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DRAFT Albany Local Biodiversity Strategy 2025 – 2035

Summary

City of Albany, Western Australia

Our biodiversity –
Our sense of place –
Our key to future resilience

Prepared For:	City of Albany 102 North Road ALBANY WA 6330
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ALBANY LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

The City of Albany is committed to continuously enhancing the conservation of our local biodiversity through proactive and innovative approaches to environmental planning and sustainable land management. The creation of the Albany Local Biodiversity Strategy (ALBS) provides a pathway for the Albany Council and its stakeholder partners to address environmental threats, provide planning input for areas of local biodiversity, enhance areas managed by the City and celebrate our natural and cultural heritage.

The City has taken a significant step towards the protection of biodiversity in its Local Planning Strategy (2019), which states:

> *Development will generally only be supported in cleared areas. Clearing of vegetation may be supported in liaison with relevant State Government Agencies only where its conservation value has been assessed as low.*

This Local Biodiversity Strategy has been developed through stakeholder collaboration and will thrive only with the support of local organisations and the community. The Strategy outlines the necessary steps to conserve our natural areas for future generations, ensuring the sustainability and liveability of our community.

This is a summary of the ALBS. A comprehensive technical report is available on the City of Albany website.

OUR LOCAL BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity encompasses all forms of life on Earth, including plants, animals, microorganisms, the genes they carry, and the ecosystems and natural processes in which they are part. It is one of our

most valuable natural assets, as the Earth's biodiversity supports every aspect of human life. Therefore, we must conserve our natural resources to remain resilient in the face of future challenges.

Biodiversity is defined as the variety of life forms, including plants, animals, fungi, and microorganisms, as well as the genes they contain and the ecosystems they form

(Commonwealth of Australia, 1996).

In the south-west Australian Ecoregion, Albany is part of one of the world's 36 biodiversity hotspots, reflecting the richness of our natural environment and community.

The City of Albany boasts a rich blend of natural assets, comprising diverse ecosystems such as granite outcrops, bushland, wetlands, waterways and coastal areas. These landscapes contribute to making Albany a unique and beautiful place to live and attract many visitors due to their scenic value and variety. The municipality features Threatened and Priority flora, ecological communities, and an array of plants, animals and habitat types that are endemic to the region.

Development for agriculture and settlement growth has had a heavy impact on biodiversity, having already led to the clearing of nearly 65% of the native vegetation in the Albany municipality. Phytophthora dieback, weeds, pests and climate change also threaten biodiversity.

The continued reduction in the size, number, and functionality of vegetation remnants, waterways, and wetlands will increase pressure on ecosystems and species of flora and fauna. Albany has significant areas of vegetation present in small, scattered patches inland, and a considerable amount of native vegetation still exists on private property. As conservation reserves are less able to retain their values as isolated 'islands' in a cleared or urbanised landscape, a vegetation linkage or macrocorridor approach, which links conservation reserves with other remnant native vegetation on private land, is an important initiative in reducing biodiversity loss.

PURPOSE AND VISION OF THE ALBANY LOCAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

The Albany community has told Council that it values biodiversity and the richness it provides to our lives, culture, mental wellbeing and economy.

Biodiversity stakeholders have told the Council that they have the following vision:

"Kinjarling – Albany, Caring for Country –-

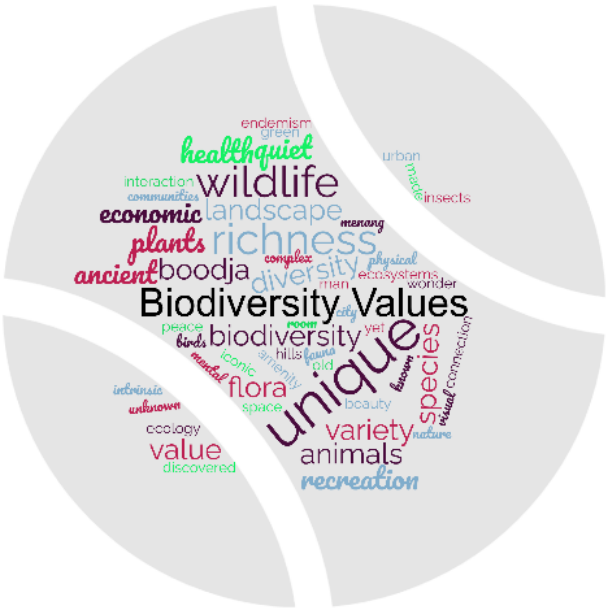
Where nature and the community can thrive and adapt"

During the stakeholder engagement process, the community defined 'Local Natural Areas' (LNA) in the City of Albany as "***areas with value to natural systems across all land tenures, including non-vegetated areas with value for ecosystem processes"***.

The City of Albany will:

- Retain, protect and manage a representative network of LNA, with community input, so these areas are healthy, connected and resilient in the future.
- Encourage and enable landowners to retain, manage, and enhance local biodiversity on their land, contributing to the many benefits that native plants, animals, and vegetation provide the community.

- The development of a mapping tool https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/ALBSmappingtool has allowed for the ranking of biodiversity values, so the City has a clearer picture of biodiversity in the municipality and can adopt a framework to enable the protection and management of local biodiversity. This will help the City identify conservation priorities and strategies to protect biodiversity, retain natural ecological processes, and manage and enhance LNAs, providing a resilient environment for people and ecosystems to flourish into the future.



The Strategy focuses on preserving biodiversity values through processes under the City's control, including planning decisions and other legislative responsibilities, as well as advocacy and the retention, conservation, and management of LNAs on City-managed land.

The City also aims to encourage and support individuals in managing and enhancing biodiversity on their private land. The ALBS outlines the specific and measurable actions to protect and grow local biodiversity.

Actions will be prioritised through an annual action plan, and monitoring and reporting on their success will enable review and continual improvement of the ALBS to achieve the City's local biodiversity goals.

As a non-statutory document, the ALBS complements existing environmental laws, strategies, and policies, but does not replace them.

PRINCIPLES OF BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION

The City supports the principles of biodiversity protection:

1. Each ecological community must retain at least 30% of its pre-European extent to prevent an exponential loss of species and failure of ecosystem processes.
2. Processes must be in place to protect significant natural areas.
3. Biodiversity is best conserved in situ – protect what remains before revegetating.
4. Regeneration is a higher priority than revegetation.

5. Prioritise the protection and management of the highest biodiversity value natural areas.
6. Support community involvement in biodiversity conservation.
7. Biodiversity values must be considered as a key element in decision-making.
8. Site-specific field surveys and validation are essential to understanding biodiversity value.
9. Natural area conservation is a legitimate land use.

The City of Albany values stakeholder partnerships to:

- Achieve biodiversity protection on all land types;
- Enhance connectivity
- Understand habitat requirements;
- Increase biodiversity in urban habitats;
- Support knowledge through citizen science;
- Reduce threats such as disease and pests; and
- Implement fire regimes that support and enhance biodiversity.

KEY FACTS

- The City of Albany comprises 430,807 hectares (ha) with Pre-European Vegetation shown in Figure A.
- Native vegetation remaining: 154,022 ha (35.8 % of original extent) (Figure B).
- Native vegetation protected in Crown reserves with a purpose of 'Conservation' comprises 77,541 ha, 18% of original vegetation extent or 50.3% of remaining vegetation extent (Figure C).
- Native vegetation zoned or reserved for 'Environmental Conservation' under Local Planning Scheme 2 is shown in Figure D.
- There is 83,835 ha of native vegetation on 347,653 ha of freehold land in the City of Albany. The City of Albany owns 1,338 ha of freehold land with 340 ha of native vegetation (Figure E).
- There are approximately 443 Crown Reserve land parcels containing native vegetation managed by the City of Albany, comprising 12,201.66 ha of land.
- Poorly represented vegetation types – Pre-European Vegetation – Less than 30% of original extent remaining are shown in Figure F.
- The most detailed vegetation mapping undertaken in the Albany Regional Vegetation Survey (Sandiford and Barrett, 2010) is shown in Figure G.
- Vegetation condition for the Albany Regional Vegetation Survey area, 2010, is shown in Figure H.
- Ranking of LNA based on spatial ecological criteria is shown in Figure I.
- The Top 100 ranked LNA are shown in Figure J.
- High Priority LNA based on Albany Vegetation Units are shown in Figure K.

GOALS

Goals for this Local Biodiversity Strategy include:

Goal 1: Retain and protect natural areas (with consideration of biodiversity criteria, including representation).

Goal 2: Learn about biodiversity interactions, threats and opportunities to increase resilience.

Goal 3: Manage and enhance – Improve condition, reduce threats and link natural areas.

Goal 4: Engage – Increase positive outcomes with community support and partnerships.

OBJECTIVES

The City is an active conservator of the environment and already works hard to protect and enhance local biodiversity assets. The ALBS builds on the City's current activities:

- Protect all LNA as far as reasonably practicable[1];
- Prevent clearing of ecological communities with **less than 30%** of the original extent remaining;
- Protect threatened species and ecological communities;
- Protect and enhance poorly represented vegetation associations remaining within the City of Albany through assistance to landowners and through planning systems;
- Increase formal protection of poorly represented vegetation types and areas that contain threatened and priority flora, fauna and communities;
- Reduce the incidence of unlawful and incremental clearing to retain biodiversity values; and
- Increase native vegetation coverage in the built environment through the planting of appropriate native and area-specific species.

Management

- Significantly improve internal planning and assessment processes to include the proactive consideration of biodiversity values during assessment of development proposals;
- Inclusion of biodiversity analysis and ranking results in the City of Albany planning and assessment process; and
- Increase knowledge of vegetation quality and condition across the City of Albany to ensure retention of good or better quality vegetation as far as reasonably practicable.

Engagement

- Increase engagement with organisations, community groups and the general public about local biodiversity values;
- Increase broad environmental awareness across all levels of the community to implement ecological and educational initiatives; and
- Promote citizen science projects that supplement our knowledge base and include stakeholders.

[1] Noting that some major infrastructure projects are planned, such as development of Range Road in Yakamia.

TURNING PLANNING INTO ACTION

Protecting and enhancing the City's local biodiversity is a shared responsibility between government agencies, the City, and the community. It's vital that all stakeholders work together to achieve our shared vision of increasing the conservation protection status of LNAs and realise the benefits this creates.

While the City has varying degrees of influence over how different land uses and tenures impact LNAs, some of the ways the City can work collaboratively with other stakeholders to conserve biodiversity in LNAs includes:

- Monitoring and strategically responding to broader factors such as international agreements, societal trends, and State government strategies seeking to support growth while balancing social and economic outcomes;
- Managing biodiversity on private land through education and support, community initiatives, and advocacy to influence state and federal policies and initiatives;
- Permitting higher density within urban areas and reducing demand for urban sprawl into areas of higher biodiversity to encourage the retention of biodiverse areas; and
- Discharging statutory responsibilities for which the City has a decision-making role while protecting and managing City parks and reserves.

There is a need to recognise drawbacks and trade offs, such as: Infill and sub-developments can often lead to the removal of remaining vegetation, further decreasing connectivity in these areas. Consideration will need to be given to the best outcome for biodiversity during urban infill and increases to development density.

ACTION PLAN

Feedback received during consultation indicated that key stakeholders and the community would like to see:

- Actions that strengthen the planning framework.
- On-ground protection of LNAs.
- Increased appreciation in the broader community regarding the importance of biodiversity.

Key stakeholders support actions that address the following:

- Funding, information, coordination, and support for biodiversity initiatives.
- Nature Positive – Move beyond concepts of 'no net loss' into positive territory.
- Aim to turn around the trend line of loss and degradation.
- Natural capital, ecological services – calculated to show the importance of biodiversity to our everyday lives.
- Set targets for involvement and collaboration.
- A different approach to weed management to consider biodiversity enhancement.

- LNA - what can we protect (e.g. bushland, wetland watercourse) vs what can we enhance (e.g. drain, road reserve).

Actions in this Strategy are linked to biodiversity protection, enhancement and awareness, including:

Control

- Control matters directly within the City's area of concern – e.g. assessment of planning and development proposals, rezoning and structure plans.
- Matters within the City's direct control such as the protection and management of City parks and reserves and the discharging of statutory responsibilities for which the City has a decision-making role.

Concern

- Relates to issues over which the City has limited influence or control, such as international agreements, broader societal trends, or the introduction of strategies by the State government that seek to support growth while balancing social and economic outcomes. The City can monitor these changes and respond strategically.
- Appreciating concerns articulated by key stakeholders and the community.
- Actively managing areas of biodiversity for which the City has direct control.
- Where there is limited direct responsibility, advocate for greater concern about biodiversity outcomes.

Influence

- Taking a 'shared responsibility' approach to improving planning frameworks and implementation to protect and enhance biodiversity.
- Influence awareness in the community by sharing information about the importance of biodiversity.
- Matters outside the City's direct control, but over which it has a degree of influence. These include the management of biodiversity on private land through education and support, community initiatives, and advocacy to influence state and federal policies and initiatives. The City could influence the retention of biodiversity values by permitting higher density within urban areas and reducing demand for urban sprawl into areas of higher biodiversity.
- The City has limited influence or control over some aspects of biodiversity, such as international agreements, broader societal trends, or the introduction of strategies by others. However, the City can decipher these activities and how they apply locally, showing concern by monitoring changes and responding strategically.
- Consider implications and mitigation of firewood removal, illegal dumping/disposal, etc.
- Consider how issues that are reported to the City are handled where responsibility is not the City's (e.g., land managed by other departments). Create more positive and integrated communications between management organisations.

GOALS, STRATEGIES, ACTIONS

Goal 1: Retain And Protect	**Goal Description:**	**Retain and protect natural areas (with consideration of biodiversity criteria, including representation)**
	Strategies	**1. Retain and protect ecological values on City land by actively managing Crown reserves and freehold land under City control.** **2. Maximise retention and protection of biodiversity values through strengthening the planning and development framework.**
	Target:	**Retain and protect high-biodiversity vegetation and ecological values on City-owned and managed land by 2030, including through relevant amendments to the Albany Local Planning Scheme No. 2, structure plans, and planning policies—while balancing future infrastructure needs.**

Action Code	Action Area	Action
Retain and Protect 1.1	**Compliance**	Investigate introducing a requirement in Local Planning Scheme 2 for rehabilitating land where an owner or occupier has caused or allowed land to be cleared or degraded.
Retain and Protect 1.2	**Internal Process - EIA**	Establish an operational environmental impact assessment process within City departments to maximise retaining and protecting biodiversity in the planning and implementation of City projects, comprising a checklist and internal guideline covering due diligence, project planning/design, project implementation, operation and outcomes. Aim for net positive outcomes.
Retain and Protect 1.3	**Land Use Planning Approvals**	Examine development proposals and support actions that increase net positive biodiversity outcomes, climate change resilience, enhance linkage outcomes of LNA across the municipality.
Retain and Protect 1.4	**Land Use Planning**	Change the purpose (management order) of reserves containing priority LNAs to include 'Conservation'.
Retain and Protect 1.5	**Land Use Planning Advice**	When requested, the City will provide input and advice relating to processes under the control of other regulators (e.g. for development, including subdivision).
Retain and Protect 1.6	**Land Use Planning Approvals**	Use the ranking data/ mapping tool for LNAs in the assessment of development proposals.
Retain and Protect 1.7	**Land Use Planning Approvals**	Make decisions with consideration of biodiversity outcomes in areas of legislation under City control, including development applications, rezoning and preparation of Structure Plans. Provide consistent, evidence-based advice and consider development processes in line with legislation and this Strategy, where appropriate.
Retain and Protect 1.8	**Strategic**	Integrate the Albany Local Biodiversity strategic objectives and LNA mapping into the City's Local Planning Strategy and Local Planning Scheme, and express the expectation that the planning process will achieve a 'net positive' outcome for biodiversity.

Retain and Protect 1.9	**Strategic**	Link ALBS to the City of Albany Water Management Strategy.
Retain and Protect 1.10	**Strategic**	Work with relevant State Government agencies to integrate water management into planning and development via Better Urban Water Management (BUWM; WAPC, 2008), particularly for developments likely to impact on hydrology.
Retain and Protect 1.11	**Strategic**	Develop Coastal Hazard and Risk Management and Adaptation Plans (CHRMAPs) for areas likely to be subject to sea level rise and associated erosion and inundation, allowing for continued ecological processes and biodiversity protection.

Goal 2: Learn	**Goal Description:**	**Learn – about biodiversity interactions, threats and opportunities to increase resilience**
	Strategies	**1. Identify and secure adequate resources to implement the Strategy.** **2. Improve knowledge of the ecological values within the City's LNAs and understand their threatening processes.** **3. Establish biodiversity mapping tool for internal and external use.** **4. Collaborate with land management agencies and research institutions to examine best practice management and education relating to biodiversity.**
	Targets	**Up to date mapping tool (annual).** **Periodically report on new partnerships.** **Periodically report on activities with partners.**
Learn 2.1	**Mapping Tool**	Maintain and add to the existing biodiversity mapping tool to inform the City's decision-making.
Learn 2.2	**On-ground Surveys**	Undertake on-ground surveys of priority LNAs on land managed by the City to confirm and record environmental values and threatening processes.
Learn 2.3	**Partnerships**	Look for opportunities to partner with other agencies, universities, the private sector, NGOs, and community groups to deliver research projects that improve understanding and best-practice management of biodiversity, such as studies on rehabilitation, threatened species and communities, ecological linkages, climate change's impact on biodiversity, and weed, pest, and feral fauna management.
Learn 2.4	**Resourcing Research**	Investigate and actively pursue new resourcing (human, funding and data) and research opportunities to enable further investment and improvement in on-ground actions on public and private land to manage and protect local biodiversity.

Goal 3: Manage and Enhance	Goal Description:	Improve condition, increase connectivity and reduce threats
	Strategies	1. Plan and implement managing, enhancing and rehabilitating biodiversity values on City owned and managed land in line with best industry practice. 2. Work collaboratively with other public land managers and knowledge holders for cohesive management of LNAs.
	Targets	Develop and implement an Offset & Revegetation Plan. Periodically report on revegetation activities where applicable.

Action Code	Action Area	Action
Manage and Enhance 3.1	**Best practice management**	• Follow the Principles outlined in the Environmental Code of Conduct. • Update Natural Reserves Strategy and Action Plan using information in the ALBS Strategy. • Include clauses in tender documents, grant applications and event requirements, relating to biodiversity protection and best practice management. • Designing Public Open Spaces to provide increased resilience, connectivity and biodiversity. • Landscaping Public Open Spaces to incorporate species suited to projected conditions (e.g., a high number of species for biodiversity resilience, drought tolerance, and heat resilience). • Implement a program of converting areas of irrigated turf that are not essential to amenity or recreation to eco-zoning and biodiversity plantings with reduced water needs.
Manage and Enhance 3.2	**Climate Change Action**	• Develop a Climate Change Action Plan consistent with ALBS, including thresholds for unacceptable change in the condition of natural areas and appropriate corrective actions. • Conduct a climate risk assessment to determine the impact of climate change on keystone species and LNA within the City, aiming to increase resilience to climate change.
Manage and Enhance 3.3	**Connectivity**	• Review and implement the City of Albany Greenways Plan to identify areas that maintain and/or strengthen connectivity. • When assessing planning proposals, work to include ecological linkage as an outcome of the approvals process.
Manage and Enhance 3.4	**Education**	Update and distribute information to private landholders and contractors on best practices in natural area management, including the management of threatening processes (such as weeds, dieback, etc.).
Manage and Enhance 3.5	**Fauna**	Work with partners to identify opportunities for fauna management and habitat enhancement on City-managed land, such as installing black cockatoo nesting hollows, water stations, fauna road crossings, and educational signage.
Manage and Enhance 3.6	**Implementation of ALBS**	Develop an Annual Biodiversity Implementation Action Plan and identify and secure third-party funding to support the City in implementing the Strategy. This may include grant applications, third-party environmental offsets (EP Act, EPBC Act), other funding and partnerships.
Manage and Enhance 3.7	**Other Strategies**	• Implement the Urban Forest Strategy to guide revegetation and landscaping that utilises local native and other appropriate species on City-managed land, including public open spaces, drains and drainage basins, street verges, and other suitable City-managed assets. This applies to urban areas. • Support projects that enhance connectivity in rural and hinterland areas.
Manage and Enhance 3.8	**Partnerships - Threatening Processes**	Investigate opportunities to require the protection and improvement of habitat values on City-owned or managed land that is leased to community groups and other organisations for recreation or similar purposes, through the lease conditions (e.g., landscaping, weed management).
Manage and Enhance 3.9	**Partnerships - Threatening Processes**	Explore multi-tenure land management partnership programs for drainage management, targeted control of feral animals, pests, weeds, and diseases, as well as fire management and roadside reserve restoration works.

Manage and Enhance 3.10	**Priorities**	• Revaluate priority reserves based on biodiversity and other values to achieve on-ground outcomes, reduce threatening processes and increase ecological permeability. • Identify linkage opportunities (road reserves – made and unmade, and other linear features such as drains) to enhance ecological permeability. • Develop fire regimes based on biodiversity and cultural aspects while also considering the protection of life and property.
Manage and Enhance 3.11	**Restoration**	Restore native vegetation in priority reserves and along priority waterways, drains and drainage basins.
Manage and Enhance 3.12	**Threatening processes**	Install and maintain access control, gates and/or signage for high biodiversity value reserves, especially those susceptible to dieback or damage from inappropriate access.
Manage and Enhance 3.13	**Threatening processes**	Develop and implement best-practice operational hygiene procedures (e.g. weeds, dieback) for all City staff and contractors working near and accessing natural areas and managing infrastructure assets. Ensure that applicable staff and contractors working in dieback susceptible areas have 'Green Card Training' for dieback and biosecurity awareness.
Manage and Enhance 3.14	**Threatening processes**	Fire: Consult with technical experts from fire management background, fire ecologists and local Indigenous representatives to: 1. Determine an agreed way forward for managing fire in areas of high ecological value, in accordance with the Bushfire and Biodiversity Management Guidelines South Coast Natural Resource Management (2018). 2. Establish reference Ecological Burn Sites trials in priority City reserves. 3. Map the fire history of City reserves and make it available on the City mapping tool.
Manage and Enhance 3.15	**Threatening processes**	• Update City of Albany Environmental Weed Management Plan. Implement and map weed management, aligning with the City's priorities. • Provide support for community volunteers to undertake weed control in City reserves. • Control landscaping practices via development approval processes. • Provide community education material via the City website, including advice on appropriate pest control and native and introduced species to plant. • Develop educational messaging on responsible cat ownership (City website). • Consider implementing a new Cat Local Law and enforcement of 'Inside Cats Only' zones in areas zoned for environmental conservation. City Rangers are currently preparing this. • Update and distribute information on best practice natural area management for private landholders. • Work with neighbouring local government areas and DBCA on coordinated feral animal control.

Goal 4: Engage	Goal Description:	Increased community involvement and contribution to biodiversity conservation
	Strategies	1. Engage and actively involve Indigenous custodians in managing biodiversity and promoting the cultural values of natural areas. 2. Provide opportunities for members of the community (e.g., residents, education providers, and the private sector) to learn and engage about the importance of maintaining and improving local biodiversity and effective land management techniques to manage and enhance LNAs on public and private land. 3. Active community participation in events relating to local biodiversity management and enhancement. 4. Engage members of the community, including youth in education programs, to improve knowledge and provide inspiration for private landholders.
Action Code	**Action Area**	**Action**
Engage 4.1	**Communication**	Communicate the expectation of 'net positive' outcomes for LNA across the Albany landscape. Net positive means having a better result than the current status.
Engage 4.2	**Advocacy**	Advocate, based on the ALBS and provide advice about biodiversity values in the City of Albany.
Engage 4.3	**Awareness**	Raise awareness in the community of simple but effective ways to protect and enhance biodiversity.
Engage 4.4	**Consultation**	Support targeted consultation with landowners and land managers regarding retaining, protecting, managing and enhancing priority LNAs.
Engage 4.5	**Education**	Support educational programs with schools, early learning centres, and community groups to initiate improvements in biodiversity (e.g. revegetation and installing nest boxes) on City reserves or on school grounds, especially those next to existing LNA/ areas of native vegetation. This is best done in partnership with key stakeholders.
Engage 4.6	**Information**	Provide information, including signage to inform visitors of the risk of introducing polyphagous shot hole borer, myrtle rust and other invasive species
Engage 4.7	**Engagement**	Build on the City's existing Environmental Policy by developing an education campaign and coordinating biodiversity planning (ecological communities, local ecological linkages, etc.), including: a. Updated environment module on public Intramaps b. Building stewardship of LNA c. Best-practice land management for biodiversity d. Weed identification and control e. Sustainable landscaping – ecological linkages f. Benefits of biodiversity and the value of bushland to the broader community g. Recognising community efforts in managing and enhancing biodiversity
Engage 4.8	**Engagement**	Engage with local Indigenous custodian representatives to explore opportunities for their involvement in managing biodiversity and promoting the cultural values of natural

		areas within the City (e.g., promoting guided biodiversity walks led by Aboriginal people or an Indigenous Ranger traineeship program).
Engage 4.9	**Engagement**	Expand the bush care program.
Engage 4.10	**Engagement**	Contact landowners of freehold land with a high biodiversity ranking to identify opportunities for engagement.
Engage 4.11	**Funding and Resources**	• Fund community organisations for biodiversity-based projects. • Support volunteers in bushcare activities. • Support community groups with in-kind assistance (advice, equipment etc). • Create an annual fund of $20,000 for up to five landowners who wish to assess the biodiversity values on their land and develop a management plan to reduce threatening processes or enhance biodiversity. • Seek funds for biodiversity-related projects in partnership with key stakeholders.
Engage 4.12	**Incentives**	Identify and implement opportunities to incentivise retaining, protecting, managing, and enhancing LNAs on private land. Incentives may include: • Fiscal incentives where the City can secure funding; • Local Planning Scheme provisions that allow incentives in a planning context; • Educating rural landowners on existing incentives to protect biodiversity on private land (e.g. conservation covenant programs/ tax offsets). • Investigate rate relief for landowners who demonstrate biodiversity stewardship (e.g. formally protect and enhance biodiversity values).
Engage 4.13	**Information**	Provide an advice service on LNA management for private landholders, potentially in partnership with partners.
Engage 4.14	**Partnerships**	• Grow partnerships with bush carer groups. • Collaborate with organisations such as South Coast NRM, Green Skills and catchment groups. • Increase support of volunteers, Bushcare and Friends groups. • Provide green waste rebate or tip passes to landowners who are removing weed species. • Provide vouchers for the hire of a mulcher for weed management. • Identify potential relationships with groups and organisations with biodiversity goals.
Engage 4.15	**Recognition**	• Introduce or support an existing process to recognise and reward businesses, organisations and individuals who achieve biodiversity outcomes.

		• Support and run Bioblitz projects in City of Albany reserves in partnership with organisations such as South Coast NRM and catchment groups. • Involve traditional custodians in biodiversity projects and reserve management, including cultural practices (e.g. fire management). • Showcase biodiversity projects such as streamlining of Yakamia Creek.
Engage 4.16	**Technical Working Group**	Establish a Technical Working Group comprising City of Albany staff, a councillor, and key stakeholders to assist in preparing Annual Biodiversity Action Plans, six monthly updates, and yearly Monitoring and Evaluation Reports for consideration by City executives and Councillors. Outcomes from ALBS will be tied to key performance indicators of the City of Albany CEO.
Engage 4.17	**Review**	Review the Albany Local Biodiversity Strategy after 10 years (2035), with annual modifications to facilitate adaptive management.

MONITORING, REPORTING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

The ALBS will inform an Annual Biodiversity Action Plan detailing actions to be implemented the following year. The action plan will be developed by a Technical Working Group formed by the City with key stakeholders with expertise in biodiversity and ecology, environmental management, planning and operations.

The Technical Working Group will establish a Monitoring and Evaluation Program to track the progress and relative success of the ALBS actions and assess whether the City is meeting the goals and strategic objectives

Each year, the City will monitor and report against:

1. Progress toward the aspirational target to increase the conservation protection status of poorly protected biodiversity assets of native vegetation.
2. Progress toward the focus area goals of Retain and Protect, Learn, Manage and Enhance, and Engage.
3. Progress toward the ALBS vision and goals.
4. Achieving the actions and their determined, measurable targets under the Annual Local Biodiversity Action Plan for the given year.

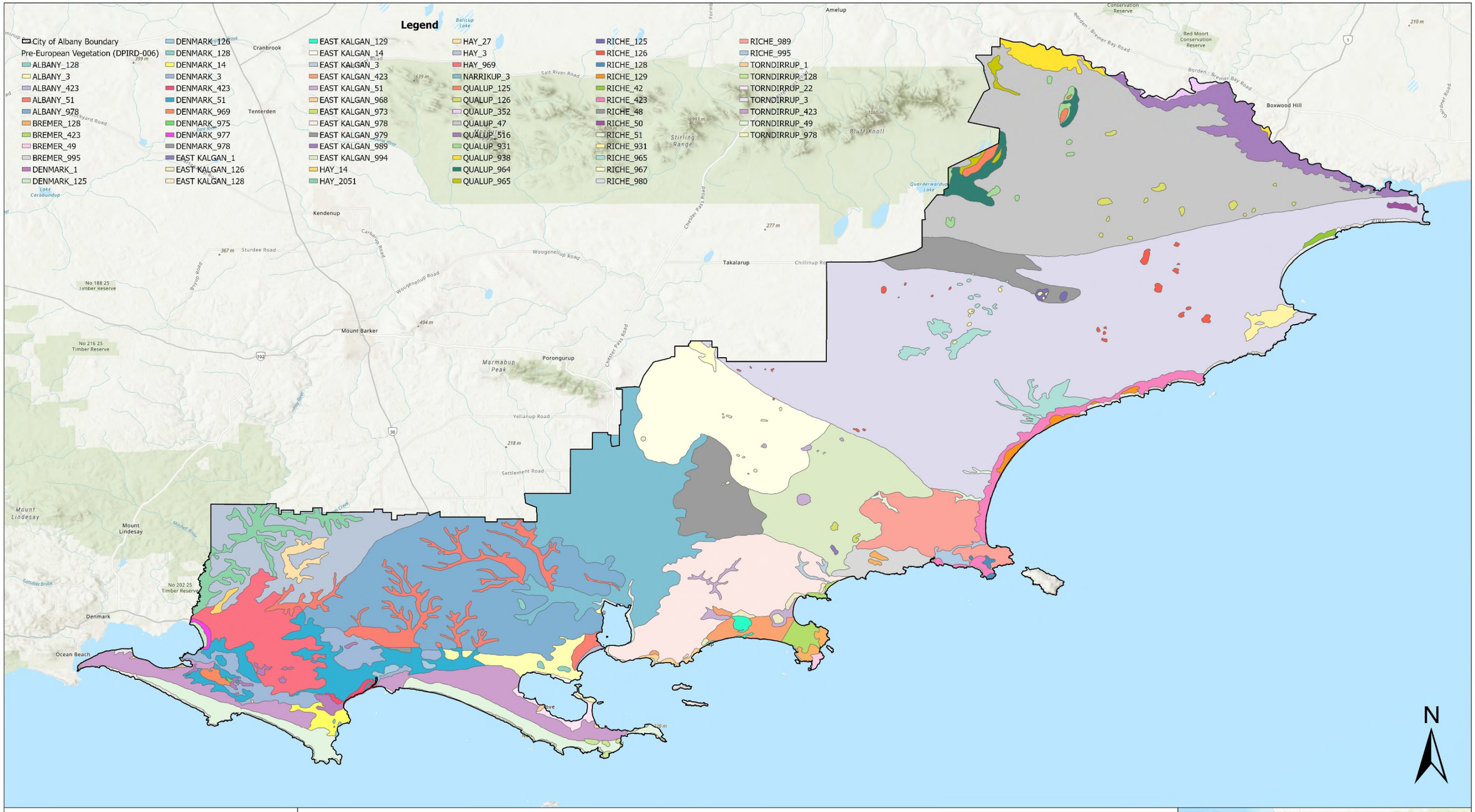
Results will be included with the following year's annual action plan and published on the City website.

The ALBS will be reviewed every 10 years (or when significant legislative changes impacting the Strategy occur) to analyse changes in native vegetation extent and associated ecological values and to determine if the ALBS needs to be adjusted to address any new issues or actions that have not been effective.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that supports our amazing biodiversity, the Menang people of the Noongar Nation. They were the first to protect and manage our rich landscape. We respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to this region

We also thank organisations, groups, and individuals who have helped develop this Local Biodiversity Strategy.



Pre-European Vegetation

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, CGIARience USGS

11/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

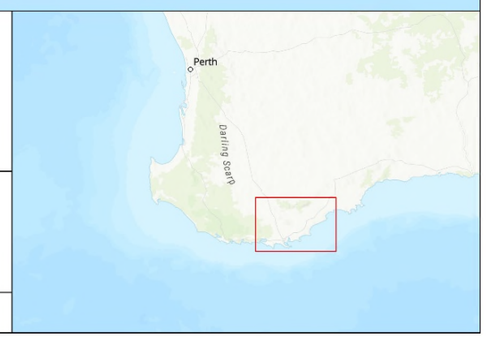
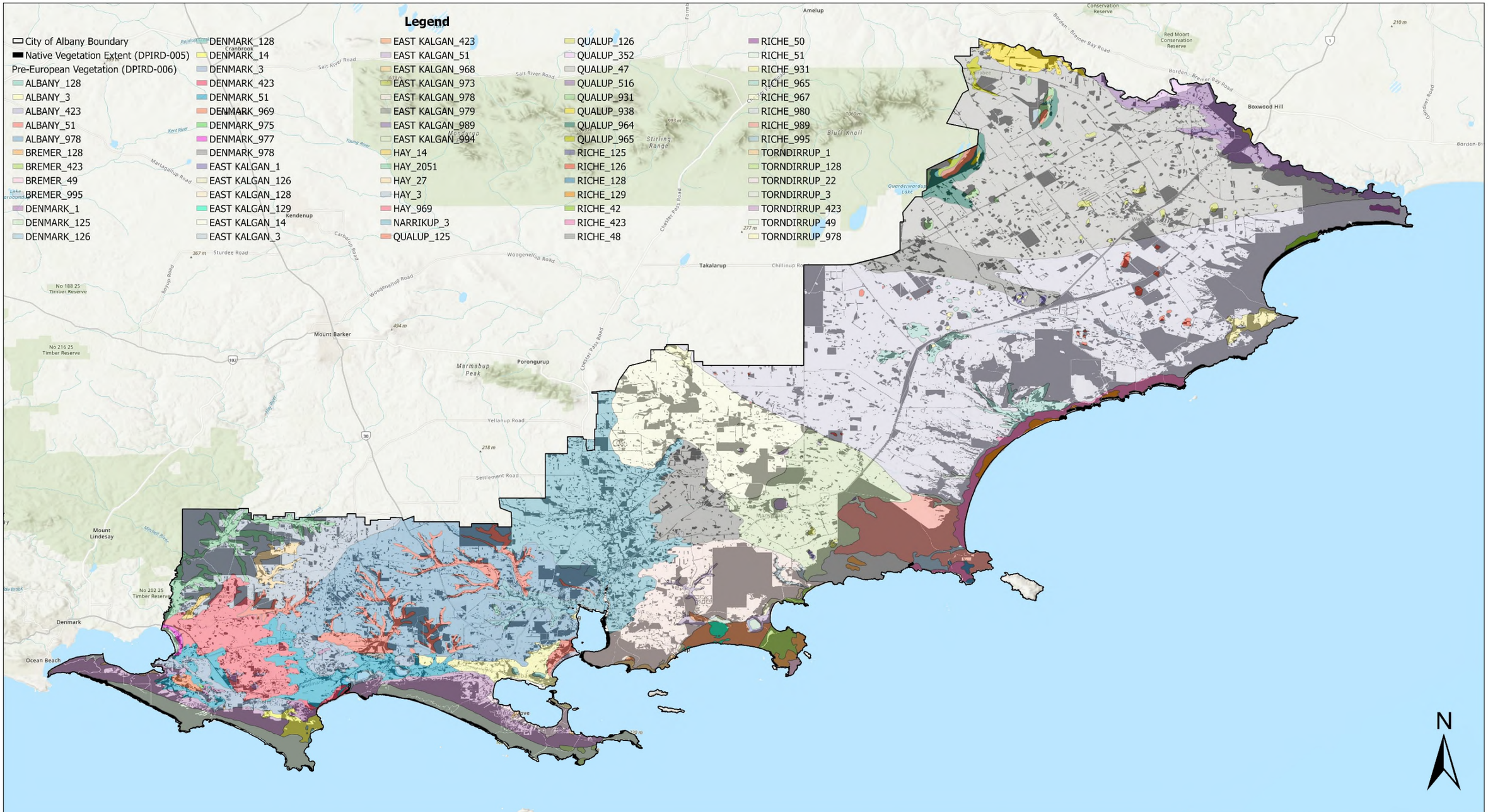


Figure B



Pre-European Vegetation - Native Vegetation Extent

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, CGIARience Esri, USGS

11/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

0 15 30 Km

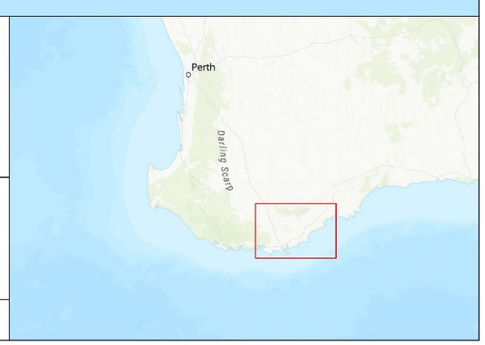
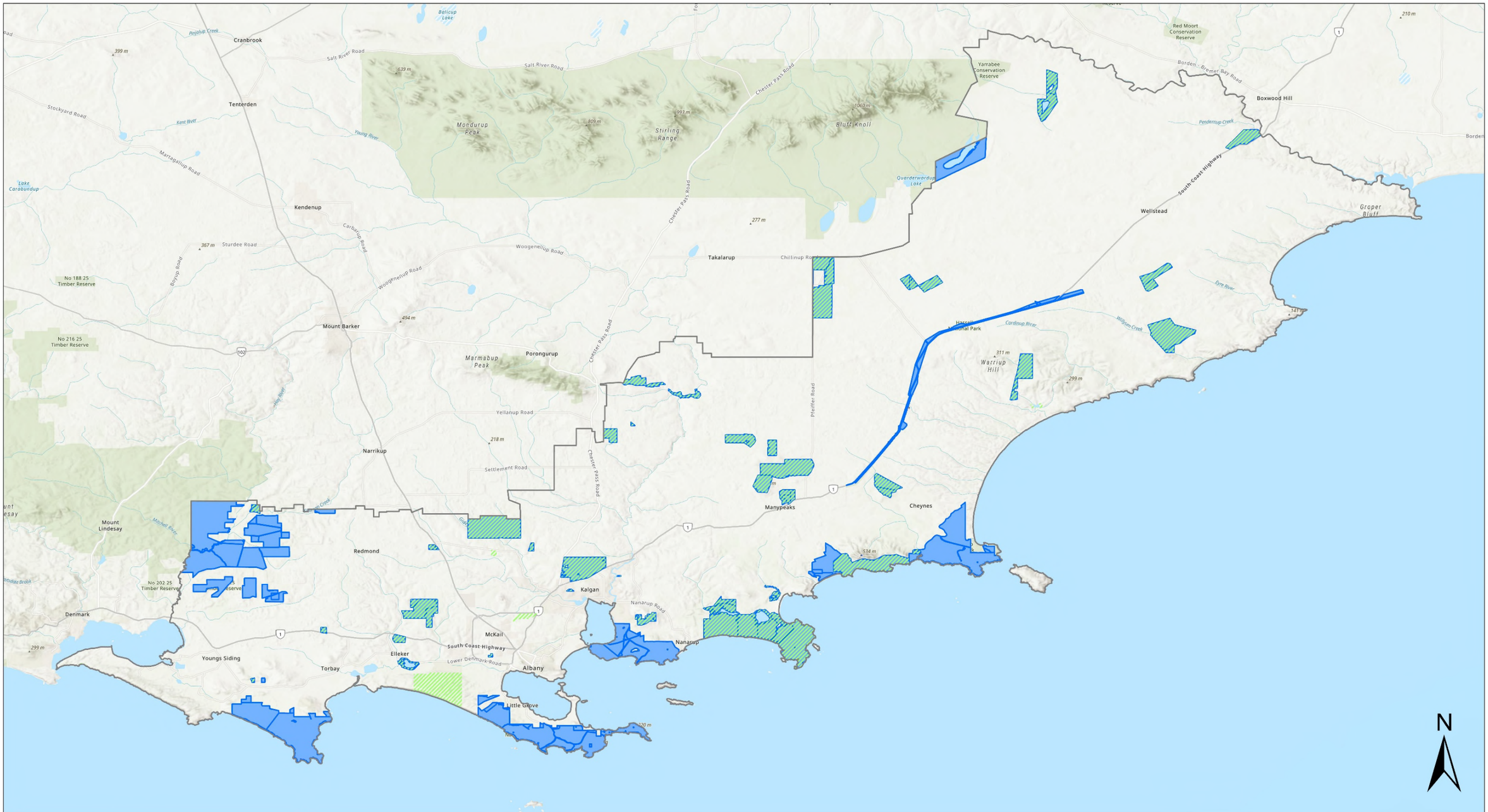


Figure C



Legend

- City of Albany Boundary
- Reserves with Conservation Purpose
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters

0 15 30 Km

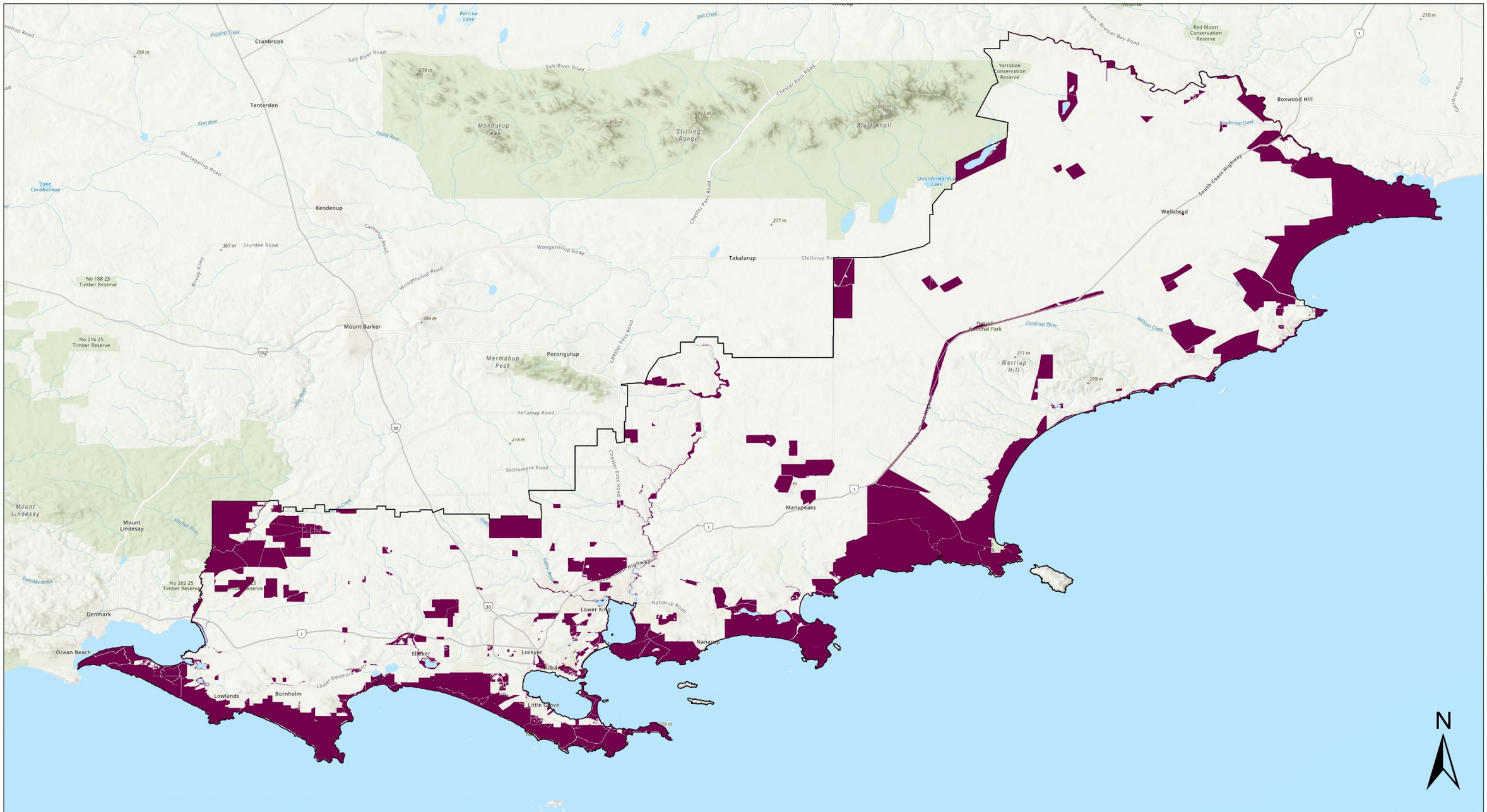
Vegetation with High Level of Protection

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, CGIAR, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

24/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

Figure D



Legend

- City of Albany Boundary
- Environmental Conservation - LPS2 Zones and Reserves

0 15 30 Km

Environmental Conservation - LPS2 Zones & Reserves

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, CGIAR, Esri, USGS

City of Albany

Aurora environmental ASSESS • ADVISE • APPLY

12/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

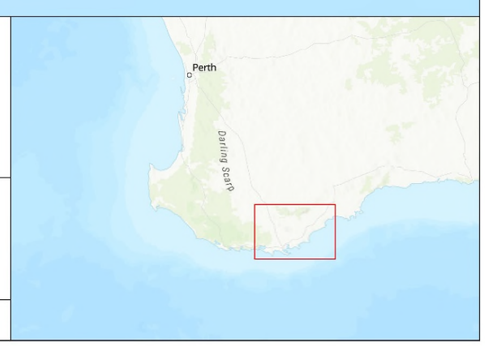


Figure E

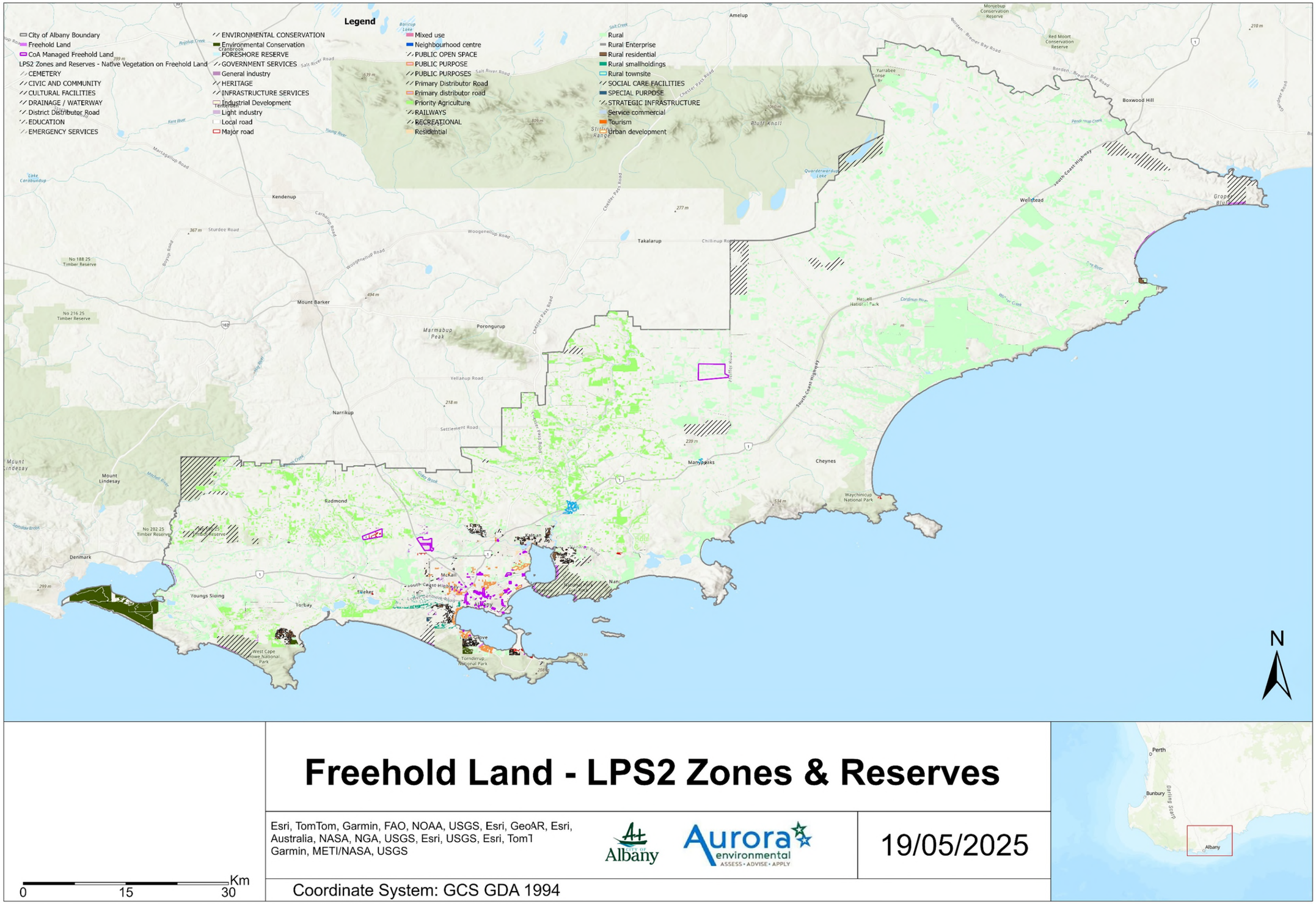
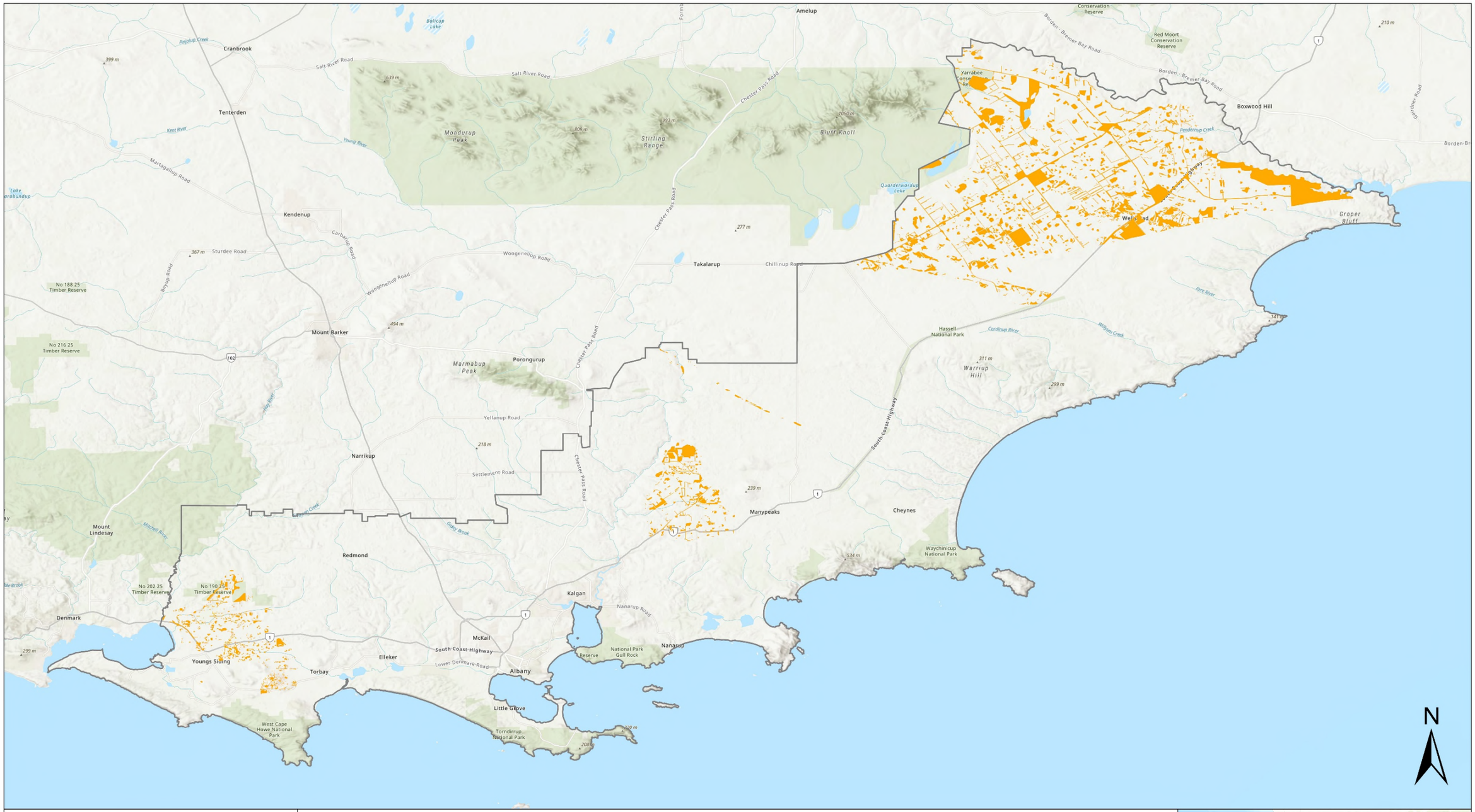

Legend
City of Albany Boundary
Freehold Land
CoA Managed Freehold Land
LPS2 Zones and Reserves - Native Vegetation on Freehold Land
CEMETERY
CIVIC AND COMMUNITY
CULTURAL FACILITIES
DRAINAGE / WATERWAY
District Distributor Road
EDUCATION
EMERGENCY SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Environmental Conservation
FORESHORE RESERVE
GOVERNMENT SERVICES
General industry
HERITAGE
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
Industrial Development
Light industry
Local road
Major road
Mixed use
Neighbourhood centre
PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
PUBLIC PURPOSE
PUBLIC PURPOSES
Primary Distributor Road
Primary distributor road
Priority Agriculture
RAILWAYS
RECREATIONAL
Residential
Rural
Rural Enterprise
Rural residential
Rural smallholdings
Rural townsite
SOCIAL CARE FACILITIES
SPECIAL PURPOSE
STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE
Service commercial
Tourism
Urban development
Amelup
Kendenup
Mount Barker
Porongurup
Takalarup
Narrikup
Wellstead
Boxwood Hill
Cheynes
Manypeaks
Waychinicup National Park
Mount Lindesay
Redmond
Denmark
Youngs Siding
Yorbay
Albany
Torndirup National Park
West Cape Howe National Park
Nanarup
Marmabup Peak
Chester Pass Road
South Coast Highway
Salt River Road
Woogenellup Road
Yellanup Road
Settlement Road
Sturdee Road
Marbillup Road
Boyup Road
Carbarup Road
Chillinup Road
Borden - Bremer Bay Road
Red Moort Conservation Reserve
Monjebup Conservation Reserve
Hassell National Park
Waychinicup National Park
Torndirup National Park
Lake Carabundup
Quarderwardup Lake
Bluff Knoll
Stirling Range
No 188 25 Timber Reserve
No 216 25 Timber Reserve
No 202 25 Timber Reserve
N
0
15
30
Km
Freehold Land - LPS2 Zones & Reserves
Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, GeoAR, Esri, Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomT Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS
Albany
Aurora environmental
ASSESS • ADVISE • APPLY
19/05/2025
Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994
Perth
Bunbury
Albany
Darling Scarp

Figure F



Legend

- City of Albany Boundary
- Pre-European Vegetation (Current Extent)
- Vegetation Remaining
- Less than 10% remaining
- 10-30% remaining

0 15 30 Km

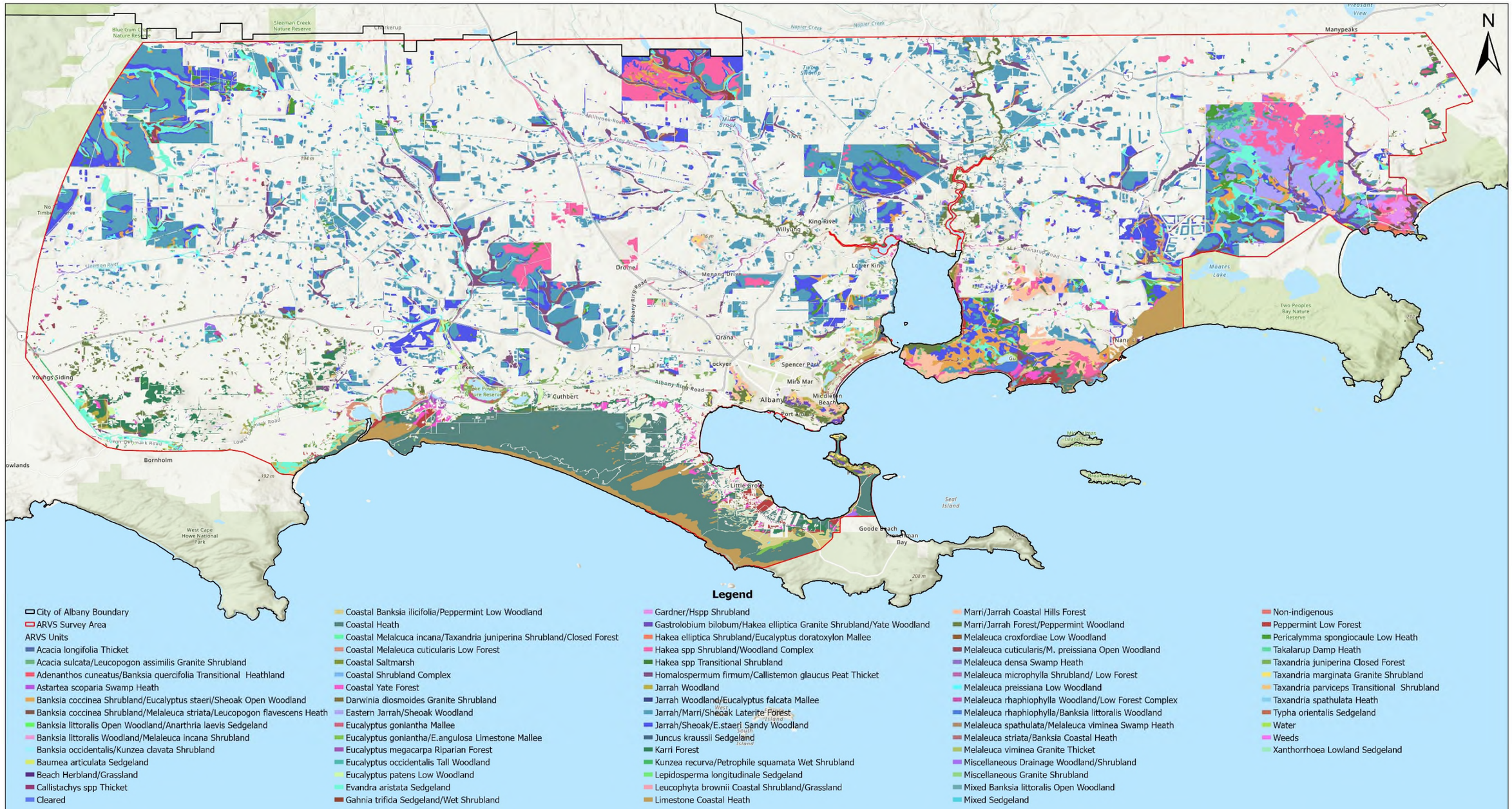
Representation - Pre-European Vegetation

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, CGIAR, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

24/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

Figure G



ARVS Vegetation Units

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS

12/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

0 6.5 13 Km

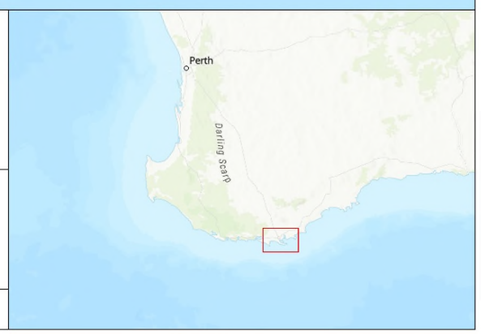
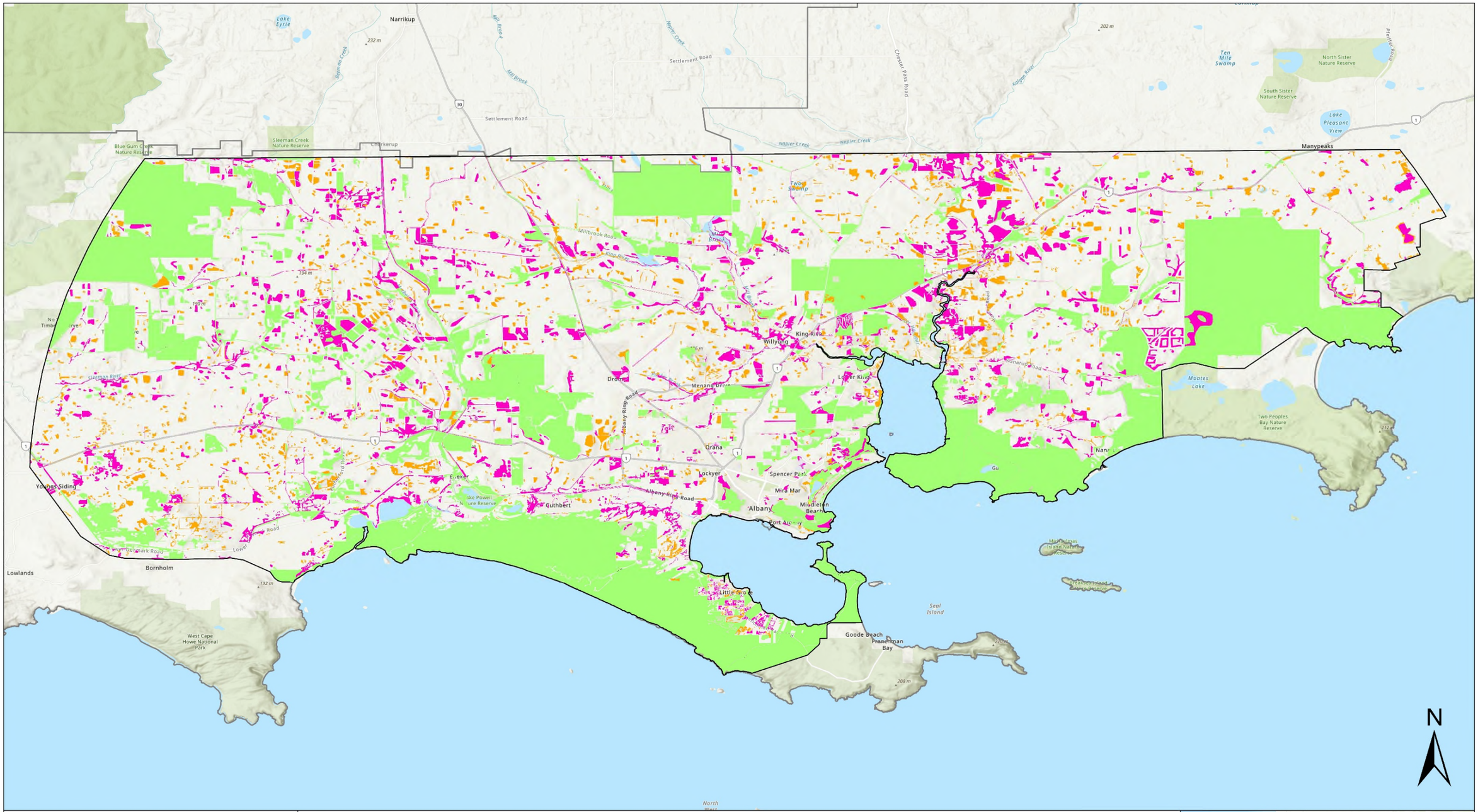


Figure H



Legend

- ARVS Survey Area
- City of Albany Boundary

ARVS Vegetation Condition

- Residual
- Modified
- Transformed
- Replaced Adventive

0 6.5 13 Km

Vegetation Condition

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS

City of Albany

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12/03/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

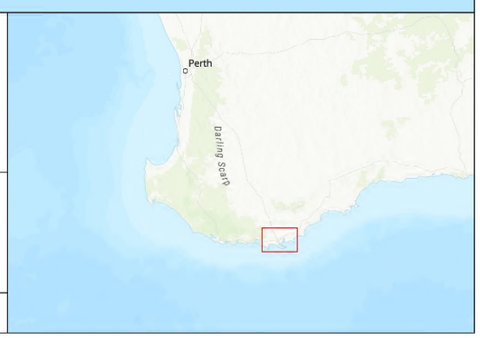
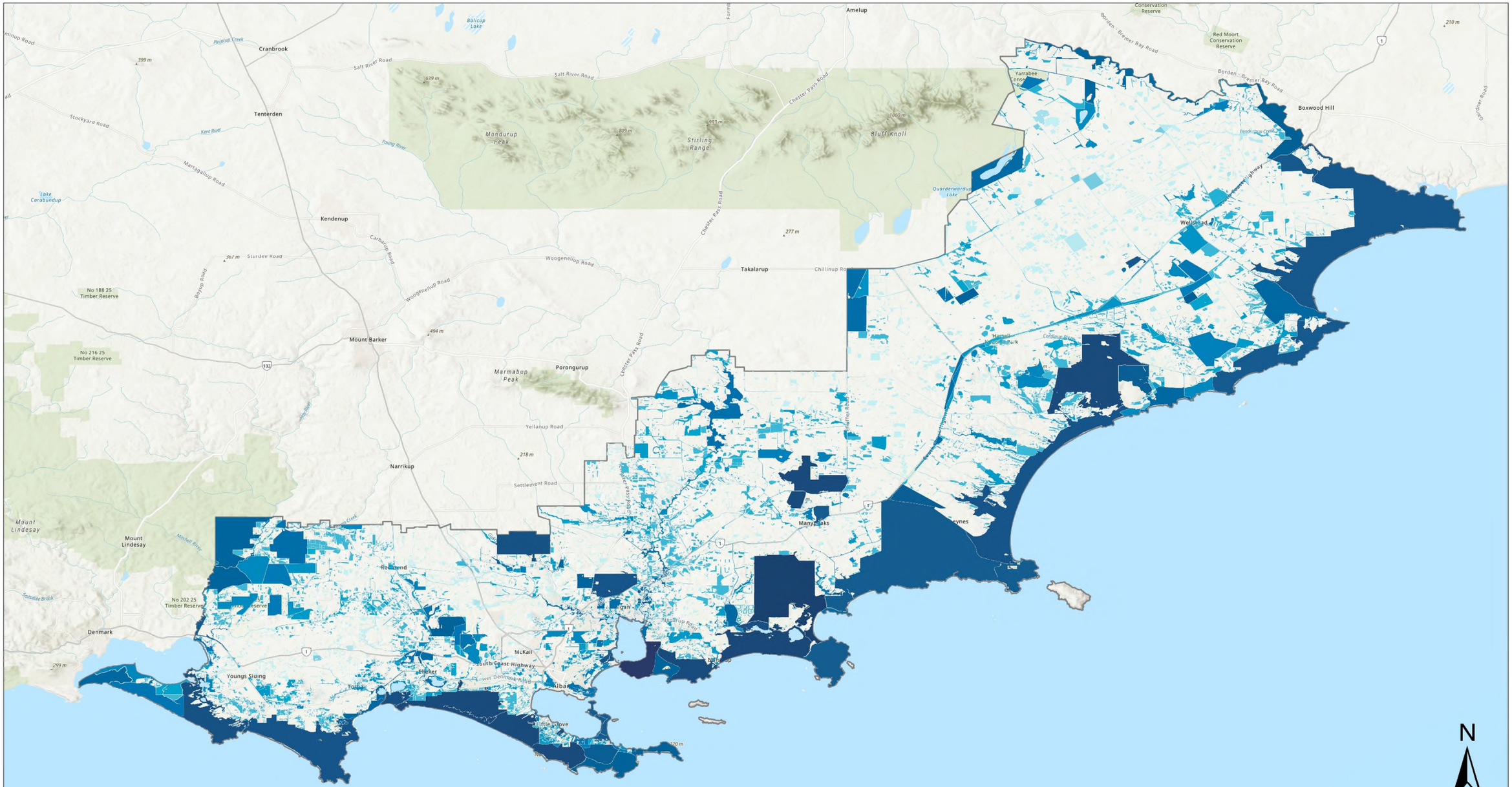


Figure I



Legend

City of Albany Boundary

Ranking Matrix - Stakeholder Weighted

Score

1.0

150

0 15 30 Km

Ranking Matrix

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, GeoAR, Esri, Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomT Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

30/04/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

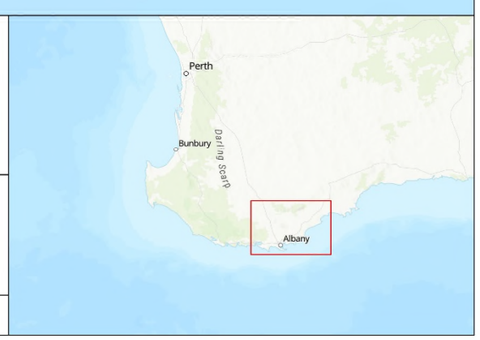
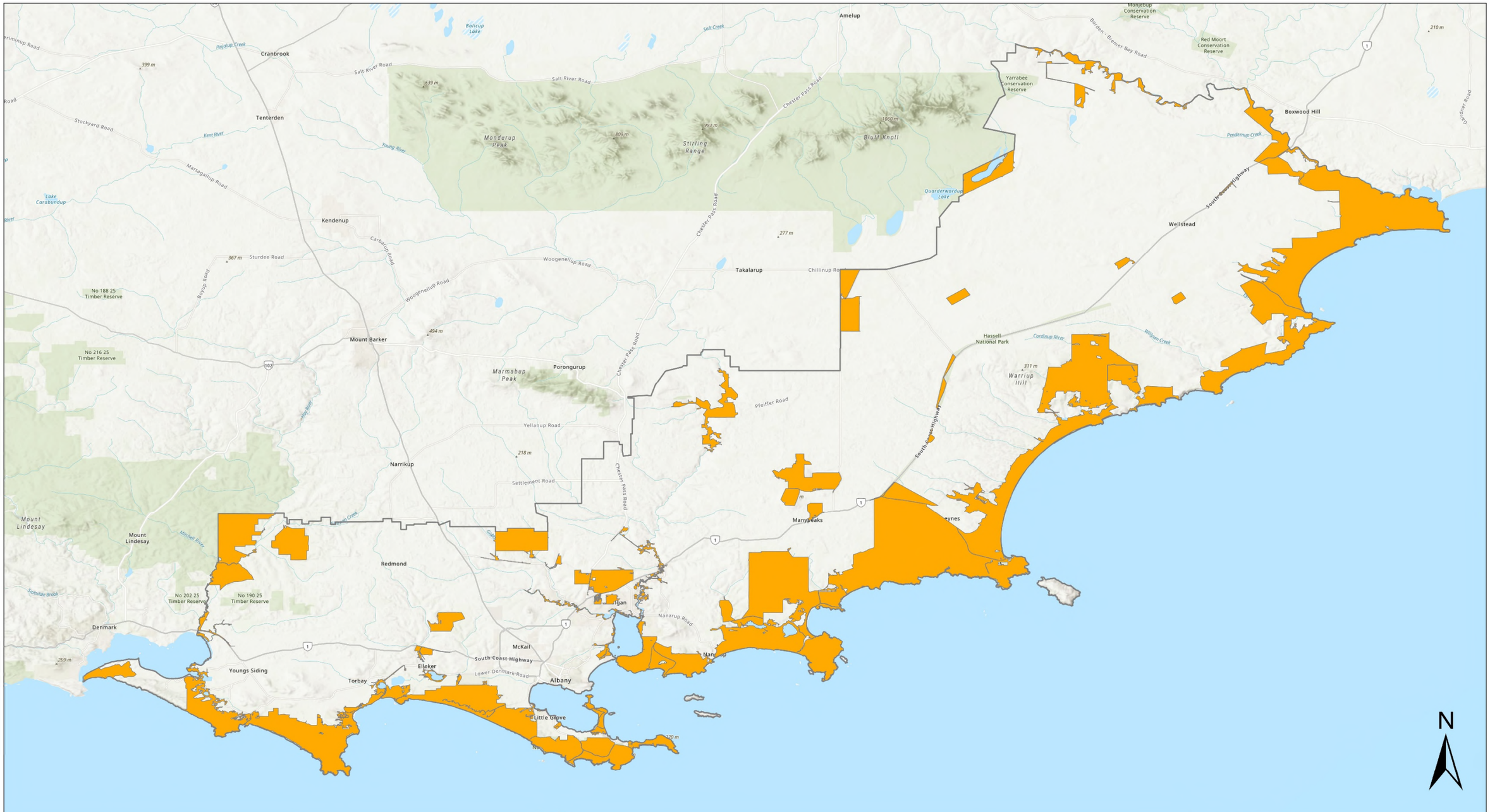


Figure J



Legend

- City of Albany Boundary
- Top 100 Ranked Local Natural Areas

0 15 30 Km

Top 100 Local Natural Areas

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

30/04/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

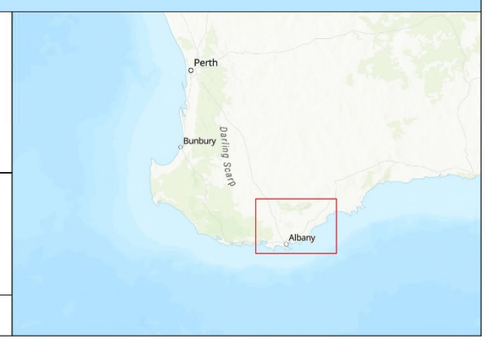
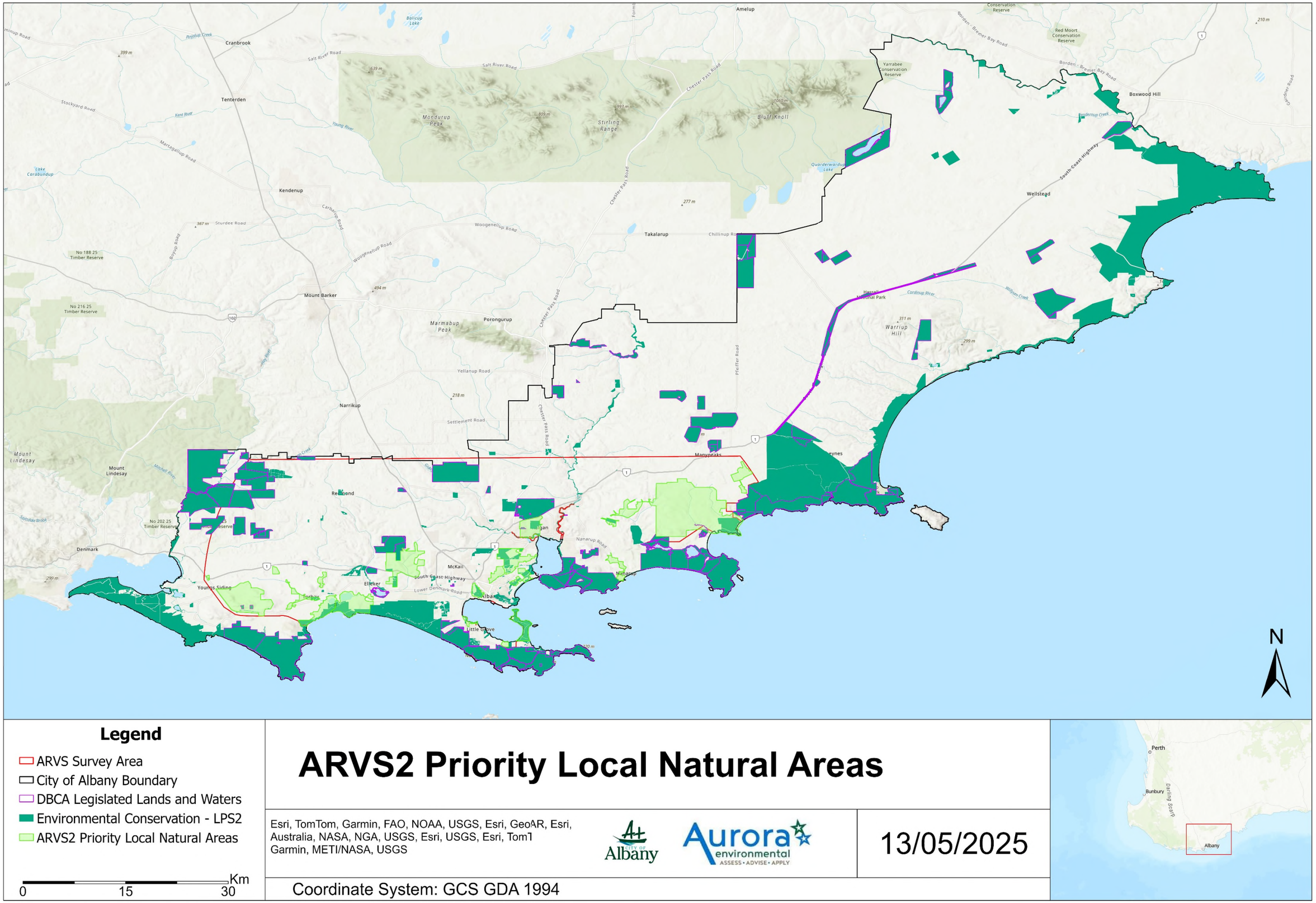


Figure K



Legend

- ARVS Survey Area
- City of Albany Boundary
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters
- Environmental Conservation - LPS2
- ARVS2 Priority Local Natural Areas

0 15 30 Km

ARVS2 Priority Local Natural Areas

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Esri, GeoAR, Esri, Australia, NASA, NGA, USGS, Esri, USGS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

13/05/2025

Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994

Figure K