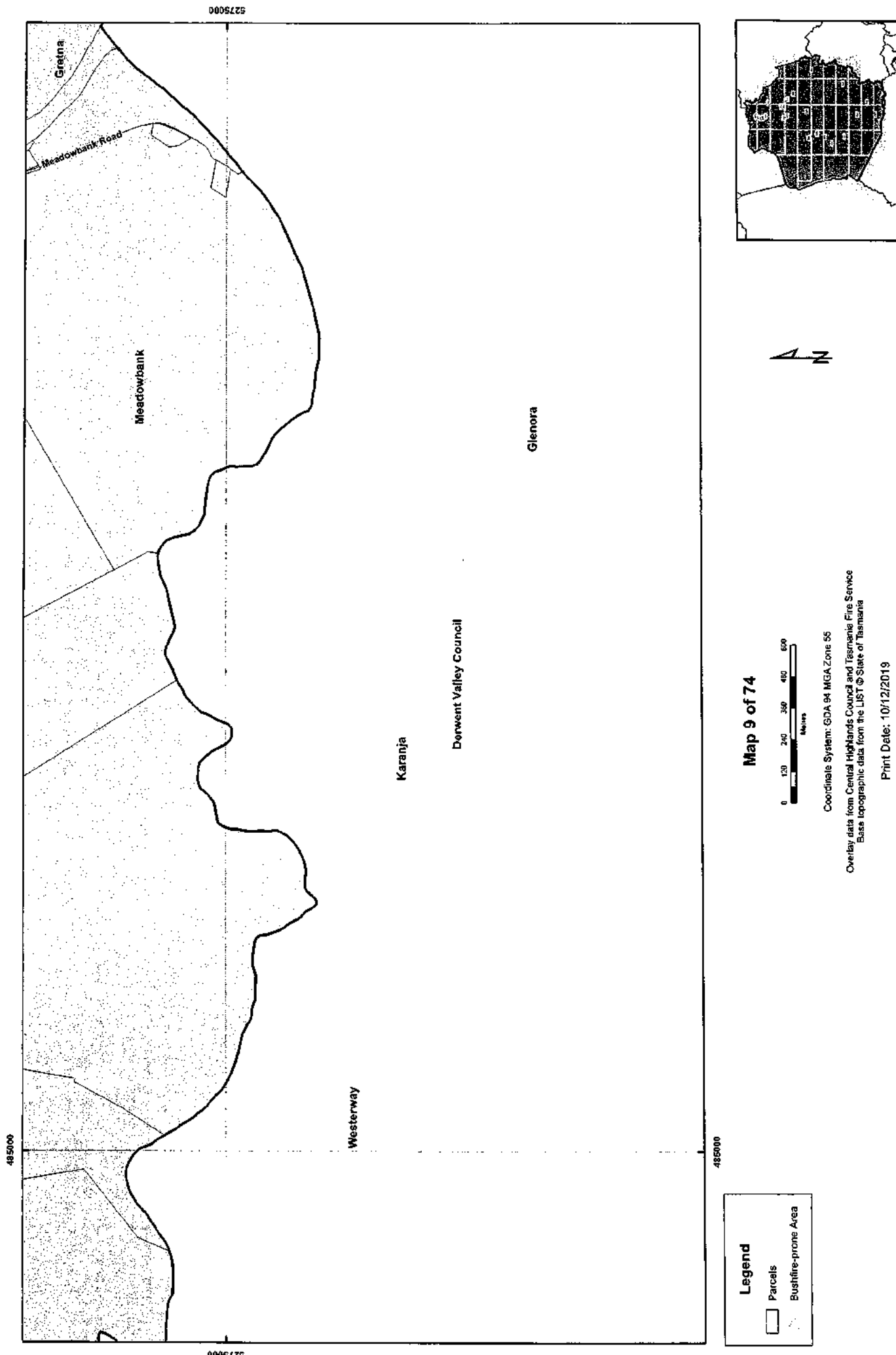
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Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania

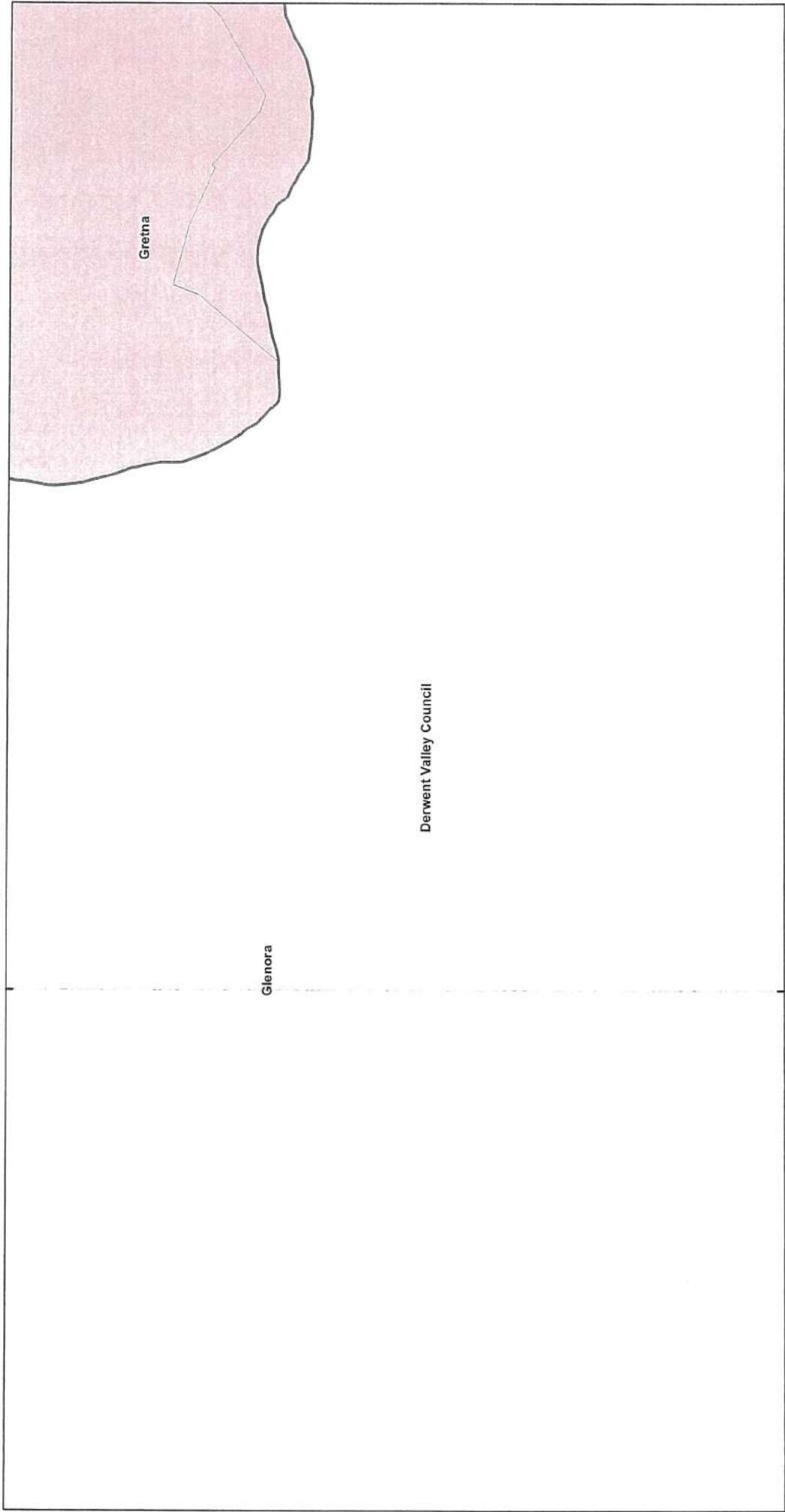
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

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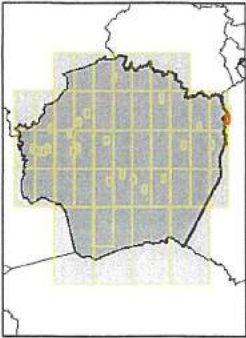
Bushfire-prone Area

Map 10 of 74

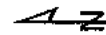
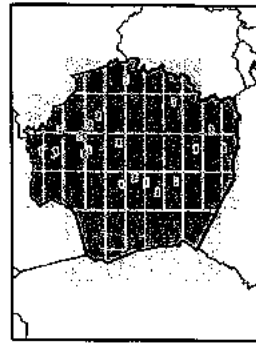
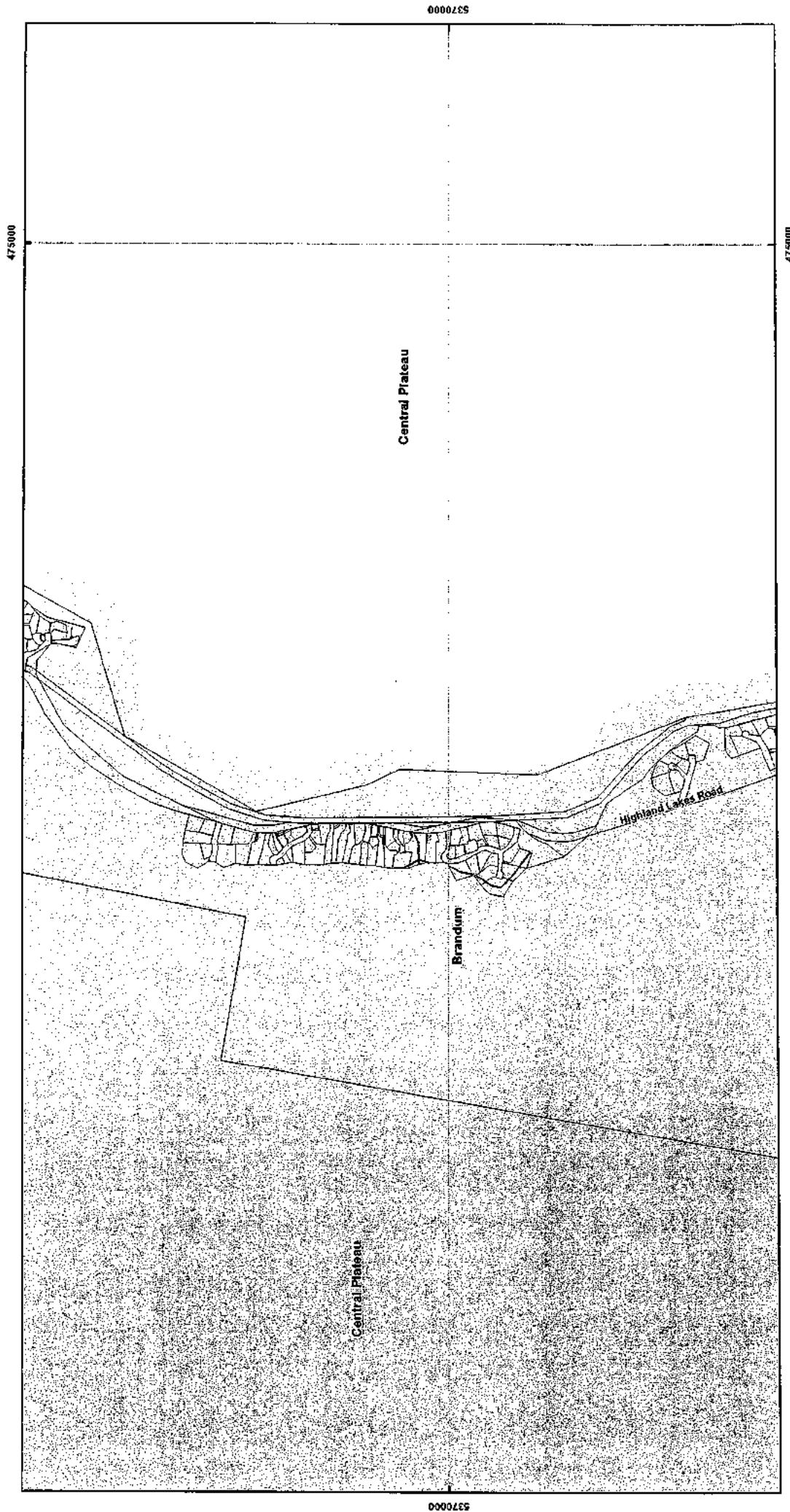


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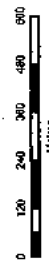
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

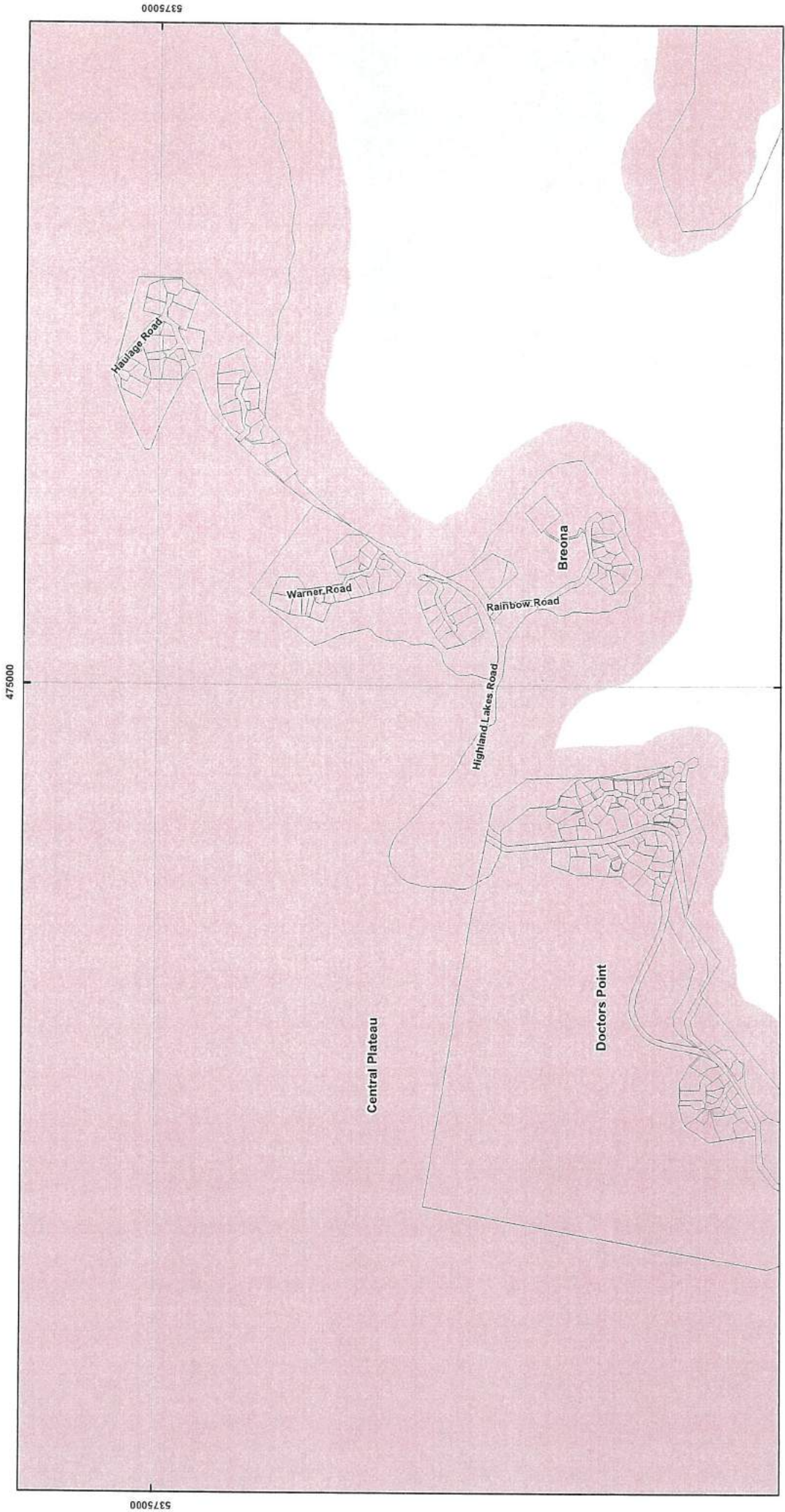
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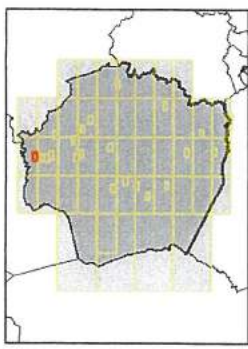
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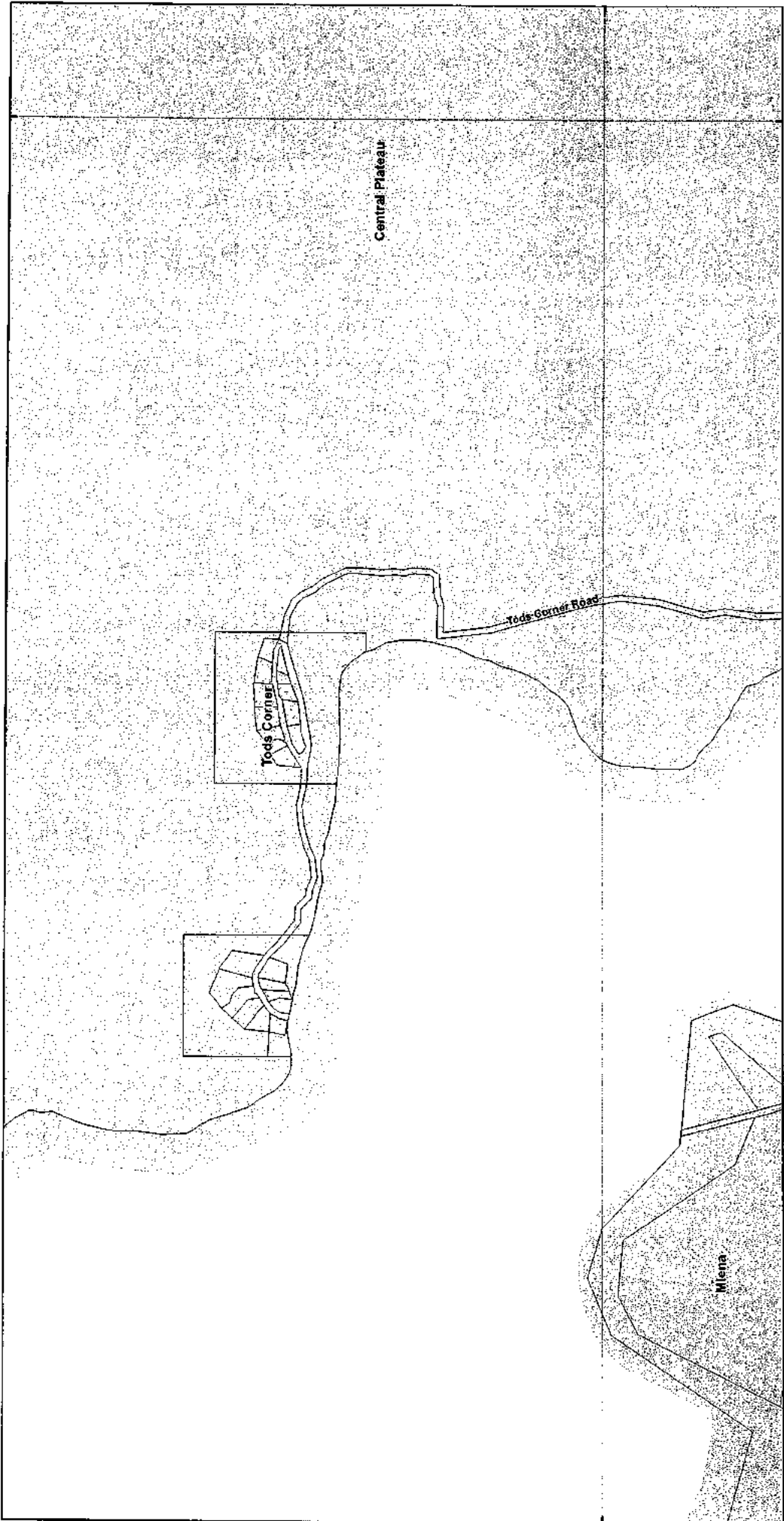
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

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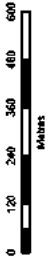
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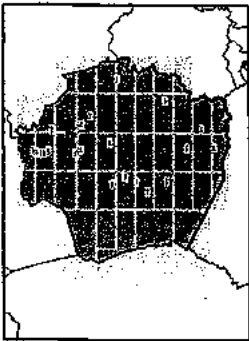
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Map 13 of 74

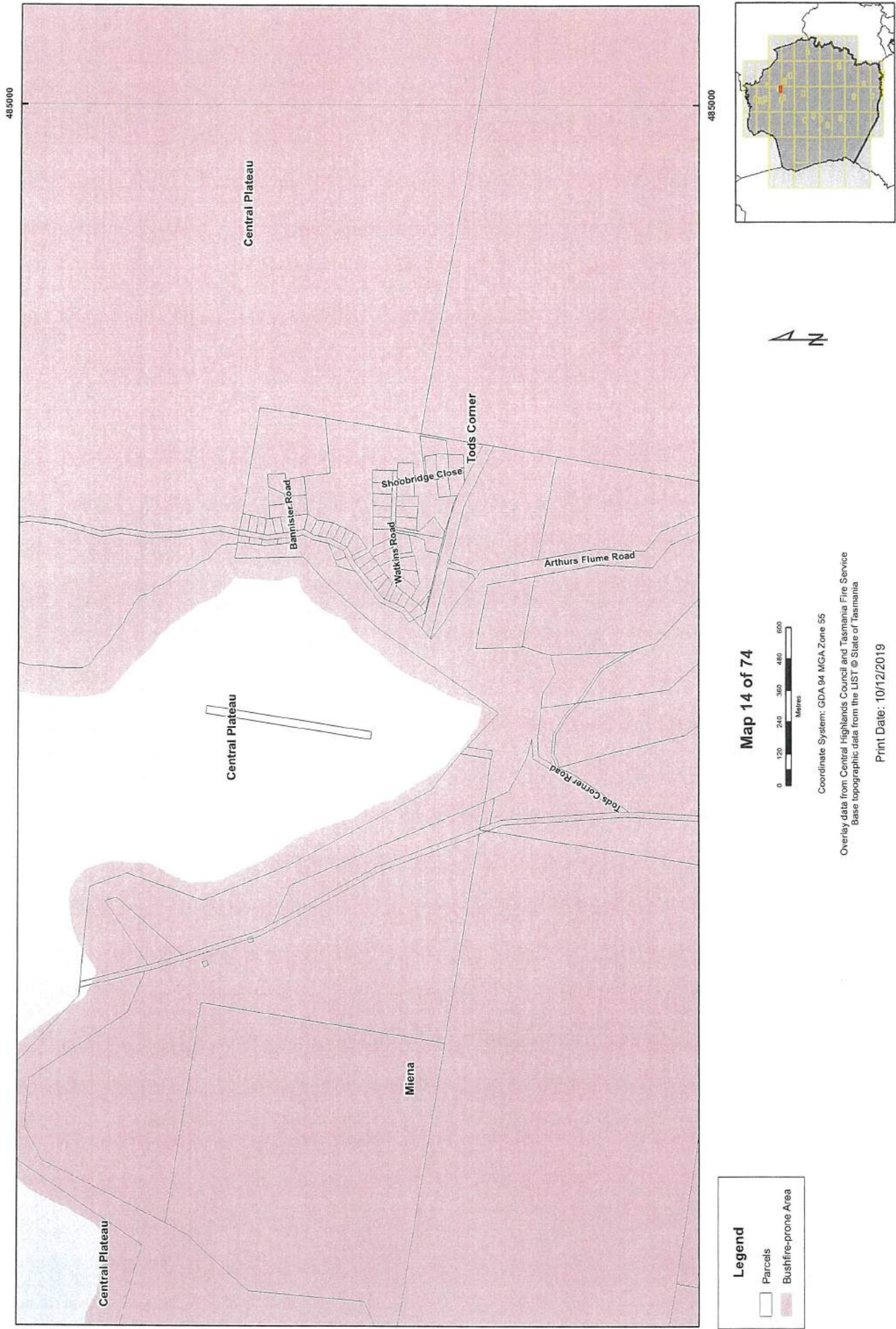


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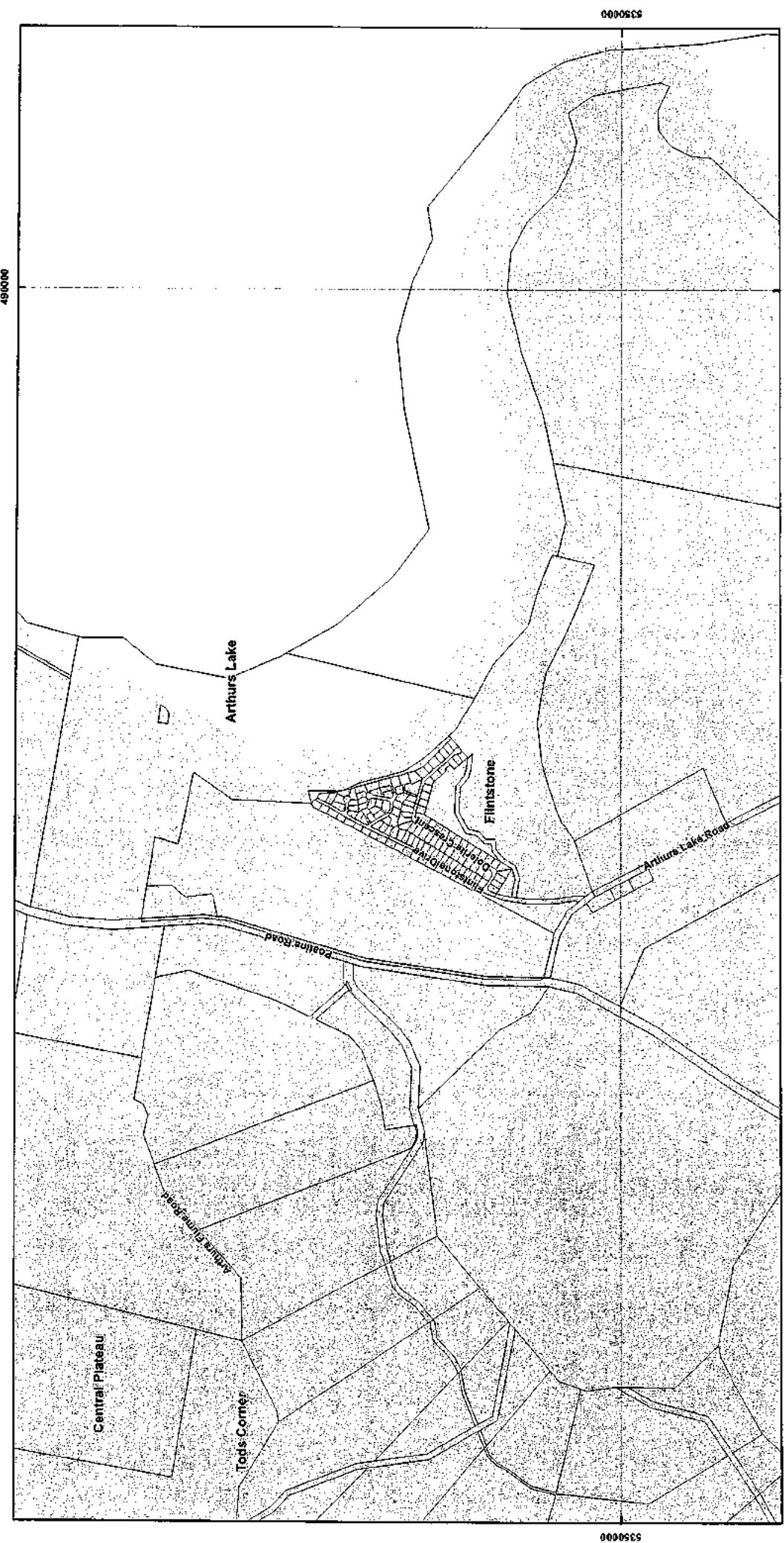
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

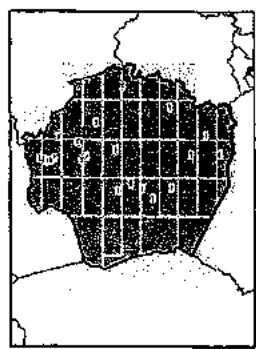
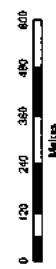


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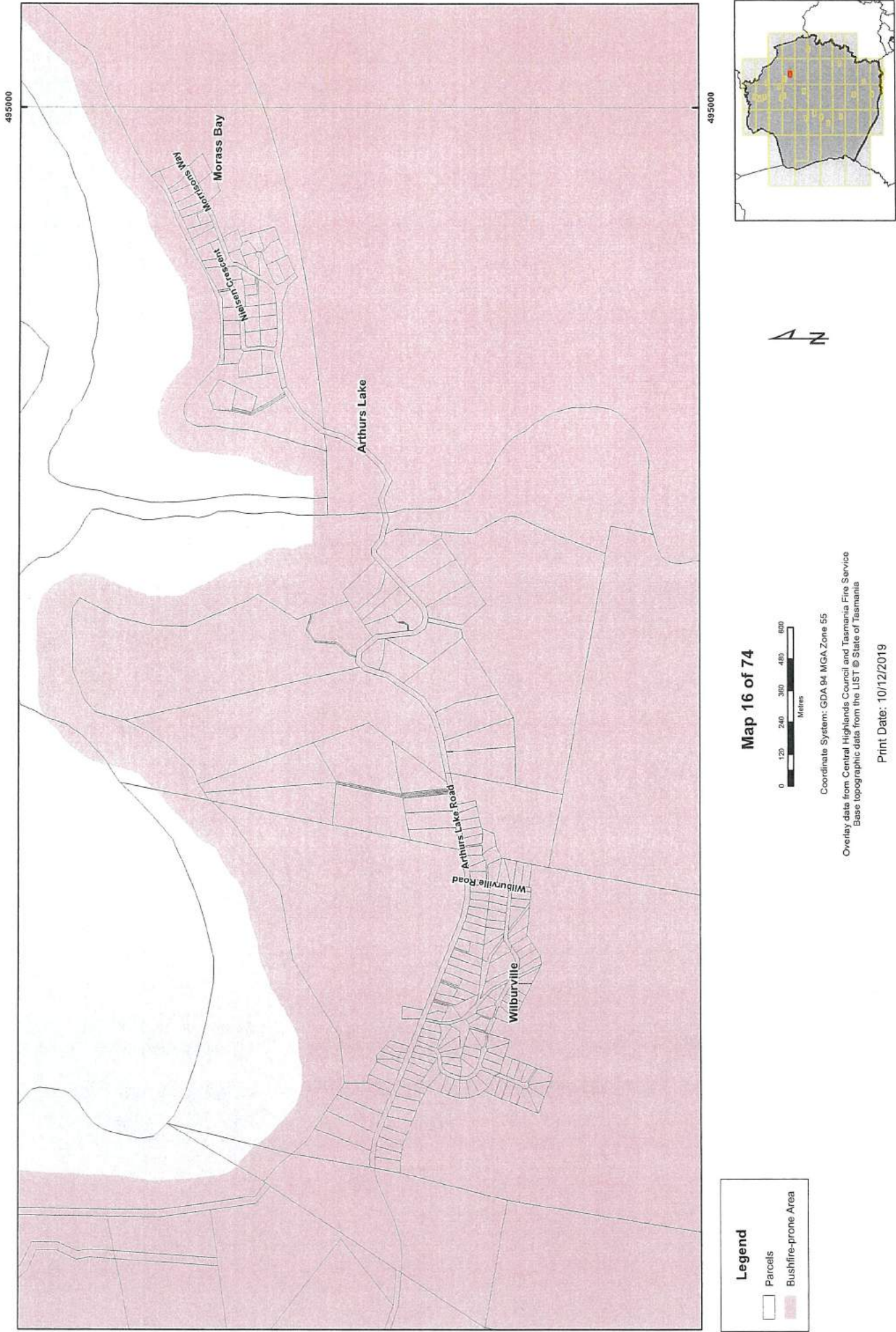
Map 15 of 74



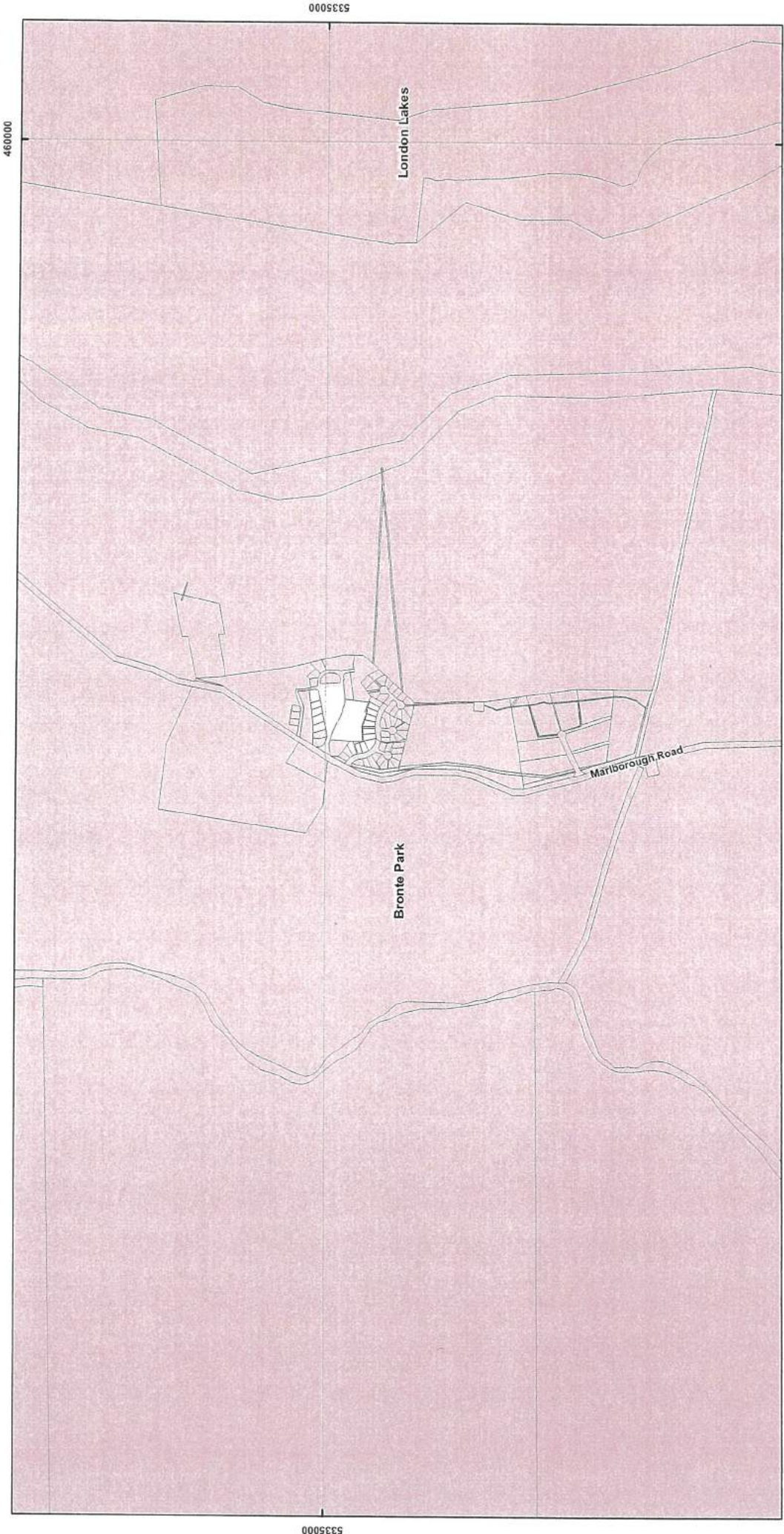
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Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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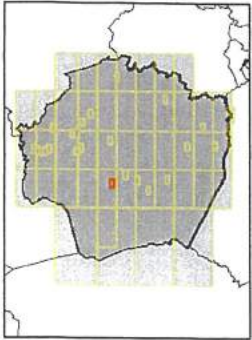
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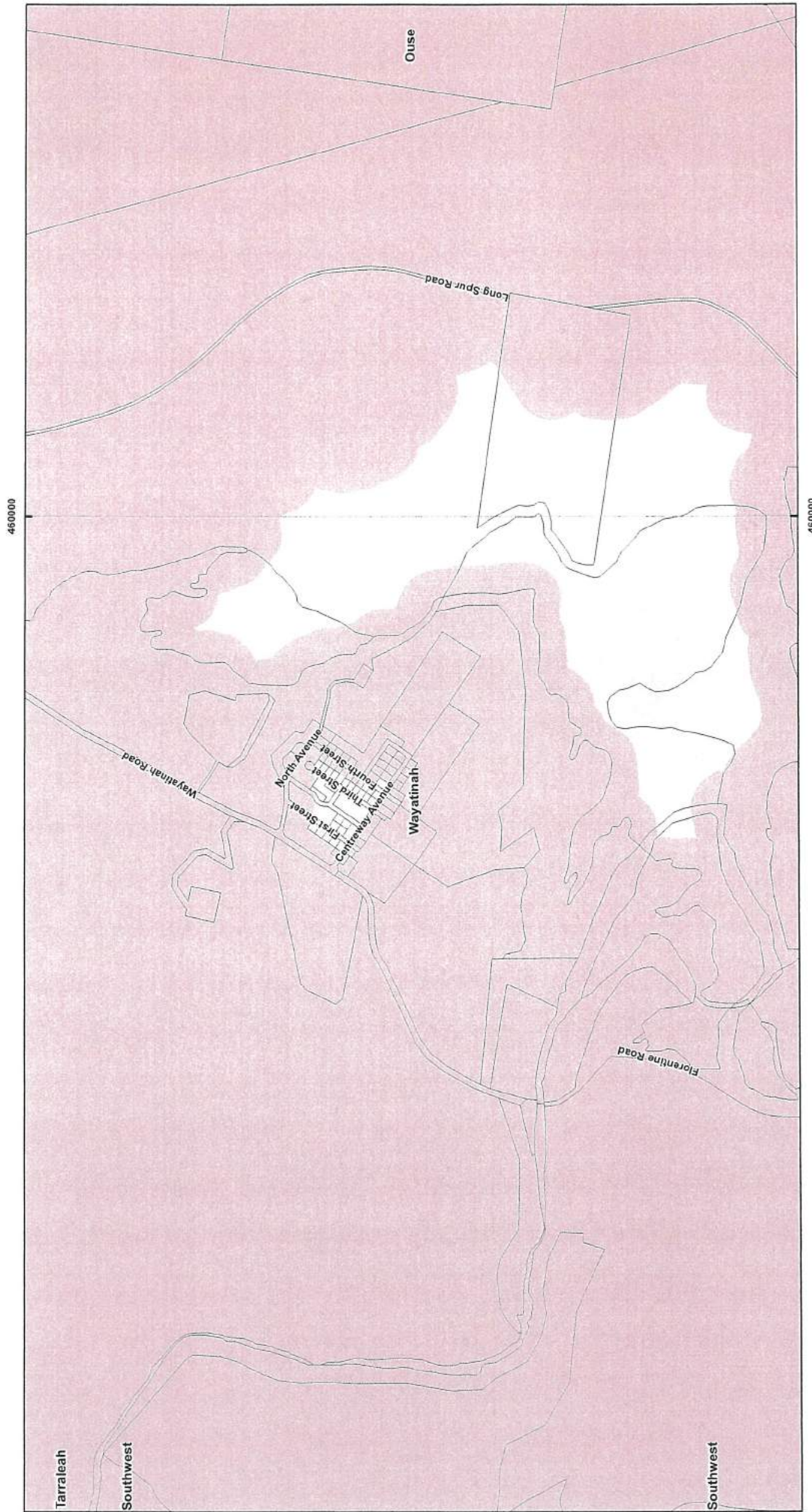


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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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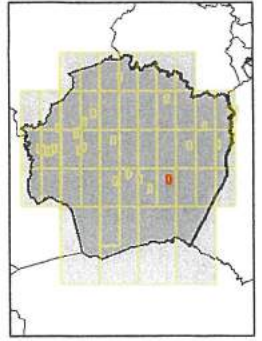
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Map 18 of 74

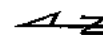
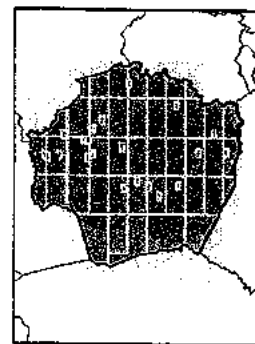
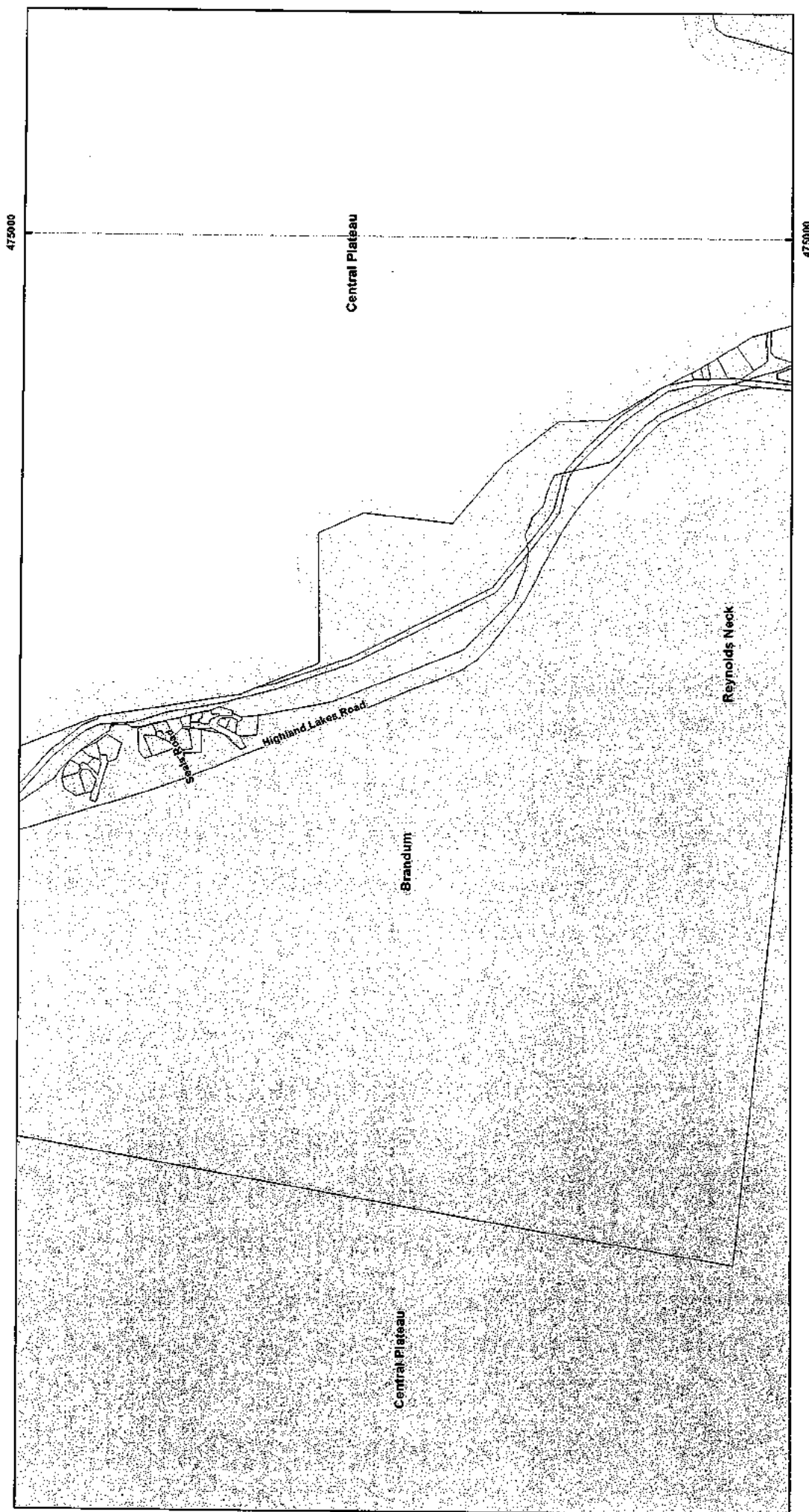


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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 ~ Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55

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Base topographic data from the LIST @ State of Tasmania

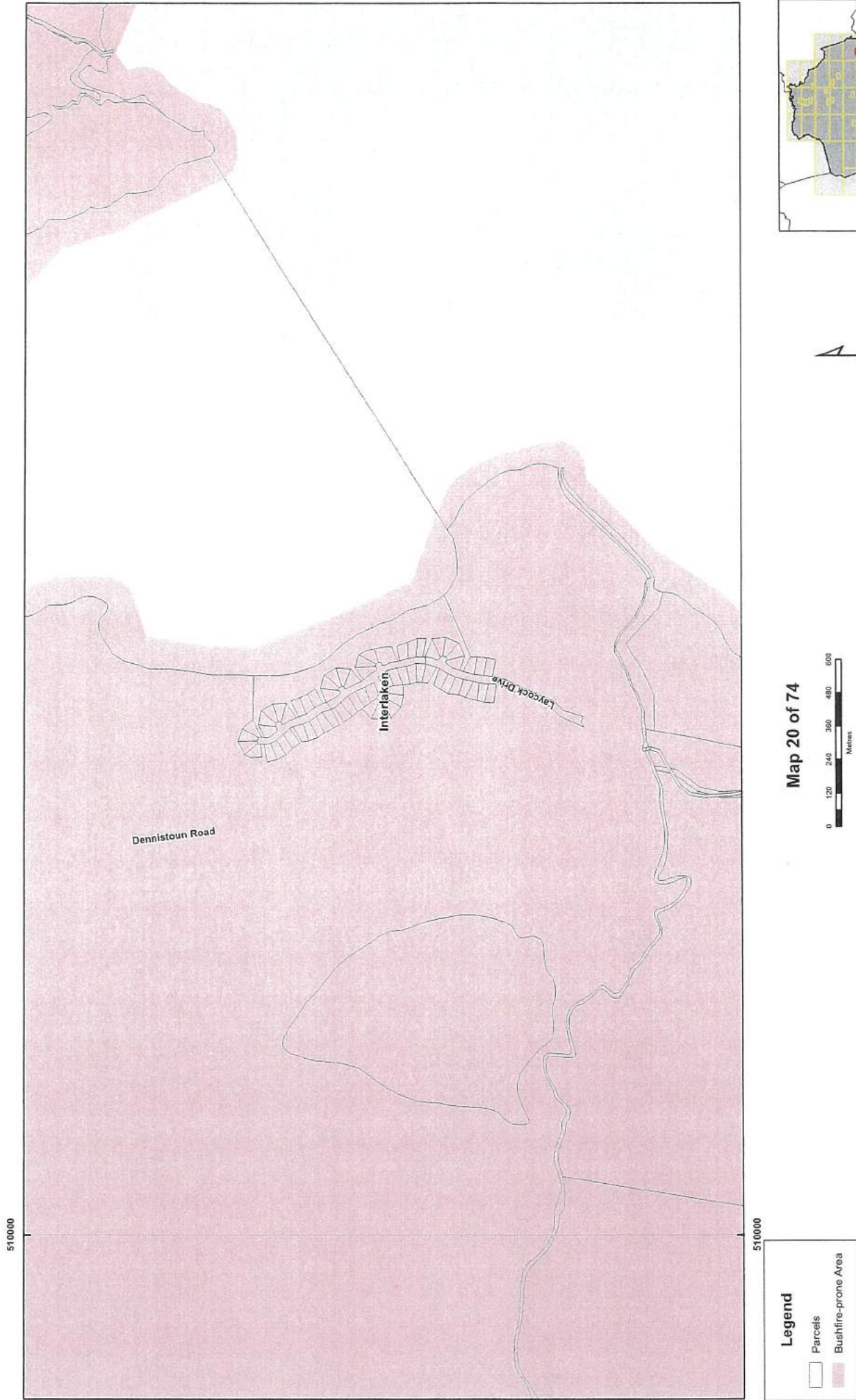
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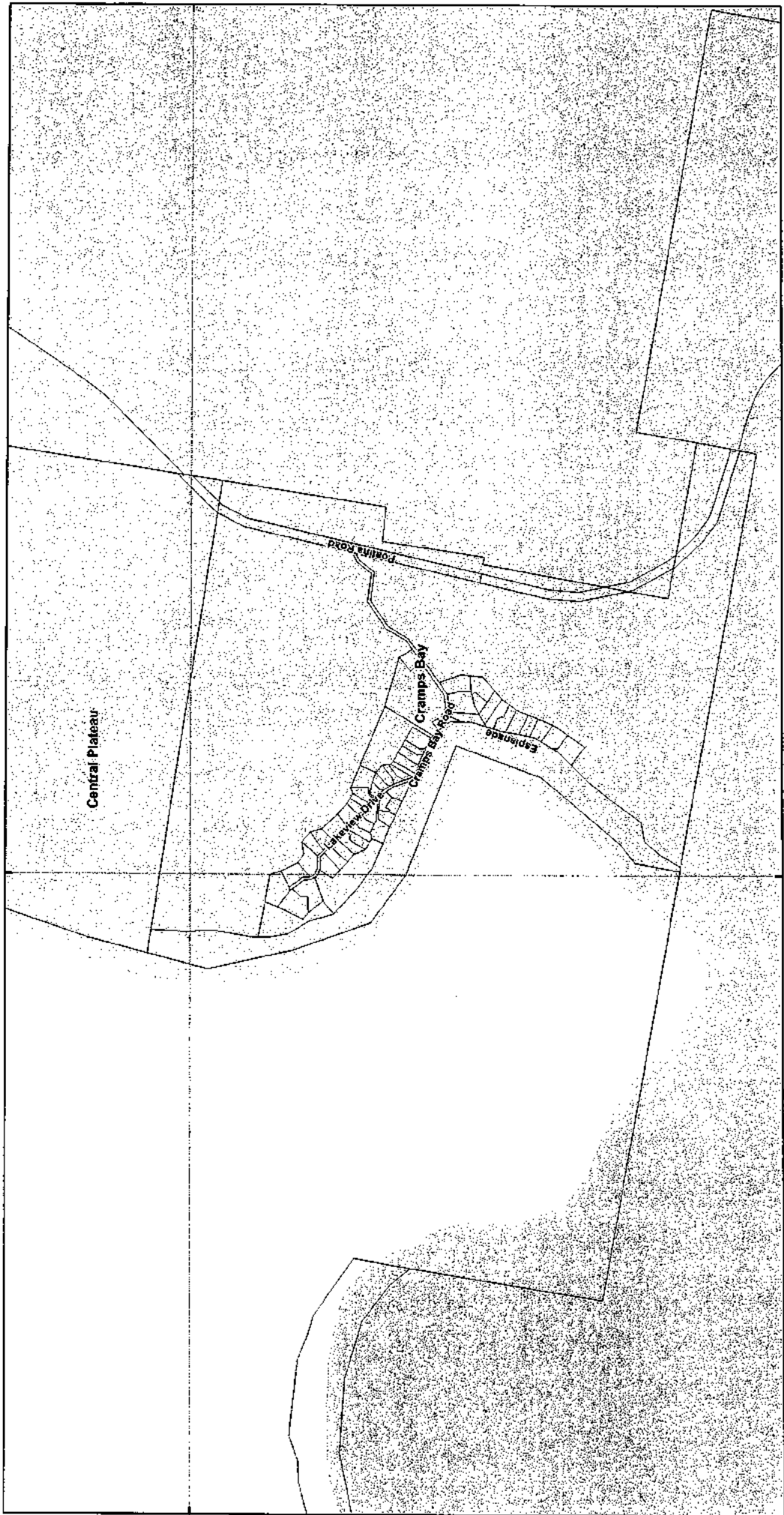
Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Map 21 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from: Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LST © State of Tasmania

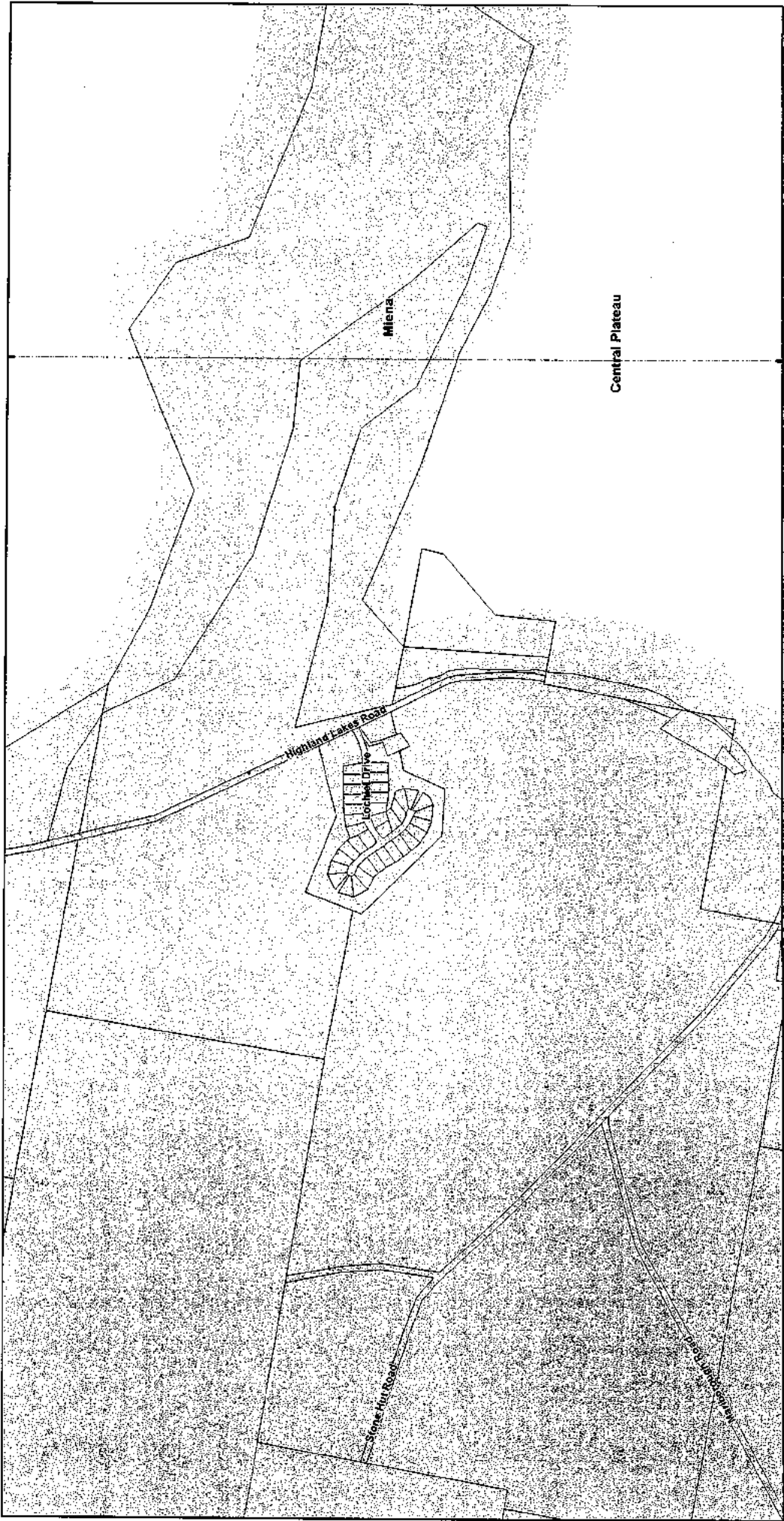
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

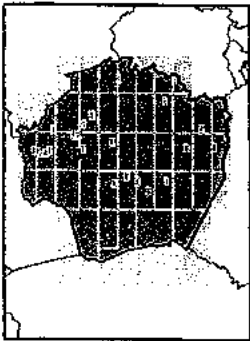
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

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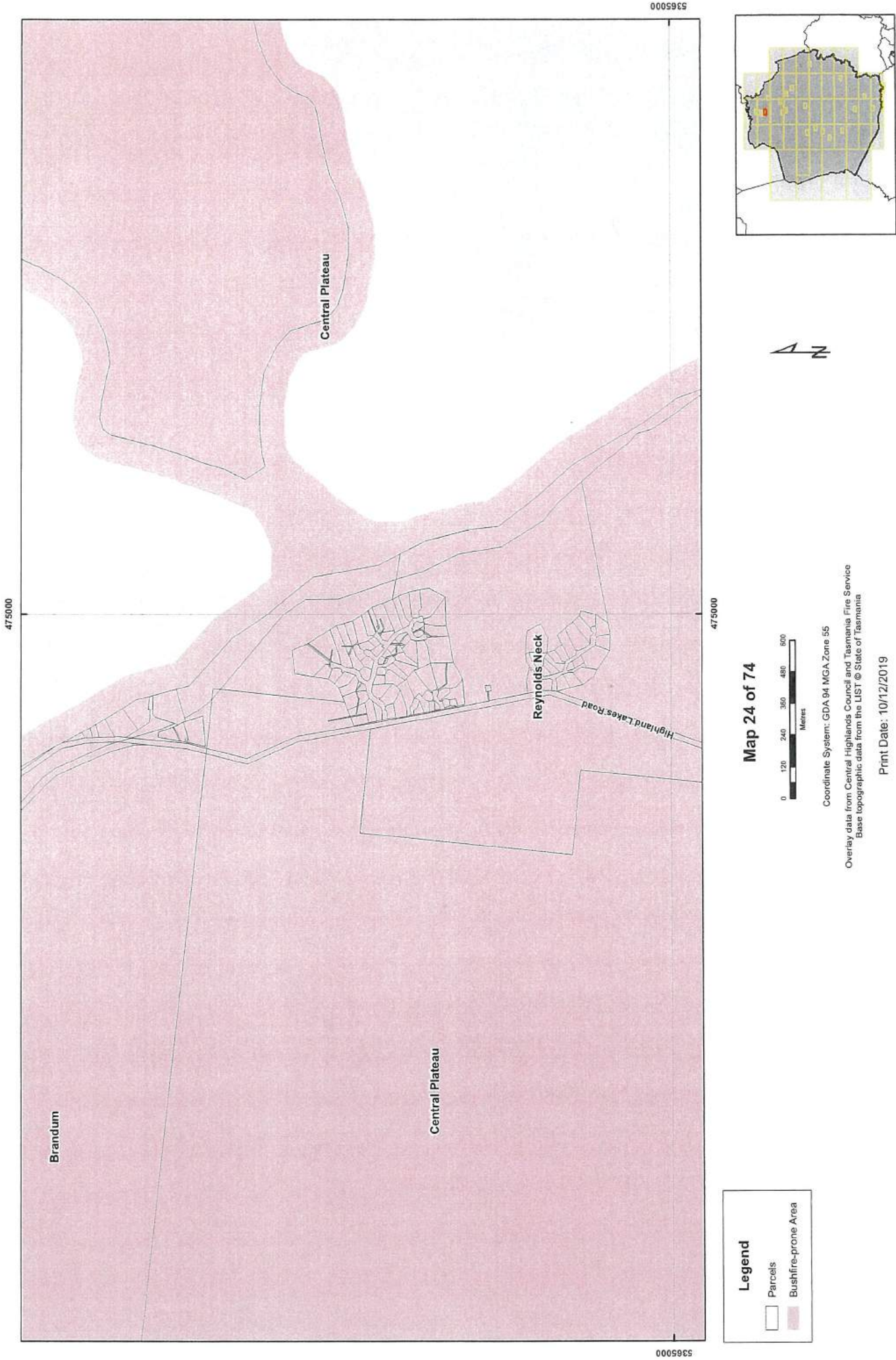


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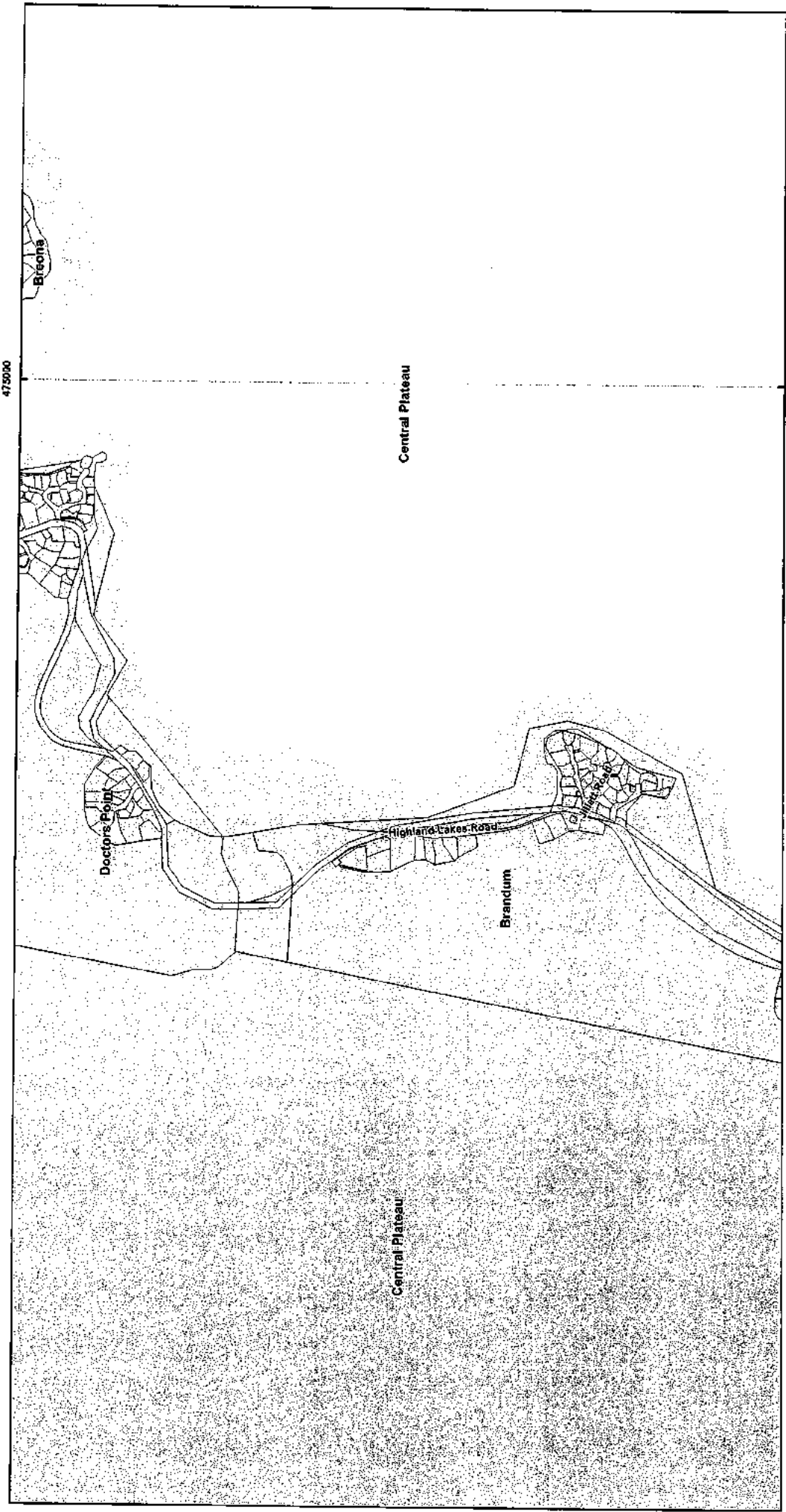
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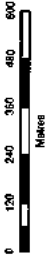
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

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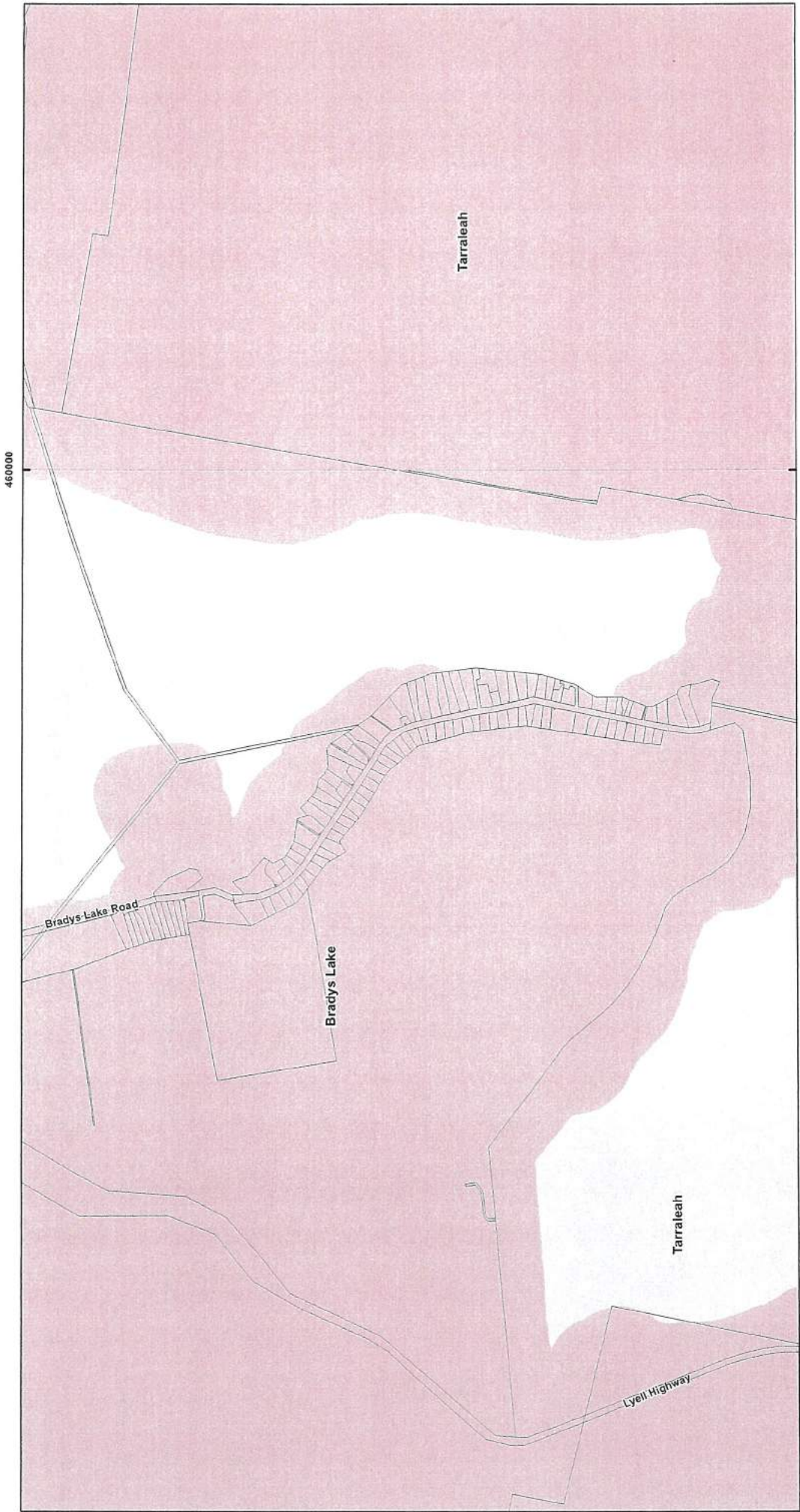


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Print Date: 10/12/2019



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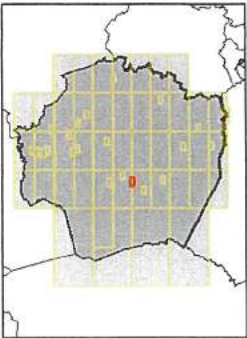
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 26 of 74

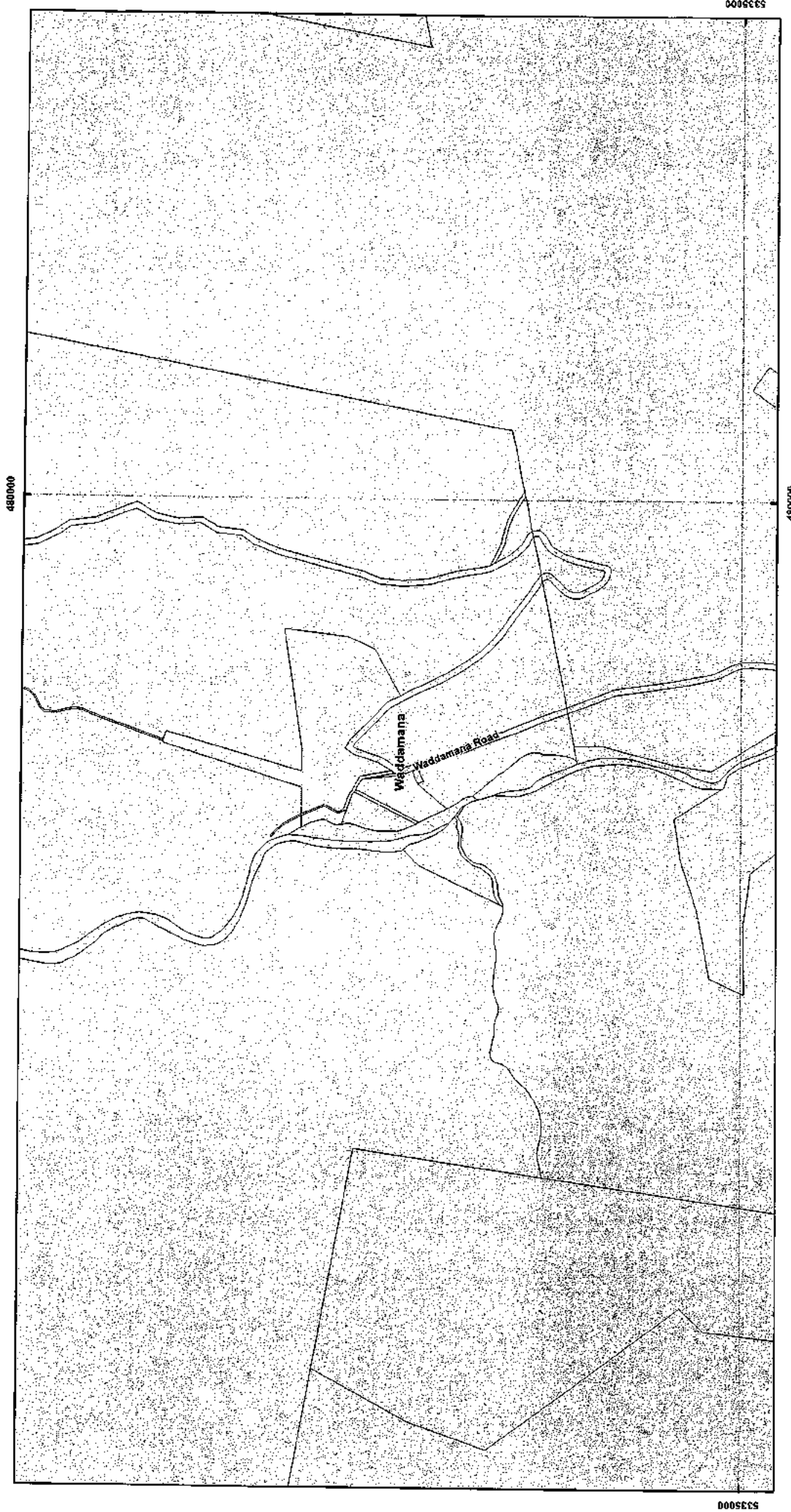


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

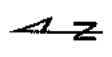
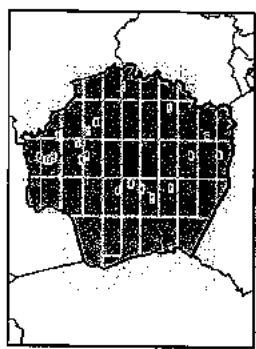
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 27 of 74

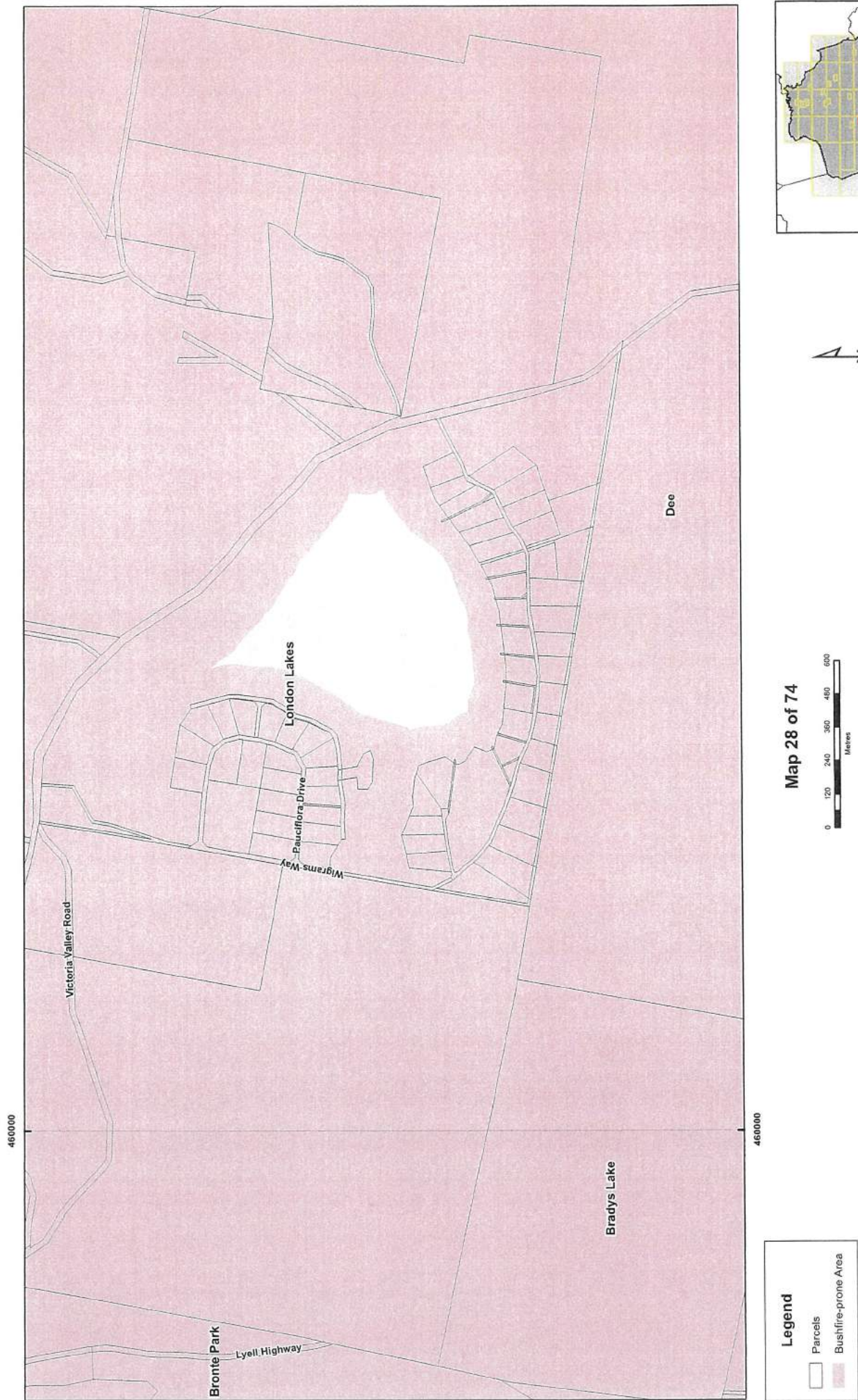


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmanian Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

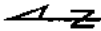
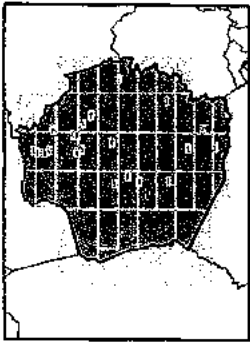
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 29 of 74

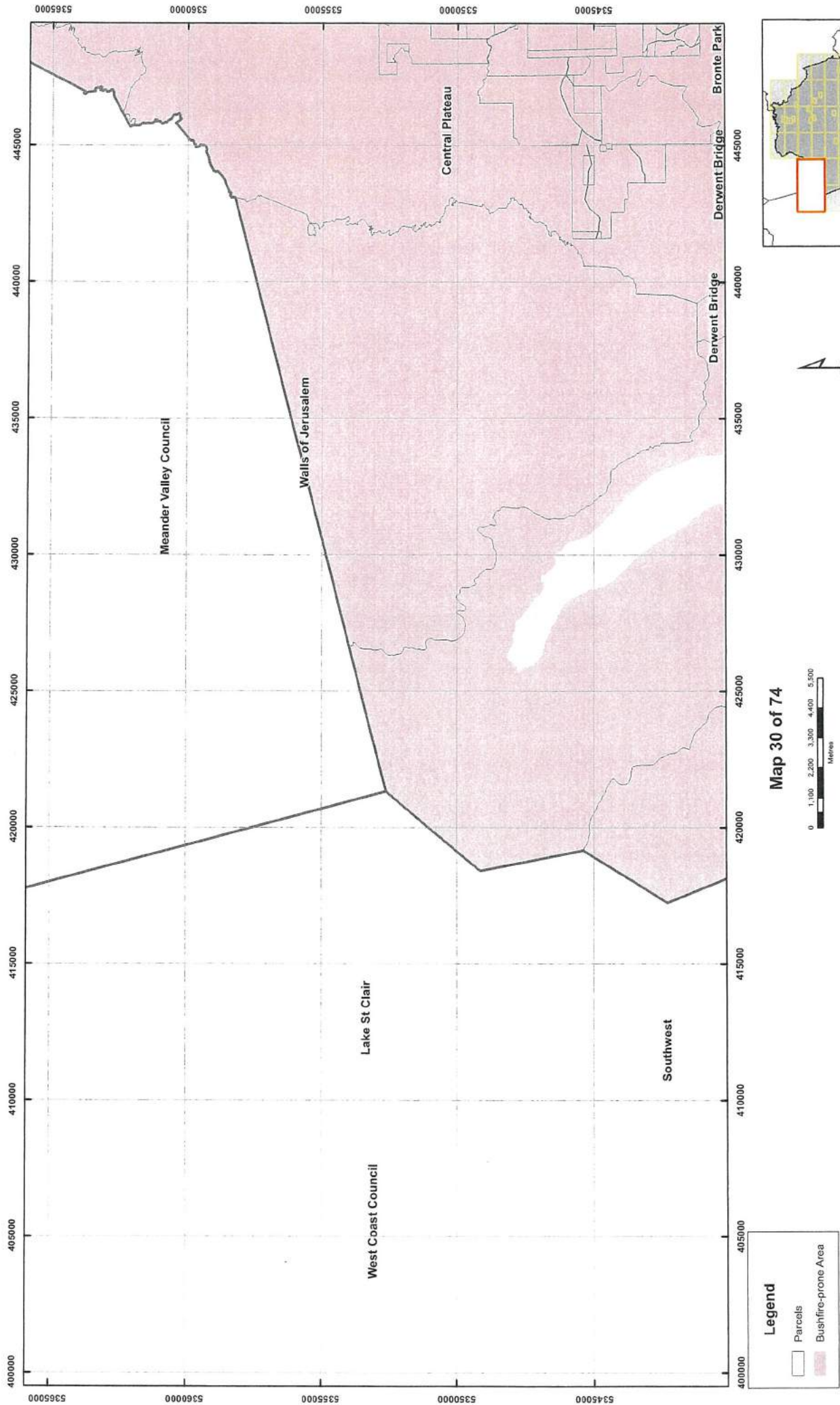


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIST of State of Tasmania

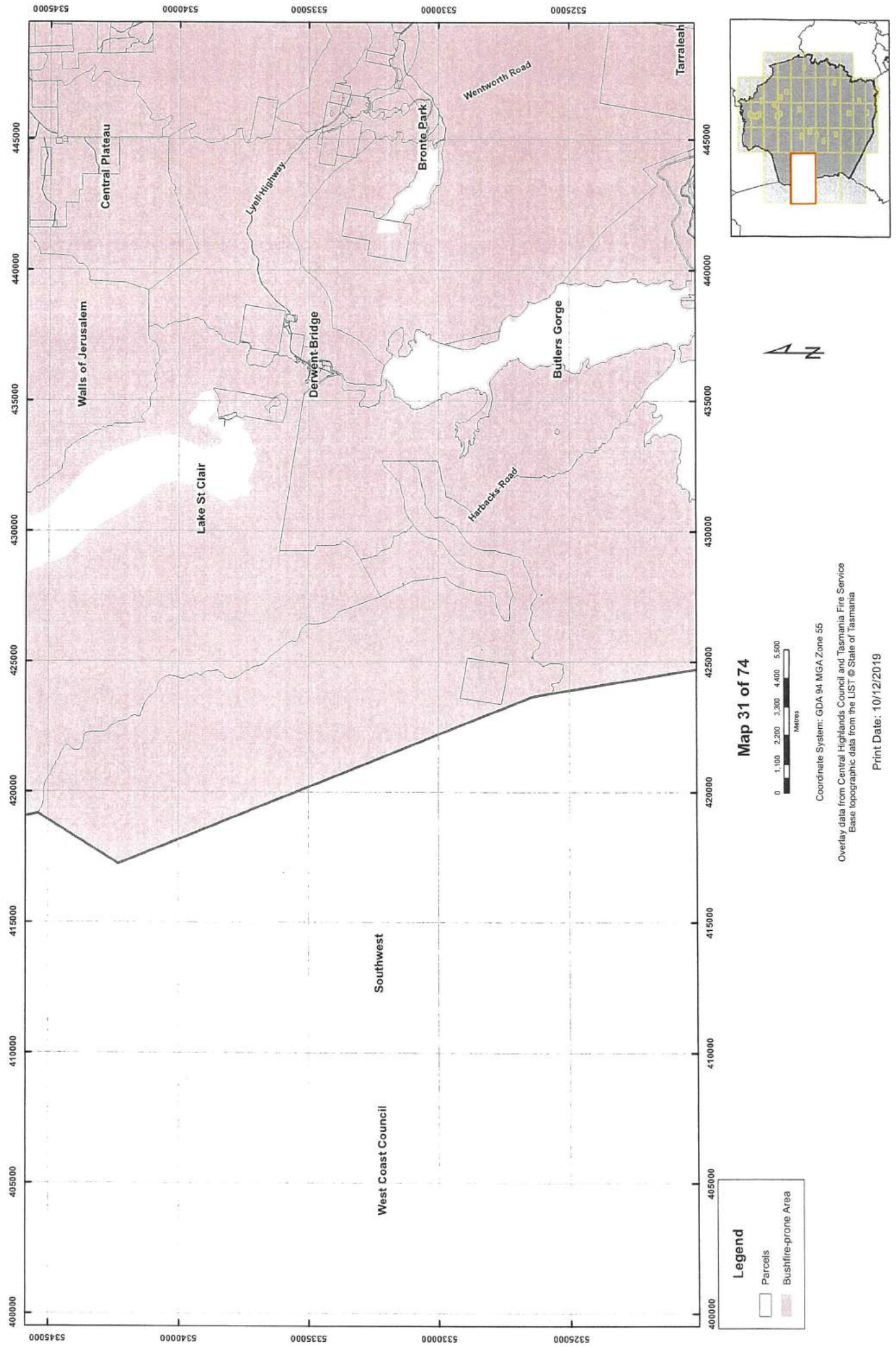
Print Date: 10/12/2019



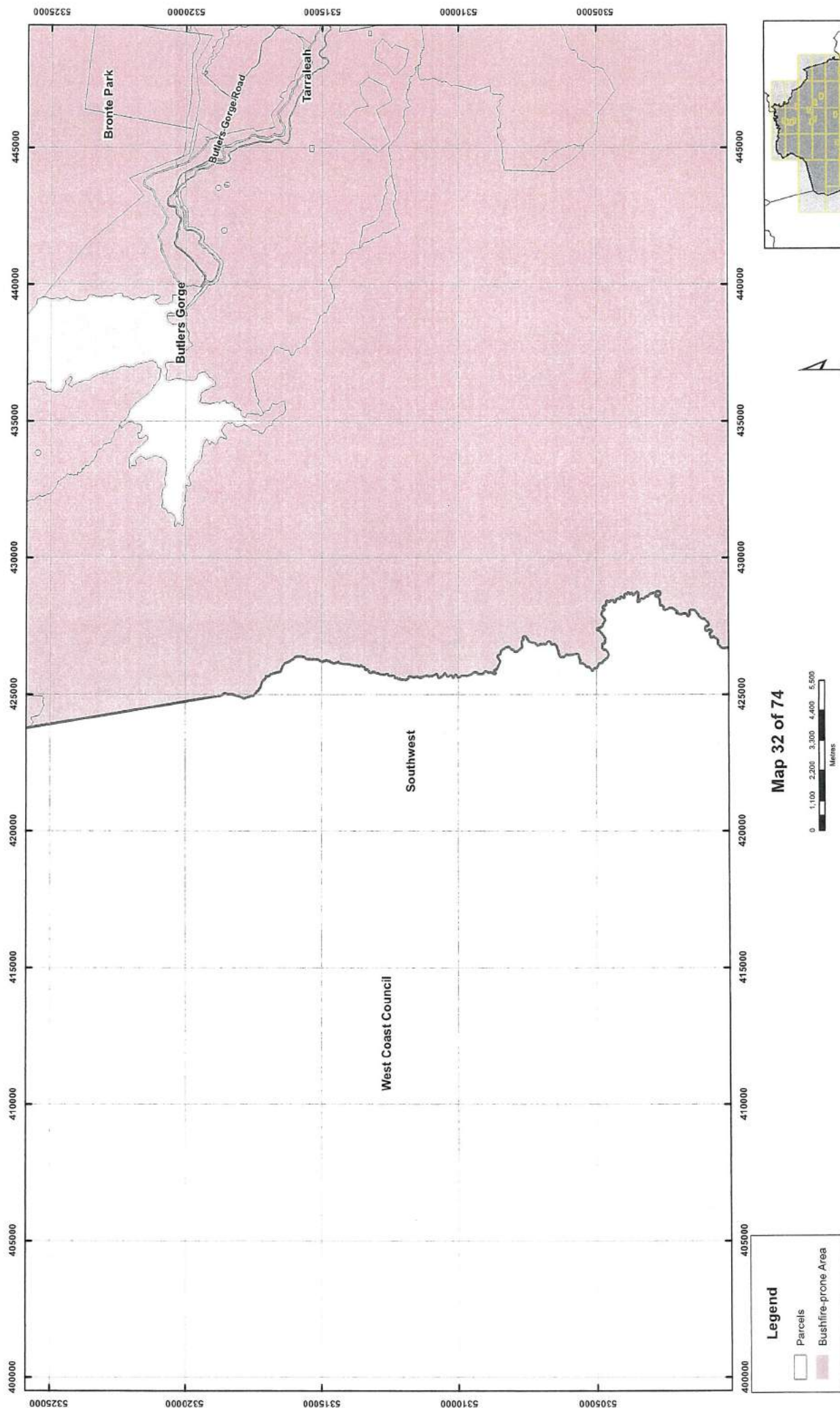
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



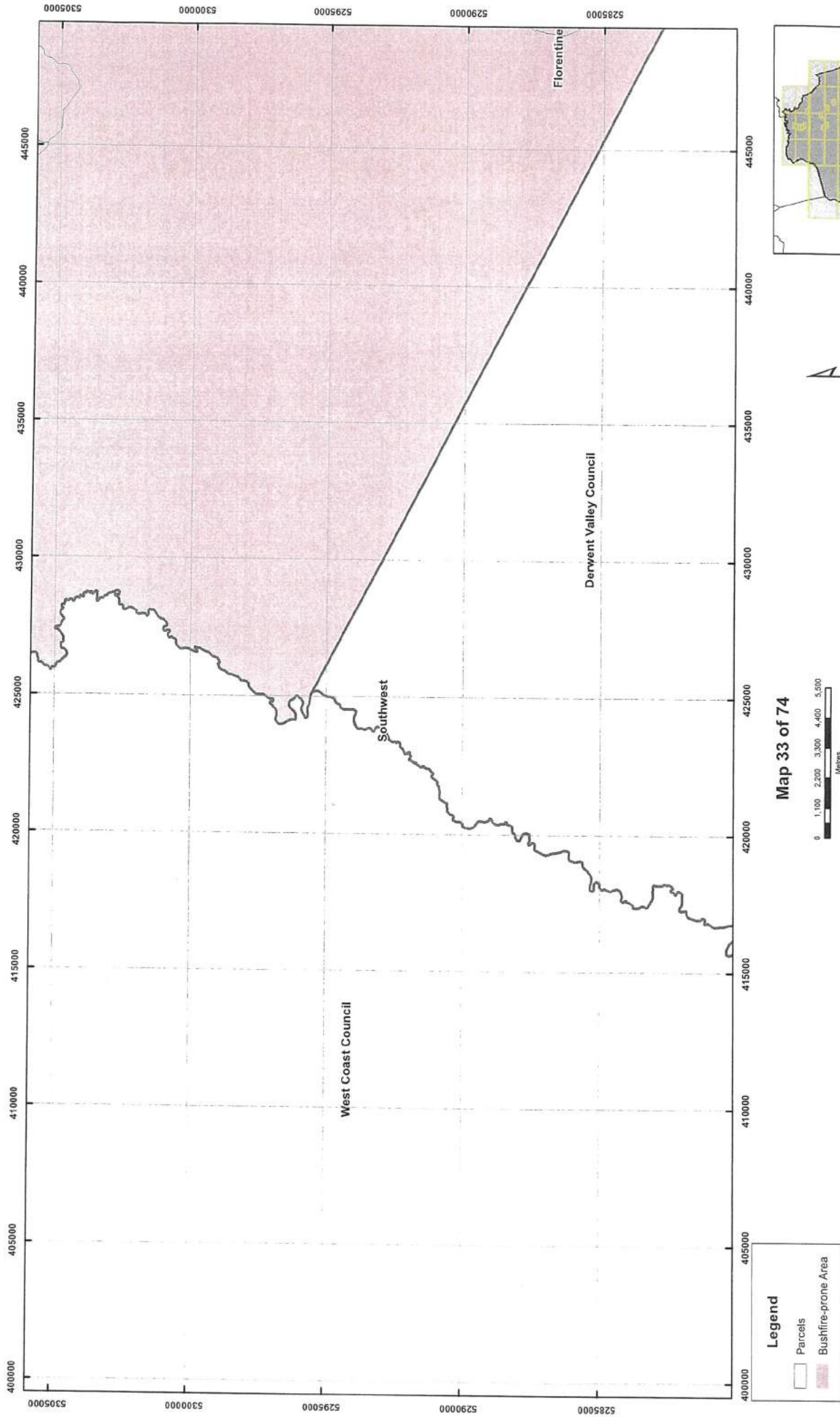
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



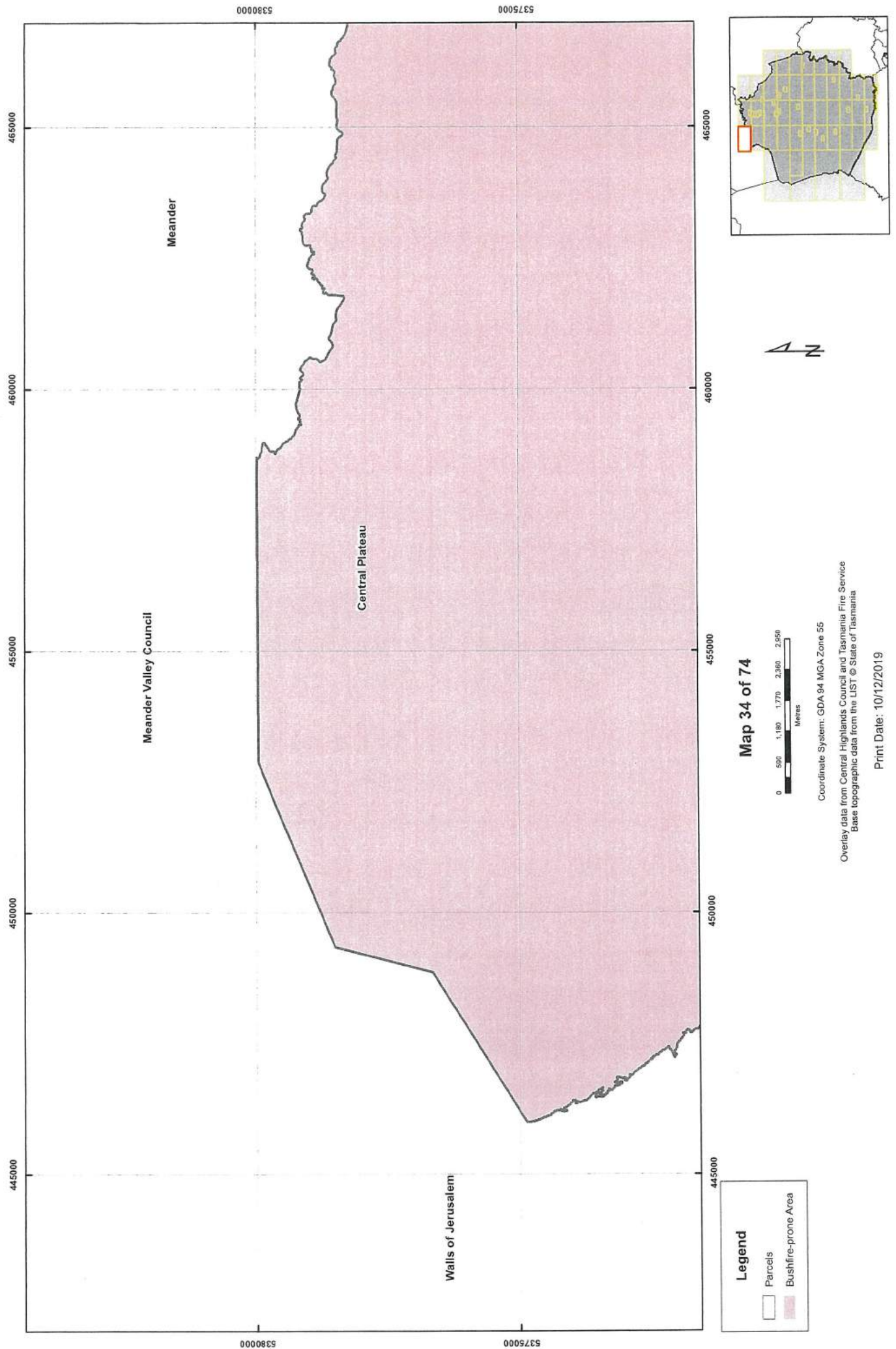
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



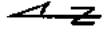
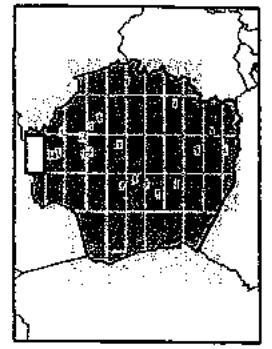
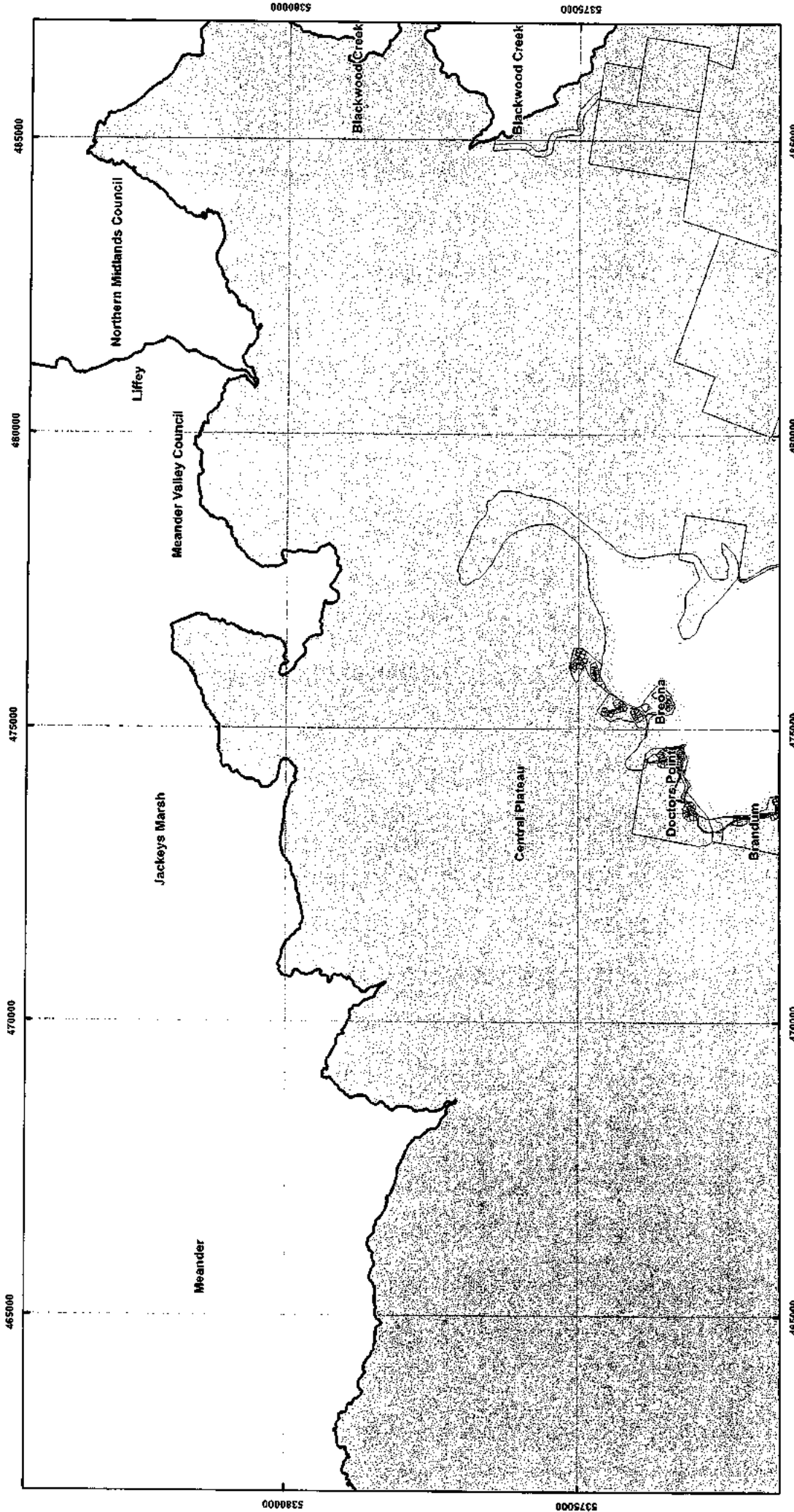
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



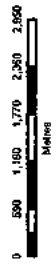
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



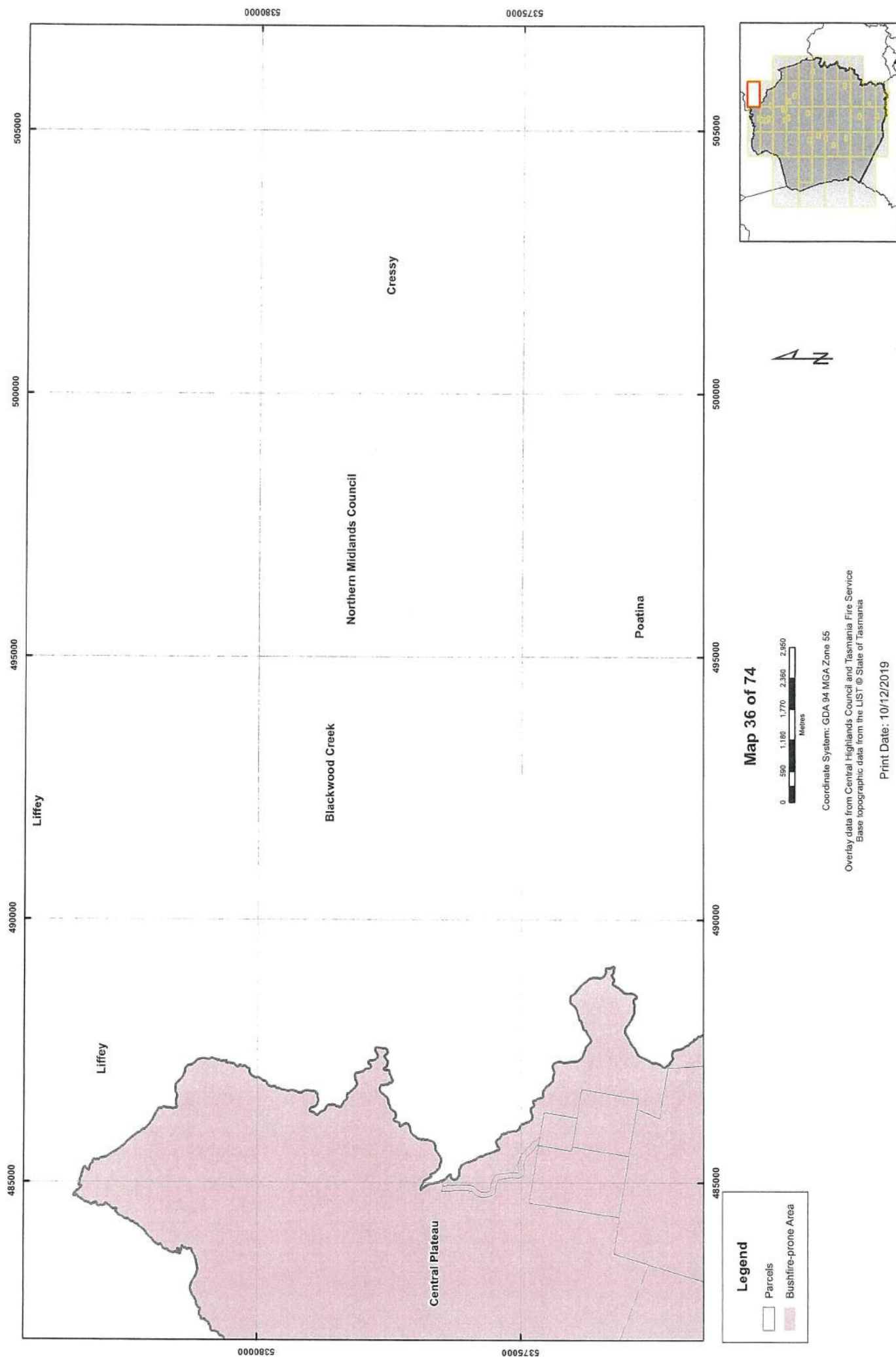
Map 35 of 74



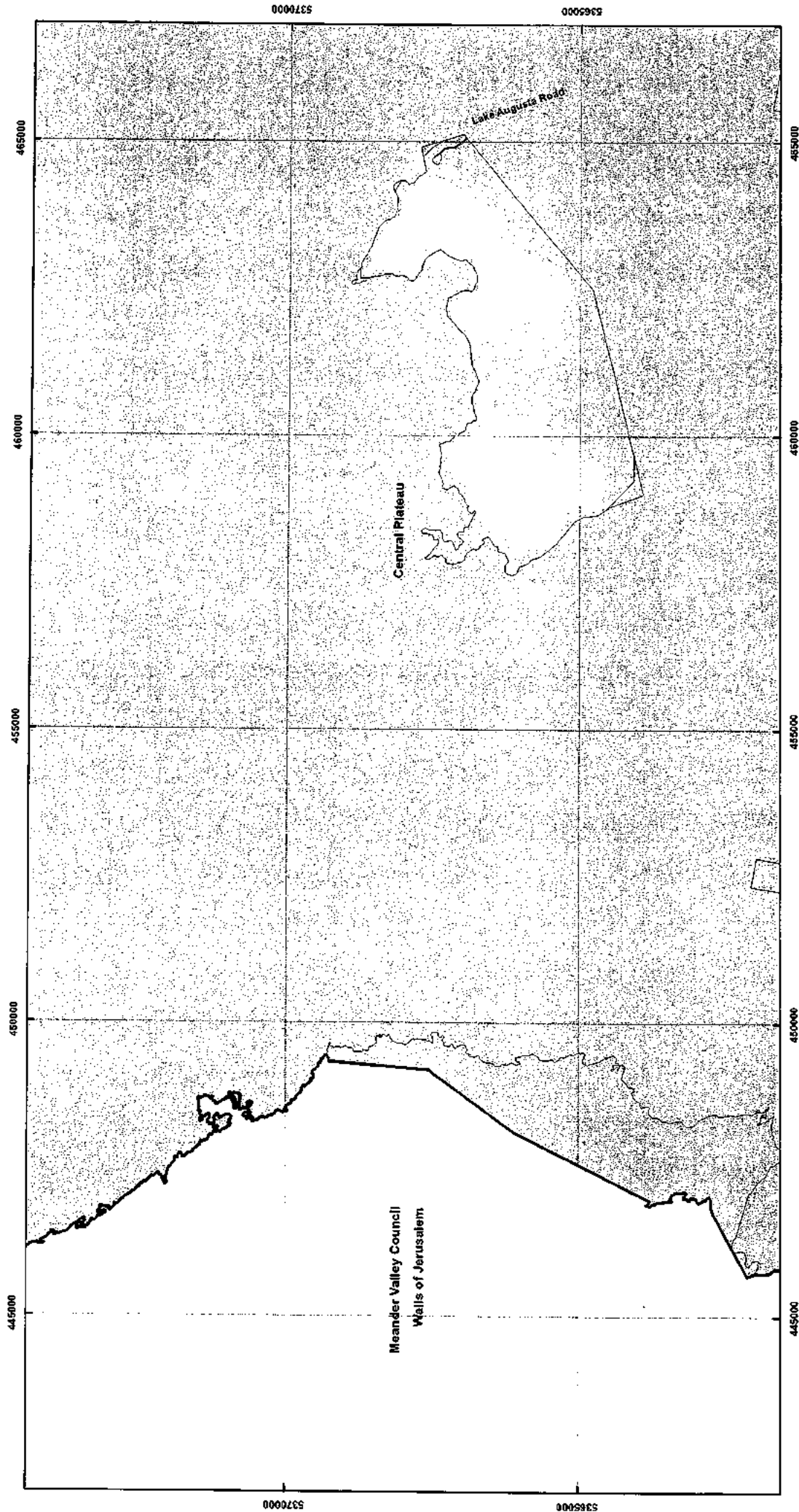
Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST @ State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

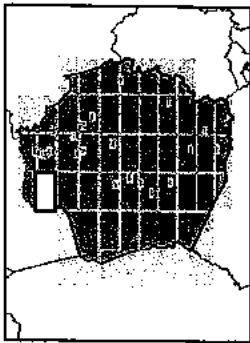
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 37 of 74

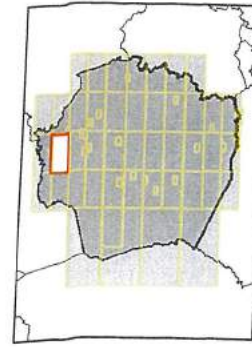
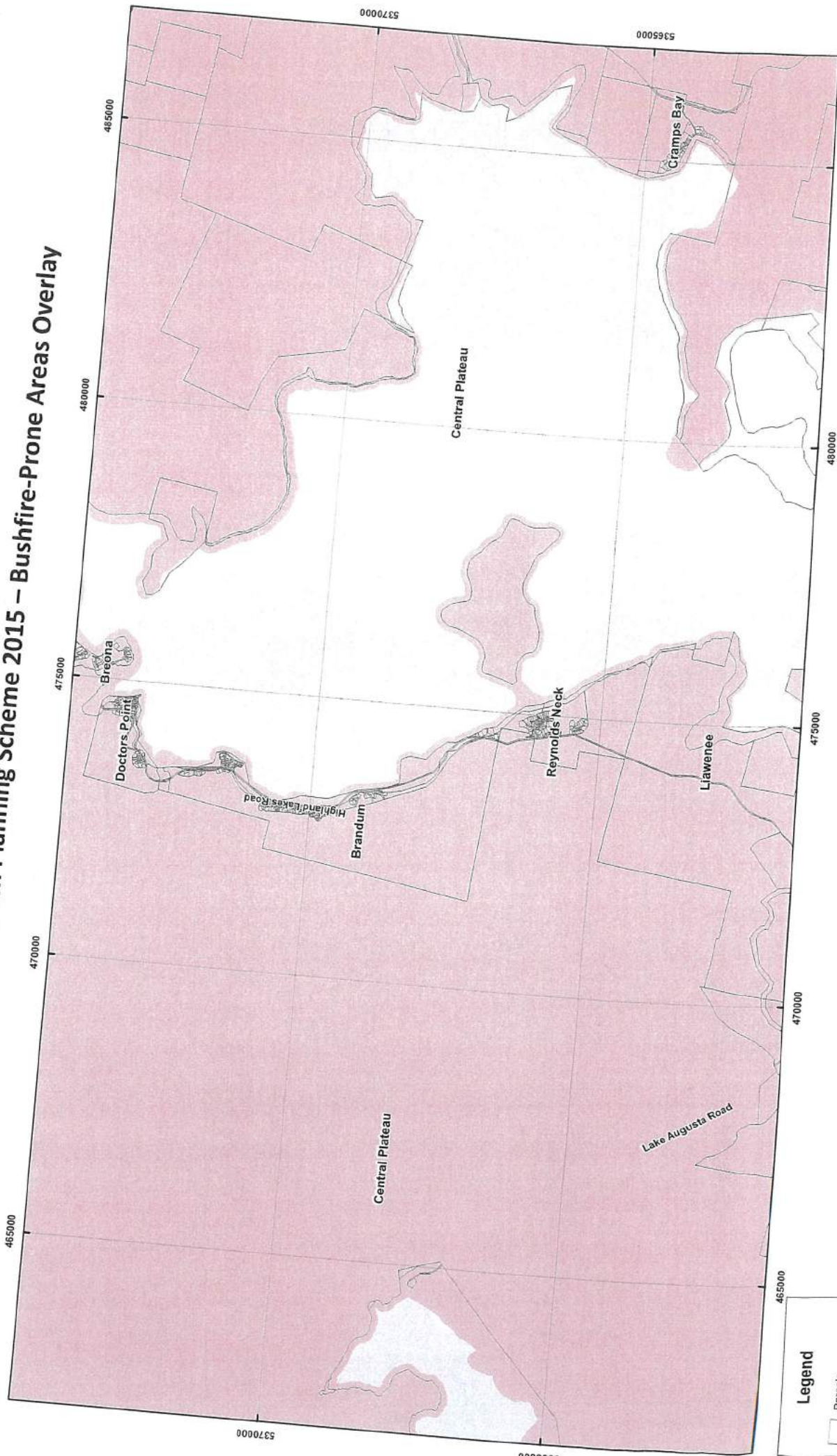


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

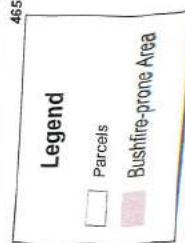
Print Date: 10/12/2019



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



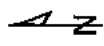
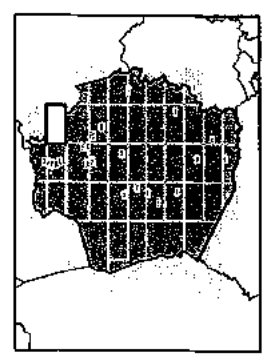
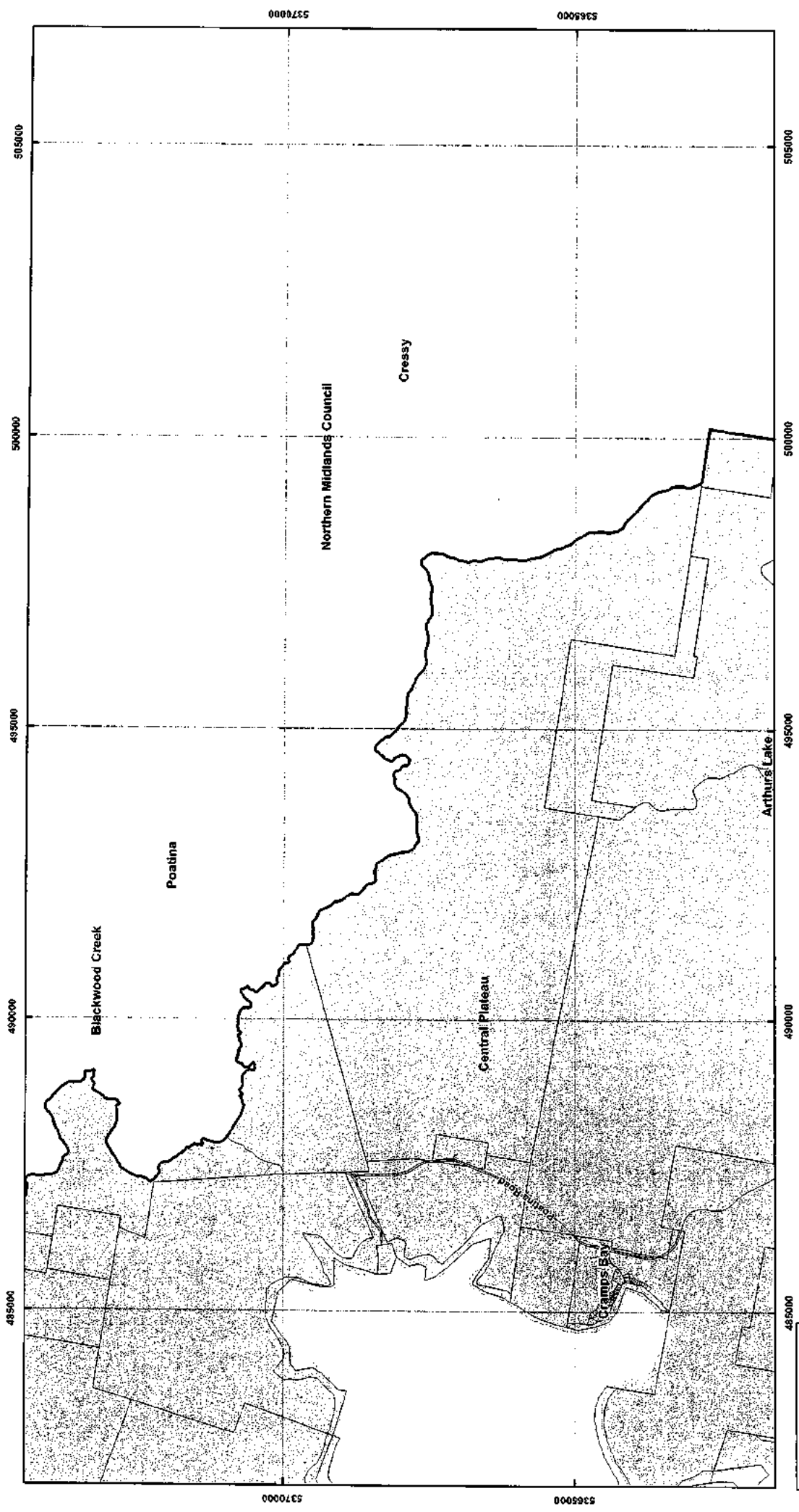
Map 38 of 74



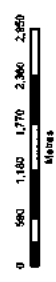
Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Map 39 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Services
 Base topographic data from the UST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Legend

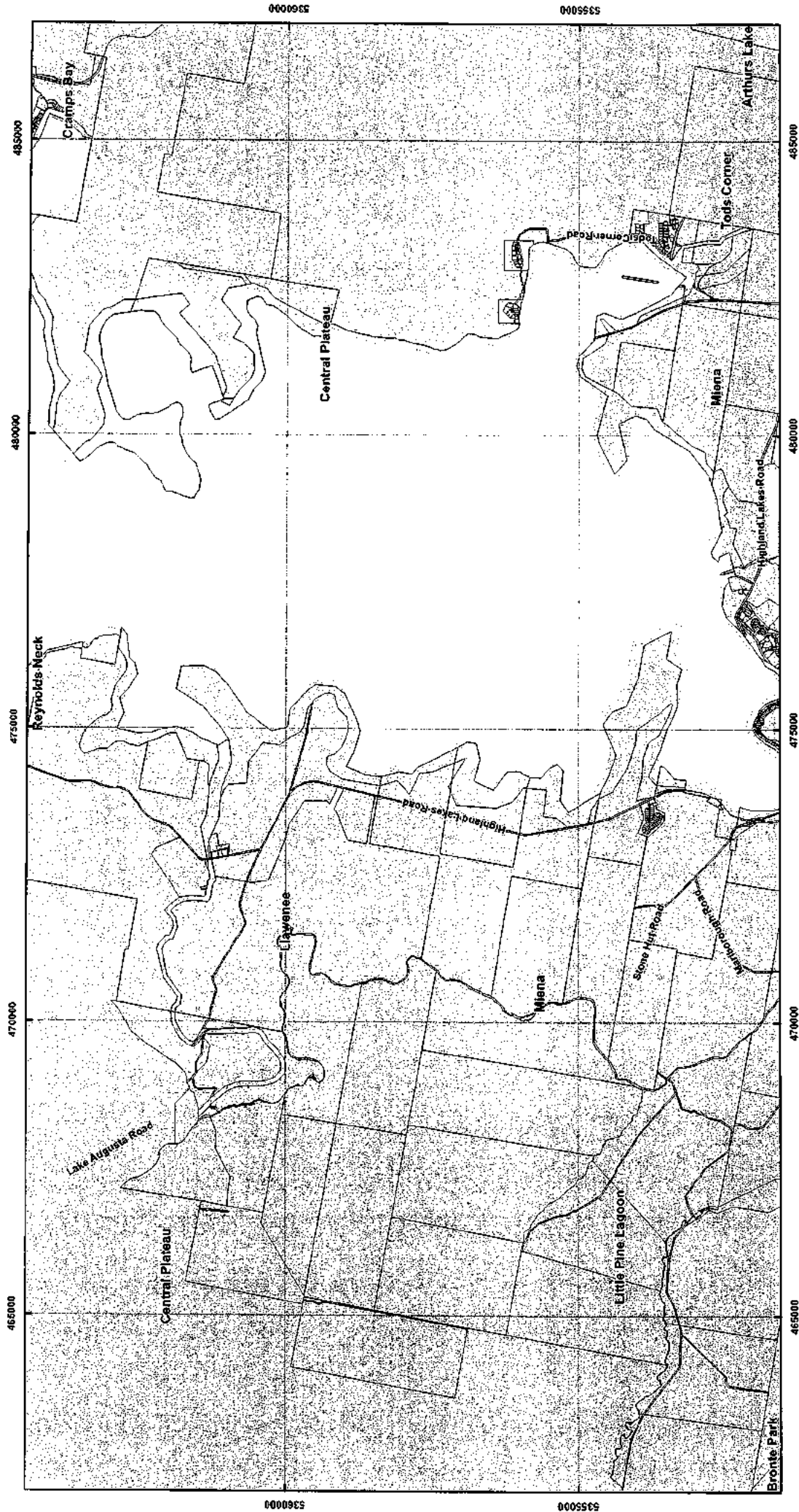
Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

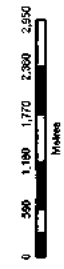
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 -- Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

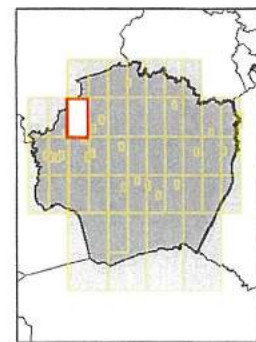
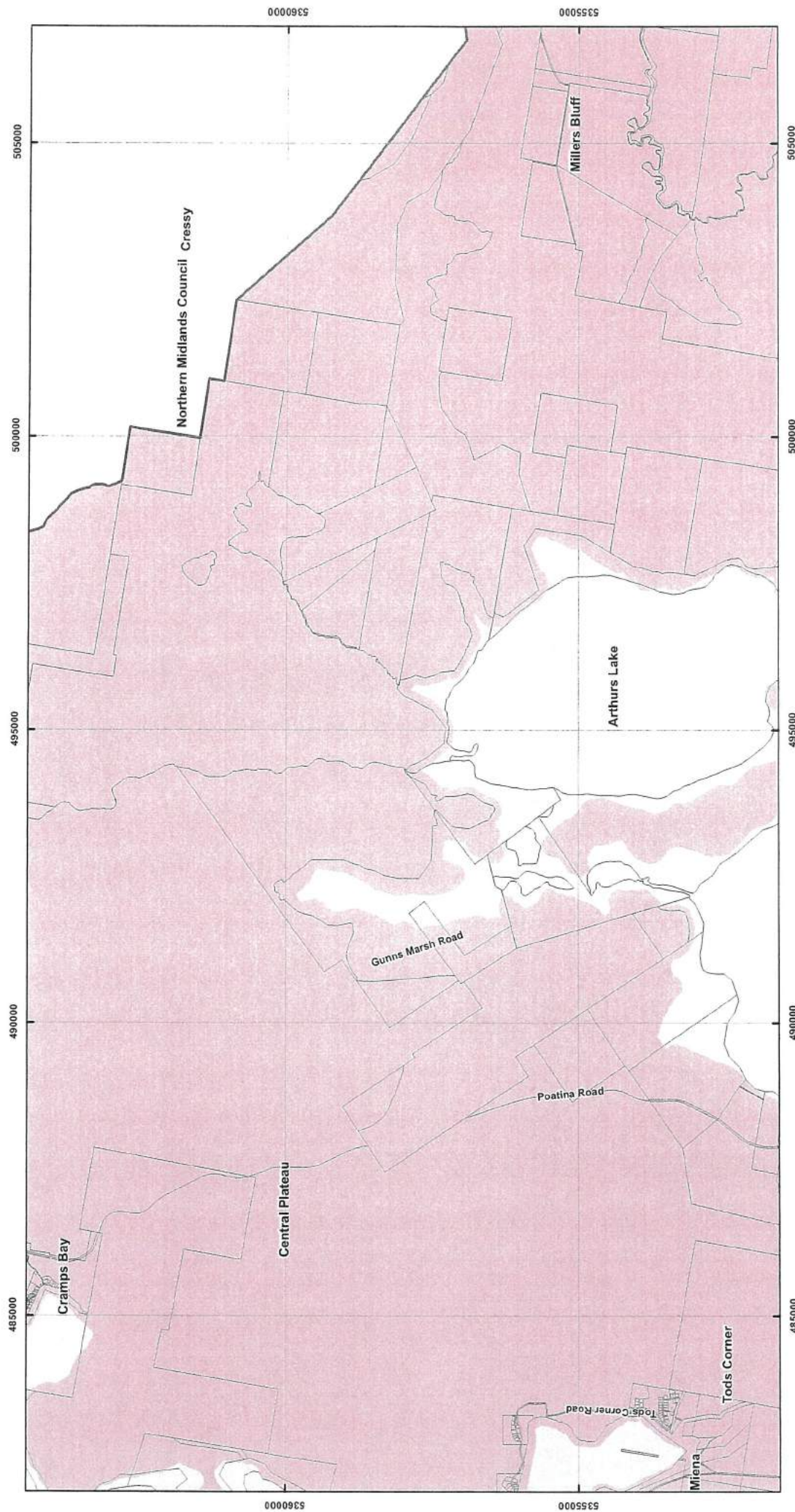
Print Date: 10/12/2019

Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania

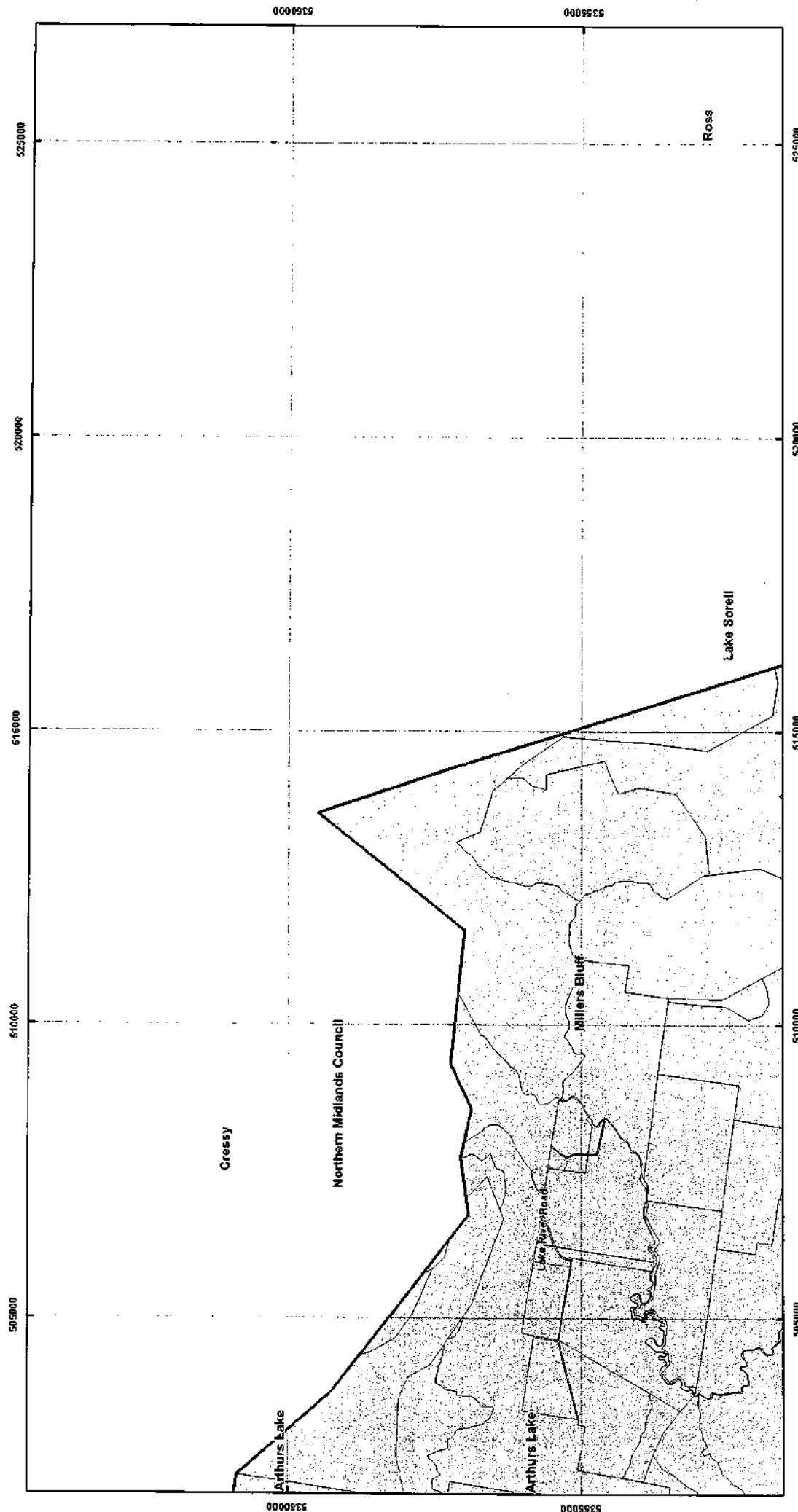
Print Date: 10/12/2019

Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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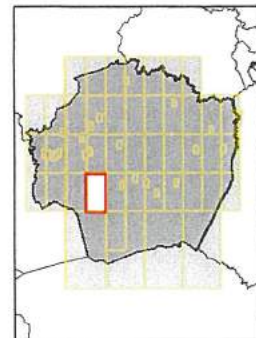
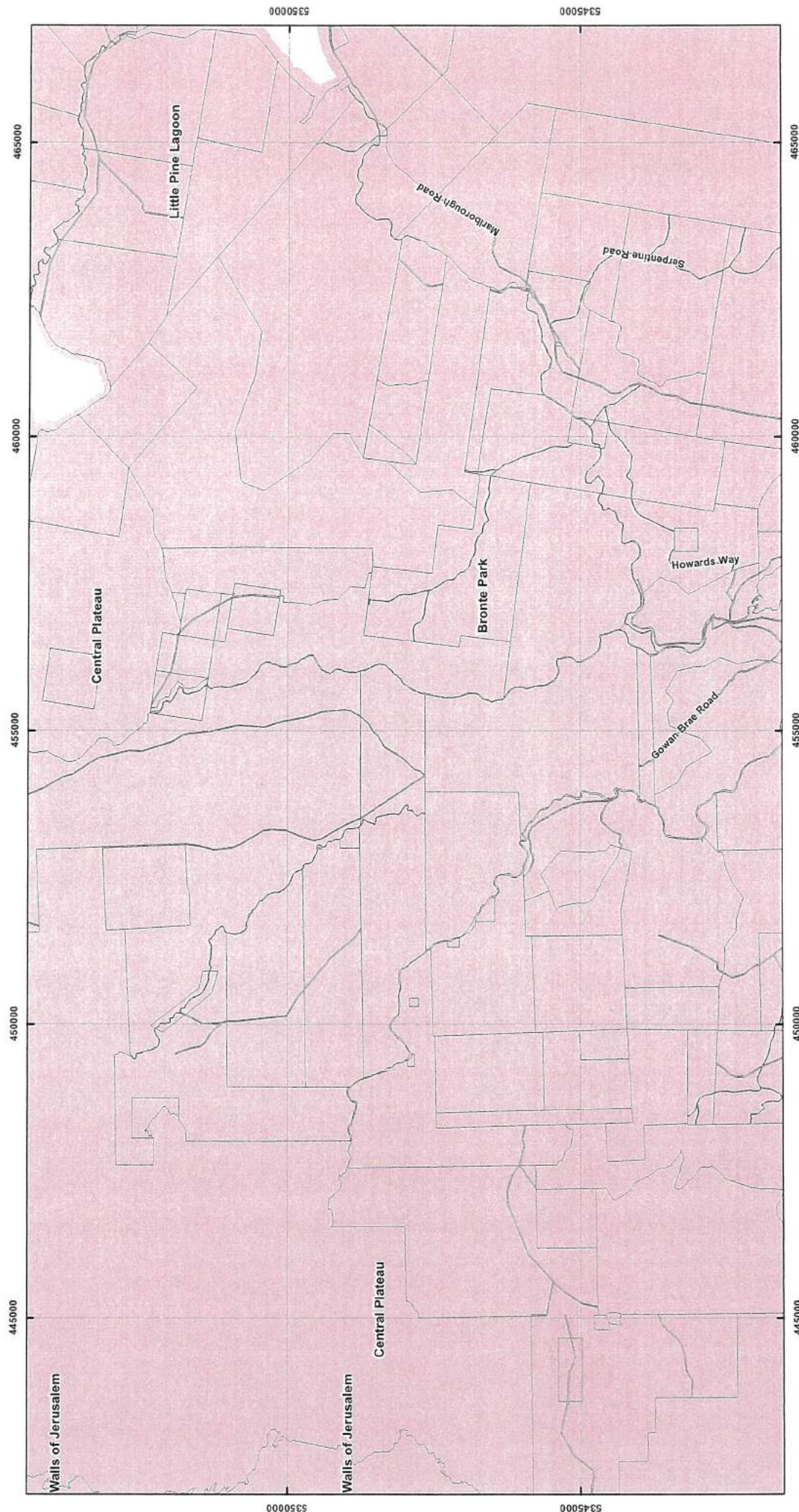


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55

Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

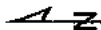
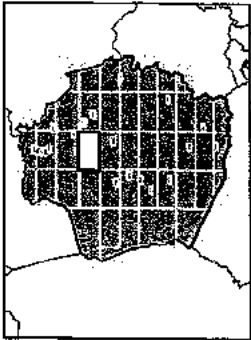
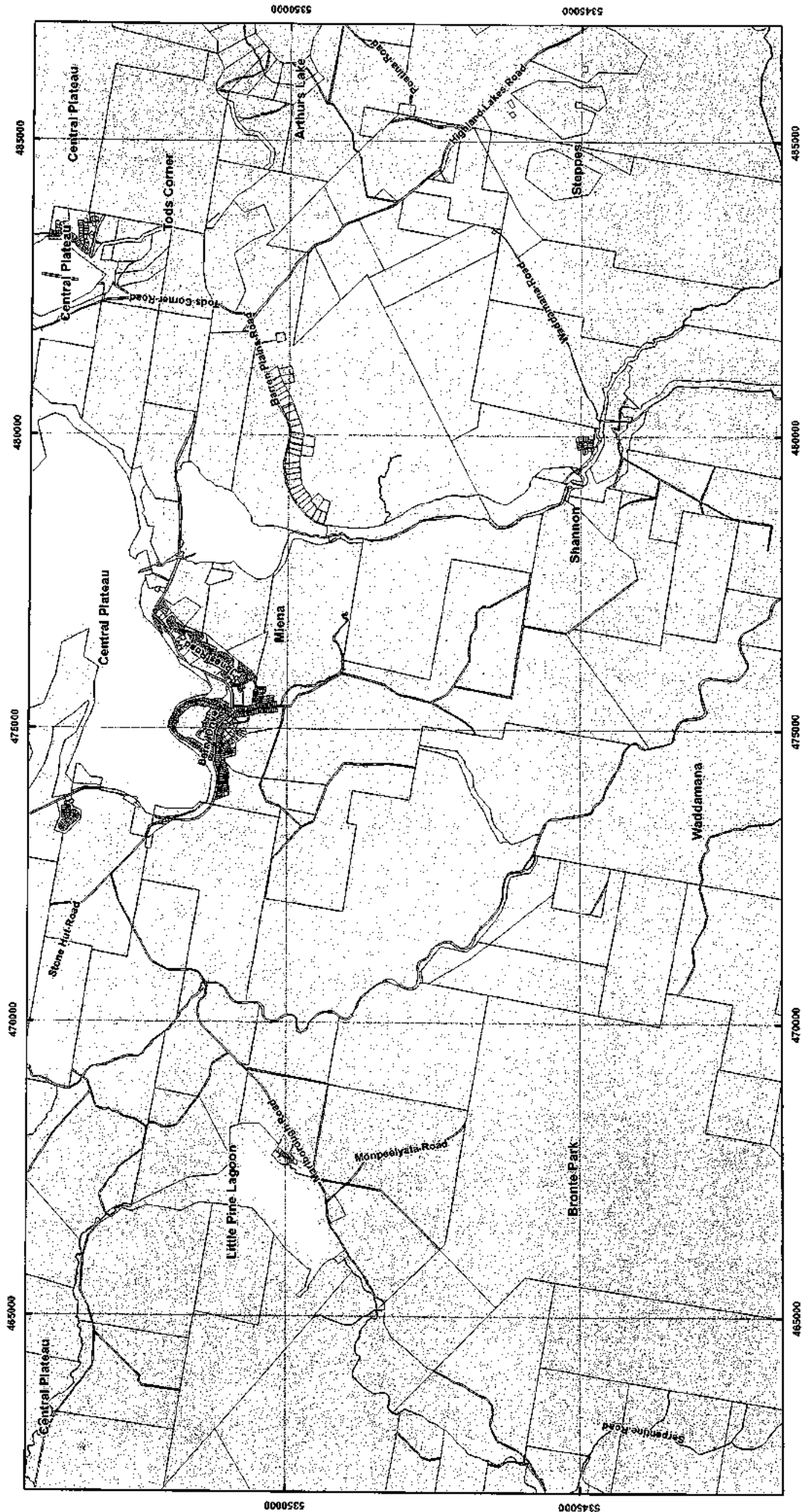
Print Date: 10/12/2019

Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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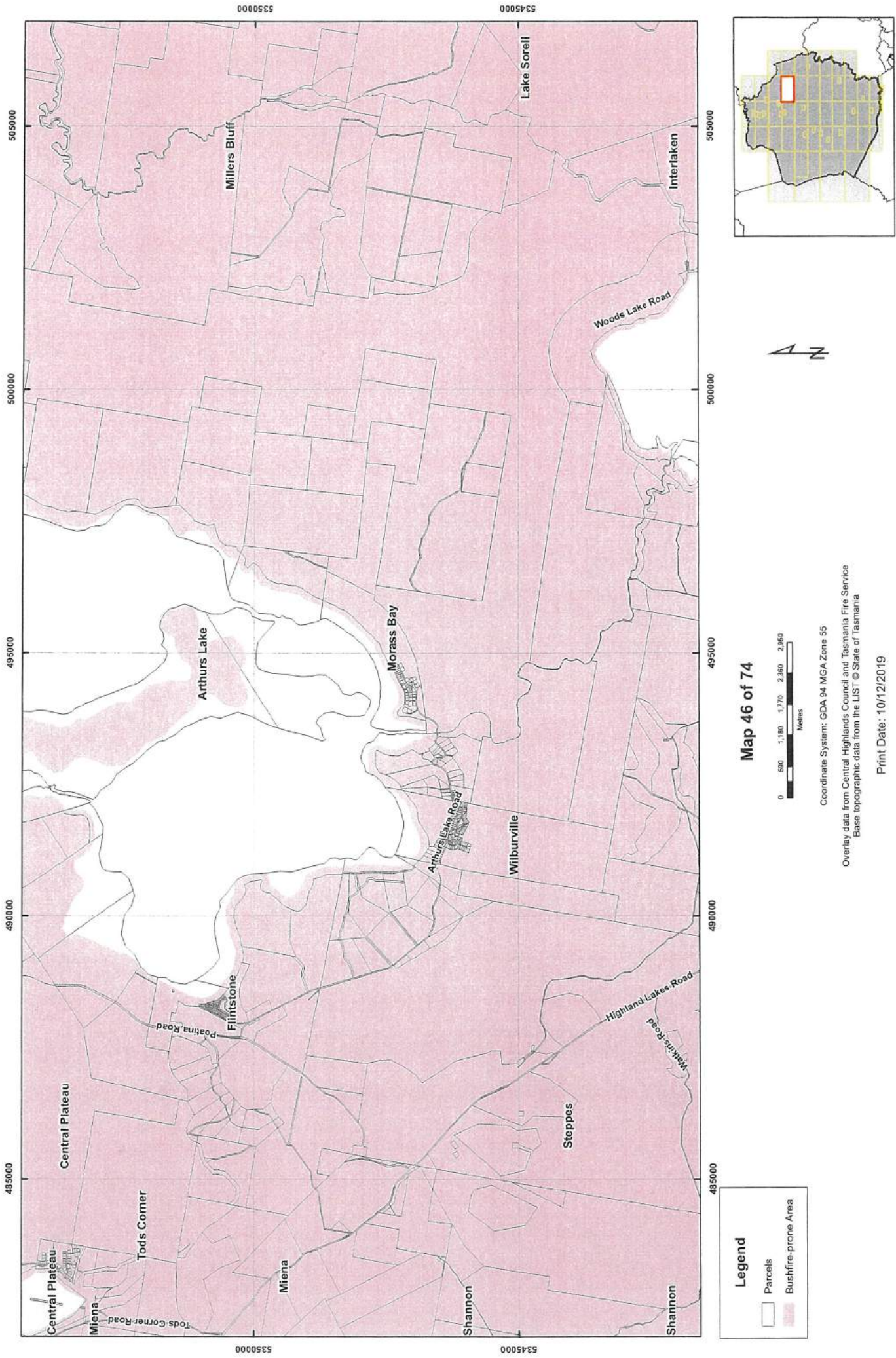
Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the UST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

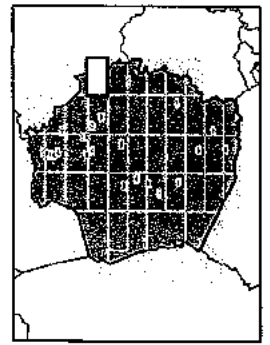
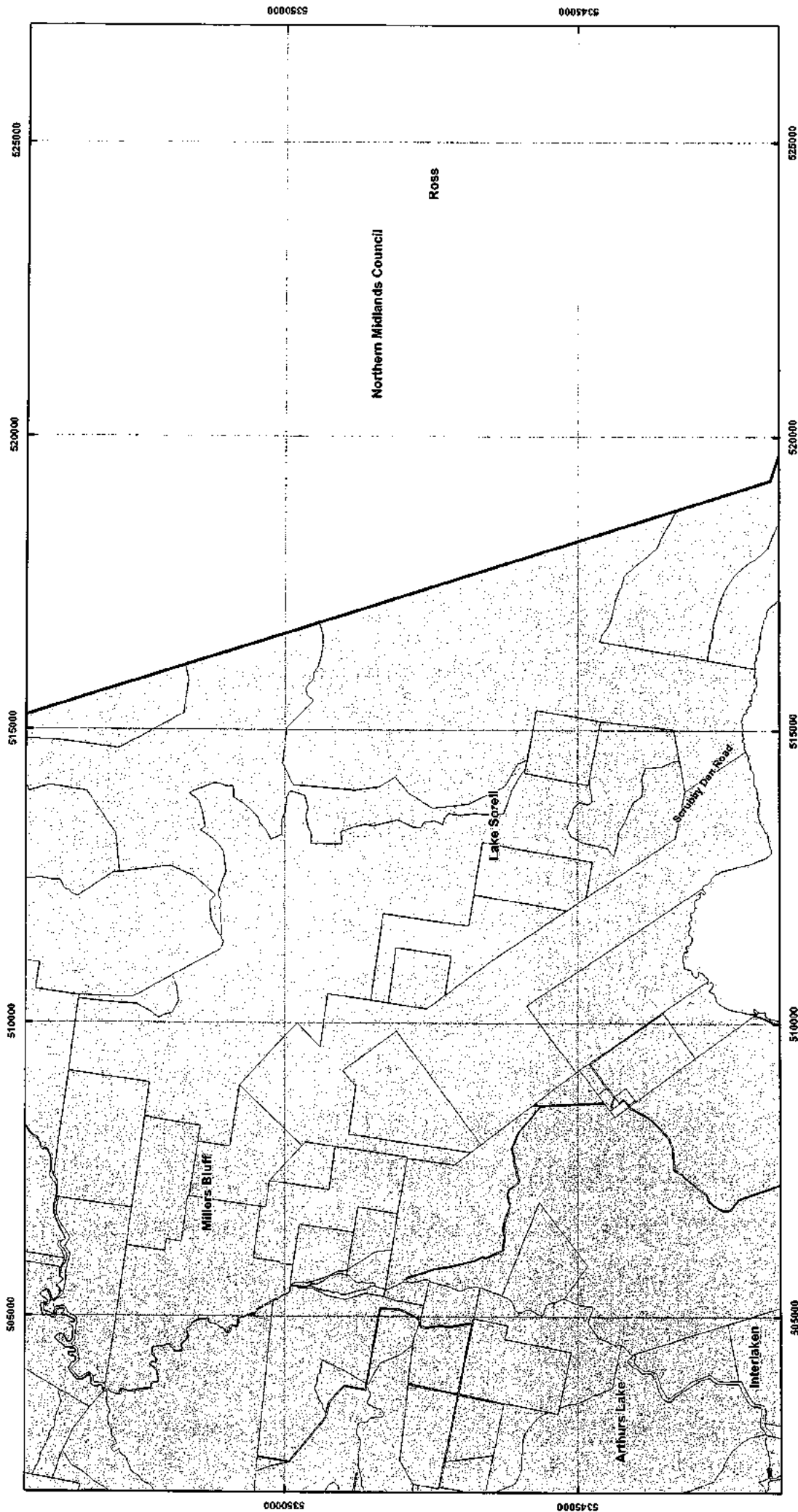
Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

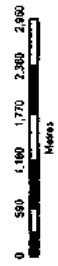
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



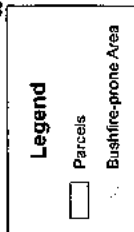
Map 47 of 74



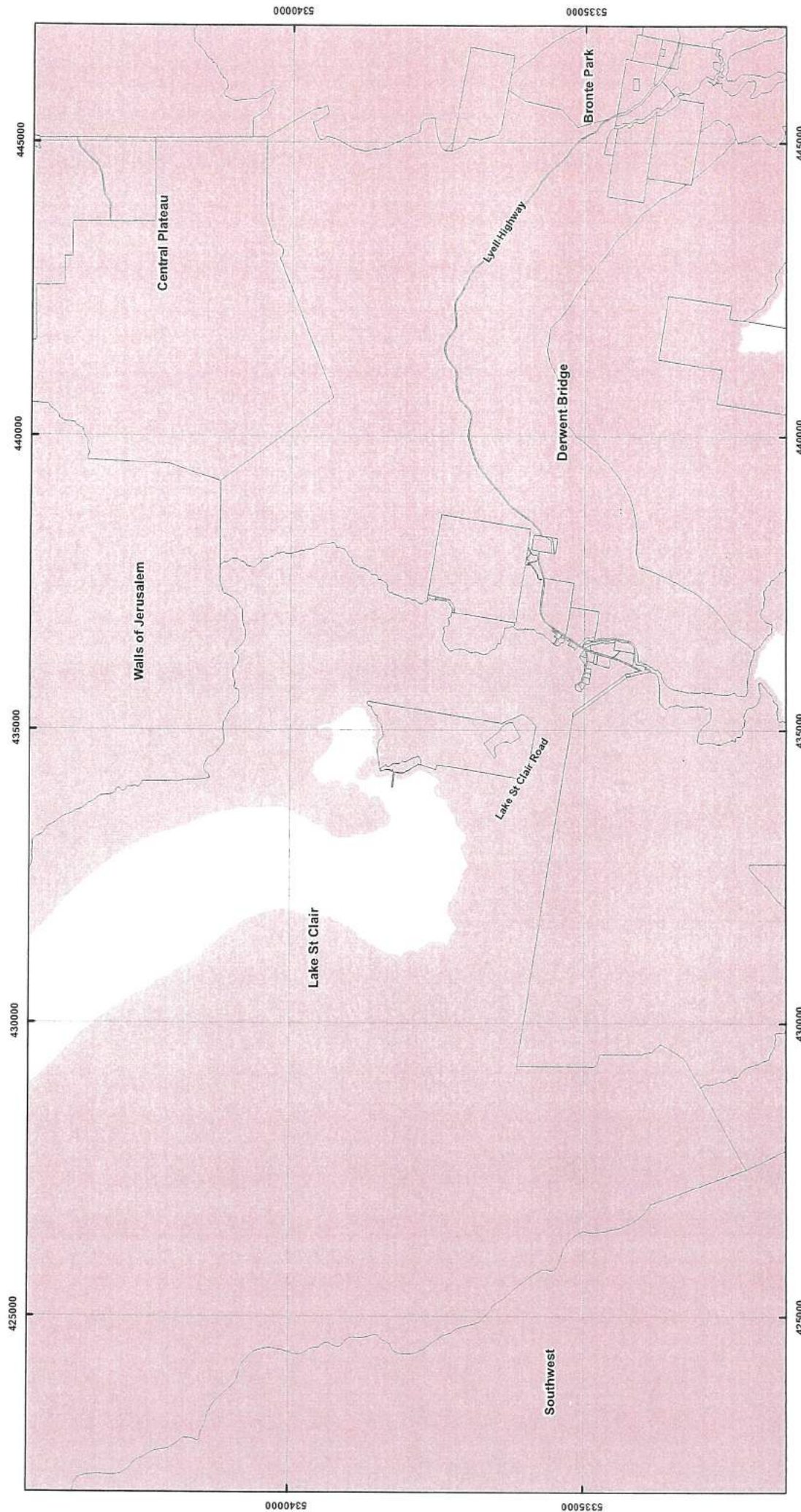
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Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



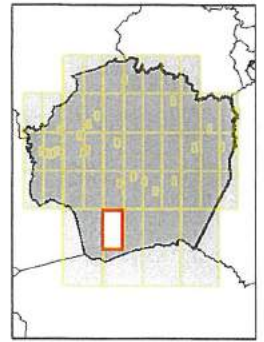
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

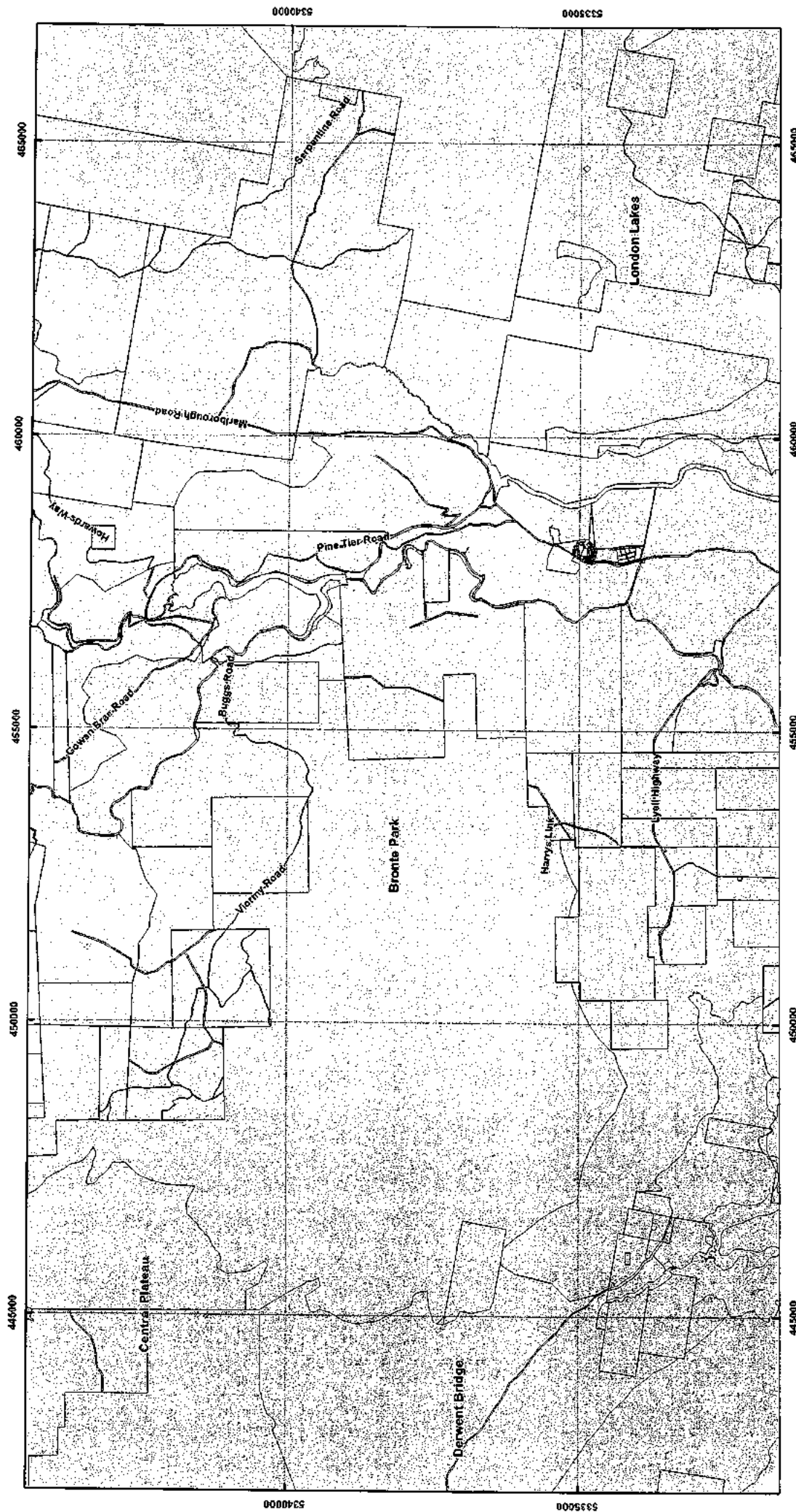
Map 48 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

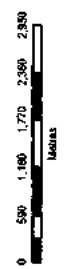
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

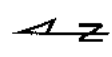
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Map 49 of 74

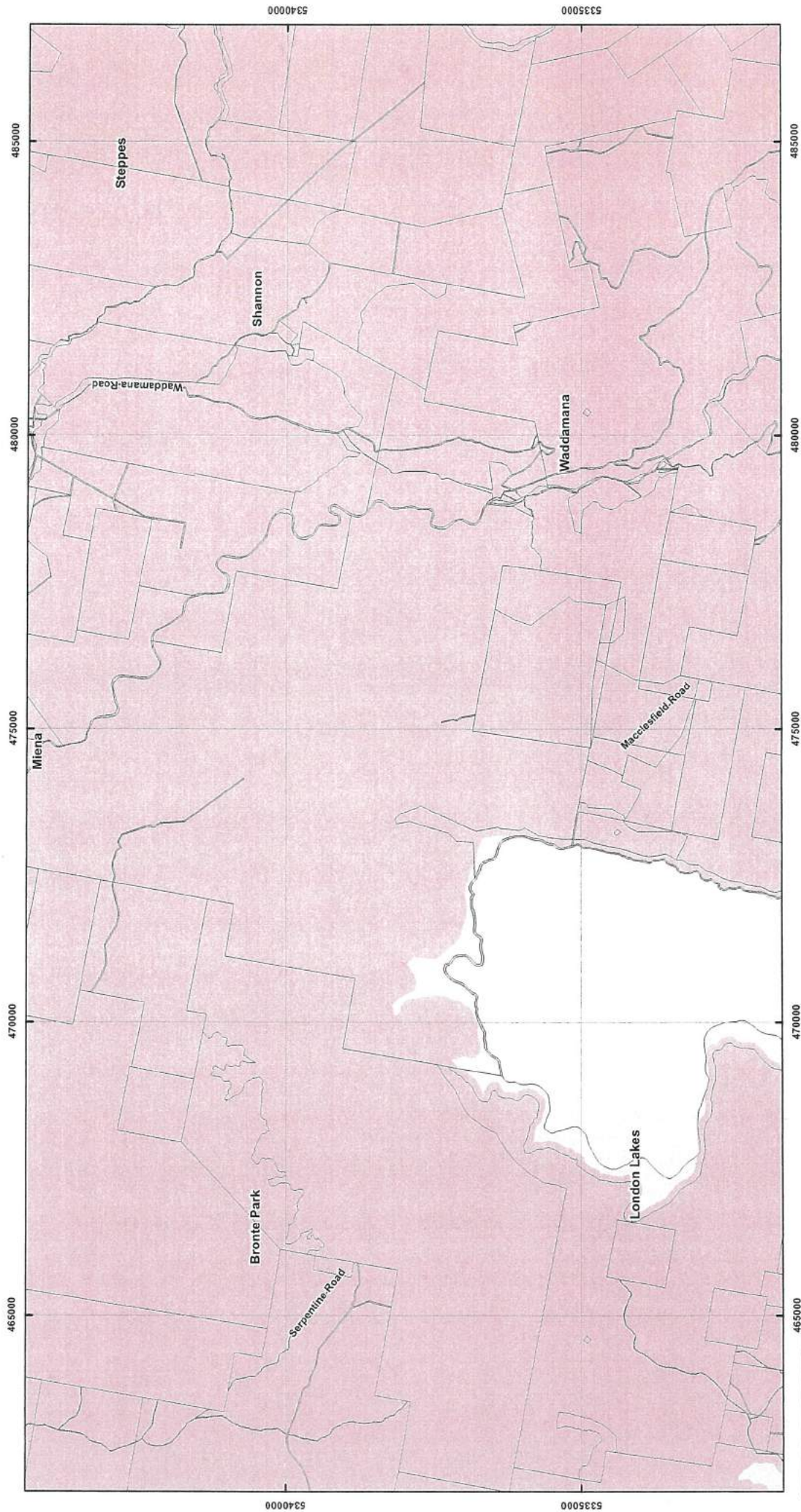


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the UST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



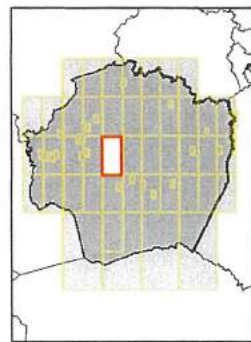
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

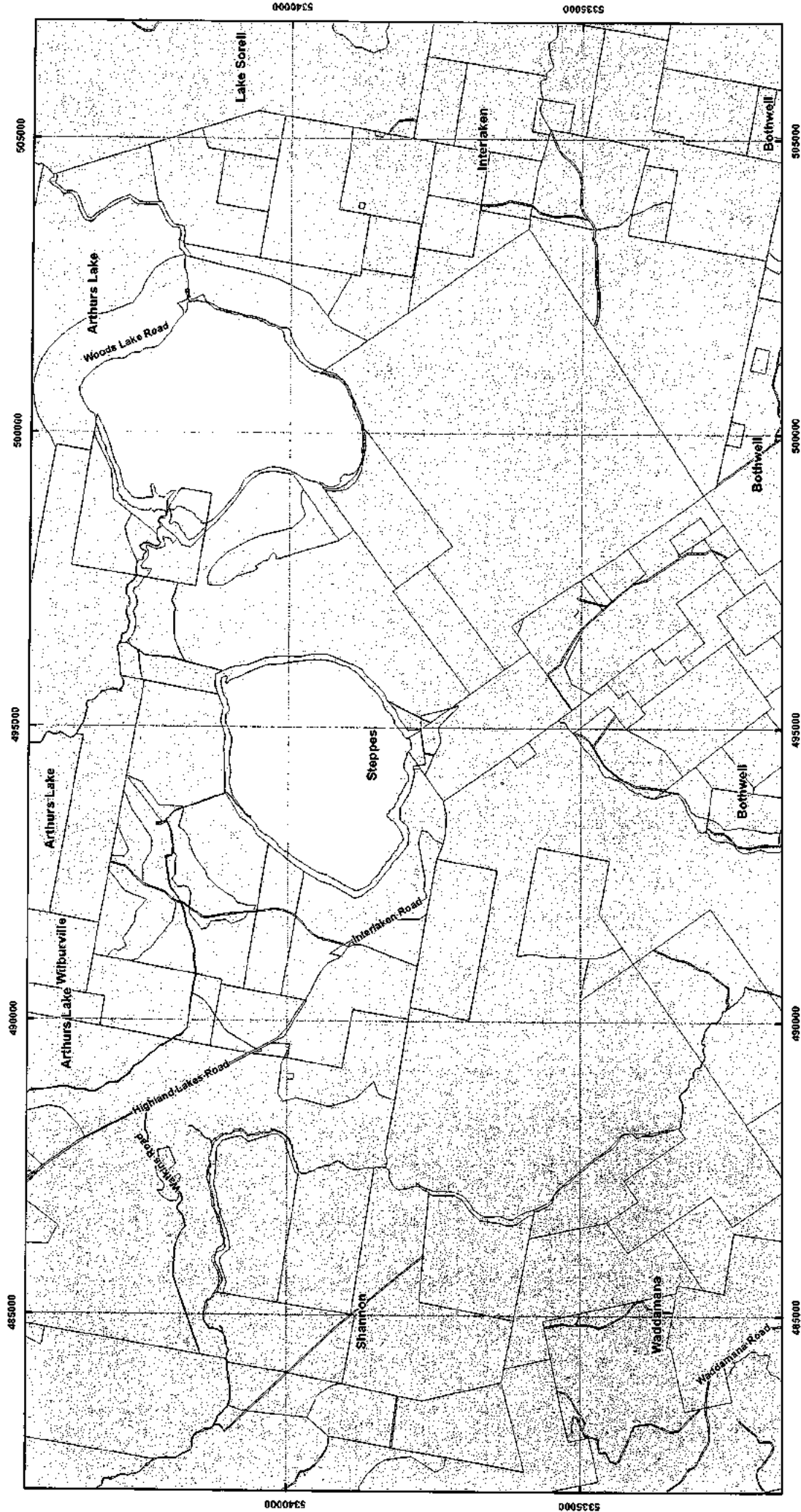
Map 50 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

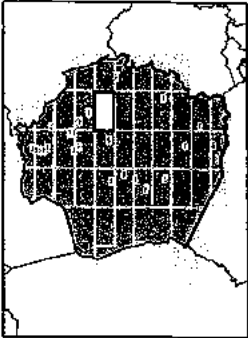


Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

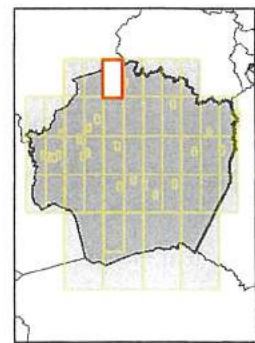
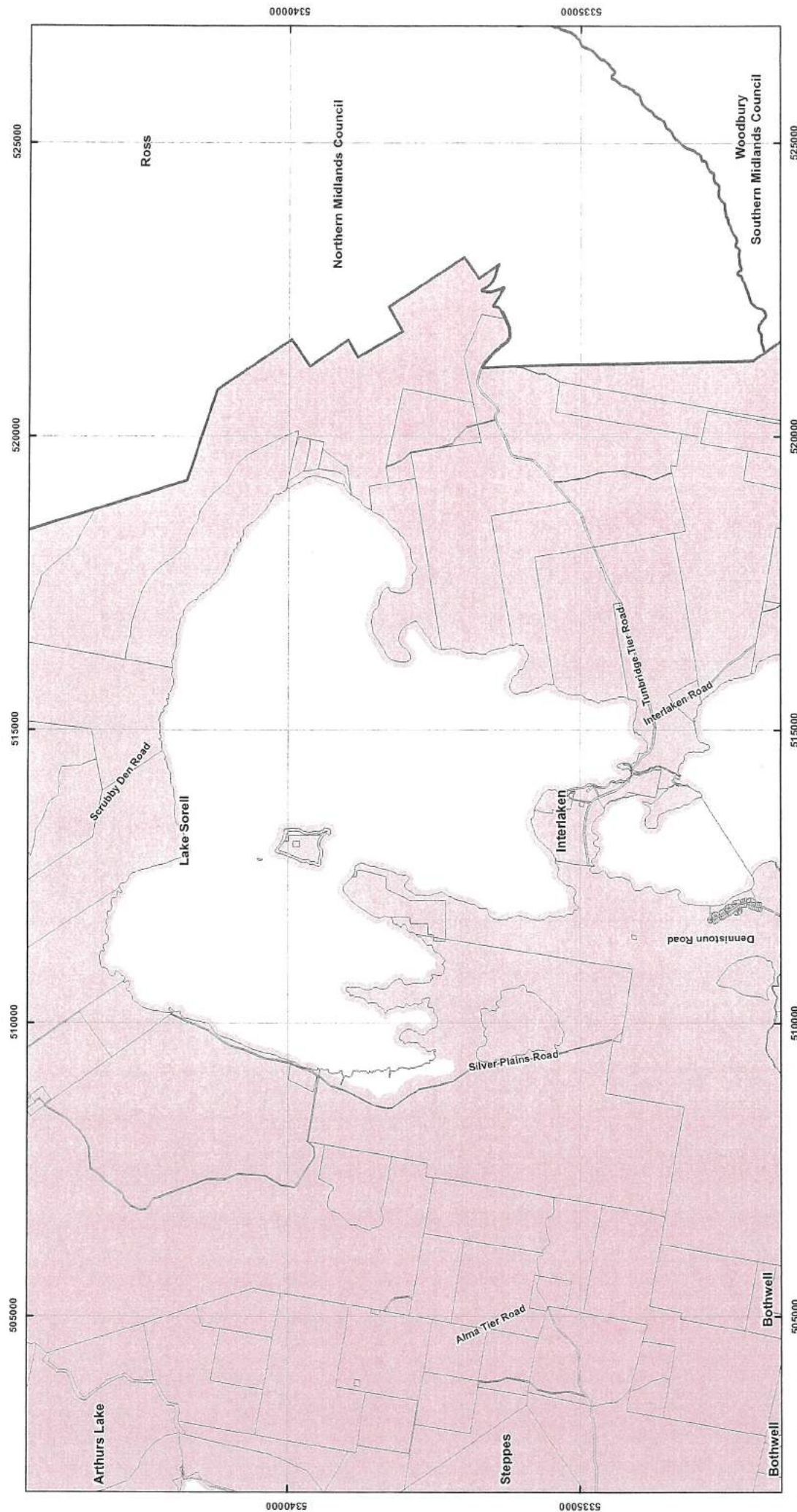
Map 51 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the UST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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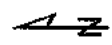
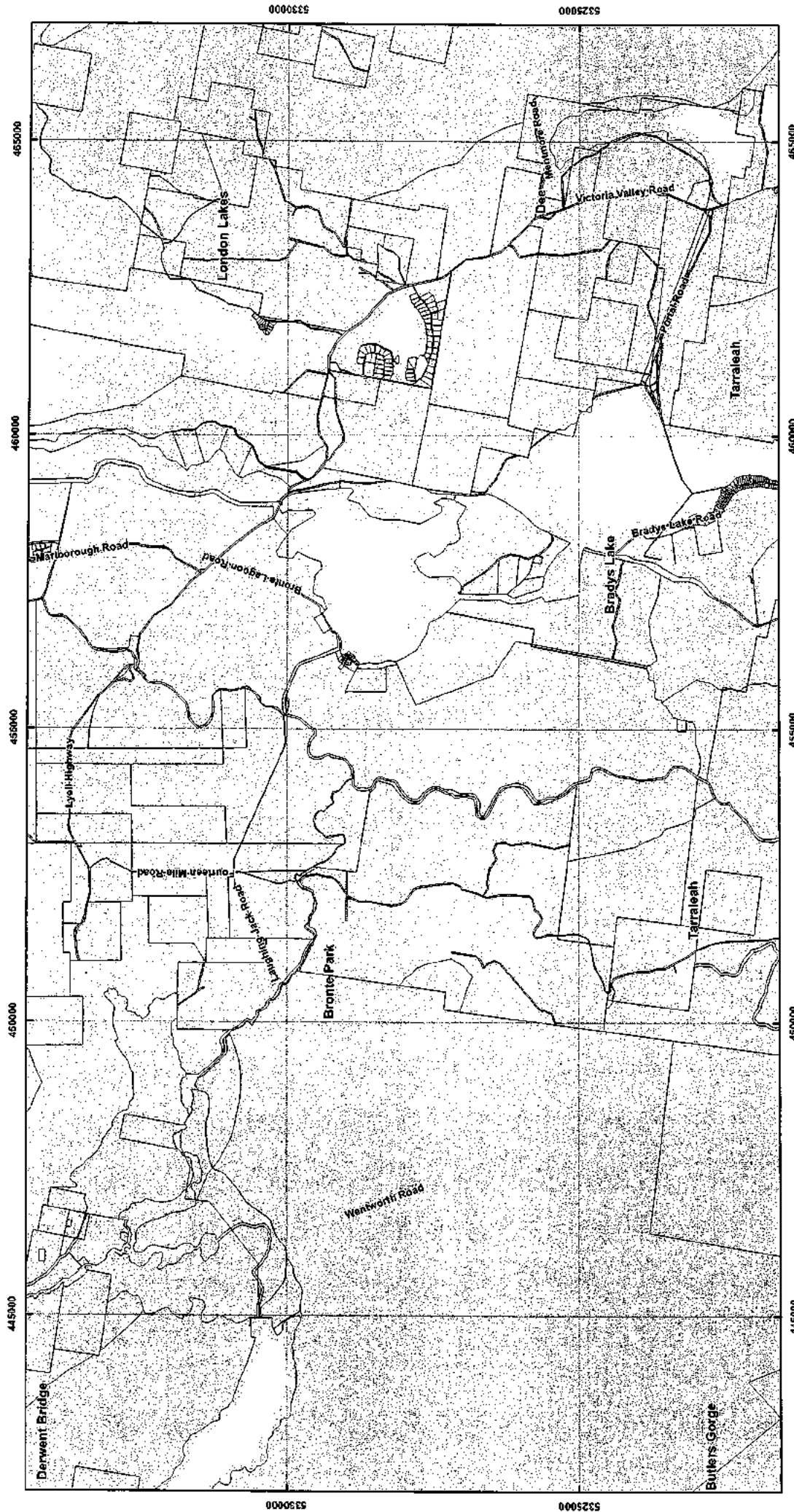
Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55

Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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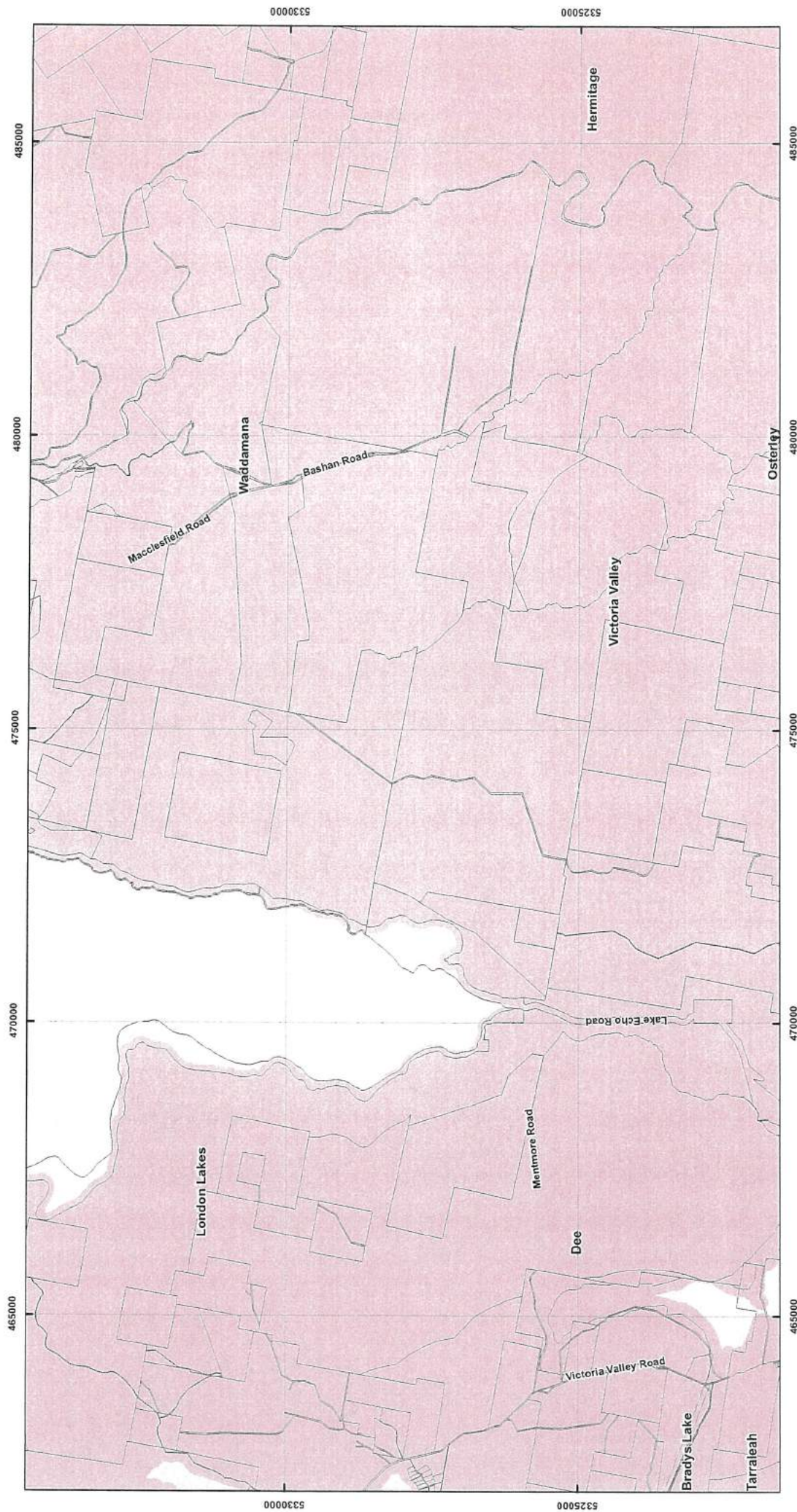


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55

Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
Base topographic data from the LIST @ State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

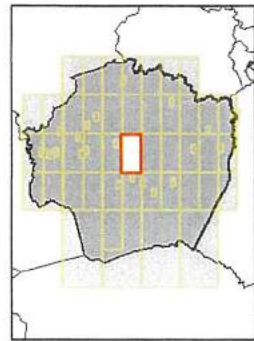
- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

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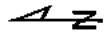
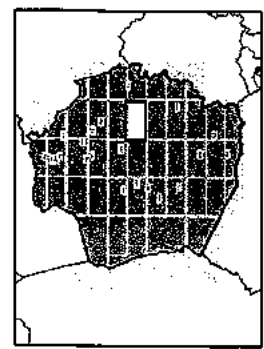
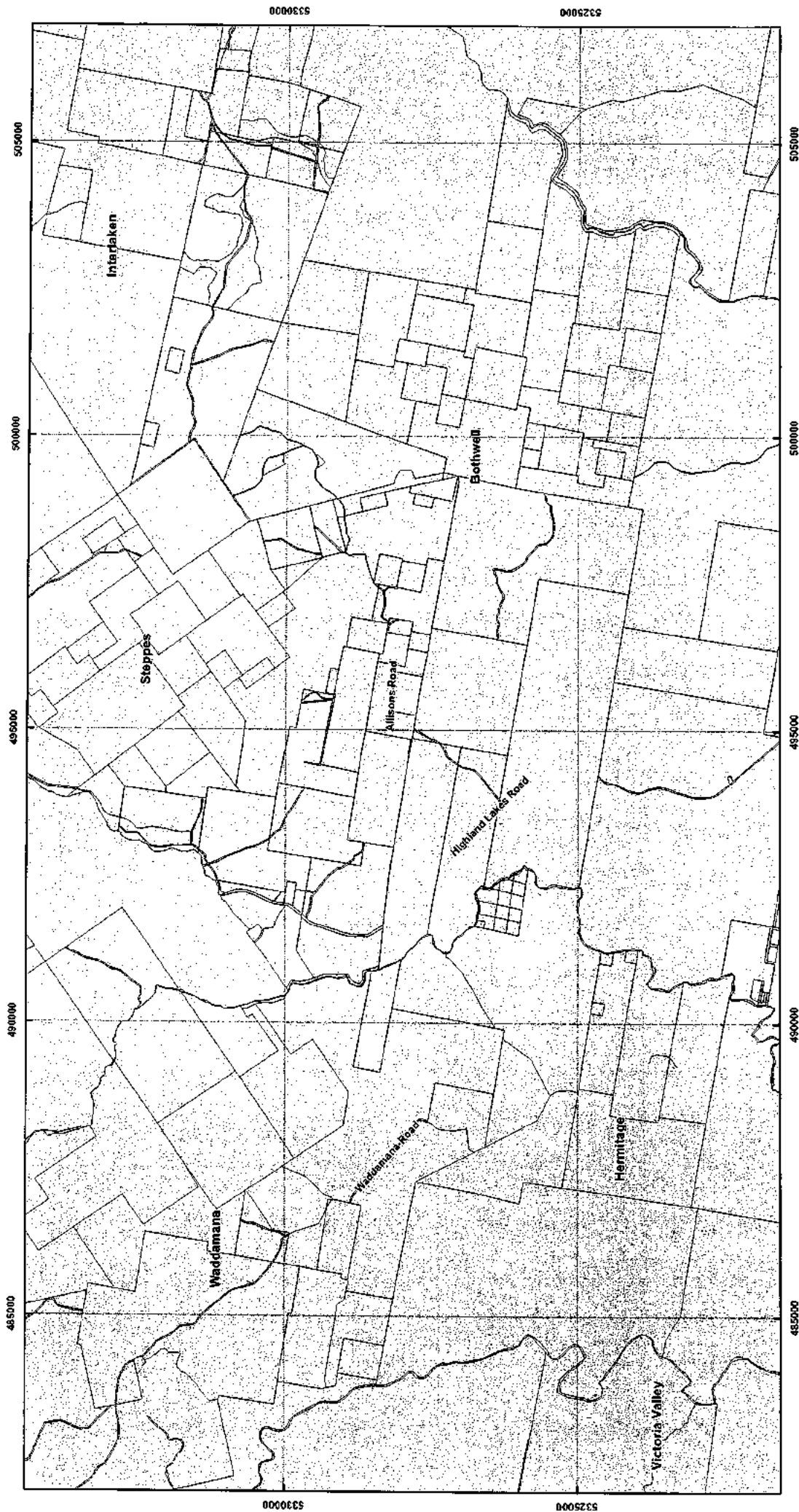


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LUST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 84 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

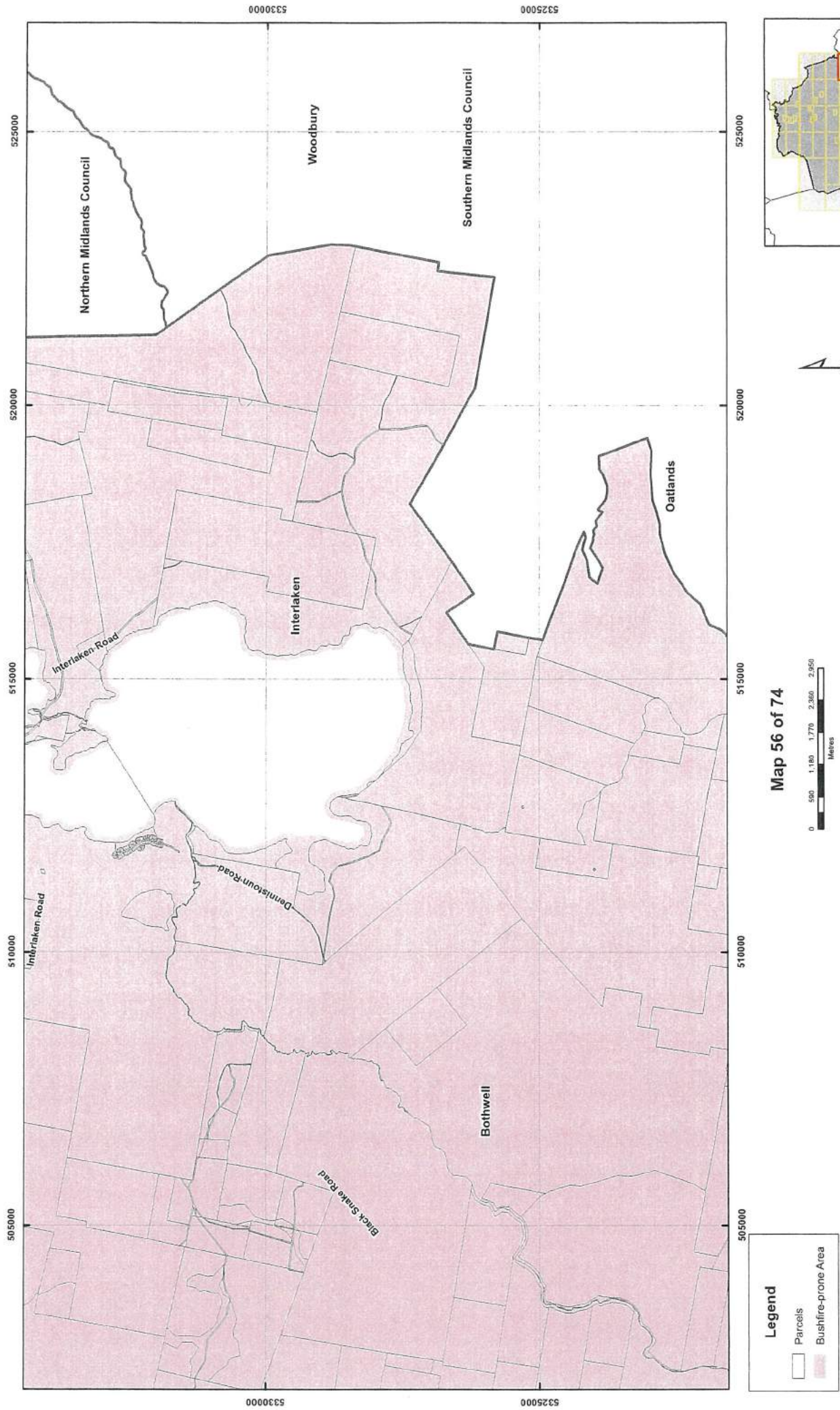
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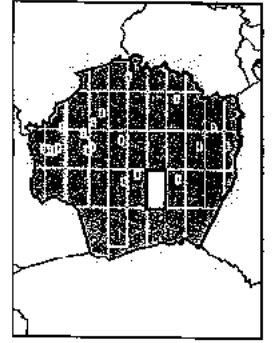
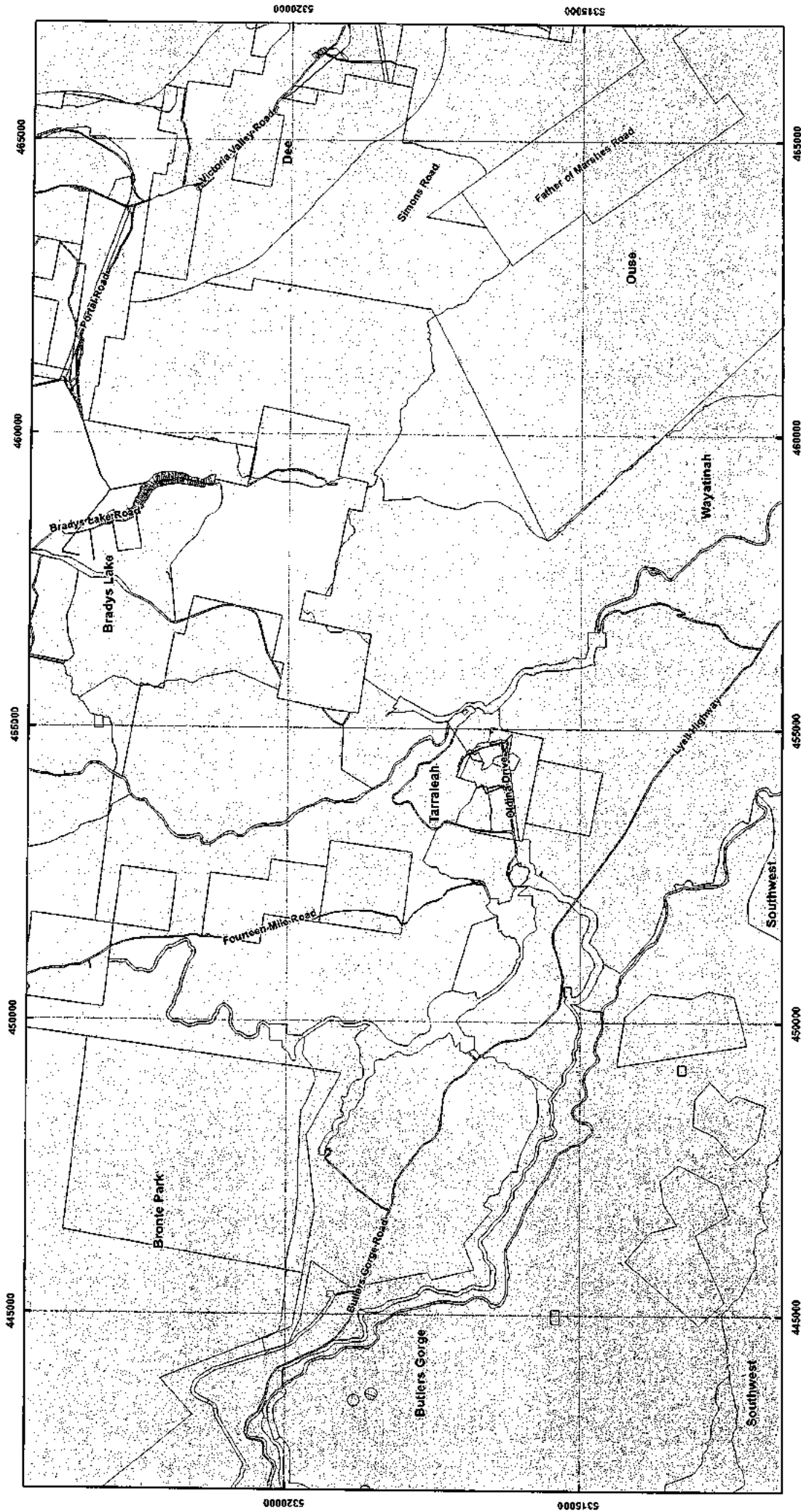
Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

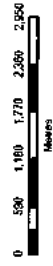
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

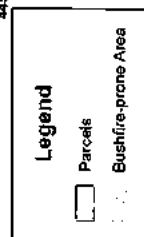


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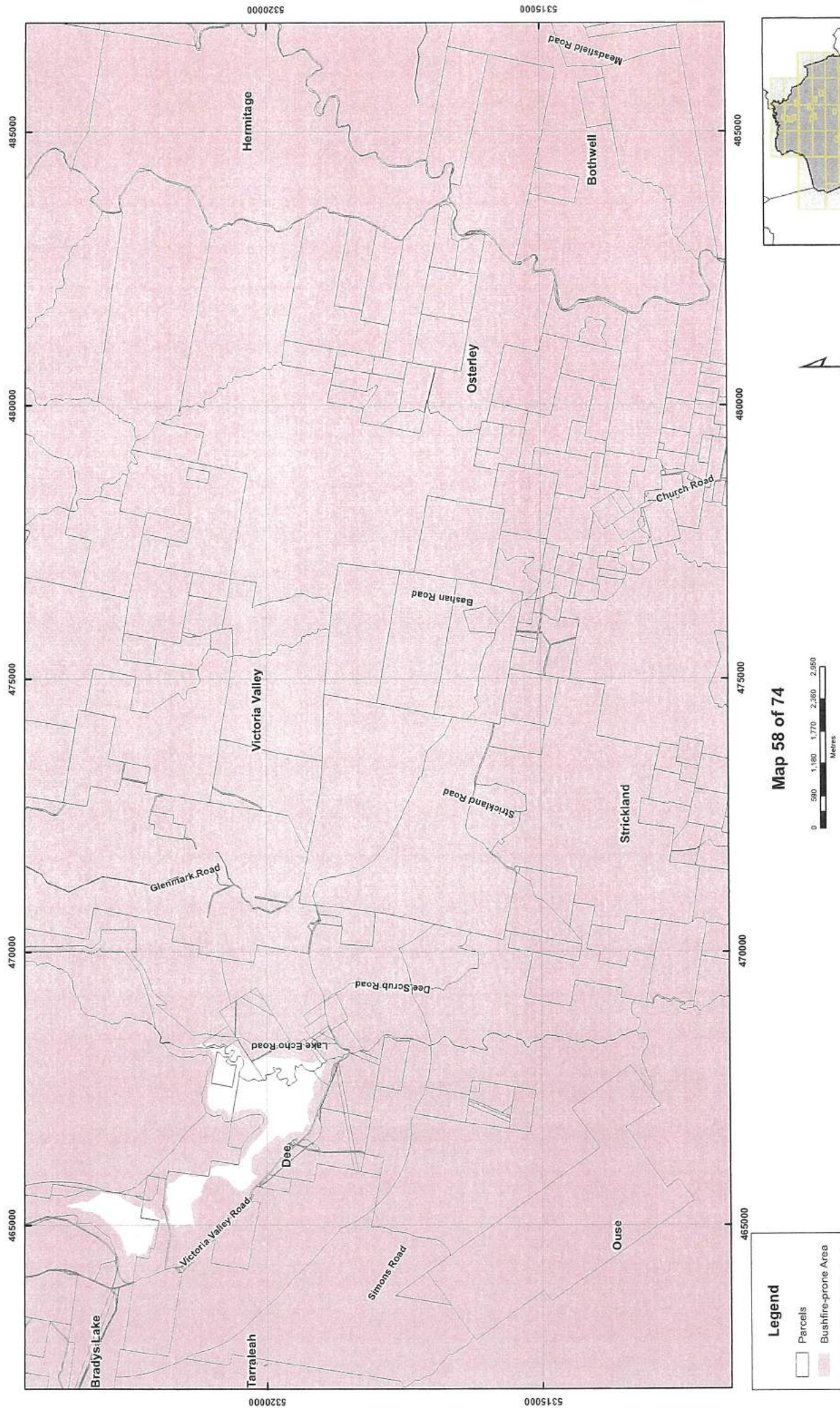


Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIT © State of Tasmania

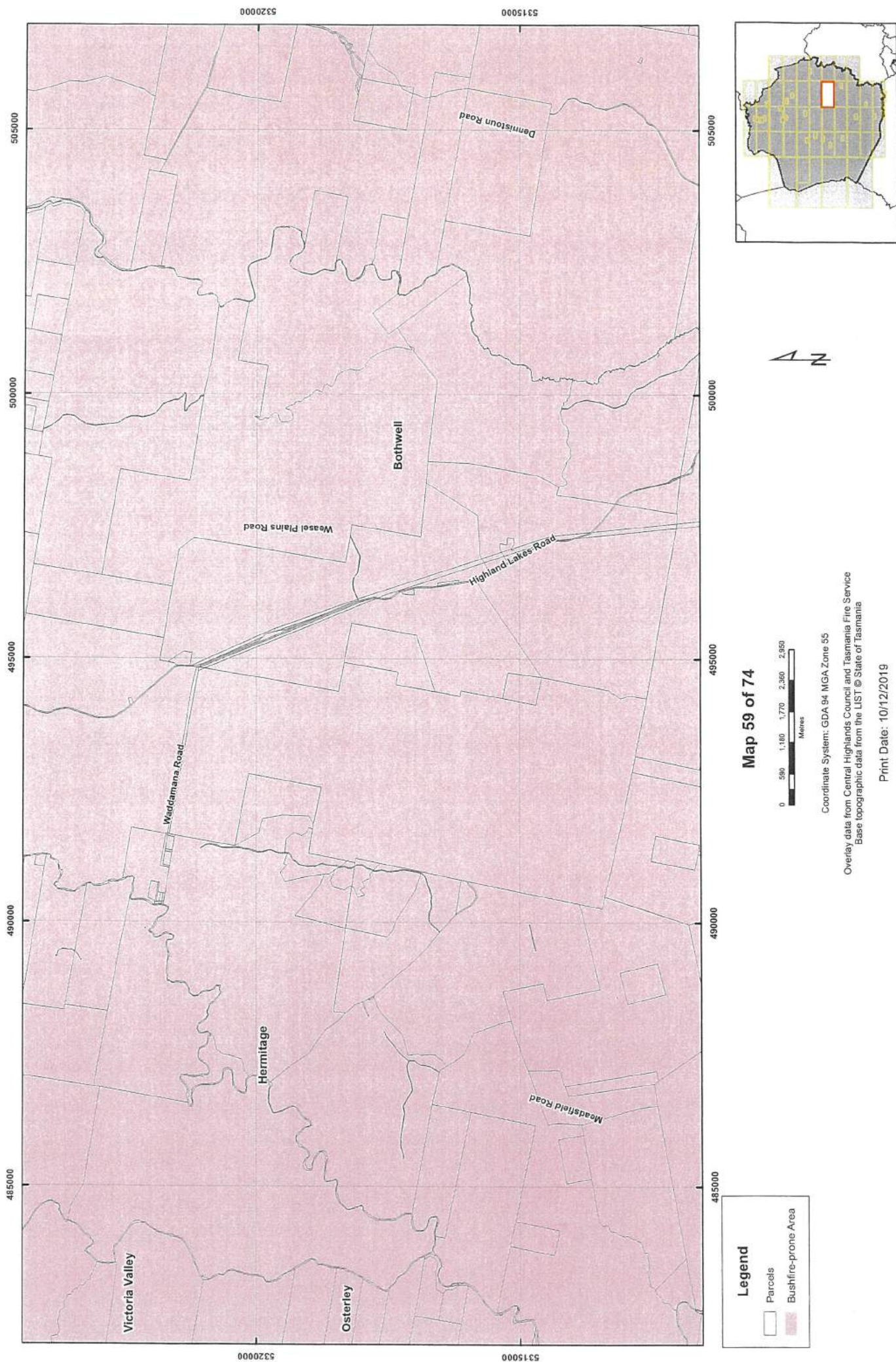
Print Date: 10/12/2019



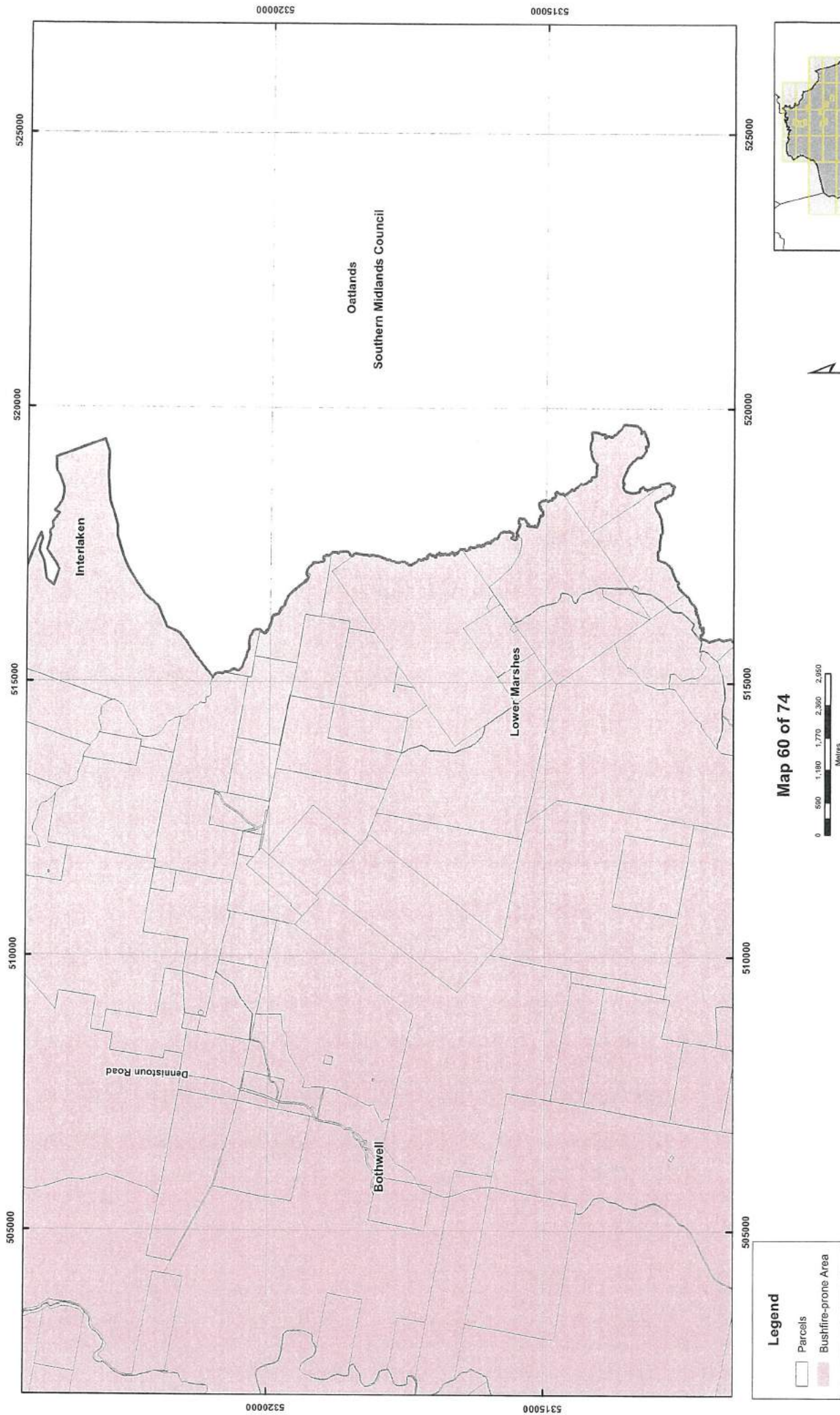
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



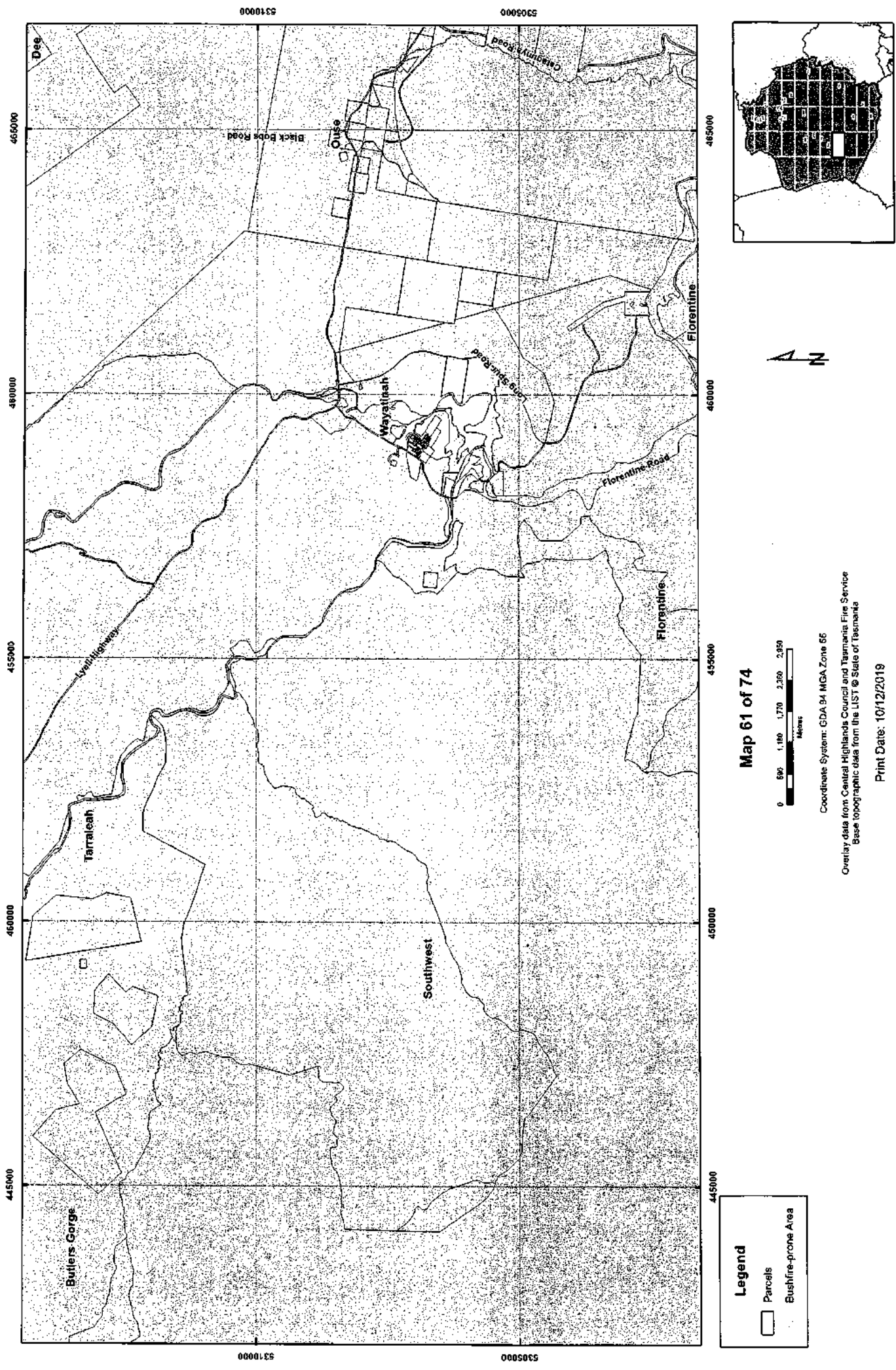
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



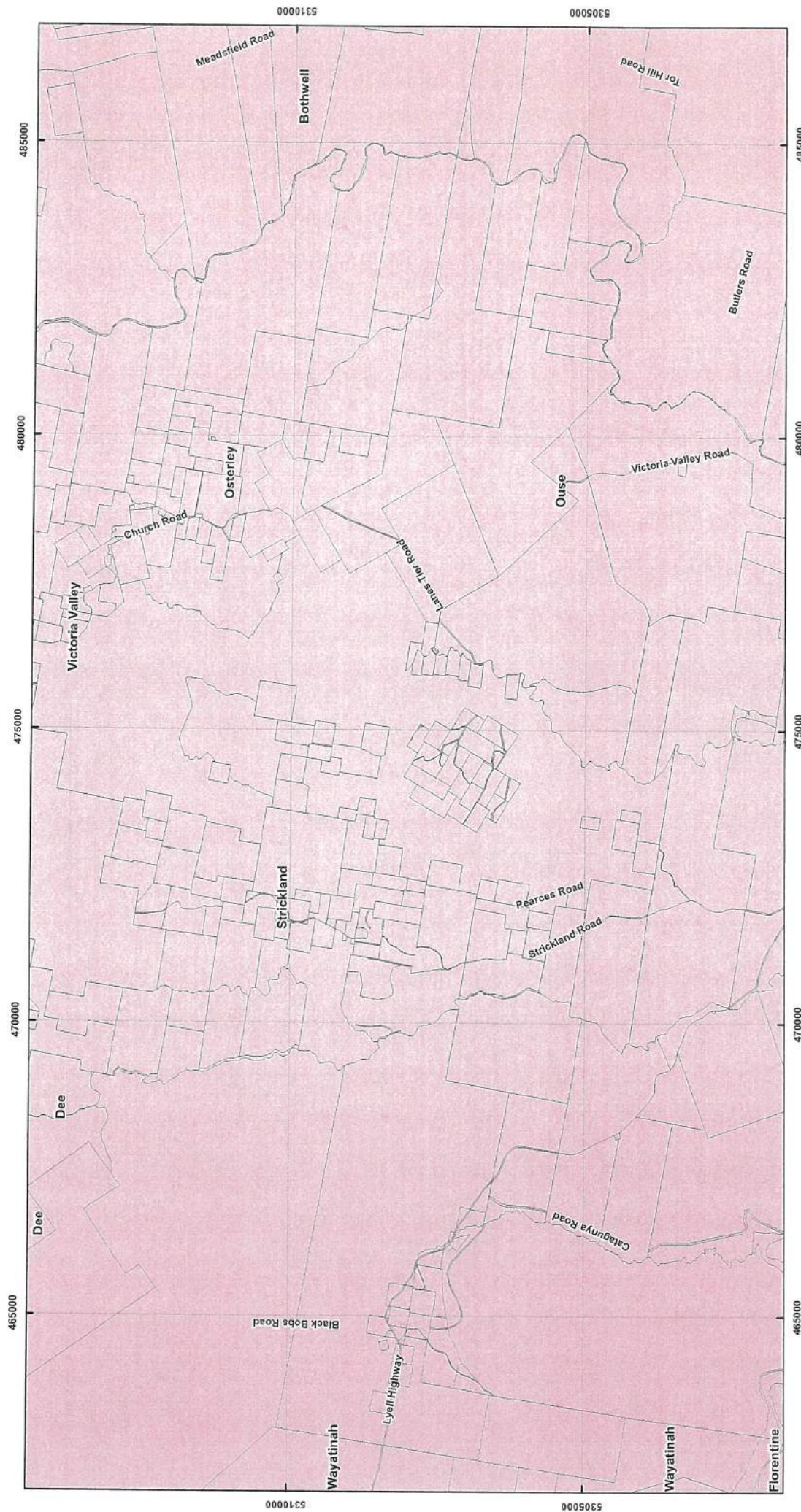
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

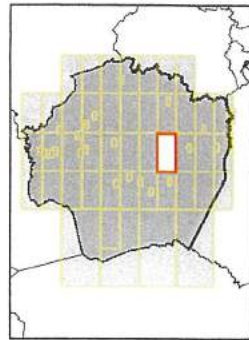


Legend

Parcels

Bushfire-prone Area

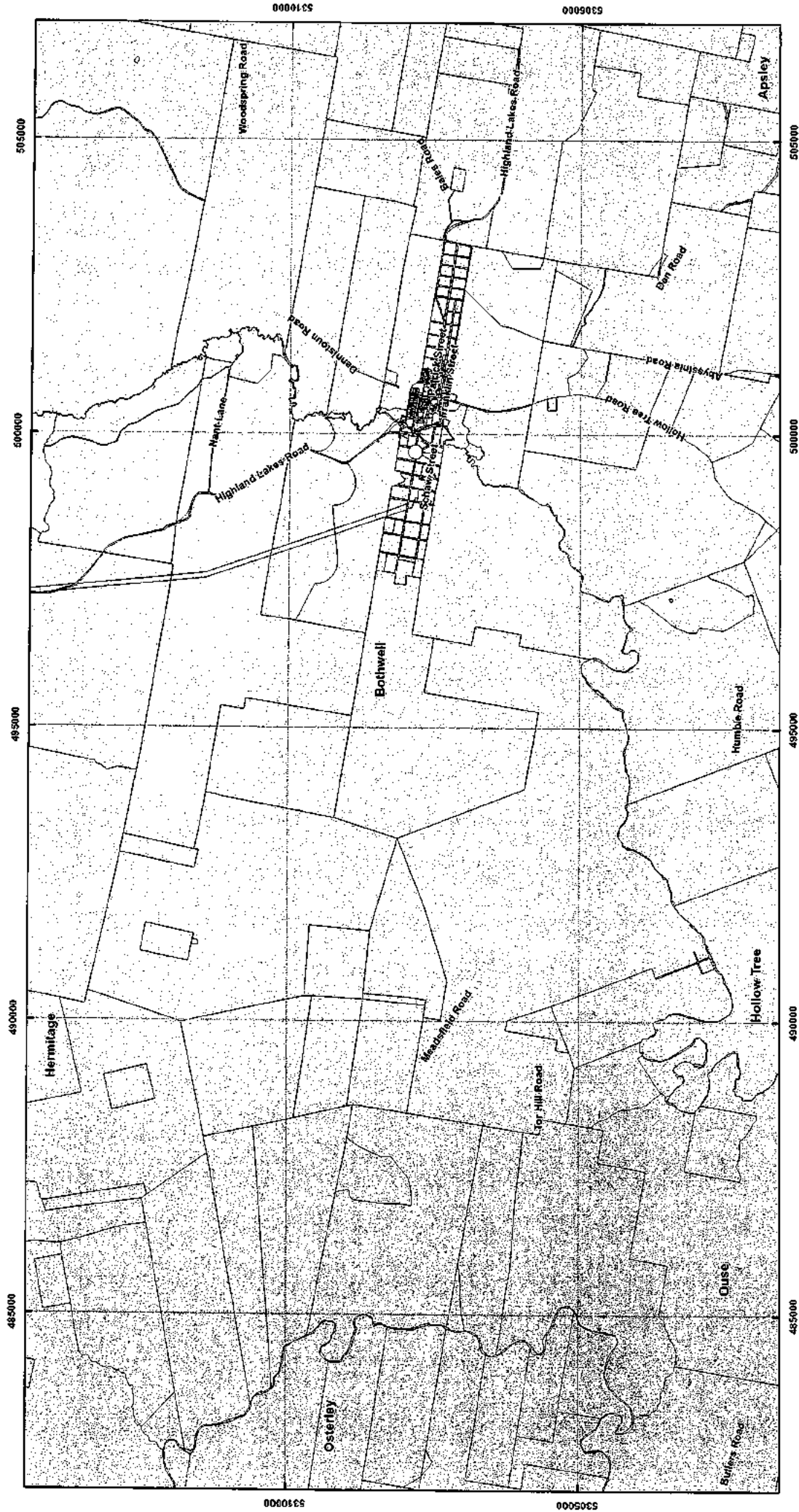
Map 62 of 74



Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
 Overlay data from Central Highlands Council and Tasmania Fire Service
 Base topographic data from the LIST © State of Tasmania

Print Date: 10/12/2019

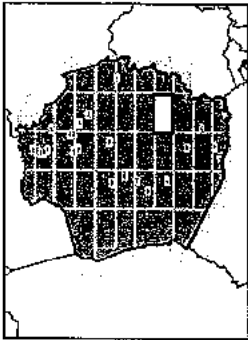
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

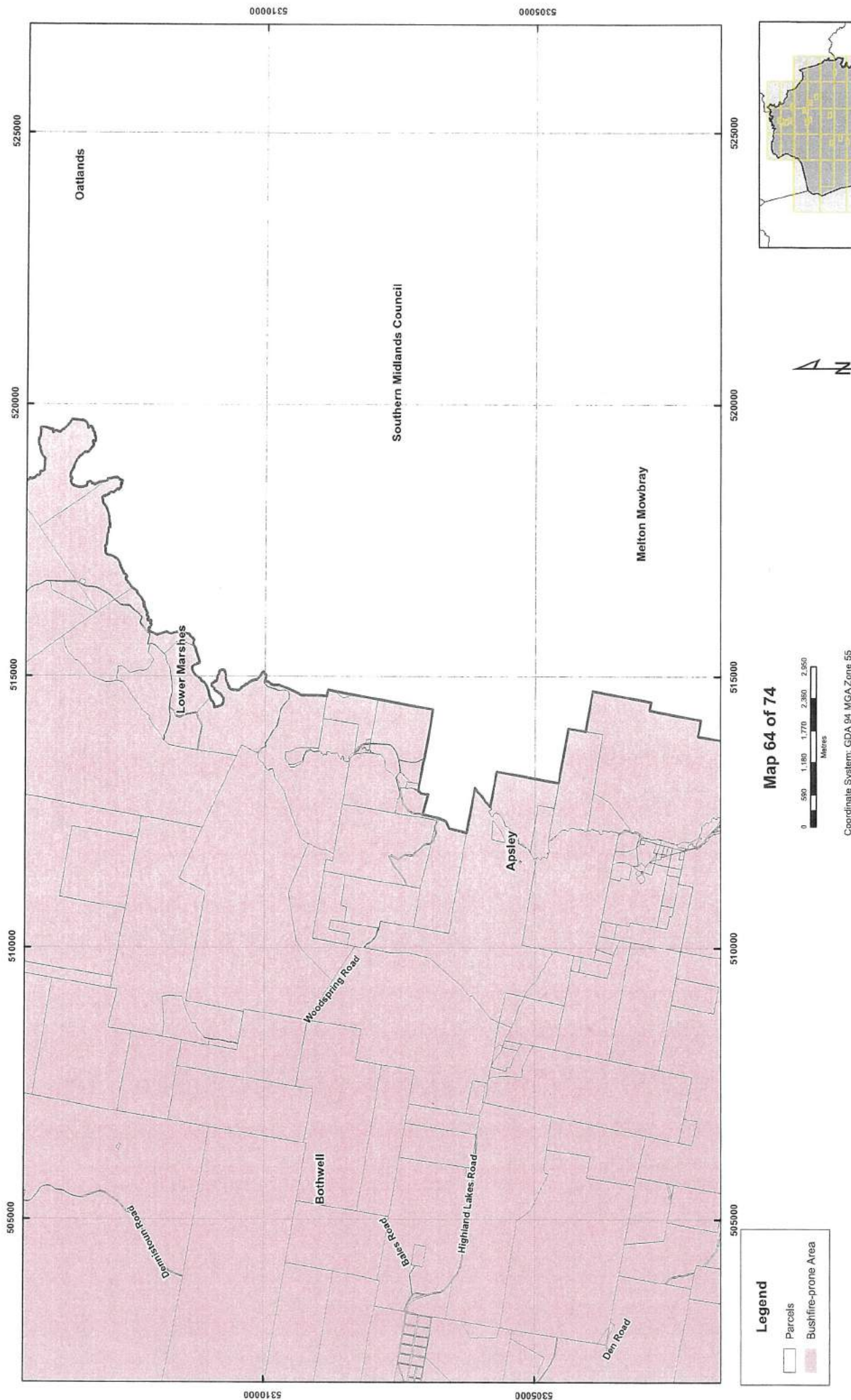
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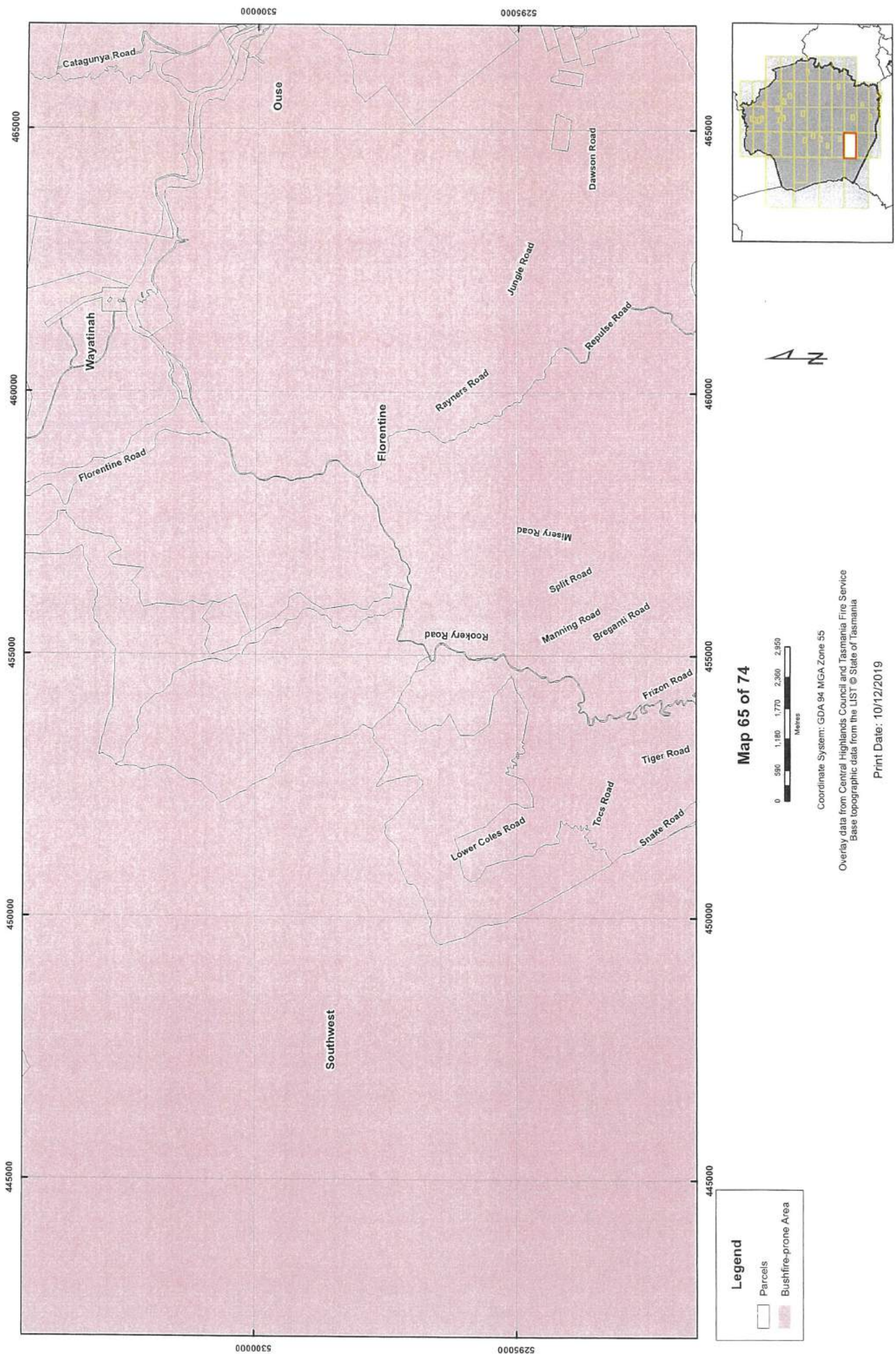
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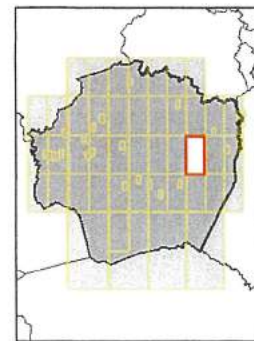
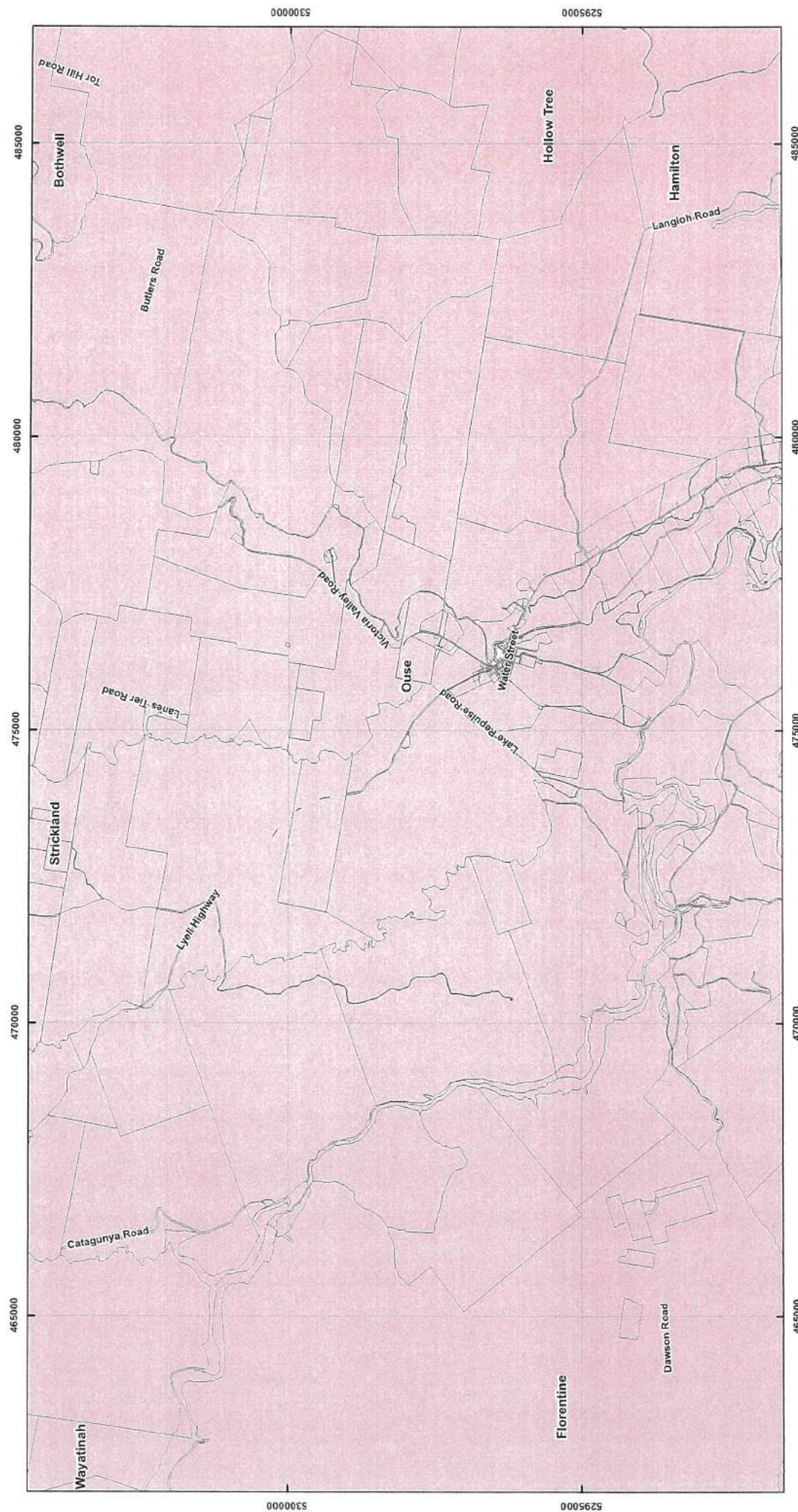
Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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Coordinate System: GDA 94 MGA Zone 55
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Legend

- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



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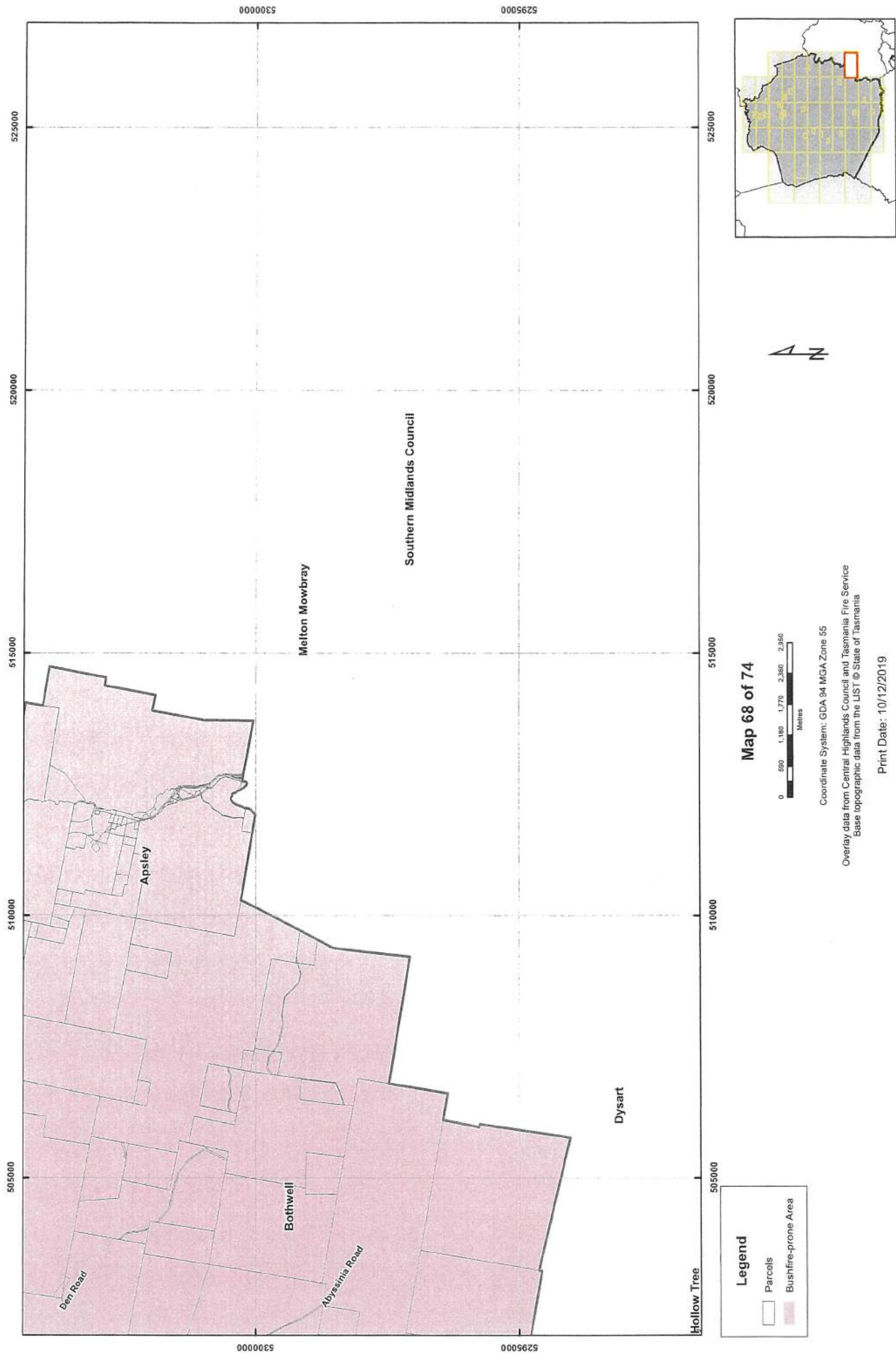
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- Parcels
- Bushfire-prone Area

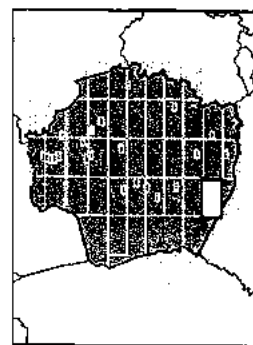
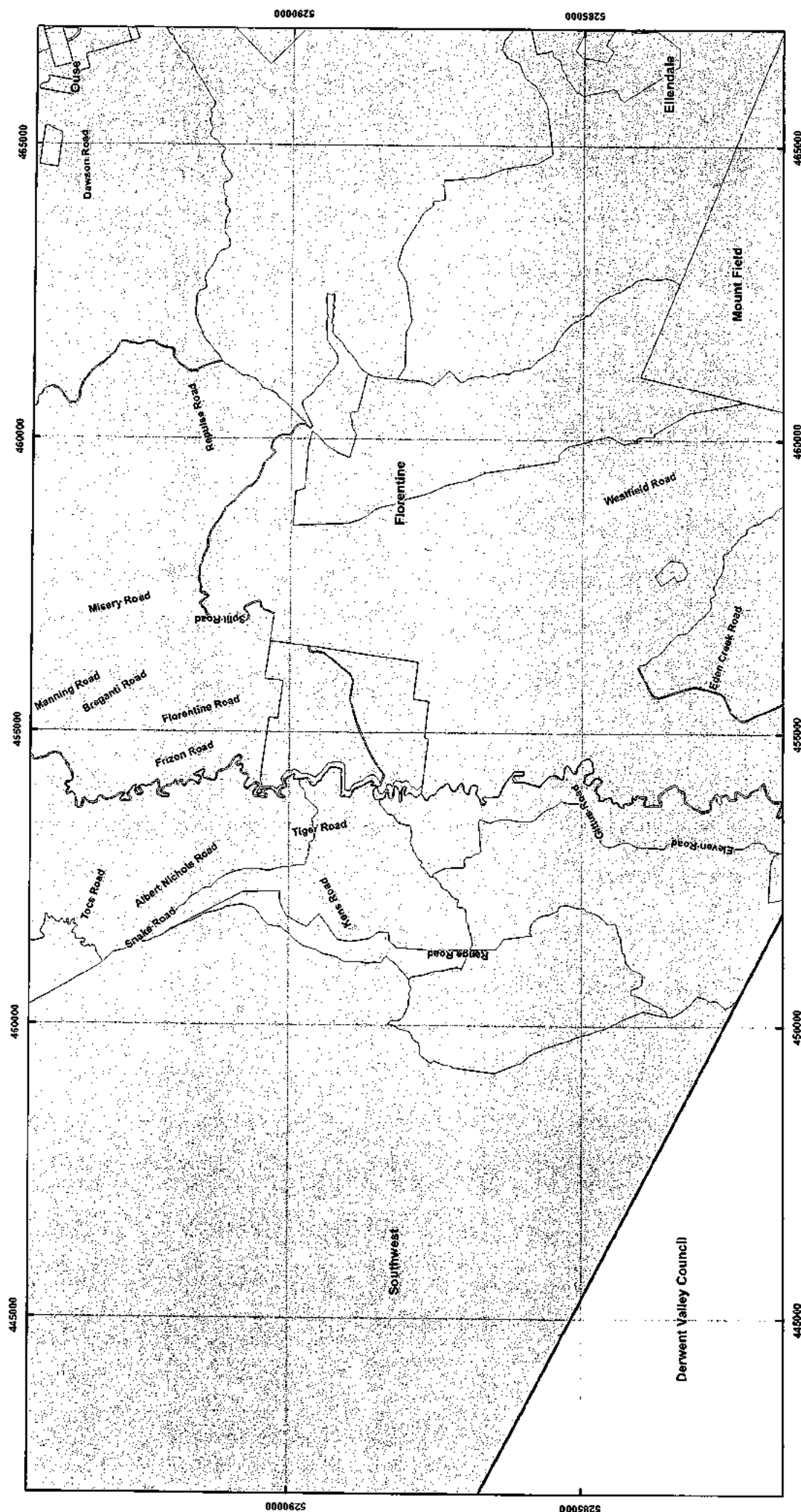
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



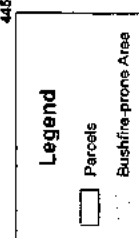
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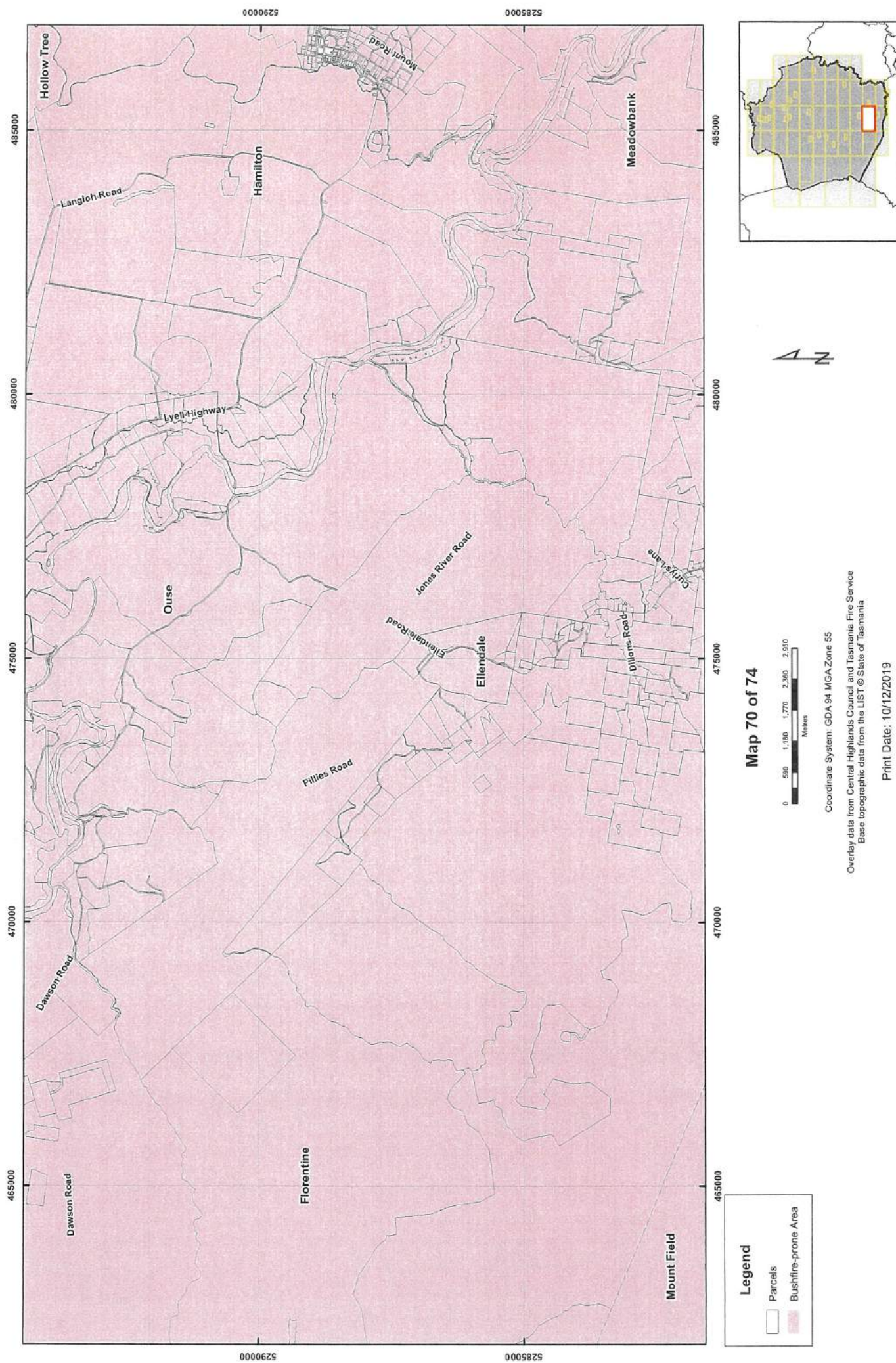
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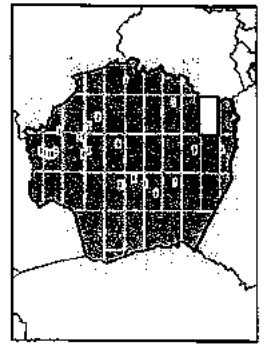
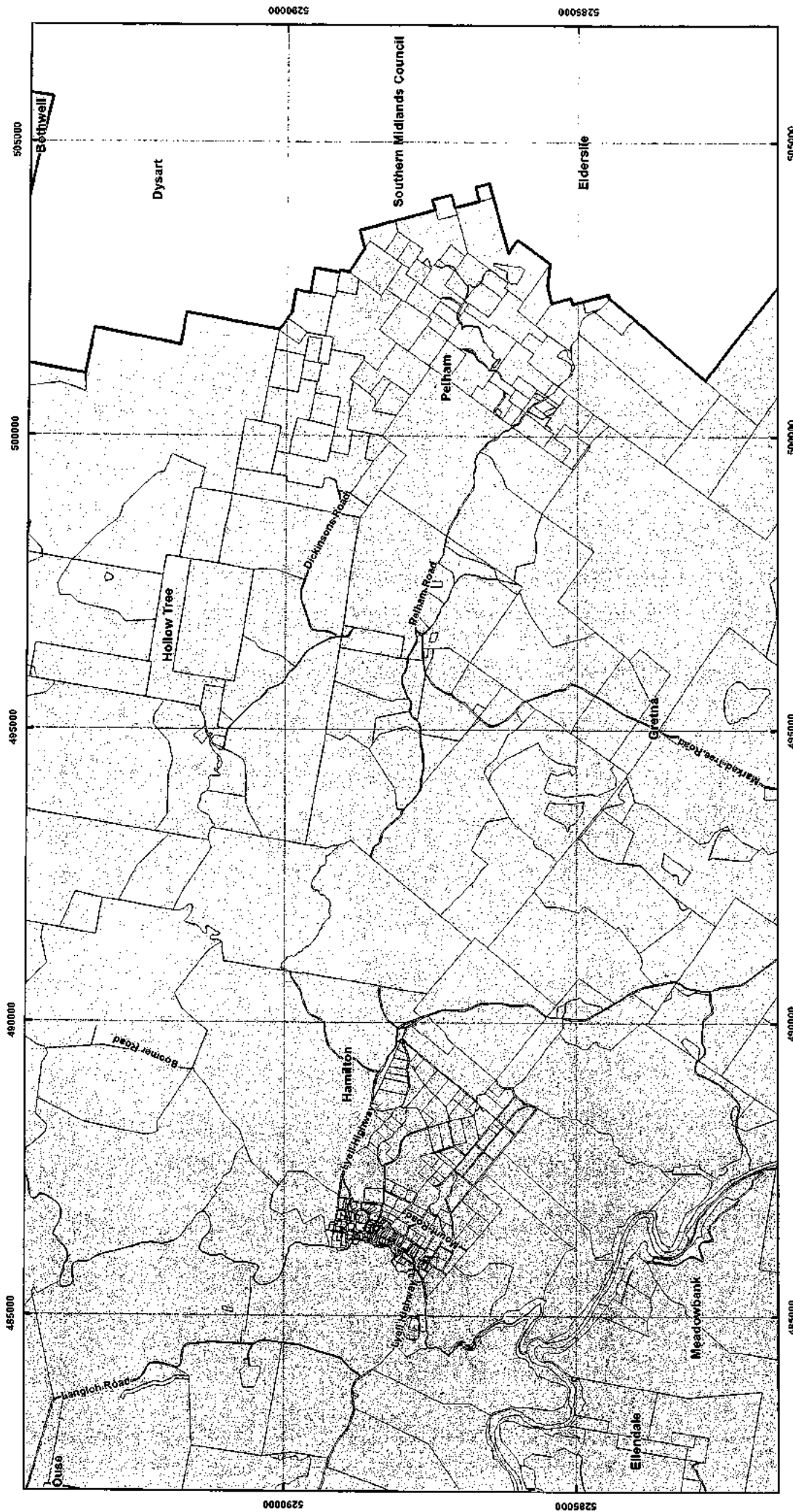
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay

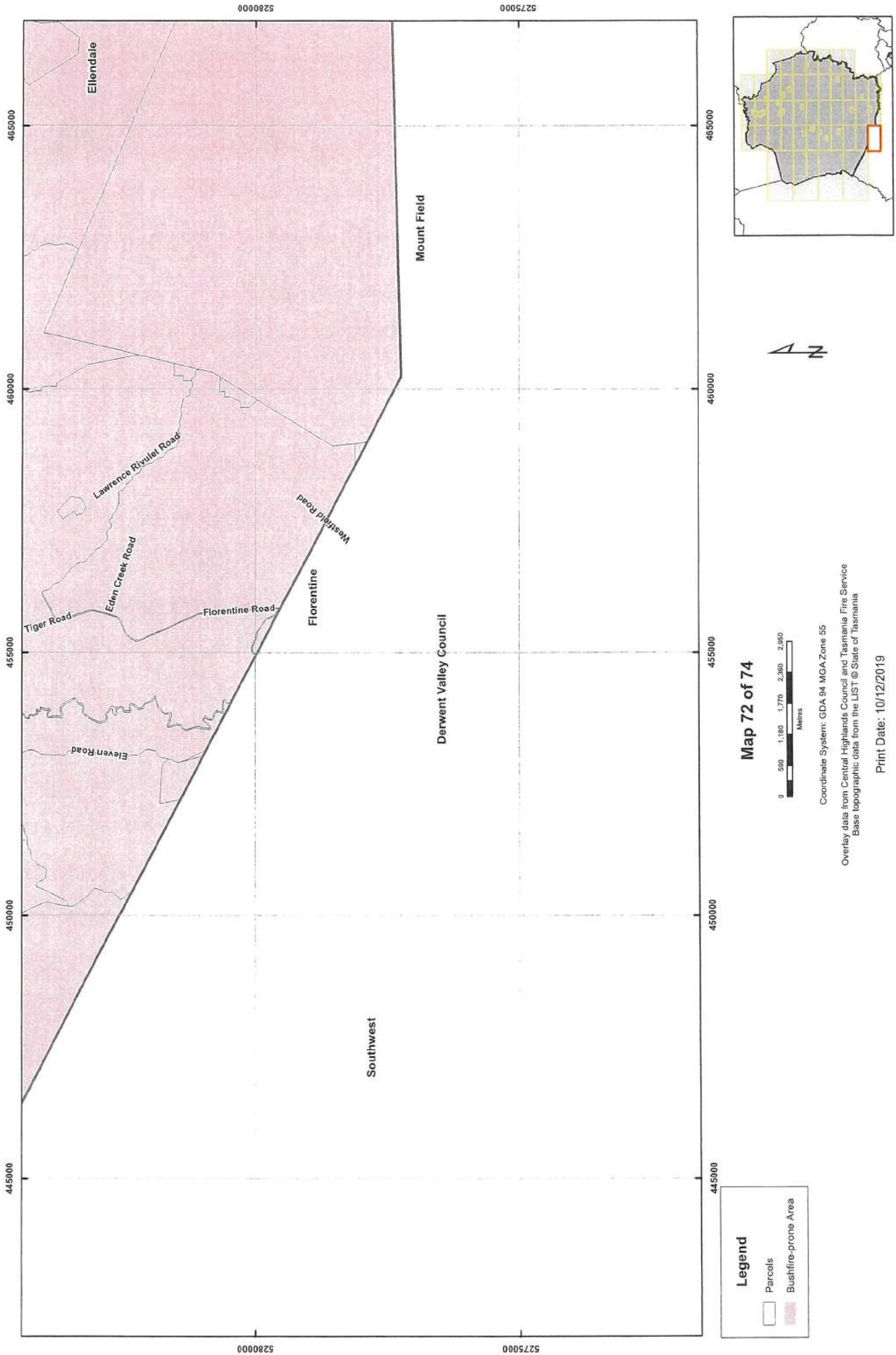


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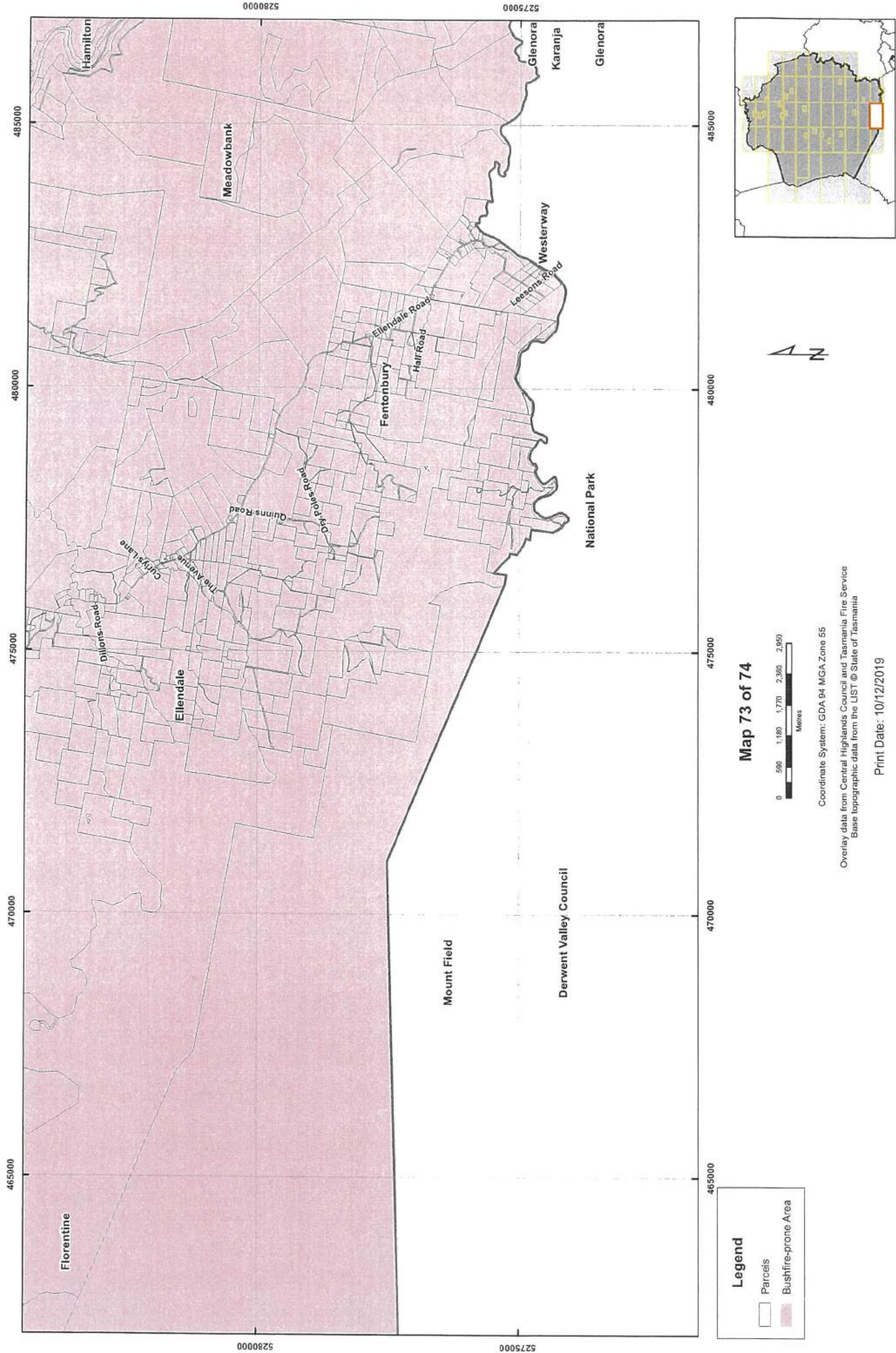
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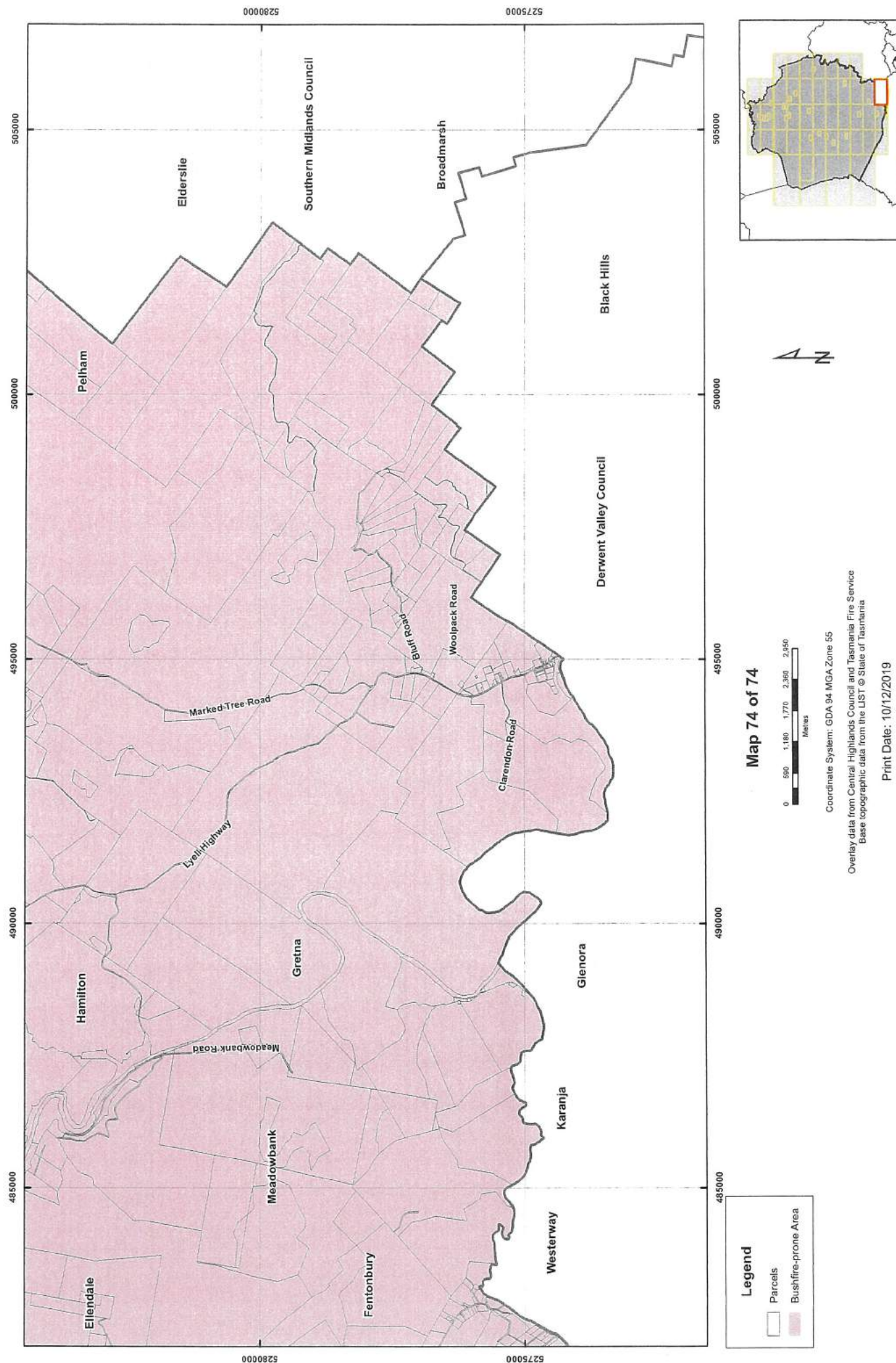
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Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay



Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 – Bushfire-Prone Areas Overlay





Tasmania Fire Service

BUSHFIRE-PRONE AREAS OVERLAY

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *Why do we need a bushfire-prone areas overlay?*

The key function of the overlay is to spatially define areas that are considered 'bushfire-prone' for planning and building compliance purposes.

Since 2012 Tasmanian planning and building legislation has required certain land uses, subdivision and building work within a 'bushfire-prone area' to satisfy minimum safety standards. In the absence of an overlay however, there is sometimes ambiguity in relation to what is or isn't considered to be a 'bushfire-prone area'. The overlay will provide landowners, regulators, developers and designers with much needed certainty with regards to application of these requirements.

It is noted that stakeholders including the Housing Industry Association and the Master Builders Association actively participated in the development of the current regulatory system and have strongly urged government to have suitable mapping of bushfire-prone areas provided as soon as possible.

All Tasmanian Councils will be required eventually to have a bushfire-prone areas overlay as part of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. To avoid unnecessary delay, TFS recommends that Councils introduce their overlays sooner by amending their existing planning scheme where it is feasible to do so. In doing so, the benefits of the overlay can be delivered sooner rather than later.

2. *Can the overlay be amended?*

As with any planning scheme overlay, Council may initiate an amendment at any time if there is good reason to do so. Also the overlay may be amended in conjunction with future combined rezoning and subdivision proposals.

It is anticipated that the overlay will also be periodically reviewed and updated as part of Local Government's routine review of its Local Provision Schedules once the transition to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme is complete.

3. *Will the overlay affect insurance premiums for property owners?*

The insurance industry has its own long standing risk mapping products which inform their premiums.

If insurance providers choose to base their premiums on whether or not land is classed as 'bushfire-prone' within the planning scheme, this still would be of no real significance given the overlay will not result in any additional properties being classed as 'bushfire-prone' that aren't already.

To the contrary, the overlay will actually reduce the number of properties that are classified as 'bushfire-prone' for the purposes of planning and building compliance.

It is noted that Clarence introduced their bushfire-prone areas overlay in 2015 and Hobart in 2017. TFS is not aware of any evidence of resultant effects on insurance premiums in either local government area.

4. *Will the overlay negatively affect property values?*

All properties that are mapped within a draft overlay are already 'bushfire-prone' under existing planning and building legislation. The overlay does not introduce any new development standards - it simply clarifies the application of existing requirements. Therefore, it is highly unlikely that the overlay has any effect on property value. Given that so much of Tasmania is identified as bushfire-prone any effect would be widespread and have minimal effect between similar properties.

It is noted that Clarence introduced their bushfire-prone areas overlay in 2015 and Hobart in 2017. TFS is not aware of any evidence of resultant effects on property values in either local government area.

5. *Will the overlay increase the cost of land development?*

Complying with the existing planning and building requirements for bushfire protection inevitably adds cost to development. There are two cost elements, firstly the costs of assessment and secondly the costs of the bushfire mitigation measures. The extensive consultation that occurred when the Bushfire-Prone Areas Code was introduced concluded that the compliance costs are outweighed by the benefit of increased community safety.

All properties that are within the draft overlay are already considered 'bushfire-prone' under existing planning and building legislation. As such, introduction of the overlay will have no effect on the cost of land development. The introduction of the overlay will actually reduce the number of properties that are classified as 'bushfire-prone' for the purposes of planning and building compliance. These properties will no longer require the expenditure of the costs of the assessment and the overlay will therefore actually reduce compliance costs to the Tasmanian community as a whole.

6. *My property is in a residential area and adjoins farmland – why is it within the bushfire overlay?*

Grasslands are a commonly underestimated fire hazard but present a significant risk to Tasmanian communities. Furthermore, living in a suburban street is not a guarantee that nearby fuels are being adequately managed and that the suburban home is appropriately prepared for a bushfire event.

Clearly risk profiles will vary across the landscape depending on a range of factors, as does the perception of risk perception within affected communities. In some areas

and to some people being located within a bushfire-prone area may not be consistent with their own perceptions, in other areas it will confirm existing perceptions. It is worth noting that the overlay does not delineate between 'high', 'medium' and 'low' risk.

7. *Will Council be exposed to litigation if it approves building work on land outside the overlay area that is subsequently damaged in a bushfire?*

The overlay is not intended to comprehensively identify all land that may be subject to bushfire attack in all scenarios. It identifies land where the risk is considered high enough during a 'design bushfire' scenario to warrant a built response.

The overlay is similar in some ways to other hazard maps used in planning schemes, such as those for flood-prone areas and landslip. These overlays are also applied to land where risk exposure is considered sufficient to warrant a built response but none imply that there is no risk to properties in rarer events that are outside of the overlays.

The bushfire-prone areas overlay does not apply to properties further than 100m from a potential fire front. This reflects the maximum distance considered in Australian Standard 3959 Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas. History has shown that ember attack can impact properties several hundred metres from a fire front although the probability of loss of life and built assets decreases with increased distance. There always will be some level of risk to properties outside of the overlay however it is considered tolerable without requiring landowners to go to the added expense of building for bushfire protection.

The overlay has been prepared in good faith and informed by expert judgement and it is highly unlikely that Council would be subject to successful litigation as a result of property loss outside of the overlay area.

8. *Being on a town water supply means there is no bushfire risk doesn't it?*

The greatest component of bushfire risk is the location of the property in relation to bushfire fuels. Having water available for firefighting is an important protection measure but it does not mean the threat from the fuels is removed.

9. *We have had our block for years and there's never been a fire so why worry now?*

Tasmania is well known for very infrequent but very severe fires. If bushfire protection measures only have to be tested once every few decades it is still a good investment in community safety to have development on the urban fringe and in rural areas resilient to bushfires.

Minister for Housing
Minister for Environment and Parks
Minister for Human Services
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Minister for Planning

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22 SEP 2020

Mayor Loueen Triffitt
Central Highlands Council
ltriffitt@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

Dear Mayor

The Bushfire Risk Unit of the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) completed Bushfire Prone Area Maps for all 29 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in 2018 and 2019. These maps will form part of the Local Provision Schedules (LPSs) for the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. Public access to this mapping is a milestone of the Building and Construction Regulatory Reform Project.

In April 2021 it is anticipated that these maps will also form part of the general enquiry of the PlanBuild Tasmania Portal providing the public and industry with important information which will support future development projects.

I am advised that, due to the delay in the drafting and approval of the LPSs 16 of the 29 LGAs have adopted these maps into their Interim Planning Schemes with a further 5 having initiated an amendment waiting on approval by the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC). The approved maps are now displayed on the LIST and via the TFS website, strengthening public awareness of bushfire risks and the mitigation measures required to reduce these risks in those LGAs. 8 LGAs have not initiated these amendments.

I seek your intervention to ensure Central Highlands Council initiates the appropriate amendment to your interim planning scheme in time for the expected April 2021 release of the PlanBuild Tasmania Portal. By doing this your council will make available important information to Tasmanian developers and support the reforms of the Building and Construction Regulatory Reform Project.

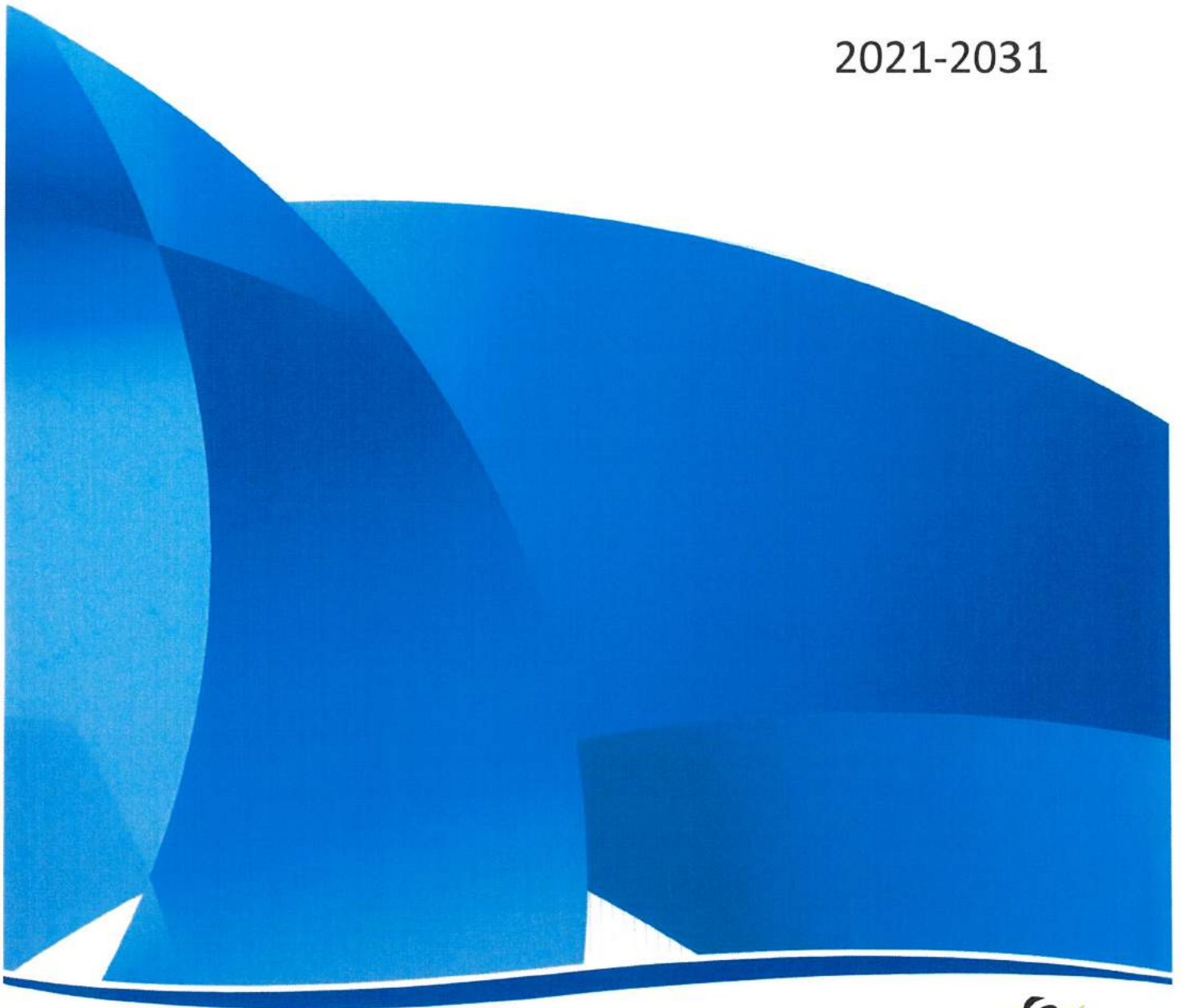
Yours sincerely

Hon Roger Jaensch MP
Minister for Planning

TASMANIAN WILDERNESS WORLD HERITAGE AREA

BIOSECURITY STRATEGY

2021-2031



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FOREWORD

[To be included after public consultation]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the custodians of this Land, and pay respects to Elders past and present for they hold the knowledge, memories and culture of First Nations people in Tasmania. We acknowledge and honour the important contribution of Aboriginal knowledge and culture to the successful management and preservation of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, including its protection from the impacts of invasive organisms and other biosecurity threats.

The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy was prepared by a Project Team and overseen by a Steering Committee. Many people and organisations assisted in the development of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy. It is not possible to name everyone, but the governance groups would like to particularly thank the following individuals and organisations who were members of the writing team:

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List of terms and abbreviations

Biodiversity	The diverse variety of all life forms including microorganisms, animals and plants. The term is scalable from the genetic diversity within a single species, to community, and to ecosystem levels.
Biological Control Agent	An organism, such as an insect or plant disease, that is used to control a pest species.
Biosecurity	The protection of public health and wellbeing, industries and the environment from the negative impacts of weeds, pest animals and diseases (collectively referred to in this Strategy as invasive organisms).
Biosecurity duty	The responsibility a person or organisation has to take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent, eliminate or minimise biosecurity risk.
Biosecurity risk	The chance of encountering some form of harm, loss or damage as a result of a biosecurity threat (invasive organism such as a weed, pest animal or disease).
Biosecurity threat	Any invasive organism (eg weed, pest or disease) or other organism or agent that threatens the natural or cultural values of the TWWHA.
Climate change	A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods (UNFCCC definition).
Climax rainforest	A forest community dominated by trees representing the last stage of natural succession for the specific locality.
Cultural values	Cultural heritage values of the TWWHA, including Aboriginal heritage sites and artefacts and historic heritage sites and artefacts.
Declared weed	A plant species that is declared under the <i>Tasmanian Weed Management Act 1999</i> .
Disease	A condition of the living animal or plant body or one of its parts, that impairs normal functioning and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptoms (Merriam-webster definition). This strategy refers to disease as an illness in a plant or animal caused by a range of infectious agents including pathogens, viruses, bacteria, fungi and some parasites.
DPIPWE	Tasmania's Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.
IFS	Tasmania's Inland Fisheries Service.
Invasive organism	Any introduced organism (eg plant, animal, microorganism) that poses a significant threat to Tasmania's biodiversity, agriculture, community or economy.
Invasive species	An introduced animal, plant or microorganism that poses a significant threat to Tasmania's biodiversity, agriculture, community or economy.
KDO	Key deliverable outcome
MAST	Marine and Safety Tasmania.

Natural values	A feature or system of nature, as opposed to humans and human products. This includes native plants, animals and other organisms; the communities they form; geological features and the landscapes these features combine to create.
NVA	Natural Values Atlas – Tasmanian database for lodging records of plants, animals, geodiversity and soil survey data from Tasmania.
Planned burn (or prescribed burn)	The controlled application of fire under specified environmental conditions to a predetermined area and at the time, intensity, and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives (Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council).
Mitigation [of biosecurity threats]	Reduction in the impact of invasive organisms on natural and cultural values.
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value - cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity, as detailed for the TWWHA in the properties Statement of Outstanding Universal Value.
Pathogen	A living microorganism such as bacterium or fungi that causes disease in a human, animal or plant host, or is an agent of infection, to other life forms.
Pest	Any living organism which is invasive or troublesome to the natural environment, humans or industries in Tasmania.
PWS	Tasmanian Government Parks and Wildlife Service.
TWWHA	Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – a specialised agency of the United Nations.
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, an international treaty of the United Nations, the parties of which meet annually.
Weed	A plant that requires some form of action to reduce its effect on the economy, the environment or human health. Also known as an invasive plant.
WONS	Weed of National Significance.
WPD	Weed Pest or Disease

1. Executive Summary

[To be included after public consultation]

2. Introduction

The Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA) covers almost a quarter of the land area of Tasmania and is recognised as being of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) under UNESCO's World Heritage Convention. The TWWHA is one of the largest remaining temperate wilderness areas in the world showing limited evidence of disturbance from post-European arrival activities evident elsewhere in Tasmania.

A world heritage property needs to maintain integrity and have an adequate system of protection and management in place to safeguard its future. The inaugural TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy 2021-2031 (the Strategy) provides a contemporary framework for addressing one of the major threats to the OUV of the TWWHA –invasive organisms (weeds, pests and diseases).

The extent and remoteness of the TWWHA together with the climate, topography and limited access, has afforded the property some protection from invasive organisms. Previous surveys of invasive organisms indicate a generally low incidence often with limited geographic distribution in the TWWHA compared with the rest of Tasmania. Most existing invasive organisms are restricted to disturbed areas primarily around the margins of the TWWHA, whilst a smaller subset has a more widespread distribution within the property. The risk of new introductions of invasive organisms, or further spread of those already present, is likely to increase as predicted environmental changes occur under new climatic regimes, resulting in increased species movements and greater impacts to the TWWHA's OUV. Successful management of biosecurity risks in the TWWHA relies on preventing the establishment of new invasive organisms and proactive management of existing biosecurity threats.

Purpose

The purpose of the Strategy is to guide management activities and decision making to minimise the impacts of invasive organisms on the natural and cultural values of the TWWHA. The Strategy provides direction for implementing a suite of actions to achieve this, focussing on proactive management that addresses biosecurity risks to the TWWHA.

Cultural values of the TWWHA

Aboriginal cultural values are recognised as having OUV under the World Heritage listing of the TWWHA. The TWWHA contains both tangible and intangible Aboriginal cultural values across the land, sky and seascape, reflecting an occupation by Aboriginal people for at least 35,000 years. These Aboriginal cultural values include rich and diverse archaeological evidence, such as shell middens and rock art, which not only provide a physical and spiritual connection for Tasmanian Aboriginal people, but also valuable information about one of the oldest living cultures in the world.

Many of the Aboriginal cultural values of the TWWHA are susceptible to the same invasive organisms that affect natural values. Touching delicate rock art, digging a burrow into a stratified deposit, or erosion of a sand dune containing a shell midden (whether it be from animal trampling or vegetation changes), are all

examples of ways that Aboriginal cultural values may be directly harmed. The introduction of disease or pest animals into an Aboriginal cultural landscape, such as the buttongrass plains, could, over time, have the catastrophic effect of irrevocably altering that landscape.

It is acknowledged that very little research has been undertaken in this area, particularly as it relates to the TWWHA and the Outstanding Universal Values therein. An opportunity exists to work collaboratively in the future, to better understand biosecurity risks capable of impacting Aboriginal cultural values, and how these risks could be managed specific to protecting cultural values.

Natural values of the TWWHA

The TWWHA is one of the Southern Hemisphere's largest temperate wilderness areas and consists of significant flora, fauna and geodiversity values that contribute to its Outstanding Universal Value. Across its 1.58 million hectares, the property displays a diversity of habitats including high-energy coastlines, unique marine environments within Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour, extensive freshwater systems, Australia's most extensive glacially formed landscapes, deep karst systems and many different vegetation communities, including large stands of tall eucalypt forest and rare alpine species¹. Due to Tasmania's isolation, these habitats support many rare and threatened flora and fauna species that do not occur in other parts of Australia. For example, around 70 per cent of flora in the TWWHA's temperate alpine ecosystems is endemic to Tasmania¹. The natural values of the TWWHA provide evidence of its rich geological history with connections to the early supercontinent Gondwana, including flora and fauna closely related to species found in other continents that were once part of the Gondwanan supercontinent.

Invasive organisms can impact these natural values in many ways; they have the propensity to cause extinctions and change entire ecosystems. Weeds for example, can outcompete native plants and alter the structure of vegetation communities, as well as compromise the integrity and composition of active landforms as seen in the coverage of dune systems with introduced sea spurge or marram grass². Pest animals may directly prey on native animals or occupy their food and habitat resources in the TWWHA. Pest animals can also spread disease and cause substantial impacts to flora and geodiversity values by digging/burrowing, grazing or trampling vegetation, as is seen with deer and rabbits in sensitive alpine communities of the Central Plateau Conservation Area or superb lyrebirds, which disrupt forest floor ecology. Erosion due to overgrazing and burrowing by invasive animals also presents an issue. Diseases can spread easily, via contaminated water or soil for example, causing death or illness to vulnerable plant and animal populations throughout the TWWHA. Reducing the risk of invasive organisms entering, spreading and establishing in the TWWHA is paramount for protecting its natural values.

Scope and Duration

The Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy 2013–2017 is Tasmania's overarching strategy for the protection of public health and wellbeing, industries and the environment from the negative impacts of weeds, pests and diseases. This statewide Strategy recognises the need to manage biosecurity threats already present in the State and, the potential of those not present to arrive. It identifies actions designed to mitigate the risks outside of, at entry point into, and within the island state of Tasmania.

Management of risks prior to and at the Tasmanian border are outside the scope of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy. Genetically modified organisms, animal welfare or chemical contamination issues are also outside the scope of this Strategy.

The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy is restricted to within Tasmania, focusing on preventing and mitigating biosecurity risks created by human activities within and around the TWWHA, including terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Pathways of introduction for invasive organisms that do not currently exist in the TWWHA but could be easily introduced and / or pose a significant threat will be considered where necessary, noting that the state Biosecurity Strategy is responsible for threats outside of or at entry point into Tasmania.

In addition to considering invasive plants, animals and diseases, the Strategy also considers native pathogens (disease causing agents) which now threaten their host population due to environmental changes, ecosystem changes or new transport pathways. The biosecurity threats covered by this risk management framework therefore include:

- Invasive organisms including vertebrate and invertebrate animals, weeds and invasive non-pathogenic fungi
- Pathogens of both plants and animals including disease causing bacteria, fungi and viruses (both native and non-native)
- Algae and single-celled organisms that produce harmful toxins

The Strategy is focussed on the management of human activities that influence the distribution and impact of these biosecurity threats in the TWWHA. Specifically, those activities which:

- Increase the risk of introduction and establishment of new biosecurity threats
- Increase the risk of the spread, or worsening of existing biosecurity threats

The duration of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy is 10 years from 2021 to 2031 and will include periodic review. The Parks and Wildlife Service of DPIPWE is the primary owner of the Strategy and will oversee its implementation with significant contributions from other areas of the Department.

Guiding Principles

This Strategy has been developed on the basis of seven key principles that are consistent with the approach to managing biosecurity in Tasmania (see *Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy: DPIPWE, 2017*). These principles will be incorporated into the TWWHA biosecurity management actions across all management levels.

1. **Protect the natural and cultural values of the TWWHA:** The protection of biodiversity, ecosystem function and Aboriginal cultural heritage is a key requirement in the TWWHA Management Plan (2016). This Strategy will contribute to the objectives and priorities of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016 and the Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy.

2. **Zero biosecurity risk is unattainable:** It is acknowledged that eliminating biosecurity risk in the TWWHA is not possible, rather the Tasmanian Government aims to minimise risk as much as possible.
3. **Prevention is better than cure:** Preventing the establishment of invasive organisms and disease is far more cost-effective than eradication or ongoing management of established populations.
4. **Use a risk-based approach for management:** Prioritisation of biosecurity management actions must be informed by a risk-based approach taking into account cost, likelihood of success and impact.
5. **Effective biosecurity must be informed by monitoring and evaluation, leading to evidence-based adaptive management:** Management approaches for biosecurity threats will be adapted according to their evaluated effectiveness.
6. **Biosecurity is a shared responsibility:** Landholders, industry, government, visitors and the broader community all have a role to play in biosecurity. The Tasmanian Government recognises it has a leadership role but also acknowledges that a successful biosecurity system for the TWWHA relies on contribution by all stakeholders across a range of scales and land tenures.
7. **Whole-of-Government approach:** The Tasmanian Government recognises that whilst a TWWHA biosecurity system will be led by DPIPWE, its success requires coordinated and cooperative input from all government departments and statutory land managers with a stake in biosecurity and/or the TWWHA.

3. Context

Management of biosecurity risk in the TWWHA

A biosecurity risk has two components: (1) the likelihood of entry, establishment and spread of the invasive organism, and (2) the consequences to the environment, community or the economy if it were to occur. Effective management of biosecurity risks in the TWWHA involves the following process:



The Strategy aims to use this process to achieve effective, coordinated management and mitigation of biosecurity risks in the TWWHA.

Legislative framework for managing biosecurity in the TWWHA

As a State Party under the World Heritage Convention, the Commonwealth of Australia is responsible for providing a Management Plan for upkeep of the TWWHA, for protecting its World Heritage values and for reporting periodically on its condition⁴. The day-to-day management of the TWWHA is undertaken primarily by the Tasmanian Government (DPIPWE), alongside a small number of private landholders (for example Hydro Tasmania, the Tasmanian Land Conservancy and others) who manage land within the property. A range of National and State legislation apply to management of the TWWHA and protection of its values from biosecurity threats.

National

Australia's national environmental law, the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) provides a high level of protection for the OUV of the TWWHA. The National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA) also applies to biosecurity in the TWWHA by providing a framework for emergency response arrangements for nationally significant biosecurity incidents.

The EPBC Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage matters of national environmental significance. The World Heritage values of the TWWHA such as the nationally and internationally

important flora, fauna, ecological communities, landscape processes and heritage places are considered such matters. Under the EPBC Act, the Commonwealth can list key threatening processes (KTP's) such as invasive species and diseases, as well as develop and implement threat abatement plans to reduce the impacts of these KTPs on a listed threatened species or ecological community. There are several KTPs listed by the EPBC Act which relate to introduced species or diseases currently present in the TWWHA and which threaten TWWHA values.

The NEBRA outlines arrangements for emergency response to any nationally significant biosecurity incidents for both terrestrial and marine environments that have high environmental and/or social amenity impacts, and where a national response is for the public good. This agreement would apply for example, if pests or diseases of national significance were detected in the TWWHA. The NEBRA also sets out cost-sharing arrangements for these incidents.

State

Three key pieces of Tasmanian legislation provide the legislative framework for managing biosecurity in the TWWHA: the *Biosecurity Act 2019*, the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* and the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*.

Tasmania introduced new biosecurity-specific legislation in 2019: The *Biosecurity Act 2019* provides a legal framework for the management of invasive species and diseases, imports of plant and animal products and biosecurity emergencies. The roll-out of the new Biosecurity Act will require the development of a suite of new regulations, administrative systems and resources. Full implementation of the Act is expected to take around two to three years. The existing legislation will remain in place until the Biosecurity Act has commenced. However, once it is fully commenced the *Biosecurity Act 2019* will be the principal State legislation for managing biosecurity risks and biosecurity emergencies in the TWWHA. The Biosecurity Act replaces seven Acts:

- *Animal (Brands & Movement) Act 1984*
- *Seeds Act 1985*
- *Animal Farming (Registration) Act 1994*
- *Animal Health Act 1995*
- *Plant Quarantine Act 1997*
- *Weed Management Act 1999*
- *Vermin Control Act 2000*

The Biosecurity Act describes a 'general biosecurity duty', which creates an obligation on everyone to use reasonable standards of care when dealing with any biological material, including potentially contaminated soil, that may pose a biosecurity risk. Under the general biosecurity duty, any person dealing with plants or animals (or their derived products) who knows, or ought reasonably to know, that a biosecurity risk is posed or is likely to be posed has a legal duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised. This duty includes any owner, occupier or person in charge of a premises. The inclusion of the general biosecurity duty within the Biosecurity Act emphasises the importance of shared responsibilities in maintaining a robust biosecurity system.

The reserves that form the TWWHA are declared under Tasmania's *Nature Conservation Act 2002*, which states the values and purposes of each reserve class. The *Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010* allow for prohibition on the introduction of restricted species in Tasmania under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

The *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* and associated regulations allow for the care, control and management of reserved lands in the TWWHA. This includes the preservation or protection of geological diversity, fauna and flora of, or of any living things kept in, the area of reserved land and, any conservation purpose or management objective for the particular class of reserved land.

The *National Parks and Reserves Management Regulations 2019* empower the PWS to authorise, restrict or prohibit access to reserved land, or parts thereof, for the protection of its natural and cultural values, amongst other things.

The *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* provides for the development of Management Plans that can impose regimes to control management and use of any reserved land. The TWWHA Management Plan 2016 provides for the designation of biosecurity zones (overlays) which could be used to control management and other activities that pose a high biosecurity risk. These biosecurity zones have already been developed and will be implemented as part of this Strategy.

The PWS, as the managing authority for the TWWHA, is also empowered to grant authorities, including leases and licences, in relation to the use of reserved land. In granting licences and authorities, specific requirements for adherence to biosecurity conditions can be included.

The managing authority may also designate an area and may permit, restrict or prohibit a specified activity or use and impose other measures to minimise impact on the area, the natural and cultural values of the reserved land or its wildlife.

Alignment with other strategies and management plans

The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy aligns with a number of Tasmanian strategies and management plans. In particular:

- Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy 2013–2017
- TWWHA Management Plan 2016
- Climate Action 21: Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2017–2021
- TWWHA Natural Values Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2020–2030 (in preparation)
- TWWHA Fire Management Plan (in preparation)

The Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy has been developed for the whole of Tasmania and it is based on the principle that an effective biosecurity system needs to manage risks across the entire biosecurity continuum, with pre-border, border and within border activities designed to work together to mitigate risks. The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy focuses on the post-border part of the continuum.

The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy addresses the following Key Desired Outcome (KDO) of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016:

- A comprehensive suite of strategies is in place that minimises biosecurity risks to the natural values of the TWWHA (KDO 5.5)

and contributes towards addressing other KDOs including:

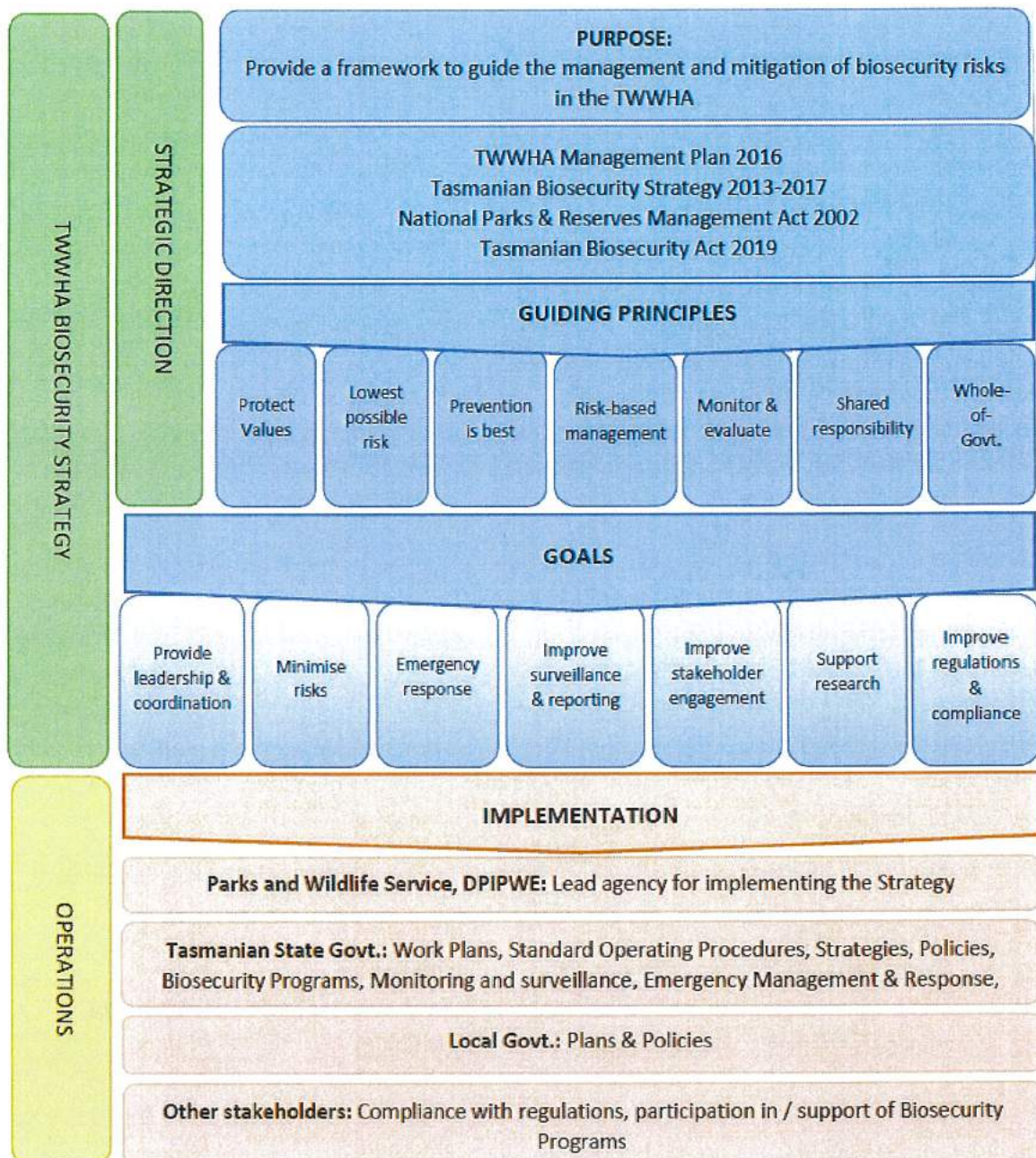
- Aboriginal heritage sites at greatest risk are identified, protective measures implemented and their effectiveness monitored (KDO 4.4)
- Research and monitoring programs in the TWWHA provide an understanding of trends in the conservation status of priority natural values, identify risks to those values, support the development of management strategies, and allow for rigorous assessment of management effectiveness (KDO 5.2)
- Where practicable, mitigation strategies are developed and implemented that minimise the impact of climate change on priority TWWHA values (KDO 5.6)
- Monitoring of natural values supports both the development of management strategies and actions that prevent or mitigate the potential impact of usage in the TWWHA, and the evaluation of management effectiveness (KDO 5.7)
- The aesthetic qualities of the TWWHA are maintained or improved (KDO 5.8)
- Threatened species and ecosystems remain at least stable or increase in population or extent (KDO 5.9)

Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2017-2021 identifies the need to build climate resilience through a better understanding and management of the risks of a changing climate (Priority 5). Climate change will have significant implications for TWWHA biosecurity, both in terms of the vulnerability of values and landscapes and the risk posed by existing or potential invasive organisms. The TWWHA Natural Values Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2020-2030 (in prep.) recognises the potential for climate change to exacerbate the threat of invasive organisms on TWWHA values. It includes actions to manage the risk of weed, pest and disease entry, establishment and spread through implementation of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy.

The TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy is also informed by the objectives, principles and conclusions of past strategies and plans, including:

- TWWHA Weed Management Strategy 2010–2013 (unpublished)
- Review, Risk Assessment and Management of Introduced Animals in the TWWHA (2010)
- Strategy for Managing Wildlife Disease in the TWWHA (2008)

4. The Strategy at a glance



5. Current Threats – Future Challenges

Invasive Organisms

Over 150 invasive pest species have been recorded in the TWWHA and considerably more have been recorded across the rest of Tasmania. Risk assessments for many of those recorded in the TWWHA have been undertaken to determine priorities for management. In some cases, these assessments need reviewing and updating to account for the risk posed by climate change, the inclusion of the 2013 TWWHA extension areas, and new knowledge about some invasive species, such as changes in range. The criteria for assessing the consequences of different species establishing or spreading also require review to ensure they are consistently applied to all invasive organisms.

Weeds

Past weed risk assessment and prioritisation work has been carried out in the TWWHA, however various (differing) criteria have been used and priority has, at times, been assigned for differing purposes. Some species that have been identified as high-risk/priority include Spanish heath (*Erica lusitanica*), ragwort (*Senecio japonica*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*), gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), bulrush (*Typha latifolia*), orange hawkweed (*Pilosella aurantiaca* subsp. *aurantiaca*), sea spurge (*Euphorbia paralia*) and marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*)². Whilst updated risk assessments of weeds in the TWWHA are unlikely to change the priority species dramatically, the assessed level of risk for these species may increase, raising the importance and urgency of monitoring and management programs. Existing management programs for priority species should therefore continue, rather than be postponed until the risk assessments are updated. One of the gaps in past assessments and prioritisations is that they have, to date, not taken into account species that are not currently in the TWWHA but pose a risk, such as rice grass (*Spartina anglica*). There is also a need to assess species not present in Tasmania that pose a high risk to the TWWHA and which also pose significant risk of accidental introduction such as the algae didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*).

Not assessed to date, are invasive non-pathogenic fungi, which although technically not weeds, have the potential to negatively impact ecosystems. Examples are the Fly agaric mushroom (*Amanita muscaria*) which is already present in the TWWHA and Orange spore fungus (*Favolaschia calocera*), which is currently absent from the TWWHA but is likely to spread there in the future. Both species may pose a risk in certain TWWHA environments.

Pests

Risk assessments have previously been undertaken for introduced animals known to occur in the TWWHA, and for introduced animals known to occur in Tasmania but not known from the TWWHA⁵. Some of the high-risk invasive animals identified in these assessments include Brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), Superb Lyrebird (*Menura novaehollandiae*) and the European wasp (*Vespula germanica*). Some species previously assessed as low-risk may now present a higher risk due to changing environmental conditions or new knowledge about their impacts, such as with sugar gliders (*Petaurus breviceps*)⁶ and deer (*Dama dama*) which are extending their range into the TWWHA. Information on these and other species

identified by previous risk assessments are included in Appendix 1. Risk assessments for some introduced animals require updating to account for new information about their distribution and level of threat; further surveys may be required to assess this for some species.

Diseases

This Strategy addresses plant and animal diseases caused by a range of agents, referred to in this Strategy collectively as pathogens, which include viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. A range of invasive pathogens pose significant risk to ecological communities and species globally, with some of these capable of causing population and species level extinctions. Amphibian chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*) for example, is responsible for the extinction of 90 species of frog and significant decline in over 400 others globally⁷. Some diseases that present a biosecurity risk in the TWWHA are not exotic, though changes to environmental conditions, transport pathways or host resilience can result in native pathogens becoming a threat to plant and animal populations. For example, the fungus *Chalara australis* that causes myrtle wilt disease in beech trees (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*) is naturally occurring in Australia but increased by human disturbance⁸.

Within the TWWHA, several invasive pathogens are known to be present and have been identified as high-risk based on previous risk assessments⁹. These species include, but are not limited to, root rot (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*), amphibian chytrid fungus, myrtle wilt and psittacine circoviral disease. The Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD), another disease that presents a high risk, is a cancer impacting upon Tasmanian devils rather than disease caused by a pathogen. Information on wildlife diseases present in the TWWHA, including some which have been assessed as lower risk, are presented in Appendix 1. Risk assessments of diseases require updating to account for new information about their distribution and level of threat. In cases where pathogens can spread rapidly and monitoring has not been undertaken in the TWWHA for several years, such as with amphibian chytrid fungus, surveys may be required to inform and appropriately assess the risk to native species in the TWWHA. Risk assessments also need to incorporate plant diseases that are not currently in the TWWHA but that pose a risk, such as myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*).

Non-pathogenic fungi and soil flora are a poorly known group in terms of invasive potential, extent and the impacts on native soil communities and associated ecosystems. They are however highly predisposed to being spread by human activity. The most noticeable invasive fungus present in the TWWHA is the fly agaric mushroom (*Amanita muscaria*). This is an ectomycorrhizal species which is now considered to be a widespread invasive in rainforest in the South Island of New Zealand where it is associated with *Nothofagus* species and potentially several species from the Myrtaceae family¹⁰. In the TWWHA, *A. muscaria* has recently been recorded at several sites invading undisturbed rainforest where it is suspected of developing a symbiotic relationship with myrtle (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*). The impact of this on soil biodiversity and on the ecosystem as a whole is not known, however the ability to invade undisturbed climax rainforest suggests the species poses a high biosecurity risk.

Prioritising control and management of invasive organisms

In addition to prioritising based on risk assessment, the management of invasive organisms needs to consider the likelihood of achieving effective outcomes and to direct efforts where the greatest gains can be made, rather than towards programs that are unlikely to be viable or have any long-term impact. Common failures of eradication programs occur when invasive organisms have spread too far; when there are logistical issues such as target species detectability¹¹ or; treatment methods are inappropriate or not applied over a broad enough area¹². As demonstrated by the “invasion curve” for invasive species (Figure 1): after an initial incursion of an invasive organism, there may be a small window of opportunity to achieve eradication. This opportunity passes once the population increases or spreads to a level where eradication is no longer feasible. Management must then switch to containment, or once the species is established and widespread, management efforts are focussed on asset protection. This process will be carefully considered when allocating resources to the control of invasive organisms in the TWWHA. Equally, management of invasive organisms in the TWWHA must also consider potential adverse impacts, for example, on Macquarie Island following the rabbit control program and subsequent reduction in rabbit numbers, feral cats shifted their diet to prey on native seabirds¹³. Adequate knowledge about the status (eg distribution and impacts) of invasive organisms in the TWWHA and the values they affect is essential to inform decisions on how, when and where to implement management works and programs. Research, monitoring and evaluation of invasive organisms and their impacts in the TWWHA are incorporated into the actions of this Strategy, as well as risk assessments for invasive organisms (existing and potential) that evaluate the likelihood of entry, probability of establishment and spread and, consequences of spread.

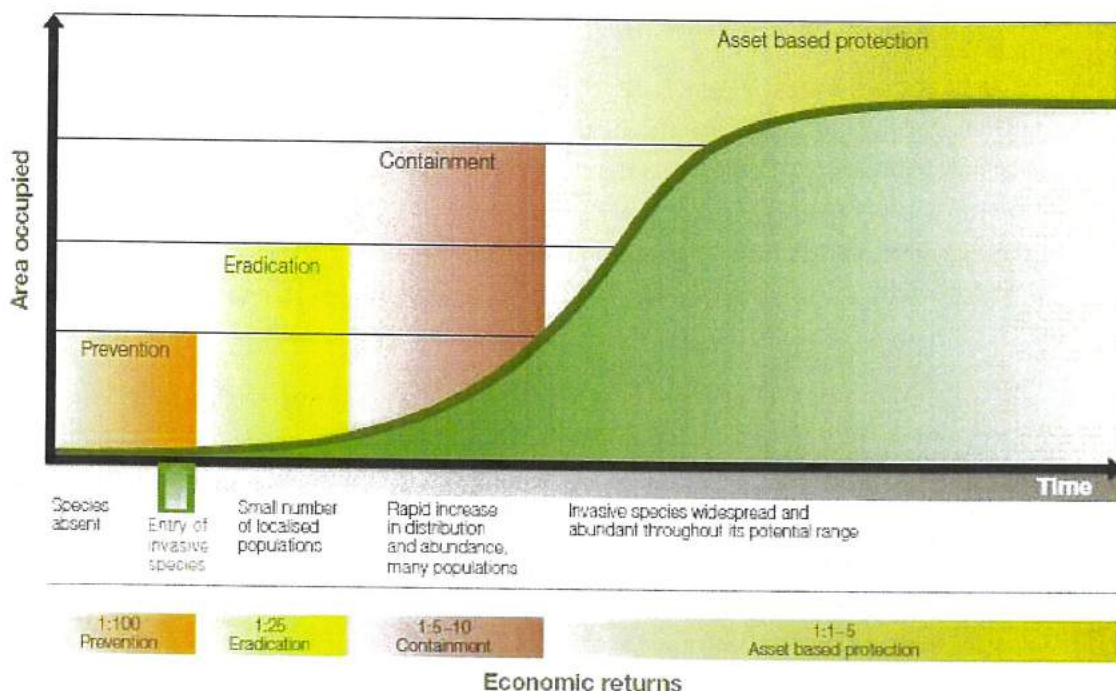


Figure 1: The Invasion Curve¹⁴ demonstrating Guiding Principle 3 of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy: Prevention is better than cure.

Recognising and responding to biosecurity issues

Effective management and mitigation of invasive organisms relies on timely detection and effective response. Due to the generally small eradication window once an invasive organism arrives (see Figure 1), a slow response increases the risk that ongoing management would be required. One of the biggest challenges to managing biosecurity risks in the TWWHA is not having suitable measures in place to detect and respond to invasive organisms before they establish. The stakeholder consultation undertaken during the development of this Strategy identified the lack of a streamlined process for reporting invasive organisms in the TWWHA and activities that increase the likelihood of introduction or spread, as a key concern.

A new reporting system is proposed to be developed and promoted amongst stakeholders and networks (see Action 4.1). This system will detail how to identify and report biosecurity threats in the TWWHA, including:

- Recognising signs of disease in wildlife
- Recognising signs of disease in plants
- Identifying invasive organisms
- Suspected invasive organism incursion or range expansion
- Activities that increase biosecurity risk to the TWWHA, including non-compliance with biosecurity procedures

Climate change

Given the rate and scale of climate change forecast to occur over the coming decades, this process is acknowledged to be the single greatest overarching threat to the maintenance of natural landscape processes and global biodiversity¹⁵. Changes in the climate incorporate alterations in long term averages, variability and extremes of weather experienced on a day to day basis. In the TWWHA this is intrinsically altering many interactions and threats and provides an already significant and growing challenge for management. Climate change and the resulting impacts are expected to accelerate over coming decades.

Climate change impacts ecosystems and values in numerous ways. One of the overarching themes however is that many natural areas will experience increased disturbance, including fire, drought, flood and storm surge damage, and will have reduced resilience to this disturbance. As a result, values may be less able or slower to recover from adverse events and will become less resilient to additional threats such as invasive plants, animals and diseases. Additionally, changes in the climate and the environmental implications of this (e.g. increasing water and soil temperatures) will favour a different suite of invasive organisms, including new pathways of entry and spread. This will include some organisms not yet present, but will also likely increase the risk posed by some that are already present.

The strategic management of the adaptation of natural values to climate change and the amelioration of unavoidable impacts in the TWWHA follows a multi-levelled approach. The effective management of overarching processes and threats is an integral landscape level component of this approach. One

pathway to achieving this is the implementation of robust biosecurity measures and targeted management of invasive organisms. By reducing these ecosystem stressors, the natural ability of ecosystems to adapt with limited loss of values and integrity will be maximised.

The specific ways in which individual organisms will respond to the changing environment resulting from climate change is poorly understood. Therefore, the importance of monitoring the response of existing invasive organisms as well as the monitoring for, and reporting of, new occurrences is imperative.

High-risk activities

Nearly all human activities in the TWWHA present some level of biosecurity risk. An exhaustive, internal assessment of these activities and the risks they pose has been undertaken in an Environmental Aspect Risk Assessment, undertaken by the PWS in 2019. The pathways identified in this assessment that could facilitate the introduction or spread of invasive organisms are many (and are listed in Appendix 2). Control and mitigation actions to address these risks have been considered and actions to implement them are incorporated into this Strategy.

Whilst nearly all human movements and activities present a biosecurity risk within the TWWHA, some classes of activity present a heightened risk. In particular, several classes of activity which can be considered very high risk without appropriate mitigation measures in terms of biosecurity are:

- Any activity that provides a direct pathway of transport into remote or seldom visited areas, such as boat and aircraft access to islands or isolated locations, and remote firefighting operations.
- Any activity that transports quantities of natural materials such as soil, gravel, timber or water between places provides a higher risk of also transporting invasive organisms or their propagules.
- Any activity that takes place in the vicinity of already established biosecurity threats, such as weed infestations or *Phytophthora cinnamomi* infections, provides the potential to further spread these infestations.
- Any activity that facilitates rapid transport between two or more similar natural areas in quick succession, such as multiple landings during helicopter operations and overland boat transport between water bodies.

6. Roles and responsibilities

Clearly defined roles and responsibilities that are communicated to all stakeholders are an integral part of the effective management of TWWHA values. All stakeholders have a responsibility to reduce the risk associated with introducing or spreading invasive organisms into and within the TWWHA. At a minimum, this involves adopting stringent hygiene practices. Partnerships and collaboration between land managers across different land tenures is especially important where there is a risk of invasive organisms spreading from one property to another.

The roles and responsibilities of different stakeholder groups involved in the management or use of the TWWHA are outlined below. Specific actions associated with these roles and responsibilities are listed in Section 7 of this Strategy (Goals, Actions and Outcomes).

Land managers within and adjacent to the TWWHA

Responsibilities include:

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Report and where appropriate, respond to new occurrences of invasive organisms.
- Control and manage established invasive organisms and risks to mitigate, as necessary, the impacts on natural and cultural values.
- Participate in biosecurity programs and community-initiated action.
- Cooperate with neighbours, state and local governments to plan biosecurity management activities within a landscape scale/cross-tenure approach.
- Manage land adjoining the TWWHA to reduce the risk of invasive organisms spreading into the TWWHA.
- Support and build public awareness about invasive organisms and risks.

Tasmanian Government

Responsibilities include:

Parks and Wildlife Service, DPIPWE

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Lead coordination and collaboration in biosecurity risk management in the TWWHA at local, regional and state levels.
- Encourage responsible biosecurity risk management by supporting a suitable institutional, legislative and regulatory framework, developing and implementing effective policies and programs and where appropriate, providing support to landholders.
- Report and respond to new occurrences of invasive organisms.
- Continue to work with other jurisdictions and stakeholders to update management plans and operating procedures.
- Manage biosecurity problems on government land and waterways in a responsible way, in co-operation with other landowners and managers.
- Control and manage established invasive organisms as necessary to mitigate their impacts on natural and cultural values.
- Ensure that land management activities in the TWWHA are undertaken in accordance with biosecurity risk minimisation procedures.
- Support and build public awareness about invasive organisms and risks, including visitor management and education.
- Manage land at the TWWHA borders to reduce the risk of invasive organisms spreading onto neighbouring properties.

- Adhere to biosecurity practices and protocols to minimise risk when undertaking emergency response work within the TWWHA.
- Support the collection of biosecurity related data and information that can be collated for the TWWHA.

Biosecurity Tasmania, DPIPWE

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Provide leadership in responding to incursions of national priority invasive organisms under the NEBRA.
- Encourage responsible biosecurity risk management by maintaining a suitable institutional, legislative and regulatory framework, and ensuring effective policies and programs exist to support that framework.
- Support, where needed, priority monitoring and research related to invasive organisms and their impacts in the TWWHA.
- Work with other jurisdictions and stakeholders to coordinate policy for the management of invasive organisms.
- Work with people or groups that have the potential to create biosecurity risks beyond the TWWHA border (eg keepers of exotic species) to assist adoption of risk management measures.
- Support and build public awareness about invasive organisms and risks.

Natural and Cultural Heritage Division, DPIPWE

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Update risk assessments as relevant to invasive organisms in the TWWHA.
- Undertake priority monitoring and research related to invasive organisms and their impacts in the TWWHA.
- Provide advisory services related to TWWHA biosecurity.
- Support and build public awareness about invasive organisms and risks.

Emergency Services (TFS, SES, Tas Police)

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Adhere to biosecurity practices and protocols to minimise risk when undertaking emergency response work within the TWWHA.
- Support the collection of biosecurity related data and information that can be collated for the TWWHA.

Industry Groups (eg tourism operators, apiarists, aircraft operators)

Responsibilities include:

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA;
- Adhere to biosecurity legislation and regulations.

- Adhere to, and encourage the adoption of policies and plans that improve the effectiveness of biosecurity management.
- Build biosecurity measures into industry practices and operations conducted in and adjacent to the TWWHA.
- Lead, promote and participate in collective action to mitigate impacts of invasive organisms on industry assets.
- Support research and development of biosecurity management relevant to industry.
- Distribute information on biosecurity issues and best practice management and mitigation methods to other TWWHA stakeholders or affiliates.
- Represent industry interests in biosecurity management.
- Assist with data collection and information exchange where appropriate.
- Support and build public awareness about invasive organisms and risks.

Community Groups (eg NRM, Landcare, volunteer groups)

Responsibilities include:

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Lead, promote and participate in programs and collective action to identify, report and mitigate impacts of invasive organisms in the TWWHA.
- Provide leadership and direction regarding biosecurity risk minimisation.
- Represent community interests in biosecurity management.
- Assist with data collection and information exchange where appropriate.
- Support and build public awareness about biosecurity issues and risks.

Visitors (eg recreationalists, non-government researchers)

Responsibilities include:

- Adhere to biosecurity risk minimisation practices at all times when visiting the TWWHA.
- Where appropriate, participate in programs and collective action to identify, report and mitigate impacts of invasive organisms on TWWHA values.
- Assist with data collection and information exchange, where possible.

7. Goals, Actions and Outcomes

Seven key goals have been identified to address biosecurity risks in the TWWHA. The associated actions, including achievement pathways, aim to minimise the threat of invasive organisms on TWWHA values by improving planning, communication, documentation, training and education, research, compliance and emergency response.

Goals of the Strategy:

GOAL 1: Provide TWWHA biosecurity leadership and coordination

GOAL 2: Minimise the risk of introducing new and, spreading existing, invasive organisms in the TWWHA

GOAL 3: Provide appropriate emergency response to incursions of priority invasive organisms

GOAL 4: Improve recording and information management systems for the documentation of biosecurity threats and impacts in the TWWHA

GOAL 5: Improve stakeholder communication and engagement

GOAL 6: Support biosecurity research within the TWWHA

GOAL 7: Improve TWWHA biosecurity regulations and compliance

Goal 2 aims to minimise the risks of new and existing invasive organisms impacting the TWWHA with a range of operational actions implemented according to the PWS Environmental Management System (based on the AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004 standards).

The lead agency of DPIPWE listed in each of the following goal tables, is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the actions with support from the partner agencies and organisations.

Not all actions are the same priority. Some are essential to building capacity to manage biosecurity risks and will have a greater impact, therefore are of a higher priority. The Environmental Aspect Risk Assessment developed by PWS will be used to distinguish priority actions over others.

GOAL 1: Provide TWWHA biosecurity leadership and coordination

Desired outcomes:

- Shared responsibility and coordination of biosecurity actions amongst stakeholders
- Stronger partnerships between stakeholders with a greater capacity for achieving biosecurity goals
- Improved capacity to manage and respond to biosecurity risks in the TWWHA
- Resources are allocated on the basis of cost-effectiveness and risk reduction
- Stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.5

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
1.1 Effective governance and support resources are established for implementation of the Strategy	1.1.1	Establish a biosecurity management committee including representative stakeholders.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	1.1.2	Management committee prioritises and schedules the time frames for delivery of actions in this Strategy.	
	1.1.3	Engage a project officer to assist the management committee to implement the TWWHA biosecurity Strategy.	
	1.1.2	Engage regional rangers or officers to oversee the implementation of biosecurity actions.	
	1.1.3	Develop a communications plan to ensure that stakeholders are informed of the Strategy, its key messages and implementation.	
1.2 Ensure biosecurity is recognised as a core responsibility in TWWHA management and is funded accordingly	1.2.1	Resources are appropriately allocated to mitigation of invasive organisms that create the highest risk and can be effectively managed.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT) NRM groups Community groups
	1.2.2	If required, additional funding opportunities are sought where possible to support priority biosecurity programs.	

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
1.3 Clearly outline roles and responsibilities for biosecurity risks in the TWWHA and communicate them to stakeholders	1.3.1	Roles are communicated to the relevant stakeholders.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	1.3.2	A copy of the Strategy is provided to stakeholders.	
1.4 Review and evaluate this Strategy before 2030	1.4.1	Management committee (1.1.1) evaluate the Strategy and outcomes before 2030.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (BT) DPIPWE (NCH)

GOAL 2: Minimise the risk of introducing new and, spreading existing, invasive organisms in the TWWHA.

Desired outcomes:

- Reduced impact of invasive organisms on TWWHA values
- Management activities in the TWWHA do not increase the risk of introduction or spread of invasive organisms
- Proactive actions taken to detect and control new invasive organisms that pose a high risk to the TWWHA
- Up to date knowledge of the risk presented by existing invasive organisms throughout the TWWHA
- Resources allocated to biosecurity programs on the basis of risk

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
2.1 Assess risks of existing and new invasive organisms	2.1.1	Revise the risk assessments of <i>existing</i> invasive organisms in the TWWHA to identify priority issues requiring action. Risk assessments need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include the 2013 extension area; • consider risks posed by climate change; • incorporate new knowledge about invasive organisms; and • identify critical programs for resource allocation. 	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)

Achievement pathways		Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
2.2 Develop and implement surveillance (inspection) programs with the aim to detect new invasive organisms	2.1.2 Update risk assessments for <i>potential</i> (i.e. not currently present) invasive organisms in the TWWHA using consistent prioritisation criteria.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	2.2.1 Develop and implement a proactive, priority-based inspection program aimed at identifying new invasive organisms. The program should take into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - environments regularly exposed to human disturbance; - proximity to natural and built transport vectors (rivers, streams, coastlines, roadsides, walking tracks, visitor service sites); - transportation hubs (eg helicopter landing sites) 	
	2.2.2 Schedule surveillance activities into the PWS asset management system.	
	2.2.3 Identify native populations at risk from invasive organisms and implement monitoring programs where feasible.	
	2.2.4 Undertake thorough assessment of sites before and after construction works.	
2.3 Monitor existing invasive organisms	2.2.5 Develop and implement surveillance following natural disasters.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	2.3.1 Identify internal and external opportunities and resources for ongoing monitoring of invasive organisms in the TWWHA.	
	2.3.2 Monitor priority (highest risk) invasive organisms in the TWWHA and their impacts.	
	2.3.3 Maintain records of the extent of invasive organisms (see also Action 4.1 & 4.2).	
	2.4.1 Develop a process for the identification, assessment and application of biosecurity zones (management overlays) as a means of applying control actions (see also 5.4).	
2.4 Plan , based on the assessed risks, to prevent the introduction of new, and spread of existing, invasive organisms.	2.4.2 Ensure Reserve Activity Assessment forms include biosecurity assessments.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	2.4.3 Adopt a hierarchy of control approach to controlling biosecurity risks whereby elimination of the risk is considered as a first priority (eg not undertaking works if they pose a high biosecurity risk).	
	2.4.4 Ensure plans to control invasive organisms incorporate surveillance, monitoring, risk assessments and biosecurity zoning. This includes regular review and improvement (where required) of control measures.	
	2.5.1 Ensure biosecurity hygiene practices are integrated into TWWHA management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update standard operating procedures and other operational plans to include biosecurity controls and protocols, particularly for high-risk management activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire management and suppression 	
	2.5 Undertake management practices in a way that reduces the risk of introduction or spread of invasive organisms in the TWWHA	

Actions	Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road and track management - Revegetation and landscaping - Building and development - Field based activities such as research & monitoring • Develop and implement biosecurity training programs for PWS staff and others involved in land management, including firefighters. 	
	2.5.2 Review transport pathways to remote areas and ensure biosecurity controls are in place and effective.	
	2.5.3 Improve the culture of biosecurity awareness, management and mitigation during emergency response operations (eg fire, rescue) and planned burns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate management and preparedness occurs prior to fires, including the maintenance of fire trails and firefighting equipment. • Planned Burn Reserve Activity Assessments identify the relevant biosecurity zoning, risks and mitigation measures to be implemented. • Ensure fire personnel and emergency rescue agencies receive biosecurity training. • Incorporate biosecurity procedures in guidelines for Incident Management Team personnel (eg water for firefighting operations to be treated or kept within catchments). • Ensure biosecurity is considered in Incident Action Plans • Conduct firefighting activities in accordance with the TWWHA Fire Management Plan (in preparation). 	
	2.5.4 Review and, improve where required, biosecurity infrastructure including signs and hygiene facilities at entry points to sensitive areas (eg boat entry to Melaleuca; remote helicopter landing sites and/or departure points).	
	2.5.5 Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with road managers maintaining roadside vegetation in or adjacent to the TWWHA to implement procedures to control and mitigate the spread of weeds.	

GOAL 3: Provide appropriate emergency response to incursions of priority invasive organisms

Desired outcomes:

- Rapid and effective response to biosecurity threats
- Minimised risk of invasive organisms establishing or spreading in the TWWHA

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
3.1 Develop a biosecurity emergency response plan for the TWWHA based on state and national protocols	3.1.1	Develop an emergency response plan for the TWWHA that is linked to and consistent with the State and National emergency response frameworks and deed agreements.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	3.1.2	Emergency response plan must include delimiting surveys to determine the extent and distribution of the invading organism.	
3.2 Improve biosecurity response awareness and preparedness	3.2.1	Ensure relevant staff are familiar with the biosecurity emergency response plan (3.1).	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (BT) DPIPWE (NCH)
	3.2.2	Develop and implement incursion preparedness plans for priority invasive organisms (Biosecurity Tasmania).	
	3.2.3	Conduct staff training and development activities to build emergency response skills.	
	3.2.4	Design and conduct exercises that focus on elements of a biosecurity response.	
	3.2.5	Ensure adequate resources including equipment and trained staff, are readily available to respond to biosecurity incidents such as invasive species incursions or disease outbreaks in the TWWHA. Includes access to relevant expertise and knowledge across the Department and broader State Service where available.	

GOAL 4: Improve recording and information management systems for the documentation of biosecurity threats and impacts in the TWWHA

Desired outcomes:

- More reliable reporting of, and response to, sightings of invasive organisms in the TWWHA
- Improved, proactive detection of biosecurity threats through public reporting systems
- Improved record keeping and data storage

- Easier access to relevant biosecurity information and control options for all stakeholders
- Biosecurity management works and programs are cost-effective and sustainable

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.2, 5.5

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
4.1 Create a centralised system for reporting invasive organism sightings and biosecurity risks in the TWWHA	4.1.1	Develop and resource a centralised system to allow on-line reporting by Government officers, stakeholders and the general public of invasive organisms and biosecurity breaches.	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT)
	4.1.2	Establish resources to regularly assess online reports and alert when a potential issue is identified.	
	4.1.3	Promote the system to park managers, land managers, the general public and other stakeholders who regularly access the TWWHA.	
	4.1.4	Ensure these records are validated and submitted to the NVA (see 4.2).	
	4.2.1	Engagement with the NVA to scope potential use for storing invasive species data for the TWWHA.	
4.2 Use of the Natural Values Atlas (NVA) as a central database for storing data about invasive organisms in the TWWHA	4.2.2	Adjustments made to the NVA where necessary (eg NVA compatible shapefile templates or customised data fields) to facilitate documentation of invasive organisms, including in the marine environment.	DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT) DPIPWE (PWS) Land managers Users of the NVA
	4.2.3	Promotion and where needed, training undertaken with staff and other stakeholders to encourage use of the NVA for storing and retrieving verified records of invasive organisms in the TWWHA.	
	4.2.4	Collation and submission of existing TWWHA invasive organism records stored within the department and externally where accessible, which haven't yet been loaded into the NVA.	
	4.2.5	Verified records of invasive organisms in the NVA are made available on the LIST.	

4.3 Improve systems for recording biosecurity management works and programs in the TWWHA	<p>4.3.1 Ensure all management and control works for invasive organisms are documented in the Asset Management System (AMS), including follow up site visits and outcomes.</p> <p>4.3.2 Linkage established between the AMS and the NVA.</p> <p>4.3.3 Ensure all stakeholders undertaking management activities are proficient in using the system for recording and reviewing invasive organism control works.</p> <p>4.3.4 Investigate tools that can be used to more efficiently record and import data from the field.</p>	DPIPWE (PWS) NRM groups Landcare Wildcare Other community groups undertaking control works
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GOAL 5: Improve stakeholder communication and engagement

Desired outcomes:

- Stronger partnerships
- All stakeholders supporting and contributing to TWWHA biosecurity
- Easier access to relevant biosecurity information and control options
- Stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities
- Improved awareness and uptake of biosecurity procedures
- Improved reporting of invasive organisms in the TWWHA
- Faster detection and response to invasive organisms

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.7, 5.5

Actions	Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
5.1 Develop and deliver effective TWWHA-specific biosecurity educational materials, particularly relating to reporting priority invasive organisms and, hygiene procedures	<p>5.1.1 Ensure biosecurity messaging is clear, consistent and engaging.</p> <p>5.1.2 Develop information and education resources to target key stakeholders, audiences and activities (eg tourism operators and recreationalists including mountain bikers, trail runners, rock climbers, cavers and walkers).</p> <p>5.1.3 Improve awareness at focal sites and events where local, national and international visitors attend.</p>	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT) DPIPWE (CCB)

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency/ Partner agency/ organisation
for workers and visitors to the TWWHA	5.1.4	Ensure messaging reaches interstate tourists who travel by vehicle to reserved areas in Tasmania (eg by providing appropriate education materials and information to car hire companies for distribution to their customers).	
	5.1.5	Incorporate biosecurity into the PWS Discovery Ranger Program.	
	5.1.6	Conduct training and education programs with tourism operators, firefighters and aircraft pilots.	
	5.1.7	Develop a webpage as a central portal or hub containing information about invasive organisms in the TWWHA, their status, management options, current programs in place, contacts etc.	
5.2 Ensure all boat users are aware of and engaged in best practice biosecurity measures	5.2.1	Develop a working group with representatives from key stakeholder groups to guide the implementation of the action.	DPIPWE (PWS) MAST
	5.2.2	Development and distribution of biosecurity guidelines for boating activities that address priority risks and mitigation methods for marine and freshwater environments.	IFS
	5.2.3	Location of and prescriptions relating to marine reserves are well advertised and disseminated.	Tourism operators Peak body for fishing groups
5.3 Increase participation in coordinated biosecurity management activities across a range of scales and tenures	5.3.1	Incorporate a biosecurity module into the Aboriginal Heritage Protection online training program for land managers (AHT).	DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH)
	5.3.2	<p>Ensure stakeholders who operate near the TWWHA borders are engaged and involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local governments to identify biosecurity issues. • Support community led programs and initiatives. • Share educational resources with TWWHA neighbours and provide opportunities for training (eg undertake training days or workshops for TWWHA neighbours). • Support NRM groups in undertaking biosecurity works with TWWHA neighbours (eg advice and guidance, grant applications). • Support NRM groups to review and where required, update their biosecurity strategies. • Liaise with fish farms that operate near the TWWHA to identify and address practices that create a biosecurity risk. 	DPIPWE (AHT) DPIPWE (BT) Local governments NRM groups TWWHA neighbours

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
5.4 Develop and implement biosecurity zoning to identify the spatial extent and status of invasive organisms and special management protocols	5.4.1	Develop a process for the identification, assessment and application of biosecurity zones (management overlays) for different land managers.	DPIPWE (PWS)
	5.4.2	Make biosecurity zones available via the LIST and other spatial systems used for TWWHA management.	
	5.4.3	Reserve managers, workers and stakeholders are trained in how to apply the zoning.	

GOAL 6: Support biosecurity research within the TWWHA

Desired outcomes:

- Improved knowledge of TWWHA invasive organisms (new and existing)
- Improved management and control of invasive organisms
- Improved protection of natural and cultural assets in the TWWHA
- Reduced impact of invasive organisms on TWWHA values

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
6.1 Promote and where appropriate, coordinate or collaborate on research	6.1.1	Develop a research prospectus that identifies priority biosecurity research projects for the TWWHA and can be used to guide research institutions in prioritising and developing research projects.	DPIPWE (NCH)
	6.1.2	Where possible involve students, volunteers and interns from research institutions in biosecurity research and monitoring programs.	DPIPWE (BT)
	6.1.3	Support NRM and community groups in undertaking priority monitoring of invasive organisms in properties adjacent to the TWWHA.	DPIPWE (PWS) Research institutions

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
6.2	Ensure that current and future implications of climate change are integrated into research for mitigation of threats to biosecurity	6.2.1	Facilitate the inclusion of climate change projection and up-to-date information of climate change adaptation into all future risk assessments.
6.3	Improve understanding of the impact of invasive organisms on cultural values of the TWWHA	6.3.1	Investigate the propensity of pathogens to deteriorate cultural sites.
6.4	Identify methods for protecting critical values at risk to invasive organisms in the TWWHA	6.4.1	Define scientific reference areas to reduce public access in locations where values are at risk (NCH).
		6.4.2	Adopt new and innovative technologies, where available, for reducing biosecurity risks and managing or controlling invasive organisms.
		6.4.3	Ensure any new risk management tools or approaches are evaluated for their effectiveness, including the collection of adequate data to allow assessment.

GOAL 7: Improve TWWHA biosecurity regulatory framework and compliance

Desired outcomes:

- Improved and continued compliance with biosecurity policies and regulations by stakeholders
- Reduced risk of invasive organisms spreading or establishing in the TWWHA
- Reduced impact of invasive organisms on TWWHA values
- Improved detection of new invasive organisms

Linked KDO of the TWWHA Management Plan: 5.5, 5.7, 5.8

Actions		Achievement pathways	Lead Agency Partner agency/ organisation
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7.1 Review compliance and enforcement with marine (boat users), terrestrial (vehicles and walkers) and aircraft users and, improve as required	<p>7.1.1 Investigate the potential to appoint compliance officers or incorporate TWVHA biosecurity compliance into existing PWS / NCH roles, such as the regional biosecurity rangers (see 1.1.3).</p> <p>7.1.2 Brief and assess new tourism operators as part of their registration.</p> <p>7.1.3 Identify focal sites (i.e. priority / sensitive) and events where tourism operator and visitor compliance is critical.</p> <p>7.1.4 Audit compliance with biosecurity requirements by high-risk tourism operators.</p> <p>7.1.5 Biosecurity management and hygiene protocols are included as requirements in commercial operator and contractor agreements.</p>	<p>DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) Tourism Tasmania MAST IFS DPIPWE (BT)</p>
7.2 Review biosecurity conditions on licences, permits and authorities associated with undertaking activities in the TWVHA	<p>7.2.1 Ensure that all licences and permits issued for activities within the TWVHA contain an enforceable condition relating to biosecurity hygiene.</p>	<p>DPIPWE (PWS) DPIPWE (NCH) DPIPWE (BT) IFS</p>

8. Development, Implementation and Evaluation

Development

Developing this Strategy involved the contribution of stakeholders and experts within and external to the Tasmanian Government. At the outset, a Steering Committee and Project Team were established within DPIPWE. The Project Team consisted of staff from different divisions with expertise relevant to natural values, biosecurity threats, land management and policy in the TWWHA. A range of consultation activities were then undertaken with stakeholder groups across the state, highlighting the priority biosecurity risks in the TWWHA and the issues associated with mitigating those risks.

This Strategy has been informed by a range of resources, including:

- The Tasmanian Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2017
- The TWWHA Management Plan 2016
- Existing reviews and risk assessments for invasive organisms (see Appendix 1)
- *The Biosecurity Act 2019*
- *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*
- An internal Environmental Aspect Risk Assessment for weeds, pests and diseases undertaken by the Parks and Wildlife Service DPIPWE in 2019 (based on the AS/NZA ISO 31000:2009 risk management principles and guidelines)
- The Parks and Wildlife Service Environmental Management System Manual 2014 (based on the AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004 standards)
- State-wide consultation with stakeholders including online surveys, face to face interviews and public consultation on the draft Strategy
- The legislative and policy framework for Biosecurity as it relates to the TWWHA

Our approach to developing this Strategy was to ensure that it:

- Focusses on biosecurity measures that address activities posing a biosecurity risk
- Provides effective and achievable actions for improving biosecurity in the TWWHA
- Is inclusive and embraces collaboration between stakeholders
- Is consistent with other plans, strategies and policies
- Allows for adaptation according to the best available science and information, evaluation of progress and resourcing.

Implementation

Whilst this Strategy is led principally by the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, its success relies on the engagement, support and uptake of all stakeholders. The intention is for the Strategy to be an evolving document whereby the proposed actions are open to improvement or adaptation and new actions may be added based on new information, to progress towards achieving the described goals.

The Tasmanian Government's role in implementation

The Tasmanian Government plays a principal role in leading and managing biosecurity in the TWWHA. This includes coordinating emergency response to new incursions of invasive organisms, providing adequate policies and legislative framework, and supporting research and monitoring to identify, assess and where possible, reduce biosecurity risks, amongst other responsibilities associated with managing the reserve estate. Actions and suggested pathways to achieving them have been outlined in this Strategy, along with nominated lead agencies for delivery. These actions align with the seven goals of the Strategy.

Evaluation

As a minimum, the Strategy will be reviewed after five and ten years by the management committee. In addition, the adaptive management approach of this Strategy will allow for the ongoing review, evaluation and updating of specific management actions as required, including after any incursion of new invasive organisms to the TWWHA, or sudden and significant expansion of existing invasive organisms. The following points will be used as a guide for the review and evaluation of the Strategy:

- Are the proposed actions implemented?
- Are the outcomes being achieved?
- Are processes being undertaken effectively and efficiently?
- Are there ways to do things more effectively or efficiently?
- Are we asking the right questions?
- Are our priorities appropriate?
- Do we have the right value systems in place?
- Are governance structures appropriate?
- Have new invasive organisms established in the TWWHA; if yes how did this occur?
- Have existing invasive organisms continued to spread?

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Appendices

Appendix I: Existing risk assessments for introduced plants, animals and pathogens

A risk assessment framework provides a formal and transparent process for ranking species to determine initial priorities for management. However, feasibility and cost also needs to be considered before management is undertaken. Assessments have previously been undertaken to determine the level of risk of invasive species to the TWWHA. The approach taken and criteria used has varied for different groups of organisms, but they generally consider the probability of entry, establishment and spread and the likely consequences to values if the organism established and spreads. The key risk assessment documents used to inform this Strategy are:

- The invasive potential of species used in garden and amenity plantings in the TWWHA¹⁶
- Strategy for managing wildlife disease in the TWWHA⁹
- TWWHA Weed Management Strategy (unpublished)²
- Review, Risk Assessment and Management of Introduced Animals in the TWWHA¹⁰

These documents are now over 10 years old and require review to determine if the priorities and criteria used are still relevant. This review is an action of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy 2021-2031 ('2.1: Assess risks of existing and new invasive organisms'). Lists of the previously assessed moderate to high-risk species are provided below. A nationally accepted method for risk assessment is used for declaring weeds under the *Tasmanian Weed Management Act 1999*.

Introduced animals not present in the TWWHA

TABLE 1: Extreme or high-risk invasive animals present in Tasmania but not in the TWWHA (Source: Mallick & Driessen 2010⁵)

Risk rating	Species	Impacts
Extreme	Fox	Severe predation on small and medium-sized mammals and ground nesting birds
High	English wasp	Very little known about this species in Tasmania. Severe impacts on native bird and insect species in southern New Zealand; a cold adapted species with the potential to spread widely in Tasmania and to reach high densities
	Pacific oyster	Reach very high densities and impact on native species; Medium Priority marine pest species. Risk to Port Davey
	Northern Pacific sea star	Major impact on native fauna where numbers reach high levels; Medium Priority marine pest species. Risk to Port Davey
	European shore crab	Major impacts on native shellfish populations; Medium Priority marine pest species. Risk to Port Davey
Moderate	European carp	Severe impacts on lake ecosystems, native fish and macro-invertebrates, including threatened galaxiids. However, limited opportunity of spread to TWWHA (unless maliciously done).

Introduced animals present in the TWWHA

Twenty-five introduced vertebrate species have previously been recorded in the TWWHA and five are widespread (cat, European rabbit, sugar glider, common starling and brown trout).

Forty-five introduced invertebrate species have previously been recorded in the TWWHA and four are widespread (feral honeybee, European wasp, large earth bumblebee and hedgehog slug).

TABLE 2: Extreme or high-risk invasive organisms in the TWWHA based on past assessment (Source: Mallick & Driessen 2010⁵)

Risk rating	Species	Impacts
Extreme	Brown trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	Cause reduction in numbers and local extinction of native galaxiids; significantly alter community composition of freshwater systems
	Redfin perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	Threatened native galaxiid species would be highly vulnerable to Redfin Perch (Swamp Galaxias, Pedder Galaxias); possible for local extinctions of other native fish species if species spread beyond current range
	New Zealand screw shell (<i>Moricolpus roseus</i>)	Highly invasive species; recent introduction (ca. 1998); may significantly alter the structure and biodiversity of benthic communities; may rapidly spread once established; spread perhaps constrained by low productivity in Bathurst Channel, but not so limited in Port Davey
High	European wasp (<i>Vespula germanica</i>)	Prey on <i>Ptunarra</i> brown butterfly and reduces population. Compete with native invertebrates for food and predate on native species. Nuisance to visitors (allergic reactions).
	Superb lyrebird (<i>Menura novaehollandiae</i>)	Alter structure of forest floor as well plant and animal communities within forest floor, may threaten myrtle elbow orchid.
	Long-spined sea urchin (N) (<i>Diadema antillarum</i>)	increasing abundance related to rising seas temperatures; probable natural range extension to Bathurst Channel.
Moderate	Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	Not currently known to be threatening the conservation status of native species but may be causing local population reductions; potential for introduction to offshore islands and impacts on sea bird populations; Orange bellied Parrots are potentially at risk from Cat predation at Melaleuca.
	Goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>)	Browsing pressure may cause local extinctions of favoured species. Erosion and damage to landforms; largely eradicated from the TWWHA in the 1990s
	European rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	Prevent regeneration of native vegetation (pines?), cause erosion
	Dog (<i>Canis lupus</i>)	May prey on native species, potential to spread widely.

Rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>)	Self-sustaining populations relatively uncommon; not known to threaten any populations of native species, although little information available
Common starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	Usurp nest hollows, especially the endangered orange-bellied parrot
Large earth bumblebee (<i>Bombus terrestris</i>)	Reduce nectar and pollen resource. Impacts on TWWHA values not known; may compete with native species for nectar and pollen; may influence pollination of native plants and increase spread of sleeper weeds
Feral Honeybee (<i>Apis mellifera</i>)	Reduce nectar and pollen resource. may compete with native insects where nectar limiting but no demonstrated population effects; local increases in fruit set by Tasmanian Leatherwood

Pathogens

TABLE 3: Selected extreme or high-risk pathogens affecting wildlife (including viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites) and diseases in the TWWHA based on past assessment (Source: Philips & Driessen 2010 ⁹)

Risk rating	Species	Impacts
Extreme	Amphibian chytridiomycosis (caused by chytrid fungus: <i>Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis</i>)	Chytrid has been linked to the decline, range contraction and extinction of amphibian species throughout the world. The TWWHA provides suitable conditions for spread and establishment of this disease so multiple species extinction and range contraction is a real risk. However, >10 years of monitoring and research in the TWWHA has found limited impact of the disease if any on frogs – low pH may not be suitable for Bd.
High	Devil facial tumour disease	Significant declines in Tasmanian devil populations have occurred (Hawkins et al. 2006). Local extinctions in wild populations or total species extinction in wild populations could occur. Limited impact in the TWWHA to date but potential to cause population declines
	Psittacine circoviral disease	Progressive morbidity and mortality in affected individuals. Others may become immune. An outbreak has and could continue to threaten the wild orange-bellied parrot population.
Moderate	Avian Psittacosis (caused by bacterium <i>Chlamydia psittaci</i>)	Morbidity and mortality. Even low prevalence among breeding birds has potential to impact population. Zoonotic.
	Salmonellosis (caused by <i>Salmonella</i> bacterium)	Macropods, wombats. Different forms of disease. Primary or secondary infection. Can result group mortality. Humans may contract disease via ingestion (food poisoning) or direct contact with infected wildlife.
	Sarcoptic mange (caused by parasitic mite <i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i>)	Sporadic, can cause significant morbidity and mortality in wombats and may have a substantial effect on local abundance, may threaten remnant populations (Martin et al., 2017). Zoonotic disease

		that can present short-term implications to human health.
	Toxoplasmosis (caused by parasite <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>)	Morbidity or mortalities to mass morbidity or mortalities associated with multiple exposure factors. Bandicoots particularly susceptible. Some humans susceptible
	Tuberculosis (pinniped) (caused by <i>Mycobacterium pinnipedii</i> bacterium)	Morbidity and possibly mortality in affected seal colonies. Humans in close contact with wild pinnipeds at risk.

Weeds

TABLE 4: High-risk or significant weeds and invasive fungi that are present in the TWWHA based on past assessment (Sources: Ziegeler 2010²; Dickie & Johnston 2008¹⁰)

Species	Status	Notes
Spanish heath (<i>Erica lusitanica</i>)	Established, widespread	Declared Weed
Ragwort (<i>Senecio japonsica</i>)	Established, limited, dispersed	Declared Weed Currently managed at most known sites
Blackberry (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>)	Established, limited, dispersed	Weed of National Significance Declared Weed Currently managed in remote areas
Gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>)	Established, restricted	Weed of National Significance Declared Weed Currently managed at majority of known sites.
Bulrush (<i>Typha latifolia</i>)	Established, restricted	Restricted but with potential for expansion
Orange hawkweed (<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i> subsp. <i>aurantiaca</i>)	Established, restricted	Declared Weed Currently managed at all know sites. Highly invasive in New Zealand
Sea Spurge (<i>Euphorbia paralia</i>)	Management dependent	Currently actively managed and now restricted in the TWWHA
Marram grass (<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>)	Management dependent	Currently managed and now restricted in the TWWHA
Orange spore fungus (<i>Favolaschia calocera</i>)	Not yet present in TWWHA	Highly invasive saprophytic fungi recently confirmed as present in Tasmania. Invasive potential in TWWHA not yet assessed.
Fly agaric mushroom (<i>Amanita muscaria</i>)	Established, restricted	Capable of establishing in undisturbed rainforest. Invasive potential in TWWHA not yet assessed. Ecosystem impacts poorly known.

Appendix II: Activities that pose a biosecurity risk to the TWWHA including indicative risk reduction, as identified by an Environmental Aspect Risk Assessment

An exhaustive assessment of activities in the TWWHA, and the biosecurity risks they pose, was undertaken by the Parks and Wildlife Service in 2019 through an Environmental Aspect Risk Assessment.

Activities that could facilitate the introduction or spread of invasive organisms in the TWWHA, were reviewed and scored as part of the Risk Assessment including the risk level with and without control/mitigation measures in place. These activities and the associated controls have been considered in the development of the TWWHA Biosecurity Strategy 2021-2031.

Hazard/Risk	Risk Level Without Controls	Risk Level with Controls (Residual Risk)	Potential risk reduction*
1 New WPD not identified or reported.	Very High	High	High
2 Introduction of biological control agent that becomes a WPD	Very High	Very High	Moderate
3 Existing WPD – spread, change in environment.	Very High	Very High	Moderate
4 Transport	Very High	High	Low
5 Use of natural materials – building and construction	Very High	Moderate	Moderate
6 Walking	High	Moderate	Low
7 Trapping transporting and release of animals	Moderate	Moderate	Low
8. Illegal Introductions, eg trout	Very High	Very High	Moderate
9 Bush fire fighting	Very High	Very High	High
10 Planned burning	Moderate	Moderate	Low
11 Vessel movements	Very High	Very High	Very Low
12 Vehicle movements	High	Moderate	Low
13 Aircraft movements	Moderate	Moderate	Low
14 Fire wood collection and supply	Moderate	Moderate	Low
15 Biosecurity Management (WPD Control)	Very High	High	Low
16 Camping	High	High	Very Low
17 Extreme weather	Very High	Very High	Moderate
18 Scrub clearing (road, track slashing)	Very High	High	Moderate
19 Road Maintenance (drain clearing)	Very High	High	Moderate
20 Revegetation and landscaping	Very High	Moderate	Moderate
21 Fauna translocation	Very High	Moderate	High
22 Stock grazing	Very High	Very High	Moderate
23 Horse riding	Moderate	Moderate	Low
24 Historic flora/fauna	Moderate	Moderate	Low
25 Scientific research	High	High	Moderate
25 Transport and use of live bait (fishing)	Moderate	Moderate	Very Low

WPD = weed, pest or disease

*Potential risk reduction indicates an estimated level of risk reduction likely to be achieved via controls identified in risk assessment.



central
highlands
COUNCIL

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

DOG MANAGEMENT POLICY 2020

Policy adopted by Council – 8 December 2020

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DEFINITIONS

In this policy -

"animal" means-

- (a) any animal or bird kept for farming, breeding or other commercial purposes; or
- (b) any domestic animal; or
- (c) any native bird or native animal;

"appropriate fee" means a fee determined by the Council;

"approved" means approved by the Director of the Local Government Division;

"at large" means at large as referred to in section 5 of the *Dog Control Act 2000* (DCA2000);

"attack" includes bite, menace or harass;

"authorised person" means -

- (a) a police officer; or
- (b) a general manager; or
- (c) a person appointed by a general manager to be an authorised person; or
- (d) a person who is a ranger under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970*; or
- (e) a person appointed as a bailiff of Crown Lands under the *Crown Lands Act 1976*;

"breeding dog" means a pure bred dog used for breeding purposes, the owner of which has a registered stud with the Tasmanian Canine Association;

"built-up area" means an area in which-

- (a) there are buildings on land next to the road; and
- (b) there is street lighting at intervals not over 100 metres for a distance of at least 500 metres or, if the road is shorter than 500 metres, for the whole road;

"collar" means a collar of leather or other durable material

"complaint" means a complaint referred to in section 47

"dangerous dog" means a dog declared to be a dangerous dog under section 29 or 30 of the *DCA 2000*;

"declared area" means a declared area under division 2 of part 3 of the *DCA 2000*;

"de-sexed dog" means a dog of either sex which has been sterilised or neutered;

"Director" means the Director of Local Government;

"dog" means an animal of the species *Canis familiaris* or *Canis familiaris dingo*

"domestic animal" means an animal or bird kept as a domestic pet;

"effective control" means effective control as referred to in section 4 of the *DCA 2000*;

"exercise area" refers to an area declared under section 20 of the *DCA 2000*;

"General Manager" means the General Manager of the Council appointed under the *Local Government Act 1993*;

"Infringement notice" means a notice referred to in Division 2 of Part 4 of the *DCA 2000*;

"lead" means a lead, leash, cord or chain of sufficient strength to restrain a dog;

"licence" means a licence to keep on premises –

- (a) more than two dogs over the age of 6 months; or
- (b) more than 4 working dogs over the age of 6 months;

"occupier" in relation to premises, includes a person who has or is entitled to possession or control of the premises;

"owner of a dog" means a person referred to in section 6 of the *DCA 2000*;

"pensioner" means a person in receipt of a Commonwealth Pension as defined in the *Local Government Act 1993*

"pound" means a pound established under the *Local Government Act 1993*;

"premises" includes land or any part of any premises or land;

"prohibited area" means an area declared under section 22 of the *DCA 2000*;

"public notice" means a notice published in a daily newspaper or the Derwent Valley Gazette;

"public place" means–

- (a) a public place as defined in the *Police Offences Act 1935*; and
- (b) a road; and
- (c) a road related area;

"register" means a register kept under section 15 of the *DCA 2000*;

"registered dog" means a dog registered in accordance with the *DCA 2000*;

"registration disc" means a disc or tag referred to in section 10(1) of the *DCA 2000*;

"restricted area" means an area declared under section 23 of the *DCA 2000*;

"road" means–

- (a) an area that is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles and is open to, or used by, the public; and
- (b) a part of the kerb; and
- (c) an unsealed part of a sealed road;

"road-related area" means –

- (a) an area that divides a road; or
- (b) a footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road; or
- (c) a footpath or track that –
 - (i) is not a road; and
 - (ii) is designed for use by cyclists or pedestrians; and
 - (iii) is open to the public;

"shopping centre" means a collection of shops in an enclosed area covered by a roof or forming a courtyard or square, excluding any area provided for the parking of vehicles;

"special assistance dog" means a dog specifically trained to assist a person with a disability and includes;-

- (a) a guide dog as defined by the *Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs Act 1967*; or
- (b) a hearing dog as defined by the *Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs Act 1967*; or
- (c) a dog training to be a guide dog or hearing dog.

"training area" means an area declared under section 21 of the DCA 2000;

"veterinary surgeon" means a person registered as a veterinary surgeon under the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 1987*;

"working day" means a day on which the public office of the Council is open for business;

"working dog" means a dog used principally for –

- (a) droving or tending stock; or
- (b) detecting illegal substances; or
- (c) searching, tracking or rescuing; or
- (d) working with police officers.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Dog Control Act 2000 (DCA 2000) was introduced into State Parliament in December 2000. The Act became effective on the 4th April 2001 and replaced the Dog Control Act 1987 as the primary Act managing the control of dogs in Tasmania. It is now the primary legislation in this area.

The DCA 2000 requires that Councils develop and implement a **Dog Management Policy** with the Policy to include the following:

- A code relating to responsible ownership of dogs;
- The provision of declared areas;
- A fee structure;
- Any relevant matter

The Dog Management Policy is to be reviewed at least once every 5 years and the Central Highlands Council (Council) is committed to working in partnership with the community to produce a Policy to encourage a compatible relationship between dog owners and non-dog owners and ensuring a quality of life for the animals themselves.

Council is required to manage most of the provisions in the Act. This includes providing dog control and impounding operations.

2. RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP

Dogs are an important part of society and many value their companionship. As with any animal there are standards of care and welfare that need to be observed. The views and concerns of neighbours and other members of the community need to be considered.

Responsible dog ownership requires accepting full responsibility for dogs, in terms of their needs and the standards for dog management that are expected by the community.

It is the responsibility of every dog owner to:

- Ensure that the dog is registered and that registration is maintained, as well as ensuring that the dog is microchipped in accordance with the Dog Control Act 2000
- Ensure that the dog is kept under effective control at all times and not allowing a dog to be at large;
- Ensuring that it is collared and on a lead in public places and that it is properly restrained when in or on a vehicle so that it is unable to leave the vehicle or attack any person or animal outside the vehicle.
- Ensure that the dog does not cause a nuisance to any other person, whether by persistent or loud barking, howling or by any other means;
- Ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, intimidate, or otherwise cause distress to any person. An owner is responsible for the actions of a dog;
- Ensure that the dog does not damage or endanger any property belonging to any other persons;
- Ensure that dogs are not allowed to roam unsupervised;
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any livestock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife;

- Ensure that the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with sufficient food, water and shelter;
- Ensure that the welfare of the dog is protected as required by the Animal Welfare Act 1993;
- Ensure that the dog receives adequate exercise; and
- Clean up after the dog should it defecate in a public place and dispose of waste in a responsible way.

An owner can be held liable for the actions of a dog and can be fined or penalised for dog control offences. Owners can also be liable to pay compensation for injury or damage caused by a dog in their charge. An owner's failure to properly control a dog may in some circumstances result in the dog being seized, impounded and possibly destroyed.

Responsibilities of the Owner or Person in Charge of a Dog

Under the Act the owner or person in charge of a dog must ensure (that):

1. That the dog remains under effective control and does not cause a nuisance in private premises, in a public place, or rushes at or chases any person.
2. The dog is on a leash no longer than 2 metres when in a built-up area in a public place.
3. The dog is not tethered to a fixed object in a public place by a lead longer than 2 metres or for longer than 30 minutes.
4. They have no more than 2 dogs on a lead on a footpath or road.
5. They have no more than 4 dogs in their charge in a public place.
6. When on private property the dog/s are securely confined to that property.
7. They clean up after the dog should it defecate in a public place.
8. The dog is wearing a collar and registration disc when in a public place.
9. Council is notified on the death, loss or disposal of a dog, or a change of address.
10. The dog does not rush at or chase motor vehicles or bicycles in a public place.
11. The dog does not attack or chase any person or another animal.
12. Dogs are not taken into prohibited areas.
13. Dogs are not taken into restricted areas outside allowable times.
14. The dog is microchipped in accordance with the Act.

3. DECLARED AREAS

ACCESS TO PUBLIC PLACES

The following will allow dogs and owners access to public places, while ensuring public safety and comfort. Where it has been determined that there is a potential danger to public safety "restricted" access applies to identified areas.

Dogs are allowed anywhere in the towns on a leash not exceeding two (2) metres or if under effective control in accordance with Section 3 of the Dog Control Act 2000, except for those particular areas identified as "Prohibited Public Places". Section 3 of the Dog Control Act 2000 states:

- (1) *A dog is under the effective control of a person in a public place if the dog is –*
 - (a) *on a road or road-related area in a built-up, or any other public place declared under Division 2 of Part 3 to be an area where a dog must be on a lead, and the dog is secured and restrained by means of a lead not more than 2 metres long held by hand by a person able to control the dog; or*

- (b) *tethered to a fixed object by a lead not more than 2 metres long for a period not more than 30 minutes.*
2. *A dog is under the effective control of a person while not on a lead if the dog is-*
- (a) *a working dog engaged in working; or*
 - (b) *a hunting dog engaged in hunting; or*
 - (c) *engaged in racing or showing; or*
 - (d) *engaged in obedience or agility trials; or*
 - (e) *engaged in training for any activity referred to in paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d); or*
 - (f) *engaged in training in a training area.*
- (3) *In an area where a dog is not required to be on a lead, the dog is under the effective control of a person if;*
- (a) *it is in close proximity to the person; and*
 - (b) *it is in sight of the person; and*
 - (c) *the person is able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of an authorised person that the dog is immediately responsive to the person's commands.*
- (4) *A dog is under the effective control of a person on private premises if the dog is securely confined to those premises.*
- (5) *A person, at any one time, must not have in his or her charge more than -*
- (a) *2 dogs on a lead on a footpath; or*
 - (b) *4 dogs in a public place.*

Access restrictions to public places are identified by four defined areas. The DCA 2000 classifies "public places" as follows:

- Exercise – Dogs may be exercised subject to any specified conditions
- Training – Dogs may be trained subject to any specified conditions
- Prohibited - Dogs are not allowed under any circumstances;
- Restricted (specified times) - Dogs are not allowed at specified times unless they are on a lead

Dogs must be kept under control at all times.

EXERCISE AND TRAINING AREAS

(in these areas dogs are allowed off a "lead" but be under "effective control")

Specific Exercise and Training areas will be considered by council upon written requests from dog obedience trainers, registered clubs and/or community representatives. Owners are required to maintain control over their dog at all times.

Please note – dogs are prohibited within 10 metres of a children's playground as per Section 28 (e), dogs are not allowed within 20 metres of a BBQ area unless on a leash not exceeding two (2) metres.

PROHIBITED AREAS

(in these areas dogs are not allowed at any time)

PROHIBITED PUBLIC PLACES (As defined in the Dog Control Act)

- Any grounds of a school, preschool, kindergarten, crèche or any other place of the reception of children without the permission of a person in charge of the place.

- Any shopping centre or any shop.
- The grounds of a public swimming pool.
- Any playing area of a sports ground on which sport is being played.
- Any area within 10 metres of a children's playground.

PROHIBITED AREAS / PLACES (As defined by Council)

- Any Community Hall or Premises where food is being served.

DECLARED PROHIBITED AREAS (As per the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1970, which includes the National Parks and Reserved Land Regulations 1999 and the Crown Land Act 1976 which include the Crown Lands Regulations 2001)

Alma Tier Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Central Plateau Conservation Area Proclaimed CPR1872	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Central Plateau Conservation Area Proclaimed CPR4609	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Central Plateau Conservation Area Proclaimed CPR4654	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Central Plateau Conservation Area Proclaimed CPR5006	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park - Proclaimed CPR487	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park - Proclaimed LM211	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Dickinsons Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Duckholes Lagoons Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Great Western Tiers Conservation Area - Proclaimed CPR4547	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Great Western Tiers Conservation Area - Proclaimed CPR4577	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Mount Bethune Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Pelham Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Pelham North Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Pelham West Nature Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Silver Plains Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week



Strickland Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Table Mountain Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
The Steppes Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
The Steppes State Reserve	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Tiger Rise Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week
Wayatinah Conservation Area	24 Hours a Day	7 Days a Week

Please refer to the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service for further details on locations at <https://parks.tas.gov.au/explore-our-parks/map-of-parks>

RESTRICTED AREAS – SPECIFIED TIMES, DAY OR SEASONS (In these areas, dogs are not allowed during the times specified unless they are on a lead. These are areas where it is considered that a significant conflict exists, however this is limited to particular times. In order to prevent danger, and to minimise distress and nuisance, dogs shall be prohibited from these areas during the times specified)

The following public places will be classed as "**Restricted Areas**" for the times specified in relation to dogs and pursuant to a resolution made under section 23 (1b) (dogs restricted within these times unless they are on a lead not exceeding two (2) metres) of the DCA 2000. Please note – dogs prohibited within 10 metres of a children's playground as per section 28 (e) and are not allowed within 20 metres of a BBQ area unless on a leash not exceeding two (2) metres.

Restricted areas dogs must be "on leash" and under "Effective Control"

Residential Areas surrounding Great Lake	24 hrs	7 Days
Residential Area surrounding Arthurs Lake	24 hrs	7 Days
Residential Area surrounding Bronte, Bronte Lagoon & Bradys Lake	24 hrs	7 Days
Residential Area surrounding Derwent Bridge	24 hrs	7 Days
Townships of Bothwell, Hamilton, Ouse, Gretna, Ellendale, Westerway, Wayatinah	24 hrs	7 Days

4. FEE STRUCTURE

Council must determine all fees payable under the DCA 2000. The schedule of fees will be set annually and will be in line with the financial year, i.e. 1st July to 30th June. In addition to setting a schedule of fees, Council will also determine categories of dog

registration, discounted registration fees and the required evidence in order to claim a discounted registration fee.

All dogs must be registered at the age of 6 months and this must be done by the end of the month in which the dog becomes 6 months old. An application for registration is required to be completed and submitted to Council. The registration year is from 1st July to 30th June the following year.

Registration Categories

1. Domestic Dog (Desexed)
2. Domestic Dog (Not Desexed)
3. Pensioner (1st Dog Only)
4. Working Dog (used for the purpose of working farm stock)
5. Hunting Dog (used to flush game)
6. Greyhound (TGRA registered)
7. Registered Breeding Dog (TCA Registered & Dog Owner holding current membership of the TCA)
8. Special Assistance Dog (Guide Dog / Hearing Dog)
9. Declared Dangerous Dog

Where a dog is to be registered in one of the categories below it will be necessary for the owner to provide that his / her dog fits the category. The evidence required for each category is as follows:-

1. **Dangerous Dog** – Means a dog declared to be dangerous under Section 29 of the *Dog Control Act 2000*.
2. **Desexed Dog** – Certificate of Sterilisation from a veterinary surgeon that the dog is sterilised or the provision of a statutory declaration.
3. **Guard Dog** – A dog used to guard non-residential premises.
4. **Guide Dog / Hearing Dog** – Same meaning as provided under the *Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs Act 1967* or subsequent relevant legislation.
5. **Pensioner** – prescribed pensioner under the meaning of the *Local Government (Rates and Charges) Remissions Act 1991*.
6. **Pure Bred Dogs** – Certificate of registration and pedigree issued by the Tasmanian Canine Association (TCA) or equivalent interstate certification, together with a current membership card of the TCA.
7. **Working Dog** – Used principally for droving or tending stock, detecting illegal substances, searching, tracking, rescuing or working with police officers.
8. **Hunting Dog** – Used to flush game.
9. **Grey Hound** – Registration Certificate of the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Council.

Payment and Setting of Fees

Fees are set by Council in April / May each year and fees not paid by 31 July each year will incur penalties.

Council advises current dog owners of the fees at the commencement of the financial year and provides a period of approximately 8 weeks to the 31st July each year from prompt registration to be encouraged. During this time a discount rate applies to the



fees for each relevant registration category. Higher fees apply following 31st July each year.

Applications for registration made after 31st December

Where an application is made to register a new dog a reduction of fee by 50% is to be applied to the registration fee provided the dog is registered within four weeks of purchase and the registration application is voluntary.

Replacement Cost of Lost Tags

A fee, as set by Council, will be charged for a replacement Tag.

5. KENNEL LICENCES

Any person wanting to keep more than 2 dogs on premises, or in the case of working dogs, more than 4, must apply to the General Manager for a licence to do so.

The application is to be in the approved form. The applicant must advertise, by public notice, their intent to apply for a licence and the address and the number, and breed or kind of dogs to which the application relates.

The notice must also call for any objections to the granting of the licence. Persons residing or owning land within 200 metres of the boundary of the premises to which the application relates may object to the granting of a licence. Any objection is to be made within 14 days of the public notice being published. **It is to be in writing to the General Manager and it is to set out the reasons for the objection.**

Council will not consider a kennel licence application until 28 days after the publication of the public notice, and all objections will be considered.

A property inspection will be carried out to ensure that kennel requirements are complied with and that adequate provisions for the health, welfare and control of the dogs on the premises are provided. If granted the period of the licence will expire on the 30th June following the date of granting the licence and is renewable on payment of the appropriate annual fee.

Property inspections will be conducted to ensure that:

- No dogs other than stipulated in the licence are being kept on the property;
- All dogs over 6 months of age on the property are registered;
- Provisions for the health, welfare and control of the dogs is maintained;
- No nuisance to any other persons' property or premises is likely to be caused.

The General Manager or his/her delegate may cancel a licence if satisfied that:

- Provisions of the Dog Control Act 2000 or other relevant Act are not complied with;
- Conditions of the licence are not complied with;
- The situation or condition of the premises is creating a nuisance;
- It is in the public interest that the licence be cancelled.

An applicant or holder of a licence may, by notice in writing to the clerk of petty sessions, appeal to a Magistrate any decision by the General Manager or his/her delegate to:

- Refuse to grant or renew a licence;
- Cancel a licence;

KENNEL REQUIREMENTS

Residential and Surround Areas

The following specifications are considered the minimum required for domestic dogs / pets:

- The kennel is to be at least 9 metres from any neighbouring dwelling house, where possible;
- The kennel shall be at least 2 metres from any boundary of the premises, where possible;
- The premises shall be enclosed in such a manner so as to contain any dogs kept in the yard;
- The kennel shall be constructed in such a way as to provide effective methods of cleaning and disinfecting;
- There shall be sufficient room to allow dogs reasonable freedom of movement;
- There shall be a raised (50mm) and weatherproof sleeping area;
- Adequate ventilation and insulation shall be provided to maintain a comfortable internal temperature free from condensation;
- A sanitary method of disposal of excreta and waste shall be provided.

The above is the minimum requirements for working dogs (more than 4).

Rural Areas

- The kennel or yard shall be constructed in such a way as to provide effective methods of cleaning and disinfecting;
- The kennel or yard shall be constructed to the approval of the General Manager or his/her delegate.

Council may issue a kennel licence for the keeping of a specified number of dogs on premises which shall not comply with some or all of the above minimum specifications provided that, the General Manager or his/her delegate is satisfied that adequate provisions for the health, welfare and control of the dogs is provided, and that no nuisance is likely to occur to any other persons' property or premises.

6. ENFORCEMENT

The DCA 2000 provides several powers to authorities to control dogs and enforce the requirements of the Act. The use of enforcement mechanisms is provided to allow authorities to effectively carry out their obligations, to protect the community and to offer a sufficient deterrent against non-compliance with the law.

This section outlines the different enforcement mechanisms that are available to the Central Highlands Council and identifies how they will be applied. The applications of many of the mechanisms that are discussed in this section are prescribed by the DCA 2000 and are not open to interpretation by Council. These have been identified where relevant.

The different methods of enforcement are outlined below:-

PROSECUTION

The DCA 2000 sets out the obligations of dog owners. Where a person has failed to comply with a particular obligation under the DCA 2000 they can be prosecuted in a

Court of Law. These offences can carry heavy fines. The situations for which a person can be prosecuted are defined in the DCA 2000.

Prosecution can be a costly process both in terms of time and resources and alternative methods of enforcement do exist. However, where an offence is considered to be serious and sufficient evidence exists, Council will consider prosecuting an offender in a Court of Law. This includes situations where a dog has:

- caused significant damage or injury to any person or animal;
- caused danger, distress or nuisance to any person or the community on a number of occasions.

INFRINGEMENT NOTICES

The DCA 2000 empowers Animal Control Officer's (ACO) to issue Infringement Notices that impose an "on-the-spot" fine on the recipient. Infringement Notices can only be issued for particular offences (called infringement offences). These fines are set under the DCA 2000 and once issued, the recipient has 28 days to settle. After this period the infringement is lodged with the Monetary Penalty Enforcement Service.

The use of Infringement Notices is considered a more efficient method of enforcement and allows Council to effectively fulfil its objectives under this policy. Council will consider issuing an infringement notice rather than referring an offence to the court.

Where an ACO considers that an infringement offence has occurred, the ACO may choose to issue the offender with an official caution notice in the first instance and an Infringement Notice in all subsequent situations.

There are some infringement offences that are considered to be more serious or intentional. In these situations caution notices will not be issued.

7. DANGEROUS DOGS

Classifying dogs as dangerous is an effective method of controlling individual dogs that have demonstrated aggressive or dangerous behaviour. Council will, where appropriate, classify dogs as dangerous.

The General Manager of a Council may declare a dog dangerous if:

- the dog has caused serious injury to a person or another animal; or
- there is reasonable cause to believe that the dog is likely to cause serious injury to a person or another animal.

A dog may be considered dangerous because of an obvious act or incident in which it has threatened, attacked, and in some cases, caused serious injury or death to an animal or person. This physical act is an expression of aggression and in most cases this aggression has been contributed to by human intervention. There are several triggers for aggression in dogs, which may be more prominent depending on the breed. They are:

- Territorial aggression
- Protective aggression
- Fear aggression
- Predation aggression
- Dominance aggression

- **Learned aggression**

No matter what the trigger, or the level of human intervention, it is not an acceptable community standard that dogs who display aggression be allowed to be in a position to carry out the physical act. Council, in its commitment to ensuring a safer environment, endorses legislation in relation to dangerous dogs.

The owner of a dog declared to be dangerous has the right to appeal the decision to a Magistrate, the appeal must be lodged within 14 days of notification of the declaration.

ACO's investigating a dog attack incident will make recommendation to the General Manager or his/her delegate as to whether the dog should be declared a dangerous dog. Any recommendation should be made after consultation with the victims, witnesses and the dog owners, and is to take into consideration:-

- The severity of the incident
- The history of the dog/owners
- The degree of human intervention
- Any other mitigating circumstance
- The desired outcome and the *need* for legal proceedings

The owner of a declared dangerous dog must comply with all relevant conditions of the DCA 2000. Council will act in accordance with standard operating procedures to any breaches of these conditions.

Properties where a declared dangerous dog lives will be inspected from time to time by ACO's to ensure compliance with conditions of the DCA 2000 and Council's Dog Management Plan.

Council will maintain a register of declared dangerous dogs in accordance with standard operating procedures. Any request for details from this register must be made in writing to the General Manager.

RESTRICTED BREED

An authorised person may declare a dog to be a restricted breed dog, having regard to any approved guidelines relating to restricted breeds, and is satisfied that the dog is a dog of a restricted breed.

The following breeds of dog are restricted breeds:

- (a) Dogo Argentino;
- (b) Fila Brasileiro;
- (c) Japanese Tosa;
- (d) American Pit Bull Terrier or Pit Bull Terrier
- (e) Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario;
- (f) Any other breed, kind or description of dog whose importation into Australia is prohibited by or under the *Customs Act 1901* of the Commonwealth.

GUARD DOG (Non-residential)

For a dog to be a worthy guard dog, it must exhibit certain characteristics of which the need to dominate is a major one. They are required to be strong, courageous, disciplined and intelligent animals. These dogs are easily trained and would exhibit learned territorial / protective aggression. The professionally trained guard dog should pose no greater threat than any other dog when it is "off duty".

Unfortunately, most guard dogs encountered receive very little or no training and their natural characteristics coupled with no discipline make them a threat in some situations. Council endorses legislation in relation to guard dogs.

The owner of a dog that is used to protect non-residential property must notify Council that they have a guard dog. The General Manager or his/her delegate will declare that dog to be a dangerous dog while it is working. The owner must comply with all conditions relating to a guard dog as prescribed by the DCA 2000.

Details of guard dogs will be maintained in the Dangerous Dog Register. Properties where guard dogs are kept will be inspected from time to time to ensure compliance with conditions of the DCA 2000.

Once notified in writing by the owner of a guard dog that the dog is no longer used to guard non-residential properties, the General Manager or his/her delegate may revoke the declaration that the dog is a dangerous dog.

REQUIREMENTS FOR KEEPING A DANGEROUS DOG/GUARD DOG

Micro-chipping - The owner of a dog declared dangerous must ensure that the dog is implanted with an identifying micro-chip in an approved manner within 30 days of being served notice of the declaration.

Warning Signs - The owner or person in charge of a dangerous dog must ensure that approved signs are displayed at all entrances to the property where the dog is kept. These are available only through Council.

Collars - The owner or person in charge of a dangerous dog must ensure the dog wears an approved collar at all times. These are available only through Council.

Childproof Enclosure - When on private premises and not under adult supervision, or in the case of a guard dog, when the dog is not performing guard duties, it is to be housed in a childproof enclosure.

The owner or person in charge of a dangerous dog must ensure that the dog, when in a public place is:

- a) muzzled; and
- b) on a lead not exceeding 2 metres that is of sufficient strength to control and restrain the dog; and
- c) under the control of a person at least 18 years of age.

CHILDPROOF ENCLOSURE

A childproof enclosure is to meet the following minimum standards:-

- be fully enclosed.
- walls, roof and gate to be constructed of brick, timber, iron or 3.15mm chain mesh or 4mm weldmesh with a maximum spacing of 50mm.
- The floor is to be constructed of concrete to a minimum depth of 50mm and graded to allow drainage.
- The walls are to be fixed to the floor or constructed to be no more than 50mm above the floor.
- The gate is to be self-closing and have affixed to it a lock, which is to be used whenever the dog is in the pen.
- Have a minimum floor area of 10 square metres.
- Have a minimum height of 1.8 metres.
- Have a minimum width of 1.8 metres.

- Contain a raised (50mm) weatherproof sleeping area.

8. IMPOUNDING

The DCA 2000 sets out certain provisions for the impounding of dogs. Where any dog is found at large in a public place in contravention of the Act, or, on any property other than the owner's, it may be impounded. Where any dog is impounded and the owner is known, Council shall make all attempts to contact the owner. The owner then has five working days to recover the dog from the pound.

In the event that the owner of the dog is unknown, Council must keep the dog for three working days. If the dog is not claimed after this time, the dog may be disposed of (for example a new owner found) or destroyed as Council sees fit. Where a dog is recovered from the pound, it shall not be released until it is registered and all registration and pound fees are paid.

There are pounds at the Bothwell and Hamilton Council Depot yards, and dogs are transferred from these pounds to the Dogs' Home, Risdon Vale.

9. COMPLAINTS

With an ever-increasing urban animal population, there will invariably be associated problems with them. It is expected that with a balance of proactive and reactive education and enforcement this will minimise the impact of inappropriate dog behaviour.

Council recognises the right of community members to seek assistance in dealing with nuisances created by dogs. Council exists to represent the community and ensure that quality services are provided. This is best achieved by open communication between Council staff, the complainant, and the dog owner/s.

To this end, ACO's will not respond to complaints made anonymously. Council maintains the right to ask the complainants name, address and telephone number. It is essential that staff have access to this information so they may clarify details, seek further information, and to advise outcomes of investigations into the complaint. This information is strictly confidential and not passed on to any other member of the community.

A refundable fee, as set by Council, will be charged for all official complaints.

COUNCIL'S ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER WILL ONLY DEAL WITH OFFICIAL COMPLAINTS.



Policy No. 2016 - 44

Purchasing and Payments Control Policy

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Purchasing and Payments Control Policy	Review Date: 31 Dec 2024	Page 1 of 9

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide clear guidelines when purchasing goods and services from external suppliers/contractors;
- Ensure Council employees engaged in purchasing will at all times undertake their duties in an ethical manner and act responsibly and exercise sound judgement;
- Clarify conditions for payment of invoices received by Central Highlands Council; and
- Clarify when an unscheduled payment can be made.

POLICY STATEMENT

The objective of Council's Purchasing and Payment Control Policy is to:

- Coordinate Internal Procedures for purchasing and payments;
- Ensure compliance with Central Highlands Council's Tendering and Procurement Policy; and
- Ensure an appropriate process is in place for the ordering of goods and services from external suppliers/contractors.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to the procurement of goods and services from external suppliers/contractors in accordance with Central Highlands Council's Tendering and Procurement Policy.

PROCEDURES

In accordance with Central Highlands Councils Code for Tenders and Procurement Policy, procurement value thresholds have been set for dealing with any procurement process to ensure Council is consistent with the requirements specified in Regulation 28 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015.

The following table refers to the thresholds and summarises what purchasing method Council utilises based on the total dollar value of the purchase.

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Procurement Value	Minimum Requirement	Officer Authorised to Instigate Purchase Order (Purchasing Officer)	Authority (refer to Purchasing and Payments Control Policy)
Under \$5,000	One verbal quotation where applicable. Council Purchase Order where appropriate.	All Managers, Leading Hand Team Leader, Senior Administration Officers	Orders over \$1,000 to be authorised by applicable Manager
\$5,001 to \$10,000	Two verbal quotations, one of which to be from a local business, if applicable. Council Purchase Order where appropriate.	All Managers, Leading Hand Team Leader, Senior Administration	To be authorised by applicable Manager.
\$10,001 to \$30,000	Two written quotations, one of which to be from a local business, if applicable. Council Purchase Order where appropriate.	All Managers	To be recommended by applicable Manager and authorised by Deputy General Manager or General Manager.
\$30,001 to \$99,999	Three written quotations, one of which to be from a local business, if applicable. Council Purchase Order where appropriate.	All Managers	To be recommended by applicable Manager and authorised by Deputy General Manager or General Manager.
\$100,000 up to \$249,999	Council will, where it considers it beneficial or desirable, advertise each tender at a minimum in the local regional newspaper. Other advertising may be utilised as considered	General Manager	Contracts to be awarded and signed by the General Manager after acceptance and approval by Council.

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	<p>appropriate. To be advertised on the Council Website.</p> <p>Council to seek at least one tender from a local business, if applicable.</p>		
\$250,000 or over	Council must advertise each tender at a minimum in the local regional newspaper and advertise on the Council website.	General Manager	Contracts to be awarded and signed by the General Manager after acceptance and approval by Council.

NOTE:

Where Grants or Funding have been provided as a result of a successful application by Council, there is no requirement to re-submit or call for quotations for items less than \$100,000.

Tenders will be opened by a Councillor and the General Manager and be submitted to Council.

Evaluation of Quotation Forms (Appendix 1) must be completed for all orders over \$5,000.

Purchase Order Internal Control

Purchase orders must be issued at the time of placing an order for all goods or services from external suppliers/contractors unless otherwise listed except where it is impractical to generate an order, e.g:

- payment of state government taxes;
- payment of utility accounts e.g. TasWater, Telstra, Aurora;
- financial transactions;
- legal opinions;
- petty cash reimbursements;
- recurring lease and rental payments;

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- purchases made under contract;
- payroll deductions and payroll cheques;
- donations;
- BAS Cheque;
- Photocopier maintenance payments;
- Refunds eg. Overpaid rates.

Purchase Orders can only be issued for items to be used by the Central Highlands Council and cannot be used for staff or personal requirements.

A standard purchase order is a legal contract used for the procurement of goods or services when the vendor, goods/services, costing and shipping address are known and the order is expected to be delivered in full at an agreed future date at an agreed price.

Telephone orders can be made and a purchase order number quoted. The purchase order must be filled out at the time the goods or services are requested from creditors.

Purchase Orders should show the following:

- Name and address of creditor
- Amount and description of goods being purchased
- Approximate cost of the required goods/services
- The clear name and signature of the ordering officer
- The job number
- Manager's or General Manager's signature is required if over prescribed amount (see table above)

Each good or service is to be included in its entirety on one order and is not to be split over a number of orders.

Where staff are authorising the procurement of goods and services, they are certifying that the purchase is within budget allowances and is a genuine requirement of their budget area. Procurement of goods and services are to reflect budgetary restrictions unless special authorisation has been granted by the General Manager or by Council.

Written quotes are to be filed by the Accounts Payable Officer

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Payment of Invoices

The following tasks are to be undertaken by the Accounts Payable Officer:

1. Upon receipt of an invoice, always check:
 - Against the purchase order if one has been raised;
 - Attach order to invoice;
 - That the goods and services have been received in a satisfactory manner;
 - The price is correct as quoted;
 - The supplier has included an ABN;
 - GST has been included where required; and
 - That a Statement by Supplier Form is attached if an ABN is not quoted.
2. Stamp all invoices with Central Highlands Council Accounts Receivable Stamp:
 - Enter supplier code;
 - The total of the invoice;
 - Code the invoice to the appropriate expense general ledger number and project number before sending to the Purchasing Officer and/or General Manager for payment approval;
 - The Purchasing Officer who raised the purchase order must sign the invoice to certify the item was received and the invoice amount is correct; and
 - Once the Purchasing Officer has signed the invoice the appropriately authorised officer must sign the invoice to approve payment

Payment is made by either Cheque or Electronic Fund Transfer.

(a) Cheque Payments

- Cheque payments are to be processed, photocopied and attached with their matching invoice. They are required to be signed by two authorised bank signatories (as registered with the relevant banking Authority).
- Processed copies of cheques and invoices are filed together in numerical order in folders and kept for 7 years.

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(b) Electronic Funds Payments

- Electronic payments are entered into the finance system and the payment registered is checked by a Senior Administration Officer prior to payments being sent to the bank.
- Invoices are filed in alphabetical order with a signed copy of the payment register and the processed bank report.
- Electronic payments are to be uploaded to the bank account by an authorised officer and confirmed electronically by two other officers (Senior Administration Officers and/or General Manager).

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APPENDIX 1

EVALUATION OF QUOTATION

From:

Date:

Subject: Evaluation of Quotation

The following procurement process has been undertaken

Scope of Work

<Insert scope of work request or attach written brief supplied>

Date request for quotation was issued

<insert date>

Business Details

Quotations were received from the following businesses as follows

Company	Contact Name & Telephone Number	Price GST inc.

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Approved Budget Allocation

<insert budget amount> <insert correct job number>

Recommendation

Based on the above evaluation I have issued a purchase order to <insert details and total amount>.

Purchasing Officer

Manager/General Manager (if required)

I, the purchasing/authorising officer, declare that I have no direct or indirect interest with the individual or organisation that is being approved to provide the goods and services

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TASINVEST

GATEWAY OF OPPORTUNITIES

THE SOUTHERN TASMANIAN ADVANTAGE

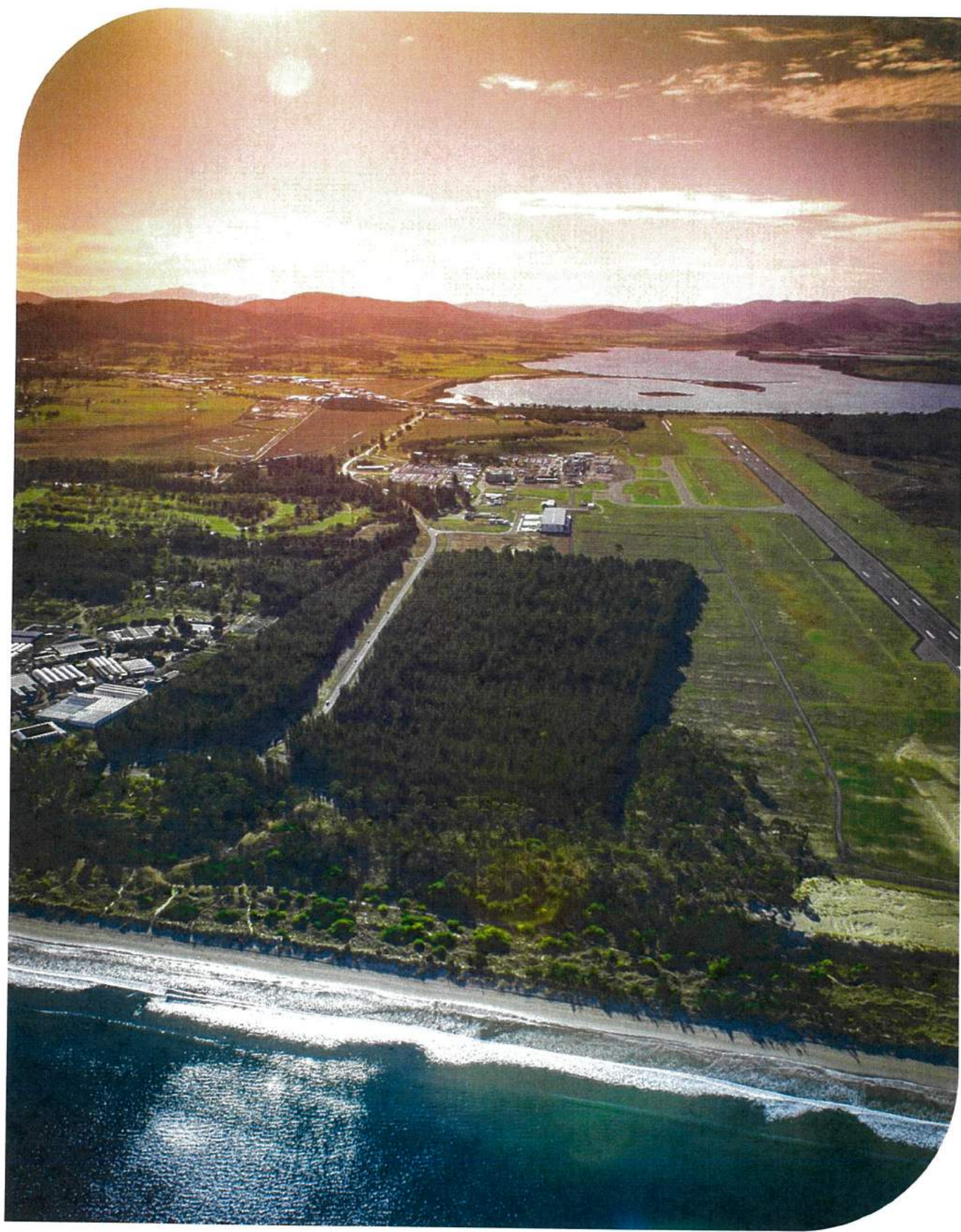
A GUIDE TO INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
AND INDUSTRIAL PRECINCTS



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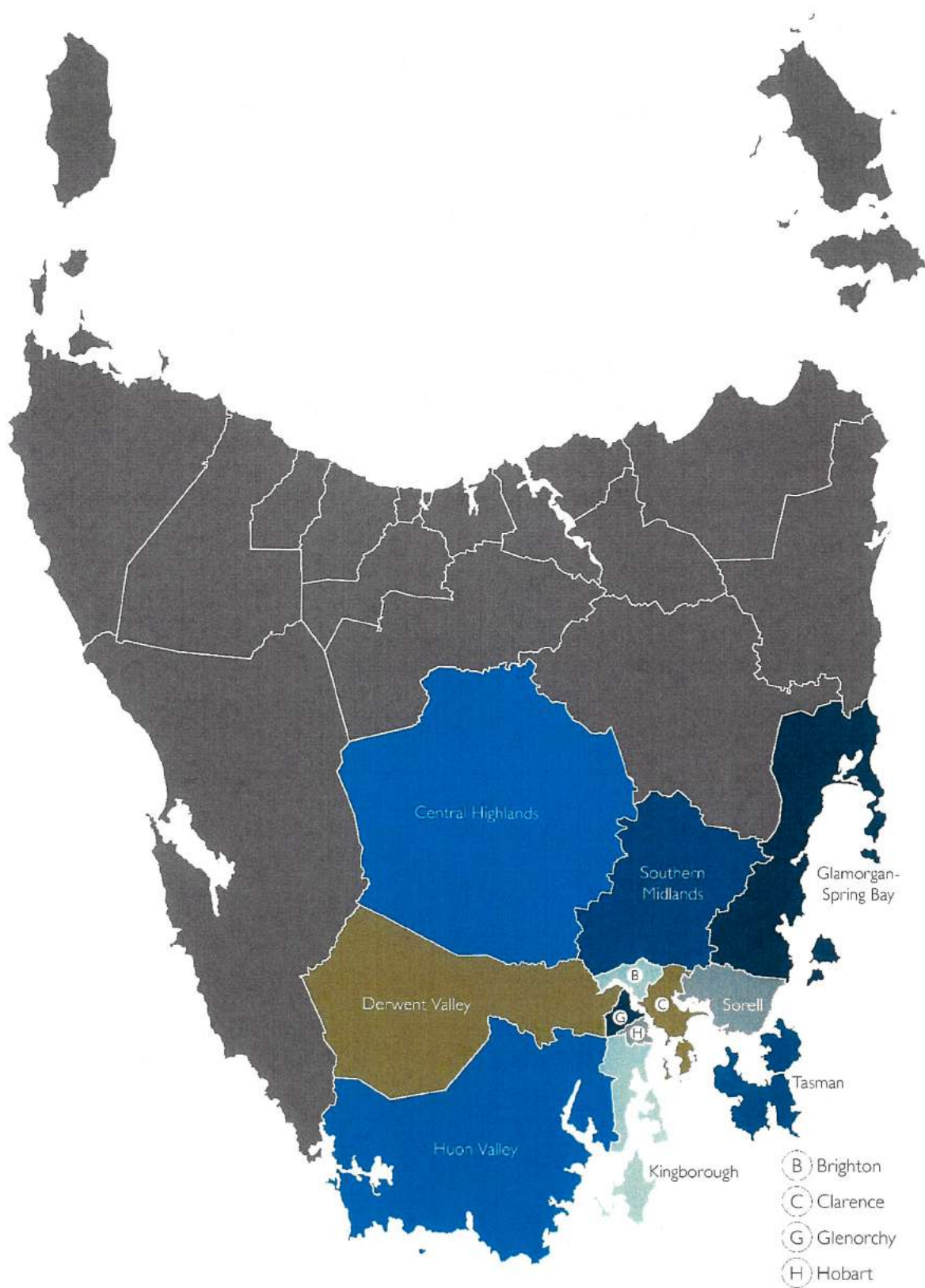


WELCOME TO SOUTHERN TASMANIA

KEY STRENGTHS

- Political and economic stability
- Low establishment costs
- Skilled and stable workforce
- Compelling brand – excellence, purity and sustainability
- Environmentally focused
- Innovative and creative
- Fertile soils and irrigation
- Proximity to ports
- Cost competitive
- High-quality, high-value production
- Excellent testbed
- Work-life balance
- Connected to the world

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS





MINISTERIAL FOREWORD

As regions across the world become increasingly similar, Tasmania stands apart.

Our island's relative geographic isolation, rich ecological diversity and small population help us to create high-value, boutique products and experiences - tantamount with excellence, purity, and sustainability - yet nothing stops Tasmania from reaching the world.

This introductory guide showcases investment opportunities and industrial precincts in Southern Tasmania.

When you visit the south of the State, you can feel the presence of the Southern Ocean. The crisp winds from the south, the yachts in the harbour and a deep sense of its maritime history. You can feel the fresh excitement of Hobart, a capital city that is a little unconventional, deeply inspired by nature, and emerging in confidence.

Home to Australia's fourth oldest university, there is an academic confidence that infuses the population.

The island's attributes drive its wealth of creativity and innovation, from industry to the arts. The Museum of Old and New Art – Mona, in Hobart, is an incredible showcase of treasures and contemporary art. Curious minds have created a hub of scientific experts, with a specialisation in the Southern Ocean, Antarctica and maritime developments.

Our renewable energy credentials set us apart on the international stage and provide a compelling proposition for businesses looking to power their operations by renewable sources. Tasmania is on track to be 100 per cent self-sufficient in renewable energy generation by 2022 and has set a target to double its current installed renewable capacity by 2040.

Our deep water ports, road and rail networks, communication infrastructure and sophisticated logistics capabilities support exports to a diverse range of global markets.

Tasmania's brand, produce, climate, commitment to sustainability and abundance of renewable energy set it apart and offer investors a unique proposition.

I welcome you to visit and realise your investment in Southern Tasmania.

Michael Ferguson MP

Minister for State Growth



SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS AUTHORITY FOREWORD

Southern Tasmania offers a host of investment opportunities and business potential with relaxed lifestyle and unique living experiences.

Hobart, Tasmania's capital city, is the strategic economic centre of the south and has seen unprecedented population growth and business investment in the last five years.

Regional areas surrounding Hobart compliment this strategic position by developing countless tourism, farming and residential lifestyle ventures and opportunities.

The city is the centre of tourism visitation with exciting new accommodation venues coming on-line and Hobart airport a stone's throw away from the CBD. Melbourne is only an hour away by plane.

Hobart is surrounded by several commercial and light industrial areas central to sea and airports.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 and the widespread acceptance of working from home, the lifestyle choice to live and work outside of Australia's sprawling urban centres puts Tasmania at the top of the list. National Broadband and mobile coverage mean you can live on the land, next to mountains or beaches and connect with the world. Housing and accommodation investment is in high demand.

Irrigation infrastructure through the south-east of the state has been the catalyst for investment in agriculture, viticulture and horticulture. There exists the natural advantages of a maritime climate with fewer extreme variations, and ready access to road and air freight corridors.

The capacity of the irrigation schemes is being expanded, and our temperate weather and seasonal variation create the perfect environment for investment in high-value agricultural industries.

Southern Tasmania is home to the University of Tasmania and globally renowned research institutions. These include the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Science, CSIRO and the Menzies Centre that specialises in medical research.

The local labour force is diverse, skilled and loyal. The business community works closely with the local and state government benefit of our size and innovative island culture. The southern region of Tasmania is flush with workforce training and development facilities.

Tasmania is home to an extensive hydroelectric scheme that is supplemented by wind and solar generation to provide abundant, locally produced renewable energy. The state has a long history of forestry and is increasingly implementing circular economy concepts of value-adding and re-thinking waste products including minimising the use of single-use plastics. In April 2020, Hobart municipality banned the use of single-use plastic packaging for takeaway food. We have a strong brand of natural and quality products.

Tasmanians have a strong history of making the impossible possible. Come join us.

Mayor Bec Enders

Chair of the Southern Tasmania Councils Association

OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR-GENERAL: HOW WE CAN HELP

The Tasmanian Government's Office of the Coordinator-General has investment specialists who provide assistance and advice to prospective investors.

Our specialist team will provide you with tailored, confidential assistance. We will connect you with the right people to fully explore your pathways and help you to:

- make connections with local industry associations and government departments
- find out about business opportunities, investment regulations and government assistance
- gain insights regarding business costs, skills availability, taxation and research opportunities
- obtain expert advice on Tasmania's industry capabilities and strengths
- make site visits and get assistance with site selection
- link with potential joint venture partners
- learn about industry strategies
- access export markets.

Major projects are appointed a case manager from the Office of the Coordinator-General. Our case management assists business and industry project proponents by convening relevant expertise across government.

For more information

For any additional information regarding investment opportunities within Tasmania, please contact:

Office of the Coordinator-General

JOHN PERRY

Coordinator-General

CH Smith Centre

20 Charles Street, Launceston

Tasmania 7250 Australia

Phone: +61 3 6777 2786

Email: cg@cg.tas.gov.au

Web: www.cg.tas.gov.au

PART A

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

KEY STATISTICS

Table 1 - Key statistics collated from www.economy.id.com.au/tasmania as at 30 January 2020

	Southern Tasmania	Tasmania	% of Tasmania
Gross regional product	\$16.63 billion	\$31.55 billion	52.71%
Estimated resident population	271 214	528 201	51.35%
Population growth – 1 year	1.46%	1.11%	
Local jobs	133 368	247 562	53.87%
Employed residents	131 665	248 501	52.98%
Local businesses	18 905	38 195	49.50%
Number of visitors	1.05 million ¹	1.32 million	
Land area	2 551 736	6 801 786	38.52%
Value of building approvals	\$281 million residential \$130 million non-residential	\$448 million residential \$193 million non-residential	64.12%
Bachelor or higher degree	42 825	67 725	63.23%

¹ Excludes visitation to Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality which is collected within the East Coast tourism visitor area

THE PLACE

Southern Tasmania has an exceptional natural and built environment, giving the region a distinct sense of 'place' that is recognised throughout Australia and around the world. It is home to world-class environment and heritage features such as Port Arthur, Maria Island, Bruny Island, Mount Field National Park, as well as heritage towns such as Oatlands, New Norfolk and Richmond.

Southern Tasmania has a diverse landscape. Located south of the capital city, Hobart, the region has lush pastures, native and forested areas, all interwoven with waterways. To the east is a landscape defined by its coastal environs. In contrast, the northern part of the region is characterised by extensive dryland farming and grazing areas. The western half of the region is sparsely populated and home to some of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area which is a rugged landscape of exceptional natural, cultural, and aesthetic value.

Governed across 12 Local Government Areas (LGAs), the Southern Tasmania region comprises a total land area of over 25 000 km², making up approximately 38 per cent of the State's total area. The region includes six LGAs which are concentrated in Greater Hobart – Hobart, Glenorchy, Clarence, Brighton, Kingborough and Sorell. Less-populated LGAs surrounding Greater Hobart include Central Highlands, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Huon, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

THE PEOPLE

The estimated resident population of Southern Tasmania was 271 214 with 86 per cent of the population concentrated in the Greater Hobart area².

The rest of the southern population resides in smaller townships and across coastal areas in the east and south, and in agricultural and highland districts in the north and to the west. The two largest towns outside Greater Hobart are Huonville and New Norfolk.

Southern Tasmania has a large working-age population, with the most substantial demographic (aged between 35-49) making up 18.9 per cent of the community. Over 85 per cent of the population have Australian/English ancestry, with some significant growth in the number of people of German and Chinese descent since the 2011 Census. Approximately 20 per cent of the labour force has a university qualification, and another 20 per cent a trade qualification³.

² Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Regional Population Growth, Australia* (3218.0)

³ Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016*

THE ECONOMY

Southern Tasmania is crucial to the Tasmanian economy. It is the largest of the three main Tasmanian regions in terms of land area, population, employment, number of businesses, government services, retail, professional services, education, arts and cultural activity, events, recreation and tourism, and aviation services.

In 2018, the regional population represented 51 per cent of Tasmania's total population. Yet the region represents 52.7 per cent of the State's gross regional product, 53.87 per cent of total jobs and 64 per cent of building approvals⁴. Southern Tasmania is home to the State's capital, Hobart, and the Tasmanian Parliament. It is also the centre for government services, with most Tasmanian Government head offices located in the Hobart central business district (CBD).

Greater Hobart is home to the region's critical infrastructure and is the main gateway for air travel, cruise ships and the Antarctic. Hobart Airport carries the State's highest volume of passengers and tourists and offers substantial freight-handling capacity.

Hobart has a substantial service sector, including health, medical, education and research. There are four major public and private hospitals with specialist and professional medical services. Significant education and research facilities include the University of Tasmania, the Menzies medical research centre, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies and the Australian Antarctic Division.

Other key sectors include agriculture, aquaculture, advanced manufacturing, forestry and forest products, mining and environmental technologies, tourism and science research. Globally competitive manufacturers located close to Hobart include Nyrstar (zinc smelter), Norske Skog (paper), Incat (fast ferries) and Cadbury (confectionery).

The University of Tasmania plays a significant role in the local economy, contributing an estimated \$1.7 billion a year, with the largest share of this in the south. It employs more than 6 000 staff and has over 30 000 students. In 2019, the University unveiled plans to develop a city-centric campus in the Hobart CBD, representing an investment of \$600 million.

Broad-acre farming, fruit, wine and horticultural industries provide opportunities for investment and growth, particularly due to significant irrigation investment. The region's aquaculture industry is renowned for its salmon production and abalone, rock lobster and oysters. Strong links to air and sea freight support the off-island export of fresh and processed food products and beverages.

Tourism has grown substantially over the last five years and currently contributes about \$3.2 billion to gross state product and directly supports about 21 600 jobs in Tasmania (8.7 per cent of total employment). Southern Tasmania attracts the majority of tourist activity and expenditure. In 2019, Southern Tasmania had more than 1 million visitors, about 80 per cent of the State's total tourist numbers⁵. There are exciting opportunities for new accommodation and attractions investment in the region.

Hobart's vibrant arts and cultural offering includes the extraordinary Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. Salamanca Place is home to the Salamanca arts precinct, with its many galleries, craft shops, cafes and restaurants, as well as Salamanca Market – the most visited attraction in Tasmania. There are also artistic hubs in regional towns and other regular events that attract national and international visitors, such as Dark Mofo, Taste of Tasmania and Festival of Voices.

⁴ National Institute of Economic and Industry Research, compiled and presented by economy.id

⁵ Tourism Tasmania, YE 2019

THE OPPORTUNITIES

Tasmanians are world-leading specialists in many areas and Southern Tasmania epitomises Tasmania's brand, offering a broad range of investment opportunities.

The region's sustainability credentials are authentic. Its considerable renewable energy resources – principally hydropower – mean that by 2022, Tasmania will be able to meet the State's entire annual electricity demand from on-island renewable energy generation. This power base is critical for businesses who are serious about achieving real sustainability targets.

The visitor economy and population growth in Southern Tasmania is booming. Lifestyle, incredible coastlines, beautiful waterways, unspoilt locations, a vibrant arts scene, creative industries, history, wilderness and gourmet food and wine are attracting people from interstate and around the world. There is a proven opportunity for the development of unique and distinctive experiences to showcase Southern Tasmania, to leverage from the creative industries, and provide a range of services and infrastructure to support a growing population.

The region's mix of productive agricultural land, irrigation infrastructure and a temperate climate is ideal for agricultural investments. There are outstanding opportunities to produce high-value goods and to work within niche rather than mass markets.

Precincts such as the Brighton Transport Hub and industrial estate, Cambridge industrial and commercial zones, Macquarie Point, Hobart Airport and the Prince of Wales Bay maritime precinct offer ideal locations to capitalise on the region's locational advantages. These sites provide opportunity, critical infrastructure, appropriate zoning, proximity to market and shared benefit through complementary activities.

New, expanding, or relocating businesses take advantage of existing local enablers such as progressive IT skills and services, advanced production systems, partnership opportunities, logistics, and links into global supply chains, particularly throughout Asia. Forestry is a considerable asset in the region, with large areas of plantation and natural forests with veneer, pellet and sawmill processing. There is also abundant biomass for circular economy systems.

Southern Tasmania has developed a unique cluster of expertise in all aspects of maritime development, research and development, manufacturing, engineering, logistics and more (thanks also to its proximity to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean). This is a unique advantage of the region and provides various leverage opportunities.

THE BRAND ADVANTAGE

The Tasmanian brand is admired worldwide as being synonymous with excellence, purity and sustainability. It is embodied in Tasmania's people and what they have achieved through many challenges, and much hard work and ingenuity.

In recognition of its value, Brand Tasmania was established as the first statutory place-branding authority in Australia. Brand Tasmania is responsible for ensuring the brand is strengthened locally, nationally and internationally. Its broad objectives are as follows.

- To develop, maintain, protect and promote a Tasmanian brand that is differentiated and enhances our appeal and competitiveness nationally and internationally.
- To strengthen Tasmania's image and reputation locally, nationally and internationally.
- To nurture, enhance and promote the Tasmanian brand as a shared public asset.

Businesses in Tasmania utilise the support of Brand Tasmania to help tell their own stories through the lens of the Tasmanian brand story, and leverage from the value that it brings.

THE LIFESTYLE

Southern Tasmania is a terrific place to live and offers something for everyone – beautiful surroundings, top-quality food and wine, a year-round calendar of cultural and sporting events, a safe and wholesome environment to bring up children, a temperate climate and a wonderfully relaxed lifestyle.

Hobart is the type of city where it is possible to live an inner-city lifestyle or within close proximity in the hills or by the water. People who live in the Huon Valley, the Channel region, the Derwent Valley, around Richmond or in the towns past Sorell are a mere 20-45 minute drive from the centre of Hobart.

THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR STUDY

Tasmania has developed an international reputation for its high standard of teaching and support for both local and international students. Its institutions provide students with quality personalised support and services and unrestricted access to teachers and lecturers.

Education is valued and strongly supported by government, the research community and industry. International students are welcomed into all levels of education – primary and secondary schools, TasTAFE and quality private providers for vocational education and training (VET) qualifications, and the University of Tasmania and the Australian Maritime College for undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications.

INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Southern Tasmania hosts a growing workforce of over 133 000 people, where 98.9 per cent⁶ of the local workers are residents. Successful career paths in many industries are synergistic with the strengths of the region.

Reflective of being the centre for many of the State's public services, the industries that provide the most full-time employment are health care, education and training, public administration and safety. Construction, manufacturing and agriculture, forestry and fishing businesses are also strong employers, and feature strongly in both central and peripheral municipalities, leading the way in smaller local economies outside of Greater Hobart⁷.

Business registrations help to tell a story about the direction and strength of the Southern Tasmanian economy. Tasmania has just over 38 000 businesses across a range of sectors and the State, and more than half of these are in Southern Tasmania - with the vast majority being small businesses that employ between 1 and 9 staff.

In Southern Tasmania, the top three sectors that have shown the most growth in the past four years, in terms of business numbers, are construction, professional, scientific and technical services, and accommodation and food. The larger businesses that employ 20 to 199 employees are predominantly in the accommodation and food services sector due to the prevalence of tourism and the operation of large hotels and restaurants in Hobart. Other businesses with significant employment numbers in the South are in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and manufacturing sectors.

The Administration and Support services sector is the largest employer of 200+ employees, which reflects the importance of the government as an employer in the South⁸.

There are many highly skilled employees in Southern Tasmania, with 28 per cent of the population holding a degree at bachelor level or higher. A further 10 per cent of local workers have an advanced diploma or diploma⁹.

The region benefits from the presence of high-quality, higher-education facilities. The University of Tasmania consistently ranks in the top 10 research universities in Australia and within the top 2 per cent of universities worldwide. It has four campuses across the State, with its most significant presence in the south.

⁶ Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016.

⁷ National Institute of Economic and Industry Research 2019, compiled and presented by economy.id

⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, 2016 to 2018

⁹ Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016.

TasTAFE campuses in Hobart, Clarence and Glenorchy provide the region with ready access to vocational education and training. As one of Australia's 10 largest Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) it is broadly responsible for ensuring the region's workforce has the vocational skills for a productive economy and healthy community. TasTAFE has a strong engagement with industry to assist businesses to meet their varied training needs. There are also many private RTOs (often sector-specific) operating in Southern Tasmania.

Figure 1 - Southern Tasmania Employment by industry full-time equivalent. National Institute of Economic and Industry Research 2018, compiled by economy.id

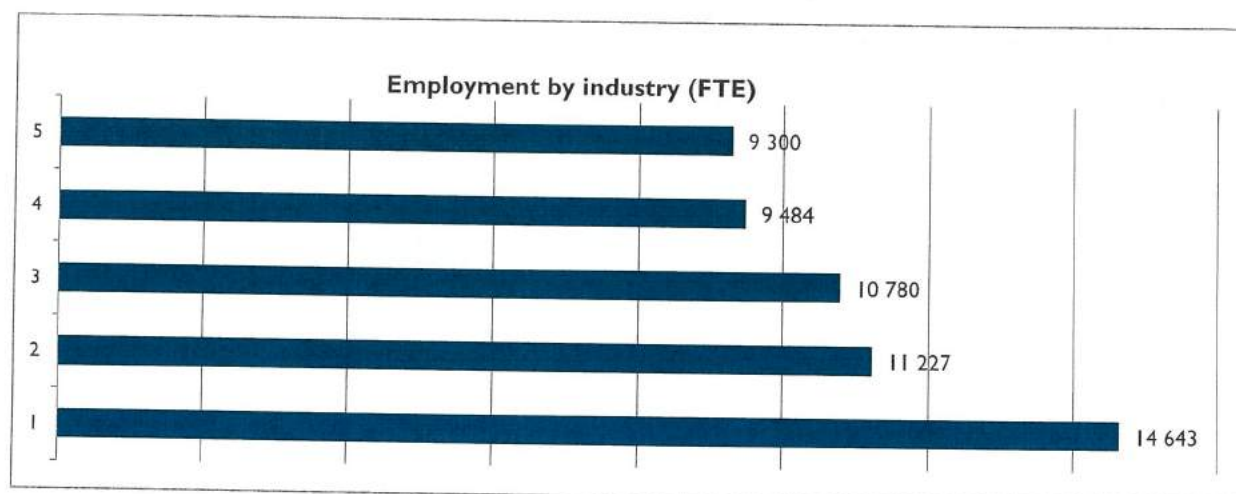


Figure 2 - Southern Tasmania Businesses by industry 2018. Australian Bureau of Statistics, counts of Australian businesses – exits and entries, compiled by economy.id

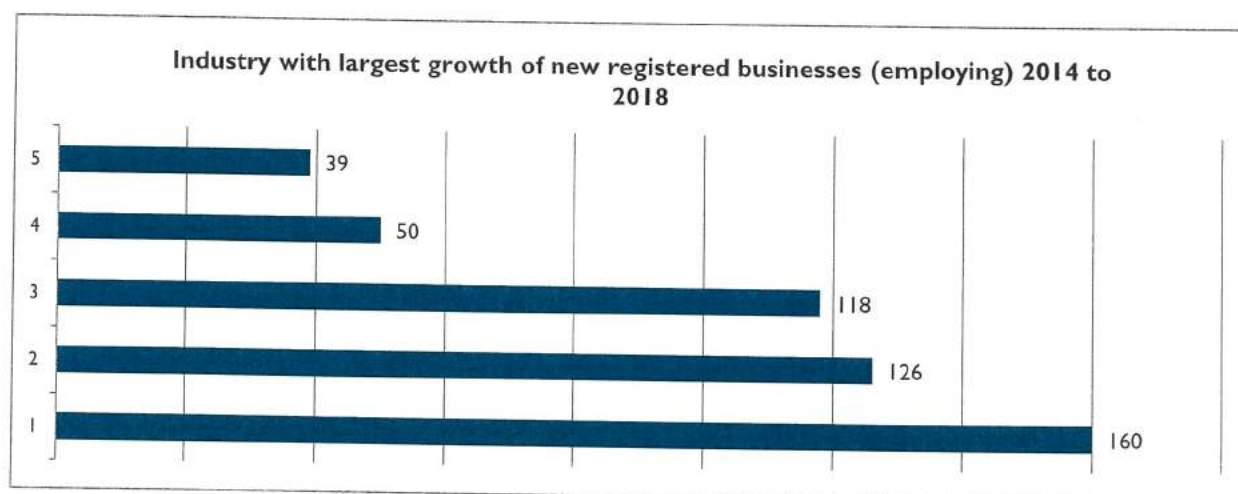


Figure 3 - Southern Tasmania Business by industry 2018. Australian Bureau of Statistics, counts of Australian businesses, compiled by economy.id

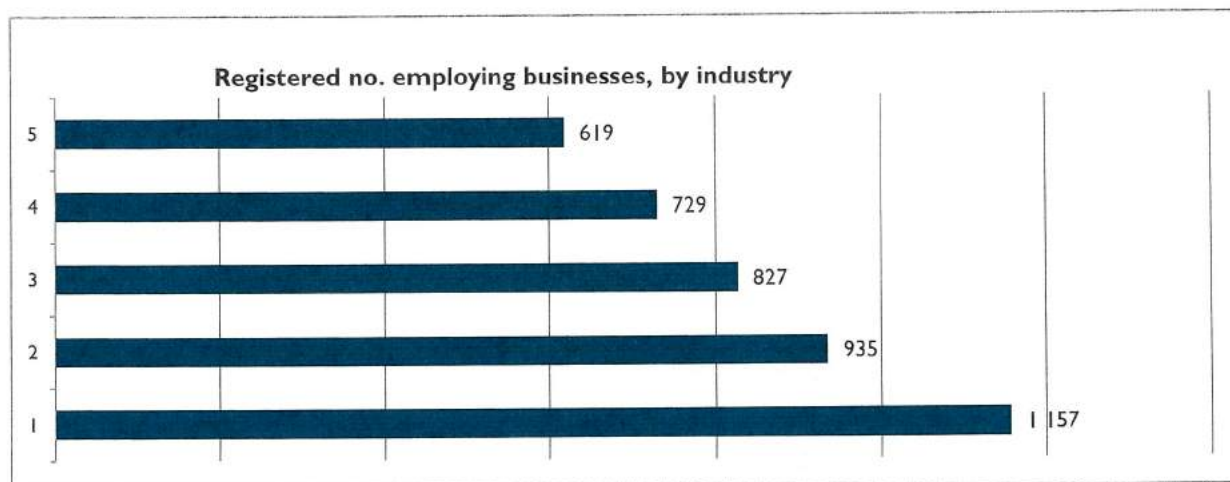
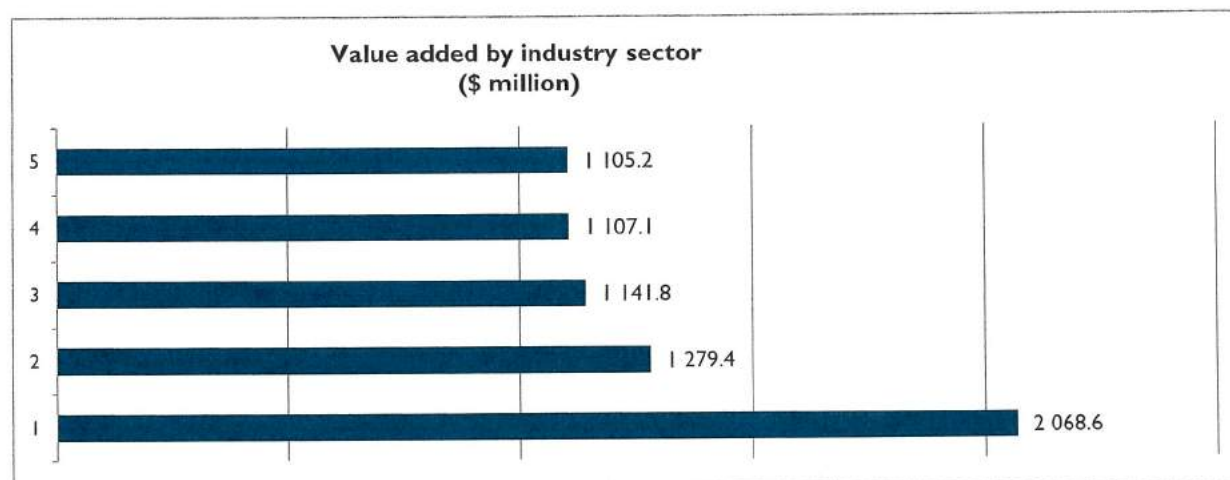


Figure 4 - Value added by industry sector 2019. National Institute and Industry Research 2019, compiled by economy.id



THE CLIMATE

Tasmania has a temperate maritime climate, with four distinct seasons. Rainfall is generally evenly distributed throughout the year and temperatures are usually mild. Tasmania has the cleanest air in the world and some of the purest water. It is cooled by prevailing westerlies from across the Indian Ocean where South America is the nearest major landmass at Tasmania's latitude.

As is happening in the rest of the world, Tasmania's climate is changing. Using scientific modelling, we now have an understanding of how the climate in Tasmania is predicted to change between now and 2100. It has been forecast that Tasmania's climate will not change as rapidly as other Australian regions, nor have as many extreme weather events in the future. Climate change is also unlikely to have a significant impact on the State's suitability for agricultural and other investments, but it may impact the choice of crops and growing cycles.

Agriculture-specific data provides us with the following information.

- There is no significant projected change to total annual rainfall for Tasmania. However, significant changes may change in the seasonal cycle.
- By 2100, the incidence of frost is projected to reduce by about half. For many areas in Tasmania, the period of at least some frost risk is also projected to shorten from March-December (10 months) to May-October (6 months).
- Large increases in the number of growing degree days (GDD) are projected by 2085. The GDD is a heat index used to calculate when a crop has had enough days above a base temperature to reach maturity. In some regions, GDD are forecast to double.

	Summer			Autumn			Annual
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
Mean Maximum Temperature (°C)	20.8	22.7	22.4	20.9	18.2	15.3	17.6
Mean Minimum Temperature (°C)	10.9	12.2	12.1	10.8	8.8	6.7	8.2
Average Rainfall (ml)	51.8	40	35.6	35.6	40.2	36.3	488.9
	Winter			Spring			
	Feb	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	
Mean Maximum Temperature (°C)	13	12.5	13.5	15.4	17.4	19.1	
Mean Minimum Temperature (°C)	4.7	4.2	4.7	6.1	7.6	9.3	
Average Rainfall (ml)	32.8	42.7	46.6	40.5	45.1	44.4	

Table 1- Bureau of Meteorology Weather Station Directory - Hobart Airport

KEY INDUSTRIES

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING, MARITIME AND DEFENCE

Tasmanian companies have been manufacturing products for many years and have forged a proud reputation for quality and innovation.

Tasmania's advanced manufacturing industries have particular capabilities in the fields of marine, defence, mining and mineral processing and heavy industry. Specifically, the State's deep capabilities include metal manufacturing, casting, shipbuilding and related maritime products, specialised machinery manufacturing and engineering that produces a diverse range of products.

There is potential for investment in scaling up high value-added, low-volume, advanced manufacturing activities, particularly for businesses that can leverage opportunities from Tasmania's established marine and aquaculture sectors.

Sites in Southern Tasmania that have established advanced manufacturing and defence advantages, or present opportunities to expand marine-based activity include:

- Tasmanian Technopark
- Prince of Wales Bay Marine Defence Precinct
- Margate industrial area.

Tasmania Maritime Network

Being an island has necessitated the development of a vibrant and innovative maritime industry and generations of shipbuilders have laid a firm foundation for the current era in which Tasmania leads the world.

The Tasmania Maritime Network (TMN) is a group of companies and organisations that offers innovative maritime products and services of exceptional quality. These companies provide expertise in manufacturing, engineering, logistics, training, clothing, safety equipment and shipping for both the commercial and military markets. This expertise includes:

- small to large capacity high-speed passenger only and passenger/vehicle carrying vessels for both commercial and military markets
- full design, manufacture and servicing of all related equipment
- marine evacuation systems
- large-capacity life rafts and innovative safety equipment
- comprehensive training, consultancy and higher education programs.

For more information

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/business/sectors/advanced_manufacturing

www.tmn.org.au

AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS

Tasmania has a globally competitive food production and processing sector. This strength includes dairy products, meat, seafood (predominantly Atlantic salmon and ocean trout, but also abalone, mussels, oysters and scallops), fruit and vegetables, confectionary, beer and wine. There are many small producers of award-winning boutique beverages, such as whisky, gin, vodka and non-alcoholic varieties, as well as preserves, olives and olive oils, smallgoods and baked goods.

Marketed as fresh, premium product, the total food and agriculture sector contributes approximately 8.8 per cent towards Tasmania's gross state product with about 77 per cent of Tasmania's food and beverages sold overseas or to other Australian states¹⁰.

Southern Tasmania has approximately 38 per cent of the State's farmland and approximately 536 farm businesses, contributing almost 20 per cent of the sector's gross value. The region's key agricultural exports include beef, salmon, dairy and beer. Processing significantly increases the value of the industry along the supply chain, and Southern Tasmania provides vital processing locations for salmon, chocolate, beer, wine and salad greens. The south is also home to a poultry abattoir, a large number of sheep and beef farms, and some pig and chicken farms¹⁰.

Cellar doors, farm shops, farmers' markets, craft breweries, and food processing retail outlets all exist directly as a result of Tasmania's premium food production. This supply chain enables primary producers and processors to sell directly to local, interstate and international buyers and adds value to the Tasmanian economy.

Premium agri-food production also supports a growing agri-tourism industry. Visitors to Tasmania continue to place a high value on experiences that not only allow them to taste Tasmanian products but also to understand their provenance.

FRUITS AND BERRIES

Tasmania has one of the best climates for growing berries anywhere in the world. Southern Tasmania is a large producer of berries (raspberries, blueberries and strawberries), together with other fruit crops such as cherries, apples, pears, apricots, nectarines and plums. It has ideal growing conditions with the essential winter chill followed by a long mild growing season that supports fruit development, enhanced flavour and longer shelf life.

The southern region contributes around 60 per cent of the State's gross value of fruit production, primarily based in the Huon and Derwent valleys, Coal River Valley and the Tasman Peninsula¹¹.

Although the State's berry processing sector is comparatively small, it has recently experienced significant expansion in infrastructure investments. These include freeze-drying and cold store facilities, and enhanced capacity to produce semi-processed products such as seedless purees, freeze-dried whole fruit and powders. Further processing and product development opportunities provide investment opportunities.

Fruit and berry producers are increasingly incorporating tourism and visitor experiences into their business model to add value through cafes, retail outlets and 'pick your own' experiences.

¹⁰ DPIPWE, Tasmanian Agri-Food ScoreCard 2017-18

WINE

The Tasmanian wine industry is boutique, premium and dynamic, with great potential for further growth.

Tasmania is Australia's finest cool-climate wine-producing region, recognised for award-winning Pinot Noir, sparkling wine, Chardonnay and Riesling. Tasmanian bottled wine and Tasmanian wine grapes consistently generate significantly higher average values than other Australian wine regions.

Southern Tasmania has approximately 40 per cent of the State's bearing vines¹⁰. These are primarily found in the Derwent and Huon valleys, on the East Coast and in the Coal River Valley.

As more newly established vines come into bearing age, there is an opportunity to invest in wine processing, and other value-add and supply chain opportunities.

OUT OF SEASON SUPPLY

Tasmania's counter-seasonality to the northern hemisphere offers a significant strategic advantage in food production and allows local producers to supply out-of-season fresh produce to northern hemisphere markets.

DISEASE-FREE

Tasmania's environmental values and quality produce rely upon the State's relative freedom from pests, diseases and weeds, and its rigorous biosecurity standards lie at the very core of the Tasmanian brand.

Tasmania's relative pest-free status provides access to a variety of international markets that are closed to other regions.

SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY

Tasmania's most significant natural resource advantage is water – it does not have the water supply issues experienced in other parts of Australia and much of the world. Water is key to a sustainable food and agriculture industry and Tasmania provides reliable access at critical phases in the growing season. Tasmania represents 1 per cent of Australia's landmass, yet has 27 per cent of Australia's freshwater dam storage capacity¹¹. The Tasmanian and Australian governments continue to develop large-scale irrigation projects to deliver water with a reliability that has the potential to significantly escalate the productive options and yields of an increasing amount of arable land.

For more information

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/business/sectors/food_and_agriculture

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au

¹¹ www.bom.gov.au/water/dashboards/#/water-storages

ANTARCTICA AND THE SOUTHERN OCEAN

Southern Tasmania is an international centre of Antarctic and Southern Ocean expertise. Hobart provides natural access to a high level of endemic species, and a largely untapped and unique ecology in the Southern Ocean, subantarctic Macquarie Island and the vast eastern Antarctic region. There is also a significant cluster of marine science and policy organisations.

The Antarctic sector is well organised and works collaboratively on globally significant science. The Tasmanian Polar Network is a growing coalition of local businesses, research organisations and government agencies that collaborate to support and promote the sector, and provide specialised products and services for Antarctic programs.

The city's deep-water port is 2 575 km from the Antarctic mainland and 3 429 km from Australia's Casey Station. Summer flights link Hobart Airport to Antarctica. Hobart is home to hundreds of Antarctic and Southern Ocean scientists and support personnel. It is also the preferred location for Australia's assets relating to the Antarctic, which includes Australia's soon-to-be-retired icebreaker, *Aurora Australis*, which will be replaced by a new \$1.9 billion science and resupply icebreaker vessel, RSV *Nuyina*.

Hobart is also the strategic location for many scientific research and education institutions, such as the Australian Antarctic Division, the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, CSIRO and the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre, and the Bureau of Meteorology's Tasmania and Antarctica Regional Office.

Opportunities exist to take advantage of:

- the amenities of a modern capital city, with excellent sea and air transport infrastructure
- world-class expertise in Antarctic, sub-Antarctic and marine education, research and support services
- more than 60 businesses experienced in supplying the needs of Antarctic expeditions
- regular flights operating during the summer months between Hobart Airport and Casey Station in East Antarctica, with the recently extended runway capable of accommodating a full payload for C-17s travelling to Antarctica
- a port that offers 24/7 access to port services, full provedore, stevedore, cold storage, quarantine and maintenance facilities.

For more information

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

www.tasmanianpolarnetwork.com.au

AQUACULTURE

Tasmania is Australia's largest producer of seafood and is internationally recognised for its quality aquaculture and wild fisheries products. The cool and pristine Southern Ocean waters provide ideal temperatures and one of the world's healthiest environments for the raising of premium aquaculture products. It is the only state in Australia capable of supplying sea-run ocean trout 12 months of the year.

Tasmania is also home to Australia's largest marine salmon-farming area in Australia. Commercially farmed species in Tasmania include abalone, Atlantic salmon, blue mussels, ocean trout, Pacific oysters and seahorses. Wild fisheries include abalone, rock lobster, scallops, giant crab, scale fish, shellfish, seaweed, bull kelp and undaria (wakame).

The long, clean coastlines of Southern Tasmania, which feature broad flat tidal zones, provide room for growth in shellfish aquaculture. Barilla Bay, Pittwater and Pipe Clay Lagoon are important marine farming environments for oysters and mussels.

The *Marine Farming Planning Act 1995* provides the certainty of tenure required for investment and sustained growth.

The Shellfish Market Access Program (ShellMAP) monitors water quality in shellfish growing areas and the public health status of shellfish on marine farms, to provide for the safety of farmed shellfish for human consumption. The program ensures that Tasmanian shellfish meet the rigorous testing demands of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service and overseas markets such as Japan.

Opportunities for investment exist in:

- farming innovation
- value-adding and downstream processing operations
- aquaculture production, particularly in new species
- operations.

For more information

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/sea-fishing-aquaculture/marine-farming-aquaculture

FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

The Tasmanian forestry sector is an integrated industry that encompasses both native forest and plantation resources. Tasmania's forests are sustainably managed. The managed production forests yield some of the strongest commercially usable timbers available.

Potential investment opportunities in this sector include:

- increasing veneer production from Tasmania's forests through the development of additional rotary veneer mills
- the production of high-value building resources such as laminated veneer lumber and cross laminated timbers
- the development of the biochemicals, biofuel and bioenergy sectors utilising forest waste, including the production of high-value biocompounds, wood pellets, cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel
- increasing the level of wood fibre processing, for example, pulp production or rayon manufacturing.

For more information

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/energy_and_resources/forestry

www.sttas.com.au

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Tasmania is Australia's leader in renewable energy and offers a compelling location for those who wish to invest in the renewable energy sector or achieve real sustainability targets through renewable energy use and generation.

The latest Clean Energy Australia report released by the Clean Energy Council of Australia highlights that Tasmania is the most significantly advanced state in terms of renewable energy penetration. Tasmania is on track to be self-sufficient in renewable generation by 2022 and has set a renewable generation target of 200 per cent of Tasmania's requirements needs by 2040, which means Tasmania will more than double its current renewable electricity production by that time.

Tasmania has been a forerunner in the development of renewable energy generation, with over 100 years of continued investment in renewable energy infrastructure and technology. Years of experience have helped Tasmania to develop an unmatched level of renewable energy knowledge, skill and expertise among our engineers and technicians.

Southern Tasmania is an ideal location for investment in renewable energy. Areas such as the Central Highlands, Southern Midlands and Glamorgan/Spring Bay provide prospective locations for wind farms and access to geothermal resources.

The State also has a wealth of biomass which could be used for bioenergy production, with the south being the most abundant in native forest harvest, hard and softwood plantation residues.

Tasmania offers prospective hydrogen producers access to low-cost wind and hydro resources, and other necessary infrastructure that could facilitate hydrogen generation. In Southern Tasmania, the Brighton Industrial precinct presents a compelling case for the development of a renewable hydrogen production facility (See Part B – Brighton).

Opportunities for investment include:

- businesses who are serious about achieving real sustainability targets and using 100 per cent renewable energy
- new renewable energy generation through wind, biomass, and geothermal activity and to sell into the National Electricity Market
- increasing competition in a contestable retail energy market
- developing a hydrogen production facility to service emerging global demand.

For more information:

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/energy_and_resources/energy

SCIENCE RESEARCH

Situated at the edge of the vast Southern Ocean, Tasmania is a hotspot for scientific research. Its excellent research facilities, innovative scientists, can-do attitude, and firm but flexible regulatory regime continue to drive innovation across this exciting sector.

A highly skilled and internationally mobile workforce characterises the sector. It attracts talented students to postgraduate programs and trains and employs experienced technicians while hiring research scientists and engineers at all career levels. Visiting scientists and researchers collaborate with, and learn from, Tasmanian research organisations. These visitors provide a rich source of learning and an avenue for promoting Tasmania's science research standing to the rest of the world.

Southern Tasmania is home to numerous research organisations and international treaty institutions, including the following.

- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
- Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels
- Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre
- Australian Antarctic Division
- Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation Node
- Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science
- Australian Innovation Research Centre
- Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre
- Bureau of Meteorology Tasmania and Antarctica Regional Office
- Centre of Excellence in Ore Deposits
- CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences Division
- CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research
- Food Safety Centre
- Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies
- Integrated Marine Observing System
- Intelligent Sensing and Systems Laboratory
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
- Menzies Institute for Medical Research
- Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation
- Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery biological collections and taxonomic services
- University of Tasmania

Tasmania's research sector is world-leading in several disciplines, with the recent QS World University Ranking among the best in the world for Earth and Marine Sciences and Agriculture and Forestry. Another nine disciplines are ranked highly in the QS Rankings, including English, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Education, Environmental Sciences, Law, Medicine, Sociology and Economics.

Tasmania's natural advantages make it an ideal laboratory for scientific research. The island's relative geographic isolation, rich ecological diversity and small population serve as attributes for 'road testing' complex ecological systems and interventions, as well as economic pilot models.

Tasmania's demographic profile makes it an excellent microcosm of regional Australia in which to observe the effects of human behaviour on the ecosystem. The State's small but representative population has, for example, enabled the Menzies Institute for Medical Research to make some extraordinary health discoveries.

For more information

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

SHARED SERVICE CENTRES

The shared services sector has been operating successfully in Tasmania for many years, with Southern Tasmania accommodating a range of operators and business functions, including banking and insurance, education, health, IT, telecommunications, insurance, travel, accommodation, government, and not-for-profit organisations.

A number of key features make the region attractive.

- Staff retention rates – staff turnover is reported by Tasmanian shared service centres to be significantly lower than mainland operations.
- Superior work culture – lower staff turnover rates, lifestyle factors and work satisfaction are reported by Tasmanian shared service centres to result in a comparatively superior work culture than mainland locations.
- Cheaper cost of business – lower staff costs and property costs offer shared service centres improved profitability.
- Access to skilled labour – Tasmania offers access to a skilled and competent workforce, reflecting the existing presence of the shared service centre footprint in the State. Opportunities exist to collaborate with the University of Tasmania and/or TasTAFE to develop a pipeline of work-ready graduates.

Southern Tasmania is able to offer not only some of the most cost-competitive CBD commercial real estate, but also several precincts that are tailored and suitable for shared service centre operations. An example is the Tasmanian Technopark, located within the City of Glenorchy.

This site was specifically designed to encourage growth in the technology and services sector by developing a hub for innovation, and supports tenants to commercialise innovative products, processes and services. The Technopark currently accommodates about 20 companies employing more than 500 people, and is a 15-minute drive from the Hobart city centre.

Another example is the Cambridge Business Park. Located next to Hobart Airport within the City of Clarence, there are currently several major developments underway to expand the park, including the Sparks Business Hub and the Cambridge Airport Industrial Estate.

Hydro Tasmania operates a shared service centre for it and its subsidiaries – consultancy business Entura Energy and retail electricity business, Momentum Energy – from the Cambridge Business Park.

TOURISM

Tasmania has a bold strategy to be a world-leading destination of choice and is fast rising to the top of everyone's must-go-to list. Aspirational visitation targets are being achieved through increased investment in targeted marketing campaigns, growing air and sea access, investing in quality visitor infrastructure, developing diverse experiences and enhancing Tasmania's brand.

Hobart itself is a significant tourism destination, receiving nearly 1.0 million interstate and international visitors per annum. Greater Hobart plays a core role as the gateway of visitation to Tasmania, due to the presence of the Hobart Airport (see section below).

Hobart is home to the internationally acclaimed Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. It also hosts regular Australian Football League and international cricket matches. Beyond Hobart, the region is also home to Bruny Island, Port Arthur, Freycinet Peninsula National Park, Maria Island, the Coal River Valley wineries, the Huon and Derwent valleys, the historic town of Richmond and the Tasman Peninsula.

Southern Tasmania offers:

- a vibrant arts scene, attracting national and international festivals, exhibitions and events, and many outstanding venues
- a calendar full of cultural festivals, world-class sporting events, country fairs and farmers' markets
- compact self-drive journeys with awe-inspiring scenery through mountains to sweeping coastal views, via historic towns, farm-gates, cellar doors and distilleries
- incredible gastronomic experiences from high-end bars and restaurants, fresh seafood and other produce, boutique breweries and distilleries to roadside stalls
- iconic attractions – including the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, Mount Field National Park, Three Capes Track, Maria Island, Freycinet Peninsula National Park, kunanyi / Mount Wellington and the World Heritage-listed Port Arthur Historic Site.

There are numerous opportunities for investment in short-term visitor accommodation, agri-tourism, heritage activities, nature-based tourism, adventure tourism and gastronomic experiences.

For more information

www.tourismtasmania.com.au

www.southerntasmania.com.au

www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publications/brochures

ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE

ELECTRICITY

A well-established network of transmission and distribution lines supplies electricity to Southern Tasmania.

In contrast to the rest of Australia, Tasmania is in the enviable position of being able to generate the vast majority of its electricity needs from renewable sources. This is currently over 95 per cent and on track to achieve 100 percent by 2022. This electricity is generated predominantly from Tasmania's extensive hydro generation and wind farms.

The abundance of these renewable energy resources also allows Tasmania to offer some of the most competitive prices for wholesale energy. In the AER's 2019-2020 Q2 Quarterly Report on Wholesale Markets, Tasmania had the equal lowest average spot price for wholesale energy in the National Energy Market.

Tasmania's renewable energy is exported via the Basslink undersea cable to assist in meeting interstate demand, with the interconnector also used to import electricity. Basslink connects Tasmania's power generation with the National Energy Market via a high-voltage direct current link that connects Tasmania and Victoria.

For more information

www.tasnetworks.com.au

www.hydro.com.au

NATURAL GAS

Tasmania connects to the mainland natural gas network via a subsea and underground transmission pipeline. Known as the Tasmanian Gas Pipeline, it consists of 734 km of pipeline (including 300 km of subsea pipeline).

Coming onshore in northern Tasmania near to the interstate energy cable BassLink, the pipeline has two 'arms', one delivering gas to larger population centres, including Launceston and Hobart, and the other to the Cradle Coast, ending at the Port Latta industrial hub.

Capacity is not fully utilised, with significant ability to increase throughput without additional major capital expenditure. The current capacity of the pipeline is 47 petajoules per annum, which provides a daily capacity to transport approximately 129 terajoules of natural gas to Tasmania.

The State's gas distribution system is operated by TasGas. The gas network can be accessed in various locations in the State's south, including Hobart, Bridgewater and Brighton.

For more information

www.tasgas.com.au

AIR

Hobart Airport is Tasmania's largest airport and provides regular scheduled direct flights around Australia. Air travel times are approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes to Melbourne, 1 hour and 50 minutes to Sydney, 2 hours and 20 minutes to Adelaide, and 3 hours and 15 minutes to Brisbane.

The airport, situated in Clarence municipality, is home to the Australian Antarctic aviation program. The Airbus A319 intercontinental airliner service operates regularly from Hobart to Wilkins and McMurdo runways in Antarctica. The Australian Government has committed to funding Antarctica's first paved runway near Davis Station, allowing year-round access to the continent. Antarctic aviation tourism is also expanding, further increasing air traffic to Antarctica.

In 2017, Hobart Airport completed a major upgrade and extension of its 2 724 m runway, with \$38 million of Australian Government funding. This upgrade allows Hobart to accommodate a greater range of wide-body and long-haul aircraft, increasing Hobart's capability in areas such as tourism, freight and logistics, and the Antarctic gateway. In addition, the Hobart City Deal has delivered \$82 million in funding to Hobart Airport for border service capability that will support international flights coming directly into Hobart for the first time since 1998.

Cambridge Aerodrome, also known as Cambridge Airport is located only a few kilometres from Hobart Airport. This aerodrome provides a base for regional Tasmanian air services and scenic flights and also offers flight training services. Scenic flights from Cambridge to Tasmania's south-west wilderness are popular with visitors and bushwalkers.

For more information

www.hobartairport.com.au

PORTS

Shipping is the predominant method of freight transport to and from Tasmania. Hobart has a natural deep-water harbour, which is easily accessible to all marine vessels, and handles around 12.5 per cent of the State's port freight.

TasPorts manages the maintenance of port berths, channels, wharves, landside assets, marine fleet and navigational aids. The organisation ensures the safe control and security of all major ports, delivering critical pilotage services, as well as the provision of towage, slipway and refuelling facilities, supply of floating plant and equipment for marine engineering projects, and construction and coastal haulage.

TasPorts provides full port services for Antarctic research and supply vessels through a dedicated Antarctic and cruise facility, and the Hobart port is home to the Australian and French research and supply vessels.

The TasPorts Port Master Plan will see investments in Hobart that will grow the tourism, trade and Antarctic sectors. A new Antarctic logistics facility is planned at Macquarie No. 6 Berth to assist the Tasmanian Antarctic Gateway Strategy and attract further international programs. Investment at the Port of Hobart will also see upgrades to the cruise terminal and berthing infrastructure as a response to continued sector growth.

For more information

www.tasports.com.au

ROADS

Road is the dominant mode for freight and passengers across Tasmania. Southern Tasmania has a significant network forming an integral part of the broader Tasmanian road network, covering over 24 000 km.

The road network includes the national network, and major regional and local roads. It covers Tasmania's major inter-regional freight and passenger routes, linking major urban centres across the State, including Burnie, Devonport, Launceston, and Hobart, providing easy access to major ports and airports.

Given the importance of the ports in Burnie and Devonport to the State, Southern Tasmania is linked to Tasmania's major 404 km freight corridor, extending from Hobart through to Burnie, maintained to Tasmania's highest freight infrastructure standards.

Vehicles up to the size of tri-axle semitrailers have access to the entire road network. Roads are suitable for High Productivity Vehicles (HPV) and Higher Mass Limits Vehicles (HMLV). The approved HPV/HMLV networks allow movement of vehicles up to B-double size along most of Tasmania's key freight routes.

For more information

www.transport.tas.gov.au

RAIL

The Tasmanian rail network is a freight-only network connecting important ports, cities and processing industries within the State. It is an essential transport mode for the movement of bulk goods and provides an alternative to road transport in a contestable freight market.

Southern Tasmania has two lines providing access in the region. The South Line is approximately 175 km, running from the South's transport hub in Brighton to Western Junction (near Launceston Airport in the north of the State). The Derwent Line is 71 km from Bridgewater Junction to the Florentine Rail Yard west of Maydena.

These lines connect Southern Tasmania to the remainder of the network, all the way to the Bell Bay Port, the Port of Devonport and the Port of Burnie.

For those wishing to engage rail services, the Government-owned operator of the rail network, TasRail specialises in short-haul freight and has a proven track record of experience in logistics capability across the supply chain.

For more information

www.tasrail.com.au

WATER

The vast majority of populated areas in Southern Tasmania have access to secure reticulated water.

Abundant water resources are available from the Derwent Valley (River Derwent) and Mount Wellington catchments. Raw water is also collected in the catchment areas and treated to meet the health-based Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines and requirements of the Tasmanian Public Health Act.

Over a third of Tasmania's population lives around the River Derwent estuary margins, and the Derwent is used widely for recreation, boating, recreational fishing, marine transportation and industry.

The Clarence Recycled Water Scheme recycles treated wastewater from the urban areas of Clarence, providing a low-cost, highly-reliable supply – even during periods of drought. The scheme has a wide range of users, including major agricultural irrigators and golf courses.

For more information

www.taswater.com.au

IRRIGATION SCHEMES

There is a significant irrigation network in Southern Tasmania that feeds into agricultural lands.

Created in 2011, Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd is a single Tasmanian Government entity responsible for irrigation development and operation. Tasmanian Irrigation has taken a suite of new projects from feasibility assessment through to construction, development and operation, with a number of new projects under development or consideration.

One of those projects is the greatly expanded South East Irrigation Scheme, which has significant potential to supply water to the Brighton, Coal River Valley, Sorell, Orielton, and Forcett districts.

Under development

- Southern Midlands
- South East Augmentation – pre-feasibility stage

Operational

- Midlands
- Southern Highlands
- Swan Valley
- South East Stage 1
- South East Stage 2
- South East Stage 3 (Sorell)

For more information

www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au

WASTE TREATMENT

Sewerage reticulation and treatment infrastructure is available in the majority of populated areas, managed through TasWater.

Several landfill sites and a network of waste transfer stations serve Southern Tasmania. Copping is home to a significant regional landfill operation that serves most of the transfer stations in the region and has more than 50 years' capacity.

COMMUNICATIONS

The National Broadband Network (NBN) provides high-speed internet infrastructure to Southern Tasmania. This provides secure connections for businesses and also for individuals looking to work remotely.

Tasmania currently has three fibre optic cables to the Australian mainland, including two owned by Telstra. This infrastructure provides options for diverse fibre optic connectivity and service options through national and international points of interconnection.

Tasmania was the first state in Australia to benefit from being connected to the NBN. This super-fast broadband technology provides Tasmania with the speed and integrity of digital technology demanded by business and industry in the 21st century.

Tasmania was also the first state to offer gigabit services to industry, providing speeds more than 10 times faster than the national average. This enhanced service gives local businesses improved benefits in staff efficiency, online collaboration and cost savings enabled through improved processing and file transfer speeds, high definition streaming for virtual meetings and low latency rates.



SUPPORTING INVESTMENT

The Tasmanian Government is committed to attracting investment and proactively supports businesses considering establishing or relocating operations to the State.

PAYROLL TAX EXEMPTION

A three-year payroll tax exemption is available for interstate businesses that relocate their operations to *regional Tasmania*, subject to eligibility requirements. Companies that relocate to regional areas of Southern Tasmania are eligible for this payroll tax exemption where:

- the relocation occurs between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2021
- the relocation is to regional Tasmania (this does **not** include the municipalities of Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart or Kingborough, however other LGAs in Southern Tasmania are applicable)
- the business physically operates from a real property
- before the relocation, the business:
 - operated in an interstate location other than Tasmania
 - had not paid taxable wages in Tasmania (either themselves or as a member of a group) in the five years preceding the relocation
- wages are paid to an employee who physically undertakes at least 80 per cent of their work for the business in regional Tasmania.

LAND TAX EXEMPTION

People may be eligible for a land tax exemption on primary production land should their:

- land be used substantially for the business of primary production
- land be declared a Private Timber Reserve under the *Forest Practices Act 1985*
- land be in a permanent timber production zone
- land be subject to a certified plan under the State Permanent Native Forest Estate Policy.

PLANNING AND REGULATION SYSTEM

Tasmania's progressive planning system has one of the fastest approval timeframes in Australia. It is administered through supportive local councils, who guide developers through the assessment process. Tasmania will soon introduce Australia's first statewide planning scheme which will provide consistent planning rules across all local council areas.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to ensuring Tasmania is open for business through implementing this very significant planning reform. It includes the following elements.

- Consolidating Tasmania's municipal-based planning schemes into one set of easy-to-understand planning rules (expected implementation by the end of 2021).
- Setting the State's high-level strategic policy ambitions and directions (planned implementation 2021).
- Setting out long-term planning goals, including identifying how land should be used and where (Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy review anticipated in 2021).
- implementing the Hobart City Deal – a shared 10-year vision between the Australian and Tasmanian governments and the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough councils. Together, these parties will guide and encourage investment to leverage Hobart's natural amenity and build on its position as a vibrant, liveable and connected global city (see inset Governance through Strategic Partnerships).
- establishing an online portal that allows developers to submit and track their applications (expected delivery mid-2021).

Statutory timeframes in Tasmania are as follows.

- Permitted use – 28 days
- Discretionary – 42 days
- Building – 14 days
- Plumbing – 7 days

For more information

www.planningreform.tas.gov.au

GOVERNANCE THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (INSET)

The majority of Southern Tasmania's population resides in the Greater Hobart area made up of the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough council areas. Population growth tends to be higher in Greater Hobart than the rest of Tasmania, a key driver of local economic outcomes.

As a means of supporting a growing and changing population, the Hobart City Deal was created to establish governance structures that support all levels of government and provide a blueprint for investment in the Greater Hobart area.

HOBART CITY DEAL

The Hobart City Deal is a shared 10-year partnership between the Australian and Tasmanian governments and the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough councils. Together, they will guide and encourage investment to leverage Hobart's natural amenity and build on its position as a vibrant, liveable and connected global city.

The Hobart City Deal key focus areas are as follows.

1. Supporting the development of a direct international gateway at the Hobart Airport.
2. Establishing an Antarctic and Science Precinct at Macquarie Point.
3. Implementing the Greater Hobart Transport Vision.
4. Driving urban renewal and delivering affordable housing.
5. Activating the Northern Suburbs Transit Corridor.
6. Being a smart, liveable and investment-ready city.
7. Collaborating and providing strategic governance by establishing and implementing a Greater Hobart Act.

GREATER HOBART ACT 2019

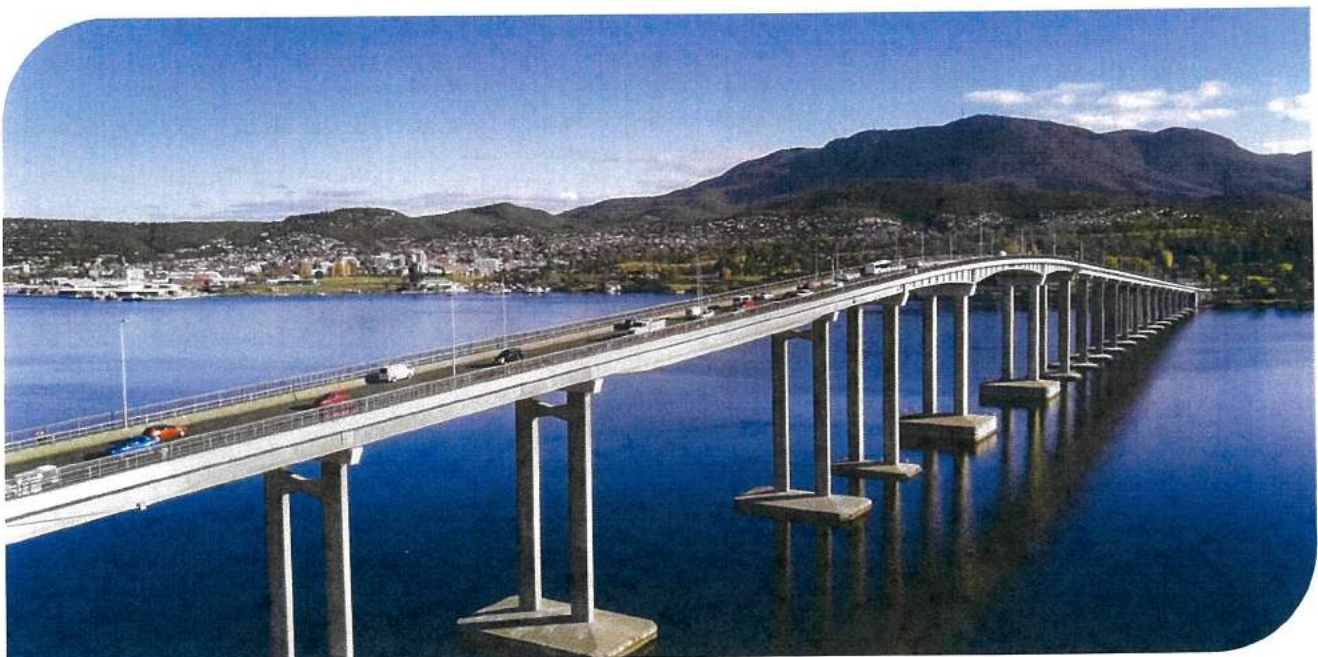
A critical governance outcome of the Hobart City Deal is the establishment of the Greater Hobart Act 2019. This Act provides a framework to support collaborative decision making between the councils of Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough, and the Tasmanian Government. It enables the parties to better coordinate the efficient use of infrastructure, and enable strategic planning concerning future land use and development in the Greater Hobart area.

This binding legislation establishes an enduring partnership and the development of a shared vision between local councils and the Tasmanian Government for future generations in the Greater Hobart area.

Together, these strategic partnerships across all levels of government provide a strong foundation of governance and a solid base for investment in the Greater Hobart area in Southern Tasmania.

For more information

www.hobartcitydeal.com.au



FREIGHT EQUALISATION SCHEME

The Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme provides financial assistance to shippers of eligible freight destined for both Australian and international markets.

The scheme provides Tasmanian industries with equal opportunities to compete in interstate markets, recognising that Tasmanian producers do not have the option of transporting goods from the island by road or rail. This scheme, therefore, reduces the cost of transporting eligible goods.

To be eligible for assistance with freight costs, northbound goods must:

- be manufactured in Tasmania for permanent use or sale on the Australian mainland
- be transported across Bass Strait by sea as non-bulk cargo (not shipped loose in the hold without any unitisation or packaging)
- incur a freight cost disadvantage.

Assistance paid is calculated by measuring the wharf-to-wharf cost of a standard container between northern Tasmania and Victoria, and equivalent price across 420 km of road.

For more information

www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/business/services/centrelink/tasmanian-freight-equalisation-scheme

PATHWAYS TO COMMERCIALISATION

The Tasmanian Government is committed to supporting pathways to commercialise new ideas and products. Innovation hubs have been established in Hobart and Launceston and are operated by Enterprize Tasmania Ltd through a multi-year funding arrangement.

Enterprize Tasmania is a small network of innovation hubs, established to support Tasmanian entrepreneurs turn their ideas into successful, scalable businesses.

These hubs support technology-enabled startups and scale-ups within any sector.

For more information

www.enterprize.space

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT

TASMANIAN CLIMATE CHANGE OFFICE

There is a lot of work underway in Tasmania to reduce the State's greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the changes in our climate. The Department of Premier and Cabinet's Tasmanian Climate Change Office (TCCO) was established in 2008, and leads a whole-of-government approach to climate change.

The role of TCCO is to coordinate the Tasmanian Government's climate change action in partnership with business, the community and other levels of government.

The TCCO provides advice to the Government on climate change matters, with a particular focus on how Tasmania can:

- capitalise on the opportunities from a changing climate and the development of a low-carbon economy
- improve its capacity to prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate change
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- contribute to national policy development.

The TCCO also monitors, analyses and reports on Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information

www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/climatechange

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

The Tasmanian Government's strong commitment to taking practical action on climate change is demonstrated through its current action plan, Climate Action 21: Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2017-2021. This includes 37 actions grouped across six key priority areas and was developed in partnership with industry, research institutions and the community.

The actions focus on climate research, improving energy efficiency, reducing transport and agricultural emissions, and supporting businesses, local government and communities to reduce their emissions and manage the impacts of a changing climate.

Importantly, Tasmania has a strong agricultural industry. Some examples of specific actions to enable the continuing and sustainable growth in this sector include:

- providing information on climate change risks and opportunities to support future decision-making for agricultural production under the Enterprise Suitability Mapping project
- ongoing investment in irrigation development to lift productivity and deliver increased water surety for Tasmanian agriculture in a changing climate.

REDUCING EMISSIONS

Tasmania is on track to achieve its target of net zero emissions by 2050, as set out in the Paris Agreement. The State has the lowest emissions per person in Australia.

Tasmania has a longstanding commitment to renewable energy and is on track to become self-sufficient in renewable energy generation for its net energy needs by the end of 2022, with major new wind farms at Cattle Hill and Granville Harbour contributing to this achievement.

The Tasmanian Government's Renewable Energy Action Plan commits to a renewable electricity generation target of 200 per cent of the State's needs by 2040, which will see Tasmania double its renewable energy production.

The Tasmanian Government is also committed to helping mainland Australia reduce its emissions. The Australian and Tasmanian governments have partnered to realise Tasmania's significant potential to deliver additional renewable electricity generation and energy storage to the National Electricity Market. The partnership will initially commit up to \$86 million for the Battery of the Nation pumped hydropower and Marinus Link second Bass Strait electricity interconnector projects.

Increasing the transmission capacity between Tasmania and mainland Australia unlocks opportunities for renewable generation (wind, solar, and hydropower), and energy storage. Additional transmission capacity provides another layer of energy security for renewable hydrogen production, particularly at export scale.

WASTE

The Tasmanian Government is committed to introducing a Waste Action Plan and delivering a Container Refund Scheme by 2022. The Government is also committed to introducing a waste levy which will fund innovative reuse and recycling schemes and support co-investment with recycling businesses that will improve the State's capture of recyclables.

Other waste targets proposed by the Government focus on:

- reducing waste generated per person
- reducing organic waste sent to landfill
- ensuring all packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable
- improving recovery rates from waste streams
- phasing out unnecessary plastics
- having the lowest incidence of littering in the country.

The City of Hobart has some of the most ambitious waste reduction targets in the State, aiming to achieve zero waste to the Hobart landfill by 2030, with a comprehensive plan that includes 91 actions across a range of areas such as organic waste, education and litter.

INFORMATION SOURCES

Tasmanian Government		
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, PARKS, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au	ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY www.epa.tas.gov.au GATEWAY TO TASMANIA www.tas.gov.au	MIGRATION TASMANIA www.migration.tas.gov.au OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR-GENERAL www.cg.tas.gov.au
Local government		
BRIGHTON www.brighton.tas.gov.au CENTRAL HIGHLANDS www.centralhighlands.tas.gov.au CLARENCE CITY www.ccc.tas.gov.au DERWENT VALLEY www.derwentvalley.tas.gov.au	GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY www.gsbc.tas.gov.au GLENORCHY CITY www.gcc.tas.gov.au HOBART CITY www.hobartcity.com.au HUON VALLEY www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au	KINGBOROUGH www.kingborough.tas.gov.au SORELL www.sorell.tas.gov.au SOUTHERN MIDLANDS www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au TASMAN www.tasman.tas.gov.au
Education		
AUSTRALIAN MARITIME COLLEGE www.amc.edu.au DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION www.education.tas.gov.au	TAFE TASMANIA www.tastafe.tas.edu.au TASMANIAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE www.utas.edu.au/tia	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE www.utas.edu.au/college UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA www.utas.edu.au
Other		
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE www.business.gov.au www.industry.gov.au LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM – TASMANIA www.thelist.tas.gov.au	TASMANIAN IRRIGATION www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au PAYROLL TAX EXEMPTION www.sro.tas.gov.au/payroll-tax	PRIMARY PRODUCTION LAND TAX EXEMPTIONS www.sro.tas.gov.au/land-tax/exemptions-and-rebates TASMANIAN FREIGHT EQUALISATION SCHEME www.humanservices.gov.au/organisations/business/services/centrelink/tasmanian-freight-equalisation-scheme

PART B

MUNICIPALITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES



BRIGHTON

Brighton is located approximately 20 km north-east of Hobart on the eastern side of the River Derwent and forms part of the urban-rural interface of Greater Hobart to central Tasmania.

It is one of Tasmania's faster-growing communities, with an annual population growth rate near 2 per cent. It has a relatively young population with a median age of 34, compared to the State average of 42.

Industrial land use is a vital feature of the municipality, which constitutes one of the region's major industrial conglomerations. The municipality has several associated industrial areas providing for warehousing, logistics and freight-related commercial developments. The clustering of industries will continue to expand well into the future.

The Greater Hobart Socio-economic Profile and Opportunity Assessment 2019 identifies the following opportunities for Brighton.

- Green and circular economy opportunities – renewables projects, renewable hydrogen production, recycling and processing.
- Transport, logistics, postal and warehousing for road and rail.
- Intensifying primary resource production and value-adding chains.

Brighton Council is working to determine the feasibility of various large-scale renewables projects in the area and centred around the transport and industrial hub, including a renewable green hydrogen facility.

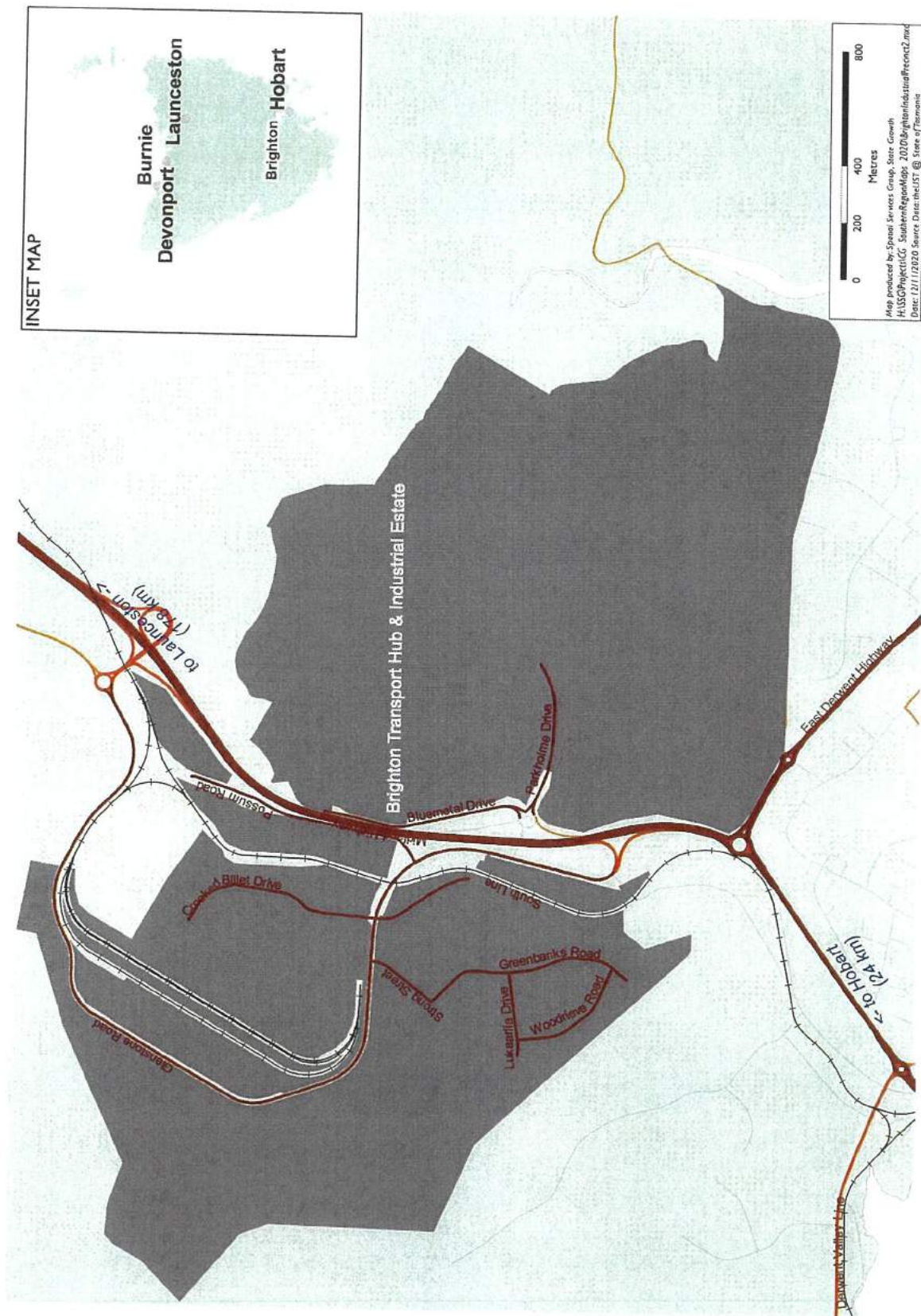
Population centres	Brighton, Bridgewater, Gagebrook, Herdsmans Cove, Old Beach
Educational/research institutions	Jordan River Learning Federation (East Derwent Primary School, Gagebrook Primary School, Herdsmans Cove Primary School, and Senior School – grades 7 to 12, includes School Farm and Bridgewater Trade Training Centre) Brighton Primary School, St Paul's Primary School (Christian) Bridgewater School for Seniors, Bridgewater LINC
Medical facilities	Brighton Medical Centre and Brighton Dental Centre, Hobart Pathology, Greenpoint Medical Services, Brighton Family Medical, Brighton Community Health Centre and Child Health and Parenting Service
Culture and events	Brighton Army Camp Augmented Reality Experience, Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) 24 Carrot Community Gardens, MONA pop-up events, such as Bond Place, the historic village of Pontville and Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary
Large and notable employers	Onetrak, SRT Logistics, Toll
Available sites for investment	Brighton Transport Hub and Industrial Estate. The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	Prospective investors are encouraged to contact Council directly to discuss support by Council for investment in the area

BRIGHTON TRANSPORT HUB AND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Brighton Transport Hub and Industrial Estate is a major transport interchange and industrial estate for Southern Tasmania.

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold and lease.
Location	Glenstone Road, Crooked Billet Drive, Possum Road, Greenbanks Road, Strong Street, Lukaarlia Drive, and Woodrieve Road, Bridgewater, Tasmania 7030.
Site size	Approximately 240 ha.
Site zoning	General industrial.
Road	Direct access and immediately adjacent to Midland Highway (National Highway), with roads constructed to heavy vehicle standard.
Rail	Rail access at the Brighton Transport Hub.
Airport	37 km from Hobart Airport.
Wharf	25 km from Port of Hobart.
Gas	Serviced by natural gas.
Power	Supplied from Bridgewater 110/11 kV substation. The substation has spare transformation capacity in order of 5-10 MW through underground high-voltage infrastructure.
Communications	Fibre to the node high-speed broadband.
Water	Fully serviced.
Sewerage	Fully serviced.

Brighton Transport Hub and Industrial Estate



SRT LOGISTICS

SRT Logistics Pty Ltd (SRT) has been a proud essential service provider to the wholesale and retail food industry in Tasmania for over 30 years.

SRT provides refrigerated freight services to virtually every town in Tasmania and is a trusted Tasmanian supply chain partner for many large blue-chip businesses, built on its values of customer-centricity and professionalism.

SRT has operated in Brighton since 2005 and selected the municipality based on its strategic location and well-developed transport links. The company employs more than 300 Tasmanians and, with a fleet of over 250 company trucks/trailers, SRT operates four refrigerated warehouses in Melbourne, Devonport, Launceston and Brighton.

The SRT Brighton site services Southern Tasmania and is the home for SRT's Head Office. The company is currently expanding its operations at the site, selected as the location for its new milk distribution supercentre. After extensive reviews, the transport hub was chosen as the best possible location for the organisation to service the Tasmanian community and enable future growth from emerging export and interstate markets.





CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

Located in the heart of Tasmania, the Central Highlands has glorious scenery and built heritage dating back to the early 1800s. It is the birthplace of Tasmania's hydroelectric power system and home to some of the best trout fishing in the southern hemisphere.

This large municipality is 12 per cent of Tasmania's landmass and encompasses part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, two national parks and other Wilderness Conservation Areas, popular for recreational fly fishing, hunting and bushwalking. Its small, disparate, but thriving communities support a

rural-based economy strong in the agricultural, aquaculture and tourism industries.

Opportunity for investment is in farming, cropping, aquaculture, tourism, renewable energy and mining.

Population centres	Of eight official townships, the four largest are Bothwell, Ouse, Hamilton and Miena
Educational/research institutions	Bothwell District High School (kindergarten to grade 12), Ouse District School (kindergarten to grade 6)
Medical facilities	Central Highlands Community Health Centre (Ouse), Doctors Surgery (Bothwell), Pharmacy (Bothwell)
Culture and events	Hamilton Show (March/April), Highlands Bushfest Bothwell (November)
Large and notable employers	Salmon Enterprises of Tasmania, Tassal Group, Huon Aquaculture – Meadowbank fish farm, Currunga Farm, 28 Gates Farm Stay, Pumphouse Point and Ratho Farm
Available sites for investment	Numerous agricultural opportunities are available across the municipality through private sales The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	Prospective investors are encouraged to contact Council directly to discuss support by Council for investment in the area



CLARENCE

Belonging to the Greater Hobart area, the City of Clarence is the most populated municipality in Southern Tasmania. It is an ideally positioned economic gateway between the airport and sea ports of Southern Tasmania.

The Clarence CBD is a 10-minute drive to central Hobart and has several thriving retail, commercial and industrial centres.

The municipality is situated on the eastern shore of the River Derwent and has over 191 km of coastal frontage, and access to some of Southern Tasmania's most popular beaches. Some of this coastal area provides breathtaking

panoramic vistas across the harbour to Tasmania's capital city of Hobart and kunanyi / Mount Wellington.

The municipality is home to the Hobart Airport that has seen and will continue to see significant development in the coming years, which includes the potential to broaden its flight network and increase the volume of visitors to the State.

Clarence is also home to the popular historic town of Richmond and the food and wine region of the Coal River Valley; one of Australia's premium pinot noir-growing regions with 32 vineyards and 16 cellar doors.

Opportunities in Clarence include to:

- expand and diversify the local creative economy
- develop hard and soft infrastructure and associated services for a growing population
- expand tourism products, services and experiences
- expand postal and warehousing space for bulky goods and a fresh food distribution centre
- establish and operate other shared service centres in commercial centres
- activate and expand the waterfront and local marine sector
- utilise industrial and business estates, strategically located in Mornington, Rokeby and Cambridge, with both developed and greenfield sites available in a range of lot sizes
- intensify water and land-based agriculture, and increase value-add through vertical integration with the Coal River Valley.

Population centres	Kangaroo Bay/Bellerive/Rosny Park (CBD), Richmond, Risdon Vale, Cambridge, Clarendon Vale. Rokeby, Lindisfarne, Mornington, Howrah and Tranmere.
Educational/ research institutions	19 primary schools, six high schools and two secondary/tertiary colleges, including a TasTAFE campus.
Medical facilities	Serviced by the Royal Hobart Hospital and Calvary Lenah Valley Hospital, the municipality itself supports over 440 health professionals, including general practitioners, allied health professionals, nurses, specialists and support staff.
Culture and events	Jazz Festival (February), Carols by Candlelight (December), Australia Day Festival (January), Clarence Seafarers' Festival (October) and regular football and international cricket matches at the Blundstone Arena, and art exhibitions at Rosny Barn.
Large and notable employers	Hobart Airport, Sullivan's Cove Distillery, Marinova, Oakdale Timber, TasNetworks, Hydro Tas, Eastlands Shopping Centre, Veolia, Skretting Australia, Barilla Bay Oyster Farm, Coal River Farm, Riversdale Estate, Frogmore Creek, Nocton Vineyard, Pooley Wines.
Available sites for investment	Mornington Rokeby Lauderdale Activity Centre Rosny Park Activity Centre Cambridge Industrial Zone Cambridge Business Park Hobart Airport The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	New establishments in the Clarence City Council LGA are exempt from rates for the first 12 months. Prospective investors are encouraged to contact Council directly to discuss other support by Council for investment in the area

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL PRECINCTS

The Clarence suburb of Cambridge has competitive advantages in terms of its access to the Hobart Airport, proximity to the Hobart Wharf, access to good roads, a large supply of flat and affordable land with limited conflicting land uses, a strong existing local economy, population growth and access to a sizeable and skilled workforce.

The Cambridge Industrial Zone and Cambridge Business Park provide access to common infrastructure and vary in size, zoning and opportunities.

COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE	
Road	Tasman Highway is a dual carriageway that links the Port of Hobart and the Hobart Airport and further south east of Tasmania. East Derwent Highway and the Colebrook Main Road provide transport links to the Midland Highway and northern Tasmanian ports.
Rail	30 km to Brighton Transport Hub.
Airport	Within 1 km of Hobart Airport.
Wharf	16 km to Port of Hobart.
Gas	Natural gas is available in Tasmania but has not yet been reticulated to the City of Clarence.
Power	The Cambridge/Hobart Airport area is supplied from Cambridge 33/11 kV zone substation with spare transformation capacity in the order of 7 MW.
Communications	Fibre to the node high-speed broadband.
Water	Fully serviced.
Sewerage	Fully serviced.

CAMBRIDGE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND RURAL RESOURCE ZONE

Cambridge industrial estate is situated off the Tasman Highway, in close proximity to the Hobart Airport. The industrial estate's primary purpose is to provide for manufacturing, processing, repair, storage and distribution of goods and materials.

Major businesses in this area include aquaculture feed producers, warehousing and distribution facilities, utility and civil construction companies, fire service and road transport training centres, building contractors, metal fabricators, furniture showrooms, winemaking and storage facilities, a fruit beverage production factory, and biotechnology laboratories.

Rural resource land lends itself to a broad range of permitted and discretionary uses. Uses may provide for the development of resources, and resource processing for agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, mining and other primary industries. The zone also has the flexibility to provide for non-agricultural use or development, such as recreation, conservation, tourism and retailing, where it supports existing agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, mining and other primary industries.

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold and commercial lease options.
Location	Northern side of Kennedy Drive, Cessna Way, and south of Cranston Parade and west of Holyman Avenue (parallel to Hobart Airport).
Site size	Various allotment sizes.
Site zoning	Light industrial, Commercial and Rural resource.

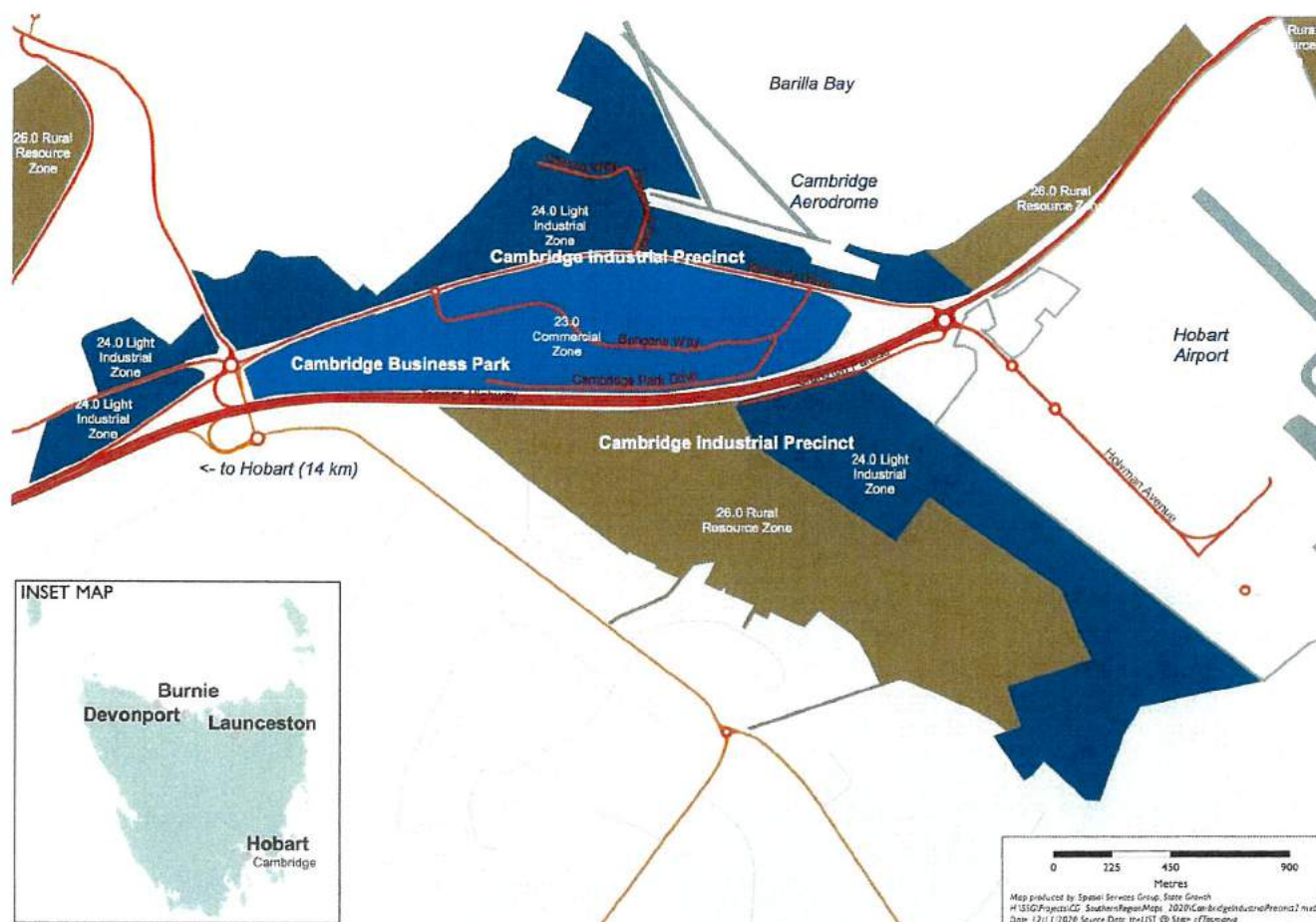
CAMBRIDGE BUSINESS PARK

Cambridge Business Park is the largest commercial precinct in Clarence. Its primary purpose is to provide for a mix of activities that include large floor area retailing and service industries and which require high levels of vehicle access and car parking for customers.

The Park currently includes large retailers such as Harvey Norman, Nick Scali, Anaconda, Habitat, Good Price Pharmacy, Shiploads and Supercheap Auto.

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold and commercial lease options.
Location	Southern side of Kennedy Drive, Cambridge Park Drive, Bungana Way, Cambridge.
Site size	Various allotment sizes from 1.5 ha to 1 597 m ² .
Site zoning	Commercial.

Cambridge Business Park and Industrial Precinct



CASE STUDY - MARINOVA

Marinova Pty Ltd is a Tasmanian biotechnology company dedicated to the development and production of high-purity seaweed extracts for the betterment of human health. Located in Cambridge, the company's dynamic research and manufacturing facility forms an integral part of the innovative marine science community for which Southern Tasmania is known.

Marinova's reputation is built on the unsurpassed quality of its seaweed extracts. It is further underpinned by an extensive research and development program that has now launched 'fucoidan' – a natural compound found in brown seaweed – into the new frontier of natural therapeutics.

As the global leader in fucoidan science, Marinova is a vital supplier to world-renowned research institutions and some of the most recognised companies in the nutraceutical, pharmaceutical and skincare sectors. Its products range from certified organic fucoidan extracts for nutritional and topical applications, to highly characterised fractions for medical devices and pharmaceutical development. It is Marinova's scientific acumen and advanced extraction technologies, coupled with the exceptional quality of wild seaweeds, which continues to set it apart.

Like many other world-leading innovators in Tasmania, Marinova is committed to sustainability across all facets of the business, from sustainable seaweed harvesting practices and the harnessing of renewable energy, through to creating new and productive uses for waste materials. The company sits on the cusp of becoming a genuine carbon-neutral, zero-waste manufacturer.



DERWENT VALLEY

Derwent Valley has a spectacular river and mountain landscape, with abundant river water supplies and productive soils. Approximately 30 minutes from Hobart, it provides opportunities for employment, services and potential growth, particularly in agribusiness, tourism and rural lifestyles and service industries.

The region has traditionally farmed beef and sheep. It is home to an internationally competitive hop industry and emerging niche agricultural specialties such as essential oils, cherries, seed production and rare breed

small-scale beef and sheep production.

Water resources support hydroelectricity generation, as well as freshwater fishing, adventure tourism and other related activities.

The valley was settled in 1807 and has a variety of colonial architecture, from oast houses and humble cottages, to grand mansions. The River Derwent and surrounding landscape, including Mount Field National Park and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, is popular among adventure seekers – including mountain bikers, kayakers, campers, hikers and anglers – due to its spectacular waterfalls, bike trails, rivers and forests.

Investment opportunities include:

- agri-tourism
- nature-based and adventure tourism
- agriculture, aquaculture and inland fisheries.

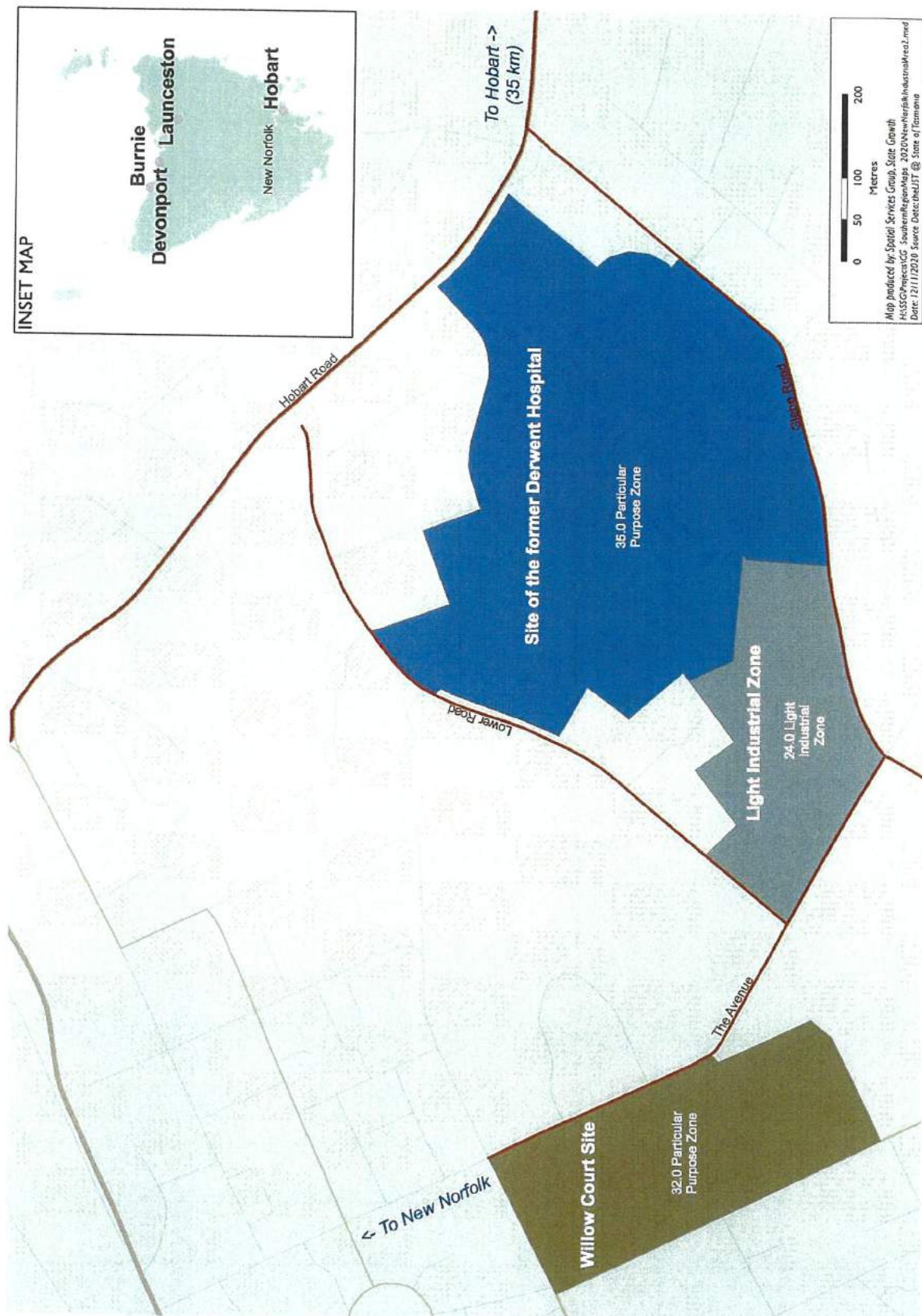


Population centres	New Norfolk is the primary town and business area in the Derwent Valley, housing more than 50 per cent of the population. The balance of the population largely live in smaller populated, residential and rural living areas such as Molesworth, Lachlan, Bushy Park, Westerway and Maydena.
Educational institutions	There are five public primary schools in Molesworth, New Norfolk, Fairview, Westerway, and Glenora and two high schools (New Norfolk and Glenora), offering selected year 11 and 12 subjects. There is also a private Catholic school offering kindergarten to grade 6.
Medical facilities	New Norfolk District Hospital provides a wide range of visiting consultants and 14 sub-acute beds and the Derwent Valley Medical Centre offers a full range of general practitioner and medical services. Corumbene Care is a residential aged care facility that offers independent living units, access to café and allied health services onsite, including rural primary health care. A wide range of specialists and consultants regularly visit New Norfolk.
Culture and events	Regular cultural events and organisations include the New Norfolk Market and Derwent Valley Community Market, Derwent Valley Arts Group, the Derwent Valley Concert Band, Derwent Valley Autumn Festival (April), and Bushy Park Show (February). There is a range of church denominations available and multiple group sports, such as football, cricket, soccer and other sporting activities, such as horse riding and pony clubs. Participation in community organisations such as Rotary, Lions, RSL and the Country Women's Association is also popular. There are many smaller community events and numerous community organisations that cater to most special interest groups.
Large and notable employers	Norske Skog, Tassal, Huon Aquaculture, Hop Products Australia – exporting Tasmanian hops to the world, Derwent Estate, Stephano Lubiana Wines, Agrarian Kitchen, Westerway Raspberry Farm, Corumbene Care, Dirt Art Maydena Bike Park, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, Reid Fruits and Wandin Valley Orchards.
Available sites for investment	Former Royal Derwent Hospital and Willow Court Site, including the Gateway Estate and adjacent land Boyer Road, Boyer Hamilton Road Light Industrial Estate The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	The Council provides planning support wherever possible, which may include referrals to other agencies and organisations. The Council is keen to see innovative proposals, particularly those that offer the opportunity to reinvigorate the Willow Court precinct and drive complementary investment.

FORMER ROYAL DERWENT HOSPITAL AND WILLOW COURT SITE

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Freehold and lease.
Location	Various addresses at The Avenue and Glebe Road, New Norfolk.
Site size	Various sizes.
Site zoning	Light industrial and Particular Purpose.
Road	Minor road access to site. Some internal roads. Major road access via the Lyell Highway and then Brooker and Midlands Highway to both Hobart and Launceston and beyond.
Rail	25 km to Brighton Transport Hub.
Airport	47 km to Hobart Airport.
Wharf	35 km to Port of Hobart, although most freight goes through Devonport via road transport or rail via Brighton Transport Hub.
Gas	Not connected.
Power	Connected to most of the sites at The Avenue. Connection varies with sites on Glebe Road.
Communications	NBN Fixed Wireless.
Water	Standard connections to most of the site at The Avenue, varies with sites on Glebe Road.
Sewerage	Standard connections to most of the site on The Avenue, varies with sites on Glebe Road.

Former Royal Derwent Hospital and Willow Court Site



CASE STUDY - THE AGRARIAN KITCHEN AND EATERY

The Agrarian Kitchen has brought international attention to the Derwent Valley. Established by Rodney Dunn and Severine Demanet in 2008, its overriding goal is to provide a high quality 'paddock to plate' experience for guests. Located on their property at Lachlan, the experience includes a bespoke cooking school and the extensive use of produce from the property. Fruits, vegetables, rare breed pigs and chickens are raised for use at the school, using organic principles. Often booked out many months in advance, well-known guest tutors help to offer a wide variety of cooking classes.

In 2017, the business diversified to include The Agrarian Kitchen Eatery, established in what was once Australia's longest continually running psychiatric institution, Willow Court. A heritage-listed precinct, and a centrepiece to the Derwent Valley, The Agrarian Kitchen Eatery now offers an experience that uses produce from its farm and a handcrafted wood-fired oven, grill and hot-smoker, all built from old bricks from its location at Willow Court.

Severine and Rodney have transformed one of the buildings at Willow Court into a nationally recognised dining experience. Often partnering with other quality businesses in the Derwent Valley, the kitchen and eatery frequently features in magazines such as Australian Gourmet Traveller and Country Life. It also regularly appears in top-10 lists of Tasmania's restaurants and experiences.

Currently, there are plans to extend The Agrarian Kitchen Eatery at Willow Court to include the Cookery School experience, incorporating a kitchen garden and outdoor learning space onsite. These plans would further promote the centre of town and bring complementary investment to the precinct following the success of the Agrarian Kitchen and Eatery.





GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY

Glamorgan Spring Bay is an extraordinary place to live, visit and work. It is home to some of the most spectacular landscapes and coastlines in Tasmania.

The municipality covers an area of over 2 500 km², including the remarkable national parks of Freycinet and Maria Island and award-winning luxury hotel, Saffire. The region forms the southern end of the Great Eastern Drive.

The population of the region is quite small at 4 400. The main townships are Bicheno, Coles Bay, Swansea, Triabunna, Buckland and Orford, each with their

own personality and character and all close to the sea.

Other characterful but smaller villages and hamlets are spread across a rural, agricultural landscape. Employment is spread across a number of sectors, although tourism has now overtaken the established agricultural sector as the largest single source of jobs. Agricultural, nature-based and marine visitor experiences complement visitor accommodation offerings.

Tourism is critical to the local economy, with the municipality experiencing visitor numbers that far outweigh permanent residents. More than 50 per cent of home owners are non-permanent residents. Significant investment and planning to support the visitor experience is, therefore, a key priority, particularly in the principal attractions of Freycinet Peninsula, Maria Island and main townships along the coast.

Investment opportunities include:

- visitor accommodation and experiences, including agri-tourism and aquaculture/wild fisheries
- agriculture, including, in particular, viticulture and horticulture
- services and visitor experiences to complement the Freycinet Peninsula Master Plan.

Population centres	Bicheno, Coles Bay, Swansea, Triabunna, Orford, and Buckland
Educational institutions	Department of Education primary schools in Bicheno, Swansea, Triabunna and Orford, high school in Triabunna, South East Trade Training Centre (Triabunna Campus)
Medical facilities	May Shaw Health Centre located in Swansea includes a general practice service, fully equipped 24/7 accident and emergency facility and an aged care facility Triabunna and Bicheno have general practices and limited Community Health facilities
Culture and events	Bicheno Food and Wine Festival, East Coast Harvest Odyssey, Festival of Voices (Coastal), Great Eastern Wine Weekend, Winter Challenge, Freycinet Challenge, Sunflower Celebration (Spring Bay Mill), Spring Bay Studio and Gallery, The Village (Triabunna)
Large and notable employers	RACT, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, May Shaw Health Centre Inc., Tassal, Elphinstone Engineering
Available sites for investment	Please refer to www.gsbc.tas.gov.au/community-projects/major-projects . The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	Council is proactive in the encouragement of sustainable development within the municipality that will establish or expand business, employment opportunities or local services.



GLENORCHY

The City of Glenorchy is Tasmania's fourth largest city. Glenorchy is located in the Greater Hobart metropolitan area in Southern Tasmania. It is about 7 km north of Tasmania's capital city, Hobart, and is nestled below the Wellington Range on the western shore of the River Derwent.

Glenorchy has the second-largest shopping district in Southern Tasmania (the largest being in Hobart), with three major commercial areas including Moonah, Glenorchy CBD and Claremont.

The municipality is characterised by its young population and trade skills, which reflects the prominence of construction and manufacturing employment. As Hobart and its surrounds grows, the structure of the Glenorchy economy is expected to change, with growth industries such as health care and social assistance, construction and transport, postal and warehousing to become more dominant.

Population growth in Hobart and surrounds has recently accelerated and is starting to place a strain on key infrastructure. Accommodating this and future population growth in Greater Hobart will require additional soft and hard infrastructure investment.

Glenorchy is also home to the internationally acclaimed Museum of New and Old Art (MONA) that enjoys a unique brand reputation and representation within the creative, visual arts and cultural sector, and the visitor economy. There is a clear opportunity to expand and diversify the local economy that contributes to a vibrant and productive creative and visitor economy.

Glenorchy has long been the industrial hub of Southern Tasmania, home to some of the State's biggest international exporters, including Nyrstar Hobart Zinc Smelter, Mondelez International (Cadbury), and Blundstone. Around Prince of Wales Bay are world-leading international exporters in the maritime and defence industries, including Incat, Taylor Bros, Liferaft Systems Australia, with opportunities for other innovative companies to expand this exciting cluster.

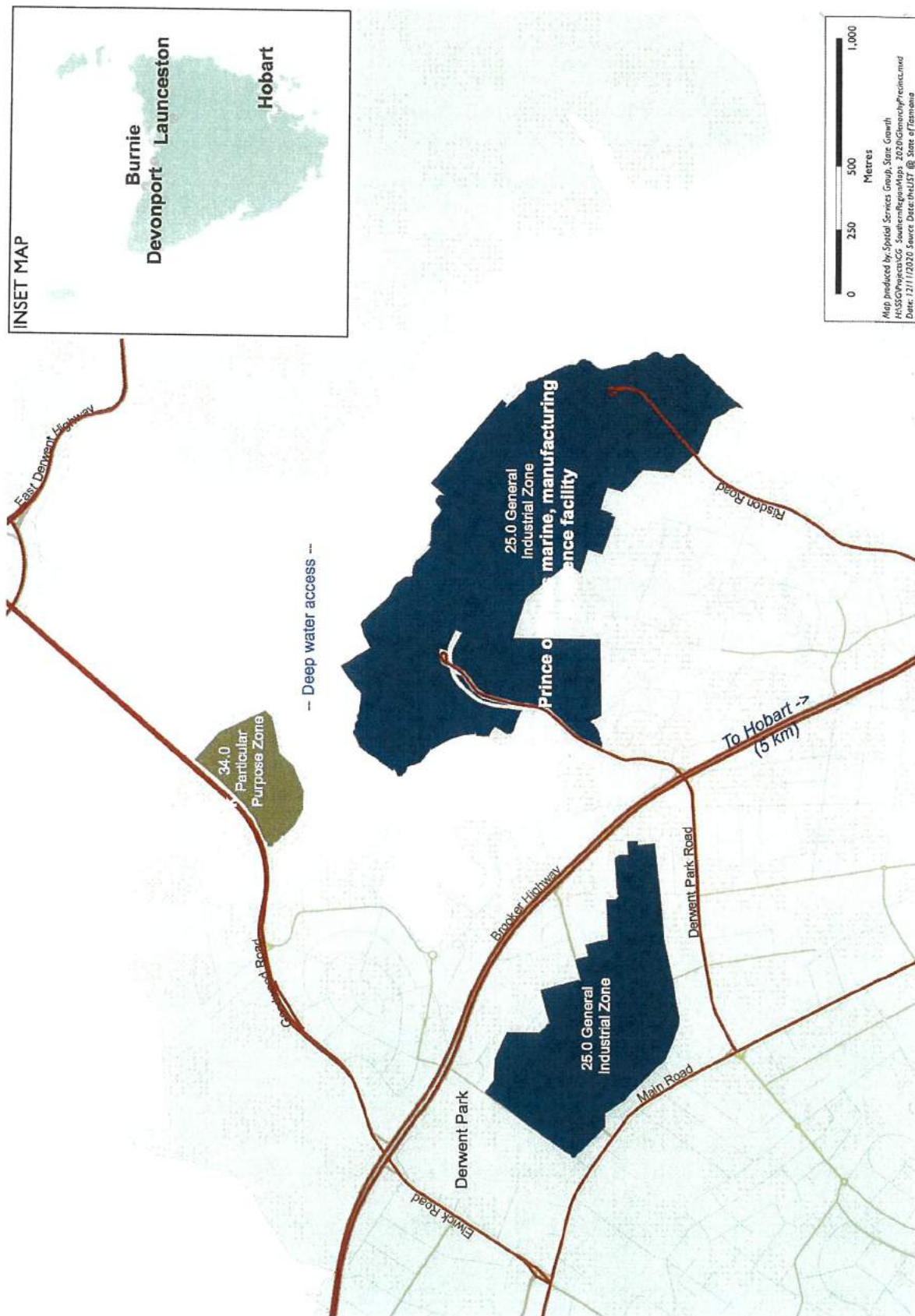
There are also existing, small-scale clusters of IT activity, particularly in the Tasmanian Technopark, that provide opportunities for expansion and diversification, including small-scale technology businesses.

Opportunities in Glenorchy are to:

- leverage from a skilled construction and manufacturing skills base
- expand and diversify the local creative economy
- expand tourism products, services and experiences
- support the emerging information technology sector
- leverage from the significant development plans for the Derwent Entertainment Centre and Wilkinsons Point Precinct
- activate and expand the waterfront and local marine sector.

Population centres	Austin's Ferry, Berriedale, Chigwell, Claremont, Collinsvale, Derwent Park, Dowsing Point, Glenlusk, Glenorchy, Goodwood, Granton (part), Lutana, Montrose, Moonah, Rosetta, Wellington Park, and West Moonah.
Educational/ research institutions	Two TasTAFE specialist industry training campuses, 14 secondary schools and 11 primary schools.
Medical facilities	Serviced by the Royal Hobart Hospital and Calvary Lenah Valley Hospital, the municipality is serviced by more than 600 health professionals, including general practitioners, allied health professionals, specialists and support staff. Medical facilities include dental clinics, radiology and imaging services, physiotherapy and hydrotherapy facilities.
Culture and events	Internationally renowned Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), MONA FOMA and Dark Mofo events, Moonah Arts Centre, Glenorchy Art and Sculpture Park, the region's largest-capacity venue, the Derwent Entertainment Centre, annual Moonah Taste of the World Festival, and year-round community and cultural events.
Large and notable employers	MONA, Searoad, Blundstone, Cadbury, Nyrstar, defence manufacturers Taylor Bros, PFG Group, CBG Systems, Fiomarine, Liferaft Systems Australia, Moonraker and Apco.
Available sites for investment	Tasmanian Technopark Wilkinsons Point Precinct Prince of Wales Bay Maritime Defence Precinct The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	Council actively encourages developers and investors to work with our staff to grow the City and make Glenorchy a great place to live. To enable partnerships and collaboration, Glenorchy City has created the Future Glenorchy Program, which outlines a broad range of initiatives and projects to grow Glenorchy and improve liveability. Projects include the CityLink passenger rail project, commercial precinct planning and investment, sport and recreation masterplanning and more than 50 projects that form the Glenorchy Economic Development Strategy.

Prince of Wales Maritime Defence Precinct



TASMANIAN TECHNOPARK

The Tasmanian Technopark assists the acceleration of growth for startup and existing businesses. Companies located at the Technopark form strategic alliances with other technopark-based organisations that enhance information dissemination and technology transfer.

Located on an exclusive headland overlooking the River Derwent, the five-hectare site is 10 minutes from the Hobart city centre and 20 minutes from the Hobart Airport.

The Tasmanian Technopark has large-scale commercial properties available, including hi-tech facilities featuring manufacturing, warehouse, office, and laboratory and amenity areas. There are accommodation options to suit a range of businesses – from self-contained, client-owned buildings, to leased, shared accommodation.

To be eligible as a tenant, clients must meet the following criteria.

- The focus must be on the commercialisation of an innovative product, process or service.
- There must be clearly defined goals and a proposed pathway to achieving these goals.
- Managers of the business must have sufficient drive, enthusiasm and time to focus on the opportunity.
- It must be demonstrated that the new business has potential for significant employment, exports, import replacement, investment or technology transfer.
- There must be demonstrated a high level of innovation. New products, processes or services will usually meet this criteria.

MARINE MANUFACTURING AND DEFENCE FACILITY, DERWENT PARK

The Prince of Wales Bay Manufacturing and Defence Precinct (MDP) is a critical component of Tasmania's high-tech manufacturing export portfolio and is one of the State's top innovation and export areas.

The MDP is situated on the western shore of the Derwent River, enabling easy access to deep-water, all-weather marina services and is situated within 500 m of intrastate transit corridors and Glenorchy's manufacturing and industrial services hub, Derwent Park.

In 1943, it was the location of one of Australia's most prolific naval shipbuilding centres, when it delivered over 100 vessels to the war effort. It is now home to leading defence suppliers such as Taylor Bros, CBG Systems, Fiomarine, Liferaft Systems Australia, Moonraker and Apco.

The site also supports major companies such as RDM and Incat who deliver ferries and other marine vessels to domestic and international markets.

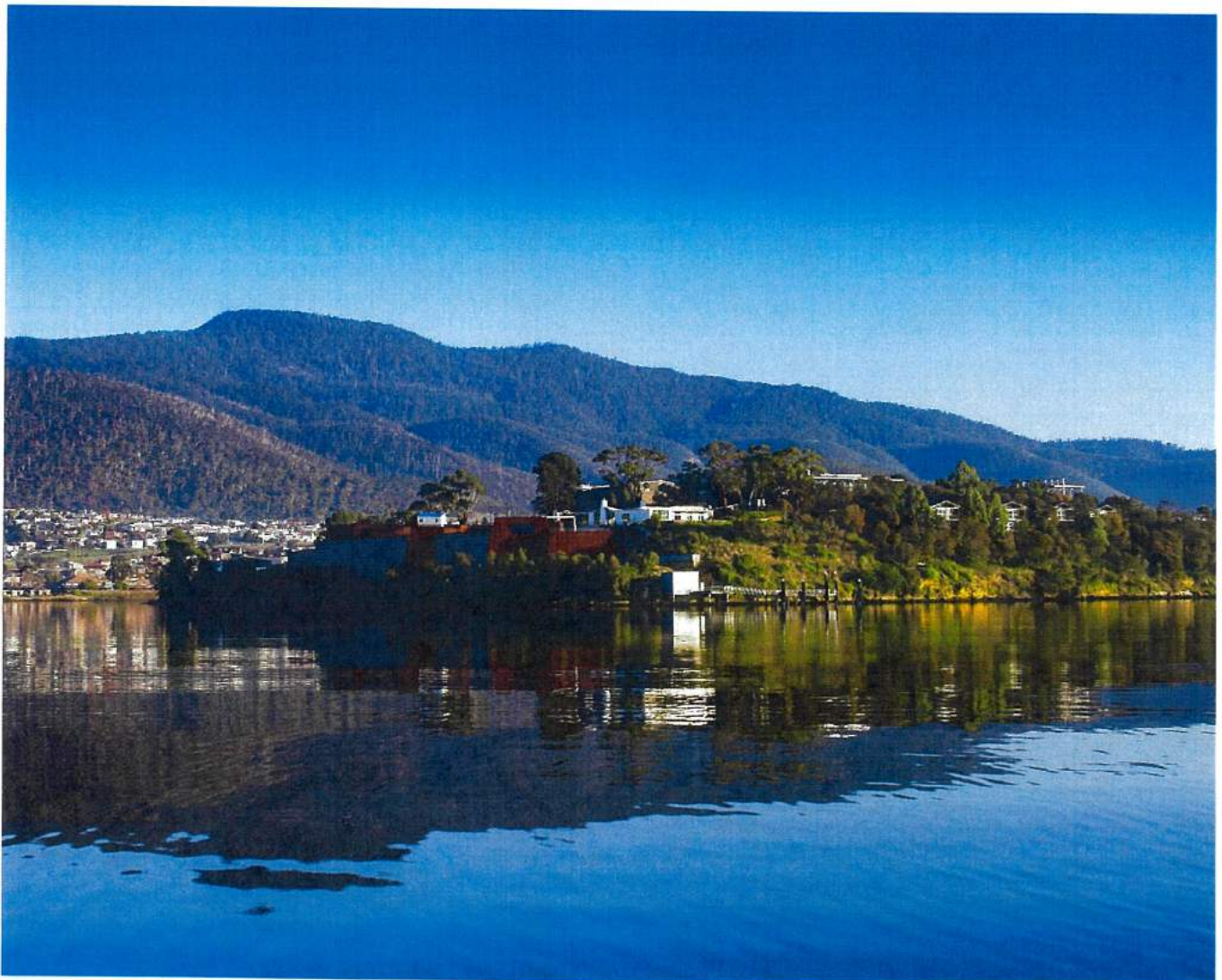
CASE STUDY - MUSEUM OF OLD AND NEW ART

The Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) officially opened in January 2011, following the owner, David Walsh's \$75 million renovation of the site in Berriedale's Moorilla winery.

Just 3 km from the CBD of Glenorchy, MONA is widely recognised as a world-class destination for fine arts, architecture, music and events, fine dining and bespoke accommodation; attracting over 365 000 visitors each year.

This unique museum and winery complex is accessible by boat, car or bicycle and is credited with igniting the Tasmanian tourism industry's rapid growth throughout Southern Tasmania.

The museum houses over 1 900 artistic works from David Walsh's private collection, including Australia's largest modernist artwork, Sidney Nolan's Snake mural. MONA hosts the Dark Mofo and MONA FOMA music festivals, MONA markets and private functions on the site, as well as at other locations in Southern Tasmania and beyond.



CASE STUDY - LIFERAFT SYSTEMS AUSTRALIA

Liferaft Systems Australia (LSA) is the global leader in the design, manufacture and supply of marine evacuation systems and large-capacity liferafts to passenger ferries, navy ships and privately owned Mega Yachts.

LSA MES are installed on Medium to large passenger / vehicle ferries in operation on routes throughout North America, South America, Middle East and Europe, and are backed up by a worldwide network of service facilities in more than 23 countries. All design and manufacturing is conducted from a purpose built facility in Hobart, Australia.

LSA MES are also the preferred choice of international defence forces and are installed on frontline defence vessels and support ships, including littoral combat ships, logistic platform dock ships, landing craft logistic vessels, offshore patrol vessels, primary casualty-receiving facility ships and aircraft carriers. Defence forces from Australia, New Zealand, the USA, France, The Netherlands and the UK are operating their navy vessels with LSA MES installed.

LSA is constantly developing new innovations and seeking ways to improve the quality and design of the current range of Marine Evacuation Systems and large-capacity liferafts to retain its position as the global leader. The company continually focuses on all aspects of the global business to ensure customer satisfaction.





HOBART

Hobart is the capital city of Tasmania. The City is nestled in and around the space between kunanyi / Mt Wellington and the River Derwent. Hobart is home to the Salamanca Market - the most visited attraction in Tasmania and one of Australia's largest outdoor markets.

Life in Hobart is unhurried yet vibrant, inspiring and invigorating. It has all of the attributes of a thriving capital city but is compact enough to offer an environment that helps make work-life balance achievable. A short journey to work and easy access to recreational areas are a reality compared with many other capital cities.

Population growth in Hobart and surrounds has recently accelerated and is providing opportunities for additional soft and hard infrastructure investment to accommodate this and future population growth in Greater Hobart.

The City of Hobart's Community Vision, which underpins all of the Council's strategies, encourages investment that supports business and communities to flourish while contributing to achievements in ecological sustainability and energy efficiency.

Investment themes include:

- well designed and affordable housing
- innovation in regional transport and other technologies that reduce emissions and enhance quality of life
- best-practice renewable energy systems that power Hobart
- attraction of circular economy businesses.

Population centres	Inner city, Sandy Bay, South Hobart, West Hobart, New Town, Lenah Valley, Battery Point and North Hobart
Educational/ research institutions	The University of Tasmania, the Menzies Institute for Medical Research and the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, CSIRO, TasTAFE and many private institutions receiving international students, including Orange International College and the Royal Gurkhas Institute of Technology There are various options for high-quality private and public primary and secondary schools.
Medical facilities	Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart Private Hospital, St Helen's Private Hospital, Calvary St John's Hospital and Calvary Lenah Valley
Culture and events	Taste of Tasmania (December/January), Australian Wooden Boat Festival (February biennially), Antarctic Festival (August biennially), Dark Mofo (July), Festival of Voices (July)
Large and notable employers	TasPlan, IOOF, Federal Group, Tasmanian Government, City of Hobart Council, Australian Government, the University of Tasmania, TasPorts, Fairbrother, Hutchinson Builders, Vos, Cascade Brewery, MyState, DXC, HydroTasmania, TasNetworks, Vodafone, Aurora, the hospitals listed above, CSIRO
Available sites for investment	Macquarie Point The University of Tasmania Sandy Bay site The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	Proponents are encouraged to engage with Council early in the process for planning and approvals guidance and support. The City of Hobart and Department of State Growth also provide a number of documents to support investment within the themes of its community vision, including Infill Development within Greater Hobart - Stage 1 & 2 final reports.

MACQUARIE POINT REDEVELOPMENT

Situated along the Hobart waterfront, 'Mac Point' sits adjacent to the Regatta Grounds, the Cenotaph and the Queens Domain. It is one of the last remaining vacant urban landfill sites located within Hobart's busy CBD.

Its development presents an unprecedented opportunity to create an innovative and dynamic precinct encompassing arts, culture, tourism and science – a truly extraordinary landmark for Tasmania and for Australia.

The remediation of the former railway site is nearing completion and redevelopment is progressing, with the first parcel of land being offered to the market.

The Escarpment is the first in a multistage land release by the Macquarie Point Development Corporation and presents an unprecedented opportunity to invest in one of the country's most prized locations. Presenting exceptional mixed-use development potential, *The Escarpment* forms part of one the last remaining infill sites adjacent to a working port on the edge of a capital city.

The Escarpment comprises approximately 8 797 m² of available land, with three building envelopes totalling approximately 6 676 m². The site falls under the Sullivans Cove Planning Scheme 1997, administered by the City of Hobart and is zoned mixed use.

The overall development potential of Macquarie Point includes commercial space, an exhibition venue, an arts and cultural precinct, accommodation, tourism infrastructure. Plans include around 50 per cent allocated for public space.

HOBART AIRPORT

Hobart Airport provides a diverse range of leasing and development opportunities for freight, logistics, light industrial, retail, commercial and tourism businesses.

Hobart Airport has been the fastest-growing capital city airport in Australia and is a significant economic hub for Tasmania. The airport has experienced 4-5 per cent passenger growth in 2015 to 2020 and numbers are expected to rise to more than 6.4 million by 2040.

Hobart Airport currently operates a range of non-stop flights to domestic destinations all across Australia, and is aiming to commence international flights by 2021. This is predicted to have significant growth impact on both passengers numbers and freight opportunities for Tasmania.

Hobart Airport Master Plan

Hobart Airport is Australian Government-owned land, guided by the Hobart Airport Master Plan and is not subject to local and state approval processes. This streamlined approval process and flexible master plan environment allows development to get underway quickly, and for businesses to benefit from 24/7 operations.

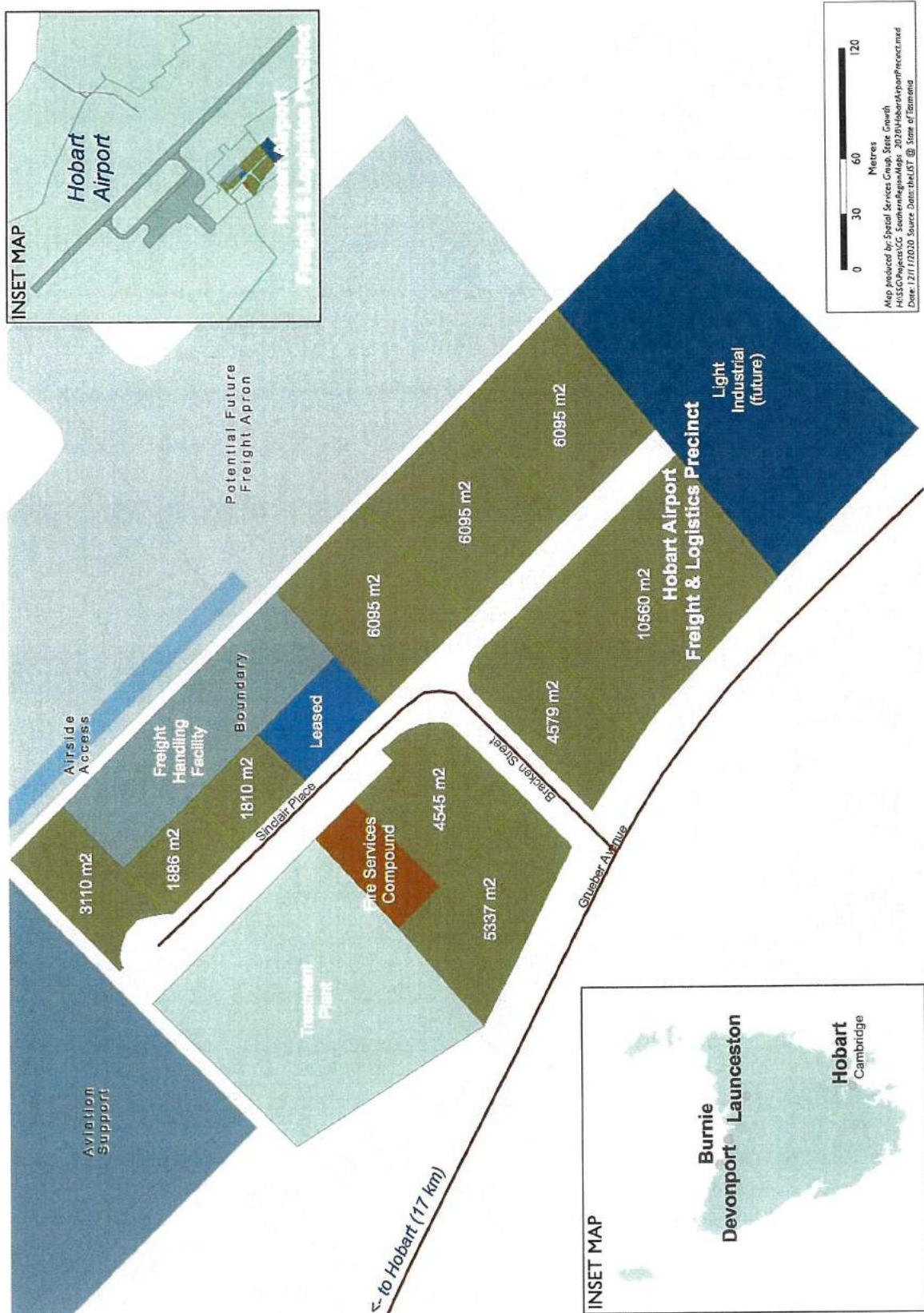
The newly released airside Freight and Logistics Precinct at Hobart Airport offers prospects for world-class logistics, freight, production, research and light industrial businesses. Leasehold arrangements are available in the award-winning freight handling facility and the broader precinct.

This unique location offers direct access to domestic and international markets and transport networks. Release of this precinct unlocks airfreight opportunities for high-value, perishable products, generating higher export returns for local producers.

Future property development at Hobart Airport will involve the activation of retail, mixed-use and tourism precincts. The addition of this amenity will create a desirable destination for visitors, locals and businesses.

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Leasehold.
Location	Grueber Ave, Cambridge.
Site size	Airside tenancies available – 1 800 m ² Airside and landside lots available – 1 200 m ² – 2 ha
Site zoning	Hobart Airport Master Plan.
Road	Tasman Highway is a dual carriageway that links the Port of Hobart and the Hobart Airport and further south east of Tasmania. East Derwent Highway and the Colebrook Main Road provide transport links to the Midland Highway and northern Tasmanian ports.
Rail	30 km to Brighton Transport Hub.
Wharf	16 km to Port of Hobart.
Gas	Natural gas is also available in Tasmania but has not yet been reticulated to the City of Clarence.
Power	The Cambridge/Hobart Airport area is supplied from Cambridge 33/11 kV zone substation with spare transformation capacity in order of 7 MW.
Communications	Fibre to the node high-speed broadband.
Water	Fully serviced.
Sewerage	Fully serviced.

Hobart Airport - Freight and Logistics Precinct - lots areas are approximate and may be adjusted to suit tenant needs





HUON VALLEY

Huon Valley is a vibrant, semi-rural community and the southernmost LGA in Australia. The area retains the beauty, charm and heritage of a bygone era, yet it is only a short 30-minute commute from the capital city of Hobart.

The area boasts one of the most scenic drives in Tasmania, passing behind the Wellington Range from Hobart and through the Huon Valley where the highway meets the mighty Huon River through meandering waterways and forested hills.

The region's fertile landscape produces an incredible array of quality foods that have helped Tasmania earn its reputation as a food lover's paradise. The area is renowned for its produce, award-winning cider, seafood, fruit and other gourmet delicacies. This strength is celebrated through a variety of events and festivals held regionally, such as the A Taste of the Huon Festival, the Cygnet Folk Festival and the Huon Valley Mid-Winter Festival.

The region attracts those interested in its vibrant, creative and alternative community. Each township is individual in both identity and history, and there is lots to see and do. It is a haven for yachting and boating enthusiasts, with easy access to the Huon River and D'Entrecasteaux Channel providing for world-class fishing, sailing, diving and rowing.

Opportunities for investment include:

- residential developments
- accommodation that caters for group travellers and small conferences
- commodity production and value-added agribusiness, and agri-tourism.

Population centres	Huonville, Franklin, Cygnet, Geeveston and Dover.
Educational/ research institutions	Huon Valley Trade Training Centre. District high schools – Huonville and Dover (including extension for grades 11 and 12). District primary schools – Huonville, Franklin, Glen Huon, Cygnet, Geeveston, and Dover. Catholic schools and colleges – Sacred Heart Catholic School and St James Catholic College. Independent schools – Peregrine School.
Medical facilities	Geeveston Medical Centre, Dover Medical Centre, Huon Valley Health Centre (Huonville and Cygnet), Huon Community Health Centre, Huon Regional Care (Franklin and Dover) and Huon Doctors Surgery (Huonville).
Culture and events	Cygnet Folk Festival (January), Huon Valley Mid-Winter Festival (July), A Taste of the Huon (March), Dover Seafest (March) and many other community-based events.
Large and notable employers	Tassal, Hansen Orchards, Willie Smith's Cider and The Apple Shed, Port Cygnet Cannery.
Available sites for investment	Franklin Evaporators tourism and hospitality development The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects

FRANKLIN EVAPORATORS TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY DEVELOPMENT

Project Proponent: Kaledge Evaporators Pty Ltd

Designed by award-winning architects, Cumulus Studios, the development opportunity offers multi-use spaces, a boutique hotel and specialty retail space. The broader plan is to be a real community hub, as a place for social activity and destination for visitors to relax and enjoy.

The current owners/investors are seeking additional investment to enable the development to progress. While recent planning and building permits have subsequently lapsed, invested parties remain committed to capitalising on the growing local, national and international tourism market by providing a unique, boutique product offering, as well as functions and events.

The original factory contained a series of wood furnaces used to dry processed apples, which were then marketed throughout Australia and internationally. Initial planning and building approvals intended to utilise the existing infrastructure onsite, to repurpose the buildings into a contemporary blend of heritage and modern aspects through the design.

Beyond the physical building infrastructure, the site also offers up to 40 m of undeveloped riverfront.

All design, engineering and building drawings are complete. New planning and building approval is, however, needed before construction may commence.

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold.
Location	3347 Huon Highway, Franklin.
Site size	7 552 m ² property with 120 m river frontage, adjoining the Huon Highway.
Site zoning	Particular purpose. PPZ 4: Franklin Marine and Tourism Precinct (Huon Valley Interim Planning Scheme 2015).
Road	Vehicular access is via Hobart International Airport to Franklin – travel time approximately 55 minutes.
Gas	Not serviced.
Power	Connected to mains power.
Communications	Fibre to the node high-speed broadband.
Water and sewerage	Water and sewerage is connected, however, upgrades to these services will be required to accommodate the scale of development earmarked for the site.

CASE STUDY - WILLIE SMITH'S CIDER AND THE APPLE SHED

In 1888, Willie Smith planted the first apple tree in the orchard located in the Huon Valley. Four generations later, they still pick from this orchard. The farm went organic in 1997 in a bold move that transformed the orchard. With this new focus on organic farming and the use of the apples in cider, they hoped to bring back the glory of the 'Apple Isle' days.

To complement the cider production and as a nod to the orchard and family's heritage, Willie Smith's Cider expanded into a large rustic barn surrounded by green pastures and wooden outbuildings. The Shed is home to Willie Smith's Cider and Charles Oates Distillery. It's a place to learn about the history of the Huon Valley and its apple industry through its museum while enjoying food made fresh from local and regional, seasonal and sustainable produce. It's a hive of activity with live music, markets, events and private functions held all year round.





KINGBOROUGH

The Kingborough municipality is located immediately south of the City of Hobart with the main commercial centre of Kingston only 15 minutes from Hobart.

Kingborough is an incredibly attractive coastal municipality with scenic waterways and forested skylines. Almost half of Kingborough's land area consists of Bruny Island, while most of the other half is on the 'mainland', fronting the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and the River Derwent.

As part of Greater Hobart, Kingborough is one of Tasmania's fastest-growing communities. At least 300 new dwellings are being built each year and this is expected to continue for the next 10 years at least, based on the speed of land subdivision and infill developments.

Kingborough has a higher socio-economic status than Greater Hobart, with higher average household incomes and high school completion rates. Kingborough also has a higher proportion of persons who have obtained a bachelor's degree or higher qualification in Greater Hobart.

Bruny Island is a microcosm of Tasmania, containing all of the assets that attract visitors such as beaches, wilderness, fine food and beverages. It has a small resident population, but a bustling tourism sector that has experienced incredible growth over recent years.

Opportunities for investment include:

- a range of services and infrastructure to support a growing population, particularly in the Kingston CBD
- the development of tourism experiences and accommodation
- intensifying primary resource production and value-adding chains.

Population centres	Kingston, Blackmans Bay and Huntingfield house about 70 per cent of the population. Smaller populations are found in Taroona, Margate, Snug, Coningham, Kettering, Woodbridge, Middleton and on Bruny Island
Educational/ research institutions	Kingborough has a relatively well-educated population with a high proportion of tertiary qualified residents. There are four secondary schools – at Taroona, Kingston, Huntingfield and Woodbridge – and 11 primary schools
Medical facilities	Kingston CBD has an active medical precinct that includes a number of general practices, specialist services, dental surgeries and the Government's Kingston Health Centre. There are smaller general practices in all of the suburbs or towns and there is a Bruny Island Health Centre
Culture and events	Kingborough's proximity to Hobart makes it an appealing lifestyle choice for easy access to events and services in the capital city. There are also many community and sporting events at the Community Hub within Kingston Park and sporting events at the Kingborough Sports Centre, which caters for a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports and includes the State Gymnastics Centre
Large and notable employers	Australian Antarctic Division, Kingborough Council, Bruny Island Cheese Company, Essential Oils of Tasmania, Lightning Protection International, Haywards Steel Shipyard

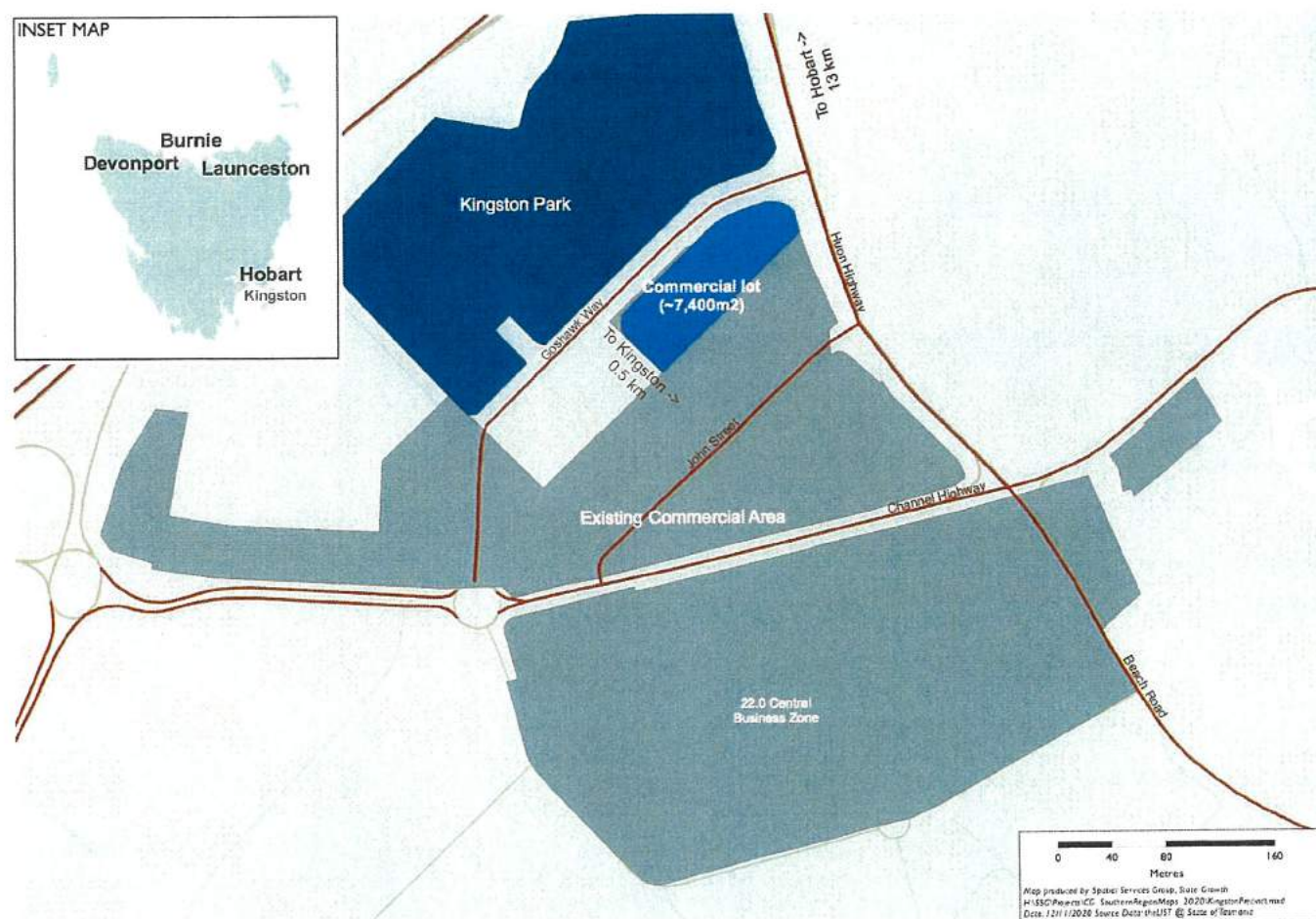
- expanding the marine sector in Margate.

Available sites for investment	Kingston Park Margate industrial area The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	The Kingborough Council provides guidance and support through the planning and approvals process and encourages developers to engage with them early in the process.

KINGSTON PARK COMMERCIAL PRECINCT

Kingston Park is a former high school site that has been acquired by Kingborough Council to be developed for a range of community, recreational, residential and commercial purposes. The site will ensure that the community has access to conveniently located facilities that will reduce the need to travel into Hobart.

Council has entered into a partnership with a private developer who is developing a number of land parcels within the Park to be ready for investment. The Kingston Park commercial lot currently being prepared for investment could include a commercial office site, cinema complex and retail/food outlets, plus a multi-storey car park.



KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold and commercial lease options may be available upon negotiation.
Location	Corner of Goshawk Way and Skipper Lane, Kingston (new roads within Kingston Park at 42 Channel Highway).
Site size	Kingston Park is an 11 ha site immediately adjoining the Kingston CBD. The commercial lot that is available for future development has an area of 7 405 m ² .
Site zoning	Central business.
Road	The site is bordered by major arterials, with quick and easy access on to the Southern Outlet into Hobart or south. There is public transport and pedestrian access to the site.
Rail	Approximately 39 km to Brighton Transport Hub.
Airport	30 km to Hobart Airport.
Wharf	12 km to Port of Hobart.
Gas	Not available.
Power	Ample capacity for any potential commercial development.
Communications	Fibre to the premises (FTTP).
Water	Fully serviced.
Sewerage	Fully serviced.

CASE STUDY - LIGHTNING PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL

Lightning Protection International (LPI) are based within the Huntingfield industrial area just south of Kingston. In 2019, they were awarded the Tasmanian Exporter of the Year in the Technology and Innovation category.

LPI is a designer, manufacturer and supplier of solutions in the areas of direct strike lightning protection, earthing and bonding, and surge and transient protection. Customers and distributors are serviced all over the world from its base in Tasmania.

LPI is recognised internationally as a leading contributor in research and the development of innovative and cost-effective products. It is involved in many projects across Australia and internationally, providing a variety of services and ongoing support with extensive user documentation available.





SORELL

Sorell is one of Tasmania's fastest-growing municipalities, with recent growth exceeding State averages.

Established in 1862, located just 25 km south east of Hobart, it is one of Tasmania's oldest towns. The area is known for its history, rolling countryside, low-forested hills and long coastlines filled with beautiful beaches. With suburban, beachside, semi-rural or rural living options available, the Sorell municipality attracts people with its affordable housing and the convenience of major shops and services all within close proximity to Hobart.

The Sorell township provides a regional commercial focus for residents, as well as servicing the Tasman and Forestier peninsulas and the east coast as far north as Swansea. It includes a bustling shopping district with numerous cafes, gift shops, and major supermarket chains, well-known branded food outlets, pubs and hotels. Government services include a Service Tasmania outlet and Centrelink. Additional services are major banks, medical facilities, post office, real estate agencies, chemists, and one of Australia's oldest schools.

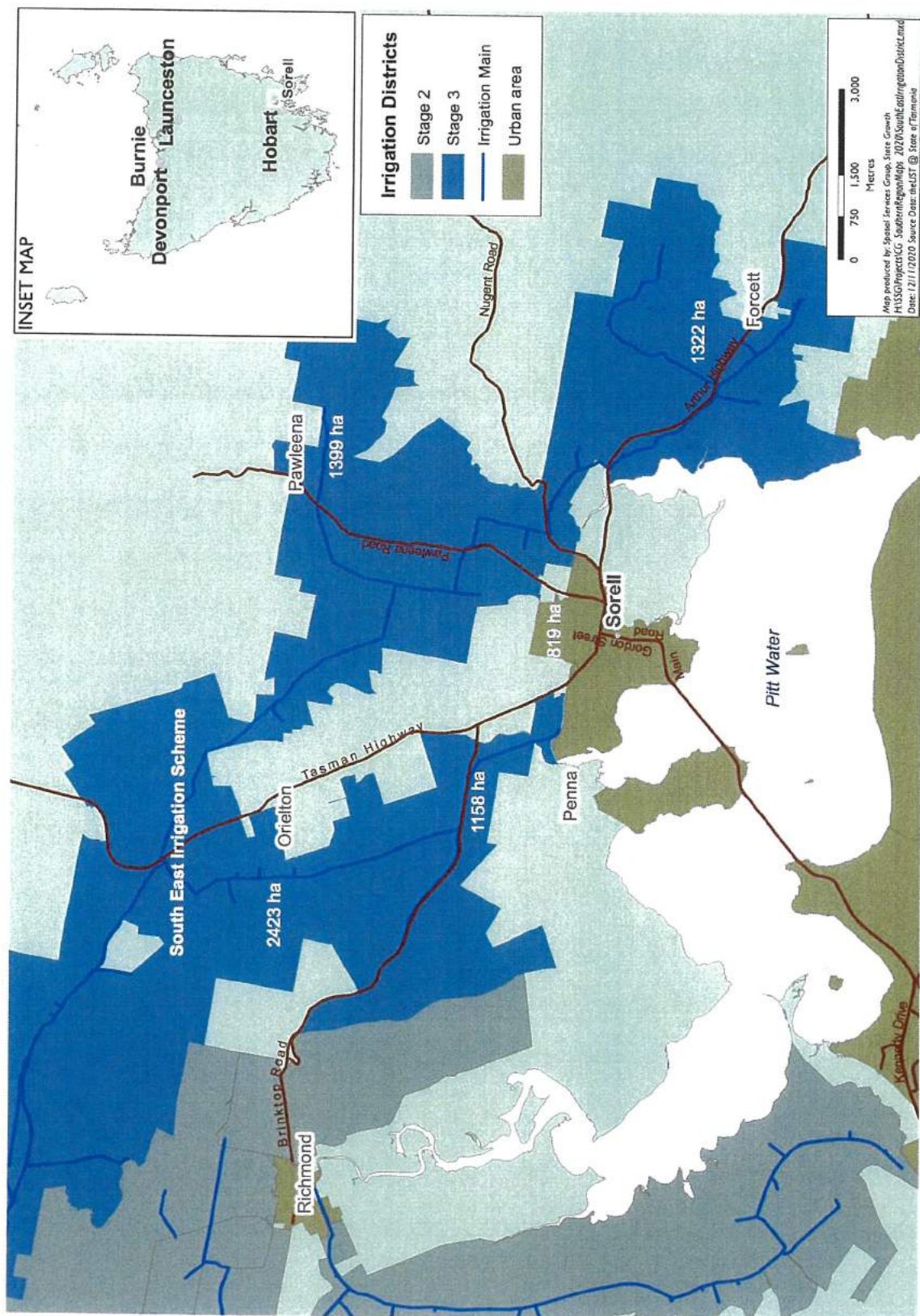
The area has seen significant investment in irrigation, making agricultural investment opportunities attractive – particularly the stage-three expansion of the South East Irrigation Scheme.

Population centres	Sorell, Midway Point, Dodges Ferry and Primrose Sands
Educational/ research institutions	Kindergarten at Midway Point, two primary schools - Dunalley Primary School and Dodges Ferry Primary School, and Sorell School and Trade Training Centre (kindergarten to grade 12)
Medical facilities	Sorell Family Practice, Doctors Surgery and Community Health Centre are located in Sorell, Dodges Ferry Medical and some other smaller providers are located across the municipality
Culture and events	Falls Festival Marion Bay (yearly), Newkind Conference (yearly) and Bream Creek Farmers Market (monthly), Sorell Fruit Farm and Sorell Market
Large and notable employers	Houston's Farm, BerryWorld, Dunalley Fish Market, Bangor Vineyard Shed, Ingham's Chicken, and South Eastern Community Care
Available sites for investment	South East Irrigation Scheme sites: Penna, Orielton, Sorell, Pawleena and Forcett. The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	The Sorell Council particularly encourages the use of the South East Irrigation Scheme. The Council had active involvement in stage 3 of the South East Irrigation Scheme and is lobbying to upgrade the Scheme beyond stage 3

SOUTH EAST IRRIGATION SCHEME

KEY FACTS	
Tenure	Private freehold.
Location	Penna, Orielton, Sorell, Pawleena and Forcett.
Site size	Penna – 1 158 ha Orielton – 2 423 ha Sorell – 819 ha Pawleena – 1 399 ha Forcett – 1 322 ha
Site zoning	Generally zoned Significant agricultural and Rural resource.
Road	Direct access to roads constructed to heavy vehicle standard.
Rail	35 km to Brighton Transport Hub.
Airport	20 km to Hobart Airport.
Wharf	30 km to Port of Hobart.
Gas	Not serviced.
Power	Electricity is distributed to the sites via TasNetworks's HV distribution network at 22 kV.
Communications	Sites are ready for NBN connection via a combination of fixed wireless and FTTP technology and are typically covered by the 3G and 4G networks.
Water	Tasmanian Irrigation currently supplies irrigation water to 251 landowners under stage three of the South East Irrigation Scheme. It supplies 3 000 ML of summer irrigation water to agricultural, horticultural and viticultural enterprises.
Sewerage	Sites are not serviced for water or sewerage.

SOUTH EAST IRRIGATION DISTRICT MAP



CASE STUDY - HOUSTON'S FARM

After 25 years, Houston's Farm has grown to become one of the three largest pre-prepared salad producers in Australia.

In late 2018, Houston's opened a \$5.8 million state-of-the-art, custom-built baby leaf production centre at its Forcett Farm. This development doubled its production to 80 ha and underpinned the company's national supermarket supply contracts, new export growth to Hong Kong, and 15 new jobs.

The development of Houston's Forcett facility was reliant on the stage three expansion of Tasmanian Irrigation's South East Irrigation Scheme.

Waiting for image



SOUTHERN MIDLANDS

The Southern Midlands is a rural area with a population of 6 118 scattered throughout its 262 549 ha. Growing some of the world's best superfine wool, it has a agriculture-based economy that is now seeing tourism rising in importance.

Towns of Tunbridge, Oatlands, Kempton and Bagdad are located on the busy Midland Highway that connects Hobart and Launceston, forming part of the Heritage Highway Tourism Region. Many heritage buildings dating to early colonial times can be found by exploring the municipality's towns and back roads. Examples of 19th century architecture can be found in the area's villages

and rural districts, including convict-built grand Georgian rural homesteads, small workers' cottages and abundant remains of the State's infamous convict system infrastructure.

The region also encompasses part of the premium growing area of the Coal River Valley that proudly boasts many of the State's leading stone fruit/pom fruit orchards and vineyards. Intensive agriculture is now expanding elsewhere in the municipality thanks to the Midlands Irrigation Scheme.

Opportunities for investment include:

- a recent 'Request for Proposals' from the Southern Midlands Council looking for interest in developing a 30+ room accommodation and conference facility in the historical town of Oatlands (see below)
- increased commodity production based on the Midlands Irrigation Scheme and increased water surety in the Coal River Valley
- value-added agribusiness and other opportunities taking advantage of the municipality's central location, the State's main road, rail and gas corridors and very large properties affording substantial attenuation distances
- leveraging from the region's wealth of historic heritage straddling the State's major highway and most-travelled tourist route to expand the visitor experience.

ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCE FACILITY OPPORTUNITY

Southern Midlands Council wishes to encourage and facilitate the establishment of a substantial tourist accommodation facility with a minimum of 30 rooms in Oatlands. Council is embarking on a process to seek and appoint the most suitable proponent from the private sector to develop and operate such a facility.

The lack of a substantive accommodation facility has been identified as a missing element within Oatlands and the broader region's tourism infrastructure, as recognised in various strategic planning documents.

A strategic land use planning exercise undertaken to find and assess possible sites in the town has identified a preferred location, and experienced and qualified consultants have prepared a business case. The Council has also developed heritage design guidelines to inform the design.

The Council released the Request for Proposals in November 2020, with applications welcomed until early 2021.

Population centres	Oatlands, Kempton, Campania, Colebrook, Mangalore, Bagdad, Woodsdale, Levendale Broadmarsh, Elderslie, Dysart, Melton Mowbray, Jericho, Tunbridge, Tunnack and Parattah
Educational/ research institutions	Two schools offering kindergarten to grade 10 in Campania and Oatlands, and primary schools in Bagdad and Kempton The University of Tasmania observatory on Bisdee Tier The Heritage Education and Skills Centre in Oatlands
Medical facilities	The Midlands Multi-Purpose Health Centre provides 24-hour Accident and Emergency (outpatients), four acute-care beds, nine high-care beds and nine residential aged-care beds and a family care unit to the Midlands community. The Centre also coordinates the delivery of a range of community services, visiting services and community groups such as Community Nursing, Child Health, Disability Services and Diabetic Education Services
Culture and events	<p>The region is has a strong commitment to heritage and the arts. It is home to the Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary and Lake Dulverton Conservation Area, numerous public artworks, an artist-in-residence program, heritage resource collections and a thriving arts community. The Centre for Heritage and Midlands Council are also committed to the restoration and conservation of heritage buildings and sites for valued re-use.</p> <p>Construction will soon commence on the region's new Midlands Aquatic Centre in Oatlands, featuring an indoor, year-round swimming pool and other recreational facilities</p> <p>Regular events include the Heritage & Bullock Festival in Oatlands (August), the Kempton Festival (February), and the Melton Mowbray Rodeo (November)</p>
Large and notable employers	Southern Midlands Council, Old Kempton Distillery, Lowdina Orchard, Coal Valley Orchard and Tasmania Cherries
Available sites for investment	Accommodation and conference facility in Oatlands The Office of the Coordinator-General would also be pleased to discuss individual opportunities with potential investors and provide assistance on site selection for other potential projects
Council support	The Southern Midlands Council provides guidance and support through the planning and approvals process and encourages developers to engage with them early in the process



TASMAN

The Tasman municipality is located on Tasmania's south east coast approximately 90 minutes from Hobart. It attracts those looking for a 'sea change' and quieter lifestyle.

It is an incredibly beautiful part of the world with rolling pastures, timbered hills and surrounded by dramatic coastline of sheer cliffs, towering rocky outcrops with sheltered bay and sea caves.

The population is relatively stable, but swells four-fold with visitors during the summer months who are attracted to the Port Arthur Historic Site, beaches, bushwalking and fishing areas, as well as many other tourist attractions.

The Tasman Peninsula was formerly an industrial zone fuelled by convict labour. In the era between convict settlement and the introduction of the modern tourist industry, the area was mostly engaged in timber and fishing. The terrain and soil type has generally restricted large-scale agriculture although fruit farming and general farming is carried out in suitable locations.

The Tasman and Forestier peninsulas are renowned for rugged coastlines that have been the scene of a number of shipwrecks. At Eaglehawk Neck, there are many strange rock formations, including the Devils Kitchen, the Tasman Arch, the Blow Hole and the Tessellated Pavement.

Tasman has been said to have some of the world's best surf spots at Eaglehawk Neck, Roaring Beach and the famous Shipstern Bluff.

Opportunities for investment include:

- visitor accommodation
- surf tourism and associated services
- nature-based tourism experiences.

Population centres	Nubeena and the localities of White Beach, Port Arthur, Premaydena, Saltwater River, Koonya, Taranna, Eaglehawk Neck and Murdunna.
Educational/ research institutions	Tasman District School, Nubeena (kindergarten to grade 12).
Medical facilities	The Tasman Community Health Centre provides residents with the opportunity to access quality health and community services. There are a number of community services, visiting services, clinics and support groups that operate from the Centre.
Culture and events	Red Bull Cape Fear Big Wave surf event (May), the annual Tasman Peninsula Feast and Arts and Craft Exhibition (January), and the Koonya Garlic Festival (February).
Large and notable employers	Port Arthur Historic Site, Federal Group, Tasman Council, Huon Regional Care, and Tassal.
Council support	The Tasman Council provides guidance and support through the planning and approvals process. Council encourages developers to engage with them early in the process.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, COPYRIGHT AND DISCLAIMERS

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THE HON MARK COULTON MP

Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government
Federal Member for Parkes

Mayor Loueen Treffitt
Mayor
Central Highlands Council
PO Box 20
HAMILTON TAS 7140
council@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

Dear Mayor

Mobile Black Spot Program – Round 5A open for applications

On 18 November 2020 the Australian Government opened the competitive assessment process for Round 5A of the Mobile Black Spot Program (the Program) and is now calling for applications from Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) and Mobile Network Infrastructure Providers (MNIPs). I am writing to you in relation to this Program as your Council includes areas that are classified as other than Major Urban, and that are therefore eligible for consideration under the Program.

The Government has committed \$380 million to the Program to improve mobile coverage and competition across Australia. To date, the Program has funded more than 1,200 new mobile base stations, more than 880 of which are already on air and are delivering new coverage in regional areas.

The Government has refreshed the design of the Program for Round 5A based on feedback from a wide range of stakeholders, including many councils. This round includes a focus on improving mobile connectivity along major transport corridors and in disaster-prone regions, and on testing new technologies that support shared mobile infrastructure in regional areas.

The Round 5A Program Guidelines were published on the Government's GrantConnect website on 18 November 2020. Applications from eligible applicants are due by 10 February 2021.

Past experience has shown that when a local council engages with applicants, this increases the likelihood that a base station application will be put forward in its area. I would encourage you to engage with the MNOs and MNIPs to identify locations within your local government area that would benefit from an application for funding being put forward.

A key factor in the success to this Program has been the support provided by state and local governments and third-parties, including funding co-contributions. You may wish to consider whether your Council could offer a financial or in-kind contribution to encourage proposals for mobile black spots in your area, though this is not a mandatory requirement of the Program.

In-kind contributions could be in the form of any of the following, but are not limited to:

- providing leasehold tenure for land at a suitable site for a base station at zero or concessional cost;
- providing civil works (such as the cost of creating an access road to the site) at zero or concessional cost;
- providing access to a facility (such as an emergency services or other tower); or
- providing a connection to an existing power source.

I would also like to draw your attention to the important role that councils play in delivering towers through local planning processes. I would be grateful if you could work with telecommunications providers in a timely fashion to consider any planning applications.

Given the significant impacts on regional communities from the 2019-20 bushfires, recent floods, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic, there has never been a more important time for all stakeholders to work collaboratively to deliver improved connectivity in the regions to assist in the recovery and ongoing viability of regional Australia and local communities.

Further information about Round 5A, including links to the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, is available on the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' website at communications.gov.au/mbsp or by contacting MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au.

I look forward to your support for this important Program, which is delivering improved mobile coverage to regional and remote Australia.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Coulton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Coulton

Mobile Black Spot Program Round 5A Guidelines

Opening date:	18 November 2020
Closing date and time:	5:00pm AEDT on 10 February 2021
Commonwealth policy entity:	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
Enquiries:	<p>If you have any questions, please email MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au.</p> <p>Questions should be sent no later than 13 January 2021.</p>
Date guidelines released:	18 November 2020
Type of Grant Opportunity:	Targeted competitive

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1. Mobile Black Spot Program: Round 5A processes

The Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives

This Grant Opportunity is part of the Mobile Black Spot Program (the Program), which contributes to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' (the Department's) Portfolio Budget Statement Outcome 5. The Department worked with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines \(CGRGs\)](#).



Release of Guidelines and call for applications

Timing: 18 November 2020

At the same time as releasing these Mobile Black Spot Program Round 5A Guidelines (Guidelines) on [GrantConnect](#), the Government will issue a call for applications from eligible applicants for funding under Round 5A of the Program. For applicant eligibility see section 4.1.

It is expected that potential applicants may engage in discussions on possible multi-MNO Solutions in areas of mutual interest.¹



Applicant registration

Timing: Registration due by 16 December 2020 (*4 weeks after opening*)

Organisations wishing to apply for funding under Round 5A must contact the Department to register as potential applicants within four weeks following release of these Guidelines in order to obtain access to the application documentation. Eligible organisations who registered under previous rounds and who are interested in participating in this round are still required to register for Round 5A (previous registrations will not be valid for the purposes of this round).

Organisations can register their interest with the Department by emailing **MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au** and providing the following information:

- (a) Organisation name;
- (b) Contact name;
- (c) Contact phone number; and
- (d) Contact email address.



Pre-application documentation

Timing: Pre-application documentation due by 13 January 2021 (*8 weeks after opening*)

The application documentation outlines the requirements on potential applicants prior to submitting an application for funding.

Each applicant must submit their publicly available coverage maps (incorporating, where relevant, all base stations funded under previous rounds of the Program, and any base station funded under a State or Territory program, regardless of the stage of construction) ahead of submitting their application for funding.



¹ Potential applicants are encouraged to engage with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) if they consider that any competition issues might arise under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* from a multi-MNO solution.

Preparing and submitting applications

Timing: Applications due by 10 February 2021 (*12 weeks after opening*)

Each applicant must complete the documentation relevant to the solution type.

All applicants applying for funding for Mobile Coverage Solutions, as set out in section 2.2.3, must complete the Application Pack including the Assessment Tool for each Mobile Coverage Solution for which it is seeking funding, specifying in each case the information set out in section 7.4.2.

The completed Assessment Tool must include data on the level of New Handheld Coverage that each Mobile Coverage Solution will achieve in terms of area. For Macrocell and Small Cell solutions, mapping data must indicate the area to be covered by New Handheld Coverage meeting the required service standards set out at section 4.2.

All applicants applying for funding for Trial Solutions, as set out in section 2.2.3, must complete the Trials Application Form (within the Application Pack), providing a detailed description of the Proposed Solution and evidence that the Proposed Solution satisfies the Eligibility Criteria outlined in section 5.1.6.

Applications for solutions through which more than one MNO will provide mobile coverage and connectivity must be accompanied by written evidence of intent from any of those MNOs that is not an applicant for the purposes of the application, including confirmation of how they intend to provide services through the solution (e.g. Radio Access Network (RAN) sharing, co-location).



Assessment of applications

Timing: 10 February 2021 — 7 April 2021 (*8 weeks*)

The Department will assess all eligible applications received by the closing date and time (see section 7.5) to determine which Proposed Solutions are to be recommended for Program funding using the Assessment Criteria in section 6 and the processes outlined in section 8.

An expert engineering firm in the mobile telecommunications industry, as appointed by the Department, will test coverage claims.

The Proposed Solutions recommended for funding through the assessment process will be included on the Merit Lists provided to the Decision Maker (see section 8.5).



Negotiation of Grant Agreements

Timing: April — May 2021

Where an applicant requests an amendment to the draft Grant Agreement which is not acceptable to the Commonwealth, the Department will seek to negotiate with the applicant in parallel with the assessment of applications period (see stage 5 in section 7.1).



Grantees advised of outcomes and funding arrangements finalised

Timing: June 2021

The Decision Maker decides which Proposed Solutions are funded and are included in the Decision Maker's List.

The Department will notify each applicant of the Proposed Solutions in their application which are included in the Decision Maker's List. Extracts of the Decision Maker's List may also be provided to other relevant stakeholders.

The Grantee's participation in the Program is subject to an agreement on terms, and becomes effective from the date of execution of the Grant Agreement by the Commonwealth. Shortly after execution of the Grant Agreement, the Grantee's details and amount of funding awarded will be

made available on GrantConnect in accordance with the Commonwealth's grant reporting requirements.

Where a Proposed Solution includes a financial co-contribution from a State or Territory government, the Grantee must finalise the commercial agreement governing the terms and conditions of the State/Territory's financial contribution directly with the relevant jurisdiction.



Grantees and locations announced

Timing: June 2021

The locations of Funded Solutions and Grantees are expected to be announced by the Government in June 2021. The outcomes of this process and grant outcomes will be published on GrantConnect.



Co-location negotiations

Timing: from June 2021

Grantees will notify MNOs that have not already confirmed their intention to provide services through Funded Solutions (whether through co-location or otherwise) of the opportunity to co-locate on those Funded Solutions, and to participate in the detailed design phase using the process set out in sections 4.2.11 to 4.2.16.



Date of Rollout Completion

Timing: 30 June 2022

Grantees will be expected to complete the rollout of all Funded Solutions by 30 June 2022 (Date of Rollout Completion). The Date of Rollout Completion will be agreed in the Grant Agreement.

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 These Guidelines contain information for Round 5A of the Program, and include relevant information concerning:

- who is eligible to apply for funding;
- how to apply for funding; and
- how the funding will be allocated under Round 5A of the Program.

The applicant must read and understand these Guidelines before filling out an application.

1.1.2 This document sets out:

- the purpose of the Program and Round 5A;
- the Eligibility Criteria and Assessment Criteria;
- how grant applications are considered and selected;
- how Grantees are notified and receive grant payments;
- how Grantees will be monitored and evaluated; and
- responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

2. About the Program

2.1 About the Program

2.1.1 The Australian Government has committed \$380 million to the Program over six funding rounds. Round 5A is a supplementary round taking place between Rounds 5 and 6.

2.1.2 The objectives of the Program are to extend and improve mobile phone coverage and competition in regional and remote Australia, by co-funding new telecommunications infrastructure.

2.1.3 The intended outcomes of the Program are to provide mobile telecommunications users in regional and remote Australia with:

- access to new and improved handheld mobile coverage; and
- greater choice of mobile network.

2.1.4 The Department is responsible for administering the Program on behalf of the Government.

2.1.5 Over the first five rounds of the Program, 1,229 base stations have received funding:

- Round 1: 499 base stations, announced in June 2015.
- Round 2: 266 base stations, announced in December 2016.
- Round 3: 102 base stations, announced March 2018.
- Round 4: 180 base stations, announced March 2019.
- Round 5: 182 base stations, announced April 2020.

2.1.6 This Grant Opportunity will be undertaken according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines](https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-11/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf) (CGRGs)².

² <https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-11/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf>

2.2 About Round 5A

- 2.2.1 Round 5A will be used to test a range of different program designs to continue to expand and improve mobile coverage in regional and remote Australia.
- 2.2.2 The fundamental differences between Round 5A and the previous rounds of the Program are:
- Round 5A will not have a requirement for Funded Solutions to provide 3G mobile services, instead moving to 4G as the required service standard;
 - To improve the economics of marginal sites and incentivise multi-MNO solutions:
 - The Funding Cap will be removed for individual Mobile Coverage Solutions through which more than one MNO is confirmed to provide mobile coverage and connectivity at the time of application;
 - Funding Caps may be pooled for Cluster Mobile Coverage Solutions; and
 - Funding may be sought for the capitalised cost of Backhaul over the Operational Period of Funded Solutions, regardless of Backhaul technology;
 - A portion of the available funding, indicatively \$8 million, is available to applications to trial new technology solutions or service delivery models, with the Program's minimum 10-year Operational Period able to be varied for these solutions.
- 2.2.3 The objectives of Round 5A are two-fold:
- To fund solutions that will provide new and improved mobile coverage (Mobile Coverage Solutions), with priority afforded to:
 - High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas; and
 - Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridors.
 - To fund projects that trial/pilot new technologies and delivery models (Trial Solutions) that provide proof of concept for new ways to extend and improve mobile coverage and competition in less populated and traditionally higher-cost regional and remote areas.

3. Grant amount and grant period

3.1 Grants available

- 3.1.1 \$34.5 million (GST exclusive) will be available for applications under Round 5A. This includes the indicative amount of \$8 million for Trial Solutions. Funding is available from 2020-21 to 2021-22.
- 3.1.2 Subject to section 8.4.4, the maximum Commonwealth grant amount for each Mobile Coverage Solution that has confirmed involvement of a single MNO at the time of application is \$500,000 (GST exclusive) per site. This amount can be pooled for Cluster Mobile Coverage Solutions (e.g. a solution involving four individual base stations would have a maximum grant amount of \$2 million).
- 3.1.3 There is no maximum Commonwealth grant amount for Mobile Coverage Solutions with more than one MNO confirmed to provide mobile coverage at the time of application (although the total grant amount must not exceed \$34.5 million (GST exclusive)– see section 3.1.1).
- 3.1.4 There is no maximum Commonwealth grant amount for Trial Solutions (although the total grant amount must not exceed \$34.5 million (GST exclusive) – see section 3.1.1). Further details on eligibility for these solution types is at section 5.1.6.

3.2 Applicant co-contribution

- 3.2.1 All Grantees for Mobile Coverage Solutions will be required to make a substantial financial (cash) co-contribution to the capital costs of building or installing each Funded Solution.
- 3.2.2 All Grantees for Trial Solutions will be required to make a financial (cash) co-contribution to the capital costs of building or installing each Funded Solution.
- 3.2.3 Financial co-contributions made by other MNOs that are confirmed to provide mobile coverage through a Proposed Solution at the time of application, but are not an applicant for the purposes of the application, will be considered in the same manner as other third party co-contributions, as specified in section 3.3.

3.3 Third Party funding co-contributions

- 3.3.1 To increase the reach of the Program, applicants are encouraged to seek financial (cash) and in-kind co-contributions from State, Territory or local governments, local communities and/or other third parties. Interested third parties are also encouraged to contact applicants directly in relation to potential co-contributions.
- 3.3.2 During the application period, applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with State, Territory and local governments and local communities regarding the locations for which they intend to build Proposed Solutions. These consultations should include any specific areas identified within the location which would be considered desirable to be covered by the Proposed Solution.
- 3.3.3 Where applicants can confirm the level of co-contributions that State, Territory or local governments or other third-parties propose to make, applicants should include this in their application in respect of the relevant Proposed Solution.
- 3.3.4 On request, the Department will provide State, Territory and Local Government contact details to organisations that have registered as eligible applicants for funding under Round 5A. Applicants are solely responsible for forming relationships and negotiating contributions with any relevant third parties, and for testing and/or verifying any advice received from these parties.
- 3.3.5 For Funded Solutions that include a co-contribution from a State or Territory government, the Department expects that Grantees will enter into a Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth and a separate agreement with the respective State or Territory government.
- 3.3.6 State, Territory and local governments may own infrastructure in location areas that could potentially be used for Funded Solutions. These governments may have specific requirements that will need to be reflected in the applications put forward by applicants for each Proposed Solution.
- 3.3.7 For Proposed Solutions that include co-contributions from third parties, a copy of the terms of the third parties' commitment to the applicant is to be attached to the application for funding.
- 3.3.8 In the event that a Funded Solution includes a co-contribution from a third party, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any costs that may arise in relation to that co-contribution. For example, if the third party's funding is not secured following execution of the Grant Agreement between the Commonwealth and the Grantee, the Grantee will cover the third party's funding.

3.4 In-kind co-contributions

- 3.4.1 A third party may wish to provide an incentive for applicants to include a location in their funding applications. Third party incentives may include in-kind co-contributions towards

the construction of a Proposed Solution such as the co-contributions outlined in section 3.4.2.

3.4.2 In-kind co-contributions could include:

- assistance with identifying and consulting with the local community on a suitable site;
- securing the necessary planning and site approvals;
- lease arrangements;
- civil works required for access to the site;
- assistance with coordinating power to the site; or
- facilitating access to existing infrastructure.

3.4.3 Third party in-kind co-contributions are the responsibility of the applicant, and can be reflected in a reduction in the amount of funding the applicant seeks for a Proposed Solution.

3.4.4 Applicants are responsible for forming relationships and negotiating contributions with any relevant parties, and for testing and/or verifying any advice received from these parties.

3.5 Grant period

3.5.1 All Funded Solutions must be completed by the date specified in the respective Grant Agreement.

3.5.2 Funded Solutions must remain operational, and provide the required services outlined in section 4.2 to the target coverage areas on a commercial basis, for at least 10 years following the date on which the Grantee confirms that the required services are able to be provided from each Funded Solution in accordance with the Grant Agreement.

3.5.3 The minimum 10-year Operational Period specified in section 3.5.2 may not apply to Trial Solutions funded under this Program. Applications for solutions of this type will need to outline the proposed duration of the trial, and explain why a lesser Operational Period is proposed.

3.5.4 The Operational Period for funded Trial Solutions will be specified in the Grant Agreement.

4. Eligibility Criteria

4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

4.1.1 To be eligible to apply for funding under Round 5A of the Program, an applicant must be a MNO or a Mobile Network Infrastructure Provider (MNIP).

4.1.2 For the purposes of the Program, an MNO means a company, other than a MNIP, that:

- supplies a public mobile telecommunications service within the meaning of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*; and
- holds an apparatus or a spectrum licence (or both) for the supply of public mobile telecommunications services under the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*.

4.1.3 For the purposes of the Program, a MNIP means a company, other than a MNO, that provides communications infrastructure in Australia or overseas, including the installation and operation of infrastructure to be used by one or more MNOs to provide public mobile telecommunications services.

- MNIP applications must be accompanied by written evidence of intent from at least one MNO to enter into a commercially binding commitment to use the infrastructure to deliver mobile services as described at section 4.2 for the Operational Period of the Proposed Solution. A grant may be awarded to eligible MNIPs on the condition that the MNIP and relevant MNO enter into a binding commercial commitment prior to the finalisation of the Grant Agreement.
- 4.1.4 MNOs and MNIPs may also apply jointly for funding through the Program. Joint applications must be underpinned by commercially binding arrangements or the clear intention to enter into such arrangements should the application be successful. A grant may only be awarded to eligible joint applicants on the condition that the MNIP and relevant MNO enter into a binding commercial commitment prior to the finalisation of the Grant Agreement. The Commonwealth will only enter into a Grant Agreement with one of the joint applicants, being the Lead Applicant.

4.2 Minimum requirements

- 4.2.1 Unless indicated otherwise in these Guidelines, this section 4.2 sets out the minimum requirements that Grantees will need to comply with if their application is successful. These requirements will be included as schedules to the Grant Agreements. Under section 8.3, Proposed Solutions that do not meet the minimum requirements may be excluded from further consideration, at the Department's absolute discretion.

Services required – Mobile Coverage Solutions

- 4.2.2 All funded Mobile Coverage Solutions must deliver New Handheld Coverage to the relevant location, as outlined in section 5.1.
- It is not necessary for all individual base stations included in a Cluster Mobile Coverage Solution to provide New Handheld Coverage if all of the base stations are necessary to meet the objectives of the solution. The Cluster Mobile Coverage Solution will be assessed as a whole as per section 6.
- 4.2.3 The Government's expectation is that funded Mobile Coverage Solutions will enable consumers to perform a range of functions using mobile devices, such as making and receiving phone calls, sending emails and text messages, browsing the internet, accessing online services, downloading files, using mobile apps, and accessing emergency communications services. To meet this expectation:
- all funded Mobile Coverage Solutions will be required to deliver 4G broadband data services and a voice service; and
 - New Handheld Coverage and New External Antenna Coverage modelling for Mobile Coverage Solutions must be based on outdoor Reference Signal Received Power (RSRP) at a 90 per cent confidence level for the cell area, as per the following table:

Table 1: RSRP Coverage Modelling Requirements

Coverage category	Channel bandwidth	Threshold (dBm)
Handheld	5	>-100
Handheld	10	>-103
Handheld	15	>-105
Handheld	20	>-106
External Antenna	5	>-117

Coverage category	Channel bandwidth	Threshold (dBm)
External Antenna	10	>-120
External Antenna	15	>-122
External Antenna	20	>-123

Note: New External Antenna Coverage will be used only as supplementary information to assist the Value for Money consideration (see section 8.4).

- 4.2.4 All funded Mobile Coverage Solutions will be required to deliver mobile services in accordance with the relevant standards specified in the funded MNOs' carrier licence conditions, or under the *Telecommunications Act 1997* or both.
- 4.2.5 All Macrocell base stations in Funded Mobile Coverage Solutions must have an auxiliary back-up power supply which provides back-up power for a minimum of 12 hours in the event of the loss of external power to the site.
- 4.2.6 All other base stations in funded Mobile Coverage Solutions must have an auxiliary back-up power supply which provides back-up power for a minimum of 3 hours in the event of the loss of external power to the site, unless (to the satisfaction of the Department) it is not feasible to do so.

Services Required – Trial Solutions

- 4.2.7 All funded Trial Solutions must deliver innovative solutions to users of mobile services, as outlined in section 5.1.6, using a new technology or delivery model that is not, at the time of application, in widespread commercial use in Australia.
- 4.2.8 All funded Trial Solutions should generally provide a minimum level of service to consumers that is similar to the level of service available through traditional commercial mobile services, including the ability to perform the range of functions using mobile devices listed in section 4.2.3.
 - Applications for Trial Solutions that will not meet this standard will need to clearly identify the level of service that will be provided, including which of the functions listed in section 4.2.3 (if any) will not be available to consumers, and explain why this is the case.
 - Applicants are responsible for acquiring any and all necessary approvals or licenses that are required for the operation of a Trial Solution.
- 4.2.9 Following the end of the Operational Period of the Trial Solution, a report is to be submitted to the Department within 60 days. The report must outline the outcomes of the trial, including, but not limited to:
 - the effectiveness and efficiency of the service trialled/piloted;
 - the technical benefits, limitations and reliability; and
 - demonstrated consumer experience with both voice and data services.
- 4.2.10 A version of the report referred to in section 4.2.9 must be provided in a form that may be made public. If necessary, an additional confidential version may also be provided.

Co-location and co-build – Mobile Coverage Solutions

- 4.2.11 In addition to any co-location arrangements negotiated with an MNO confirmed at the time of the application to provide services through the Mobile Coverage Solution, each Mobile Coverage Solution must offer co-location to other MNOs, or the applicant must provide evidence (as per section 4.2.12) that the Mobile Coverage Solution is unable to support an additional MNO for technical or other reasons (for example because the applicant does not own or control the site).
- 4.2.12 If a Mobile Coverage Solution is unable to support an additional MNO other than those already participating, applicants must provide a detailed explanation of why it is not technically feasible to reconfigure the Mobile Coverage Solution to support an additional MNO at incremental cost to the Co-locating MNO, or why it is not otherwise possible to offer co-location at the site. The Department's technical advisor will review any technical advice from the applicant. If the Department's view is that co-location is possible, then the applicant must be prepared to offer co-location at incremental cost to an MNO seeking to co-locate on the Mobile Coverage Solution, or the Department may remove the Mobile Coverage Solution from the assessment process.
- 4.2.13 Once an applicant is selected to build a Mobile Coverage Solution, it must give any other MNO(s) not already participating in the solution the opportunity to co-locate and to participate in the detailed design phase for that funded Mobile Coverage Solution using the process set out in this section 4.2.13.
- The incremental cost for a funded Mobile Coverage Solution to support an additional MNO will be provided to the other participating MNOs to allow for greater transparency in co-location negotiations.
 - For funded Mobile Coverage Solutions where other MNOs are interested in co-locating, the costs can be shared more broadly and efficiencies achieved if the interested MNOs can participate in the design and build phases, which should ensure that their reasonable specifications are accommodated in the design and construction of the funded Mobile Coverage Solution. This opportunity relates to all the requirements necessary for co-location to efficiently occur, including (but not limited to) the height and robustness of the funded Mobile Coverage Solution, as well as site space for housing equipment and providing access to power and Backhaul.
 - The Government is supportive of Grantees offering other MNOs the opportunity to co-invest in funded Mobile Coverage Solutions including (but not limited to) provision of Backhaul.
- 4.2.14 For the purpose of providing the incremental cost of supporting an additional MNO, a Mobile Coverage Solution must meet the following minimum specifications to be considered capable of supporting two or three MNOs:
- The structure is based on one of the following configurations:

Table 2: Minimum specification configurations for co-location of multiple MNOs

Configuration 1	Configuration 2	Configuration 3
3 x 1 panel antenna on a standalone headframe (Dimensions: 2533mm (h) x 353mm (w) x 209mm (d), Weight 32kg); or equivalent load	3 x 6 port antenna on a standalone headframe (Dimensions: 2680mm (h) x 300mm (w) x 146mm (d), Weight: 39.5kg)	3 x 10 port antenna on a standalone headframe (Dimensions: 2688mm (h) x 349mm (w) x 166mm (d), Weight 36.5kg)

Configuration 1	Configuration 2	Configuration 3
3 x Tower Mounted Amplifiers (457mm x 275mm x 208mm, Weight 25kg); or equivalent load	6 x RRUs (Dimensions: 400mm (h) x 300mm (w) x 150mm (d), Weight 20kg)	6 x RRUs (Dimensions: 400mm (h) x 300mm (w) x 100mm (d), Weight 13.5kg)
6 x feeders + 300mm cable gantry for monopole structure type sites	6 x combiners (Dimension: 330mm (h) x 200mm (w) x 130mm (d), Weight 3.2kg)	2 x 600mm fixed link dishes; or equivalent load
2 x 600mm fixed link dishes; or equivalent load	2 x 600mm transmission dishes; or equivalent load	
	Other DC Cables and Junction Boxes	

- There is sufficient mains AC power provision to support the requirements of additional MNO equipment. This section 4.2.14 does not apply to solar powered sites, however, solar powered sites must have sufficient space for the additional MNO/s to install additional solar panels.
- There is a communications hut of sufficient size (or space available on the site for further huts) to accommodate additional MNO equipment.
- The Grantee must ensure sufficient space is available to allow any participating MNOs to install auxiliary back-up power supply which provides back-up power in the event of the loss of external power to the site at:
 - up to the Program's minimum 12 hours standard, or
 - where the site has been granted funding for a higher level of auxiliary back-up power supply as an additional resilience measure, up to the equivalent level to those for which they have been funded.

4.2.15 MNOs interested in co-locating on, or co-building, a funded Mobile Coverage Solution will be required to express interest prior to the start of the detailed design stage for that funded Mobile Coverage Solution. All parties will be required to negotiate in good faith with each other in relation to the funded Mobile Coverage Solution access and price terms, and enter into commercial arrangements. The capital contribution to be made by the co-locating parties in respect of a funded Mobile Coverage Solution must, at least, equal the incremental cost incurred by reason of provisioning co-location for that funded Mobile Coverage Solution.

4.2.16 In accordance with the dispute resolution process outlined at sections 4.2.25 and 4.2.26 of these Guidelines, any disagreements regarding co-location matters will be determined by an independent third party, to be appointed at the MNO's/MNIP's shared cost, and in accordance with the dispute resolution process.

4.2.17 Following the process set out in sections 4.2.11 to 4.2.16, if it is ascertained that there is no interest in co-location from another MNO, the Grantee will not be required to design or build the site to allow for co-location.

Backhaul access and pricing

- 4.2.18 Where a Grantee selected to build a funded Mobile Coverage Solution reaches an agreement under sections 4.2.11 to 4.2.16 of these Guidelines for an MNO not already participating in the solution (the Co-locating MNO) to co-locate on the funded Mobile Coverage Solution, and subject to section 4.2.23, the Grantee must offer Backhaul to the Co-locating MNO if the Grantee is in a position to do so (see section 4.2.19).
- 4.2.19 The Grantee will be taken to be in a position to offer Backhaul to the Co-locating MNO if the Grantee owns or controls an optical fibre or microwave link which connects the funded Mobile Coverage Solution to the Grantee's network.
- 4.2.20 For more remote locations where existing fibre or microwave Backhaul (or a combination of both) is not available or readily accessible, satellite Backhaul technology may be utilised to deliver the mobile services. If satellite Backhaul technology is proposed for a Mobile Coverage Solution, the applicant should clearly define the level of service to be provided.
- 4.2.21 The price at which the Grantee offers Backhaul to the Co-locating MNO must be more favourable than the regulated prices set under the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Domestic Transmission Capacity Service Final Access Determination (DTCS FAD). For example, by offering a defined rent-free period or other discounting mechanism.
- The ACCC has released the DTCS FAD 2020³, including a DTCS calculator that may assist interested parties to calculate the regulated price for Backhaul.
- 4.2.22 Where a Grantee chooses to provide Backhaul to a funded Mobile Coverage Solution using an optical fibre connection, it must ensure that it provides sufficient Backhaul capacity, transmission and interfacing equipment to meet the Backhaul requirements of any Co-locating MNO on the funded Mobile Coverage Solution.
- 4.2.23 Where a Grantee chooses to provide Backhaul to a funded Mobile Coverage Solution using a microwave connection, the Grantee must provide Backhaul services to a Co-locating MNO over that microwave connection, unless:
- the funded Mobile Coverage Solution is designed and built to allow the Co-locating MNO to install, operate and maintain its own microwave Backhaul equipment on the funded Mobile Coverage Solution; and
 - the Co-locating MNO is permitted to install, operate and maintain its own microwave Backhaul equipment on the funded Mobile Coverage Solution.
- 4.2.24 The terms and pricing of Backhaul services provided by a Grantee to a Co-locating MNO must be negotiated commercially between the Grantee and Co-locating MNO in accordance with the principles set out in sections 4.2.18 to 4.2.24.

Dispute resolution

- 4.2.25 Disputes between parties in relation to Co-location and Backhaul for a funded Mobile Coverage Solution will be referred for determination to an independent third party expert, at their own shared cost.
- 4.2.26 The Grantee and Co-locating MNO will be bound by the determination made by the independent third party expert.

³ www.accc.gov.au/regulated-infrastructure/communications/transmission-services-facilities-access/domestic-transmission-capacity-service-final-access-determination-inquiry-2019-2020/final-report

5. What the grant money can be used for

5.1 Eligible grant activities

Solution eligibility – Mobile Coverage Solutions

- 5.1.1 To be eligible for funding under the Program, each Mobile Coverage Solution must:
- deliver New Handheld Coverage from the applicant's network – voice and data (see sections 4.2.2 to 4.2.3) – to areas with no Existing Handheld Coverage; and
 - not be sited at a location identified on the applicant's 2020-21 to 2022-23 forward build network expansion or upgrade plans; and
 - provide New Handheld Coverage to areas which are not located within any of the Ineligible Areas, being the Urban Centres and Localities geographical units classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2016 as 'Major Urban', i.e. with a population of 100,000 or more⁴.
 - The Department will provide map overlays showing Ineligible Areas to eligible applicants upon request.
- 5.1.2 To the extent that the predicted coverage to be provided by a Mobile Coverage Solution overlaps with Existing Handheld Coverage from the mobile network of other MNOs, this overlapping portion of coverage will be weighted in the assessment of applications in accordance with the Assessment Criteria in section 6.

Additional solution eligibility – High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas

- 5.1.3 Mobile Coverage Solutions that provide New Handheld Coverage to an identified High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Area may be eligible for prioritisation through the assessment process (see section 6). For the purposes of the Program:
- a Natural Disaster is a naturally occurring event that causes great damage to property or loss of life; and
 - a Natural Disaster prone area is a location that an appropriate Emergency Service Organisation, being a local Rural Fire Service (RFS), or other state or territory agency with appropriate expertise, considers to be highly vulnerable to Natural Disasters⁵.
- 5.1.4 To be considered to be in an eligible High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Area, each Mobile Coverage Solution should include written support from a relevant Emergency Service Organisation to endorse that the location meets the criteria set out in section 5.1.3.

Additional solution eligibility – Major regional and remote transport corridors

- 5.1.5 Mobile Coverage Solutions that provide New Handheld Coverage to Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridors may be eligible for incentives through assessment (see section 6).

⁴ Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 4 - Significant Urban Areas, Urban Centres and Localities, Section of State, July 2016

⁵ This may also include coordination zones, emergency services premises, and evacuation and assembly points for these vulnerable areas.

- For the purposes of Round 5A, Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridors are those included in either the Roads of Strategic Importance (RoSI)⁶ initiative or the National Land Transport Network (NLTN)⁷. The Department will provide map overlays of these networks on request.

Solution eligibility – Trial Solutions

5.1.6 To be eligible for funding under the Program, each Trial Solution must use a new technology or delivery model that:

- has not previously been, and is not currently being, used in Australia to provide commercial mobile services;
- supports the Program's objectives, of providing mobile telecommunications users in regional and remote Australia with access to improved handheld mobile coverage and/or greater choice of mobile network, in the longer term by providing proof of concept for an innovative solution with potential to be deployed commercially following the cessation of the trial/pilot;
- provides New Handheld Coverage or connectivity in areas which are not located within any of the Ineligible Areas, being the Urban Centres and Localities geographical units classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2016 as 'Major Urban', i.e. with a population of 100,000 or more⁸. The Department will provide map overlays showing Ineligible Areas to eligible applicants upon request.

5.2 Eligible expenditure

5.2.1 Commonwealth funding under Round 5A will be available for the estimated Asset Capital Costs of building or installing funded Mobile Coverage Solutions, or the estimated Asset Capital Costs for a Trial Solution, and the Grantees will be responsible for any actual Asset Capital Costs which exceed estimated costs.

Additional eligible Backhaul costs

5.2.2 In addition to upfront Capital Costs related to the installation and deployment of Backhaul (such as Special Linkage Charges), the capitalised net present value (using a discount rate equivalent to the 10-year Treasury Bond Rate applied at the date of the application) of Operational Costs relating to leased optical fibre, microwave, or satellite Backhaul over the minimum Operational Period of a solution may be included in the estimated Asset Capital Cost of building the solution. These capitalised Operational Costs for Backhaul must be clearly identified separately in the application.

Additional Resilience Measures – eligible costs

5.2.3 It is expected that Mobile Coverage Solutions in High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas may require a greater level of resilience than solutions in other areas. The additional costs of these measures can be included in the estimated Asset Capital Costs of the solution (but must be clearly separately identified in the manner required in the Application Pack). This may include:

⁶ https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/key_projects/initiatives/roads_strategic_importance.aspx

⁷ https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/about/the_national_land_transport_network.aspx

⁸ Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 4 - Significant Urban Areas, Urban Centres and Localities, Section of State, July 2016

- increased auxiliary back-up power above the minimum level specified in sections 4.2.5 and 4.2.6;
 - redundant Backhaul; or
 - other functionality that allows for demonstrated improvements to the reliability of the services to be provided to the community in these priority locations in an emergency situation.
- 5.2.4 In recognition that necessary additional Resilience Measures should not disadvantage a solution in the assessment process, the costs of additional Resilience Measures will be excluded from the assessment process specified from section 6.1.1 to 6.1.5, and instead be considered for funding separately (see section 6.1.7).
- Applications must provide supporting evidence of the benefits of the additional Resilience Measures. If a Mobile Coverage Solution that includes additional Resilience Measures is successful in receiving funding, the Commonwealth will then separately consider whether the additional funding required to support these measures represents Value for Money in accordance with section 8.4, and may choose to fund or not to fund these items at its complete discretion.

Additional eligible costs for Trial Solutions

- 5.2.5 Applications for Trial Solutions may also include in the estimated Asset Capital Cost of building the solution further capitalised Operational Costs directly related to the lease of, access to, and/or licensing for use of infrastructure or equipment that is necessary to conduct the trial. These capitalised Operational Costs must be separately identified in the application and will be considered as part of the Value for Money assessment under section 8.4.

5.3 What the grant money cannot be used for

- 5.3.1 Applicants must not seek Commonwealth funding for Proposed Solutions where they have already planned to invest commercially. All applicants must certify that any Proposed Solutions for which Commonwealth funds are being sought were not, at any time, part of their 2020-21 to 2022-23 forward-build plans.
- 5.3.2 The Department may audit a Grantee's compliance with section 5.3.1.
- 5.3.3 Solutions must be infrastructure projects and cannot consist of Consumer Level Products or Equipment.

6. The Assessment Criteria

6.1 Assessment Criteria for Mobile Coverage Solutions

- 6.1.1 Mobile Coverage Solutions will be primarily assessed against the Assessment Formula to derive the cost to the Commonwealth per weighted square kilometre of New Handheld Coverage, and coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network. Solutions with a lower cost per square kilometre will rank higher than solutions with a high cost per square kilometre.
- 6.1.2 Mobile Coverage Solutions will be assessed and ranked in the Draft Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List. Following this, an overarching Value for Money assessment will be

undertaken on the Mobile Coverage Solutions, to inform the Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List that is provided to the Decision Maker to recommend funding (see section 8.5).

6.1.3 The Assessment Formula is:

$$\frac{\text{Cost to the Commonwealth (\$)}}{\text{New Handheld Coverage (km}^2\text{) + (overlapping coverage (km}^2\text{) / 2)}}$$

6.1.4 The Assessment Formula is based on the following components:

- a) **Cost to the Commonwealth (\$)** refers to the Commonwealth portion of the estimated Asset Capital Costs for the Mobile Coverage Solution (see section 5.2.1), including capitalised Backhaul costs, as per section 5.2.2, but excluding any separately identified costs for additional Resilience Measures for solutions in High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas, as per section 5.2.3.
- b) **New Handheld Coverage (km²)** refers to the size (in square kilometres) of the mobile coverage footprint area which will receive handheld mobile coverage where there is no Existing Handheld Coverage.
 - Where a Mobile Coverage Solution provides New Handheld Coverage from more than one participating MNO, each participating MNO's New Handheld Coverage will be counted cumulatively, regardless of whether the New Handheld Coverage areas overlap.
 - This is in recognition of the focus on multi-MNO solutions under Round 5A, and to ensure that these solutions are not disadvantaged in the assessment process due to the higher costs that may be incurred for these solutions.
- c) **Overlapping coverage (km²) / 2** refers to the size (in square kilometres) of the mobile coverage footprint area which will receive handheld coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with Existing Handheld Coverage from another MNO, divided by a weighting factor of 2.
 - For each Mobile Coverage Solution with confirmed involvement of a single MNO, overlapping coverage with the MNO's own existing network is not eligible for assessment.
 - For each Mobile Coverage Solution with confirmed involvement of two or more MNOs, overlapping coverage that is new for at least one participating MNO is eligible for assessment, but counted only once. Coverage located in an area within the existing network of all participating MNOs will not be eligible for assessment (see Table 3 at section 6.1.6).

6.1.5 For all solutions, New Handheld Coverage and overlapping coverage will be measured by comparing the 4G handheld coverage provided by the solution against:

- existing 3G and 4G handheld coverage (whichever is greater), as per publicly available coverage maps⁹;

⁹ For clarity, where an applicant publishes more than one version of its publicly available handheld coverage maps (for example, indoor and outdoor handheld coverage), New Handheld Coverage and overlapping coverage will be measured against whichever version shows the larger coverage area.

- where not yet on publicly available coverage maps, predicted 3G and 4G handheld coverage for all base stations funded under previous rounds of the Program, including Round 5; and
- where not yet on publicly available coverage maps, predicted 3G and 4G handheld coverage for any base station funded under a State or Territory program regardless of the stage of construction.

6.1.6 The following table provides an example of how coverage will be assessed under Round 5A for a multi-MNO solution:

Table 3: Example assessment of New Handheld Coverage and overlapping coverage.

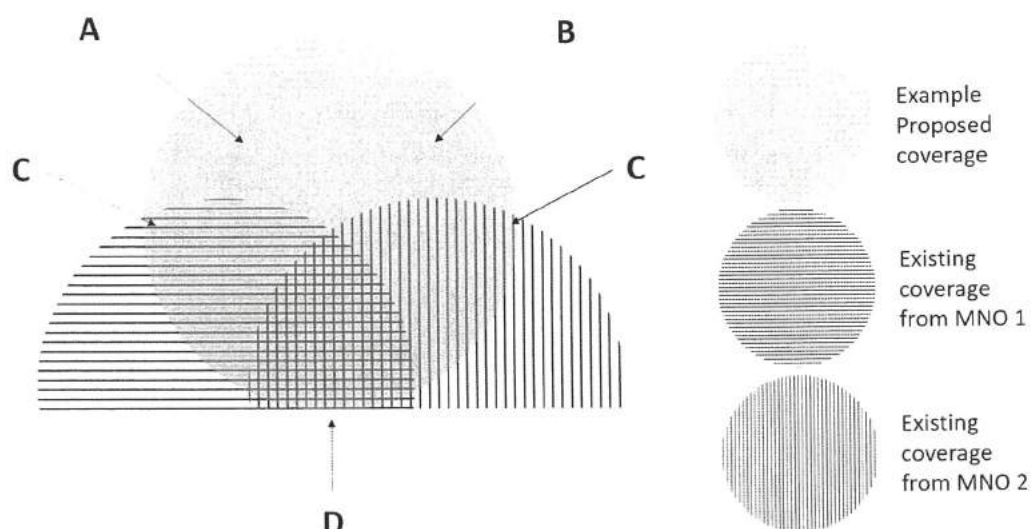
A Mobile Coverage Solution has confirmed participation of two MNOs.

- A. The solution provides 20km² of New Handheld Coverage from MNO 1, that doesn't overlap with an existing network.
- B. The solution provides 20km² of New Handheld Coverage from MNO 2, that doesn't overlap with an existing network.
- C. The solution provides 30km² of coverage that overlaps with Existing Handheld Coverage, but is new for at least one of the participating MNOs.
- D. The solution provides 10km² of coverage that overlaps with Existing Handheld Coverage in the networks of both participating MNOs (not eligible for assessment).

The assessed coverage for this solution is $A+B+(C/2)$

Equalling: $20\text{km}^2 + 20\text{km}^2 + (30\text{km}^2 / 2) = 55\text{km}^2$

A graphical representation of this example is below:



Reduction to assessed cost per km² for priority funding areas

- 6.1.7 Mobile Coverage Solutions in areas listed as priority areas in section 2.2.3 will be eligible to receive a 33% reduction to the assessed cost per km² for a Proposed Solution.
- For example:
 - A Mobile Coverage Solution is assessed with a cost per km² amount of \$20,000/km²
 - As the solution is located in a High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Area, the assessed cost is reduced by 33%, bringing it to \$13,400/km²
 - Even if a Mobile Coverage Solution is located in both kinds of priority funding area, it will only be eligible to receive a reduction to the assessed cost once.

6.2 Assessment Criteria for Trial Solutions

- 6.2.1 The assessment of the Trial Solutions will primarily use a points scoring system to rank each solution out of 100 (see sections 6.2.2 to 6.2.4), with higher scoring solutions considered better than lower scoring solutions.
- 6.2.2 Trial Solutions will be assessed and ranked in a Draft Trial Solutions Merit List. Following this, an overarching Value for Money assessment will be undertaken on the Trial Solutions, to inform the Trial Solutions Merit List that is provided to the Decision Maker to recommend funding (see section 8.5).

Assessment criterion 1 - Merit of the proposed trial (60 points)

- 6.2.3 The merits of each proposed Trial Solution will be assessed according to the following four factors, with up to a total of 60 points awarded for this criterion (up to 15 points per factor):
- the ability of the trial to test the potential of new technologies and/or delivery models to improve mobile coverage in regional and remote Australia;
 - the degree to which the solution could be commercially deployed in Australia;
 - the degree to which the solution supports coverage and connectivity outcomes, including its ability to provide a minimum level of service to consumers that is similar to the level of service available through traditional commercial mobile services, including the ability to perform the range of functions using mobile devices listed in section 4.2.3; and
 - the extent to which the proposed solution could facilitate retail competition.

Assessment criterion 2 – Trial design and delivery (40 points)

- 6.2.4 The trial design and proposed delivery of each proposed Trial Solution will be assessed according to the four following factors, with up to a total of 40 points awarded for this criterion (up to 10 points per factor):
- the maturity of the proposed solution and technology being adopted, including case studies of where the same or a similar solution has been implemented;
 - the ability for the applicant to access, or secure future access to, any necessary infrastructure, power or Backhaul; and how the applicant will maintain the infrastructure and benefits of the project during the Operational Period of the trial;

- the applicant's (and partners') track record delivering similar solutions and access to personnel and/or partners with the right skills and experience. This should include evidence of sound project planning to manage and monitor the project covering scope, implementation methodology, timeframes, budget and risk; and
- the applicant's ability to commence the trial, including availability of key personnel, equipment and finance.

7. How to apply

7.1 Timing of Grant Opportunity processes

The Program will be implemented in ten key stages. A summary of each stage and indicative timing is provided below.

Table 4: Expected timing for this Grant Opportunity

Stage	Activity	Timing
1	Release of Guidelines and call for Applications At the same time as releasing these Guidelines, the Government will issue a call for applications from eligible applicants for funding under Round 5A of the Program.	18 November 2020
2	Applicant registration Organisations wishing to apply for funding under Round 5A must contact the Department to register as a potential applicant within four weeks following release of these Guidelines in order to obtain access to the application documentation. Eligible organisations who registered under previous rounds and who are interested in participating in this round are required to register for Round 5A (previous registrations will not be valid for the purposes of this round). Organisations can register their interest with the Department by emailing MBSPround5@communications.gov.au and providing the following information: (a) Organisation name; (b) Contact name; (c) Contact phone number; and (d) Contact email address.	Registration due by 16 December 2020 (4 weeks after opening)
3	Pre-application documentation The application documentation outlines the requirements on potential applicants prior to submitting an application for funding. Where applicable, each applicant must submit geospatial data of their publicly available coverage maps (incorporating coverage from, where relevant, base stations funded under previous rounds of the Program, base stations funded under a State or Territory program regardless of the stage of construction and any commercially planned base stations) ahead of submitting their application for funding (refer to section 6.1.5).	Pre-application documentation due by 13 January 2021 (8 weeks after opening)

Stage	Activity	Timing
4	<p>Preparing and submitting applications</p> <p>The application documentation describes in detail the Program requirements, and outlines the terms and conditions under which Commonwealth funding is to be made available.</p> <p>Each applicant applying for funding for Mobile Coverage Solutions must complete the Assessment Tool for each solution for which it is seeking funding, specifying in each case the information set out in section 7.4.2.</p> <p>The completed Assessment Tool must include data on the level of coverage that each Proposed Solution will achieve in terms of area. For Macrocell and Small Cell solutions, mapping data must be provided to indicate the area to be covered by handheld coverage meeting the required service standards set out at section 4.2.2 – 4.2.6. The application should also indicate any relevant Value for Money considerations as specified in section 8.4.</p> <p>Applicants may seek all or part of the maximum amount of funding available for Round 5A, being \$34.5 million (GST exclusive).</p> <p>Each applicant applying for funding for Trial Solutions must complete the Trials Application Form for each proposed solution for which it is seeking funding, specifying in each case the information set out in section 7.4.3.</p> <p>Applications for solutions through which more than one MNO will provide mobile coverage and connectivity must be accompanied by written evidence of intent from any of those MNOs not an applicant for the purposes of the application, including confirmation of how they intend to provide services through the solution (e.g. RAN sharing, co-location).</p>	<p>Applications due by 10 February 2021 (12 weeks after opening)</p>
5	<p>Assessment of applications</p> <p>The Department will assess all eligible applications received by the closing date and time to determine which Proposed Solutions are to be recommended for Program funding using the processes outlined in section 6.</p> <p>An expert engineering firm in the mobile telecommunications industry, as appointed by the Department, will test coverage claims.</p> <p>The Mobile Coverage Solutions recommended for funding through the assessment process will be included on the Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List provided to the Decision Maker.</p> <p>The Trial Solutions recommended for funding through the assessment process will be included on the Trial Solutions Merit List provided to the Decision Maker.</p>	<p>February – April 2021 (8 weeks)</p>
6	<p>Negotiation of Grant Agreements</p> <p>Where an applicant requests an amendment to the draft Grant Agreement which is not acceptable to the Commonwealth, the Department will seek to negotiate with the applicant in parallel with the Assessment of Applications period (stage 5).</p>	<p>April – May 2021</p>

Stage	Activity	Timing
7	<p>Grantees advised of outcomes and funding arrangements finalised</p> <p>The Department will notify each applicant of the Proposed Solutions included in their application which are included on the Decision Maker's List. Extracts of the Decision Maker's List will also be provided to other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>The Grantee's participation in the Program becomes effective from the date of execution of the Grant Agreement by the Commonwealth. Shortly after execution of the Grant Agreement, the Grantee's details and amount of funding awarded will be made available on GrantConnect in accordance with the Commonwealth's grant reporting requirements.</p> <p>Where a Proposed Solution includes a financial co-contribution from a State or Territory government, the Grantee must finalise the commercial agreement governing the terms and conditions of the State/Territory's financial contribution directly with the relevant jurisdiction.</p>	June 2021
8	<p>Grantees and locations announced</p> <p>The locations of Funded Solutions and Grantees are expected to be announced by the Government, and published on GrantConnect.</p>	June 2021
9	<p>Co-location negotiations</p> <p>Grantees will notify other MNOs of the opportunity to co-locate on Funded Solutions, and to participate in the detailed design phase using the process set out in sections 4.2.11 to 4.2.16.</p>	From June 2021
10	<p>Date of Rollout Completion</p> <p>Grantees will be expected to complete the rollout of all Funded Solutions by 30 June 2022 (Date of Rollout Completion). The Date for Rollout Completion will be included in the Grant Agreement.</p>	30 June 2022

7.2 Applicant registration

- 7.2.1 Potential applicants must register their interest with the Department and sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement prior to being granted access to the Program documentation for this round.

7.3 Pre-application lodgement

- 7.3.1 MNOs who have registered as potential applicants, or are partnering with potential applicants, and intend to submit applications for funding under this round must first submit their existing 3G HSPA+ and 4G coverage information, incorporating the coverage from base stations which were funded under previous rounds of the Program, including Round 5, and any base station funded under a State or Territory program, regardless of the stage of construction (refer to section 6.1.5).
- 7.3.2 Existing coverage information required at section 7.3.1 must be submitted to the Department by no later than **5pm (Canberra time), Tuesday 13 January 2021**. The Department may, at its absolute discretion, accept mobile coverage information submitted by MNOs after this date.

- 7.3.3 The existing coverage information required in accordance with section 7.3.1 must be supplied as per the predictive coverage modelling standards which underpin the publicly available coverage maps on the MNOs website.
- 7.3.4 Pre-application information can be submitted by any of the methods outlined at section 7.4.

7.4 Completing and lodging an application

- 7.4.1 Applications for funding must be lodged using the Application Pack provided following registration.
- 7.4.2 To seek funding for Mobile Coverage Solutions, applicants must complete the Assessment Tool from the Application Pack to provide information for each proposed Mobile Coverage Solution for which it is seeking funding, specifying in each case:
- the location;
 - the total estimated all-up asset capital cost of construction (GST inclusive), including, if required, Backhaul and power;
 - if applicable, any costs related to additional Resilience Measures (see section 5.2.3);
 - the amount of co-contribution (GST inclusive) being provided by the applicant;
 - the amount of Commonwealth co-contribution sought under the Program – capped at the maximum funding amount per Mobile Coverage Solution as outlined in section 3.1, and noting section 8.4.4;
 - the amount (if any) of co-contributions (GST inclusive) to be received from third parties such as State, Territory or local governments, local communities, MNOs (other than an applicant) confirmed to provide services through the Mobile Coverage Solution, or any combination of these, and any specific requirements or conditions tied to the co-contributions (for information purposes);
 - the extent to which it meets the Assessment Criteria in section 6.1;
 - whether the Mobile Coverage Solution is dependent on the construction of one or more of the applicant's other Mobile Coverage Solutions, and explaining the specific dependencies (for example between individual base stations included in the same Cluster Mobile Coverage Solution);
 - predictive coverage mapping data for each Mobile Coverage Solution;
 - written support (for High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas); and
 - the number of MNOs confirmed to provide services through the Mobile Coverage Solution, and, if more than one, confirmation of the way in which multiple MNOs will provide services (e.g. RAN sharing, co-location).

Note: The applicant must agree that any predictive coverage mapping data supplied in the application can be used by the Department to prepare promotional material for the Program.

- 7.4.3 To seek funding for Trial Solutions, applicants must complete the Trials Application Form in the Application Pack, specifying:
- an overview of the proposed Trial Solution, what it is, how it will be undertaken and why the outcome cannot be satisfied through existing means;
 - the benefits that the proposed Trial Solution will bring to the community and to the Program;

- the type of services to be provided, areas to be targeted, type of infrastructure to be built, and any other specific details of the proposed Trial Solution;
- the proposed Operational Period and, if shorter than the minimum 10 year requirement for Mobile Coverage Solutions under section 3.5.2, an explanation of why a lesser period is proposed;
- if the proposed Trial Solution is not able to provide a minimum level of service to consumers that is similar to the level of service available through traditional commercial mobile services, including the ability to perform the range of functions using mobile devices listed in section 4.2.3—the level of service that will be provided, including which of the functions listed in section 4.2.3 (if any) will not be available to consumers, and the reasons why this is the case;
- a full costing of the Proposal, including the all-up asset capital cost of construction (GST inclusive), including, if required, Backhaul and power;
- predicted handheld mobile coverage the solution is expected to provide, and service levels (including, but not limited to, service availability and performance); and
- any other details that the applicant deems necessary to demonstrate how the Proposal meets the Eligibility Criteria.

Note: The applicant must agree that any predictive coverage mapping data supplied in the application can be used by the Department to prepare promotional material for the Program.

7.4.4 In addition, applicants must warrant that none of the Proposed Solutions for which Commonwealth funds have been sought were at any time part of their 2020-21 to 2021-22 forward-build network expansion or upgrade plans.

7.4.5 Applicants must indicate their compliance with the draft Grant Agreement (to be provided to registered applicants) at the time of submitting their applications. Where the terms of the draft Grant Agreement are not accepted in full, applicants are required to submit a revision marked version of the draft Grant Agreement reflecting their proposed drafting, their position and their reasons for requesting the change.

7.4.6 Applicants who have previously agreed a funding agreement with the Commonwealth under previous rounds of the Program (Previous Funding Agreement) and wish to use that Previous Funding Agreement as the basis for this round's Grant Agreement must indicate their compliance with the Previous Funding Agreement as amended to reflect the requirements of this round (Updated Previous Funding Agreement) at the time of submitting their applications. Where the terms of the Updated Previous Funding Agreement are not accepted in full, applicants are required to submit a revision marked version of the Updated Previous Funding Agreement reflecting their proposed drafting, their position and their reasons for requesting the change.

Note: Following registration, the Department will provide relevant applicants with details of the clauses from their Previous Funding Agreement that will need to be amended to reflect the requirements of this round. These requirements will be drawn from the draft Grant Agreement (to be provided to registered applicants). The Previous Funding Agreement together with these requirements will effectively comprise the Updated Previous Funding Agreement which should be used for the applicant's compliance statements and to develop the revision-marked version referenced above. Stage 6 in section 7.1 contains further information about the timing for Grant Agreement negotiations.

7.4.7 Details for contacting the Department to seek clarification or assistance with any aspects of completing an application are at section 7.8 of these Guidelines.

- 7.4.8 Applications can be lodged using GovTEAMS, the Australian Government's secure online document sharing and project management system. Potential applicants will be provided with information about lodging applications using GovTEAMS upon registering as a potential applicant for Round 5A. Potential applicants may request to use alternative online secure document sharing systems by agreement with the Department. Requests can be made by email to MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au, and should be received no later than two weeks prior to the closing of the application period.
- 7.4.9 All electronic files, regardless of transmission method, should be provided in an appropriate Microsoft compatible format. Geo-spatial information such as maps should be provided in either MapInfo TAB or MID/MIF; ESRI Shape; GML; or KML format.
- 7.4.10 The Department strongly prefers electronic applications. However, the Department may also accept applications via hard copy and/or physical electronic media if there is a reason why electronic submission is not feasible. Applicants wishing to make applications through physical means should contact the Department by email to MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au no later than four weeks prior to the closing of the application period
- 7.4.11 The Department will acknowledge receipt of all applications by email to the applicant's nominated contact officer.

7.5 Closing date for funding applications

- 7.5.1 The closing date for submitting an application for funding under this round of the Program is 5.00pm (Canberra time), 10 February 2021.

7.6 Late applications

- 7.6.1 Any decision by the Department on whether or not to accept a late application to the assessment process is wholly within the Department's absolute discretion and shall be final.

7.7 Further information about the application

- 7.7.1 At any time during the initial registration, application or post-application, or assessment processes, the Department may:
- contact applicants to check information that may be ambiguous, incorrect or unclear;
 - seek either additional information or seek clarification of certain information to assist its assessment of applications; and/or
 - seek expert advice to verify claims made.

7.8 Questions during the application process

- 7.8.1 All requests for clarification or determination of the meaning of provisions in these Guidelines should be referred to the Department by email at MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au. If an applicant requests clarification of a provision in these Guidelines or a determination on a particular issue, the Department's written decision on the matter is final.
- 7.8.2 Answers to questions may be posted on [GrantConnect](#).

7.9 Errors identified in applications

- 7.9.1 If the applicant finds an error in their application after submitting it, they should contact the Department immediately at MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au. The Department may, at its sole discretion, accept additional information from the applicant or a request to

correct the error. However, the Department is under no obligation to accept any additional information or a request from the applicant to correct any applications after the Closing Date in section 7.5.

8. The grant selection process

8.1 Application completeness check

- 8.1.1 Following the closing date for applications, the Department will undertake an initial check to ensure each application is complete, that all necessary supporting documentation has been submitted as part of the application, and that it meets the Eligibility Criteria contained in section 4.

8.2 Risk assessment

- 8.2.1 The Department will conduct an overall risk assessment in relation to the suitability of the applicants (and applications) for funding under the Program.

8.3 Evaluation and assessment

- 8.3.1 Following confirmation that the applications are complete and the applicants meet the Eligibility Criteria in section 4, the Assessment Criteria in section 6 will be used by the Department (i.e. the Evaluation Committee – see section 9.1) to undertake the initial evaluation of applications received for Round 5A of the Program, including an assessment of whether the minimum requirements set out in section 4.2 of these Guidelines have been satisfied. Proposed Solutions that do not meet the minimum requirements may, at the Department's absolute discretion, be excluded from further consideration.
- 8.3.2 The Department will review each Proposed Solution against the Assessment Criteria, and will rank each Proposed Solution accordingly. Applicants must provide evidence to back up claims made in their applications, including mapping data on coverage claims in a format required by the Department (see section 7.4.9).
- 8.3.3 Following this review process, the Department will prepare two Draft Merit Lists:
- The Draft Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List – containing the eligible Mobile Coverage Solutions ranked in accordance with the Assessment Criteria in section 6.1; and
 - The Draft Trial Solutions Merit List – containing the eligible Trial Solutions ranked in accordance with the Assessment Criteria in section 6.2.

8.4 Value for Money

- 8.4.1 The Department will undertake a Value for Money assessment for each Mobile Coverage Solution and Trial Solution following the creation of the Draft Mobile Coverage Merit List and Draft Trial Solutions Merit List, to finalise the Merit Lists. Recommendations for funding will use the processes, requirements and Assessment Criteria set out in these Guidelines.
- 8.4.2 Based on the overarching Value for Money assessment, the Department reserves the right to recommend funding one or more Proposed Solutions which were lower ranked against the Assessment Criteria than other Proposed Solutions within a Draft Merit List.
- 8.4.3 Based on the Value for Money assessment, the Department also reserves the right to recommend not funding one or more Proposed Solutions which are highly ranked against the Assessment Criteria within the Draft Merit Lists.

- 8.4.4 The Department may, at its absolute discretion, recommend increasing the level of Commonwealth funding for one or more Proposed Solutions above the maximum amount per Proposed Solution as outlined in section 3.1.2, should it be considered of higher Value for Money.

Value for Money for Mobile Coverage Solutions

- 8.4.5 Factors considered in this assessment include, but are not limited to, the:

- cost to the Commonwealth of the Mobile Coverage Solution;
- amount of New Handheld Coverage and coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network (km²);
- the degree in which competition is provided at a single solution, for example from at least two MNOs;
- the length of major rail and/or road transport routes, not limited to those included in the definition in section 5.1.5, that will receive New Handheld Coverage, or coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network, from the Proposed Solution;
- the number of premises that will benefit from New Handheld Coverage, or coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network; and
- the amount of new External Antenna Coverage (km²).

Value for Money for Mobile Coverage Solutions in High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Areas

- 8.4.6 Factors considered in this assessment include those outlined in section 8.4.5, as well as the community benefit derived from New Handheld Coverage, or coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network, provided by the Proposed Solution in an emergency situation.

Value for Money for Mobile Coverage Solutions in Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridors

- 8.4.7 Factors considered in this assessment include those outlined in section 8.4.5, as well as, but not limited to, the:
- benefit provided to the area along a Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridor as defined in section 5.1.5 (for example, where the New Handheld Coverage, or coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network, provides benefits to nearby towns, rest stops or other areas of interest); and
 - the amount of contiguous handheld coverage provided along a Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridor as defined in section 5.1.5 by an individual MNO, as a result of the New Handheld Coverage, or coverage that is new for a participating MNO but overlaps with another MNO's network, provided by a Mobile Coverage Solution.

Value for Money for Trial Solutions

- 8.4.8 Factors considered in the assessment include, but are not limited to the:

- cost to the Commonwealth of the Trial Solution;
- the nature of the costs included in the estimated Asset Capital Cost for the Trial Solution;
- expected benefits of the project proposal and activities;

- proposed Operational Period of the trial/pilot activity; and
- extent to which the proposal would contribute to the Program objectives specified in section 2.1.2, and the Round 5A objectives specified in section 2.2.3.

Value for Money Assessment of additional Resilience Measures

- 8.4.9 Where Mobile Coverage Solutions include costs related to additional Resilience Measures (as specified in section 5.2.3), the Commonwealth will separately consider whether the additional funding required to support these measures represents Value for Money should the Mobile Coverage Solution be successful in receiving funding. In doing so, relevant considerations include:
- whether the cost of the additional Resilience Measures are in line with industry standards, taking into account differences in cost and performance characteristics of different technology options; and
 - whether the additional Resilience Measures address a genuine circumstantial need or priority for the funded Mobile Coverage Solution and/or the area it serves, taking into account the evidentiary support provided by a relevant Emergency Service Organisation.

8.5 Merit Lists

- 8.5.1 Following the assessment of the applications, the Department will prepare two lists of Proposed Solutions that the Department considers meets the Assessment Criteria in section 6, will provide Value for Money to the Commonwealth in accordance with section 8.4, and which it recommends for funding (the Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List, and the Trial Solutions Merit List (the Merit Lists)).
- 8.5.2 In establishing these Merit Lists, the Department will exercise its own judgement, having regard to the objectives of Round 5A as described in section 2.2.3, in determining whether any changes to the Merit Lists are required.
- 8.5.3 The Department will provide the Merit Lists to the Decision Maker and provide the Decision Maker with details of the assessment of each Proposed Solution against the Assessment Criteria, including the overall Value for Money of each Proposed Solution, and each Proposed Solution's ability to assist in achieving the intended outcomes of the Program as set out in section 2.1.3 and the objectives of Round 5A as described in section 2.2.3.
- 8.5.4 The Department may recommend to fund, or not fund, additional Resilience Measures (as specified in section 5.2.3) through the Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List. Assessment of these measures will be undertaken following the creation of the Draft Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List, as specified in section 8.3.3.

9. Assessment and evaluation of grant applications

9.1 Who will assess and evaluate applications?

- 9.1.1 An Evaluation Committee will assess and evaluate each application on its merit.
- 9.1.2 External advisors may also be asked to inform the assessment and evaluation process. Any advisor who is not an APS employee will be treated as the Commonwealth entity's officials in accordance with section 2.9 of Part 1 of the CGRGs.
- 9.1.3 The Evaluation Committee may seek information about the applicant or their application. They may do this from within the Commonwealth, even if the sources are not nominated by the applicant as referees. The Evaluation Committee may also consider information about the applicant or their application that is available through publicly available information or the normal course of business.

9.2 Who will approve grants?

- 9.2.1 The Decision Maker will review the recommendations set out in the Merit Lists, and may do one or more of the following:
- approve the recommendations;
 - seek further information from the Department or relevant experts or both; and
 - subject to section 14, make any amendments the Decision Maker deems necessary.
- 9.2.2 The Department will prepare the list of Funded Solutions (Decision Maker's List) based on the requirements and advice from the Decision Maker.
- 9.2.3 The Decision Maker will have the final decision on all applications for funding.

10. Notification of application outcomes

10.1 Application outcomes

- 10.1.1 The applicant will be advised of the outcomes of their application in writing, following a decision by the Decision Maker. If an applicant is successful, they will also be advised about any specific conditions attached to the grant.

10.2 Feedback on the application

- 10.2.1 If an applicant is unsuccessful, they may ask for feedback from the Department within 14 days of being advised of the outcome. The Department will give the applicant written and/or verbal feedback within one month of feedback being requested.

11. Successful grant applications

11.1 The grant agreement

- 11.1.1 A sample Grant Agreement will be provided to registered applicants.
- 11.1.2 Each Grant Agreement will set out the Grantee's obligations in respect of the roll-out, co-location and service terms for each Funded Solution.
- 11.1.3 For existing participants in the Program, the Commonwealth agrees that the basis for the Grant Agreement could be an executed agreement from a previous round, as described in section 7.4.6.

11.2 Termination, variation or amendment

- 11.2.1 The Government reserves the right to terminate or vary Round 5A of the Program (including via variation of these Guidelines) at its discretion, at any time, for any reason, including without limitation, in the light of changes to Government policy.
- 11.2.2 If the Government determines that these Guidelines require amendment prior to the date for which funding applications are due to be submitted to the Department, potential applicants will be advised of the revised or new Guidelines in a timely manner, including any resultant extension that may be applied to the application period. Any amendments and resultant extensions will be published on GrantConnect.
- 11.2.3 If the Government determines that these Guidelines require amendment following the date for which funding applications are due to be submitted to the Department (for example, if the applications received do not achieve the Program objectives), the revised or new Guidelines will clearly identify the extent, if any, to which the amended criteria will be

applied to existing applications, and/or whether applicants will have the opportunity to re-submit an application based upon the revised criteria, and/or whether any new applicants will be considered. In this event, existing applicants will be notified in writing and via GrantConnect and the revised Guidelines will be published on GrantConnect.

- 11.2.4 An organisation submitting an application acknowledges that neither these Guidelines, nor any application, give rise to a binding agreement or any other binding legal arrangement or legal relationship between the applicant and the Commonwealth. There is no binding agreement on any party until a Grant Agreement is executed between the Commonwealth and the Grantee.

12. Announcement of grants

- 12.1 If successful, the applicant's grant will be listed on the GrantConnect website within 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by section 5.3 of the CGRGs.

13. Delivery of grant activities

13.1 The Grantee's responsibilities

- 13.1.1 Grantees must meet the terms and conditions set out in the Grant Agreement.
- 13.1.2 Grantees will need to establish Baseline Data for measuring project and Program progress. This Baseline Data will be provided by the applicant in their application (refer to sections 7.3 and 7.4.2), which will subsequently form the basis of project progress reports.
- 13.1.3 Grantees will be required to maintain a publicly available online database for the construction phase of Round 5A, as specified in the Grant Agreement, which will include information regarding the status and progress of Funded Solutions.
- 13.1.4 Grantees will be required to provide and maintain a stakeholder engagement plan for the rollout of the Program, including relevant details for each Funded Solution. The plan should cover:
- communication activities with relevant stakeholders including the local community, local councils and State and federal members of parliament; and
 - communication of updates to the community regarding any changes to the rollout of the Funded Solution (e.g. timing, location, expected coverage outcomes).

13.2 The Department's responsibilities

- 13.2.1 The Department will:
- meet the terms and conditions set out in the Grant Agreement;
 - provide timely administration of the grant; and
 - evaluate the Grantee's performance.
- 13.2.2 The Department will monitor the progress of the Grantee's project by assessing reports the Grantee submits and may conduct site visits to confirm details of the reports if necessary. Occasionally, the Department may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

13.3 Grant payments and GST

- 13.3.1 Payments will be made as set out in the Grant Agreement.

13.4 Evaluation

13.4.1 The Program will be evaluated by the Department against key performance indicators (KPIs) as agreed with each Grantee. The Department will use the KPIs to monitor, measure and report on progress, outputs, outcomes and benefits of the Program.

13.4.2 Grantees will be required to participate in Program reviews and evaluations.

14. Process Terms

14.1 Accountability and probity

14.1.1 The Department is committed to ensuring that the process for selecting and approving Funded Solutions under the Program is fair, conducted in accordance with these Guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct, and is consistent with the CGRGs.

14.1.2 The Department, as a non-corporate Commonwealth entity under *the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the PGPA Act), in relation to its investment in the Program, must comply with:

- the various duties set out in section 15 of the PGPA Act including: to promote the proper use and management of public resources for which the Department is responsible; promote the achievement of the purposes of the Department; and promote the financial sustainability of the Department;
- section 16 of the PGPA Act which requires the Department to establish and maintain appropriate systems of risk oversight and management and an appropriate system of internal controls; and
- the CGRGs, which establish the overarching Commonwealth grant policy framework and articulate the expectations for the Department (including but not limited to a range of probity and reporting requirements).

14.2 Complaints process

14.2.1 An applicant wishing to seek a review of the decision relating to its application for the Program should contact the Department by email at MBSPRound5@communications.gov.au within two weeks of the issue of notification of the decision. The Department will review that decision internally and notify the applicant(s) of the outcome of the review.

14.2.2 An applicant that is dissatisfied with the review may contact:

The Commonwealth Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
Canberra ACT 2601
Telephone: 1300 362 072

Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

14.2.3 Applicants should note that the Commonwealth Ombudsman can only review the Program's assessment processes, not any specific funding decision, under the Program.

14.3 Conflicts of interest

14.3.1 Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the Grant Opportunity. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if the Department's staff, any

member of a committee or advisor and/or the eligible applicant or any of the eligible applicant's personnel:

- has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the Selection Process, such as an Australian Government officer;
- has a relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently; or
- has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the Program.

14.3.2 Eligible applicants will be asked to declare, as part of their application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

14.3.3 If an eligible applicant later identifies an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, it must inform the Department in writing immediately.

14.3.4 Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled in accordance with the Australian [Public Service Code of Conduct \(Section 13\(7\)\)](#) of the [Public Service Act 1999](#) and applicable Australian Government policy and legal requirements. Evaluation Committee members and other officials including the Decision Maker must also declare any conflicts of interest in accordance with the probity requirements of the Program.

14.4 Costs

14.4.1 The Department will not, in any circumstances, meet any costs or expenses incurred by an applicant in connection with their application. Applicants must bear their own costs and expenses associated with the application and assessment process, and the preparation, negotiation and execution of the Grant Agreement and of other documentation.

14.5 Background checks

14.5.1 The Department may undertake checks on organisations submitting an application for the Program (including the applicant's personnel). It may also undertake consultations with other relevant third parties regarding any application. The Department may also conduct checks to obtain any relevant information not disclosed in an application.

14.5.2 As part of these checks, the Department reserves the right to use information from:

- the Department's databases;
- other Government agencies, such as the Australian Taxation Office and Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
- State or Territory agencies;
- law enforcement agencies;
- credit reference agencies;
- courts or tribunals;
- other public sources of information; and
- any other appropriate organisation or person.

14.6 Confidentiality

- 14.6.1 The Department will treat the applicant's commercially sensitive information provided in their application as Confidential Information provided that the information is designated as Confidential Information (Applicant Confidential Information).
- 14.6.2 The Department's confidentiality obligation does not apply to the extent any Applicant Confidential Information is:
- authorised or required by law to be disclosed;
 - disclosed by the Department to its advisers, officers, employees, or other agencies' officers or employees, for the purpose of evaluating the applicant's application and during any Grant Agreement negotiations;
 - disclosed by the Department in response to a request by a house or a committee of the Parliament of Australia, or a house or a committee of the Parliament of a state or territory;
 - disclosed by the Department to its responsible Minister and his or her advisors or the Auditor-General and the APS employees assisting the Auditor General;
 - shared by the Commonwealth within the Commonwealth's entity (for example, another Commonwealth agency), where this serves the Commonwealth's legitimate interests;
 - disclosed to the Department's officers to enable the effective management or auditing of the Program; or
 - in the public domain otherwise than due to a breach of the Department's confidentiality obligation.
- 14.6.3 The applicant will treat any information provided by the Department as Confidential Information provided that the information is designated as Confidential Information. (Commonwealth Confidential Information).
- 14.6.4 The applicant's confidentiality obligation does not apply to the extent any Commonwealth Confidential Information is:
- authorised or required by law to be disclosed; or
 - in the public domain otherwise than due to a breach of the applicant's confidentiality obligation.
- 14.6.5 The Department may share with State or Territory governments (on a confidential basis) any or all information contained in applications which it considers relevant to the respective jurisdiction based on the location of the Proposed Solution(s), including costings for Proposed Solutions that are not successful in receiving funding through the Program.

14.7 Intellectual Property rights

- 14.7.1 By submitting an application under the Program, to the extent the applicant's application contains:
- its Intellectual Property; or
 - a third party's Intellectual Property,
- the applicant grants by the making of its application, (or will procure for) the Commonwealth a permanent, irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide, non-exclusive licence (including a right of sublicense) to use, reproduce, adapt, and communicate the applicant's (or third party's) Intellectual Property contained in its application under the Program provided the use, reproduction, adaptation, or communication is in connection with any assessment processes under, or the evaluation of, or promotion of the Program.

- 14.7.2 Any licence granted to the Commonwealth in relation to Intellectual Property rights does not include a right to exploit the Intellectual Property for commercial purposes.

14.8 Privacy of individuals

- 14.8.1 The Department treats personal information in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988* (the Privacy Act). The Privacy Act contains 13 Australian Privacy Principles (the APPs) which governs how the Department collects, uses and discloses personal and sensitive information, and how individuals can access and correct records containing their personal or sensitive information.
- 14.8.2 The Department is committed to protecting personal information appropriately. If individuals within the applying organisation wish to deal with the Department anonymously or by using a pseudonym, it should advise the Departmental contact officer for the Program or contact the Department's Privacy Officer (see details below).

14.9 Personal information to be collected by the Department

- 14.9.1 The Department may collect personal information in the applicant's application and this may include names, and contain details and other personal information, which the applicant (or its personnel) has supplied to the Department in its application under the Program.
- 14.9.2 By providing the Department with personal information in the applicant's application under the Program, the applicant (and its named personnel) consents to the Department collecting, using and disclosing that personal information in accordance with these Guidelines and for the purposes of the Program.
- 14.9.3 If the applicant (or its personnel) does not consent to the Department's collection, use and disclosure of the personal information contained in its application under the Program, in accordance with these Guidelines, the applicant acknowledges that this may mean that the Department may not be able to progress or assess the application further for funding under the Program and that the application may be set aside under the assessment process.

14.10 Purpose for which the Department will use and disclose personal information

- 14.10.1 By submitting an application, the applicant acknowledges that the Department may collect personal information from the applicant (and its personnel) contained in its application for the purpose of carrying out the activities and functions of the Department related to the Program. In order to carry out its functions and activities connected to the Program, the Department may use the collected personal information for the purpose of any assessment processes under, or the evaluation of, the Program.
- 14.10.2 Further, in order to carry out its functions and activities connected to the Program, including (without limitation) assessment and evaluation functions, the Department may also disclose the collected personal information to other Commonwealth, State or Territory agencies.
- 14.10.3 The Department will use the personal information collected from the applicant for the primary purpose for which it was collected. The Department may use or disclose this personal information for another purpose (i.e. secondary purpose) if:
- the applicant reasonably expect the information to be used for the secondary purpose;
 - it is required or authorised by law or a permitted general situation exists under the Privacy Act;
 - the applicant gives the Department permission; or

- the Department reasonably believes the use or disclosure is reasonably necessary for one or more enforcement related activities conducted by, or on behalf of, an enforcement body.

14.11 The Department's contact point for privacy matters

14.11.1 For further information about how the Department is committed to protecting personal information appropriately in accordance with the APPs, see the Department's APP Privacy Policy on its website at www.infrastructure.gov.au/department/about/privacy.policy.aspx

14.11.2 For further information about the Department's handling of personal information, contact the Department's Privacy Officer by sending an email to privacy@infrastructure.gov.au or by writing to the Department at the following address:

Privacy Officer
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

14.11.3 General information about the Privacy Act and the APPs can also be found on the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner's website at www.oaic.gov.au.

14.12 Exclusion of liabilities

14.12.1 To the greatest extent possible in law, the Department is not liable to applicants on the basis of a process contract (express or implied), promissory estoppel, equitable, restitutionary, contractual or quasi-contractual grounds or any other legal or equitable principle or theory, in relation to the Selection Process, including without limitation, when the Department:

- varies or terminates all or any part of the Selection Process or any negotiations;
- decides not to fund any or all of the activities sought through the Selection Process;
- varies the Selection Process; or
- exercises or fails to exercise any of its other rights under, or in relation to, these Guidelines.

14.13 Disclaimer

14.13.1 The Commonwealth, the Department and its officers, employees, agents and advisors:

- are not, and will not be, responsible or liable for the accuracy or completeness of any information in or provided in connection with these Guidelines and associated forms;
- make no express or implied representation or warranty that any statement as to future matters will prove correct;
- disclaim any and all liability arising from any information provided to the applicants, including, without limitation, errors in, or omissions contained in, that information;
- except so far as liability under any statute cannot be excluded, accept no responsibility arising in any way from errors or omissions contained in any information in these Guidelines and associated forms; and
- accept no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person as a result of that person, or any other person, placing reliance on the contents of these Guidelines and associated forms, or any other information provided by the Department.

14.14 Fraud prevention

- 14.14.1 Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code 1995*¹⁰ and the Department will investigate any false or misleading information and may exclude your application from further consideration.

14.15 Freedom of Information

- 14.15.1 All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about this grant opportunity, are subject to the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) (FOI Act).
- 14.15.2 The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.
- 14.15.3 All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Department's Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing at foi@infrastructure.gov.au

15. Consultation

- 15.1 In April 2020, the Department released a discussion paper seeking public feedback on the proposed design of Round 5A. This feedback was considered in preparing these Guidelines.

¹⁰ <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020C00245>

16. Glossary

Term	Definition
3G HSPA+ (3G)	Third generation mobile telecommunications service with the wireless broadband standard protocol known as the Evolved High Speed Packet Data Access or HSPA+.
4G	Fourth generation mobile telecommunications service.
Application Pack	Has the meaning given in section 7.4.1.
Assessment Criteria	The specified principles or standards in section 6 against which applications will be assessed. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive Grant Opportunity, to determine application rankings.
Assessment Formula	The assessment formula the Department will use to assess applications for Mobile Coverage Solutions as set out in section 6.1.
Assessment Tool	Has the meaning given in section 7.1, Stage 4.
Asset Capital Costs (CAPEX)	The costs to purchase and build physical assets under the Program.
Backhaul	A link between the core or backbone of a network and sub-networks, transporting data from a series of disparate locations to a more centralised location.
Baseline Data	The applicant's existing coverage and the amount of new coverage which each Funded Solution would provide will be used as the mobile coverage baseline data for section 13.1.2.
Cluster Mobile Coverage Solution	A Mobile Coverage Solution comprising two or more (to a maximum of fifteen) base stations that the applicant is putting forward as a single proposal due to economic and/or network design benefits.
Co-locating MNO	Has the meaning given in section 4.2.18.
Commonwealth entity	A Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act.

Term	Definition
<u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs)</u>	Rules that establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.
Confidential Information	Applicant Confidential Information and Commonwealth Confidential Information as defined in section 14.6.1 and section 14.6.3.
Consumer Level Products or Equipment	Non-infrastructure telecommunication products purchased for the consumption by a limited number of users.
Date of Rollout Completion	Has the meaning given in stage 10 of section 7.1.
Decision Maker	The Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government.
Decision Maker's List	Has the meaning given in section 9.2.2.
Department	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.
Designated Major Regional and Remote Transport Corridors	Has the meaning given in section 5.1.5.
Draft Mobile Coverage Solutions Merit List	The ranked list of Mobile Coverage Solutions following the assessment process, but before Value for Money considerations.
Draft Trial Solutions Merit List	The ranked list of Trial Solutions following the assessment process, but before Value for Money considerations.
Eligibility Criteria	The mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Assessment Criteria may apply in addition to Eligibility Criteria.
Emergency Service Organisation	Has the meaning given in section 5.1.3.

Term	Definition
External Antenna Coverage	<p>Coverage able to be obtained with a mobile device using an external antenna accessory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that is currently available within the current mobile coverage area of at least one MNO in accordance with the publicly available mobile coverage maps from all MNOs; • that will be provided by any base station that will be delivered under a previous round of the Program, including Round 5; or • that will be provided by any base station funded under a State or Territory program.
Existing Handheld Coverage	<p>Coverage able to be obtained with a handheld mobile device:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that is currently available within the current mobile coverage area of at least one MNO in accordance with the publicly available mobile coverage maps from all MNOs; • that will be provided by any base station that will be delivered under a previous round of the Program, including Round 5; or • that will be provided by any base station funded under a State or Territory program.
Funded Solution	Mobile Coverage Solution or Trial Solution selected for funding under Round 5A of the Program.
Funding Cap	The maximum amount, per Proposed Solution, of Commonwealth funding available in accordance with section 3.1.
Grant Agreement	The agreement which sets out the relationship between the Commonwealth and the Grantee, and specifies the details of the grant and responsibilities in relation to the grant.
GrantConnect	The Australian Government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRGs.
Grant Opportunity	The specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential applicants. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant Selection Process.

Term	Definition
Grant Program	A 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement Program.
Grantee	The individual/organisation which has been selected to receive a grant.
High Priority Natural Disaster Prone Area	Has the meaning given in sections 5.1.3 and 5.1.4.
Intellectual Property	Includes: (a) all copyright (including rights in relation to phonograms and broadcasts); (b) all rights in relation to inventions, plant varieties, trademarks (including service marks), designs, circuit layouts; and (c) all other rights resulting from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields.
Ineligible Areas	The Urban Centres and Localities geographical units classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as 'Major Urban', i.e. with a population of 100,000 or more. The Department will provide map overlays showing Ineligible Areas to eligible applicants (upon request).
Lead Applicant	The responsible entity for application, funding and reporting purposes.
Macrocell	The widest range of cell sizes used in a mobile phone network served by a mobile base station, often used in rural areas and along highways. Macrocells generally provide larger coverage than small cell base stations or microcells, with a typical power output of tens of watts.
Merit Lists	The lists of Proposed Solutions that the Department will recommend to the Decision Maker when the assessment process and Value for Money consideration is completed (refer to section 8.5.1).
Mobile Coverage Solution	Has the meaning given in section 2.2.3.
Mobile Network Infrastructure Provider or MNIP	Has the meaning given in section 4.1.3.
Mobile Network Operator or MNO	Has the meaning given in section 4.1.2.
Natural Disaster	Has the meaning given in section 5.1.3.

Term	Definition
New External Antenna Coverage	Coverage from a Proposed Solution that will be able to be obtained with a mobile device using an external antenna accessory in areas that do not receive Existing External Antenna Coverage.
New Handheld Coverage	Coverage from a Proposed Solution that will be able to be obtained with a handheld mobile device in areas that do not receive Existing Handheld Coverage, in accordance with the meaning given in section 6.1.4.
Operational Costs (OPEX)	Costs for additional goods or services that are purchased for the ongoing operation of an asset.
Operational Period	The length of time that an asset is required to provide services for which it was funded under the Program.
Previous Funding Agreement	Has the meaning given in section 7.4.6
Program	The Mobile Black Spot Program.
Proposed Solution	Infrastructure for which an applicant has sought funding under Round 5A of the Program.
Reference Signal Received Power (RSRP)	The 4G received signal power in a long-term evolution (LTE) network measured in decibels per milliwatt (dBm).
Resilience Measures	Has the meaning given in section 5.2.3.
Selection Process	The method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the Eligibility Criteria and/or the Assessment Criteria.
Small Cell	A 'small cell' in a mobile phone network, with a typical range less than two kilometres. Often used to add network capacity in areas of dense population or very remote locations, utilising power control to limit coverage area. These are also known as microcells.
Trials Application Form	Has the meaning given in section 7.1, Stage 4.
Trial Solution	Has the meaning given in section 2.2.3.
Updated Previous Funding Agreement	Has the meaning given in section 7.4.6
Value for Money	'Value for money' in these Guidelines refers to achieving 'value with relevant money' based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations in accordance with the CGRGs and section 8.4.