



The Federal Redistribution 2002
VICTORIA



Suggestion Number Fourteen

**Mr Brian Loughnane, State Director
The Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division)**

Original maps relating to this submission
can be viewed at:-

Australian Electoral Commission
Level 22
Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Monday to Friday

Liberal Party of Australia
(Victorian Division)

Redistribution Submission

on behalf of the

Liberal Party of Australia

to the

Redistribution Committee for Victoria



April 19 2002

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19 April 2002

Redistribution Committee for Victoria
C/- Australian Electoral Commission
Level 22
Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Sirs,

I enclose the Liberal Party's proposals relating to the Redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries in Victoria.

We have attached 2 written copies of our submission which include detail maps for each Victorian Federal Division as well as an electronic copy and a MapInfo version of our suggested electorates.

If the need for further information arises, we would be prepared to provide this in either written or oral form.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Loughnane
State Director

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Estimated Enrolments and Future Enrolments by proposed Electoral Provinces and Districts
2. Maps of individual proposed Federal Divisions (in alphabetical order)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

1. Maps were produced from CDATE96© (Australian Bureau of Statistics) and MapInfo *Professional* V6.5© software.
2. Map Data supplied by PSMA *Australia* © 2002.

INTRODUCTION

This submission is made in response to the Australian Electoral Redistribution Committee's invitation to the public to suggest changes to the boundaries of Electoral Divisions in Victoria for the House of Representatives.

The Liberal Party acknowledges the consideration the Redistribution Committee must give to a number of legal requirements, namely:

- i) community of interests within the proposed Electoral Division, including economic, social and regional interests;
- ii) means of communication and travel within the proposed Electoral Division;
- iii) the physical features and area of the proposed Electoral Division; and
- iv) the boundaries of existing Divisions in the State or Territory

In preparing this submission, the Liberal Party has adhered strictly to the population constraints set out in the Act, and has also paid due regard to maintaining community of interests, means of communication and travel, physical features and existing boundaries. The recent State Redivision coming into effect at the next election dealt extensively with communities of interest and therefore should be considered as part of the deliberations of this redistribution.

Community of Interest

The Liberal Party recognises the difficulties faced in attempting to establish a precise definition of what constitutes a 'community.' However, the Redistribution Committee should, subject to numerical considerations, seek to create electorates that, where practical, reflect natural and pre-existing communities. This would suggest that, where a group of electors identify themselves as part of an existing 'community', all effort should be made to avoid dividing them between electorates.

This is not to suggest that a division should only comprise electors from a particular cultural, professional or socio-economic group. A typical 'community' will still include a diverse range of citizens. Individuals who shop in the same area read the same local newspaper or send their children to schools in a local area are likely to identify as part of a 'community.' However, they are still likely to encompass a broad range of socio-economic and cultural groupings.

Rather than seeking to create an artificial form of social homogeneity in electorates, the Redistribution Committee should strive to use "community of interest" as a concept, which defines geographical areas. This means considering community facilities such as shopping centres and schools, as well as local government areas, in defining electoral boundaries.

Travel and Communications

Ease of travel and communication is an important consideration when attempting to establish electoral boundaries. When a number of different localities need to be incorporated into an electorate, preference should be given to grouping those that are connected by railways, tramways or other major roads. All efforts should be made to avoid creating electorates whose different parts would have difficulty communicating with one another.

Where it becomes necessary to divide a community, the dividing line should ideally represent a barrier to communication corridors. As mentioned previously, such barriers often take the form of physical features, such as mountains and rivers, or major freeways or rail lines.

Area and Physical Features

The physical features of any electorate provide an invaluable guide in drawing electoral boundaries, as they generally complement the key considerations of community of interest and ease of communication. Inevitably, physical features that may be considered ‘natural’ boundaries for electoral divisions occur more frequently in rural areas. The Great Dividing Range, for example, is an obvious case in point. However, several major watercourses running through metropolitan Melbourne provide logical natural divisions for electoral districts. Pertinent examples include the Yarra River, Maribyrnong River, Merri Creek, Plenty River, Koonung Creek and Dandenong Creek.

Respect for Existing Electoral Boundaries

In previous redistributions, the Redistribution Committee has used existing electoral boundaries as a starting point for designing new ones.

Electoral boundaries themselves are one of the factors that comprise a community of interest, and unnecessary departures from well-established boundaries should, where possible, be avoided. While it is clear that, by definition, redistributions must alter existing electoral boundaries, the Liberal Party submits some weight must be placed upon the value of continuity. It becomes both confusing and burdensome for electors and their representatives if boundaries are constantly changing to accommodate changes in enrolment numbers. We contend that where it is possible to substantially maintain existing electorates and comply with statutory requirements, the Redistribution Committee should do so.

This is not to suggest that there are not cases where community of interest would be greatly enhanced by making changes to current electorate boundaries. Our submission contains several instances where some anomalies with existing boundaries have an opportunity to be rectified with respect to community of interest.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In addition to the above legal requirements for a redistribution, we believe the following are important principles that the Redistribution Committee should give due consideration in making their final determinations.

Population Tolerances

When drawing electoral boundaries it is important to recognise that Victoria's population grows in an uneven fashion. Section 66(3) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* requires that the Redistribution Committee create electorates that are not less than 96.5 per cent or more than 103.5 per cent of the average divisional enrolment at the 31st March 2006. In addition to this requirement, there should not be any instance where the population varies by more or less than 10 per cent of the average divisional population. The Liberal Party's submission complies fully with the legislative criteria.

Equality of Representation in Rural Electorates

Electors living in rural areas are afforded the same right to equal representation as those living in metropolitan areas. Accordingly, when drawing electoral boundaries, it is important to create rural electorates that can be easily navigated and adequately serviced by the Federal Member of Parliament. This means taking into account major transport corridors as well as the geographic size and composition of an electorate.

Local Government Boundaries

The Liberal Party believes the Redistribution Committee should have regard to existing local government (LGA) boundaries. They can very often serve as a useful and distinct division between communities of interest. In addition, local residents are aware of municipal boundaries as local government plays an important role in service delivery. However, electorates should not be designed by simply compiling adjoining local government areas as there will on occasion be overriding considerations.

Major Roads & Railways

Major roads have often provided an obvious boundary in metropolitan electorates. They frequently serve as postcode and locality divisions, and will often clearly denote a community of interest. There are, however, certain instances where a community will be grouped around or along a main road, and therefore using it as a boundary may ultimately divide a community. This situation applies equally in rural and metropolitan electorates.

Railway lines often provide a better guide to community boundaries than major roads. Not only do they tend to prove more of a barrier to cross-communication than roads, but using a railway as a boundary often eliminates the confusing situation where electors living on opposite sides of a given street end up residing in different electorates. A similar argument applies to freeways, and even to reservations for proposed freeway extensions.

Further Considerations

While the above material has outlined the most important factors we feel the Redistribution Committee should take into account, the list is by no means exhaustive. For example, it

may be appropriate to consider the history of electoral boundaries in a particular area. Boundaries that have been long established may be more worthy of preservation.

None of the principles discussed above can be absolute, and there will at times be conflict between them. On occasions, the tyranny of numbers may ultimately dictate a boundary that divides a community. While this is regrettable, there are instances where there are no other realistic options available. Conversely, if there is an electorate with an enrolment lower than the Victorian average (but still within statutory requirements), it may be more beneficial to accept the lower enrolment rather than to obtain extra numbers by dividing an existing community of interest, particularly in rural areas.

The Liberal Party submits that this redistribution process must be conducted fairly and impartially, and has no doubt that the Redistribution Committee will pursue an outcome that enhances electoral fairness. It is important to discount any proposal, which, regardless of its ostensible *raison d'être*, is intended to pursue a political advantage at the expense of electoral fairness and community of interest. The outcome of the redistribution must be fair, so that the Redistribution Committee's decisions will be accepted, and respected, by the public.

METHODOLOGY

Starting Points and Corridors

The drawing of electoral boundaries needs to begin from logical, fixed starting points. It is anticipated that the Redistribution Committee will work both inwards from the corners of the state and outwards from the centre of the Melbourne metropolitan area. With regard to this process, the corners of the State effectively number six:

- The north-west
- The south-west
- The tip of Gippsland
- The north-eastern corner of the Great Dividing Range;
- The Bellarine Peninsula
- The Mornington Peninsula.

With respect to the metropolitan area, we have used the mouth of the Yarra River as a starting point, and proceeded outwards by a system of corridors.

There are a number of advantages in this “corridor” approach to drawing electoral boundaries. Physical features are important in that they often separate communities, municipalities and localities. Most of the current electoral boundaries respect these divisions, and we feel they should continue to do so.

Naming of Electorates

This submission does not recommend any changes to the names of existing electoral Divisions. The current names reflect either significant localities or features within electorates (eg. Corio Bay, the Mallee) or recognise individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to Australia (eg. Caroline Chisholm, Sir Robert Menzies). In both instances, the names are well accepted by the community, and there is nothing to be gained by changing them.

PROPOSED FEDERAL DIVISIONS

Aston

The boundaries of this electorate have been altered to better reflect community of interest whilst still allowing the Division to remain within population tolerance levels.

- The communities of Vermont, Forest Hill and Heathmont are currently split between Aston and Deakin. Our new boundaries reunite these communities into the electorate of Deakin, as these suburbs share a community of interest with Ringwood (in particular Eastland Shopping Centre) and Mitcham.
- In the east, the boundary has been reshaped and now follows Lysterfield Road, to allow for the inclusion of the remainder of Lysterfield. This is consistent with changes made in the recent State Redivision undertaken by the Victorian Electoral Commission.
- In the north-east, the areas bordered by Boronia Road, Dorset Road, Burwood Highway and Scoresby Road have been brought in to account for population changes and to consolidate the suburb of Ferntree Gully into a single electorate. This reflects natural communication patterns, as the Knox City shopping complex is the major commercial centre for residents of Ferntree Gully.
- To account for population changes, we have altered the western boundary and included the area bounded by Highbury, Springvale and Waverley Roads in Aston. This territory is currently in the Division of Bruce.

Ballarat

Ballarat faces the problem common to electorates throughout non-metropolitan parts of Victoria – it is underpopulated. Some of these electorates could move towards the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne if it is to retain the population levels required by the Act.

- The population decline in the western end of the electorate means it would move east, towards Melbourne, and take in territory where population growth is projected.
- In the electorate's west, the boundary has been moved to follow the Ballarat City Council/Hepburn Shire Council boundary.
- In the east, the boundary has moved further east to the Moorabool Shire/Melton City Council local government boundary.
- This has the effect of placing Bacchus Marsh into the electorate, as this region is expected to undergo major population growth in the next decade. The Western Highway runs through Bacchus Marsh en route to Ballarat, providing a clear community of interest with that regional centre. The regional nature of Bacchus Marsh means it is better placed in a wholly regional Division than in one containing Melbourne's outer suburbs.

Batman

The only alterations made to this Division are a flow-on effect from changes made in the neighbouring electorates of McEwen and Jagajaga.

- The eastern boundary now continues up Darebin Creek to the existing northern boundary to accommodate a small section of residential territory currently in Jagajaga. There are few options for other changes, as the Darebin and Merri Creeks are obvious natural boundaries that should not be crossed.

Bendigo

In this instance, the neighbouring Division of Murray requires a population increase, and this the electorate must move further south, along the Calder Highway towards the metropolitan area.

- The northern boundary moves back to be just south of Woodvale and continues to the Campaspe River, which forms the first part of the eastern boundary.
- In the south of the electorate, the boundary has been extended to incorporate the localities of Malmsbury, Kyneton and Lancefield from the neighbouring electorate of Burke. These communities (in particular Malmsbury and Kyneton) all share the Calder Highway as a major transport link with Bendigo. Given that Bendigo is the nearest regional centre for these townships, and population levels permit, it is preferable to place them in the Bendigo electorate.

Bruce

Our submission alters the boundaries of Bruce and changes its orientation to a more appropriate east-west direction, which better reflects major transport patterns in the area.

- The southern portion of Chisholm (below Waverley Road) moves into this Division, to better reflect communication patterns. The localities of both Oakleigh and Clayton are now included in Bruce. This is appropriate given that Oakleigh is linked to Clayton by the Princes Highway, as well as by a train line.
- The northern section of Bruce (bordered by Blackburn Rd, Springvale Rd and Waverley Rd) is ceded to Aston and Chisholm to stabilise population in those electorates.
- To enhance existing community of interest and to satisfy population requirements, the southern boundary has been extended slightly to follow Jones Rd, the Princes Highway and Stud Rd.

Burke

Again, the need to increase the population of rural seats throughout the state means that certain regional Divisions such as Burke need to move closer to metropolitan Melbourne. In this redrawn Burke, we have attempted to create an electorate comprised of ‘satellite’ communities – the populations and character of which mean there is an existing community of interest.

- The redrawn electorate shrinks substantially in physical size, ceding territory in its west to Ballarat, in its north to Bendigo, and in its south to Lalor.
- On its western side, Burke’s boundary is the same as the Macedon Ranges LGA boundary, continuing up the Campaspe River to the northern boundary. Local Government boundaries are also used on the eastern border with McEwen.
- The major centres contained within the electorate, such as Woodend, Gisborne and Sunbury are all ‘satellite’ communities. A significant number of people within these communities travel to Melbourne to work each day, but the rural nature of their lifestyle create a clear community of interest.
- In the southern end of Burke, the areas of Roxburgh Park, Meadow Heights, Greenvale and Diggers Rest have been included to consolidate communities where young families with similar aspirations and values are moving in increasing numbers, again establishing an important community of interest.

Calwell

The changes made to Burke and McEwen mean Calwell can move further south and encompass some of the long-established residential areas of Melbourne's west, along with parts of the western metropolitan growth corridor, providing long term electoral stability.

- The older residential suburbs of St Albans and Deer Park (north of the Western Highway) are now in the same federal electorate. This is appropriate given their similar demographic composition.
- The growth areas of Taylors Hill and Hillside have been included in the electorate, so as to maintain a relatively stable population over the course of the next decade.

Casey

While the population of this electorate is forecast to remain relatively stable, its structure needs to change to ensure the population in neighbouring seats can also remain within tolerance.

- To increase the population of Menzies to required levels, we have removed a small section midway along the western border to place the residential community of Croydon Hills in Menzies.
- To compensate for the loss of this population, we have included the areas along the Warburton Highway, giving the electorate a similar structure to the existing Legislative Assembly District of Evelyn. This has the effect of bringing the communities of Woori Yallock, Yarra Junction and Warburton and their surrounds into the electorate. These towns are all situated along the Warburton Highway, and their residents generally travel to Lilydale to work and to access retail, health and recreational facilities. Thus, it is logical to place both Lilydale and the Warburton Highway corridor in the same electorate.

Chisholm

The current Chisholm electorate (along with Bruce) does not make adequate use of the natural east-west communication patterns in this section of the eastern corridor. Our submission seeks to rectify this, and produces a Chisholm electorate that is more east-west in orientation whilst providing minimum disruption to existing community of interest.

- The southern boundary has been redrawn to follow Waverley Road. This means the electorate is not crossing over the Monash Freeway and the Princes Highway, both of which are major barriers to cross communication.
- By moving the top section of the eastern boundary to Surrey Road/Blackburn Road, we are able to incorporate parts of the Blackburn community into Chisholm.

Corangamite

As is the case with rural seats, Corangamite needs to gain population. As the neighbouring Division of Wannon must take more population from rural areas, the only realistic solution is to take in more territory on the Bellarine Peninsula, where new housing developments will witness a population increase over the next decade. Thus:

- The western boundary has been left unaltered. This means Lake Corangamite (from which the Division's name is derived) remains in the electorate, along with the

regional centre of Colac, which serves as the major commercial centre for the outlying dairy country in the electorate.

- The northern boundary moves further south to run in line with the Barwon River, a natural boundary which serves as the Golden Plains Shire border.
- In the east, the boundary has shifted to permit the inclusion of Drysdale and Clifton Springs, providing the required population increase.
- On these new boundaries, all the major coastal centres on the Bellarine Peninsula have moved into a single electorate, thereby solidifying a significant community of interest.

Corio

The alterations made to this Division result from the change in the south-east boundary and the loss of the Drysdale/Clifton Springs to Corangamite.

- The eastern boundary moves back along the Princes Freeway to the Werribee River, which represents a clear natural boundary. Whilst this does involve dividing the locality of Werribee, the river is a well defined, easily identifiable boundary for local residents and will serve as the future boundary for the Legislative Assembly district of Tarneit.
- The design of this electorate uses the Princes Freeway as its backbone, uniting localities which view Geelong as their major commercial centre.

Deakin

The changes made to this Division seek to enhance community of interest throughout the eastern suburbs.

- The southern boundary has been extended to Dandenong Creek, consistent with the Knox LGA boundary. The creek is an obvious natural boundary, and already serves as a clear dividing line between communities in the area.
- This has the effect of uniting the suburbs of Heathmont, Vermont and Forest Hill into the one electorate. This greatly enhances community of interest, as residents in these areas make use of schools, retail and commercial facilities (particularly the Eastland shopping complex) currently in the Deakin electorate.
- In the north of the seat, the current boundary isolates 526 electors from the Maroondah City Council. Our submission rectifies this by making better use of the local government boundary.

Dunkley

The neighbouring electorate of Flinders is overpopulated on its current boundaries. To rectify this, we have sought to remove territory into contiguous Divisions. In the case of Dunkley, this has been done in a way that is consistent with communication patterns in the region and enhances community of interest.

- The eastern boundary has been extended and now runs along Pearcedale Road. This has the effect of re-uniting the Langwarrin community into a single federal electorate.
- In the south, the boundary now runs along Baxter-Tooradin Road. This allows the inclusion of Baxter in the electorate, which is appropriate given that community's

strong commercial and recreational links with Frankston. In addition, Baxter is currently placed in the Victorian Legislative Assembly District of Frankston

Flinders

Flinders needs to undergo a population decrease to remain within population tolerance levels over the coming decade. Again, we have attempted to do this in manner that is least disruptive to existing community of interest.

- The northern boundary has been moved back and follows the course of Ballarto Road (a boundary for the redrawn Legislative Assembly district of Cranbourne). The transfer of Cranbourne East to the neighbouring electorate of Holt will consolidate an emerging community of interest. The Cranbourne region is one of the fastest-growing areas in metropolitan Melbourne, and it is mainly younger families moving in. Given that they are likely to share similar outlooks and aspirations, it is preferable to have them in the same electorate.
- The contraction of the eastern boundary is reflective of the fact that the Gippsland region needs to boost its population. We have utilised the Bass River as an obvious natural boundary in the region.

Gellibrand

This electorate has been redesigned with a more appropriate east-west orientation, emphasising the typical communication patterns in this region.

- In the electorate's west, the new boundaries correlate, in large part, with the Hobson's Bay LGA boundary. This permits the inclusion of new residential areas in Laverton and Altona – reuniting the entirety of Altona in a single electorate.
- In the north, the boundary has been moved back to follow the Western Highway (a significant boundary). This moves the more established residential territory surrounding Sunshine North and Albion into the Calwell electorate, providing much needed population stability in that electorate.

Gippsland

The entire Gippsland region in Victoria's east is underpopulated, and thus there is a need to make some significant changes to the electorates in that region – Gippsland and McMillan. Again, the most practical solution is to move west, towards the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne, where new residential developments are expected to witness large population increases in coming years.

The only alternative strategy available (without splitting a major population centre) is to create an electorate that stretches from the tip of Phillip Island in the west to Mallacoota in the east. A single electorate covering this much territory would be both impractical and undesirable; its sheer size and the competing interests it would contain could not enhance any sense of community among its residents, and would make effective representation virtually impossible.

We believe that the most workable solution is as follows:

- In the case of the Gippsland electorate, the western boundary has been moved to the Morwell River, thus including the regional centres of Morwell and Traralgon in the electorate.
- This achieves the dual aims of boosting Gippsland's population whilst not isolating the communities of Morwell and Traralgon. Both these towns are linked with other regional centres in Gippsland by the Princes Highway, and serve as major commercial centres for those living in outlying rural areas.

Goldstein

This electorate substantially retains its existing structure, with two very minor amendments:

- 163 electors from the City of Kingston are currently isolated by the eastern boundary, below South Road. Our submission corrects this anomaly, and Goldstein now fully encompasses the City of Bayside within its borders.
- Due to the slight overpopulation of Melbourne Ports, and to reduce voter confusion, we have elected to extent the northern boundary along Neerim Road, south of Caulfield Racecourse.

Higgins

Where possible, we have tried not to dramatically alter existing electoral boundaries. As there is no compelling reason pertaining to population or community of interest to alter the boundaries of this electorate, and given the limited options for doing so due to the use of the Yarra River as a boundary, we have chosen not to make changes to this electorate.

Holt

The changes made to this electorate are twofold; to unite the entirety of Cranbourne in one electorate, and in the process, to improve the community of interest along the South Gippsland Highway.

- The southern boundary has moved in a south-east direction to bring Cranbourne into the electorate. Cranbourne shares many demographic similarities with the rapidly-growing areas of Narre Warren and Hampton Park.
- All boundaries used in this electorate are existing electoral boundaries for at least one level of government, and accordingly this design for Holt unites existing community structures.

Hotham

The changes made to Hotham unite localities of similar demographic composition, and takes account of major infrastructure projects that will occur in the near future, and will present an obvious barrier to cross communication.

- The northern boundary remains intact, with a slight extension to include Noble Park, Keysborough and Springvale South. These suburbs share a very distinct community of interest based on their demographics and daily lifestyles.

- In the southern end of the electorate, the existing Springvale Road extension coupled with the construction of the Dingley Bypass has produced a significant physical division between Dingley Village and Springvale South. Residents of Dingley Village conduct much of their daily business in Mordialloc, whereas Springvale South electors are more inclined to travel to Springvale.
- These enhancements and the resulting population changes engender an alteration in the south-western corner, where we have elected to run along the existing boundary for the state electorate of Mordialloc, as retained at the recent State Redivision.

Indi

With the consolidation of the entire Strathbogie Shire into McEwen, there is a need to increase Indi's population by integrating regional population centres along the Murray River in the north. This avoids disrupting community of interest in the areas surrounding Shepparton.

- In the west, we have brought the Murray town of Cobram into the electorate. This is part of the Moira Shire, much of falls within Indi's current boundaries.
- We have removed Euroa from the south of Indi due to its clearly defined community of interest with Nagambie. The two communities share responsibilities in service delivery (for example, the common Board of Management for the Euroa Hospital and Nagambie Hospital).

Isaacs

The alterations made here are an effort to consolidate community of interest in the northern part of the electorate, and account for the loss of Cranbourne to the Division of Holt.

- As is the case in Hotham, the Dingley Bypass/Springvale Road extension provides a clear boundary as it impedes cross communication.
- The redesigned electorate is more coastal in nature, reflecting the tendency of residents in Dingley Village to use Mordialloc as their main centre for shopping and related purposes.
- Cranbourne has been ceded to Holt as it shares no clear community of interest with other localities in Isaacs. This change also allows us to make more effective use of existing state and local government boundaries.

Jagajaga

The new design for this electorate makes more effective use of existing local government boundaries

- The new boundaries are centred on Banyule Council which has Western Ring Road as its northern most boundary.
- Removed the majority of the Nillumbik Shire from the Division (east of Ryans Road and Bolton Road) to better reflect the natural affinity Eltham and Research have with each other.

Kooyong

As is the case with Higgins, there are no major reasons to alter the boundaries of this electorate. In any case, the extensive use of the Yarra River limits options for doing so. Likewise, the top half of the eastern boundary is consistent with the Boroondara LGA border, further limiting opportunities for change.

La Trobe

The current Division of La Trobe needs to shed electors in order to remain within tolerance by 2006. Accordingly, we have suggested the following:

- In the north-west, the areas bounded by Boronia Road, Dorset Road, Burwood Highway and Scoresby Road have been transferred to Aston, accounting for population changes and to consolidate the suburb of Ferntree Gully into a single electorate. This reflects natural communication patterns, as the Knox City shopping complex is the major commercial centre for residents of Ferntree Gully.
- There is no opportunity to make changes to the northern boundary, as it is a mountain range, and such clear physical boundaries should not be crossed.

Lalor

Changes made to neighbouring electorates have resulted in the following recommendations for Lalor:

- The Division's orientation is now more north-south, and incorporates the growth area of Melton, along with the outer metropolitan suburbs of Werribee and Hoppers Crossing.
- To ensure continuing electoral stability, the developing residential estates around Point Cook are also included, along with the stable population centres of Ardeer along with Sunshine West.

Mallee

Of all Victoria's electorates, Mallee is most in need of increased elector numbers. To ensure there is adequate representation for rural communities, it is important to retain the existing number of rural electorates. Accordingly, we have sought to restructure electoral boundaries in a way that unites the local community in the southern end of Mallee. The changes are as follows:

- To boost population we have annexed the communities of Stawell and Great Western from the neighbouring electorate of Ballarat. These two centres are linked by the Western Highway, and Stawell is the nearest commercial centre for those living in and around Great Western.
- The inclusion of Avoca and surrounds (from the west of Ballarat) solidifies an existing community of interest based on the winemaking and tourism industries.

Maribyrnong

The existing structure of Maribyrnong is not cohesive in the sense that it divides existing communities of interests, and could make more effective use of local government boundaries. To achieve this end, we have:

- Centred Maribyrnong on the City of Moonee Valley local government boundaries, thereby uniting the suburb of Ascot Vale and Flemington with other suburbs contained in that municipality.
- We have followed the Western Highway as a logical southern boundary, as it is a clear barrier to cross-communication.
- In the north-west, we have annexed residential territory in Keilor to make use of the new state boundary for the seat of Niddrie in an effort to reduce voter confusion.

McEwen

Under the current electoral boundaries, McEwen is a mix of traditional rural and regional areas together with outer metropolitan suburbs.

While, for population reasons, it is necessary to have a small portion of fringe metropolitan areas as part of the seat it is important to choose an area which has a clear affinity with the balance of the McEwen electorate. Hence we recommend including parts of the Shires of Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges, as parts of these Shires share with other parts of the electorate new industries like tourism, grape growing, aquaculture and seed growing.

To enhance the electorate's community of interest, we have re-drawn McEwen's boundaries to better reflect the rural and regional character of the seat and to ensure community of interest based on both industry and lifestyle.

In the north of the electorate, the boundary has moved to permit the inclusion of Euroa and Violet Town in the electorate, thus reuniting them with the remainder of the Shire of Strathbogie. There are compelling reasons for these communities to be included in McEwen, relating mainly to shared responsibilities in service delivery (for example, the common Board of Management for the Euroa Hospital and Nagambie Hospital). In addition, both these centres are situated on the Hume Highway, the major transport corridor through the region. Communities situated along the Hume corridor share similar concerns and economic interests, and would be best served by having a single MP representing their views.

- The outer suburban communities of Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park, which share a strong community of interest with other outer northern suburbs have been removed from McEwen and placed in a new outer urban-based Burke. Residents in these localities share educational, health, recreational and commercial facilities with other urban fringe areas to the north and North West of Melbourne rather than with the rural parts of McEwen.
- Epping North and the newer Mill Park Lakes Estate both share a natural affinity with the remainder of Epping and thus have been moved into the Division of Scullin. This will improve community of interest, as these areas share work, education and recreational lifestyles more in common with the other outer northern suburbs which make up the electorate of Scullin than with the rural communities throughout the rest of McEwen.
- Eltham and surrounding territory from the Nillumbik Shire has been brought into the electorate from Jagajaga. This not only unites more of the Nillumbik Shire in McEwen but also reinforces its links with the Shire of Yarra Ranges, with which it shares many common interests. These include the development of new agricultural, aqua cultural and tourism opportunities and a shared desire to pursue

environmentally sustainable development and improve transport links throughout the region. The Eltham to Yarra Glen Road provides not only the key link for the two shires but is a shared responsibility for dealing with the demands of increased traffic. Accordingly, it is preferable to have Eltham and surrounds placed in a common federal electorate.

- In the south of the electorate, the communities of Woori Yallock, Yarra Junction and Warburton and their surrounds move into the Division of Casey. These towns are all situated along the Warburton Highway, and their residents generally travel to Lilydale to work and to access retail, health, welfare and recreational facilities. Thus, it is logical to place both Lilydale and the Warburton Highway corridor in the same electorate.

McMillan

The need to increase the Gippsland electorate's population has afforded the opportunity to redesign McMillan in a fashion that will ensure long term electoral stability throughout the entire Gippsland region.

- The new electorate has a more north-south orientation, with the population centres of Inverloch, Leongatha, Wonthaggi and Korumburra moving into the electorate. These townships all serve as centres for the dairy and agricultural industries that are an integral part of the local economy.

Melbourne

The changes made to Maribyrnong mean Ascot Vale and Flemington leave the electorate and accordingly there is a need to gain elector numbers elsewhere. Our submission does this in a way that improves community of interest.

- In the north of the seat, the boundary has been extended to incorporate more residential territory in Brunswick to further consolidate community of interest around the Sydney Road shopping precinct.

Melbourne Ports

Aside from the minor change made to the contiguous boundary with Goldstein on Neerim Road, we have not recommended any changes to the existing boundaries of this Division.

Menzies

This Division needs to boost its population in a way that does not have an adverse impact on existing community of interest. Given that the Yarra River restricts alternative options, we have suggested two minor amendments to the current boundaries:

- In the south-east, we have annexed the residential suburb of Croydon Hills. This permits the use of a current state electoral boundary for the Legislative Assembly district of Warrandyte.
- 526 electors from Maroondah City Council currently in Menzies have been transferred into Deakin.

Murray

On its current boundaries, Murray is underpopulated. The most logical approach in this instance is to incorporate new regional centres to the south that complement the character of this rural electorate. We are limited in the west by the need to maintain stable population in Mallee.

- In extending the southern boundary, we include the rural communities such as Elmore, Inglewood and Goornong.
- Residents of Elmore and surrounds feel an affinity with the Echuca region and are linked by the Northern Highway.
- In this instance, with Cobram having been ceded to Indi, there is no option but to move south towards Bendigo to stabilise the Division's population.

Scullin

The changes made to Jagajaga and McEwen present an opportunity to unite the entire Epping and South Morang communities into a single electorate.

- The inclusion of Epping North/South Morang enhances community of interest insofar as residents in this area use Epping Plaza and the new Plenty Valley Shopping Centre as their major retail centres.
- Likewise, residents in the northern section of the electorate use educational facilities in the current Scullin electorate.
- In the south-east, we have made use of local government boundaries, and transferred the Banyule City Council municipality to Jagajaga.

Wannon

The scope for change is limited by the South Australian border in the west, and the coast in the south. Thus, we have redrawn the northern boundary to achieve the required population increase.

- In the north, the boundary has been redesigned to make use of the Little Desert National Park boundary, as well as the Shire of West Wimmera local government boundary.
- In the east, Bannockburn, Cressy and Inverleigh have been moved in from Corangamite, to provide the electorate with stable population. These communities are all serviced by the Hamilton Highway, permitting effective representation.
- All areas to the north of the Western Highway have been transferred to other electorates, making use of a clear boundary.

Wills

This electorate moves further north, mainly as a result of changes to adjoining Divisions. As the electorate is quite stable from a population point of view, we have attempted to solidify community of interest.

- The northern boundary is extended to include the suburbs of Westmeadows, Dallas and Broadmeadows, Jacana and Gladstone Park.
- Residents in these areas will tend to use the Broadmeadows Town Centre as a major recreational centre, as well as for retail and nearby educational facilities (eg. Kangan Batman TAFE).

Attachment 1

Estimated Enrolments

and

Future Enrolments

by

Proposed Electoral Divisions

ESTIMATED ENROLMENT BY PROPOSED FEDERAL DIVISION

Federal Division	Estimate 18/1/2002		Estimate 31/3/2006	
	Voters	Deviation	Voters	Deviation
Aston	90694	2.95%	96385	2.67%
Ballarat	87937	-0.18%	91907	-2.10%
Batman	88287	0.22%	90840	-3.24%
Bendigo	87981	-0.13%	91386	-2.66%
Bruce	94246	6.98%	97047	3.37%
Burke	79580	-9.66%	93990	0.12%
Calwell	86407	-1.91%	96828	3.14%
Casey	90681	2.94%	95595	1.82%
Chisholm	87346	-0.85%	91833	-2.18%
Corangamite	87110	-1.12%	91925	-2.08%
Corio	91488	3.85%	97081	3.41%
Deakin	90754	3.02%	93651	-0.25%
Dunkley	90295	2.50%	94913	1.10%
Flinders	85128	-3.37%	92200	-1.79%
Gellibrand	91973	4.40%	94907	1.09%
Gippsland	90640	2.89%	91964	-2.04%
Goldstein	91296	3.64%	96000	2.26%
Higgins	87951	-0.16%	92065	-1.94%
Holt	82590	-6.25%	95004	1.20%
Hotham	90425	2.65%	93246	-0.68%
Indi	87138	-1.08%	90619	-3.48%
Isaacs	87273	-0.93%	94026	0.15%
Jagajaga	89780	1.92%	93604	-0.30%
Kooyong	88343	0.28%	92572	-1.40%
La Trobe	81923	-7.00%	97062	3.39%
Lalor	85778	-2.63%	96730	3.03%
Mallee	90127	2.31%	92333	-1.65%
Maribyrnong	91163	3.48%	95845	2.09%
McEwen	86789	-1.48%	93207	-0.72%
McMillan	81476	-7.51%	96401	2.68%
Melbourne	88030	-0.07%	94269	0.41%
Melbourne Ports	89388	1.47%	95095	1.29%
Menzies	87852	-0.27%	92242	-1.75%
Murray	88551	0.52%	92124	-1.87%
Scullin	79958	-9.23%	92476	-1.50%
Wannon	92227	4.69%	92630	-1.33%
Wills	90849	3.13%	93635	-0.26%
VICTORIA	3259454		3473637	

Attachment 2

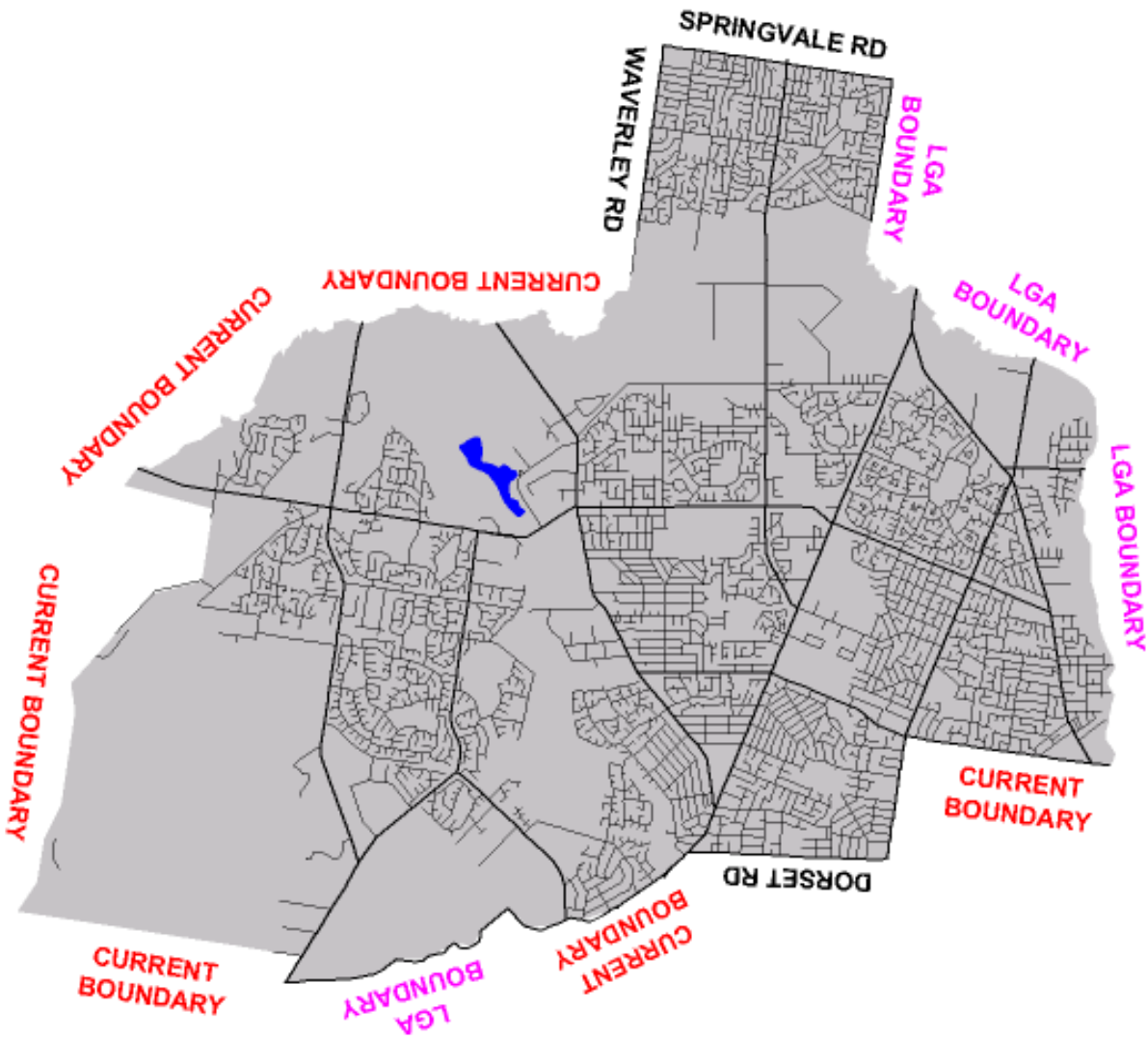
Maps of individual

**Proposed Electoral
Divisions
in
alphabetical order**

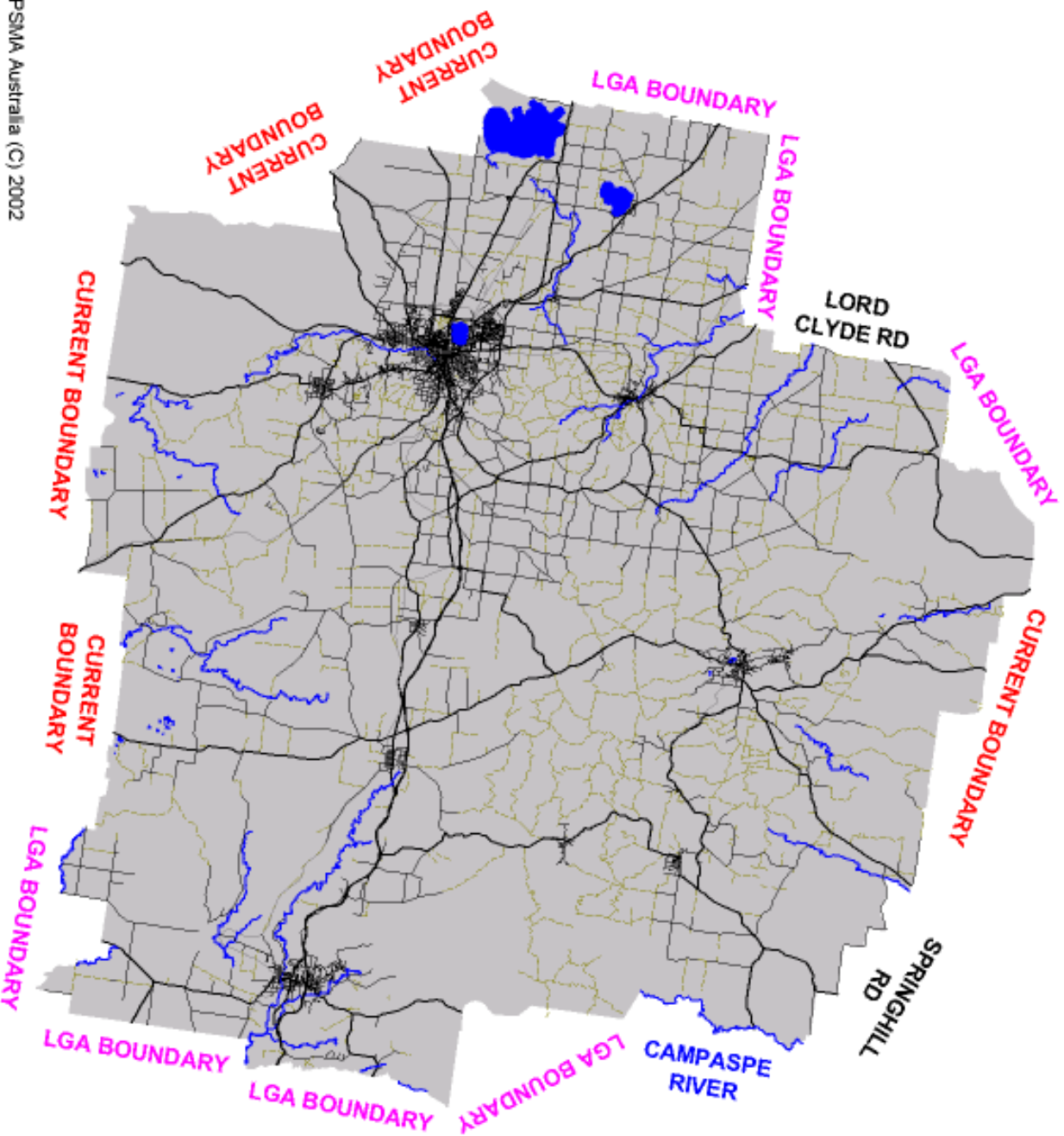
Map Label Legend

Current Boundary	=	A current Federal boundary for that Division.
Existing Federal Boundary	=	A current Federal boundary for an adjoining Division.
LGA Boundary	=	A current Local Government boundary.
Current State Boundary	=	A current Victorian Legislative Assembly boundary
Future State Boundary	=	A boundary for a Victorian Legislative Assembly electorate which will come into effect at the next State Election.

ASTON



BALLARAT



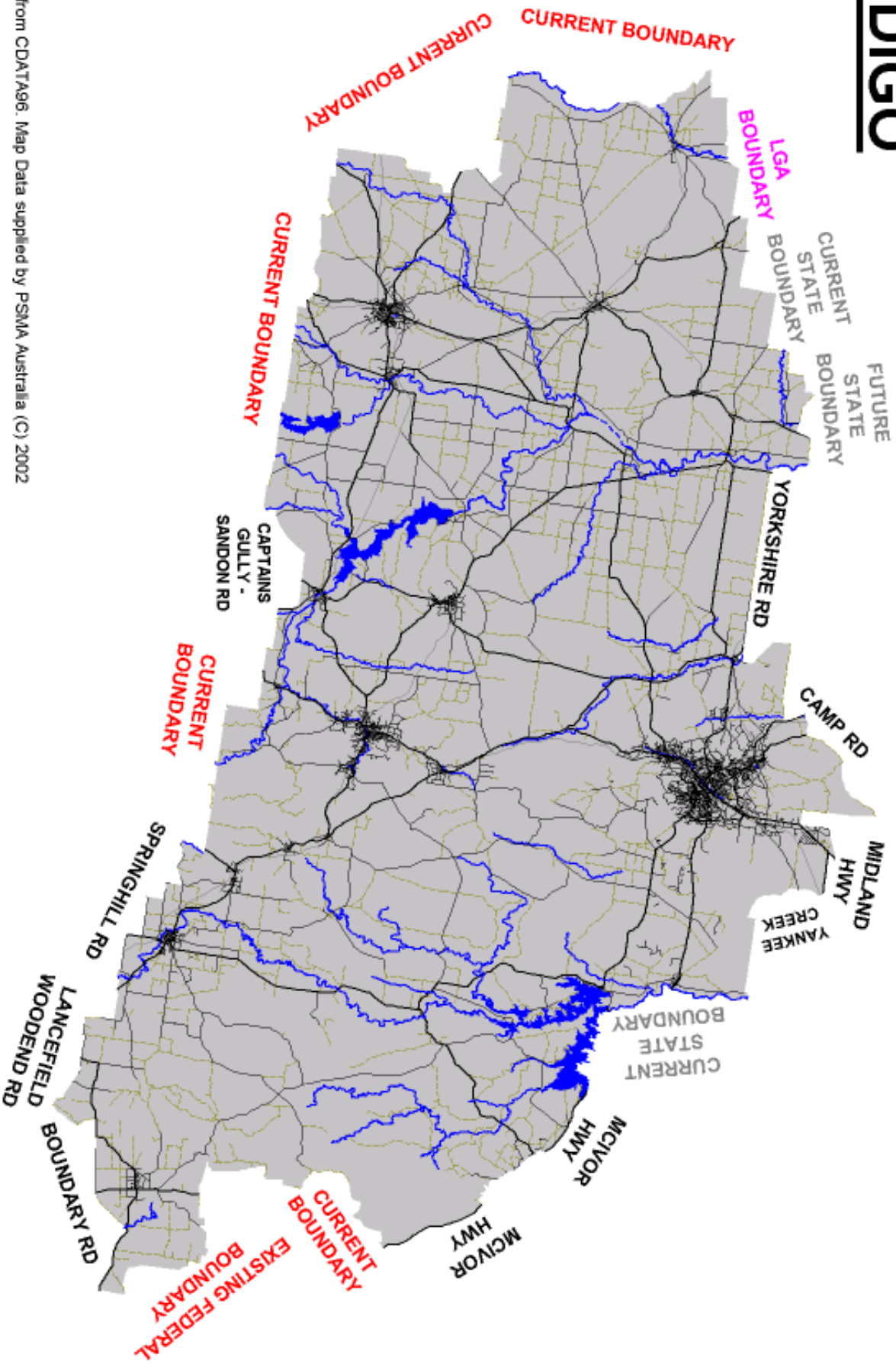
BATMAN



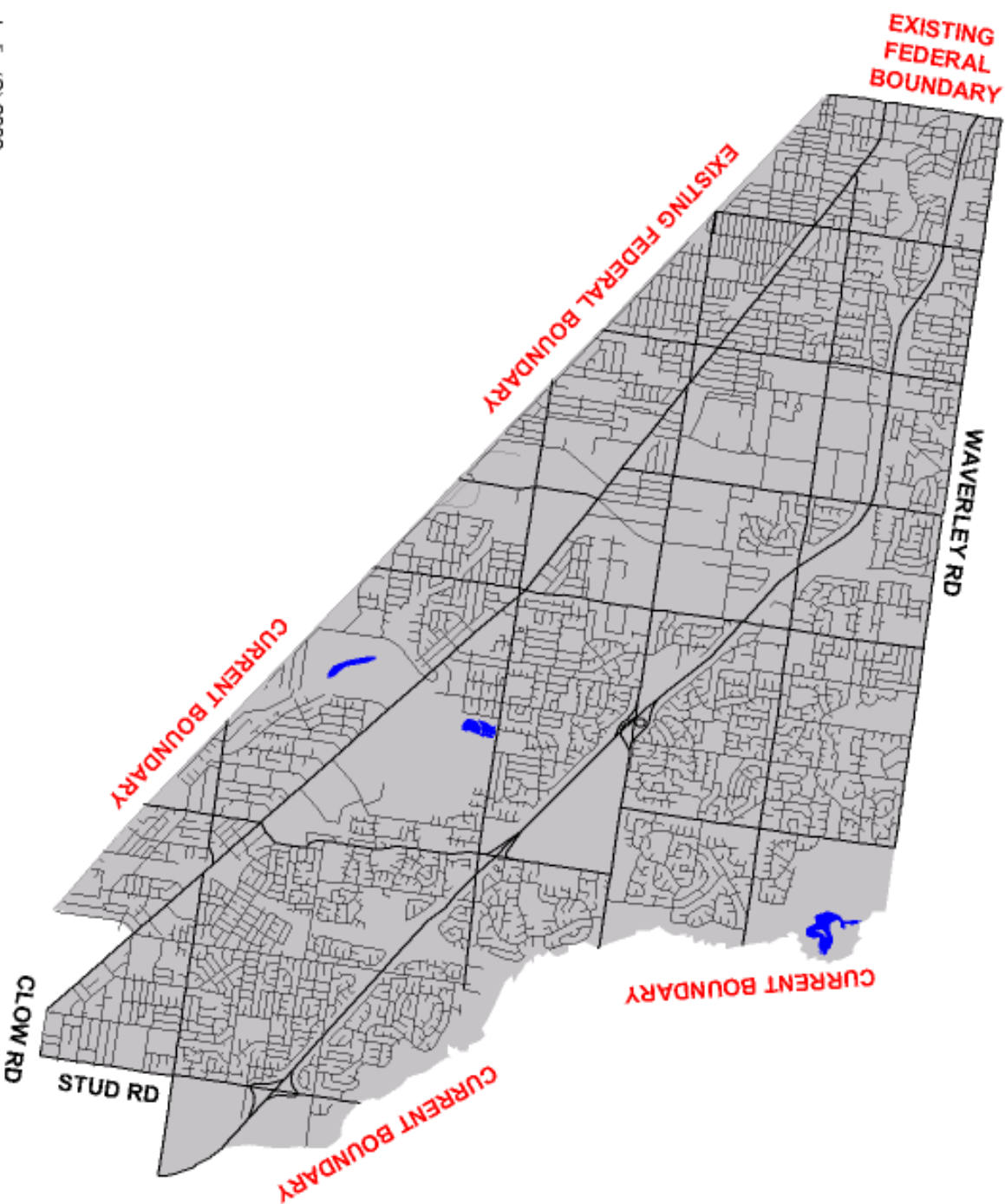
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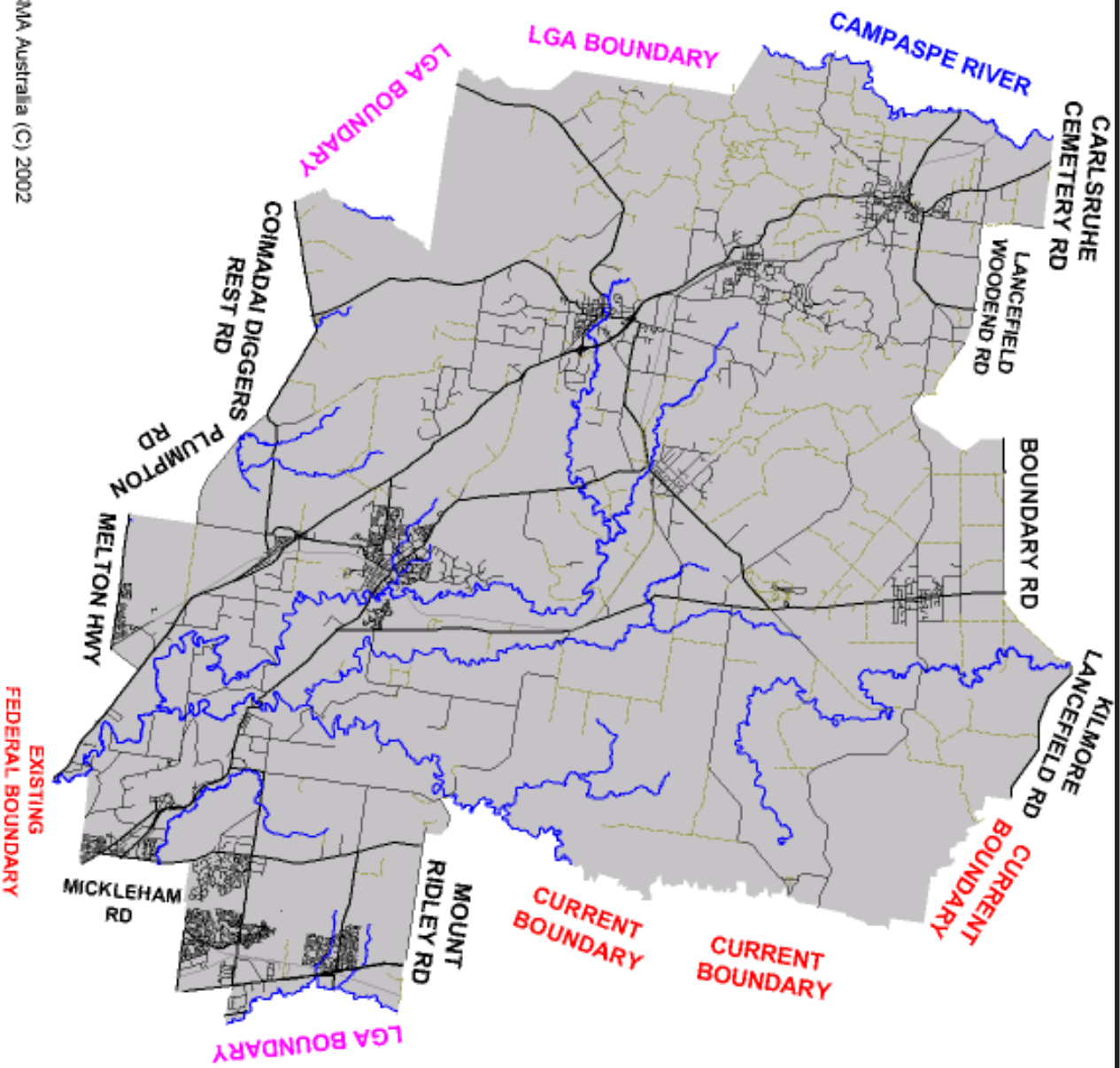
BENDIGO



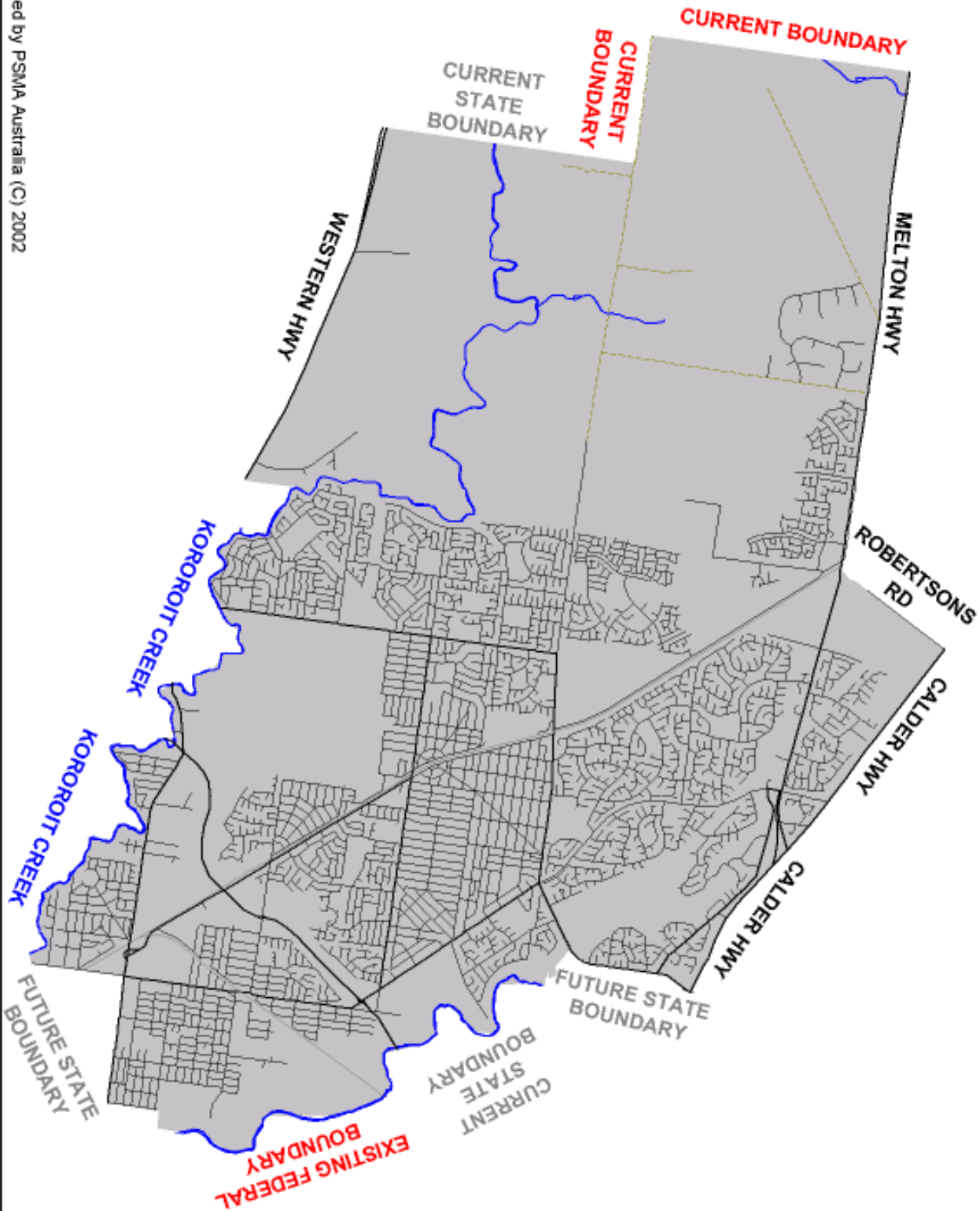
BRUCE



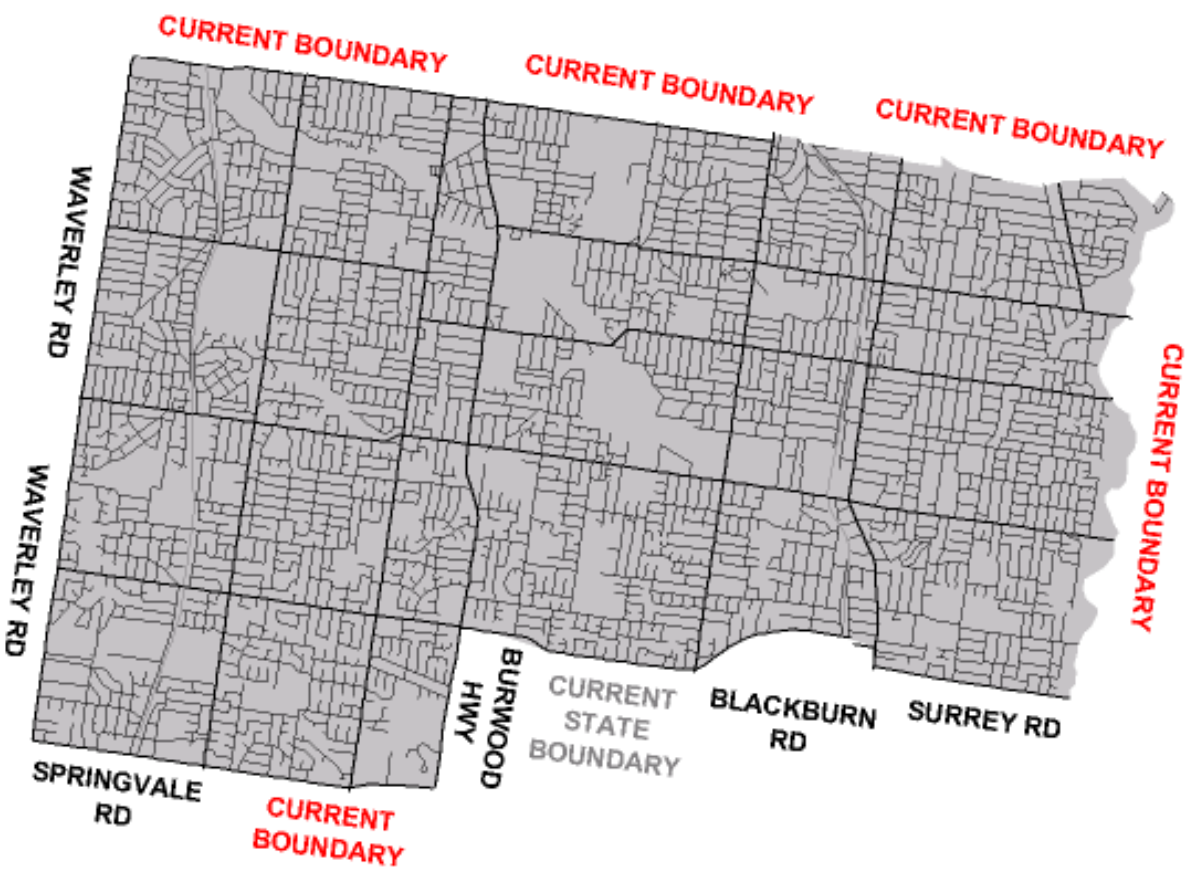
BURKE



CALWELL

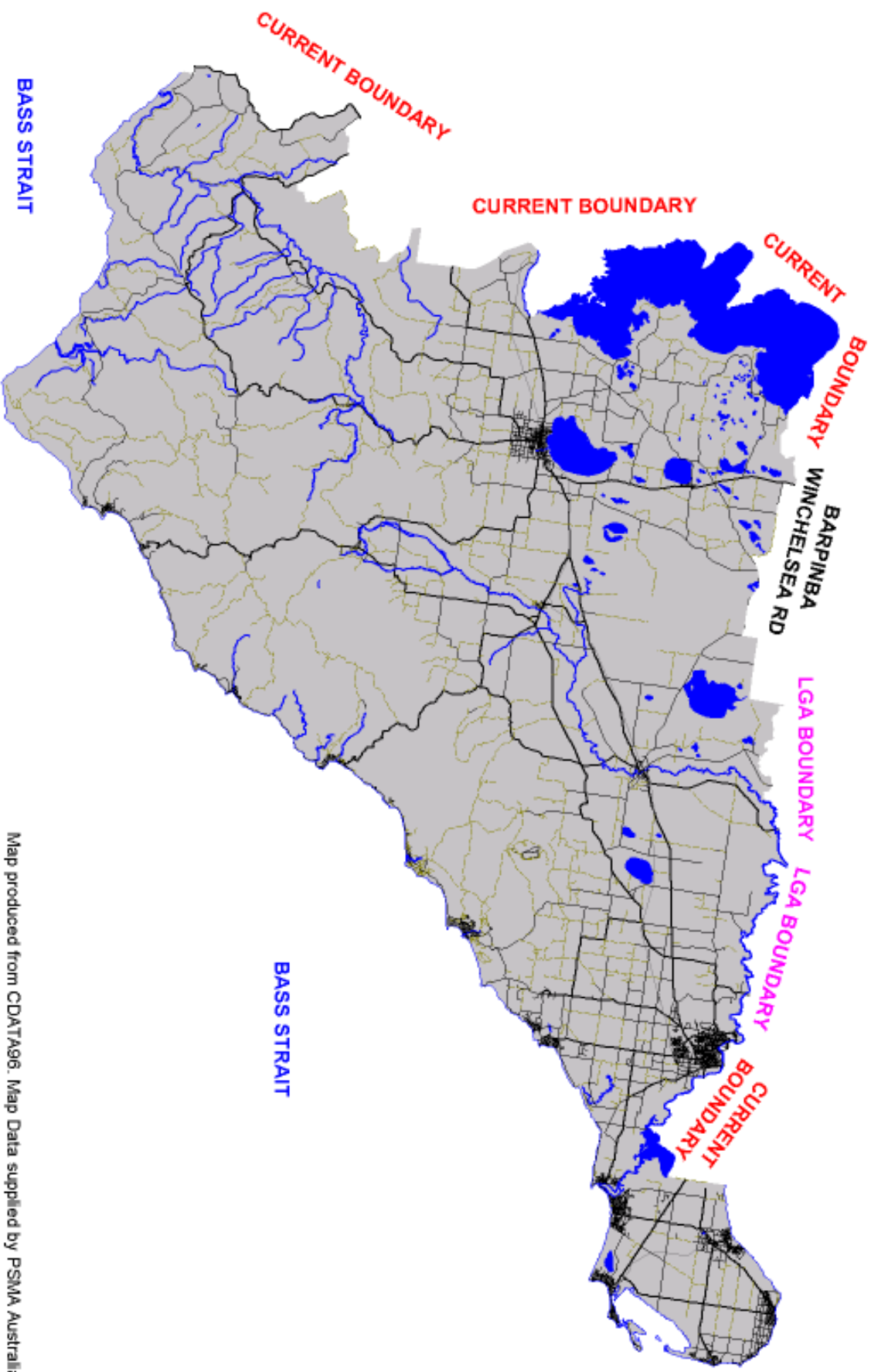


CHISHOLM



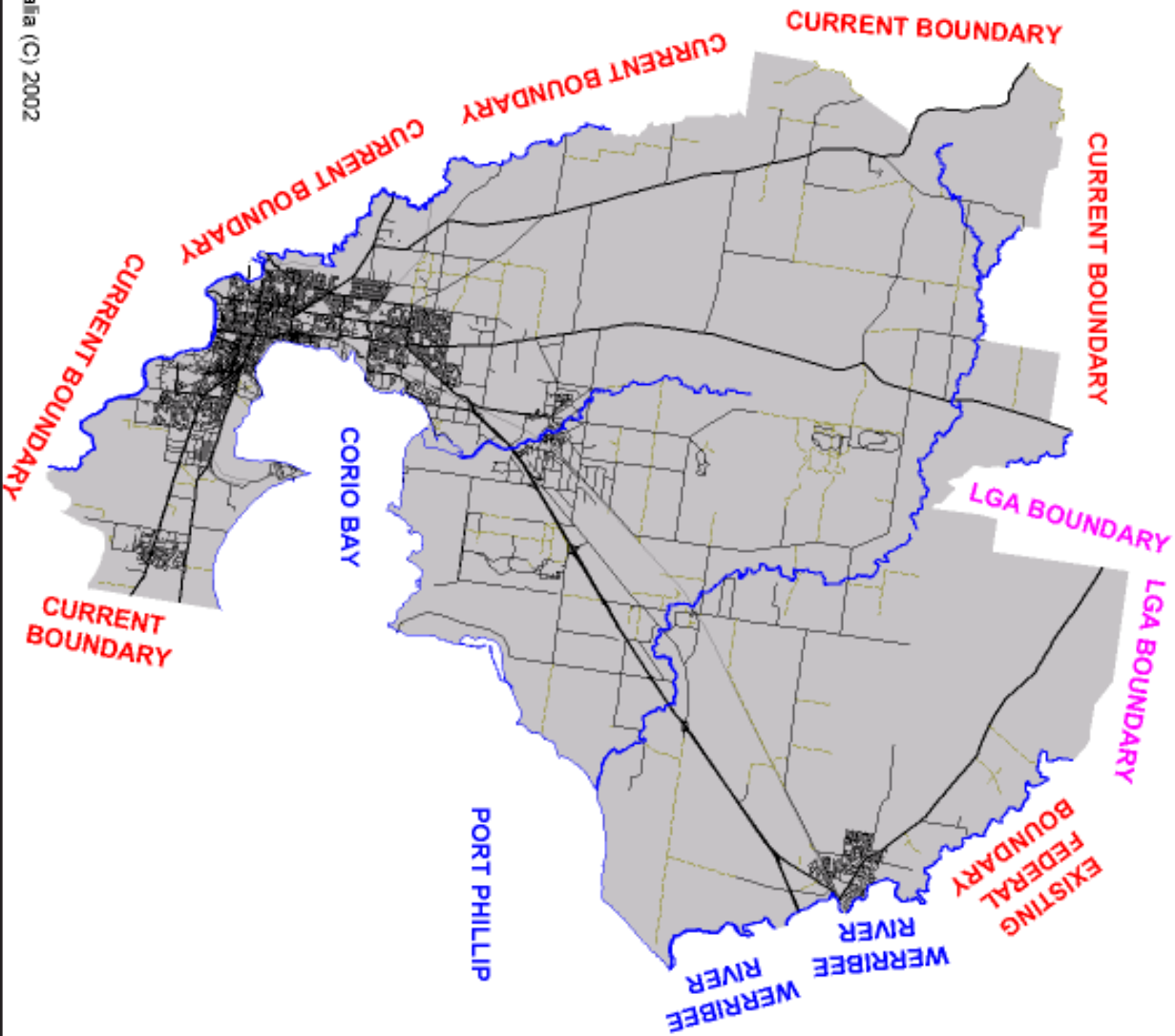
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CORANGAMITE

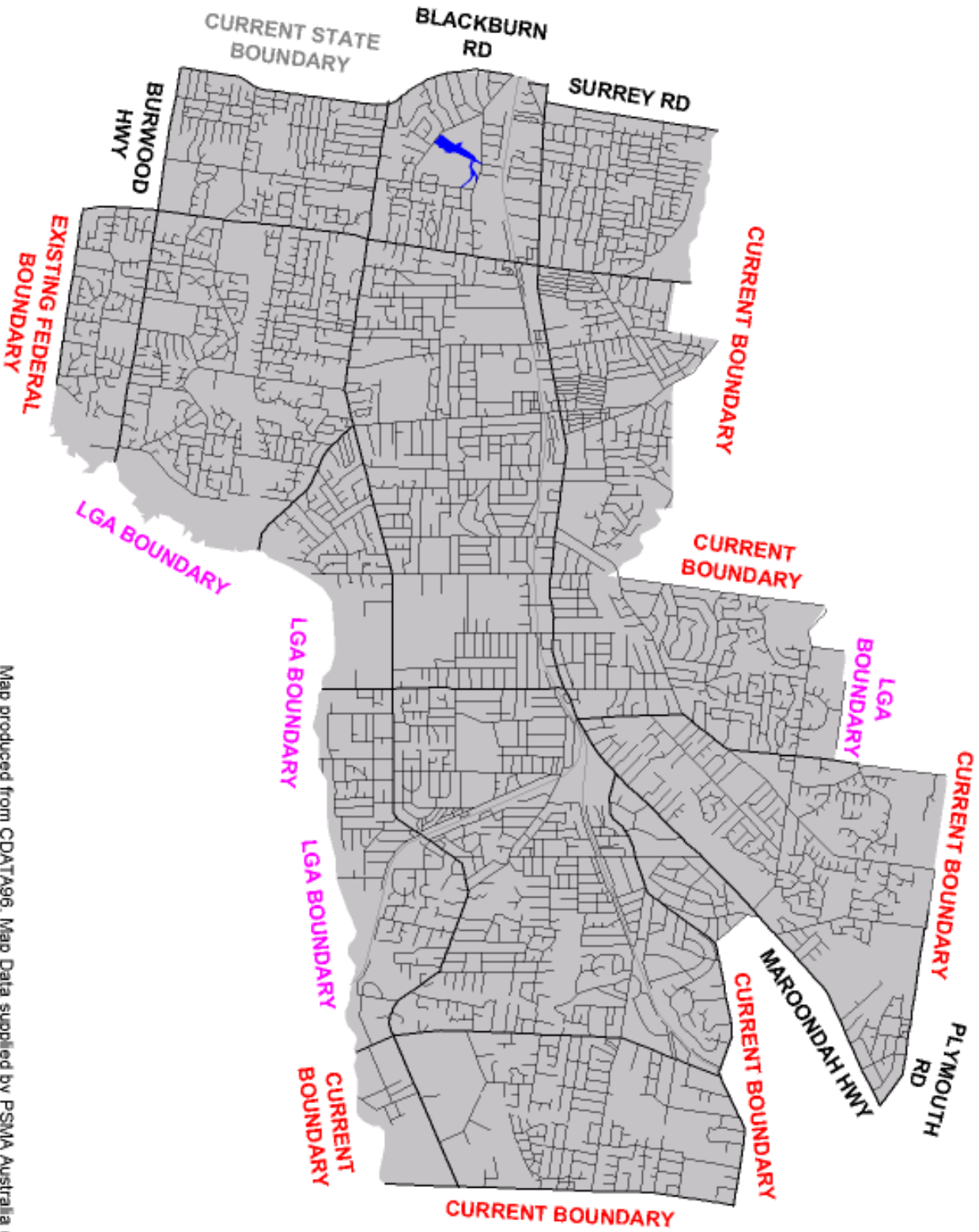


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CORIO



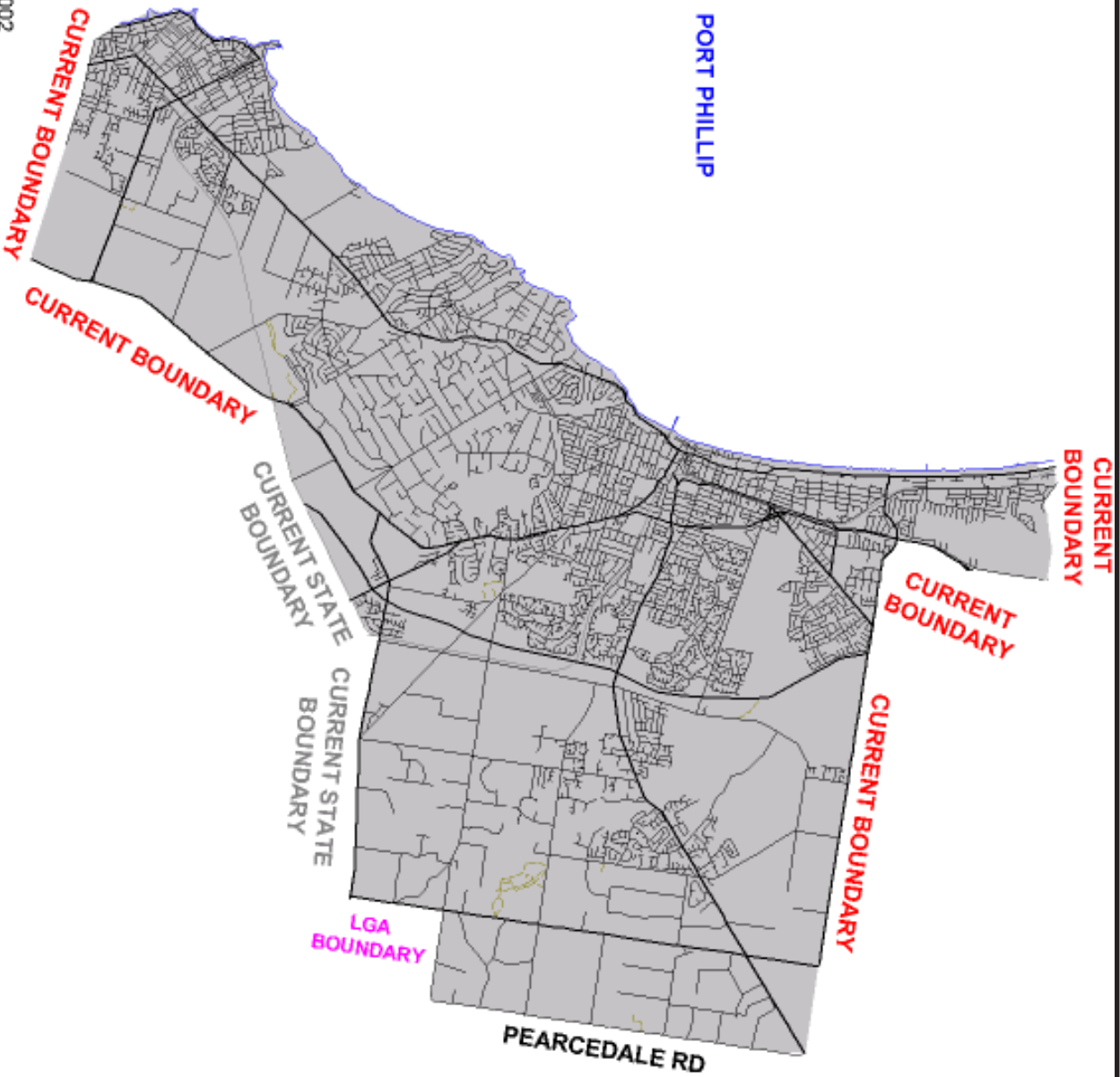
DEAKIN



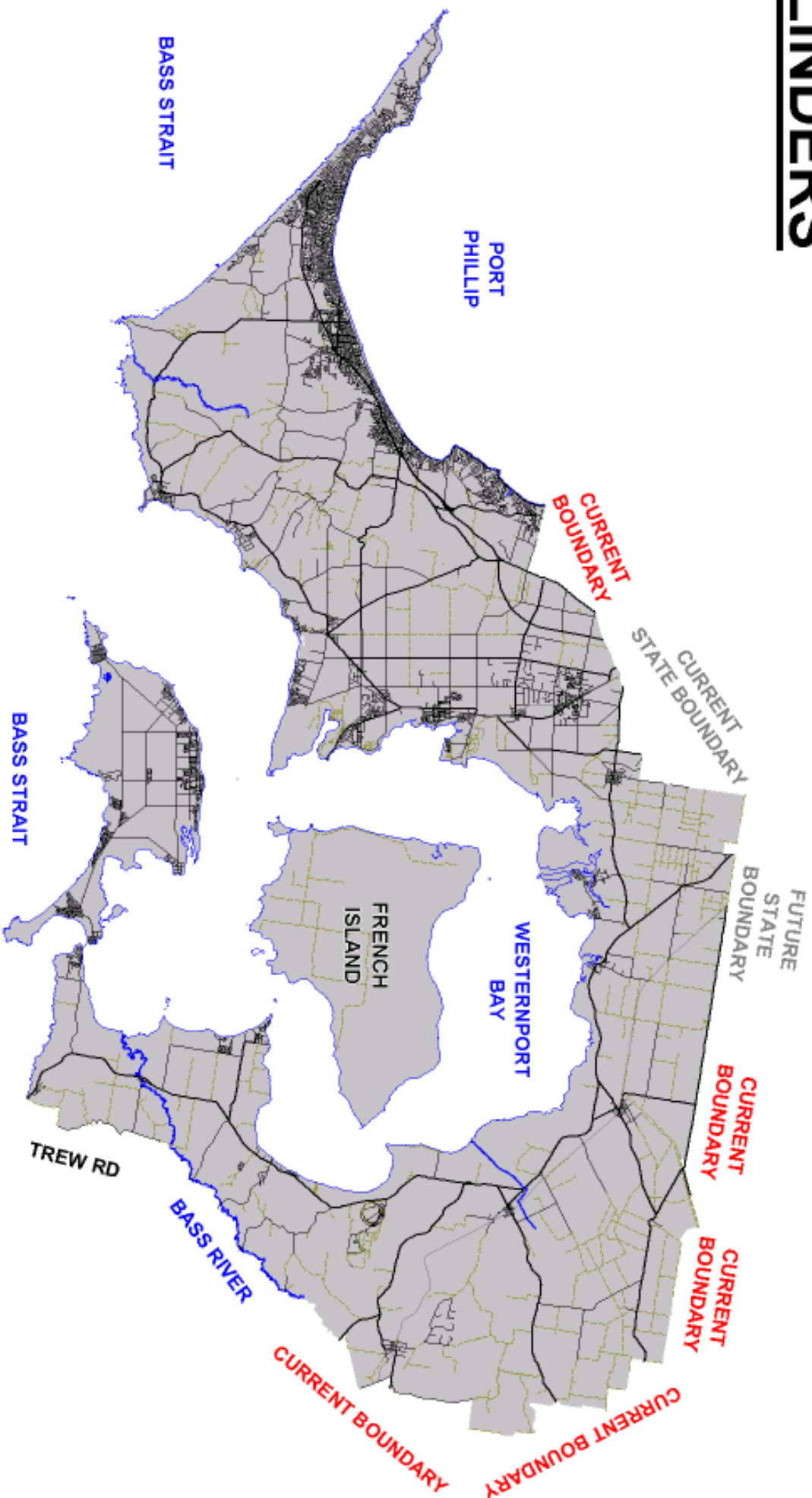
DUNKLEY



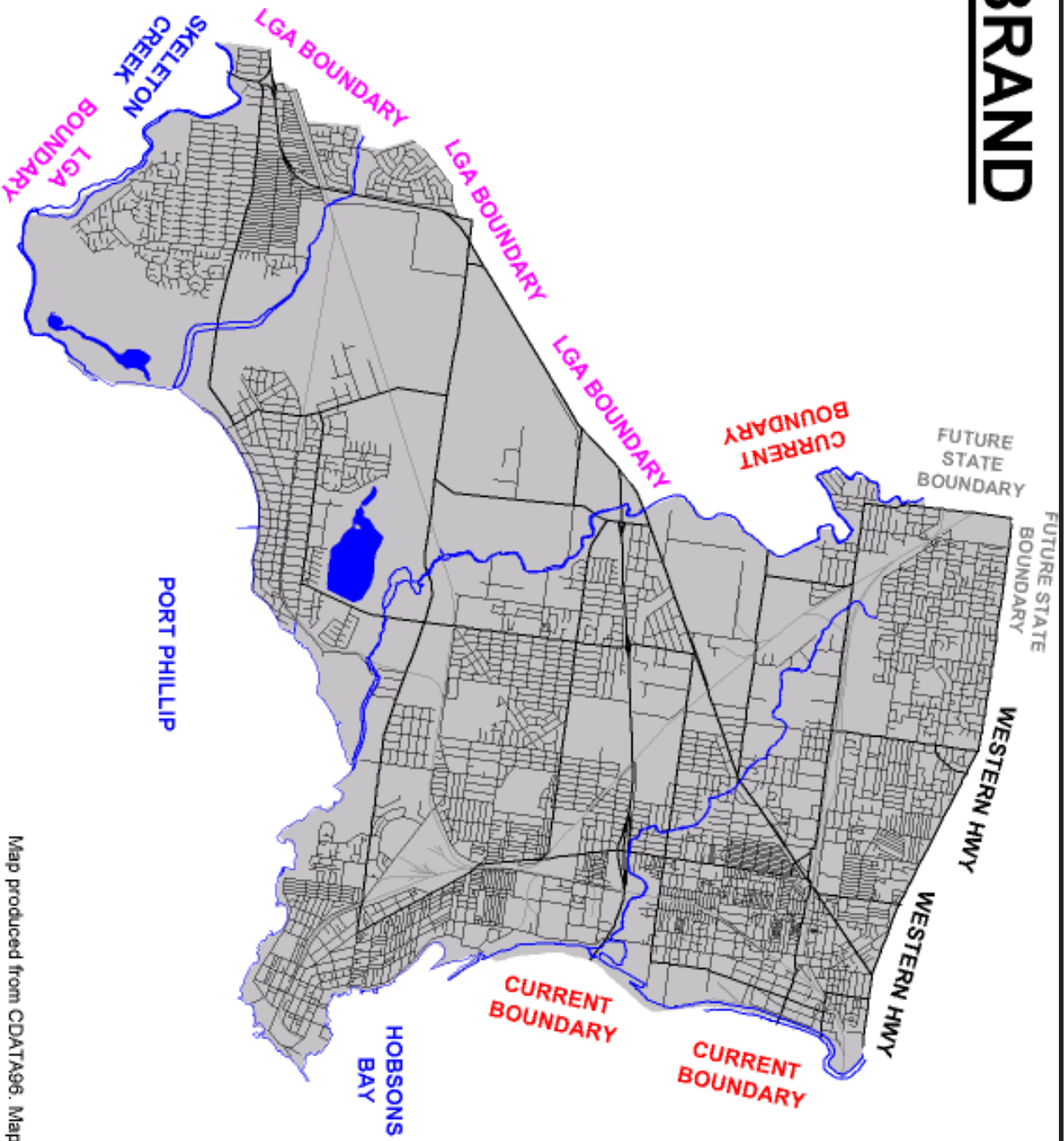
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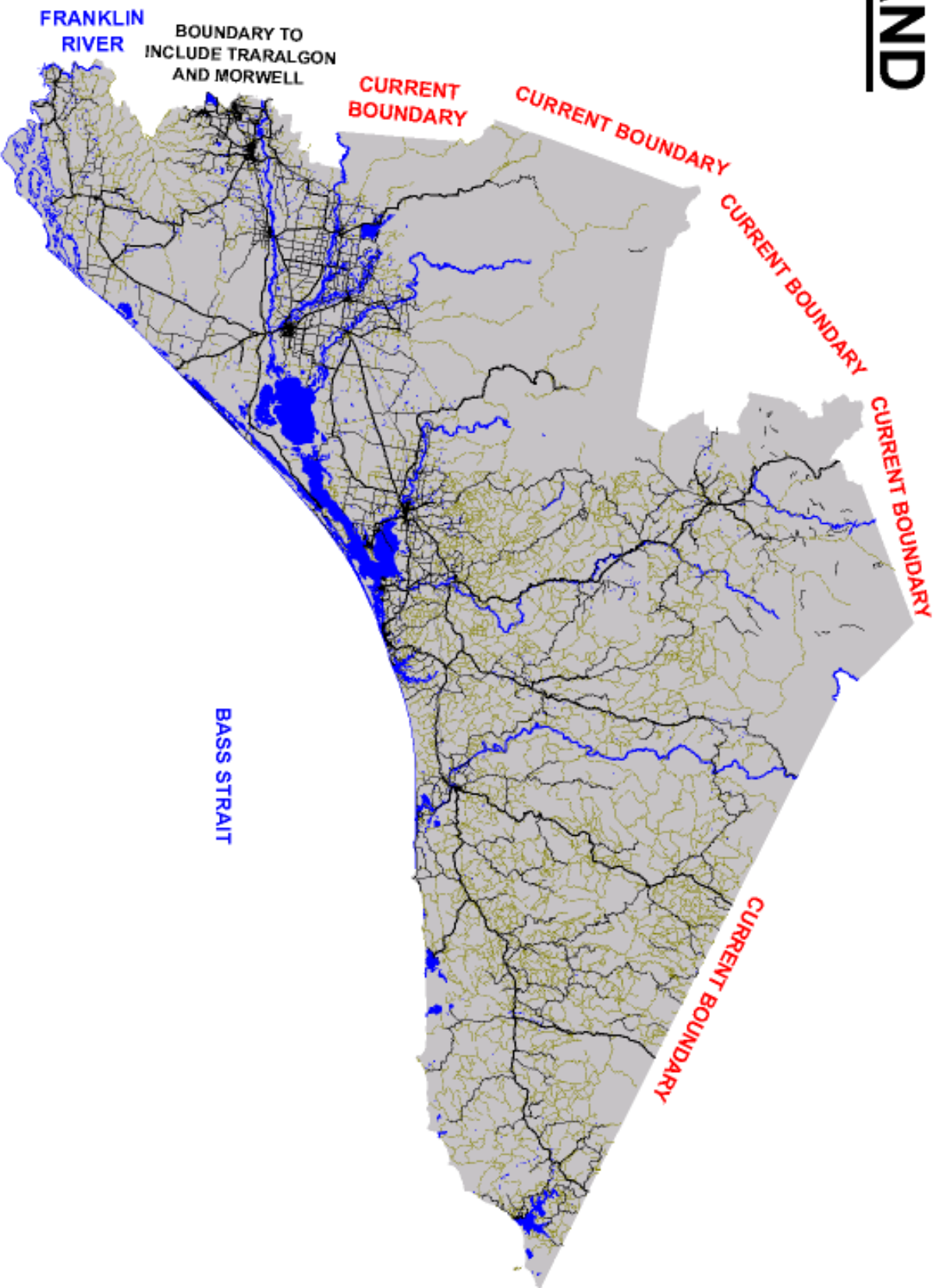
FLINDERS



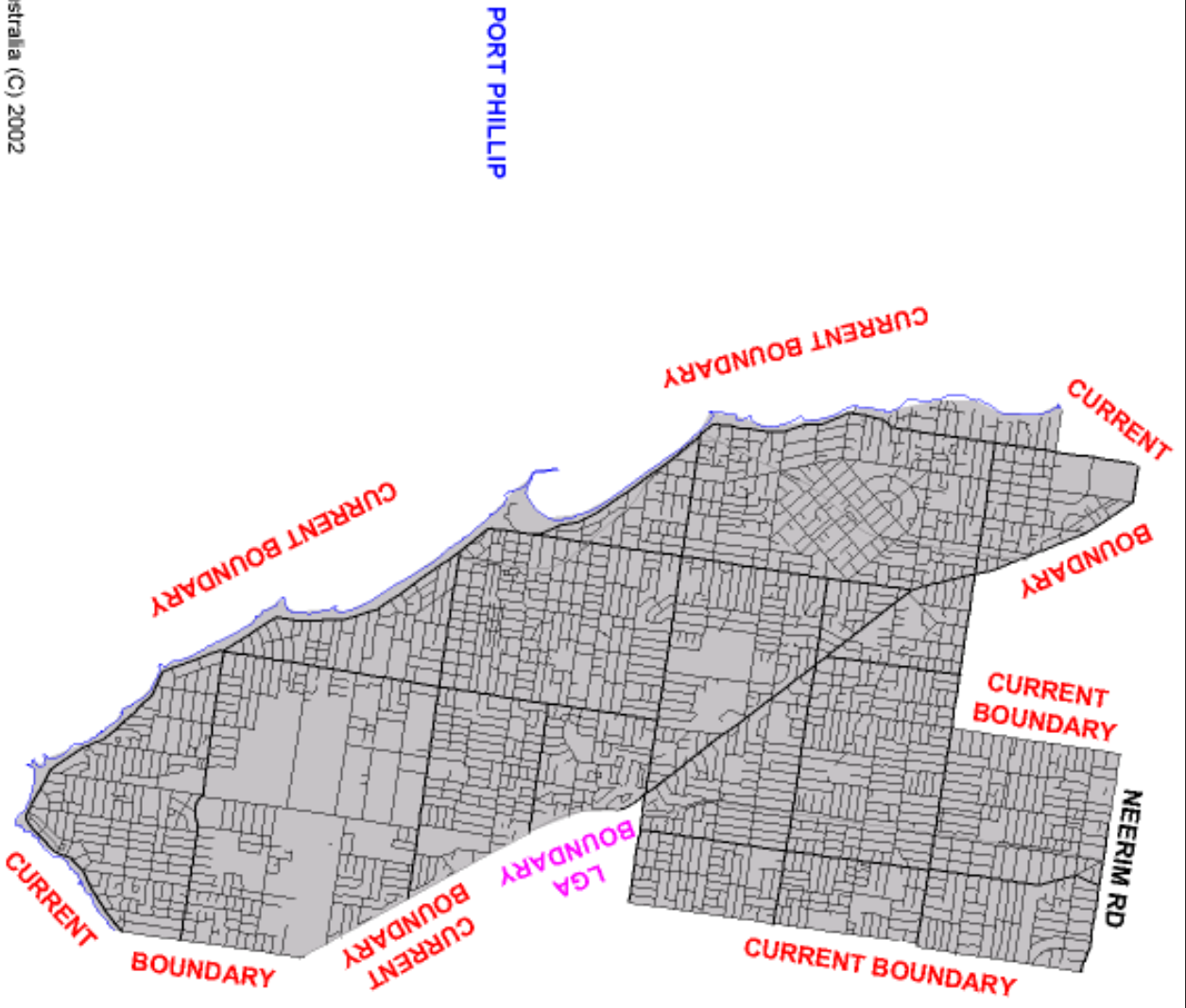
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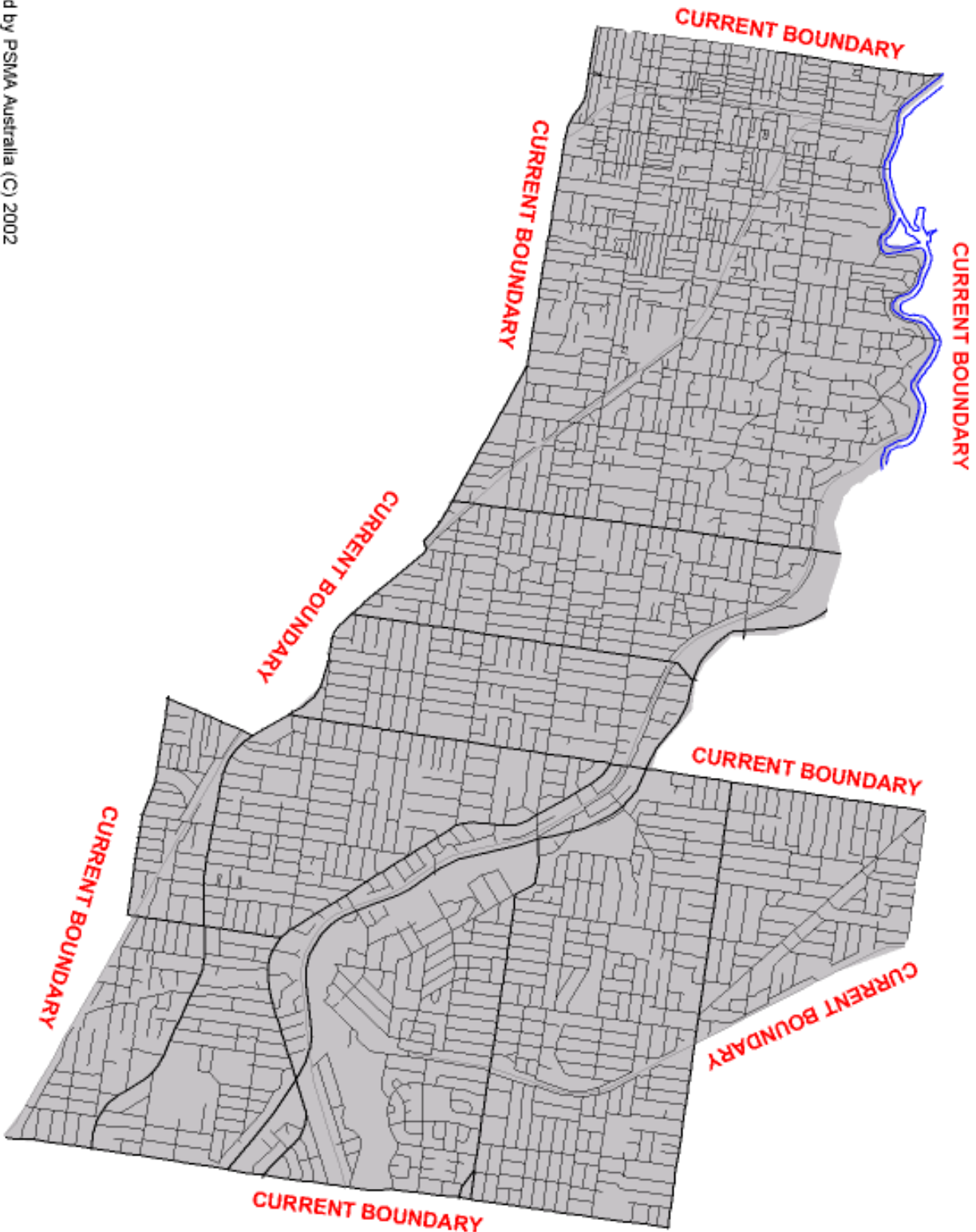
GIPPSLAND

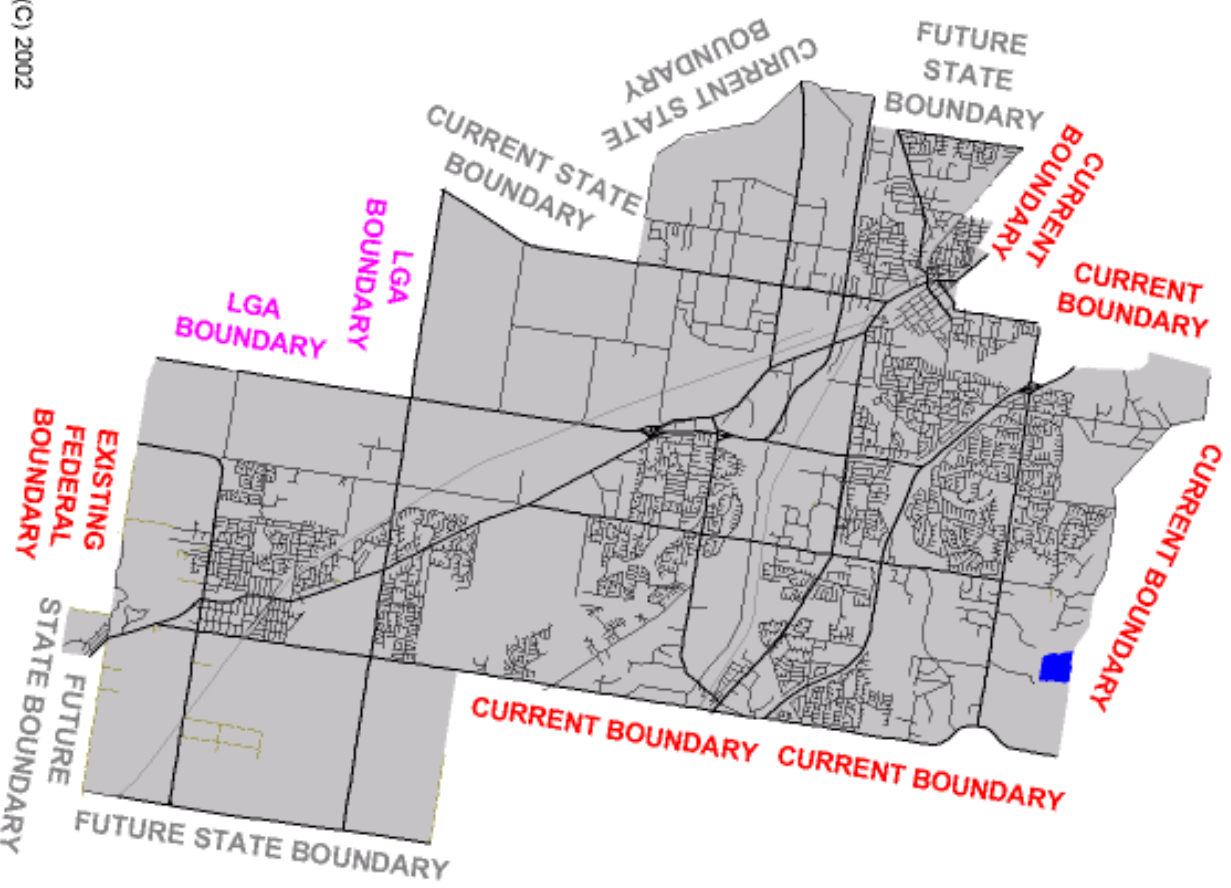


GOLDSTEIN

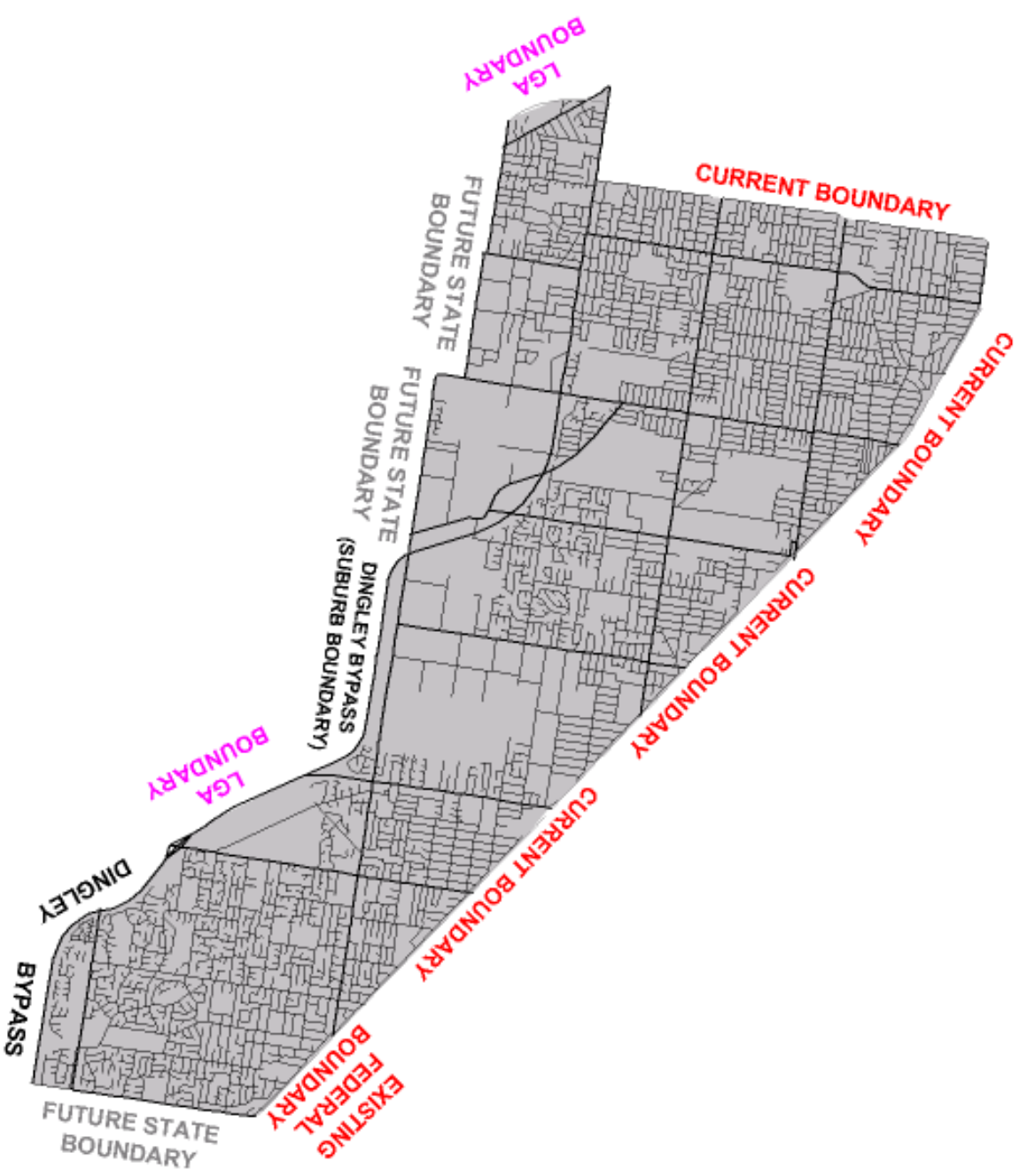


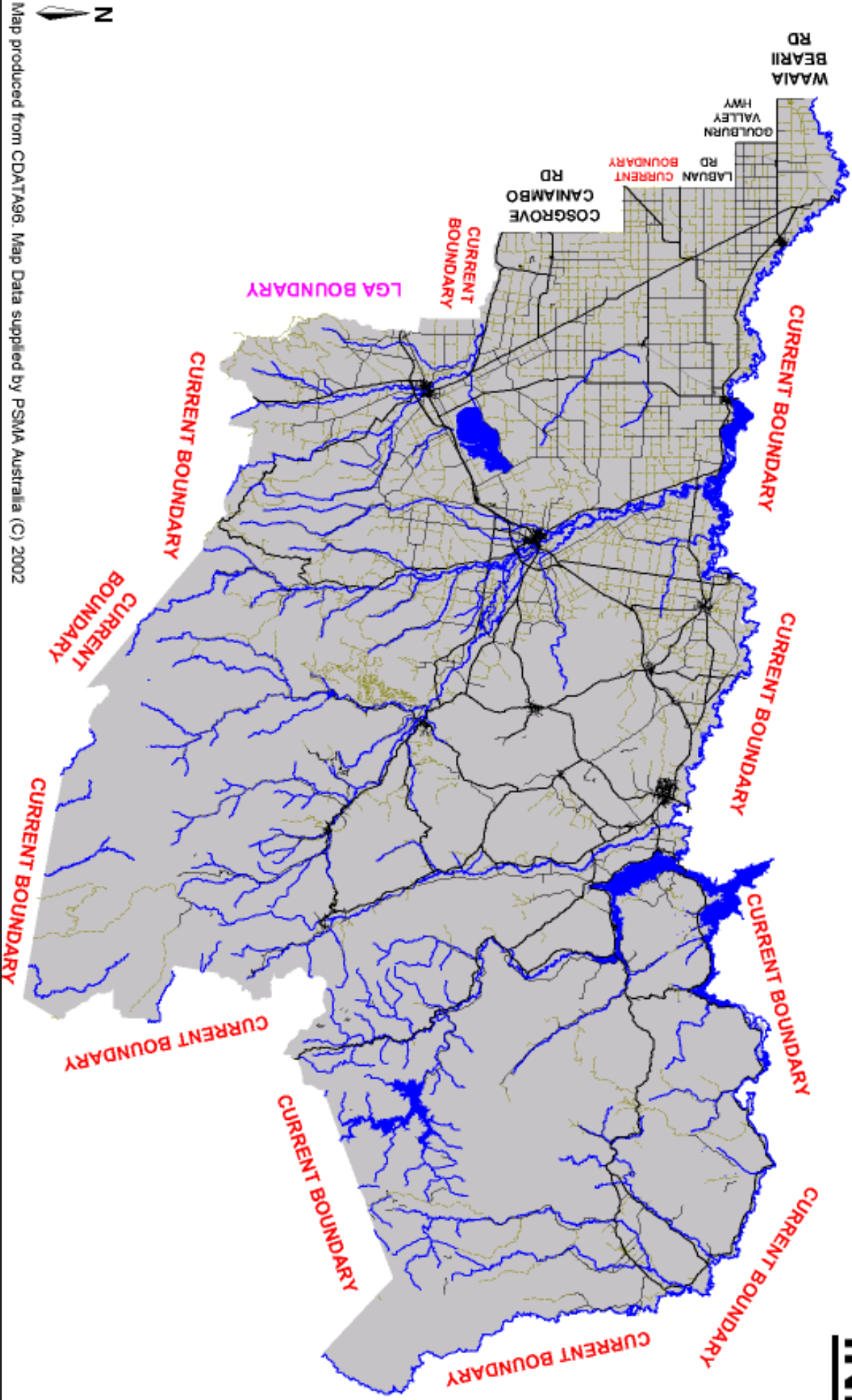
HIGGINS





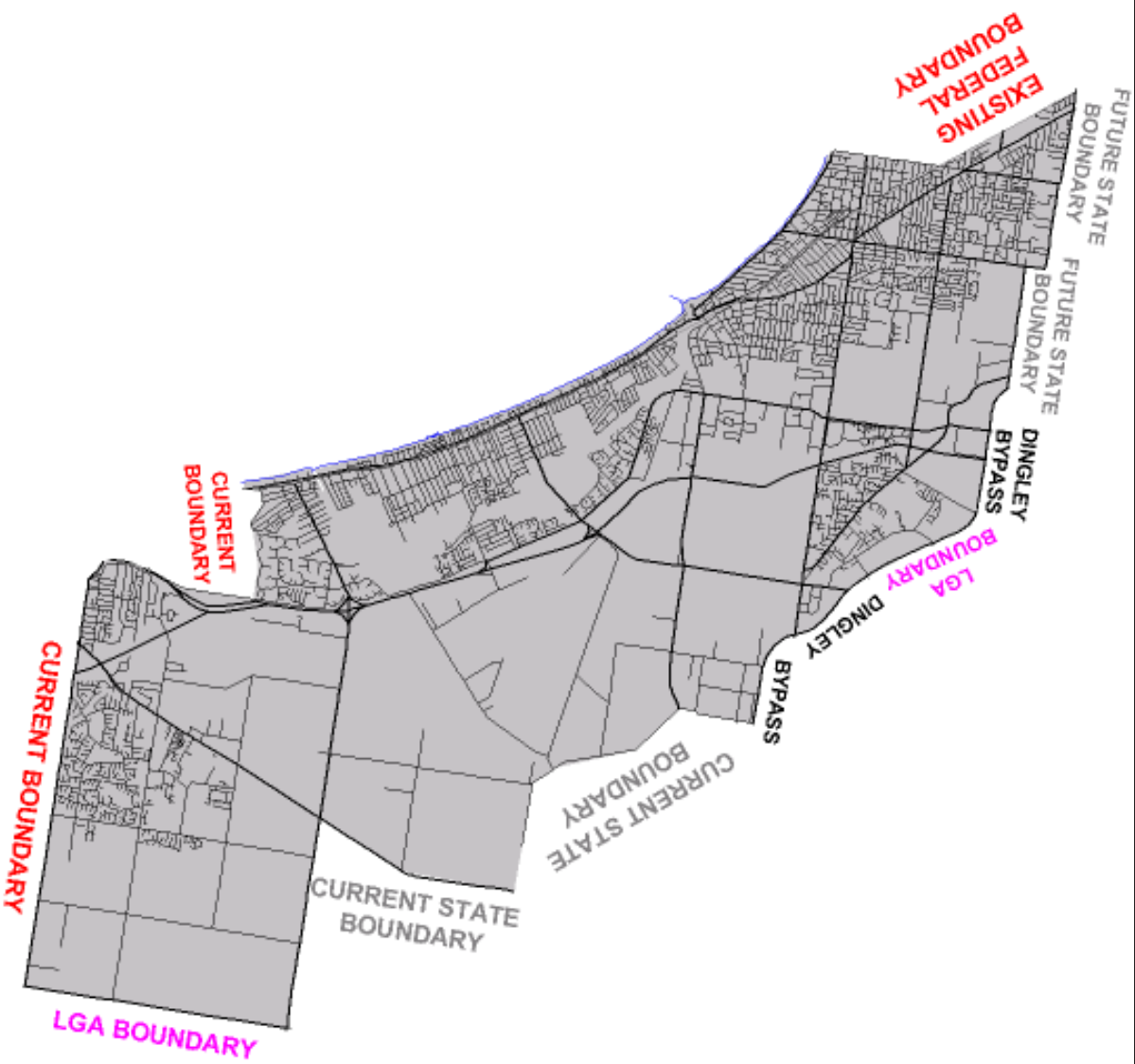
HOTHAM



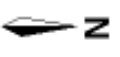
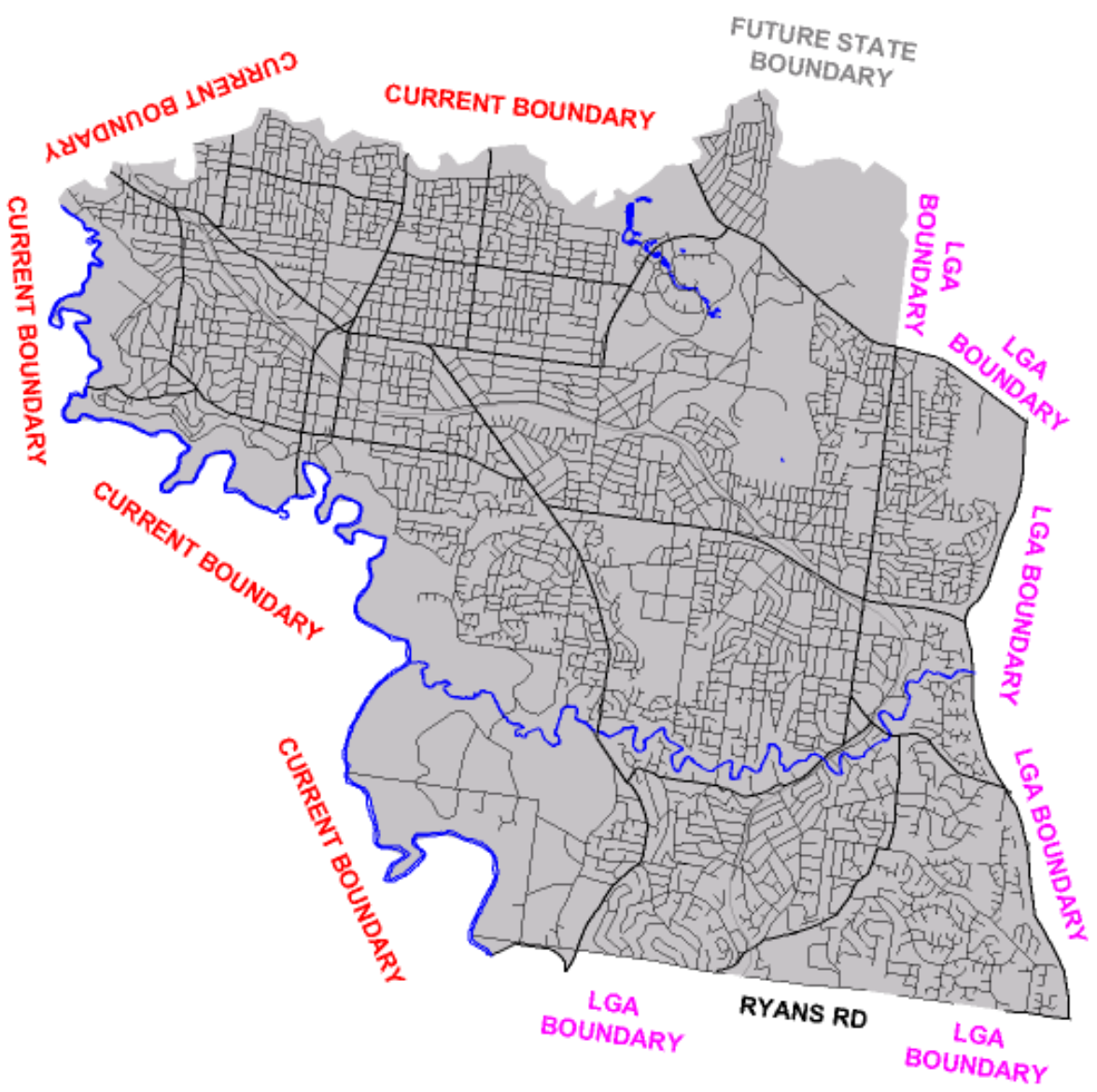


ISAACS

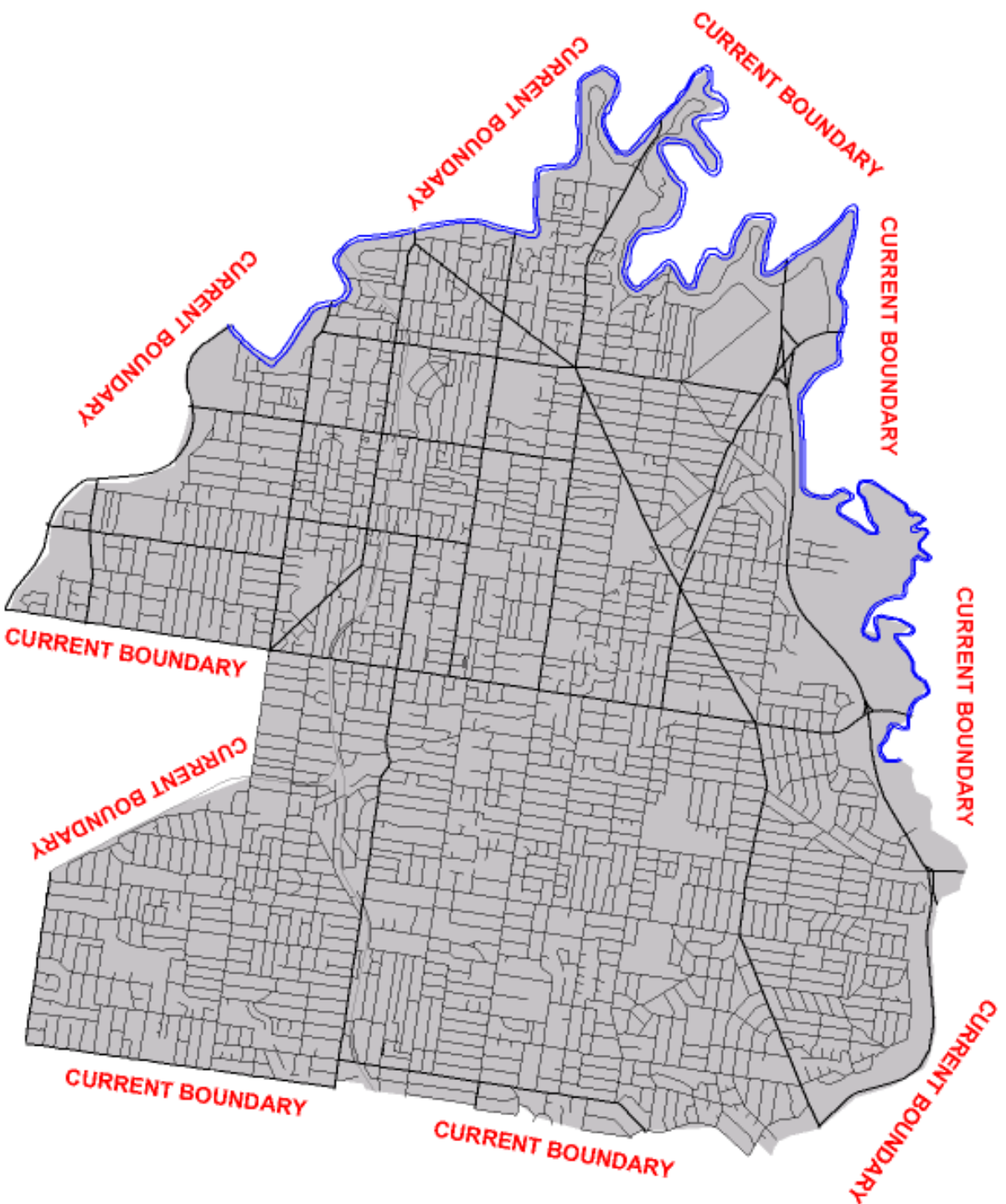
PORT PHILLIP



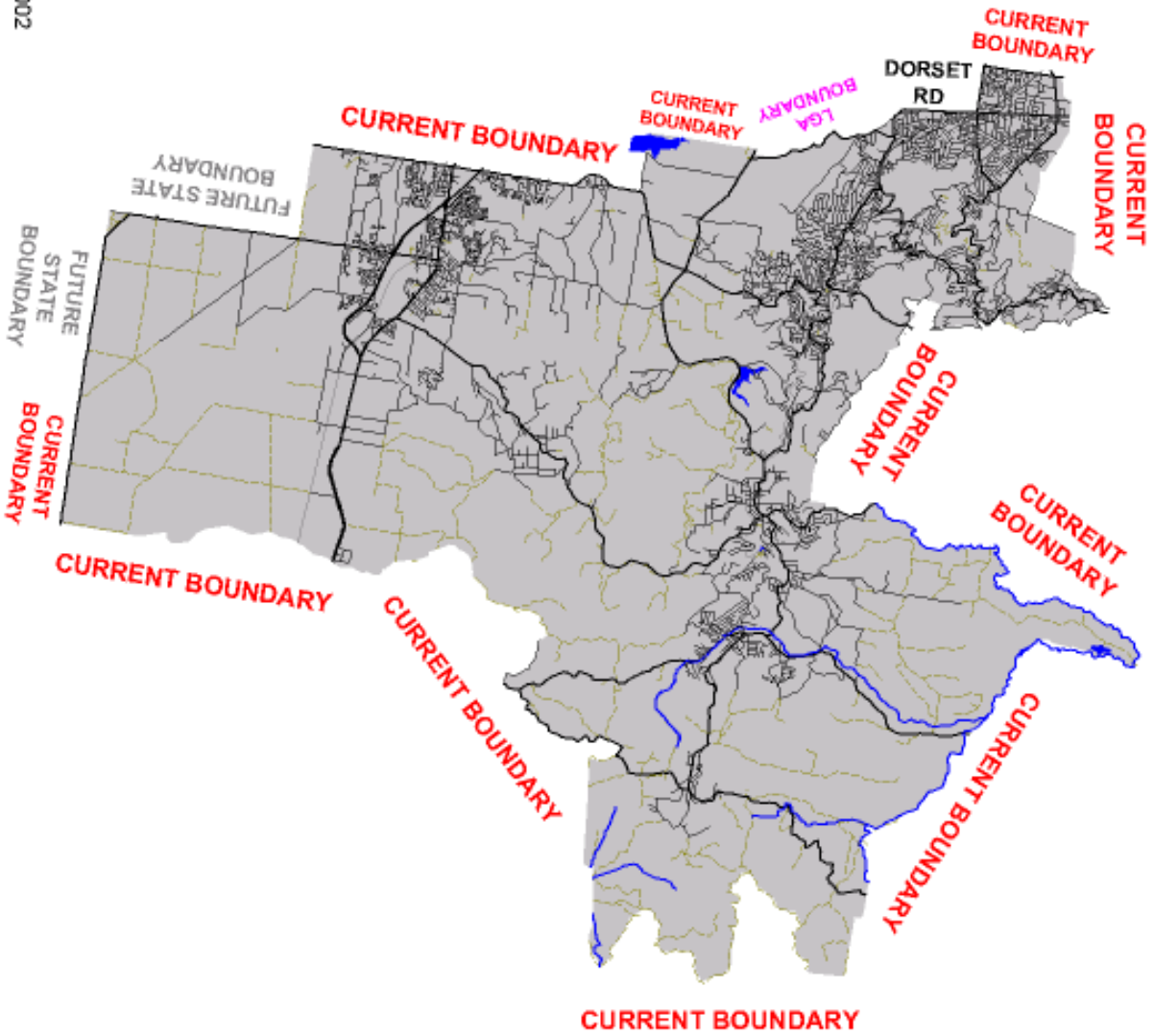
JAGAJAGA



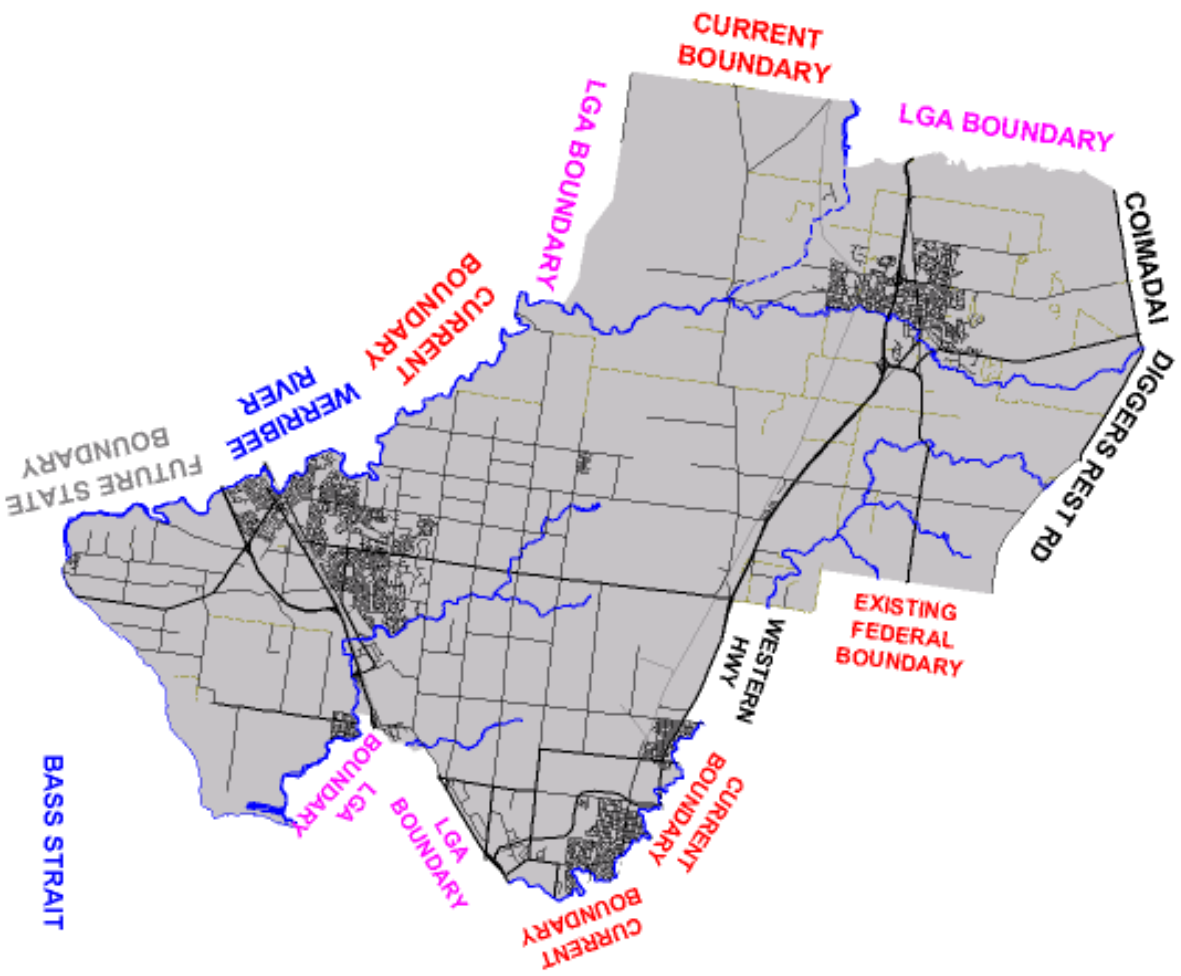
KOORYONG

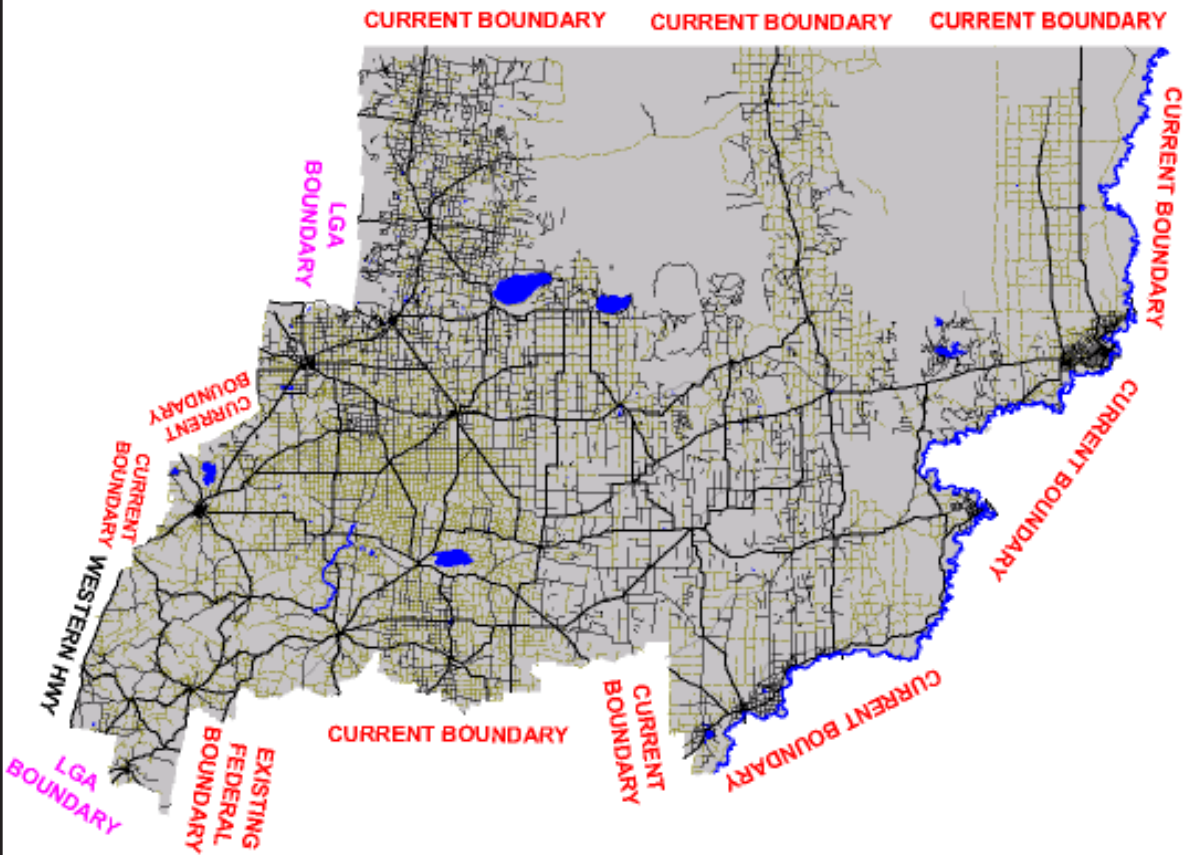


LA TROBE

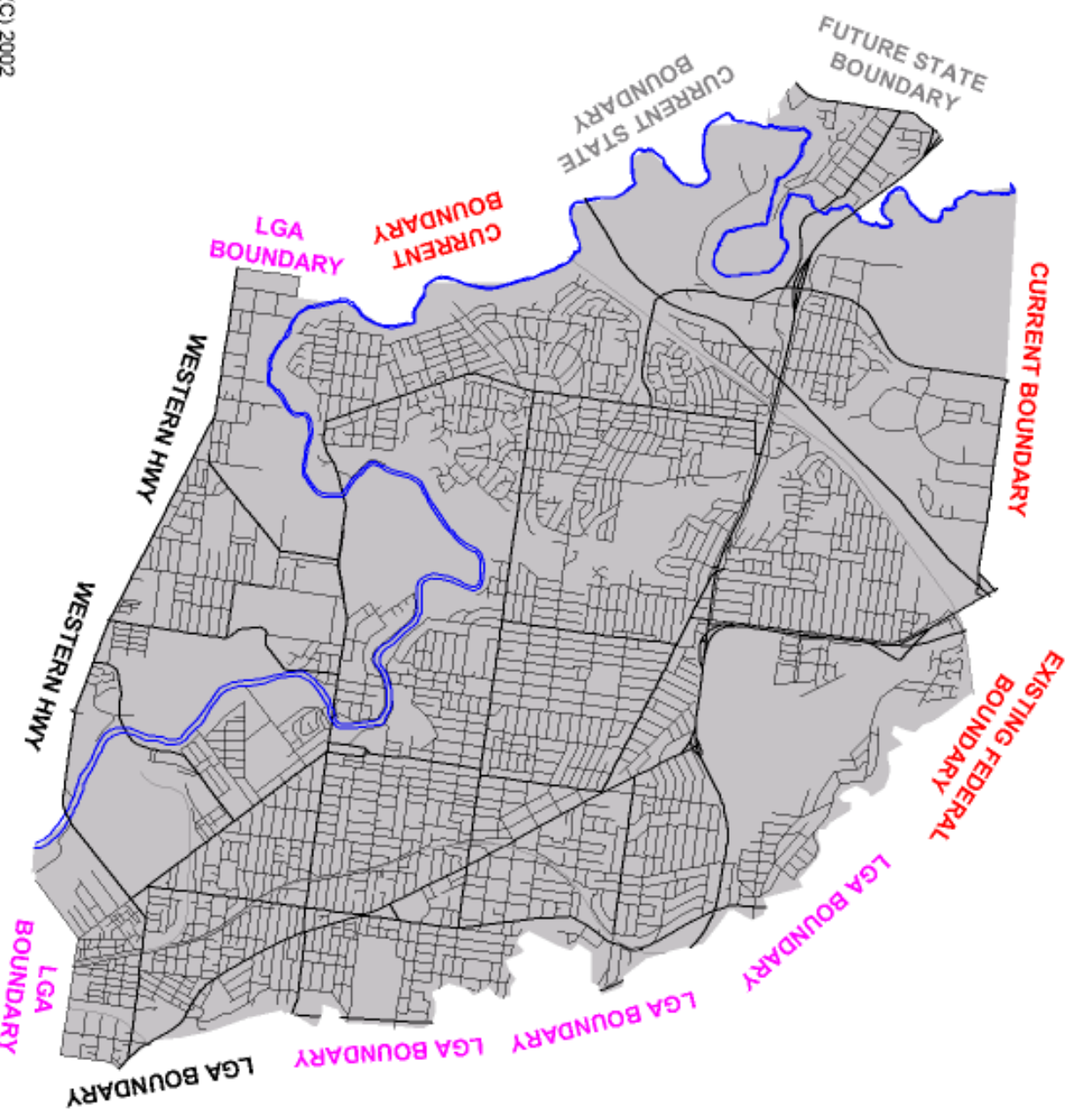


LALOR

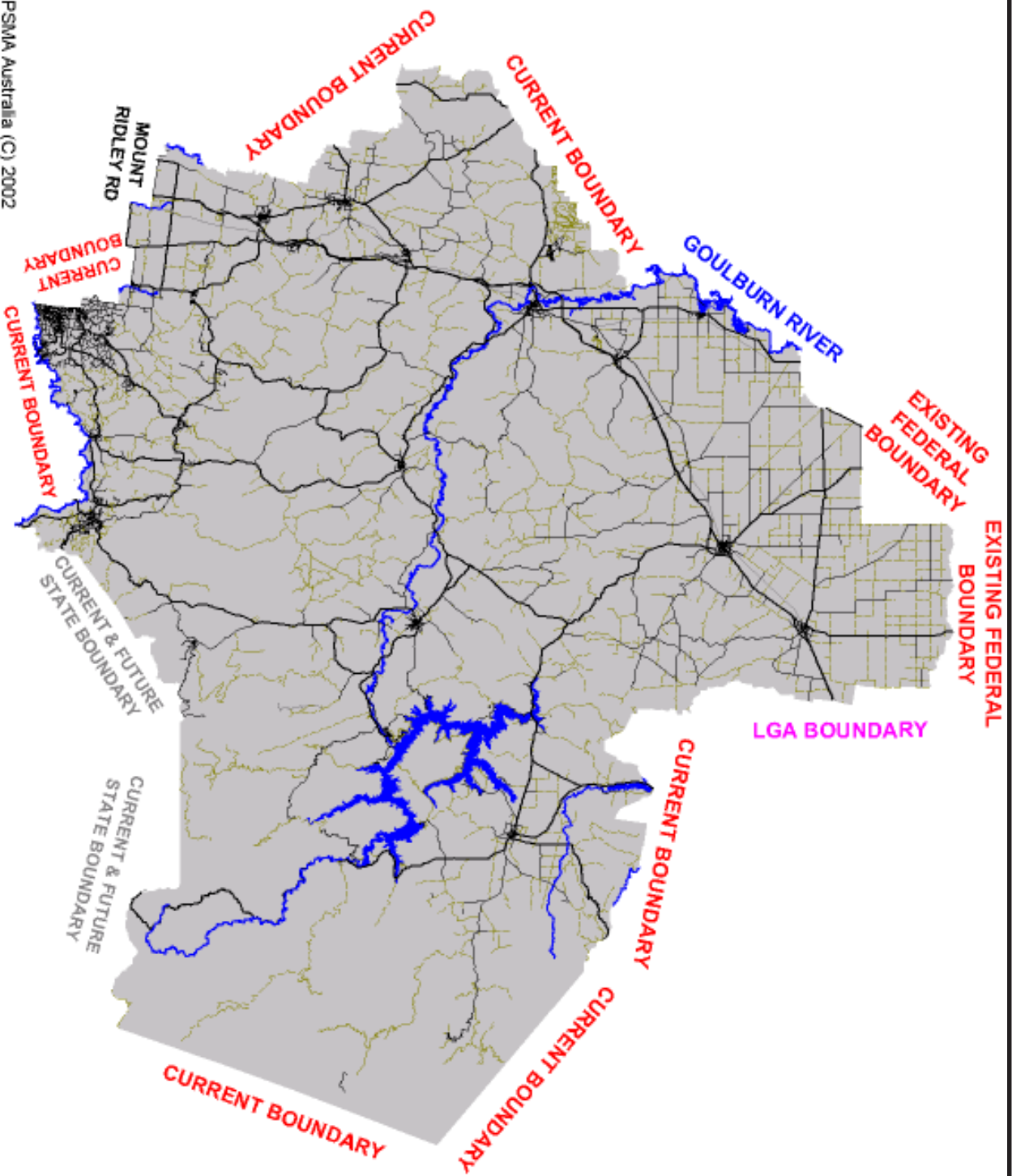


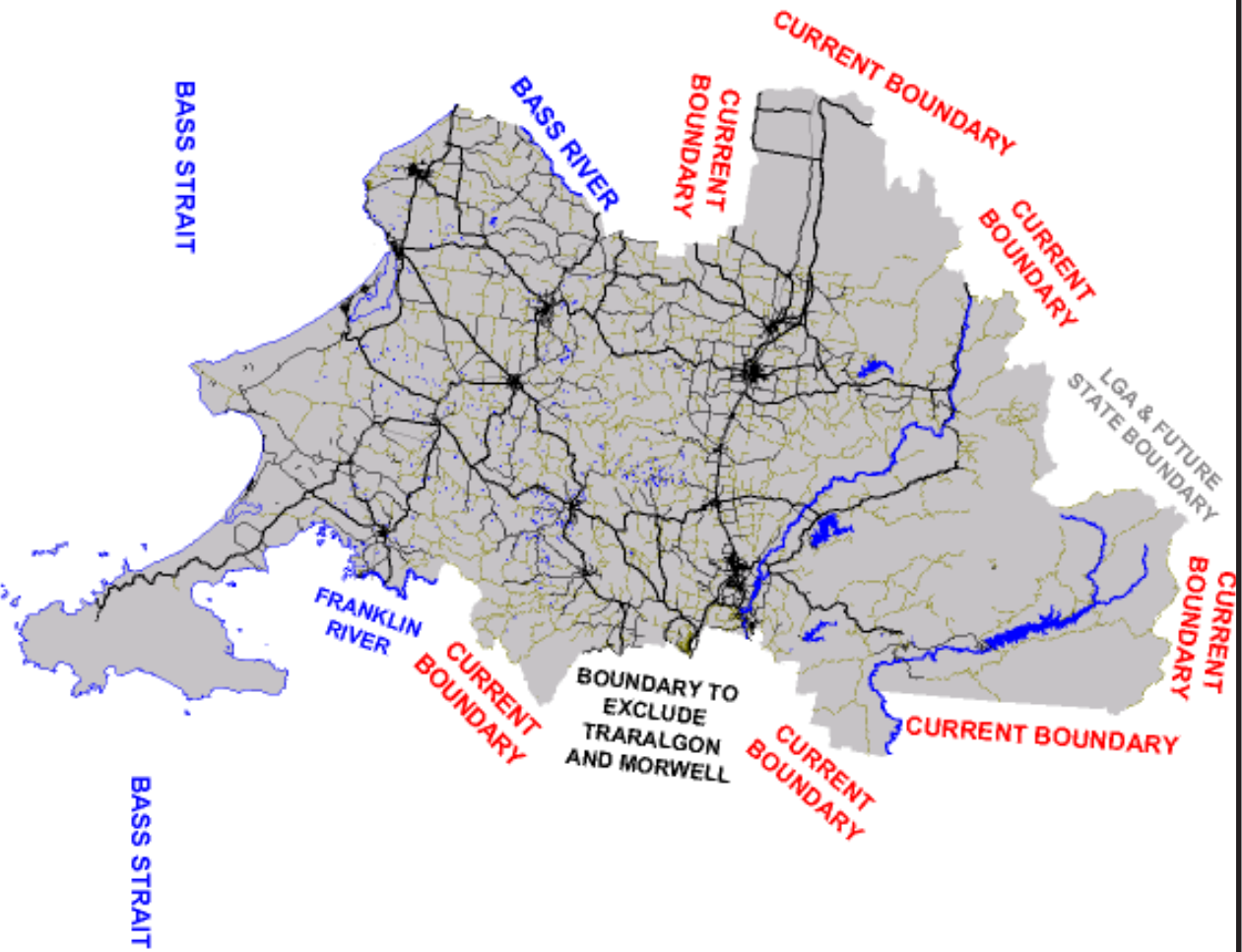


MARIBYRNONG

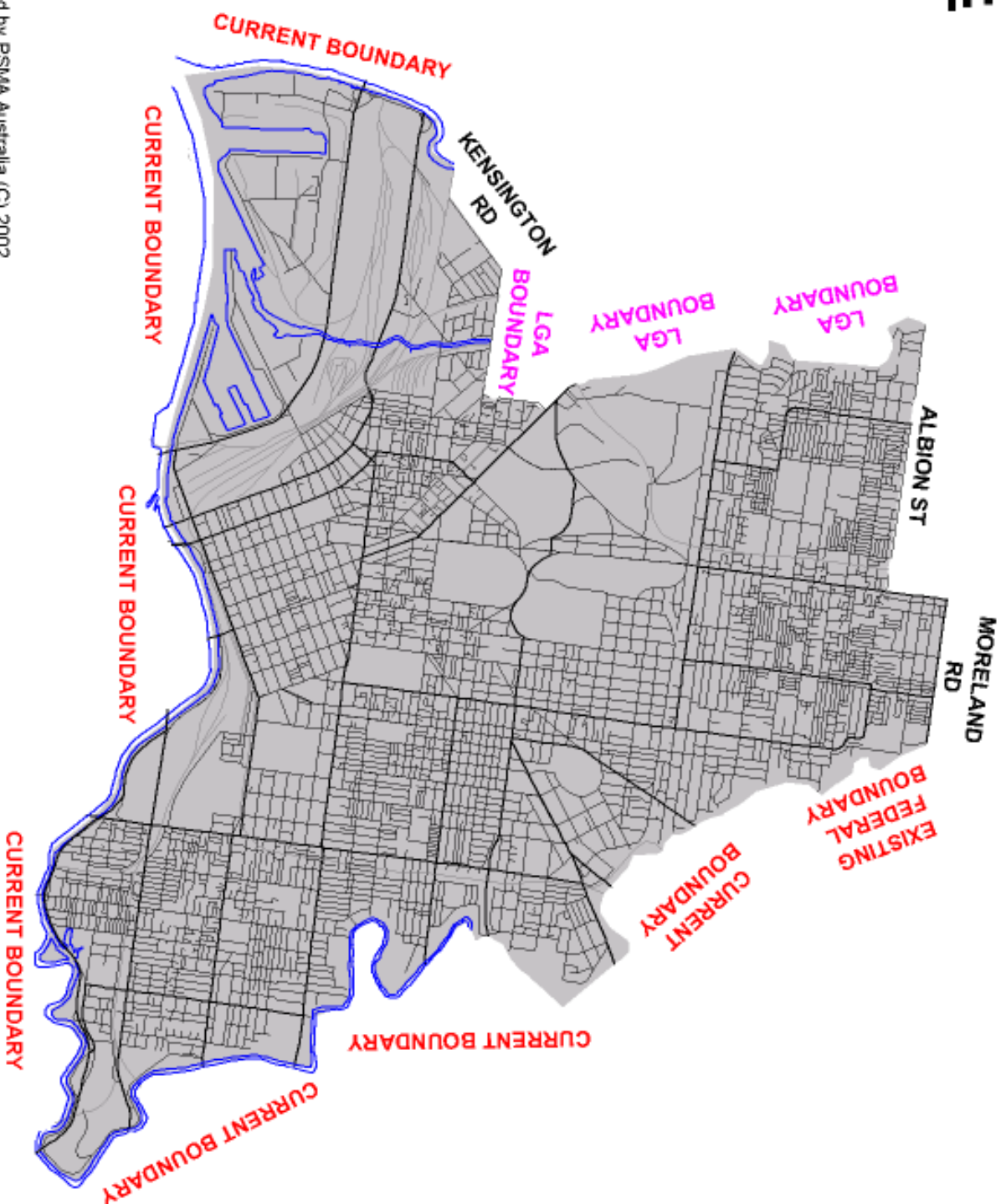


MCEWEN

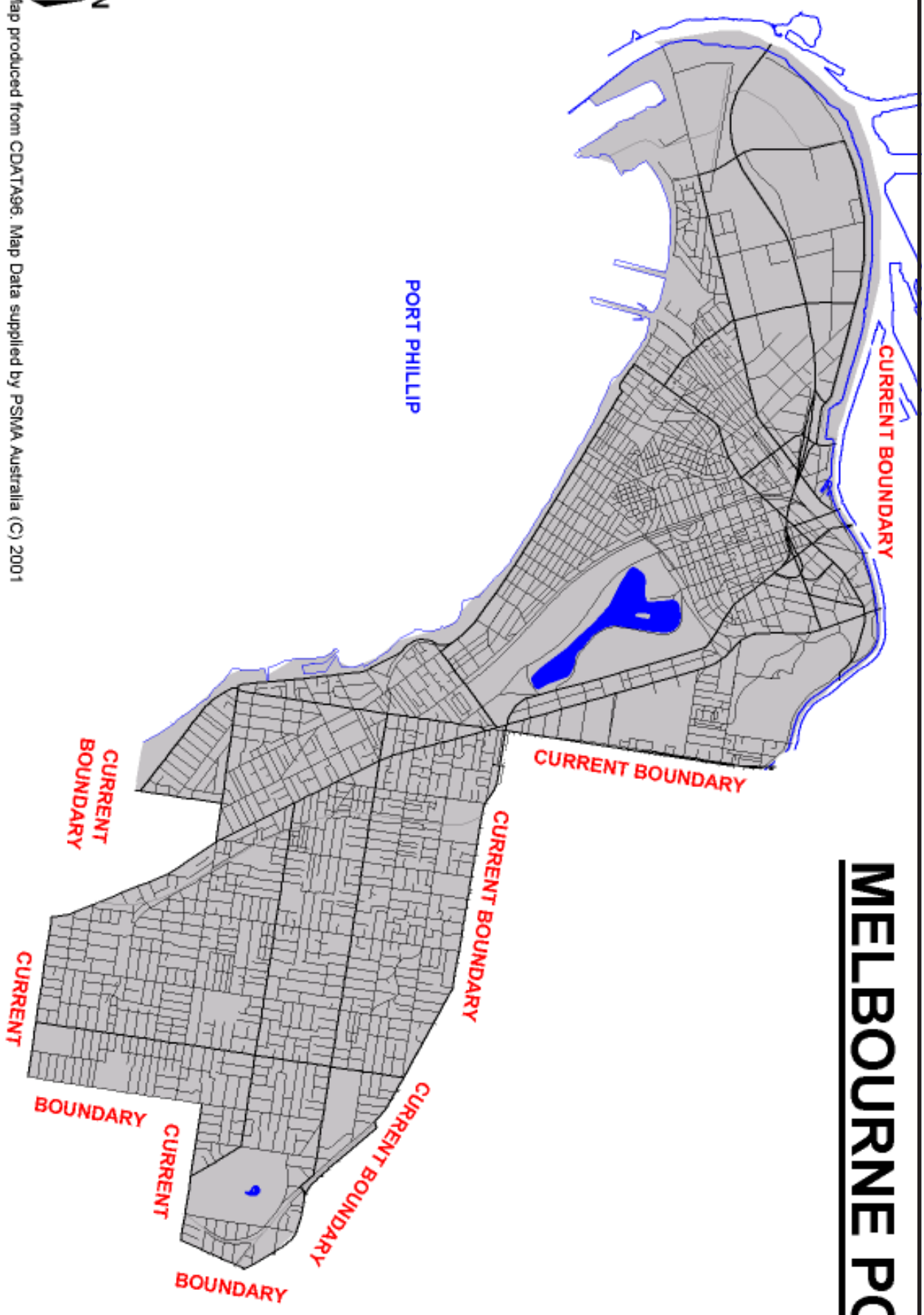




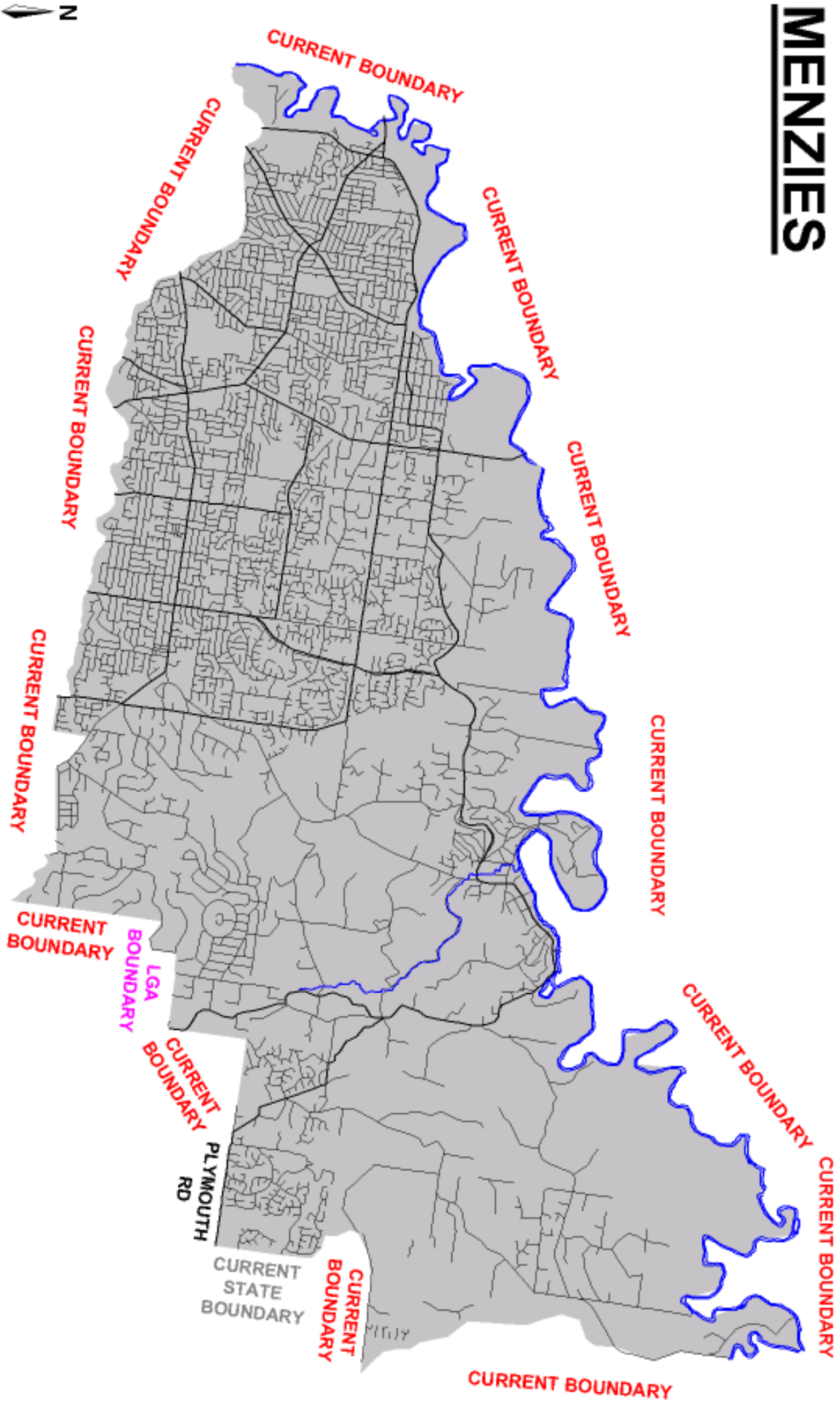
MELBOURNE



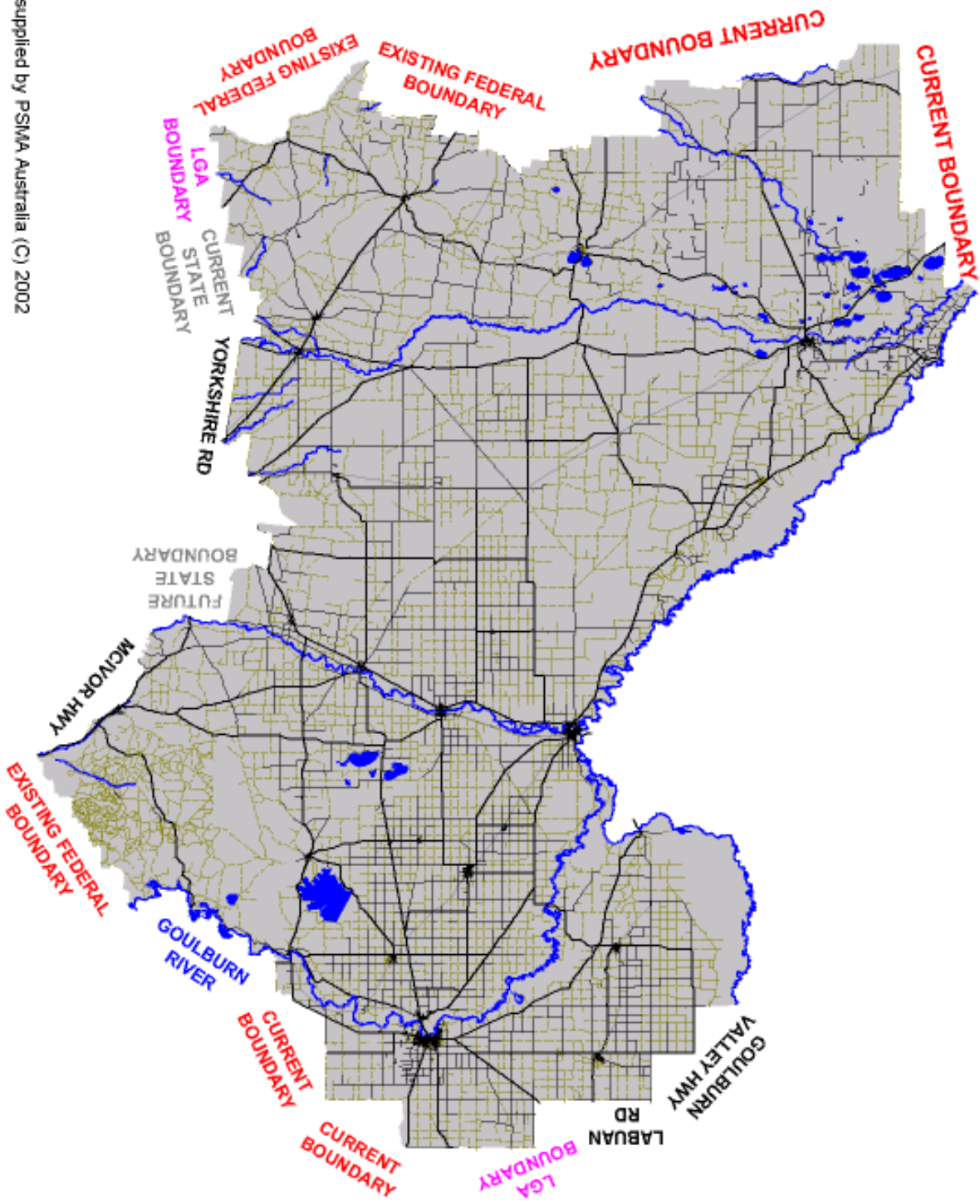
MELBOURNE PORTS



MENZIES

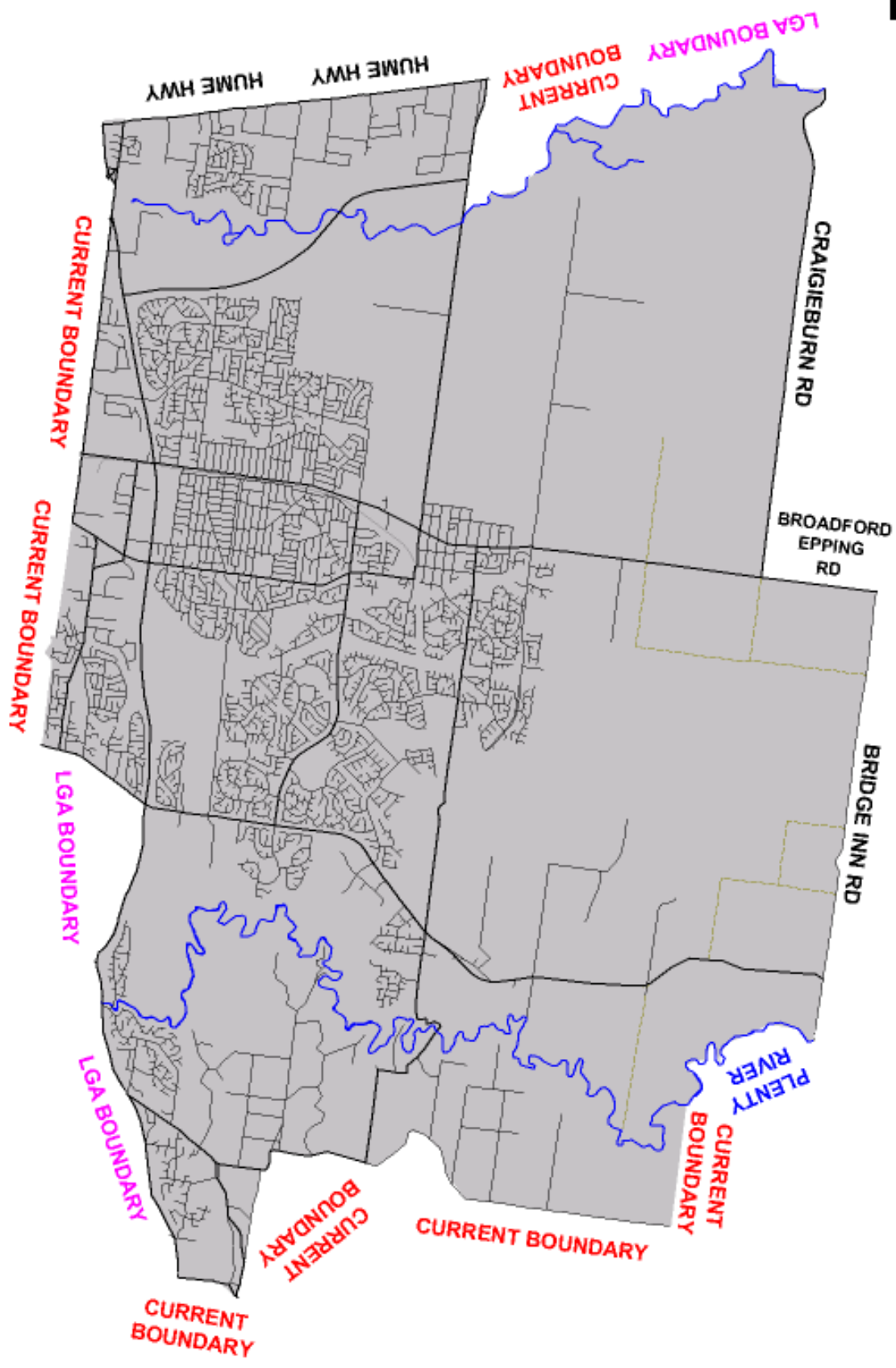


MURRAY



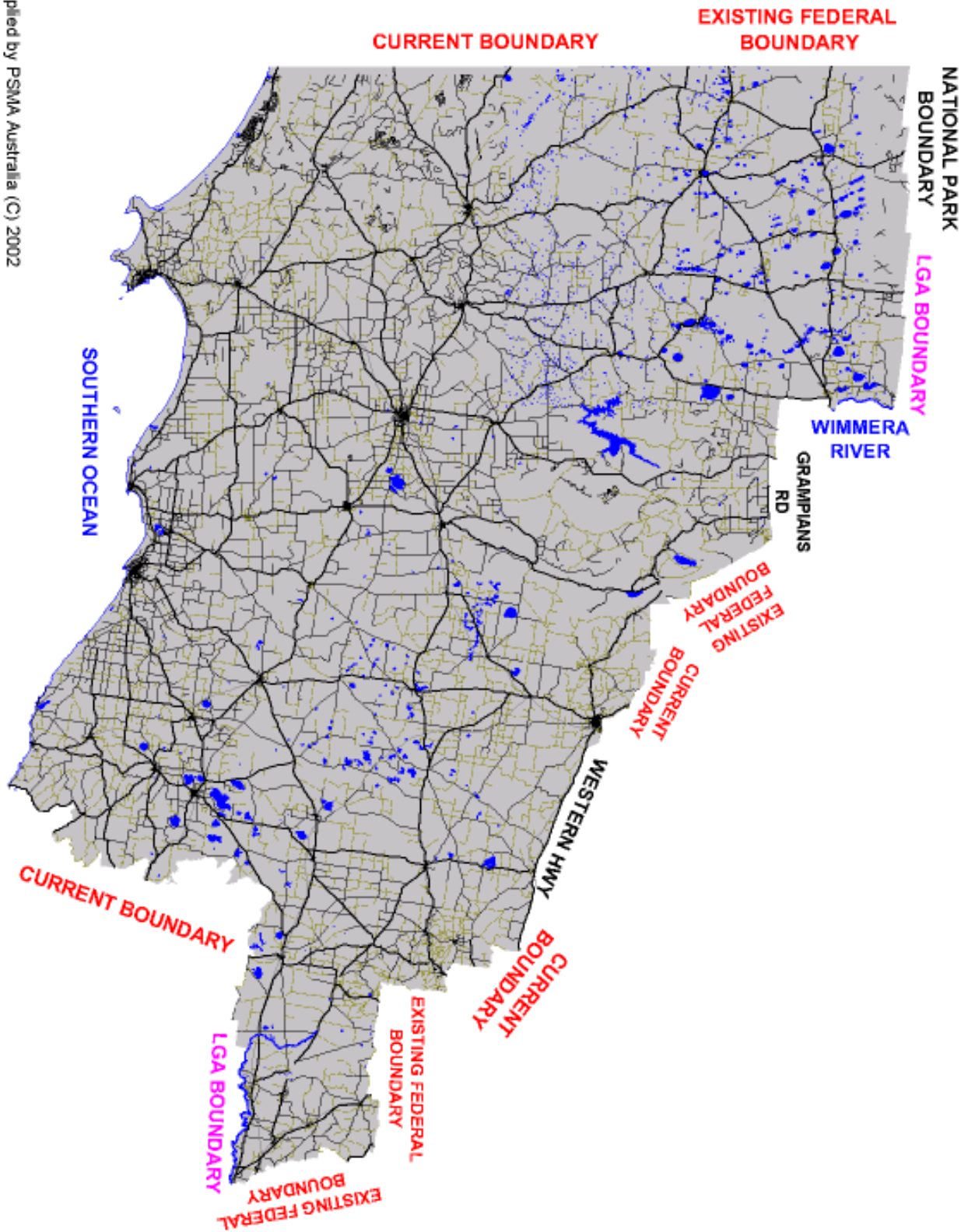
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SCULLIN



Map produced from CDATA96. Map Data supplied by PSMA Australia (C) 2002

WANNON



WILLS

