

Information Bulletin

Limousine Service

PT 08/05.13

What is a limousine service?

A limousine service is an unscheduled public passenger service provided by a specific motor vehicle where the agreed fare for a journey is decided before the journey begins.

'agreed fare' means a pre-determined and defined monetary amount that covers the full cost of the service to be provided and is agreed to by the customer prior to the journey commencing. No part of the fare can be determined by any method of calculation (such as a meter) or added to the total cost of the fare during the period of, or at conclusion of the journey.

What types of limousine service licences are available?

There are two (2) types of Limousine Service Licences available:

- Limousine Service
 - Whole of Queensland
 - Rest of Queensland
 - Regional Limousine Service
- Special Purpose Limousine Service

What is a limousine service licence?

A Limousine Service Licence is a licence authorising the holder to provide a limousine service in a specific area subject to certain conditions. The operation of these licences is designated to specific areas – Whole of Queensland, Rest of Queensland and Regional Limousine Service licences operating in Capricornia, Far North Queensland and North Queensland.

The fare for the journey must be decided before the journey begins. **Under s74AC of the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994*, the fitout or use of a taximeter in a public passenger vehicle other than a taxi (such as a limousine) is prohibited.**

A Limousine Service Licence may be leased, sold or otherwise transferred, but only to an appropriately accredited operator.

What is a special purpose limousine service licence?

A Special Purpose Limousine Service is an unscheduled public passenger service provided in a vehicle over 30 years old or by a stretched version of a luxury motor vehicle that is no longer eligible to operate as a limousine due to reaching its maximum age limit.

The fare for the journey must be decided before the journey begins and is restricted to only providing a service to a wedding event, student event or a tourist service.

A Special Purpose Limousine Service Licence **may not** be leased, sold, or otherwise transferred.

How many licences can you hold?

There is no limit on the number of Limousine Service Licences or Special Purpose Limousine Service Licences a person may hold.

Limousine service areas

Limousine Service Licences are issued for specific Limousine Service Areas. These areas are designated Whole of Queensland, Rest of Queensland and Regional Queensland.

A licence for the Whole of Queensland allows the operator to provide services anywhere in the state without restriction however a Rest of Queensland licence has area operating restrictions (See attached map).

Regional Limousine Service Licences are issued for designated areas including; Capricornia, Far North Queensland and North Queensland (see attached maps). Passengers can only be collected from within the designated regional area, but can be delivered to destinations outside of the designated area. Whole of Queensland licences can operate within the designated regional areas. There is no limit on the number of licences that may be issued for a particular Limousine Service Area.

A limousine must not ply or stand for hire at a place other than the limousine owners premises, unless the place is approved in writing by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

How to obtain a limousine service or special purpose limousine licence

A Limousine Service Licence can be obtained by:

- buying or leasing an existing Limousine Service Licence; or
- purchasing a Regional Limousine Service Licences from the Department of Transport and Main Roads; or
- purchasing a Special Purpose Limousine Service Licences from the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Requirements for limousine service or special purpose limousine licence holders

A Limousine Service or Special Purpose Limousine holder must:

- hold current operator accreditation for limousine services (refer to the information bulletin on [Operator Accreditation for Limousine Services](#));
- comply with the conditions attached to the licence; and
- hold driver authorisation if they intend to drive the vehicle (refer to the information bulletin on [Driver Authorisation for Limousine Services](#)).

Licence conditions

A number of standard conditions apply to the operation of Limousine Service Licences including:

- only picking up within the applicable Limousine Service Area;
- not operating a limousine service unless an earlier booking has been made, except when operating from an approved rank, for approved fares to set destinations.
- using a luxury motor vehicle of a type approved by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and
- displaying a distinctive registration plate (LNNNNN)

A condition of regional limousine service licences requires the licence to remain in the service area for which it was issued. To assist in compliance with this licence condition and eliminate the possibility of operators providing limousine services outside their specified service area; the following service areas were allocated specific limousine series plates.

- Capricornia L91NNN
- North Queensland L92NNN
- Far North Queensland L93NNN

Conditions that apply to the operation of a Special Purpose Limousine Service Licence include:

- only providing a service to a wedding event, student event or a tourist service;
- not operating a service unless an earlier booking has been made;
- using a motor vehicle of a type approved by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, or a vehicle which is at least 30 years old; and
- displaying a distinctive registration plate (SL_NN_AA)

Vehicles and operational requirements

Vehicles providing a Limousine Service must:

- be of a design and construction making it safe to provide a Limousine Service or Special Limousine Service with that vehicle;
- be of a type and age for a particular service provided by the vehicles such as;
 - comply with s105, Schedule 4 (Luxury Motor Vehicles) of the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Regulation 2005* or be at least 40 years old for a Limousine Service; and
 - comply with s105a, Schedule 4a (Special Purpose Limousines) of the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Regulation 2005*, or be at least 30 years old for a Special Purpose Limousine Service;
- be in a safe condition to provide a public passenger service whenever being operated;
- be operated in a safe manner; and
- be a right hand drive vehicle.

Note 1: If you are attaching a vehicle to a Limousine or SPL licence for the first time, the recommended retail price (RRP) of the vehicle at the date of manufacture must meet the current Luxury Car Tax Threshold (LCT) threshold as determined by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The LCT is not required to be met again over the life of the vehicle. When assessing whether a vehicle meets all requirements to be approved as a limousine or special purpose limousine, please note that the LCT is subject to change each financial year.

Note 2: If you are attaching a vehicle that has previously been attached to Limousine or SPL licence in Queensland, the RRP of the vehicle (at the date of manufacture) must meet the LCT threshold that was in place at the time that the vehicle was approved to operate as a Limousine or SPL. If however, the original approval of the vehicle took place prior to the introduction of the department's LCT requirement into legislation (24 October 2008), the vehicle can still be approved as a limousine but will be assigned to the lower applicable category under Schedule 4 or 4a of the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Regulation 2005*.

If you require clarification about vehicles that may be approved to operate as Limousines or SPLs in Queensland, please contact your nearest Passenger Transport office for further information.

Operators of Limousine Services must:

- ensure that the following is maintained for each vehicle:
 - a current Certificate of Registration; and
 - a current Certificate of Inspection; and
 - adequate Compulsory Third Party Insurance.
- record details of vehicle maintenance for each vehicle used, and retain the records for a period of 5 years.
- not allow vehicles to ply or stand for hire at a place other than the limousine owner's premises, unless the place is approved in writing by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.
- ensure that drivers hold driver authorisation when operating vehicles.
- keep records of drivers operating each vehicle in use by date and time. These records must be kept for five years.
- ensure that their vehicles are not overloaded.
- ensure that vehicles are roadworthy at all times when operated.
- have an incident management plan in place. Operators must keep a copy of their incident management plan and copies of completed incident management reports when applicable for a period of 5 years.
- keep a copy of the parts of the plan relevant to the driver in each vehicle used to provide a service.
- make an electronic or paper record containing the prescribed details of a booking prior to providing a limousine service and retain the records for a period of 5 years.

An application for a Limousine Service or Special Purpose Limousine Licence may be refused. For example, this may occur when the applicant does not hold operator accreditation.

Review of, and appeals against, a decision

Should applicants be dissatisfied with the decision on their application, they may request a review of the decision by the Director-General. If the applicant is not satisfied with the outcome of the review, the applicant may appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) for an external review. (For more information please refer to the separate Information Bulletin "Reviews and Appeals against Decisions").

Compliance

Non-compliance with these requirements is a breach of the legislation, and may result in the issue of a penalty infringement notice, or the amendment, suspension or cancellation of the licence, and/or operator accreditation and/or driver authorisation.

For more information about compliance please refer to the information bulletin titled *Compliance – Public Passenger Transport Operators and Drivers*.

Period of issue

Limousine Service Licences are issued for a period of five years, or may upon request be issued for a shorter period (in multiples of one year).

Special Purpose Limousine Service Licences are issued for a period of 12 months.

Fees

A fee is applicable for the issue and renewal of each Limousine Service and Special Purpose Limousine Licence.

Further information can be obtained from the Department of Transport and Main Roads by contacting your local Passenger Transport office.

Additional information

The information contained in this bulletin has been produced as a guide to assist in the understanding of the legislation and policy. Clarification of any information in this bulletin may be obtained from the Department of Transport and Main Roads by contacting your local Passenger Transport office.

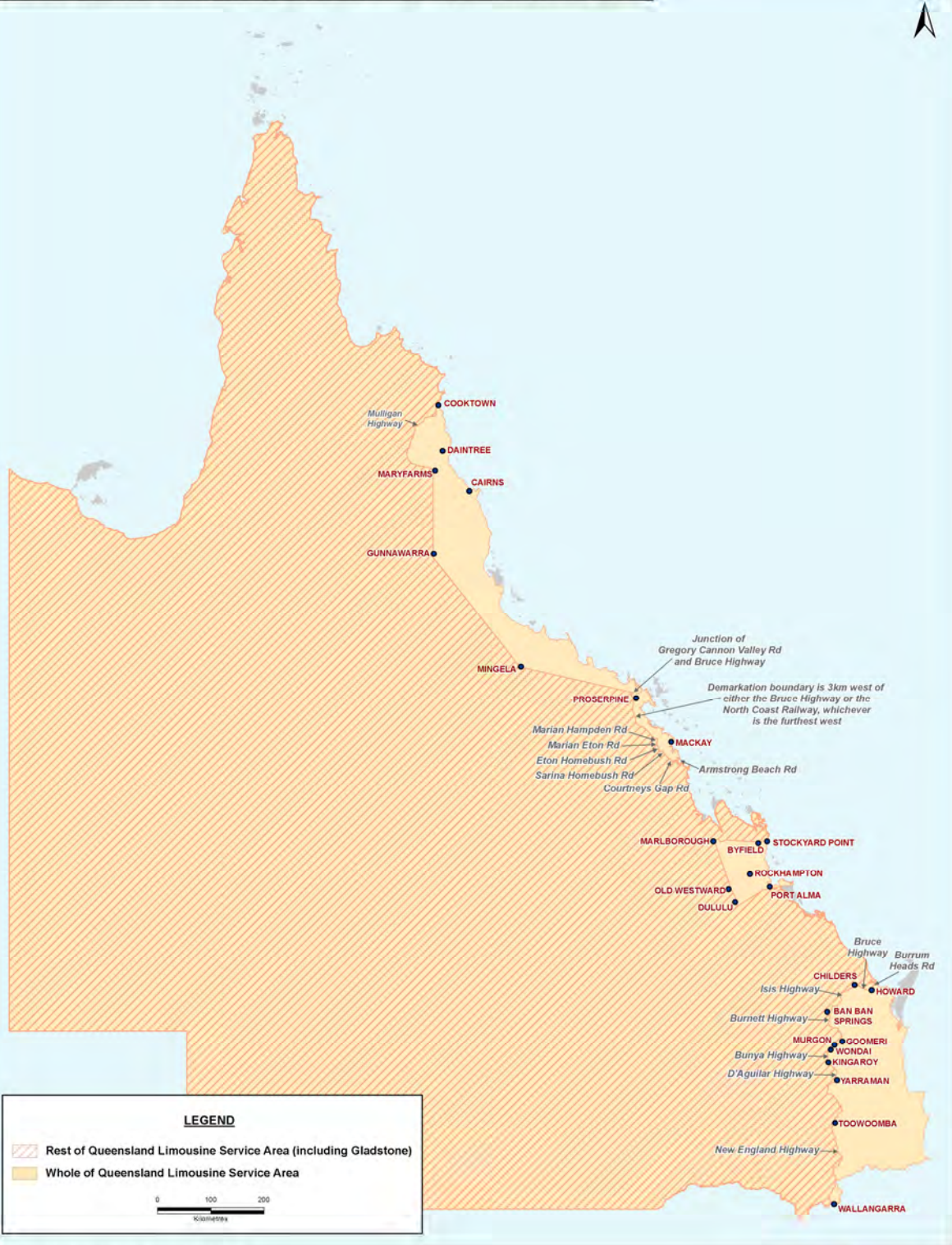
This bulletin is an interpretation of the relevant Acts, Regulations and Standard should not be used as a reference to a point of law.

Additional information about public passenger services is available on the Department of Transport and Main Roads internet site at www.tmr.qld.gov.au.

The legislation may be viewed and downloaded from the internet at www.legislation.qld.gov.au.

Copies of the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994*, *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Regulation 2005* and *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Standard 2010* can be purchased from LitSupport Pty Ltd (www.litsupport.com.au) on 07 3223 9202 or email legislation@litsupport.com.au

Whole of Queensland & Rest of Queensland Limousine Service Areas



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- Rest of Queensland Limousine Service Area (including Gladstone)
- Whole of Queensland Limousine Service Area

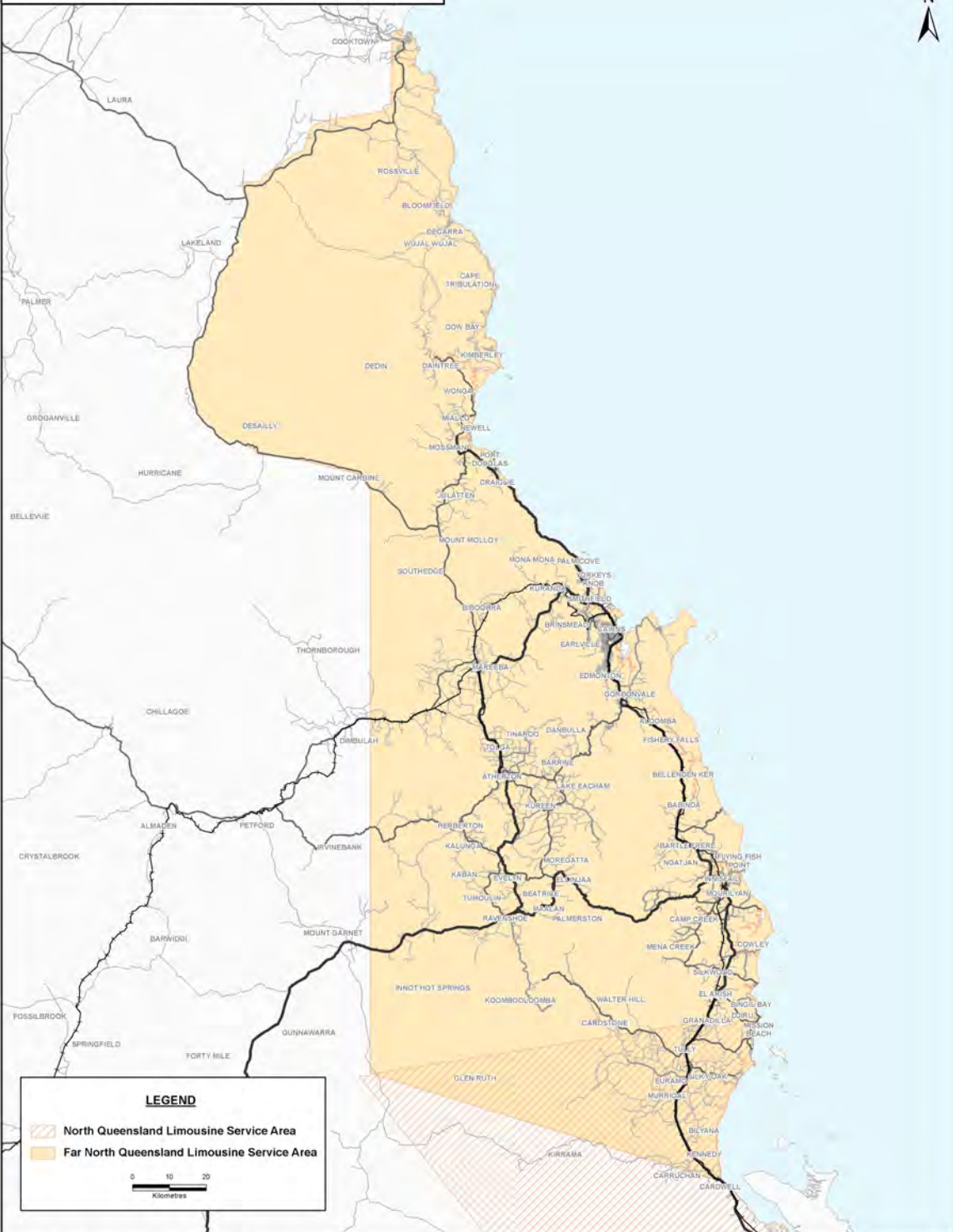
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Far North Queensland Limousine Service Area



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North Queensland Limousine Service Area



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- Far North Queensland Limousine Service Area
- North Queensland Limousine Service Area

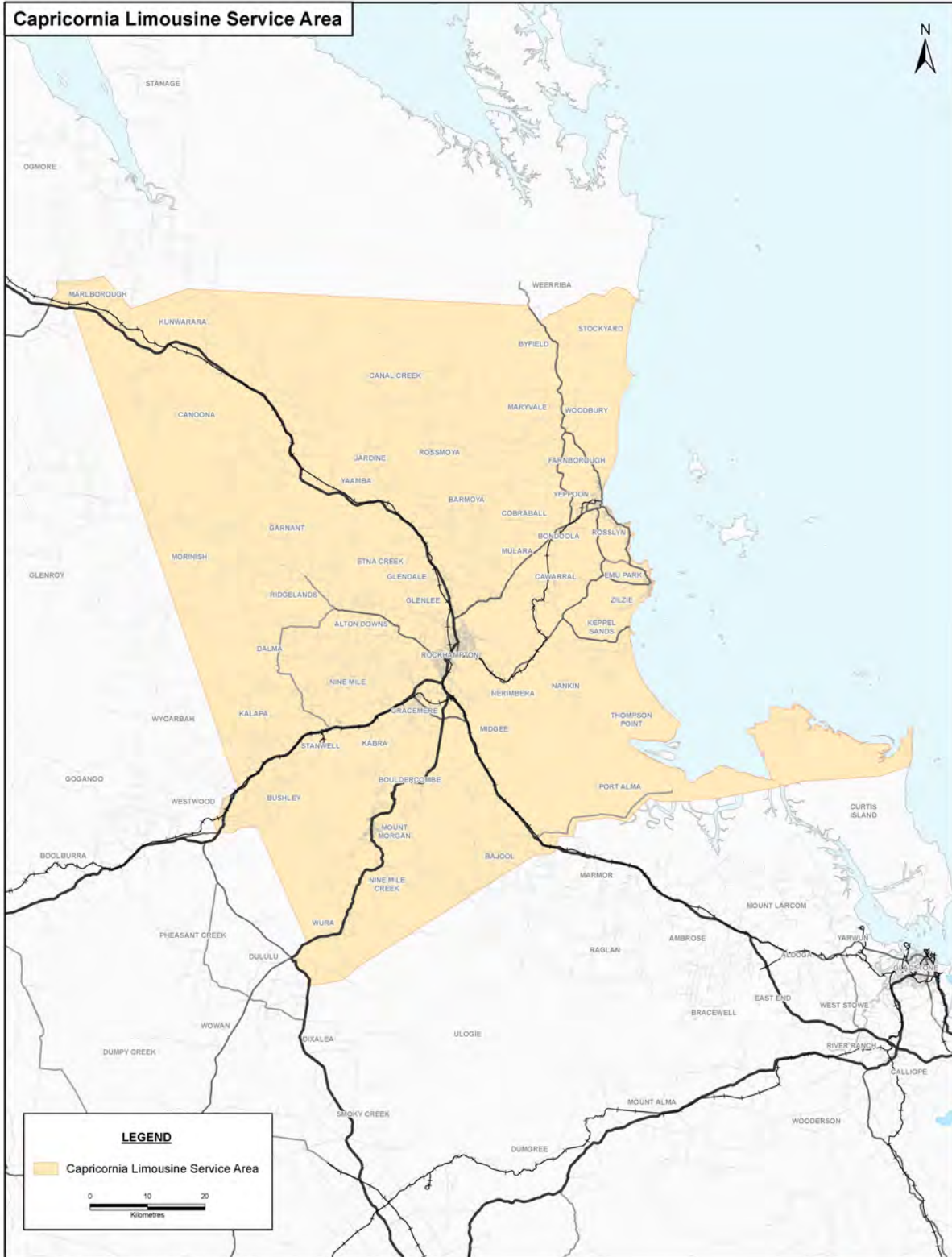
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Capricornia Limousine Service Area



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Capricornia Limousine Service Area

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