

7.10. AMENDMENT DECLARATION OF SEWER AND WATER SERVICE AREAS WITHIN DOUGLAS SHIRE - OCTOBER 2025

REPORT AUTHOR	Manager Water and Wastewater
MANAGER	Chief Engineer TC Jasper Infrastructure and Recovery
DEPARTMENT	Water and Wastewater
RECOMMENDATION	

That Council:

- 1. Resolves that Douglas Shire Council is the service provider for the provision of reticulated water and sewerage services within Douglas Shire;**
- 2. Resolves to declare the revised maps attached indicate the service areas within the coloured boundary (relevant area) for reticulated water and sewerage within Douglas Shire; and**
- 3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to administer all matters in relation to the above.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Douglas Shire Council acts as the local government entity supplying water and sewerage services in part of the local government area. Under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, the Council is required to declare retail water and sewerage service areas and then publish the declaration and service area maps on the website. The service area maps must be reviewed and if required, updated by the registered service provider at least annually. Declaration of service areas provide the basis for a guarantee of connection for all premises in the service area. Additionally, the declared service areas enable service providers to recover reasonable costs from customers for ensuring their networks are designed for and can accommodate the service requirement of all premises in the service area.

BACKGROUND

In 2019, the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (the Act) was amended. One of the key changes to Section 161 of the Act was the requirement for service providers to formally declare service areas (for reticulated water and/or sewerage) through a Council resolution. Prior to this amendment, declaring a service area was voluntary.

A declaration of service area is required if a local government supplies a reticulated water service or sewerage service in all or part of the local government area (a relevant area). By resolution the local government must make this declaration. The declaration must be published on the local government's website and made available for inspection and purchase. After the declaration, the local government must, as soon as practicable, produce a map which details the service area boundaries for water and/or sewerage services and identify the location of the service providers' infrastructure.

Council first adopted the declared water and sewer service areas at an Ordinary Council Meeting dated 11 February 2020, a subsequent update was approved by Council on 22

February 2022. Over the following years the boundaries of the water and sewerage network areas within the Douglas Shire have been published on the Douglas Shire Council's website. As part of the most recent review, additional land parcels have been identified for inclusion within the declared network area (see attachments 7.2.1 to 7.2.8 for updated boundary maps).

Boundary maps were developed by identifying properties that are currently subject to water and sewer rates. This data was then mapped, and the boundaries were created through a complex process involving careful analysis of every parcel of land.

COMMENTS

Officers in the Water and Wastewater Business Unit have undertaken a review of the declared water and sewerage network service area boundaries. The review resulted in no changes to sewer service areas. The following properties have been identified for inclusion within the Water Service Area.

New Inclusions				
Assessment:	Lot:	Parcel	Address:	Property Name:
994491	3RP910264	9162	6 Dean Road Bamboo	
863175	65CP903509	8759	Mossman Daintree Road Wonga Beach	Wonga Community Park; Wonga Community Park & Toilet
862417	374SR533	3822	19 Marine Parade Newell	Newell Beach Toilet Block
603001	400SP317071	158083	87-89 Front Street Mossman	Mossman Fire Station
842278	110SR606	12949	30 Solander Boulevard Port Douglas	Bruno Riedweg Park Douglas Sailing Club
602938	64SR573	158051	14-22 Reef Street Port Douglas	Four Mile Beach Park Port Douglas Outrigger Canoe Club

These parcels and lots have been recommended for inclusion on the following basis:

- Each property has an existing water supply connection;
- Water usage is currently billed; and
- There are no cost impacts to Council associated with adding these connections to the Water Service Area.

The inclusion of these properties:

- Does not incur any additional costs to Council by adding them to the Water Service Area; and
- Improves the accuracy of the Water and Sewerage Area mapping.

The updated maps reflecting these changes are attached (Attachments: 7.2.4, 7.2.5, 7.2.7, and 7.2.8).

PROPOSAL

That Council:

1. Resolves that Douglas Shire Council is the service provider for the provision of reticulated water and sewerage services within Douglas Shire;

2. Resolves to declare the revised maps attached indicate the service areas within the coloured boundary (relevant area) for reticulated water and sewerage within Douglas Shire; and
3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to administer all matters in relation to the above.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The declared service areas enable water and sewerage service providers to recover reasonable costs from customers to ensure the service provider's network is designed for and can accommodate the service requirement of all premises within the service area.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Nil

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Cost Recovery

Environmental: Nil

Social: Nil

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Liveability

To deliver community activities to promote safe, healthy, inclusive and socially engaged communities with an environmental conscious.

1.8 - Provide safe, efficient and reliable water and wastewater services.

Theme 3 - Service Delivery

We deliver Council services effectively and efficiently to meet community expectations, focusing on the wellbeing of both the community and our employees.

3.8 - Deliver safe and reliable drinking water.

Operational Plan 2025-2026 Actions:

Nil

COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

Builder/Owner	Council makes a significant investment every year in the infrastructure that underpins the Shire through its capital works program. Council will manage its assets with appropriate frameworks and deliver its projects through robust project management.
Information Provider	Council provides the community with important information on services, events, policies, rules, strategies, and any other relevant data that helps the community to stay informed. In performing this role, Council seeks to be open and transparent.
Service Provider	Council provides many services to the community from roads and waste services to libraries and recreational facilities. Services evolve over time and it is the Council's mission to ensure that these services are appropriate, delivered efficiently, and designed with the customer at the centre.

CONSULTATION

Internal: GIS Officer, Finance, Rates, Water and Wastewater

The proposed service areas were presented to Councillors for discussion at a workshop on 14 October 2025.

External: Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Daintree Water Network no change [7.10.1 - 1 page]
2. Lower Daintree (Non Potable) Water Network no change [7.10.2 - 1 page]
3. Mossman & Port Douglas Water Network - Killaloe and Cassowary_ no change [7.10.3 - 1 page]
4. Mossman & Port Douglas Water Network - Mossman changes made [7.10.4 - 1 page]
5. Mossman & Port Douglas Water Network - Port Douglas and Mowbray changes made [7.10.5 - 1 page]
6. Whyanbeel Water Network - Bamboo, Rocky Point, Syndicate & Miallo no changes [7.10.6 - 1 page]
7. Whyanbeel Water Network - Bamboo, Rocky Point, Syndicate & Miallo (top section)_changes made [7.10.7 - 1 page]
8. Whyanbeel Water Network - Wonga Beach - A 3 Portrait changes made [7.10.8 - 1 page]

Daintree -Water Network Area-



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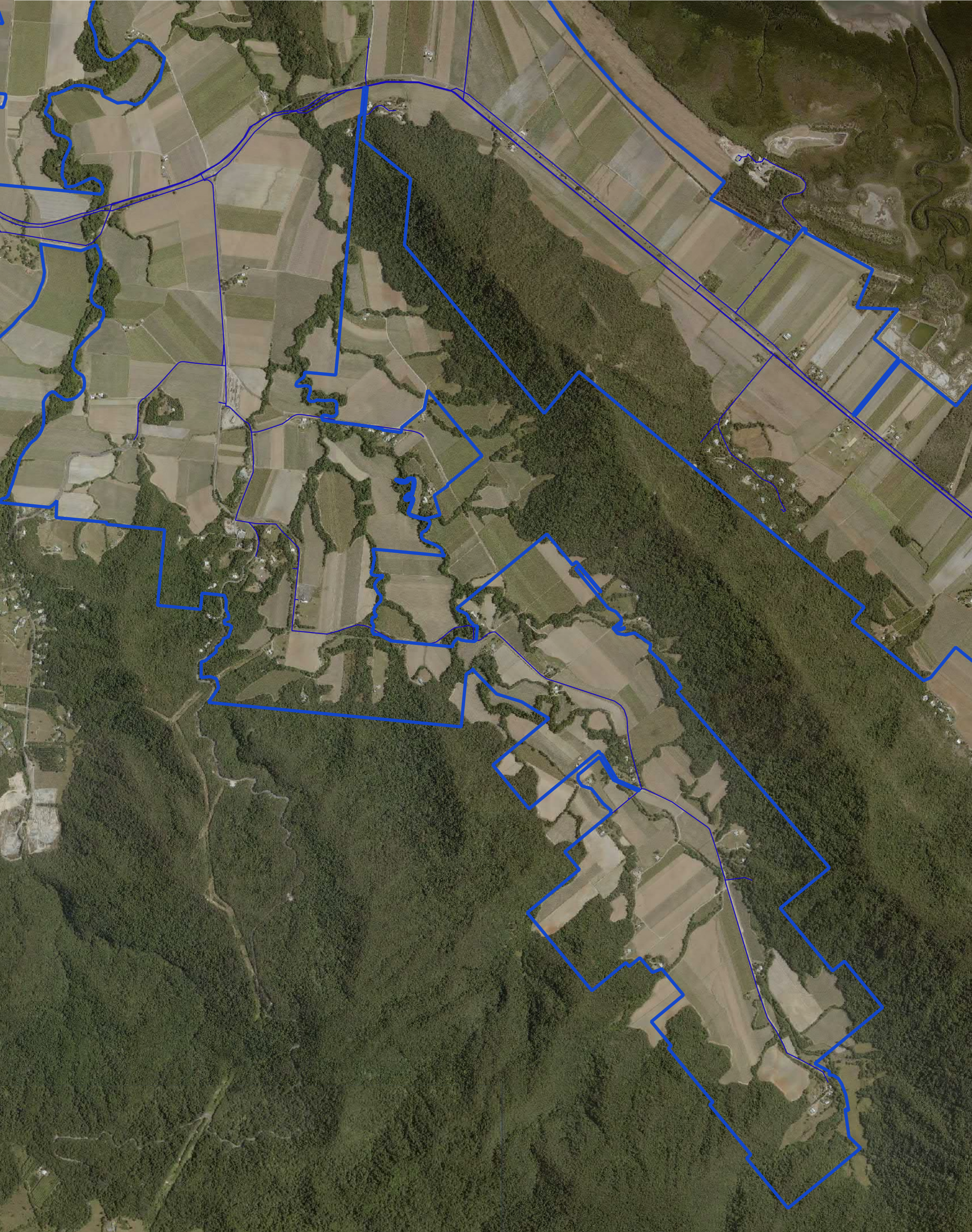


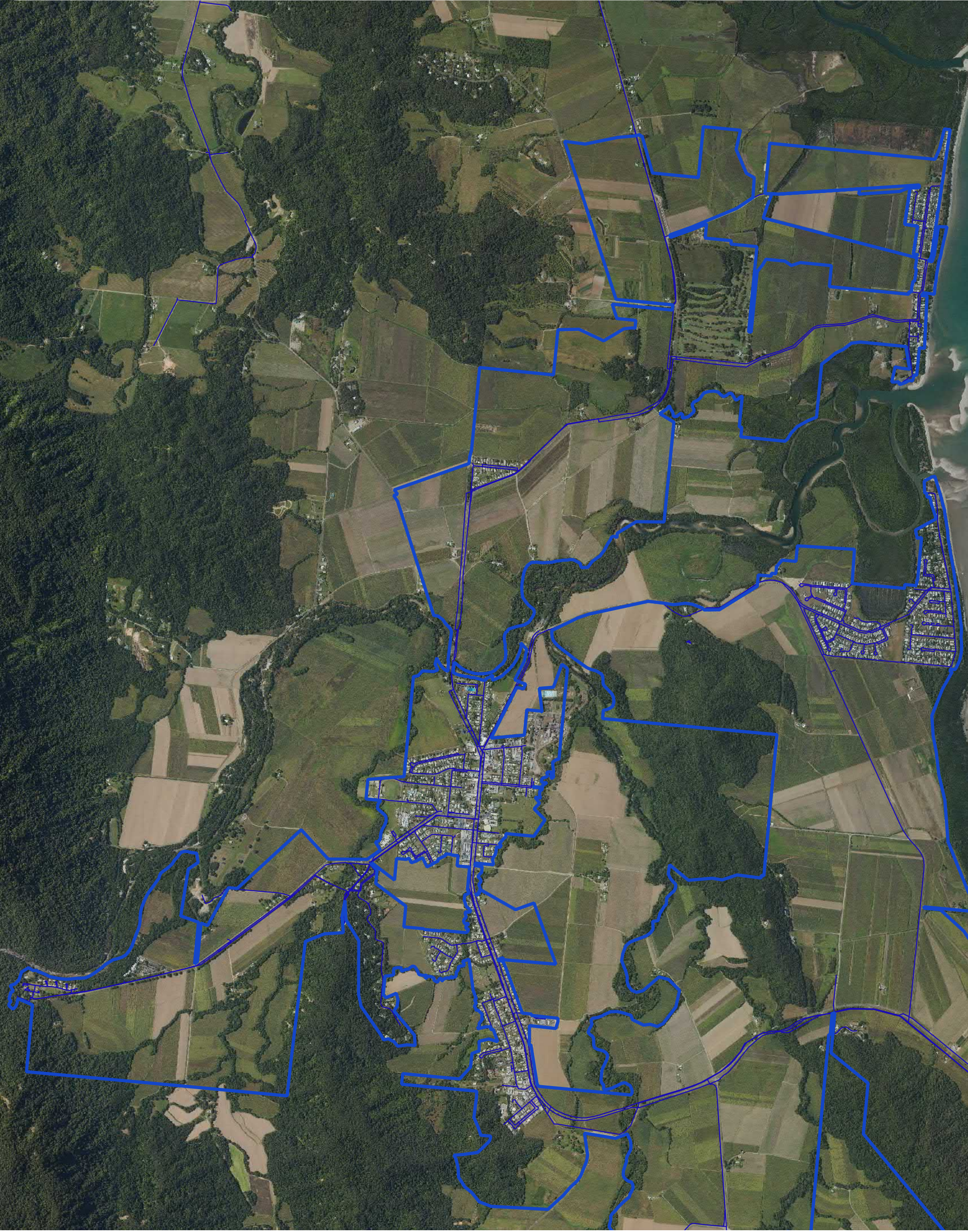
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Publish Date: 02/09/2025
Map Grid of Australia
Zone 55 (GDA20)

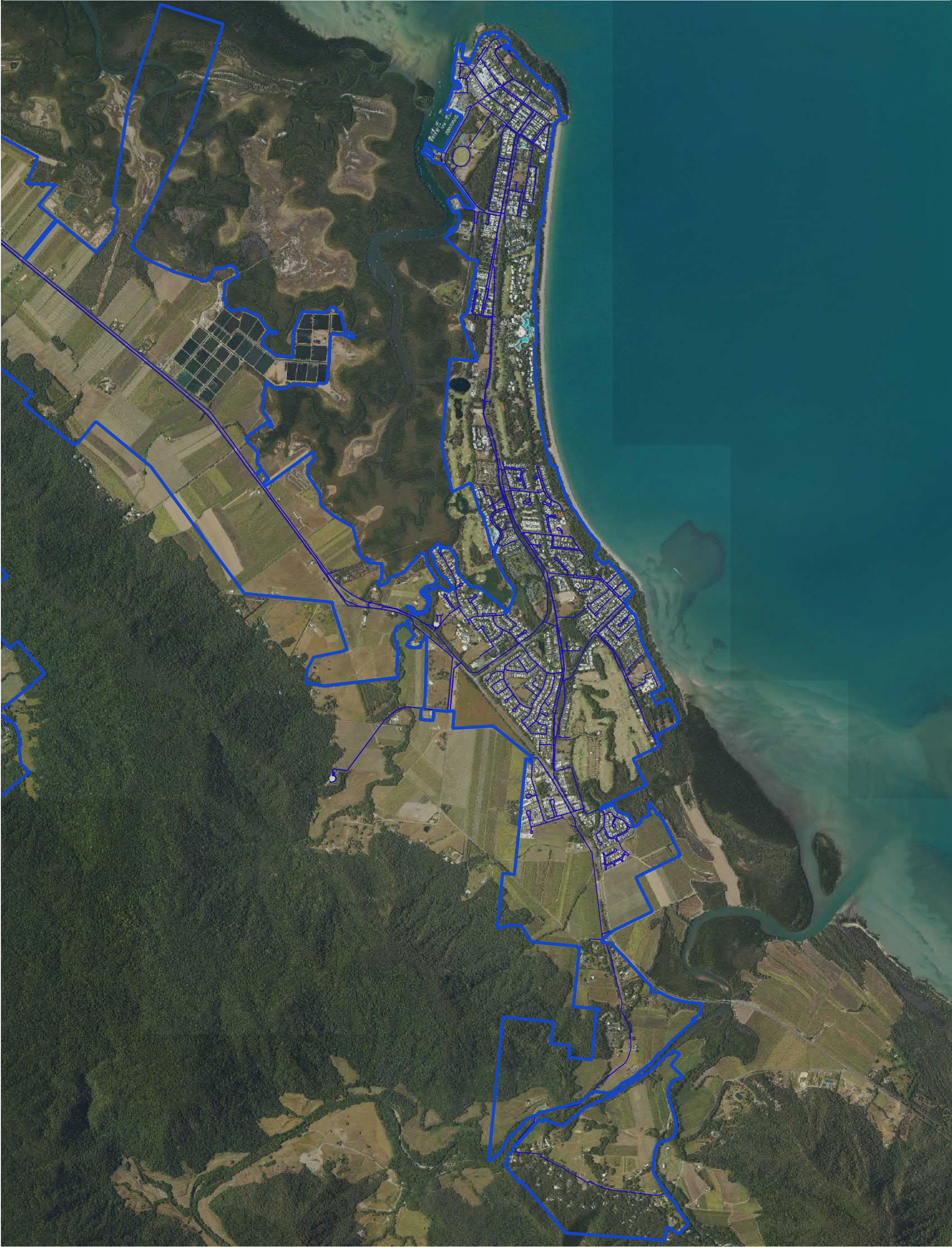
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Port Douglas and Mowbray
-Water Network Area-



Whyanbeel - Bamboo, Rocky Point, Syndicate and Miallo -Water Network Area-



Publish Date: 03/09/2025
Map Grid of Australia
Zone 55 (GDA20)



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Whyanbeel - Bamboo, Rocky Point,
Syndicate and Miallo
-Water Network Area-

Attachment 7 - 117

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Publish Date: 03/09/2025
Map Grid of Australia
Zone 55 (GDA20)

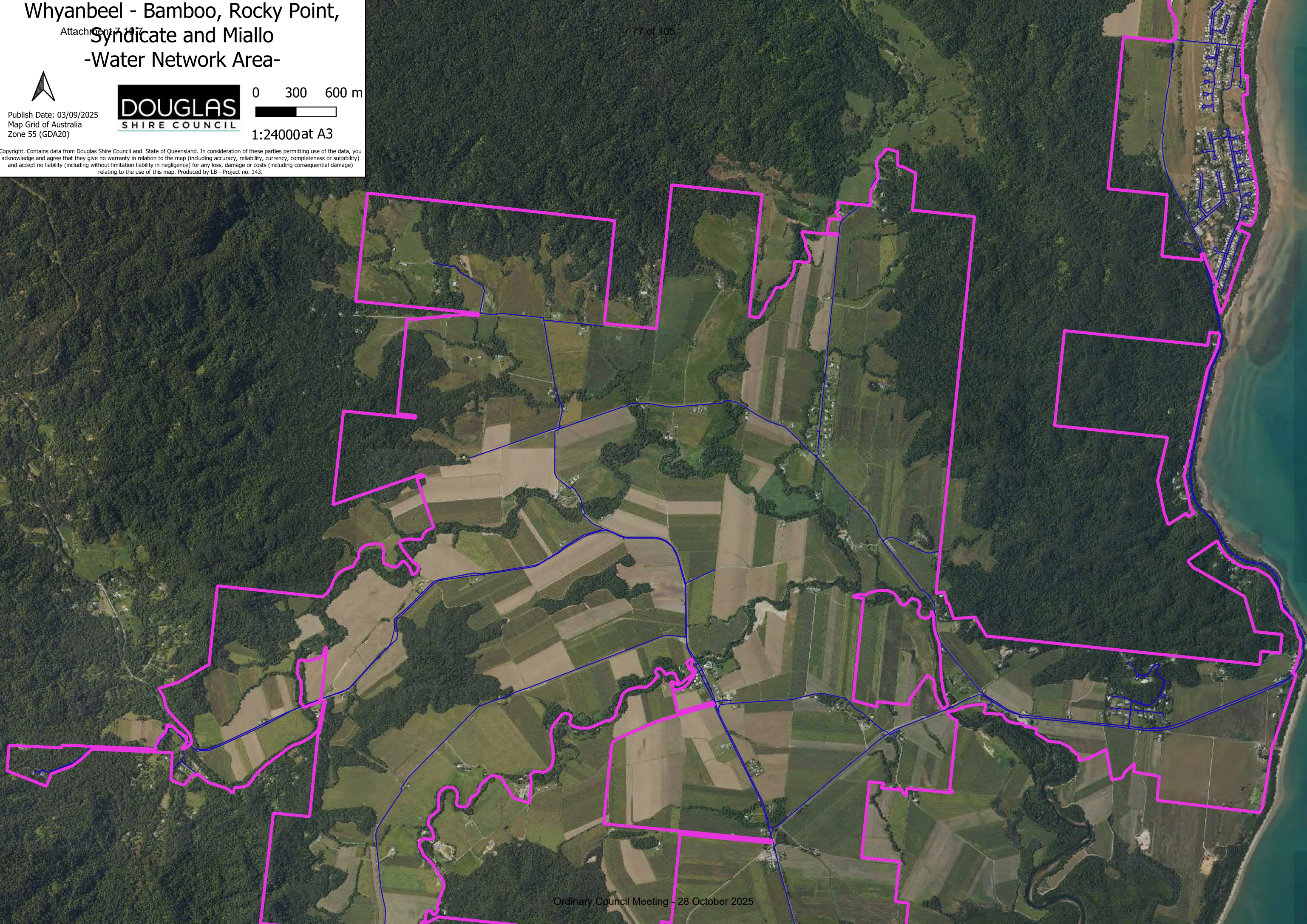


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Wonga Beach
-Water Network Area-

