

**Minister for Conservation & Environment**

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East Melbourne  
Victoria 3002  
Telephone (03) 412 4354  
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Your Ref:  
Our Ref: [NOTC-WLD]



Recommended to his Excellency the Governor in Council that the attached Notice of Recommendation in relation to the Land Conservation Council's Wilderness Special Investigation be approved.

**BARRY PULLEN**  
MINISTER FOR CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT



**APPROVED**

BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

12 MAY 1992

A1 CLERK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Original on File 2/5/4.2 #24

LAND CONSERVATION ACT 1970

**WILDERNESS SPECIAL INVESTIGATION**

**NOTICE OF RECOMMENDATION**

The Governor in Council under Section 10(3) of the Land Conservation Act 1970, gives notice to the Government Departments and Public Authorities listed in Attachment 1 of recommendations made by the Land Conservation Council under Section 5(1)(a) of the Act and listed in Attachment 2 -

and it is now the duty of those Government Departments and Public Authorities to give effect to the recommendations.

Dated: 12 MAY 1992

Responsible Minister

BARRY PULLEN  
Minister for Conservation and Environment

  
ACTING Clerk of the Executive Council

**AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED**

Alpine Resorts Commission  
Attorney-General's Department  
Department of Conservation and Environment  
Department of Food and Agriculture  
Department of Manufacturing and Industry Development  
Department of Planning and Housing  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet  
Department of Sport and Recreation  
Department of Water Resources  
Environment Protection Authority  
Melbourne Water  
Department of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria  
Department of Finance  
Office of Local Government  
Rural Water Commission  
State Electricity Commission  
Victorian Tourism Commission

**WILDERNESS SPECIAL INVESTIGATION**

**FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are the approved recommendations contained in the report titled 'Wilderness Special Investigation - Final Recommendations' (copies of which have been provided to the Ministers administering those government departments and public authorities listed in Attachment 1).

General Recommendations: I-IV inclusive

Recommendations for Wilderness Areas: A1--A20 (except Note 4)

Other recommendations for specific Wilderness Areas: A1; A2; A3; A4; A5; A6; A7 [except A7(1)]; A8 [except A8(m)]; A9; A10; A11; A12 [except A12(1)]; A13 [except A13(1)]; A14; A15; A16; A17; A18; A19; A20.

Management principles for Wilderness Areas: M1-M7 inclusive; M8 [except M8(b)]; M9-M14 inclusive.

Recommendations for 'Other Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes': B1--B24

Other recommendations for specific 'Other Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes': B1; B3-B4; B6-B15 inclusive; B17-B24 inclusive.

Recommendations for Offshore Islands: B25--B26; B25; B26.

Recommendations for Caves: B27

Recommendations for Trackless Areas: B28

VARIATIONS TO THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR THE  
WILDERNESS SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

**1. Additional Wilderness Areas**

Recommendations B2, B5 and B16, which propose land at Mt Cowra, Chinamans Flat and Wongungarra as 'Other Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes', are not accepted. The land generally encompassed by these recommendations is to be included within three additional wilderness areas.

The three additional wilderness areas to be established are:

**"Additional recommendations**

**Mt Cowra Wilderness Area**

That the area of 23 500 ha, shown on Map 1 accompanying this attachment, be used in accordance with recommendations (a) to (k) applying to A1--A20

and that

- (1) unless inconsistent with (a) to (k) above, the Council's previous recommendations, as accepted by Government, for the Murray-Sunset National Park apply.

**Chinaman Flat Wilderness Area**

That the area of 29 800 ha, shown on Map 2 accompanying this attachment, be used in accordance with recommendations (a) to (k) applying to A1--A20.

Notes:

1. The northern boundary has been set back 100 m from Chinaman Well Track.
2. This area lies within the area to be added to Wyperfeld National Park.

**Wongungarra Wilderness Area**

That the area of 14 000 ha, shown on Map 3 accompanying this attachment, be used in accordance with recommendations (a) to (k) applying to A1--A20

that

- (1) deer hunting by stalking be permitted with the timing and length of season to be determined by the Department of Conservation and Environment

and that

(m) grazing by livestock be phased out by 1 October 1998.

Notes:

1. The designation of this wilderness area is in accordance with Recommendation B16 Note 5 of the Land Conservation Council's final recommendations, since the Government has decided that logging is not to proceed in the northern part of the Wongungarra River catchment.
2. The existing area of State forest within this additional wilderness area is to be added to the Alpine National Park.

**2. Variations relating to deer hunting by stalking**

Recommendation A7(1), to permit deer hunting by stalking in the Avon Wilderness Area, is not accepted. Deer hunting by stalking will be permitted in the additional Wongungarra Wilderness Area:

**Recommendation A1--A20**

Replace Note 4 with:

"4. Deer hunting by stalking is permitted in three wilderness areas: Mt Darling/Snowy Bluff, Razor/Viking, and Wongungarra. Amendment of the *National Parks Act 1975* is required and will occur prior to, or in conjunction with, the establishment of these wilderness areas."

**Recommendation M8(b)**

Replace recommendation M8(b) with:

"(b) hunting for deer by stalking be permitted in the Mt Darling/Snowy Bluff, Razor/Viking, and Wongungarra wilderness areas, to the extent consistent with visitor safety and minimal impact on other users"

**3. Variations relating to grazing in wilderness areas in the Alpine National Park**

The Land Conservation Council's recommendation to phase out grazing by livestock from several wilderness areas in the Alpine National Park within 10 years is varied so that grazing will be phased out at the end of the current seven-year licence period, that is, by 1998:

**A8 Mt Darling/Snowy Bluff**

Amend recommendation A8(m) to read:

"(m) grazing by livestock be phased out by 1 October 1998"

**A9 Razor/Viking**

Add recommendation A9(o) after recommendation A9(n):

"(o) grazing by livestock be phased out by 1 October 1998."

**A12 Cobberas**

Amend recommendation A12(l) to read:

"(l) grazing by livestock be phased out by 1 October 1998"

**A13 Buchan Headwaters**

Amend recommendation A13(l) to read:

"(l) grazing by livestock be phased out by 1 October 1998"

**4. Additional 'Other Area with Remote and Natural Attributes'**

An additional 'Other Area with Remote and Natural Attributes', in the Alpine National Park adjoining the Cobberas wilderness area, is to be designated:

**"Additional recommendation**

**Suggan Buggan River**

That the recommendations applying to B1--B24 apply to the area shown on Map 4 accompanying this attachment.

That the following attributes be protected:

- (i) low density of vehicular tracks
- (ii) low density of structures
- (iii) mostly natural condition
- (iv) opportunities for remote style and self-reliant recreations

This area encompasses 17 800 ha north of the Benambra--Black Mountain Road, including the Playgrounds, Rams Horn, McFarlane Flat, and parts of the Suggan Buggan River valley and Suggan Buggan Range."

**5. Legislative protection for 'Other Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes'**

Those 'Other Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes' currently managed under the *National Parks Act 1975* are to be added to a new schedule to that Act along with new provisions to provide an explicit and clear basis for the protection and management of the outstanding remote and natural values of these areas:

**Recomendations B1--B24**

Add Recommendation B1--B24(c) after recommendation B1--B24(b):

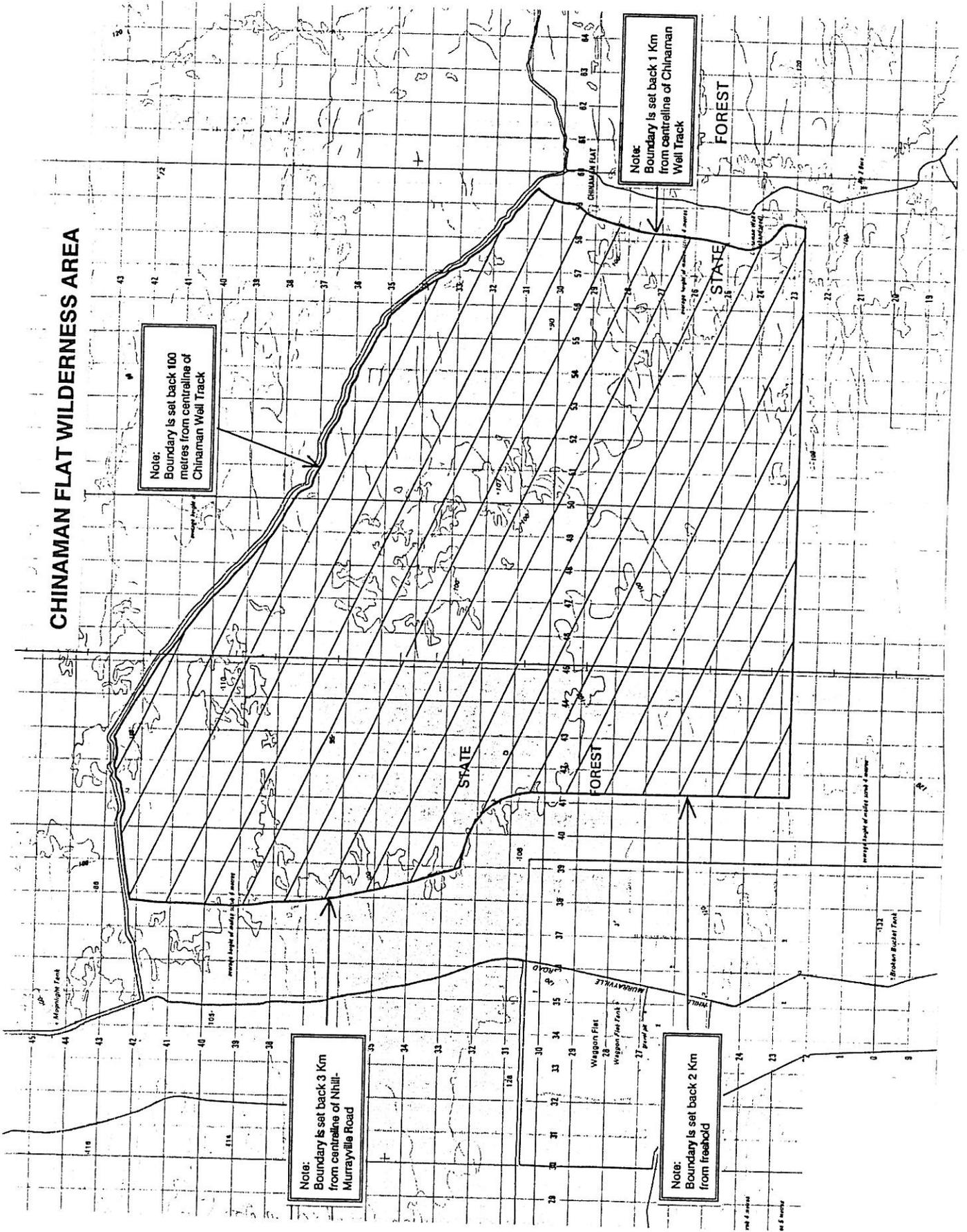
"(c) those areas currently managed under the *National Parks Act 1975* be included on a schedule of Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes and that they be managed in accordance with the provisions of that Act."

**Recommendation B25--B26**

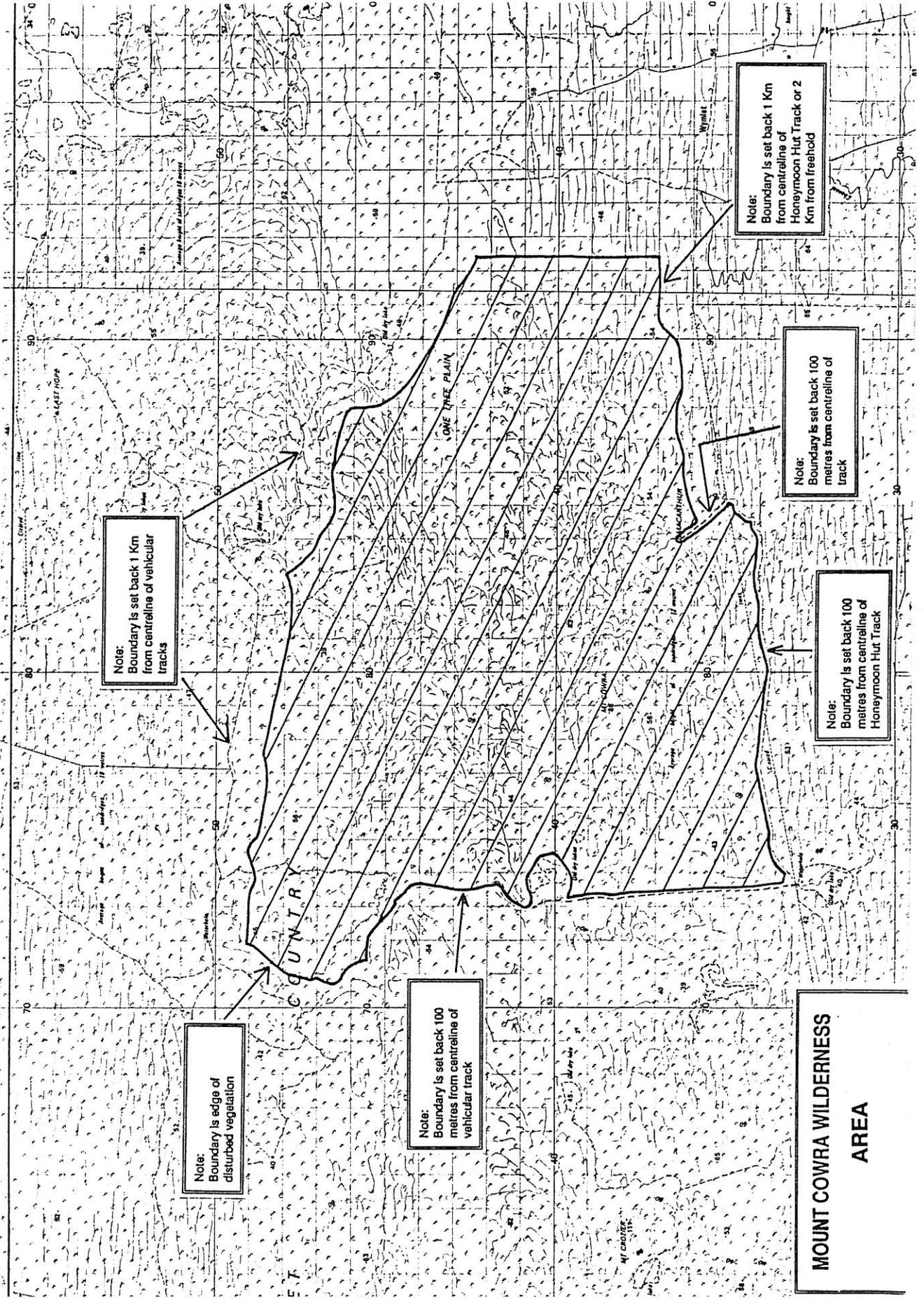
Add recommendation B25--B26(d) after recommendation B25--B26(c):

"(d) those areas currently managed under the *National Parks Act 1975* be included on a schedule of Areas with Remote and Natural Attributes and that they be managed in accordance with the provisions of that Act."

**MAP 2**  
 (as referred  
 to on page 1 of  
 Attachment 3)



**MAP 1**  
 (as referred  
 to on page 1 of  
 Attachment 3)

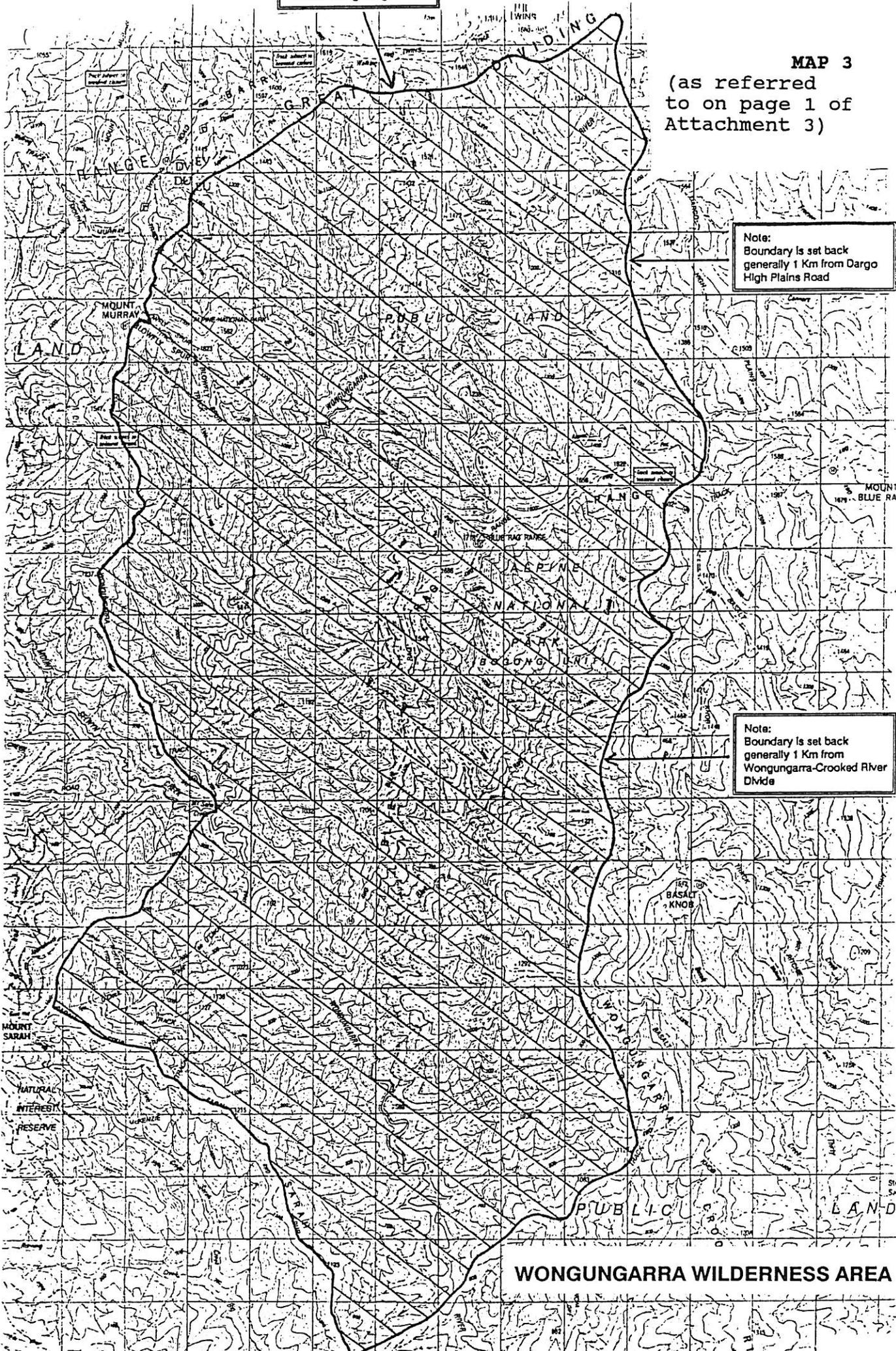


Note:  
Boundary is set back  
generally 500 metres from  
Great Dividing Range

**MAP 3**  
(as referred  
to on page 1 of  
Attachment 3)

Note:  
Boundary is set back  
generally 1 Km from Dargo  
High Plains Road

Note:  
Boundary is set back  
generally 1 Km from  
Wongungarra-Crooked River  
Divide



**WONGUNGARRA WILDERNESS AREA**

