

North West Network Maps

Burke Shire Council, Carpentaria Shire Council, Cloncurry Shire Council, Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council, Flinders Shire Council, McKinlay Shire Council, Mornington Shire Council, Richmond Shire Council

Addendum to North Queensland Principal Cycle Network Plan

▶ 2021

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1 Introduction

The *North West Network Maps* (the maps) are an addendum to, and are to be read in conjunction with, the *North Queensland Principal Cycle Network Plan* (the plan). The plan was first published in 2016 and included the Burdekin, Charters Towers, Hinchinbrook, Mount Isa and Townsville local government areas as shown in Figure 1.

In 2021, the geographic scope of the plan was expanded to include all of the North West Queensland region including the Doomadgee, Burke, Carpentaria, Cloncurry, McKinlay, Richmond, Flinders and Mornington local government areas as shown in Figure 1.

1.1 The region

North West Queensland encompasses 307,082 square kilometres and a population of more than 30,000¹. It is home to one of the world's most significant base and precious metal producers and a thriving beef industry. Tourists visit the region to discover pre-historic fossil sites, cultural heritage sites and other off-the-beaten-track experiences.

Regional health data indicates people living in the north west present similar preventable health risk factors to the rest of Queensland. There is an opportunity to reduce these risks through increased physical activity such as encouraging more people to ride a bike, more often.

The region's weather allows residents and visitors to ride very comfortably for most of the year with rainfall and heat providing some challenges to riding over the summer. Local towns in the region are conducive to cycling, typified by flat terrain, low traffic volumes and schools, shops and other key destinations within easy riding distance of residential areas.

The region hosts some significant cycling events including one of Australia's toughest triathlons held annually as part of the Julia Creek Dirt n Dust Festival and the Cairns to Karumba (C2K) bike ride held annually to raise funds to benefit children across north Queensland.

Currently, local children riding to school tend to make up a large proportion of the riding population. Some adults ride for recreation and training, with a small number also riding to work. Tourists often hire or bring their own bicycles to ride around local towns.

Key challenges for getting more people riding, more often include extreme weather during summer months, heavy vehicle traffic on main roads and a lack of cycling infrastructure. Accessing bikes, helmets and other equipment can also be challenging in remote areas.

Increasing awareness of the benefits of cycling, providing education to build riding skills and confidence, and promoting cycling as a safe, convenient and enjoyable activity may also help encourage more people to ride.

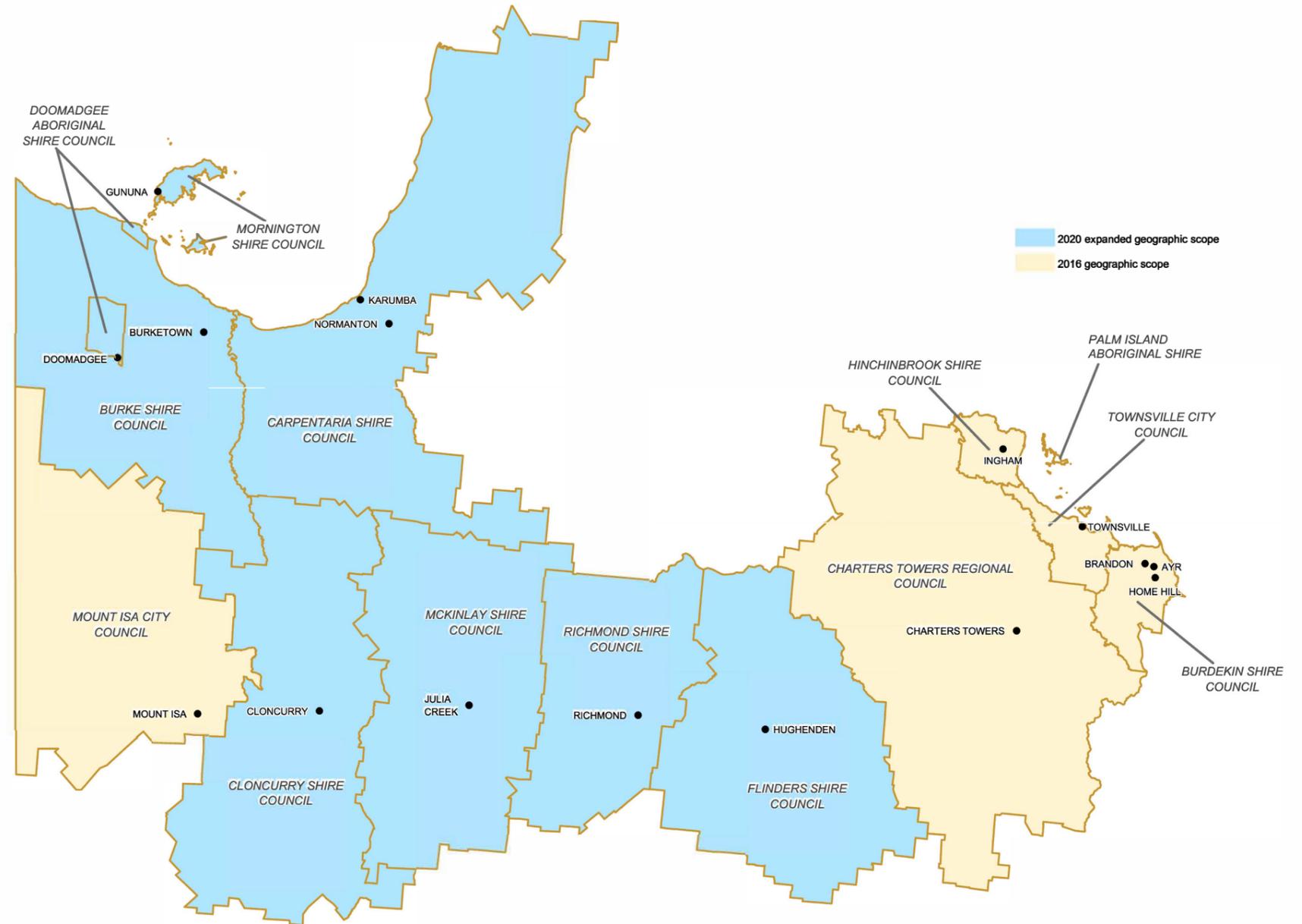


Figure 1. Local governments covered by North Queensland Principal Cycle Network Plan.

¹ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

2 Network maps

This section presents the *North West Network Maps*, as shown in Figure 2, and includes an explanation of rationale for routes for each local government area.

The maps show the core routes needed to get more people riding bicycles in the region. Routes shown are indicative and exist to guide further planning. The maps are intended to guide the planning, design and construction of the region's transport network.

The maps have been endorsed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads and all local governments covered by the maps. The maps will be reviewed as part of regular review of the *North Queensland Principal Cycle Network Plan*.

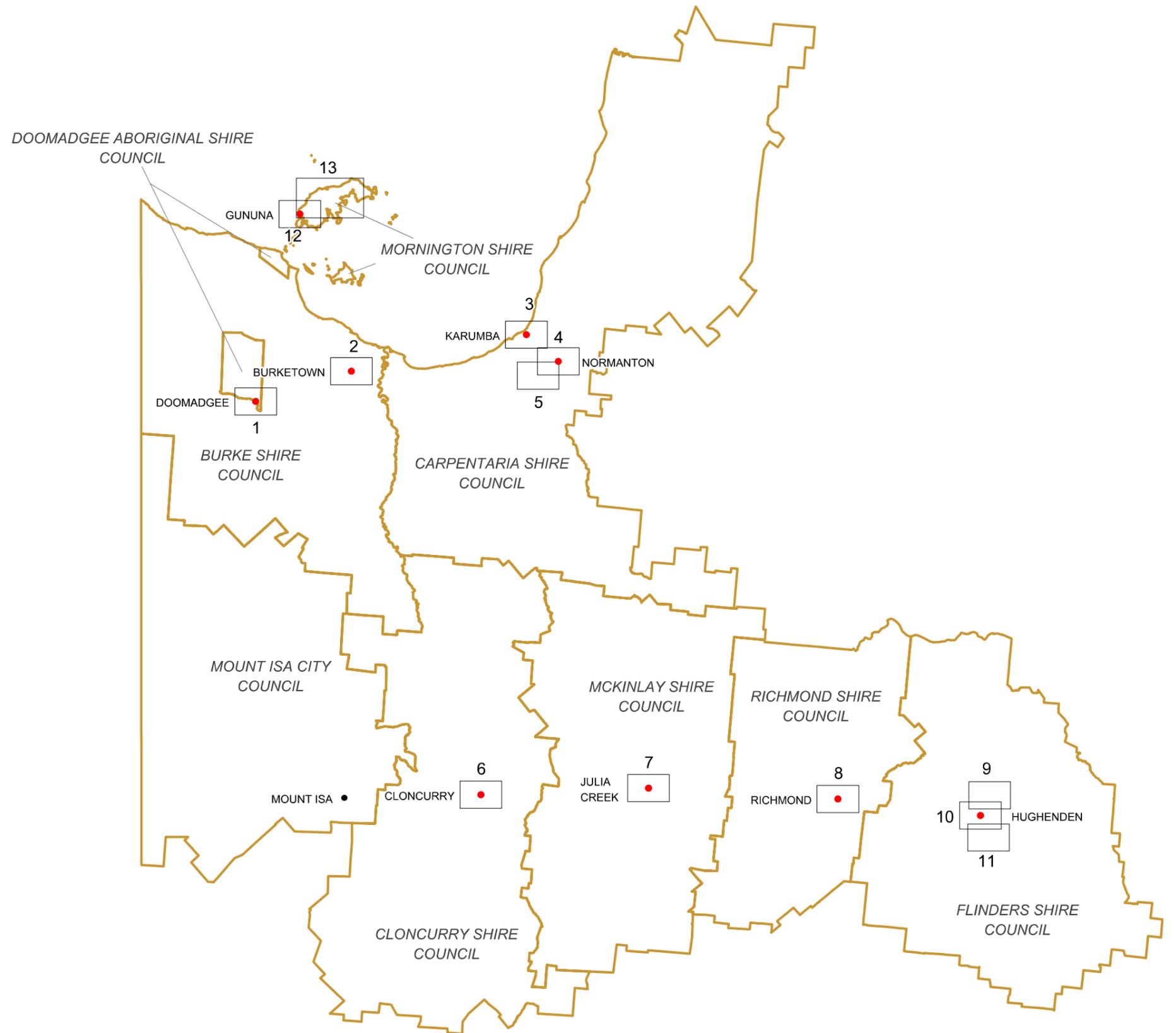


Figure 2. Index of North West Network Maps.

Map 1

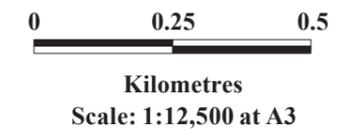
North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

The routes shown are indicative and exist to guide further planning that will determine the precise routes and design of cycle facilities.

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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 1 - Doomadgee

Doomadgee is located about 93km west of Burketown and 104km east of the Northern Territory Border. A gateway to Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park, one of Queensland's most scenic national parks, the town is home to a population of approximately 1520².

The town is situated between the Nicholson River to the south and Doomadgee Road (National Highway 1) to the north, and is the last township on the Queensland section of the Savannah Way, Australia's Adventure Drive linking Cairns in north Queensland with Broome in Western Australia.

The principal cycle network includes a north to south route along Goodeedawa Road, providing access from the Doomadgee Roadhouse, located adjacent to Doomadgee Road, to the town centre. An east to west route along Gunnalunja Drive provides access to residential areas and the Nicholson River.

² Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

Map 2

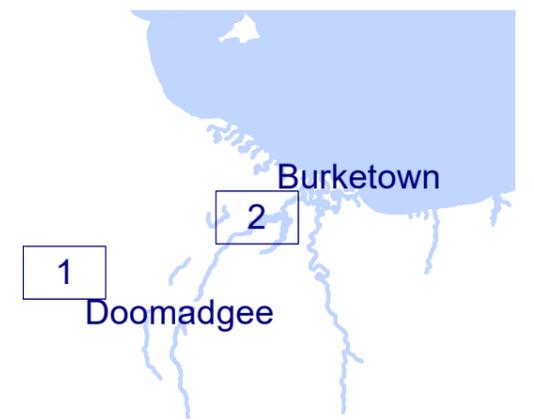
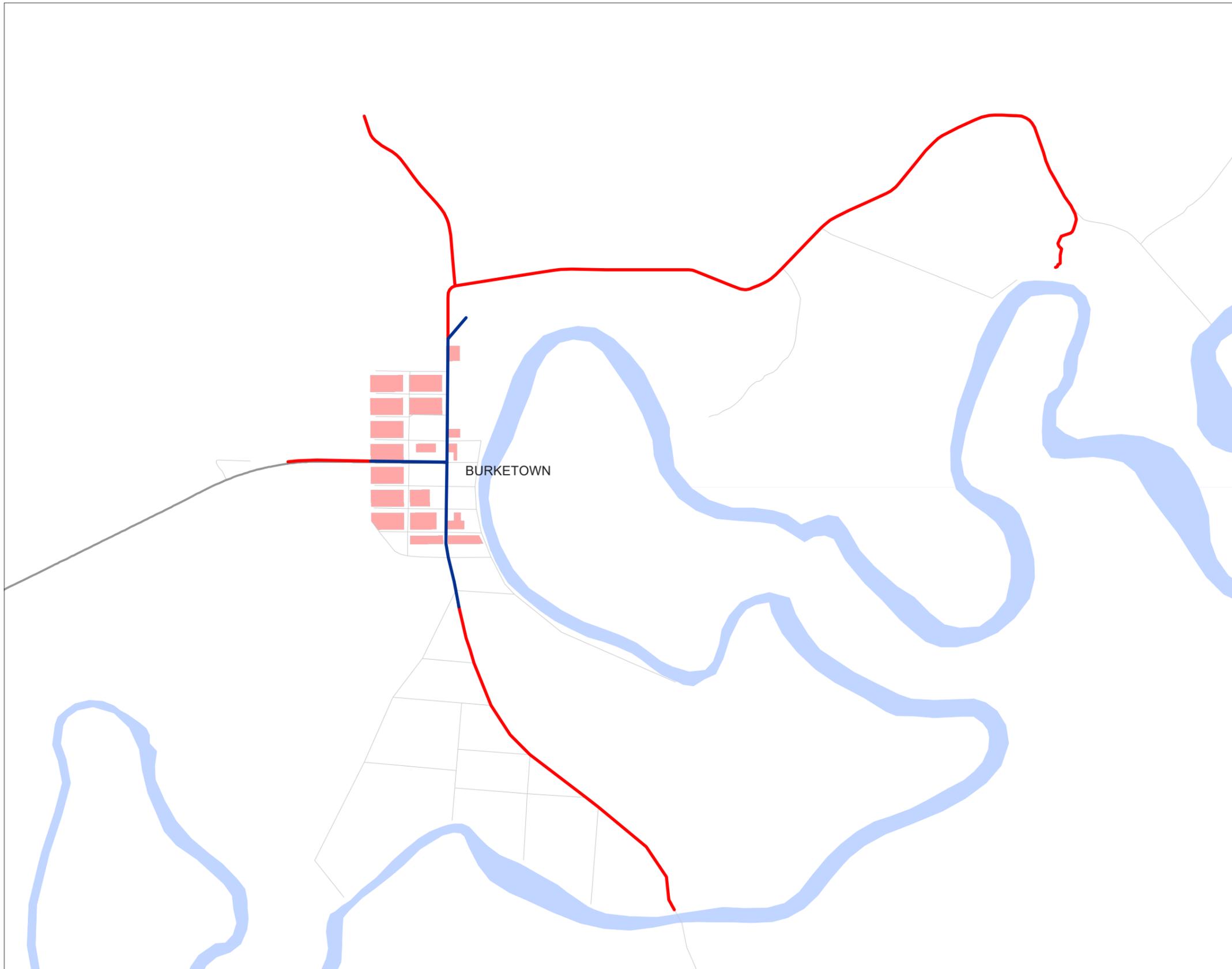
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:12,500 at A3

Burke Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 2 - Burketown

Burketown is located on the Albert River about 418km north of Mount Isa and about 40km south of the Gulf of Carpentaria. It is the largest township in the shire and home to a population of approximately 170³.

Burketown is known for its barramundi fishing and the diverse natural beauty and rich cultural heritage of its surrounds. It is also famous for a rare meteorological phenomenon referred to as the Morning Glory Cloud that rolls across the Gulf and can be observed in the skies above the town during the months of September and October.

Burketown is located at the junction of state-controlled Wills Developmental Road to the west and Nardoo-Burketown Road to the south, both of which form part of the Savannah Way, Australia's Adventure Drive linking Cairns in north Queensland with Broome in Western Australia.

The principal cycle network includes a north to south route along Truganini Road, Beames Street and Nardoo Burketown Road, providing access from the hospital and Burketown Primary School in the north, through the town centre to tourist accommodation and the Burketown Thermal Springs in the south.

Tourism routes are identified along Nardoo Burketown Road, extending south from the Burketown Thermal Hot Springs to the Albert River, and along Truganini Road, extending north from Burketown Hospital to the Burketown Wharf, both linking to popular fishing locations.

Tourism routes are also identified along an unnamed road extending north from Truganini Road to the Burketown Cemetery, a historical site and popular stargazing location; and along Wills Developmental Road extending west from town to Airport Connection Road, a popular recreation and wildlife viewing area. East of the tourism route, Wills Developmental Road is identified as a principal route, providing access from a residential area to the town centre.

³ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

Map 3

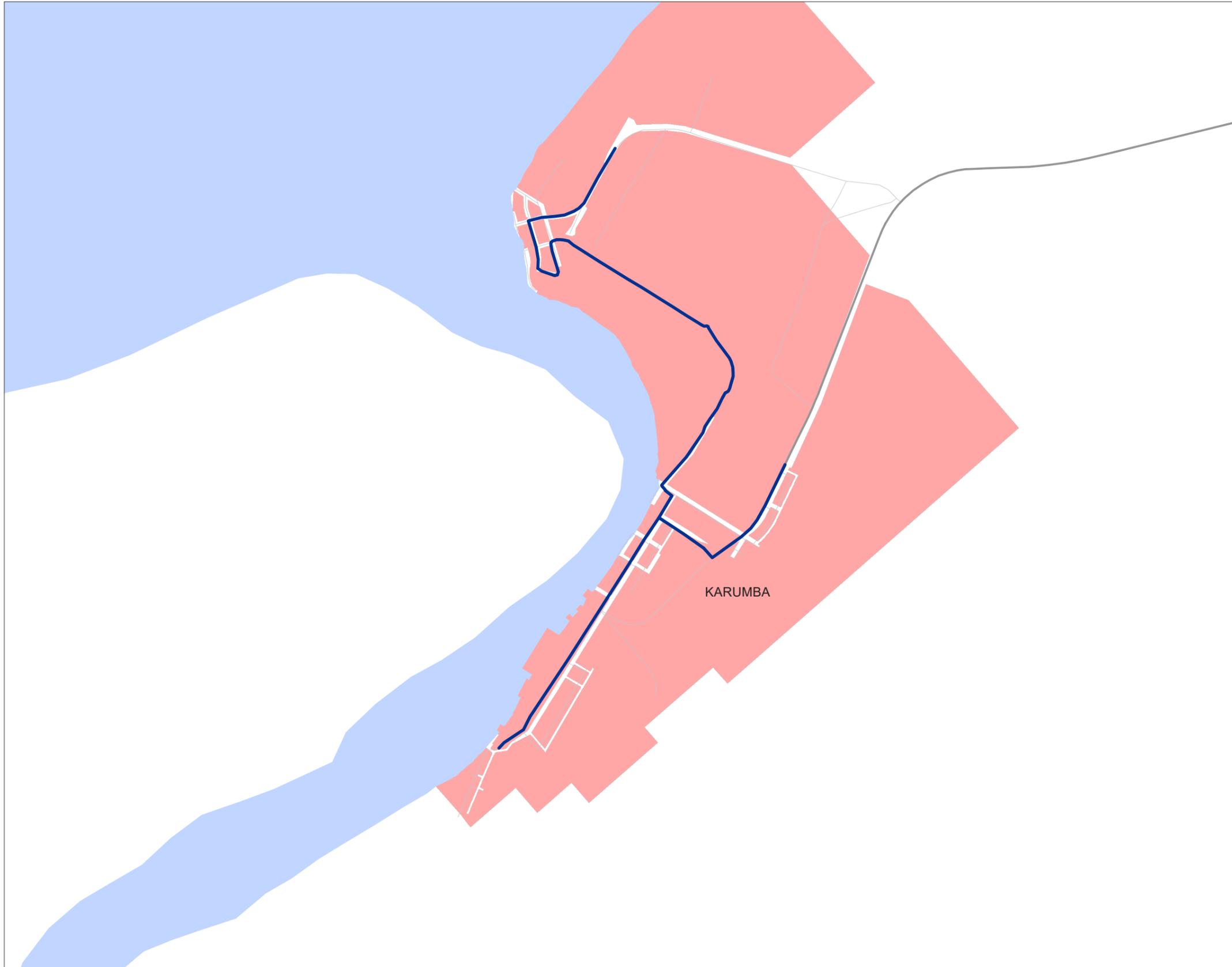
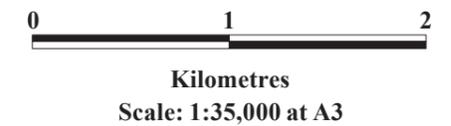
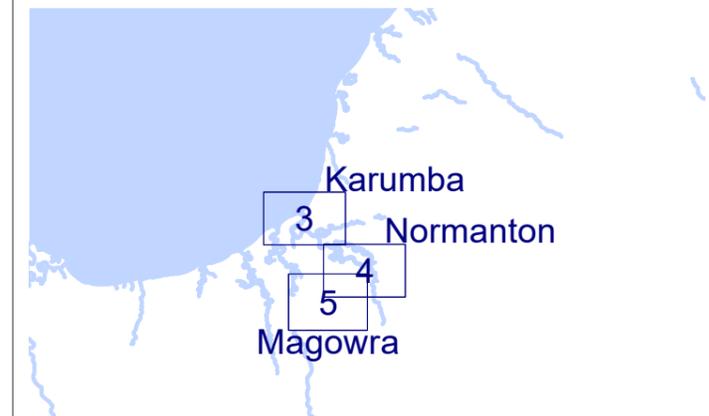
North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Map 4

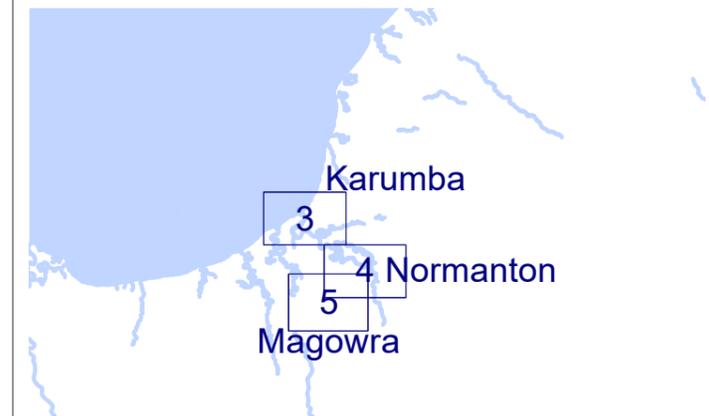
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-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:22,500 at A3



Map 5

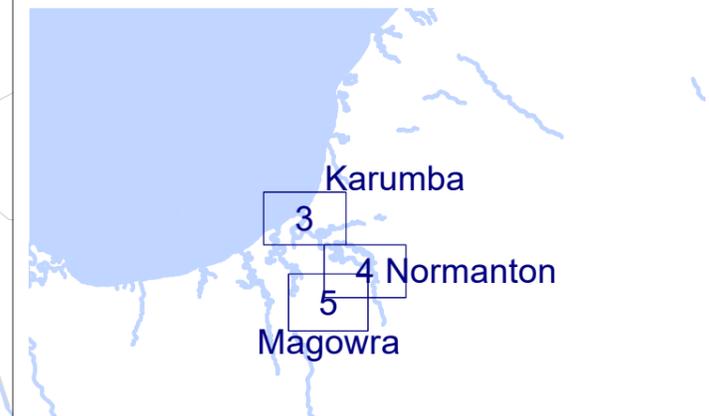
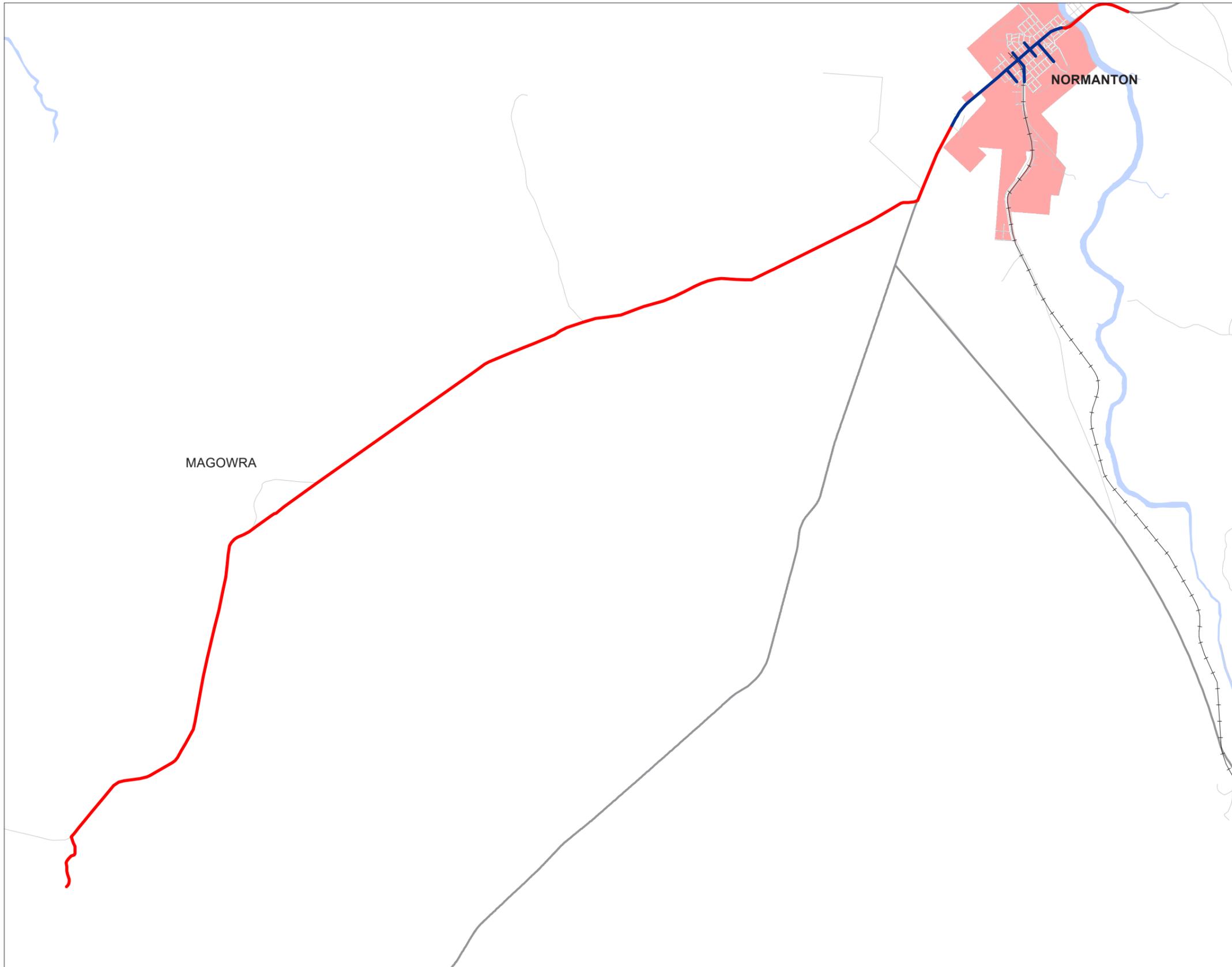
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:110,000 at A3

Carpentaria Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 3 - Karumba

Karumba is located about 71km north of Normanton and is home to a population of approximately 540⁴. It is the commercial centre for the shire with an active port based on export of live cattle and a substantial fishing industry.

Karumba is located at the mouth of the Norman River where it meets the Gulf of Carpentaria. It has a significant tourism industry with visitors coming to experience great fishing, spectacular sunsets and to take part in the iconic Cairns to Karumba (C2K) bike ride.

The main access to the town is via the state-controlled Karumba Developmental Road. The town is split into two precincts consisting of the airport and tourism uses on the shores of the gulf to the north, and the commercial centre and main port located on the southern bank of the river.

The principal cycle network includes a north to south route along Yappar Street, providing access from the Karumba State School, through the town centre to the main port and Les Mills Barramundi Discovery Centre. Walker Street provides a connection east to the hospital, sports centre and parks, continuing north to a residential area.

A principal route along the river foreshore connects Yappar Street to Palmer Street in the tourism precinct to the north. The route continues north along Palmer Street and Karumba Point Road to the Karumba Point Holiday and Tourist Park, connecting tourist accommodation and key trip attractors.

Maps 4 and 5 - Normanton

Normanton is located about 499km north of Mount Isa and is home to a population of approximately 1230⁵. It is the largest town in the shire and is the government and administrative centre.

The town is located on the Norman River and is the terminus of the heritage-listed Normanton to Croydon rail line. The Gulflander also known as the Tin Hare still runs weekly services on the line taking visitors on a unique journey through the Gulf Savannah.

Commercial uses are focussed along Burke Developmental Road, a state-controlled road and freight route that bisects the town to the north and south. The balance of developed areas is mostly residential, with some industrial uses and the airport located to the south.

The principal cycle network includes an east to west spine along Burke Developmental Road, providing access from the Esplanade, through the town centre to the racecourse. Routes identified along Noel Street, Matilda Street, Old Croydon Road, Brodie Street and Brown Street provide connections north and south, linking residential areas and key trip attractors such as such as the rail station, TAFE, schools and local parks.

A tourism route is identified along Burke Developmental Road and Burke-town Normanton Road, extending south from the racecourse to Burke and Wills Camp 119, a historical site. Burke Developmental Road, north of the Esplanade, is also identified as a tourism route, connecting to Corduroy Creek and the Mutton Hole Wetlands Conservation Park.

^{4, 5} Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

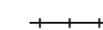
Map 6

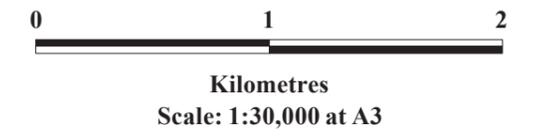
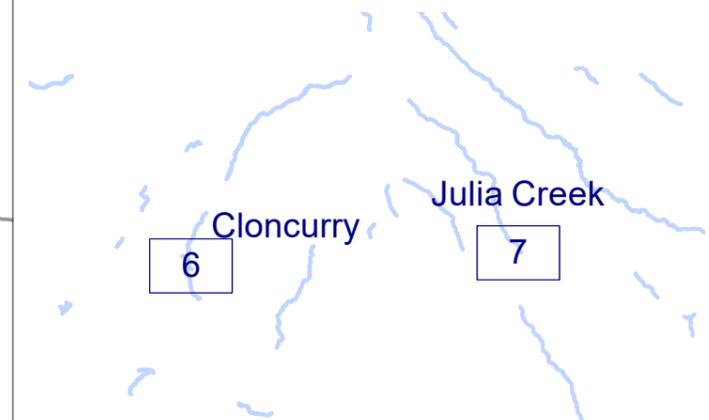
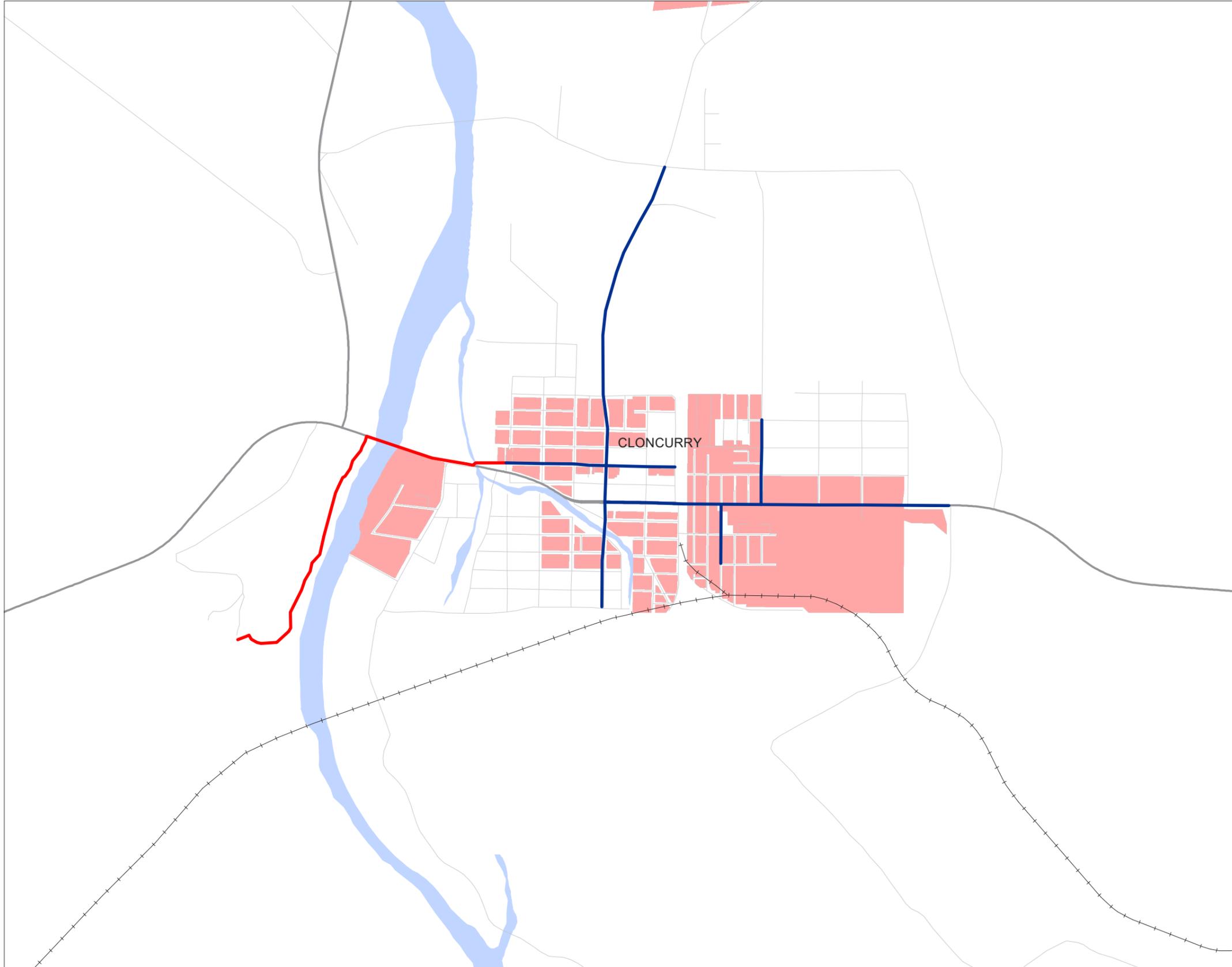
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Cloncurry Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 6 - Cloncurry

Cloncurry is located about 119km east of Mount Isa and is home to a population of approximately 2330⁶. Known as one of the friendliest towns in Queensland, Cloncurry is the birthplace of Australia's Royal Flying Doctor Service and is the gateway to the north west of Outback Queensland.

Cloncurry is situated at the junction of several state-controlled roads. The Barkly Highway (Ramsay Street) and Flinders Highway (Mcilwraith Street) bisect the town to the north and south. The Barkly Highway intersects Burke Developmental Road west of the town.

An active rail line and station is located south of the town. A spur line bisects the town east to west along Railway Avenue and Station Street. The line is a critical freight link and also carries the Inlander train, a twice-weekly passenger service from Townsville to Mount Isa.

The principal cycle network includes an east to west spine along Ramsay Street and Mcilwraith Street, providing access from the hospital and tourist accommodation, through residential areas to the town centre. Routes along Railway Street and Steele Street provide access to residential areas to the north and south, respectively.

A north to south route is identified along Ernest Henry Road and Sheaffe Street, providing access from the racecourse and industrial areas, through the town centre to residential areas. A route identified along Daintree Street provides access east and west, linking residential areas and key trip attractors such as Cloncurry State School and John Flynn Place Museum.

A tourism route is identified along Barkly Highway, extending west from Daintree Street and continuing south along the west bank of the Cloncurry River to the Chinaman Creek Dam park area, a popular recreation and wildlife viewing area.

⁶ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

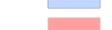
Map 7

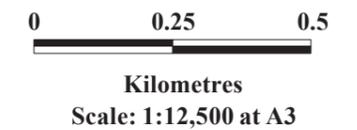
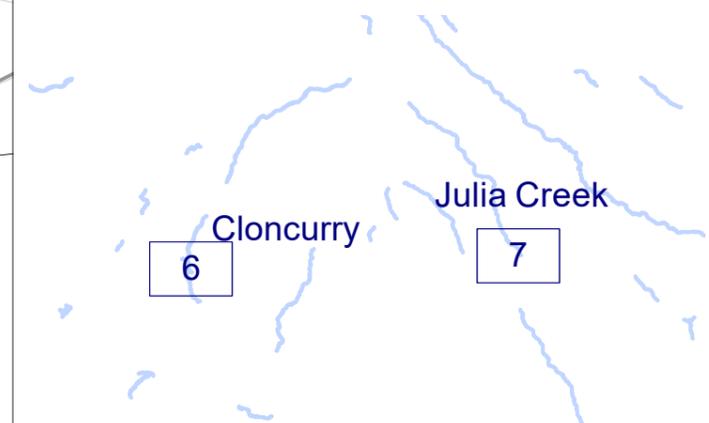
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



McKinlay Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 7 - Julia Creek

Julia Creek is located about 250km east of Mount Isa and is home to a population of approximately 420⁷. For one weekend each April, the town's population swells to several thousand as domestic and international visitors participate in the Dirt n Dust Festival, featuring horse races, bull riding and Australia's toughest sprint triathlon.

The town is situated on the state-controlled Flinders Highway also known as the Overlanders Way, a State Strategic Touring Route extending from Townsville to Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory. The Mount Isa Rail Line is located south of the town and carries freight and the Inlander train, a twice-weekly passenger service from Townsville to Mount Isa.

The principal cycle network includes an east to west spine along Burke Street (Flinders Highway), providing access through the town centre. Routes identified along Alison Street, Julia Creek Kynuna Road and Julia Street provide connections north and south, linking residential areas, industrial areas, racecourse, rail station and caravan park.

A tourism route is identified extending east from Julia Street and Burke Street, encircling the free camping area along the water's edge of Julia Creek and the Nature Trail, a walking circuit and popular wildlife viewing area.

⁷ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

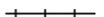
Map 8

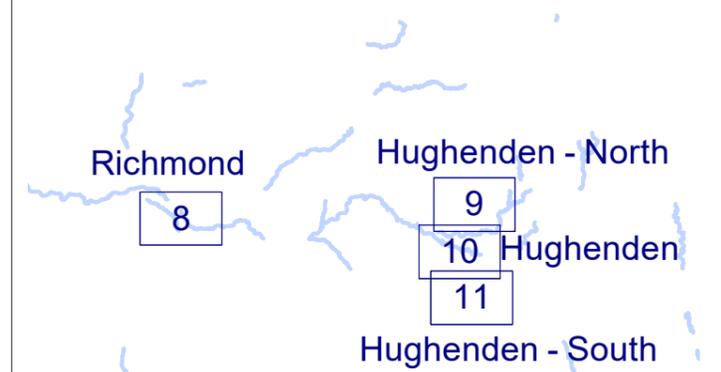
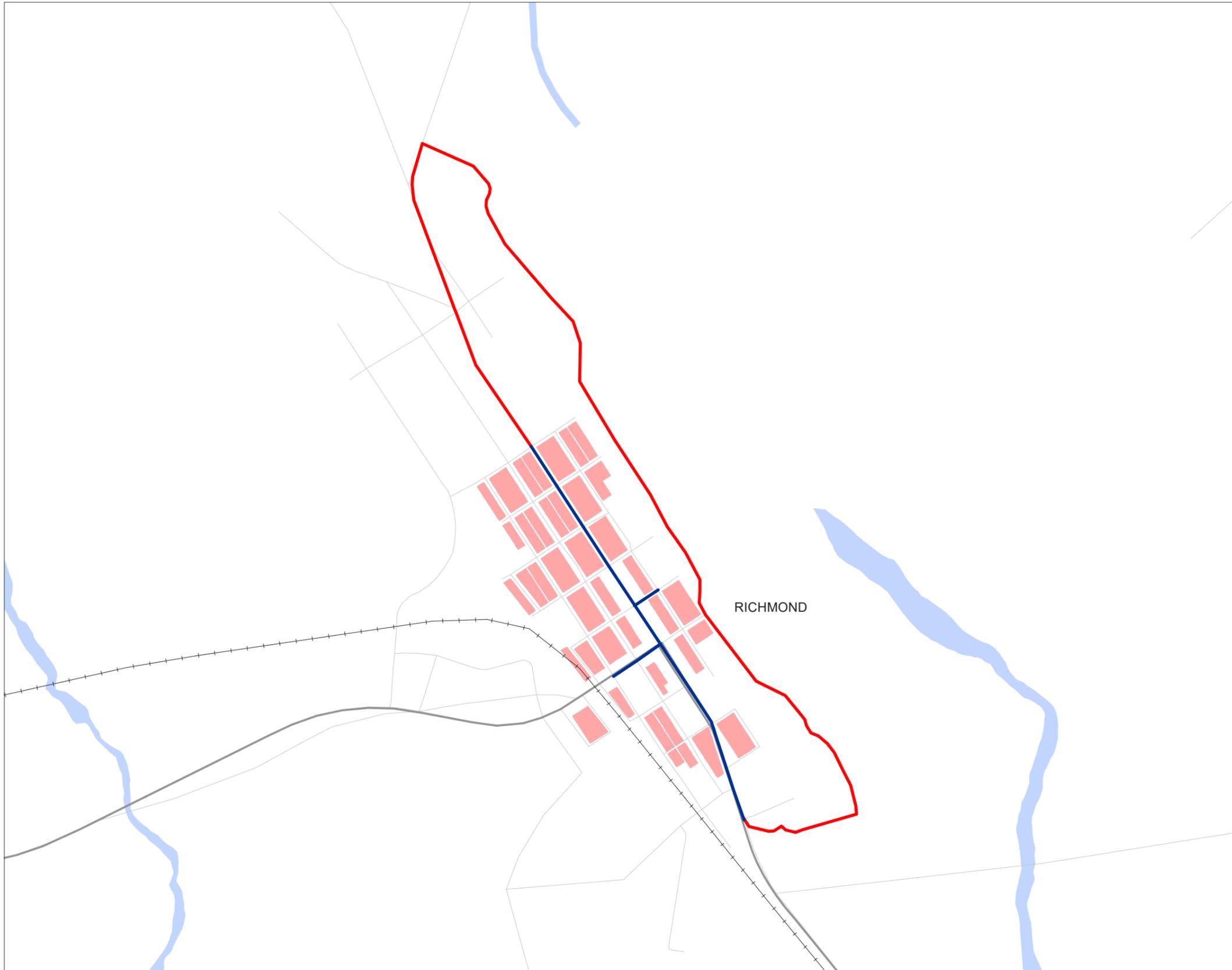
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:20,00 at A3

Richmond Shire Council analysis of routes

Map 8 - Richmond

Richmond is located about 406km east west of Mount Isa and home to a population of approximately 530⁸. Once part of the vast Inland Sea, Richmond is a key destination on the Australian Dinosaur Trail and is home of Australia's premier marine fossil collection.

Richmond is the main business centre for the shire and is situated on the Flinders Highway (Larson Street and Goldring Street), a state-controlled road and key freight route. The Mount Isa Rail Line traverses the west of town and is a critical freight link that also carries the Inlander train, a twice-weekly passenger service from Townsville to Mount Isa.

The principal cycle network includes a north to south route along Goldring Street, providing access from the racecourse, through the town centre to Fred Tritton Lake and the hospital. Larsen Street provides link west to Richmond State School. Lloyd Street provides link east.

In the north of town, a tourism route is identified along Richmond Woolgar Road, extending north from Macgoffin Street around the back of the racecourse, before heading south to Fred Tritton Lake and the hospital, ending near the Kronosaurus Water Park.

⁸ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

Map 9

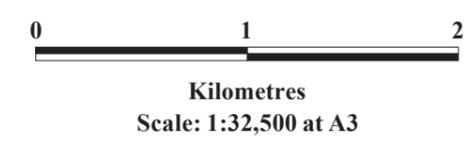
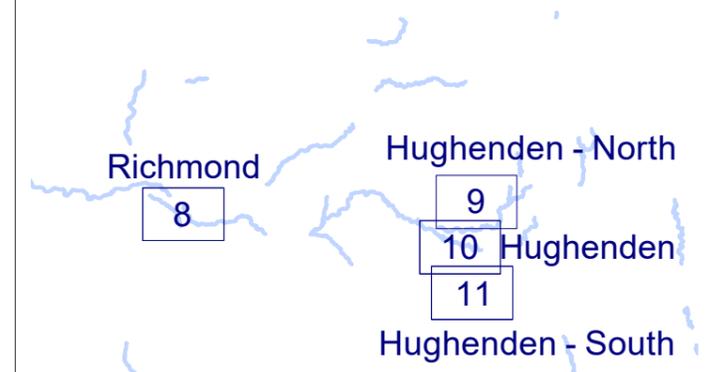
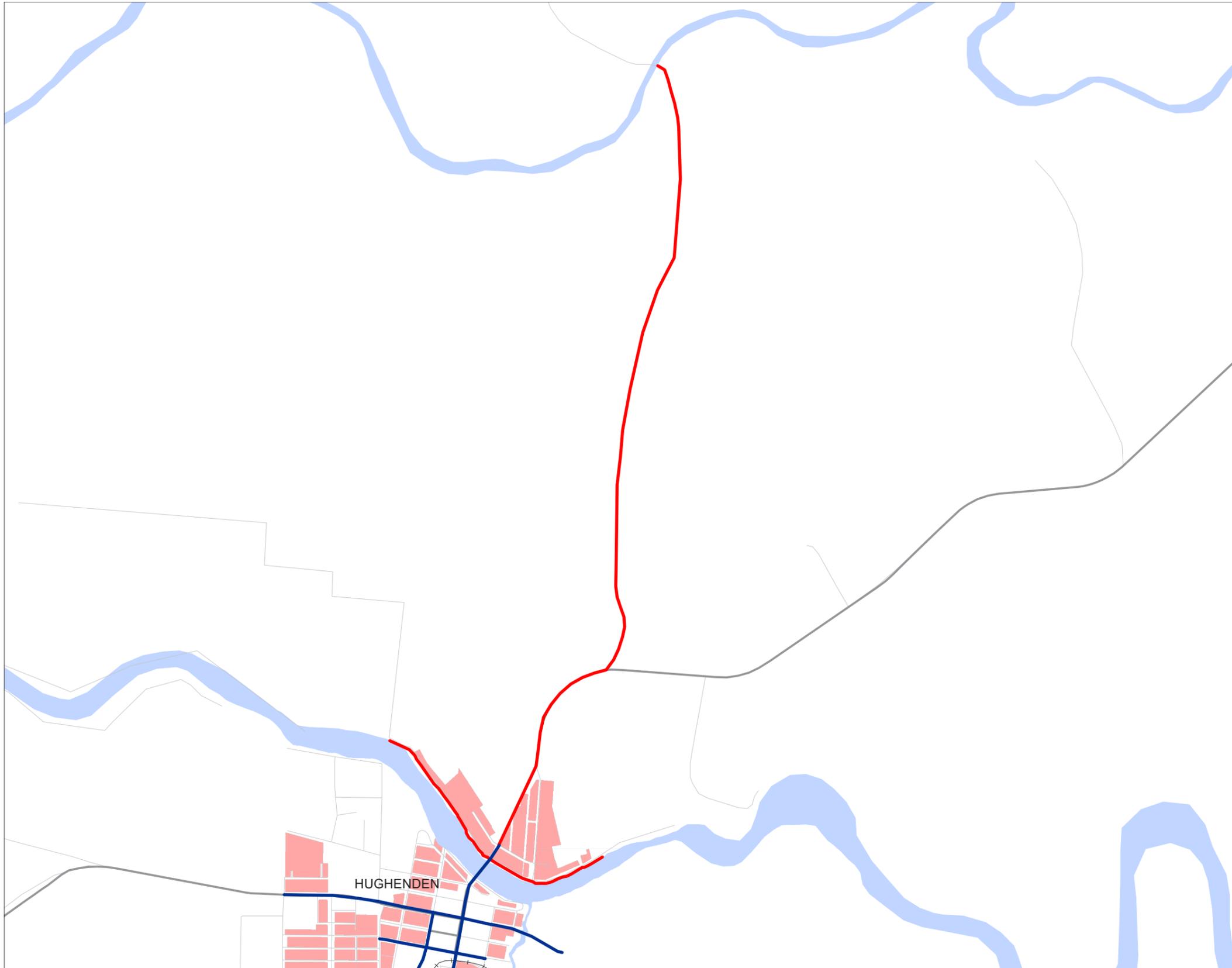
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LEGEND

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-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Map 10

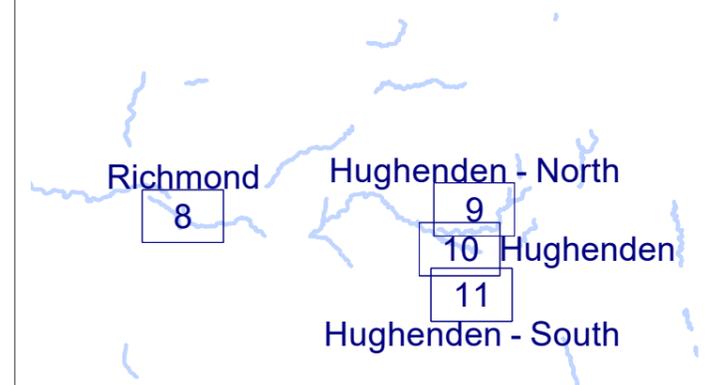
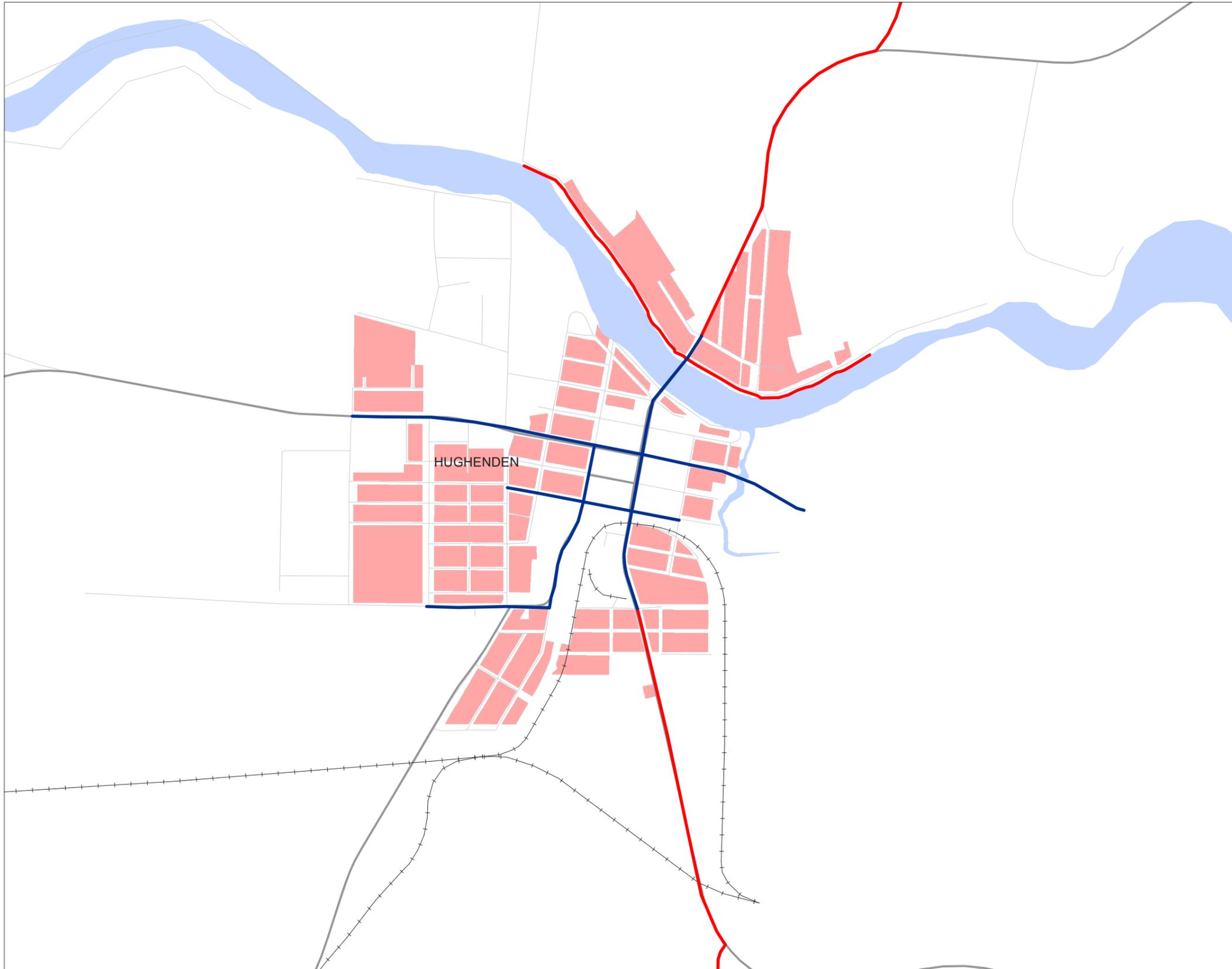
North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

The routes shown are indicative and exist to guide further planning that will determine the precise routes and design of cycle facilities.

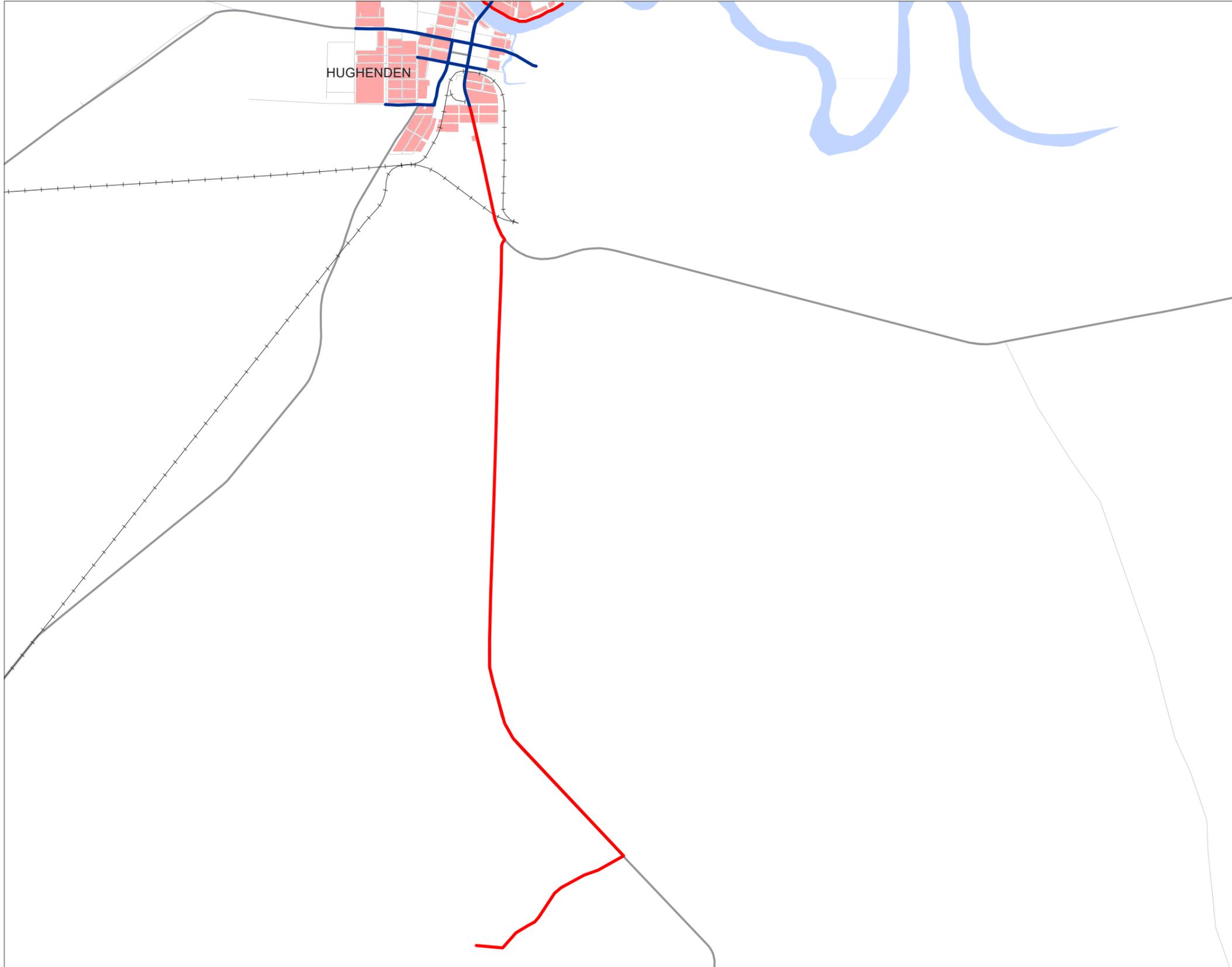
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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:20,00 at A3



Map 11

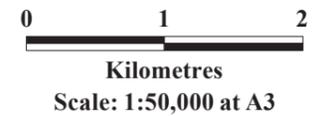
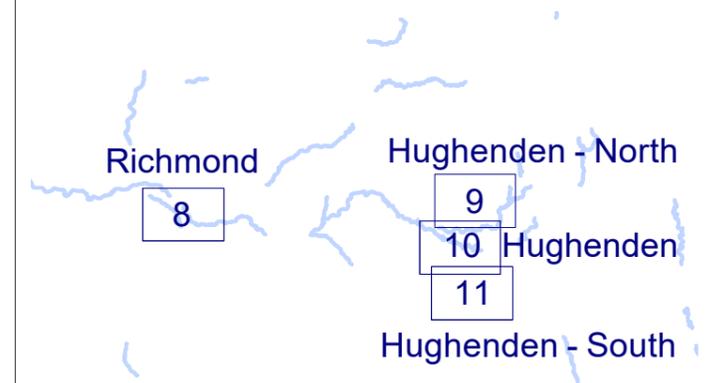
North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Flinders Shire Council analysis of routes

Maps 9, 10 and 11 - Hughenden

Hughenden is located about 519km east of Mount Isa and is home to a population of approximately 1040⁹. Located on the banks of the Flinders River, Queensland's longest river, Hughenden is a key destination on the Australian Dinosaur Trail.

Hughenden is the main business centre for the shire and is situated at the junction of several state-controlled roads including Flinders Highway, Kennedy Developmental Road and Hughenden Muttaborra Road. The Mount Isa Rail Line traverses the south east of town and carries freight and the Inlander train, a twice-weekly passenger service from Townsville to Mount Isa.

The principal cycle network includes an east to west spine along Flinders Highway, providing access from the showgrounds, through the town centre and residential areas to the hospital. An east to west route along Moran Street provides access to Hughenden State School.

A route along Gray Street and Kennedy Development Road provides access from the town centre to a residential area north of the Flinders River. Routes identified along Flinders Highway and Resolution Street provide access south from the town centre to residential and industrial areas.

Tourism routes are identified traversing Robert Gray Memorial Park, and along Kennedy Development Road and Torver Valley Road, extending north from Little Avenue to the Flinders River, both popular recreational areas.

A tourism route is also identified along Flinders Highway and Hughenden Muttaborra Road, extending south from McLay Street to Mt Walker, a sandstone tabletop that provides 360 degree views over the surrounding area.

⁹ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

Map 12

North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:12,500 at A3

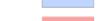
Map 13

North Queensland Principal Cycle Network

The routes shown are indicative and exist to guide further planning that will determine the precise routes and design of cycle facilities.

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LEGEND

-  Principal Route
-  Future Principal Route
-  Tourism Route
-  Major road
-  Railway Line
-  Airport
-  Waterway/Waterbody
-  Urban Area



Kilometres
Scale: 1:170,000 at A3

Mornington Shire Council analysis of routes

Maps 12 and 13 - Gununa and Wellesley Islands

Gununa is located on Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria, about 440km north of Mount Isa and 28km off the coast of mainland Australia. Mornington Island has a unique natural environment and is known for its rich Indigenous cultural heritage.

Gununa is home to a population of approximately 1200¹⁰. The township is serviced by regular passenger flights from Mt Isa and Cairns and barge operation from Karumba.

The principal cycle network consists of an east to west route along Lardil Street and Marndatharrkan Street, providing access to key attractors across the linear township. Tourism routes are identified along the coastline and extending inland to the north coast.

¹⁰ Queensland Government Statistician's Office, 'Population Estimates: Regions', <https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions> (accessed 1 May 2020)

