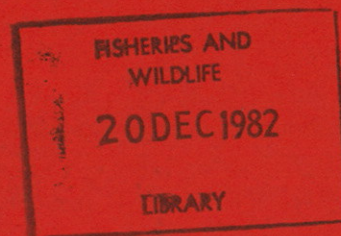


CONSERVATION RESERVES

FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA



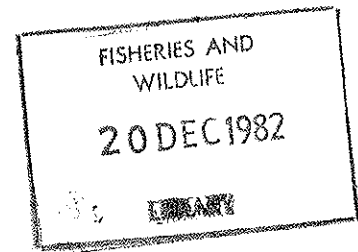
**AS RECOMMENDED
BY THE**

**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
AUTHORITY
1980**

SYSTEM 7

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42(9414)
WES

93036/2/80-500-H/969



Minister for Conservation and the Environment,
Western Australia

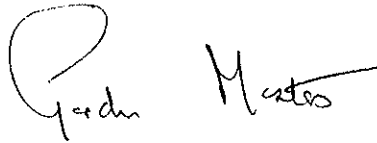
FOREWORD

During consideration of the Environmental Protection Authority's recommendations on System 7 - the Kimberley - the State Government also examined several matters which dealt principally with management issues concerning the proposed reserves.

While these matters do not, in general, affect the specific reservation proposals, they are considered to be sufficiently important to warrant a separate listing by way of this foreword. This listing is made in order that these matters may be clearly identified and addressed by the reserve management authorities.

1. A number of the areas subject to these recommendations have the potential for tourist development or are already visited by tourists. The subject areas are Hidden Valley, Lake Argyle and the offshore islands. Their tourist potential should be taken into account during the preparation of management programmes.
2. The W.A. Museum should be consulted regarding aboriginal sites when management programmes are being developed for each of the reserves.
3. Aboriginal communities should be consulted during the preparation of management programmes where they relate to aboriginal sites.
4. A number of recommendations suggest that biological and/or anthropological surveys should be carried out. These surveys should be assigned priorities in consultation with the Biological Survey Committee. Surveys will also be required in other recommended areas, and these should be dealt with by this mechanism.
5. The Environmental Protection Authority has recognised in its recommendation that water is of prime importance in Western Australia, in that a number of joint vestings have been proposed. The Public Works Department interest in water resources over other areas, such as the Bluff Face Range and the Oscar Range should be noted and their views should be sought during consideration of the proposed surveys.

6. The implementation of the Recommendation 7.3(3) - Deep Water Point - should take into account the pastoral interests of the Cygnet Bay Pearling venturers.
7. The potential need for the Main Roads Department or Local Government authorities to construct roads in and seek road making materials from reserved areas is recognised. This should, however, only occur with the agreement of the vested authority.
8. The possible future requirement by the Main Roads Department to improve the road through Inglis Gap is noted, and the attention of the vested authority is drawn to Point 7 above.
9. The Environmental Protection Authority has recognised the mineral potential of the Kimberley, and also the need for systematic exploration of the region in order to test this potential. Therefore, the reservation proposals have taken this into account.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'G' followed by the name 'Gordon Masters' written in a cursive script.

MINISTER FOR CONSERVATION
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

September 7, 1981



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY

BP HOUSE,
1 MOUNT STREET, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6000

Telephone 322 2477

HON MINISTER FOR CONSERVATION
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Your Ref.

Our Ref. 233/77

We transmit herewith our recommendations on National Parks and Nature Reserves in Western Australia in System 7, being the Kimberley.

In 1972, the Authority established the Conservation Through Reserves Committee with terms of reference -

"to review and update the 1962 recommendations of a sub-committee of the Australian Academy of Science (WA) with respect to National Parks and Nature Reserves of the State".

CTRC divided the State into 12 Systems each representing a natural and demographic entity (Figure 0). The report and recommendations of CTRC for all Systems other than 6 and 7 were made public during 1975. To assist public involvement during this period, a number of country tours and public meetings were held. In some instances, feelings ran high, but certainly many people took the opportunity of making clear their views in comments and submissions to the Environmental Protection Authority.

After reviewing both the CTRC report and recommendations, together with public comments and submissions thereon, the Authority made recommendations to the then Hon Minister for Conservation and the Environment for Systems 4, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 on 9 December 1975, and Systems 1, 2, 3 and 5 on 9 July 1976. All of these recommendations were subsequently endorsed by Cabinet.

Having completed its examination of these Systems, the CTRC commenced a review of System 7, the Kimberley. Its report and recommendations were compiled following the broadest possible contact with Local Authorities throughout the region. They were transmitted to the EPA on 14 April 1978. The report was then released for public review and comment until 30 June 1978.

In December 1978, the public submissions on System 7 were referred back to CTRC in order that the Committee could

provide any further comments or recommendations that it considered appropriate. The Committee then had several meetings with Aboriginal representatives and a number of Government Departments in order to discuss some specific recommendations and the question of the involvement of Aboriginal people in the management of reserved areas before reporting back to the EPA.

To acquaint ourselves with the more contentious issues raised in the CTCRC Report, the Authority made an inspection trip of the Kimberley.

In many of the submissions and comments received by the Authority, questions were raised and proposals put forward in regard to the involvement of Aboriginal people in the management of certain reserved areas. In this regard, the Authority emphasizes the importance of consultation with all local residents when preparing management programmes for existing and proposed National Parks. In particular, the Authority urges that the employment of Aboriginal rangers be considered where reserves include areas of particular significance to the Aboriginal people.

Mangrove communities are a feature of the northern Western Australian coast, both as extensive low closed-forest on tidal flats and as narrow fringes on rocky shores. Because of their great biological and physical importance which has only recently become widely recognised, the Authority considers that mangrove communities should be retained and protected wherever practicable. Mangroves help to stabilise the coastline by colonising newly created prograding shorelines. Because of their extensive and specialised root system, mangroves slow water movement sufficiently to cause some sediment to fall out of suspension. This attribute has allowed the mangrove communities to become a very rich food source to marine fauna. Commercial exploitation of fish and crustacea dependent on this source takes place throughout much of northern Australia.

The Authority therefore RECOMMENDS that any proposed developments which would affect a significant area of mangroves on the Western Australian coast be referred to the Authority for assessment as to its biological or physical importance in that location before action is taken which could lead to their destruction.

In its report to the Authority, the CTCRC pointed out that no conservation reserves exist in the south-east Kimberley. Appreciating the need for reserves in the area, the Committee recommended that a biological survey be carried out with the objective of determining an area or areas for reservation.

The recently released World Conservation Strategy has also pointed out the need to preserve areas of 'tropical grasslands and savannah' because they are ecosystems that are unrepresented or poorly represented in protected areas

throughout the world. This report contains recommendations for the creation of two reserves which will protect representative areas of tropical grassland and savannah. One recommendation deals with an area of vacant Crown land in the vicinity of Ardjorie Station, and the other suggests that an area near the Gardiner Range be set aside.

The Authority recognises the high mineral potential of the Kimberley Region and the need for systematic exploration in order to test this potential. With this in mind, the Authority has attempted to arrive at a balance with respect to mineral potential and the need for conservation reserves. For this reason, the Authority has preferred to recommend Class B and C classifications for all but one of the recommended areas.

As in previous 'Red Book' recommendations, the Authority believes that it must accept the legal rights of individuals over areas which are the subject of reservation recommendations. Therefore, we consider that the rights of holders of mining and petroleum tenements as of the date of any Cabinet approval of these recommendations, must be respected. These areas should be excised from the areas which are the subject of our recommendations, however, on the expiration or relinquishing of any tenement, the question of reservation in accordance with our recommendation should be reconsidered.


The Authority is fully aware of some problems that have occurred in the implementation of some previous 'Red Book' recommendations in areas regarded to have mineral potential. However, significant progress has been made and as more base-line scientific data, in the form of geological mapping, biological surveys, etc, becomes available, rational solutions should be achieved in areas of existing conflict. The question that the Authority believes should be asked is "which solution is in the best long-term interest of the people of Western Australia".

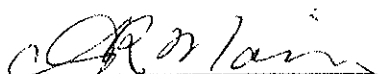
In contrast with current mining legislation, the new Act (Mining Act 1978) makes specific reference to referral and consultative mechanisms that will apply with respect to mineral tenement applications in all types of reserves and National Parks. This will also assist in resolving areas of conflict.

The Authority will be reporting to Government in the future with regard to those areas for which additional information has been sought.

This report and recommendations are the considered opinion of the Authority and their adoption by Government is recommended.


C F PORTER
CHAIRMAN


P R ADAMS, CMG, QC


PROFESSOR A R MAIN

9 September 1980

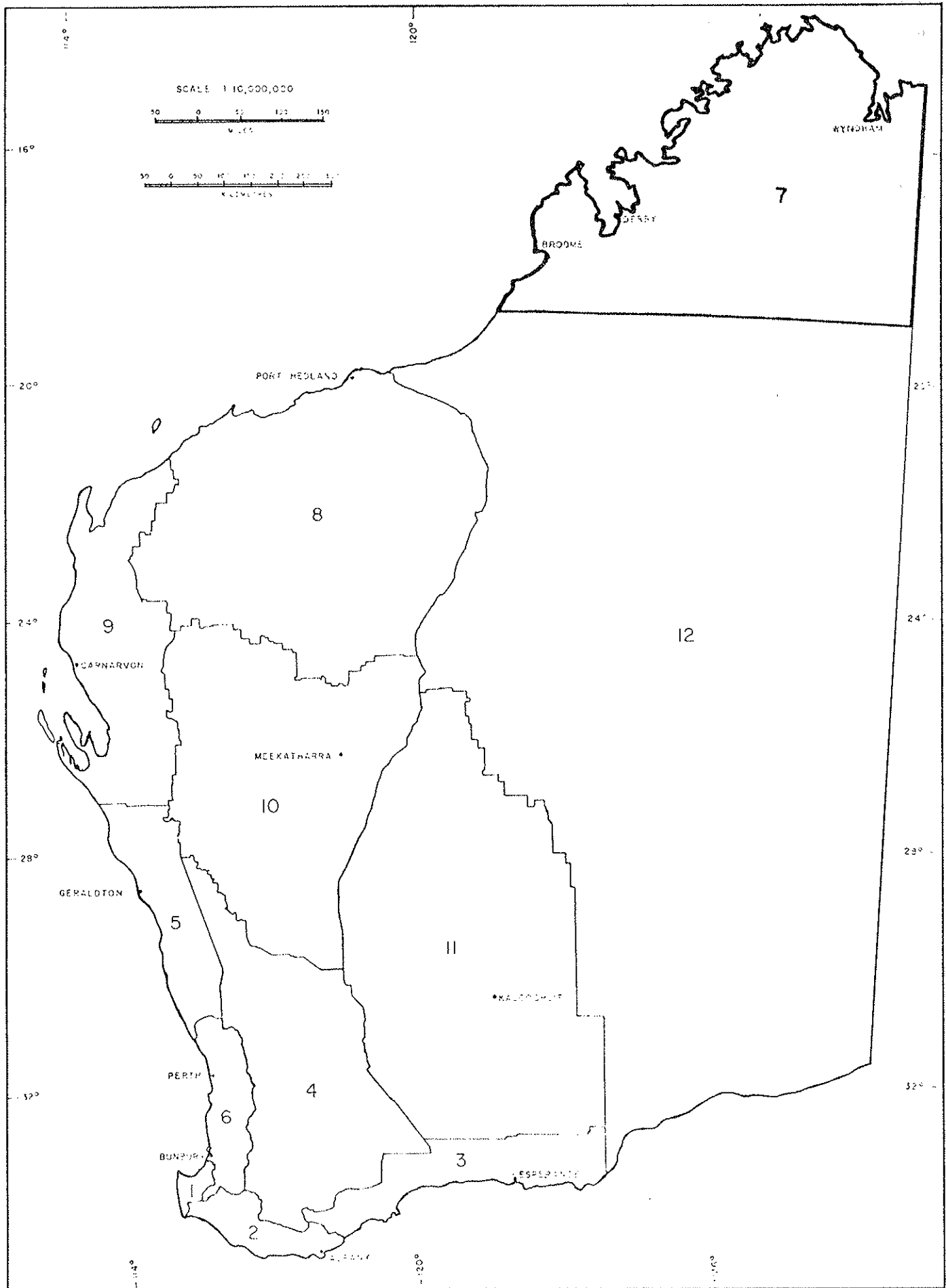


Figure 0 Systems

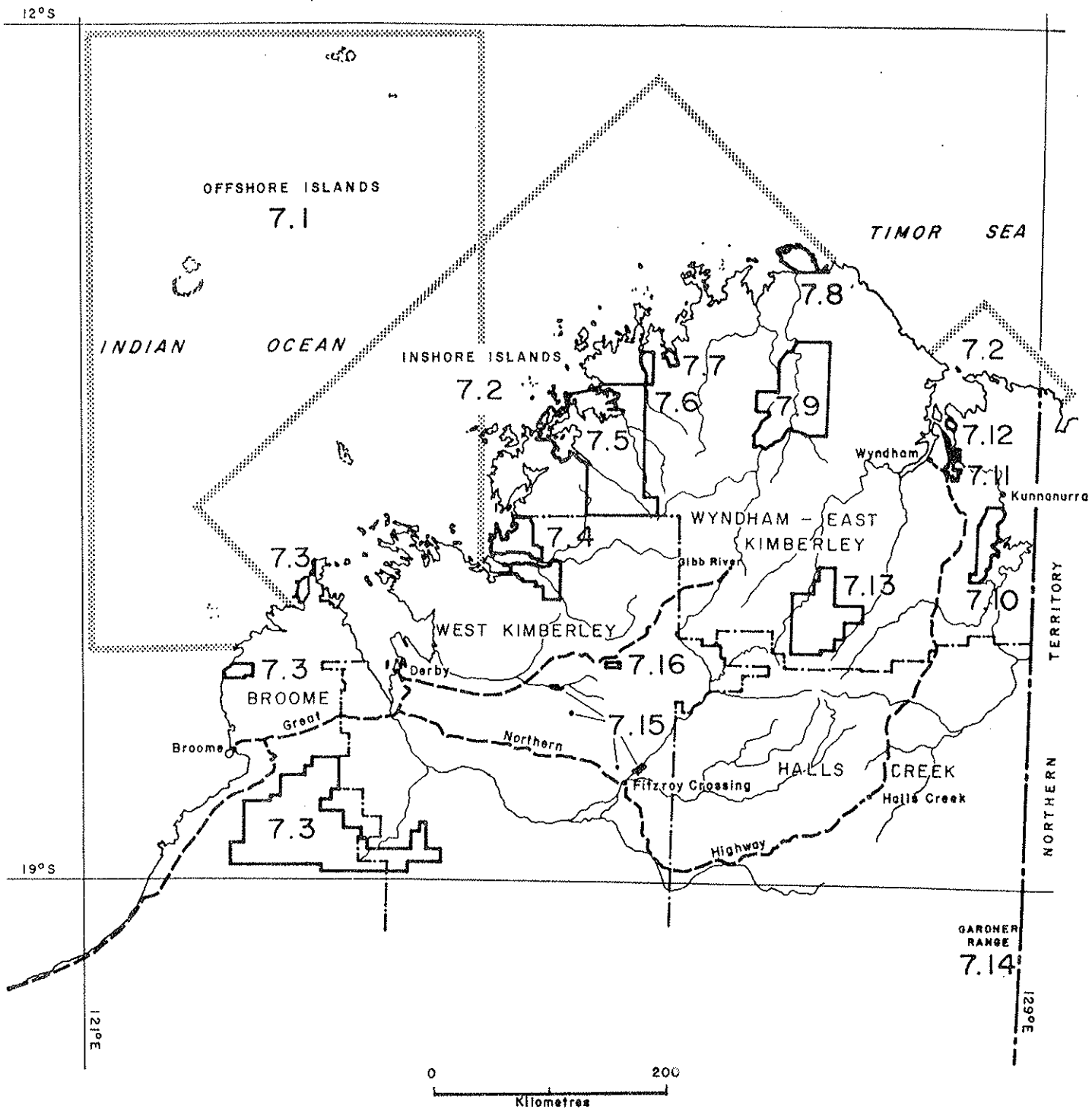


FIG. 7

7.1 OCEANIC ISLANDS

7.1.1 Lacepede Islands

The Lacepede Islands comprise three main islands, West, Middle, and East Lacepede and the small Sandy Island. West and Middle Islands are Class C reserve 7279, for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna vested, in the W.A. Wildlife Authority. East Island is leased to the Commonwealth Government for a lighthouse site.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the boundary of reserve 7279 be extended to low water mark;
2. the classification of reserve 7279 be amended to Class B;
3. should East Island become available for reservation, it be added to reserve 7279.

7.1.2 Adele Island

Adele Island is identified as Meda locations 10 and 13. Both are owned freehold by the Commonwealth Government for the protection of the lighthouse and radio beacon. An automatic weather station has also been established on the island.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the State Government explore with the Commonwealth Government means of returning Adele Island to State control;
2. should such a transfer eventuate, Adele Island should be declared a Class B reserve for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority;
3. leases should be issued to protect the lighthouse, radio beacon and automatic weather station prior to reservation of the island.

7.1.3 Browse Island

Browse Island is currently Class C reserve 22697 for Minerals and Phosphatic Rock and is unvested.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the boundary of reserve 22697 be extended to low water mark.
2. the classification and purpose of reserve 22697 be amended to a Class B reserve for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and the reserve vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

7.1.4 Ashmore Reef Islands

The EPA recommends that the State Government request the Commonwealth Government to manage the Ashmore Reef Islands as though they were nature reserves.

7.1.5 Cartier Islet

The EPA makes no recommendation on Cartier Islet.

7.1.6 Sandy Island, Scott Reef

The EPA recommends that the State Government request the Commonwealth Government to manage Sandy Island as though it was a nature reserve.

7.2 INSHORE ISLANDS

7.2.1 Buccaneer Archipelago

The EPA recommends that the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Western Australian Museum and Western Australian Herbarium make a biological survey of the Buccaneer Archipelago with a view to recommending to the EPA the creation of specific reserves.

7.2.2 Kingfisher Islands

The EPA makes no recommendation on the Kingfisher Islands.

7.2.3 Bonaparte Archipelago

The Bonaparte Archipelago can be divided into three island groups :

- a. *Augustus Group : comprises Augustus, Heywood, Darby, Champagny, Byam Martin Islands and several smaller islands. These islands presently are part of reserve 23079 for the Use and Benefit of Aborigines.*
- b. *Prince Regent Group : includes St. Andrew, St. Patrick, Unwins, Bat, Boongaree, the Coronation Islands and some smaller islands. The islands within the Saint George Basin are reserved for Aborigines, while Bat, Boonagaree, and Coronation Islands and those unnamed islands in Prince Frederick Harbour are vacant Crown land.*
- c. *Bigge Group : contains Bigge, Katers, Wollaston, the Maret and Montalivet Islands and all are vacant Crown land.*

The EPA recommends that :

1. the attention of the Aboriginal Lands Trust be drawn to the conservational value of islands in the Augustus group and within St. George Basin.
2. should the islands of the Augustus group and those within St. George Basin no longer be required as Aboriginal reserve, they be set aside for the purpose of Conservation of Flora and Fauna.
3. Bat Island, the Coronation Islands, Boongaree Island and the other islands within Prince Frederick Harbour be added to reserve 27164 - Prince Regent River Wildlife Sanctuary. (refer to recommendation 7.5).
4. Bigge, Katers, Wollaston, the Maret and the Montalivet Islands be declared a Class B reserve for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

7.2.4 Admiralty Gulf Islands

Three groups of islands can be recognised in the Admiralty Gulf :

- a. *Institut, Montesquieu and Kingsmill Islands lay to the north of Cape Voltaire and are vacant Crown land.*
 - b. *Osbourne Islands are five islands, Middle Osbourne, South-West Osbourne, Carlia, Borda and Steep Head and are vacant Crown land.*
 - c. *Low Rocks are presently reserved as Class C reserve 33832 for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.*
1. The EPA recommends that the Osbourne Islands be declared a Class B reserve for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.
 2. The EPA endorses the purpose and vesting of reserve 33832 - Low Rocks - but recommends that the classification be amended to Class B.

7.2.5 Sir Graham Moore Island

The EPA makes no recommendation on Sir Graham Moore Island.

7.2.6 Pelican Island, Joseph Bonaparte Gulf.

Pelican Island is reserved as Class C reserve 29541 as a Wildlife Sanctuary and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

The EPA endorses the purpose and vesting of reserve 29541 but recommends that the classification be amended to Class B.

7.3 POINT COULOMB NATURE RESERVE

Point Coulomb Nature Reserve is Class A reserve 29983 for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority. While the reserve originated to preserve an area of pindan and its characteristic fauna, the area appears to contain only a small area of pindan and associated fauna. To alleviate this lack of representation, the CTRC suggested two further areas for evaluation. Reports have been received following biological surveys of both areas, and the EPA recommendations take account of them.

1. The EPA endorses the present classification, purpose and vesting of reserve 29983 - Point Coulomb Nature Reserve.

The EPA recommends that :

2. the area of Deep Water Point not within the existing pearl culture lease and as shown in fig. 7.3 (i) be set aside as a Class B reserve for the purpose of recreation. Should the pearl culture lease over the northern portion of the point be no longer required, that area should be added to the recreation reserve.
3. the areas of vacant Crown land delineated in fig. 7.3 (i) be declared Class A reserves for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority. A suitable access into Deep Water Point should be excluded at the time of reservation.
4. the area shown in fig 7.3 (ii) be set aside as a Class B reserve for the purpose of Conservation of Flora and Fauna and Water and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority. This reserve should include the area formerly occupied by Ardjorie Station subject to the agreement of the Pastoral Appraisement Board.

7.4 WALCOTT INLET

Several proposals have been made for the establishment of a tidal power station at the mouth of Walcott Inlet. The EPA does not believe that the recommendation for reservation as a National Park should prejudice future decisions relating to a tidal power station.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the vacant Crown land surrounding the Inlet, as shown in fig 7.4, be declared a Class C Reserve for the purpose of National Park and Water and vested in the National Parks Authority of W.A.
2. once the reserve is gazetted, the National Parks Authority explore with the occupants of Pantijan Station the possibility of joint participation in management of the Park.

7.5 PRINCE REGENT RIVER NATURE RESERVE
(Including CTRC recommendation 7.6 - Hunter River Area.)

The Prince Regent River Nature Reserve is Class C reserve 27164 for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

The CTRC recommended that the reserve be increased to incorporate the area of vacant Crown land which included Mt. Hann and Mt. Agnes. This additional area would offer two advantages to the existing reserve :

1. *it would protect the complete catchment of the Prince Regent River and greatly reduce the risk of pollution should adjacent areas be utilised. This is important in view of the extensive system of streams and rivers forming the river basin, and the dependence of so many plants and animals on them;*
2. *it would add an area of unique scenery to the reserve.*

Several islands which lie near the Reserve have recognised conservation value, but are presently reserved for Aboriginal purposes. These include St. Andrew, St. Patrick, Unwins and Grenville Islands. The EPA has already made a recommendation on these islands in section 7.2.3 and it has been repeated in the recommendations below. Also repeated is the recommendation dealing with the islands within Prince Frederick Harbour.

The CTRC proposed in recommendation 7.6 of their Report that an area of vacant Crown land immediately to the north of this Reserve be set aside as a National Park. The EPA sees merit in the reservation of this land, but because of its proximity to the Prince Regent River Nature Reserve and relative inaccessibility, does not agree with the CTRC and has recommended the inclusion of this area within reserve 27164.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the classification of reserve 27164 be amended to Class B.
2. the purpose of the reserve be Conservation of Flora and Fauna and Water.
3. the area of vacant Crown land containing Mt. Hann and Mt. Agnes, as outlined in fig 7.5, be added to the reserve.
4. the area of vacant Crown land to the north of the reserve and as indicated in fig 7.5, be added to the reserve.
5. reserves 8243, 8248 and 8252 be cancelled and their area added to reserve 27164.
6. should the islands of the Augustus group and those within St. George Basin no longer be required as Aboriginal reserve, they be set aside for the purpose of Conservation of Flora and Fauna.

7. Bat Island, the Coronation Islands, Boongaree Island and the other islands within Prince Frederick Harbour be added to reserve 27164 - Prince Regent River Wildlife Sanctuary.
8. Aquatic Reserves be declared to include :
 - a. Prince Frederick Harbour seaward to Cape Torrens and the unnamed cape south of the Anderdon Islands, and
 - b. St. George Basin seaward to Unwins Island and Cape Wellington, including Rothsay and Munster Waters.
9. the aquatic reserves extend from high water mark.
10. the aquatic reserves be classified as Class A reserves and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.
11. the W.A. Wildlife Authority, in consultation with the National Parks Authority, prepare a management plan for reserve 27164, taking into account increasing public interest in the area.

7.7 MITCHELL RIVER

Part of the two recommended areas lie within vacant Crown land, while the remainder are contained within Mitchell River Station.

The Mitchell Plateau area contains substantial reserves of low grade bauxite. Plans are currently being prepared to exploit this resource. The proposed boundaries have attempted to, wherever possible, exclude economic deposits of bauxite and to minimise interference with their exploitation.

The EPA recommends that :

1. The Department of Lands and Surveys request the leaseholder of Mitchell River Station to relinquish those portions of the pastoral lease that fall within the boundary of the proposed reserve.
2. the areas of land contained within the boundaries outlined in fig 7.7 be set aside as a Class B reserve for the purposes of National Park and Water and be vested in the National Parks Authority. The boundary of the eastern area should extend to low water mark.
3. the mineral tenement holders be approached with the request to relinquish those tenements within the reserve area, and that their area be included within the reserve.

7.8 CAPE LONDONDERRY

The CTRC has recommended that the area of vacant Crown land at Cape Londonderry be reserved because of its geographical position, being the northernmost point of the Western Australian mainland, and its varied scenery, geology, flora and fauna. The reserve should include mangrove communities, including the mangrove islands at the mouth of the Drysdale River.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the area as shown in fig 7.8 including the adjacent islands, be declared a Class A reserve for National Park and vested in the National Parks Authority.
2. this reserve include the islands of mangroves in the estuary of the Drysdale River.
3. the boundary extend to low water mark.

7.9 DRYSDALE RIVER NATIONAL PARK

The Drysdale River National Park is Class B reserve 32853 and is vested in the National Parks Authority.

The EPA endorses the classification and vesting of Reserve 32853, and recommends that :

1. the purpose be amended to National Park and Water.
2. those adjacent portions of the existing stock route no longer required for that purpose be added to the National Park.

7.10 LAKE ARGYLE

The Carr Boyd Range to the west of Lake Argyle is currently vacant Crown land, as are the islands in the lake.

Lake Argyle plays several significant roles, not least of which is as a tourist attraction. Recognising the importance of this aspect to the role of the lake the EPA does not consider that the recommendations should prejudice the tourist potential of the area.

This recommendation differs slightly from that recommended in the CTRC System 7 Report in that a small portion of the north eastern section of Carr Boyd Range has been excluded. This alteration was brought about because this area has been committed as part of the Ord Irrigation project.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the area shown in fig 7.10, including the Carr Boyd Ranges and the islands in Lake Argyle, be declared a Class C reserve for National Park and vested in the National Parks Authority.
2. the reserve should extend to high water mark.

7.11 PARRY LAGOONS NATURE RESERVE

This reserve comprises four separate Class C reserves; reserves 1058 and 1059 for Water and Conservation of Fauna, vested in the Minister for Works, 31636 for Conservation of Fauna, vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority, and 30866 for the Protection of Flora and Fauna, vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

The EPA endorses the status, purpose and vesting of reserves 1058, 1059, 31636 and 30866.

7.12 ORD RIVER NATURE RESERVE

This reserve is set apart as Class C reserve 31967 for the Conservation of Flora and Fauna and vested in the W.A. Wildlife Authority.

The EPA endorses the status purpose and vesting of reserve 31967.

7.13 BLUFF FACE RANGE AREA

The EPA recommends that :

1. the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Western Australian Museum, and Western Australian Herbarium make a biological survey of the Bluff Face Range area with a view to recommending to the EPA the creation of a reserve.
2. the Department of Lands and Surveys, pending the outcome of this biological survey, refer all applications for release of this land to the EPA.

7.14 GARDINER RANGE AREA

This area lies in the south east of the Kimberley, without any significant conservation reserves. The World Conservation Strategy has pointed out that this area represents a significant biogeographical area and that there is a requirement for some reservation.

The EPA recommends that the Department of Lands and Surveys reserve a suitable area of land in the vicinity of the Gardiner Range should any of the existing pastoral leases be determined.

7.15 NAPIER AND OSCAR RANGES

7.15.1 Geikie Gorge National Park.

Geikie Gorge is reserved as Class A reserve 28401 for National Park and vested in the National Parks Authority

The EPA endorses the status, purpose and vesting of Geikie Gorge National Park. It recommends that the National Parks Authority review the adequacy of the existing Park boundary.

7.15.2 Windjana Gorge National Park.

This gorge is Class A reserve 31107 for National Park and vested in the National Parks Authority.

The EPA endorses the status, purpose and vesting of Reserve 31107.

7.15.3 Tunnel Creek National Park.

A portion of Tunnel Creek is set aside as Class C reserve 26890 for National Park, vested in the National Parks Authority.

The EPA endorses the status, purpose and vesting of Tunnel Creek National Park.

7.15.4 Brooking Gorge.

This gorge lies within Brooking Springs Station.

During the visit by the EPA to Brooking Gorge, representations were made regarding the importance of the Gorge to the local community and to the Station. Concern was expressed that reservation as a National Park would deny the local population the use of the Gorge for recreational purposes and would restrict the availability of water for stock

purposes. In addition, the Gorge has a limited capacity to accommodate visitors.

The Authority considers that while Brooking Gorge is aesthetically attractive and has considerable scenic grandeur, the limited capacity for accommodating large numbers of visitors without costly management mitigates against its becoming a successful National Park at this time.

The EPA recommends that no action be taken to reserve Brooking Gorge at this time. However, should the public be denied reasonable access to the Gorge or if signs of significant deterioration of the Gorge become apparent, the question of reservation of Brooking Gorge be reconsidered by the Authority.

7.15.5 Oscar Range

The EPA recommends that the W.A. Museum, in conjunction with the Australian Speleological Federation, make a survey of caves in the Oscar Range and report to the EPA on their conservation and anthropological value, with a view to reservation.

7.16 KING LEOPOLD RANGES

The EPA recommends that :

1. the vacant Crown land formerly leased as Bell Creek Station be declared a Class B Reserve for the purpose of National Park and vested in the National Parks Authority of W.A.;
2. should suitable opportunities occur, the Department of Lands and Surveys negotiate to acquire those parts of Mt. Hart Station that lie adjacent to the south and west-north-west of this reserve, and which include Bold Bluff, Mt. Bell, Mt. Vincent and Inglis Gap.

7.17 GEOLOGICAL SITES

The EPA notes the sites recommended by the CTRC. The Geological Sites Committee has already listed these for further investigation.

7.18 HIDDEN VALLEY, KUNUNURRA

In a supplementary report to the EPA, the CTRC recommended that an additional reserve be created within System 7. The area concerned is that portion of the vacant Crown land within the Kununurra Townsite boundary that contains Hidden Valley. The Committee pointed out that there has been a keen desire for some years to protect the area associated with Hidden Valley. This valley represents an important tourist and recreational attraction and is known to contain important Aboriginal sites. Concern has been expressed that unless some controls are exercised, the area could be subject to overuse and vandalism, both of which would be detrimental to the area.

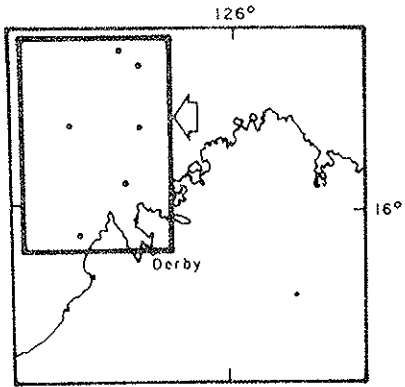
The CTRC has discussed the matter with a number of relevant groups and these discussions resulted in a recommendation that a reserve for National Park be created over Hidden Valley, and it be vested in the National Parks Authority.

The Committee emphasised the importance of consultation with local residents when preparing management programmes for existing and proposed national parks. In particular the Committee urged that Aboriginal rangers be employed wherever possible, in regard to those areas containing sacred sites. This applies to the proposed Hidden Valley national park.

Discussions have been held with the relevant planning authority and a reserve over the area would not conflict with the future development of Kununurra.

The EPA recommends that :

1. the area delineated in fig 7.18 be set apart as a Class A reserve for National Park, vested in the National Parks Authority.
2. prior to this reservation, the Public Works Department, in consultation with the EPA, select an inconspicuous site for a water tank, and that this site be reserved for Public Works.
3. the National Parks Authority consult with the traditional owners of Hidden Valley during the preparation of a management plan.



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Middle Is East Is

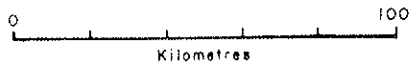
Cartier Is

North Reef
Sandyls Scott Reef
South Reef

Browse Is

INDIAN

OCEAN



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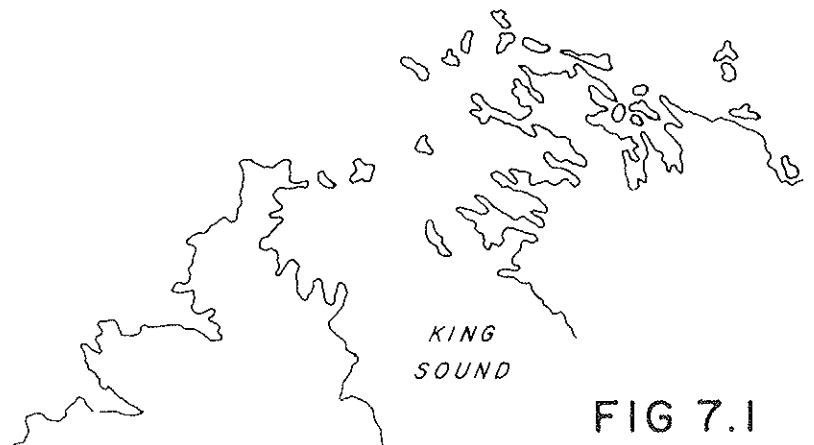


FIG 7.1

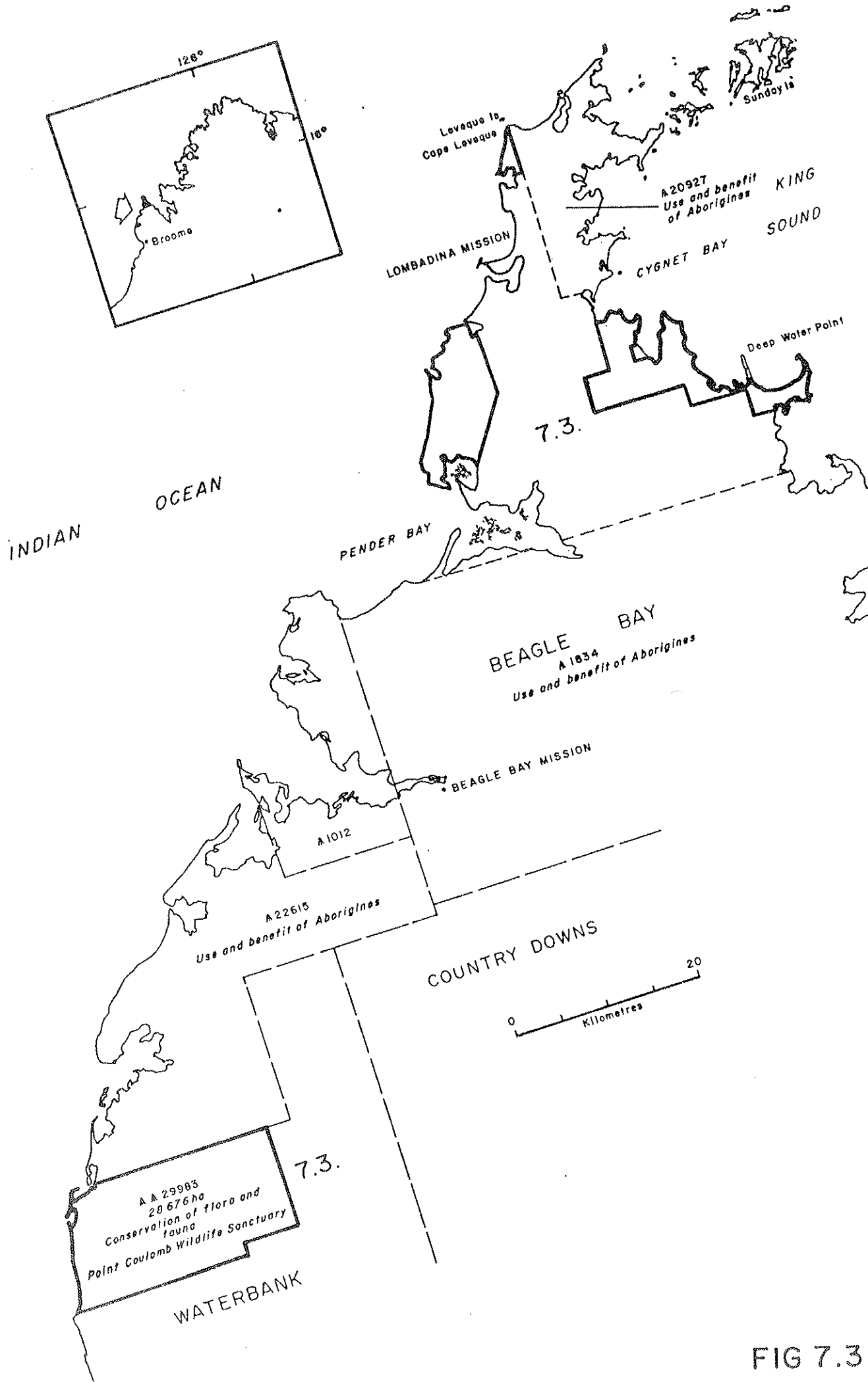


FIG 7.3(I)

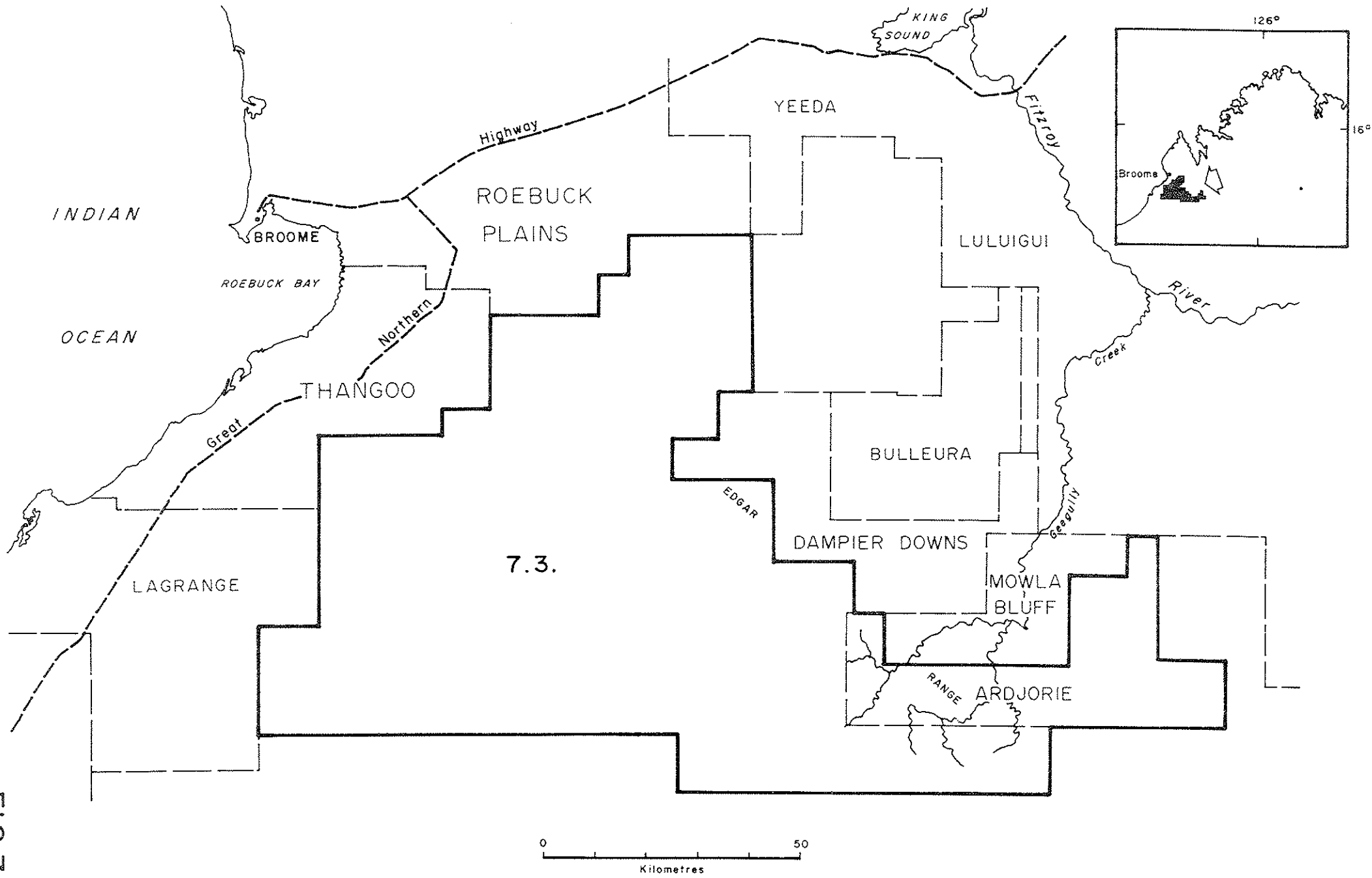


FIG 7.3(II)

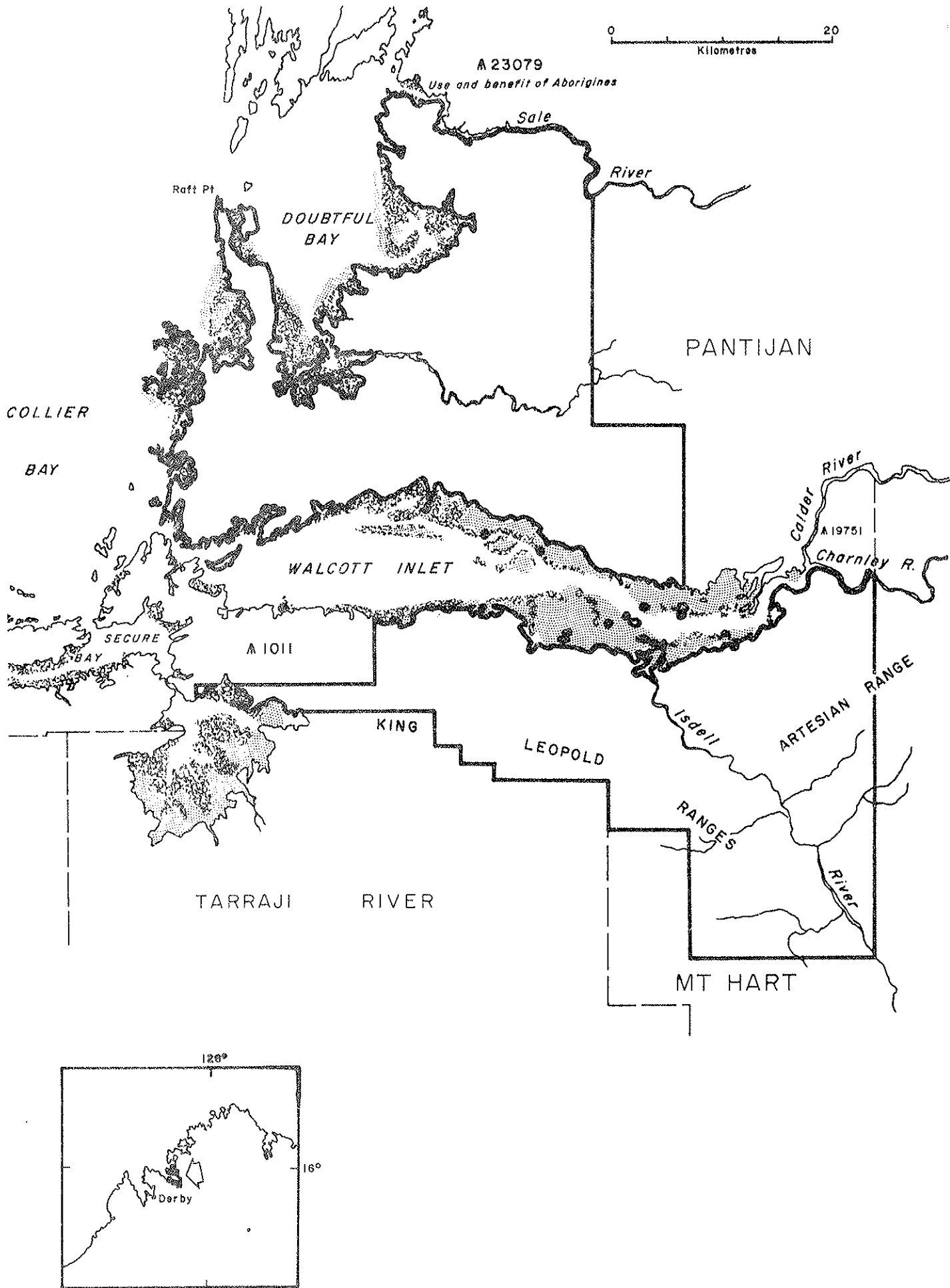


FIG 7.4

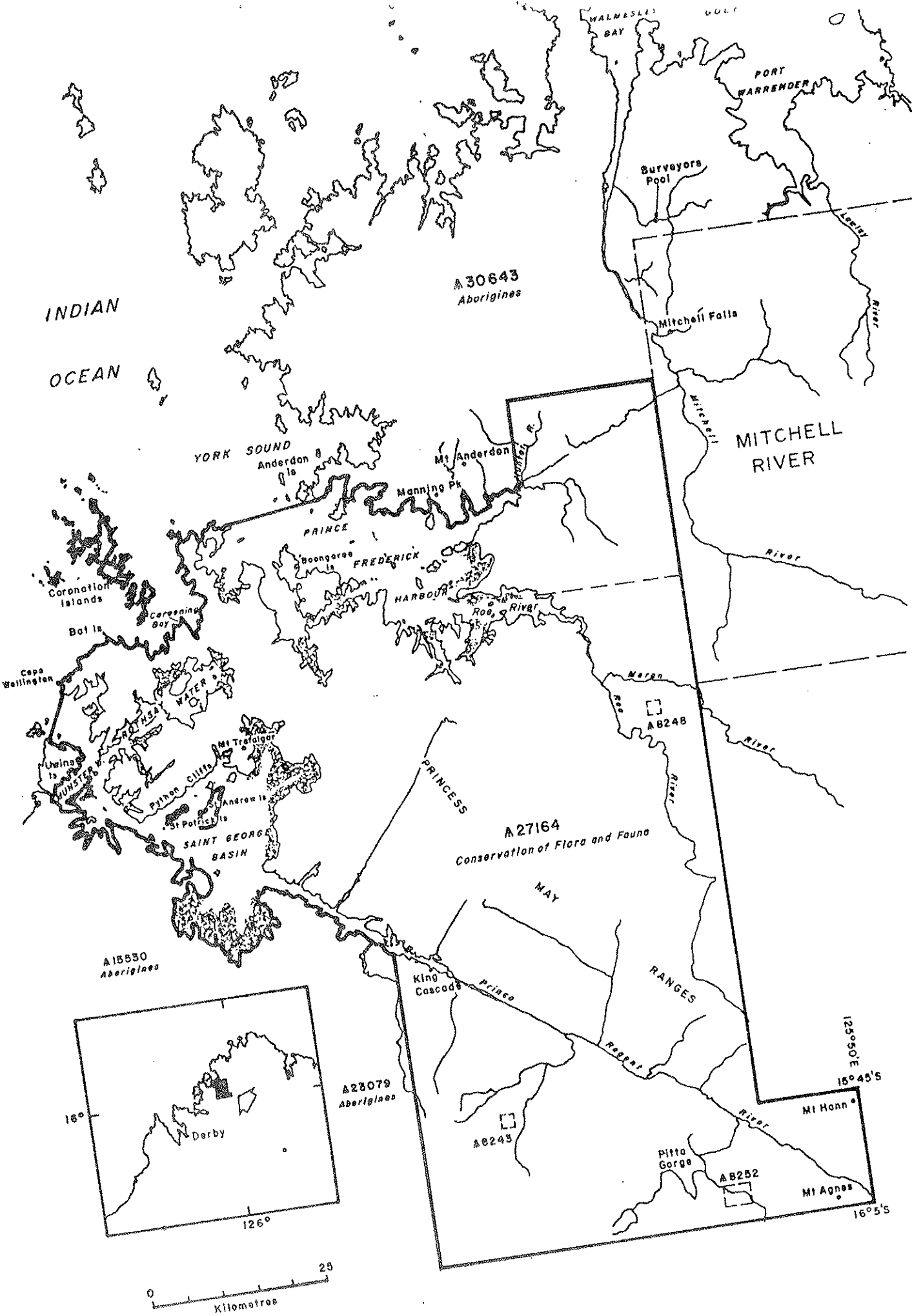


FIG 7.5a7.6

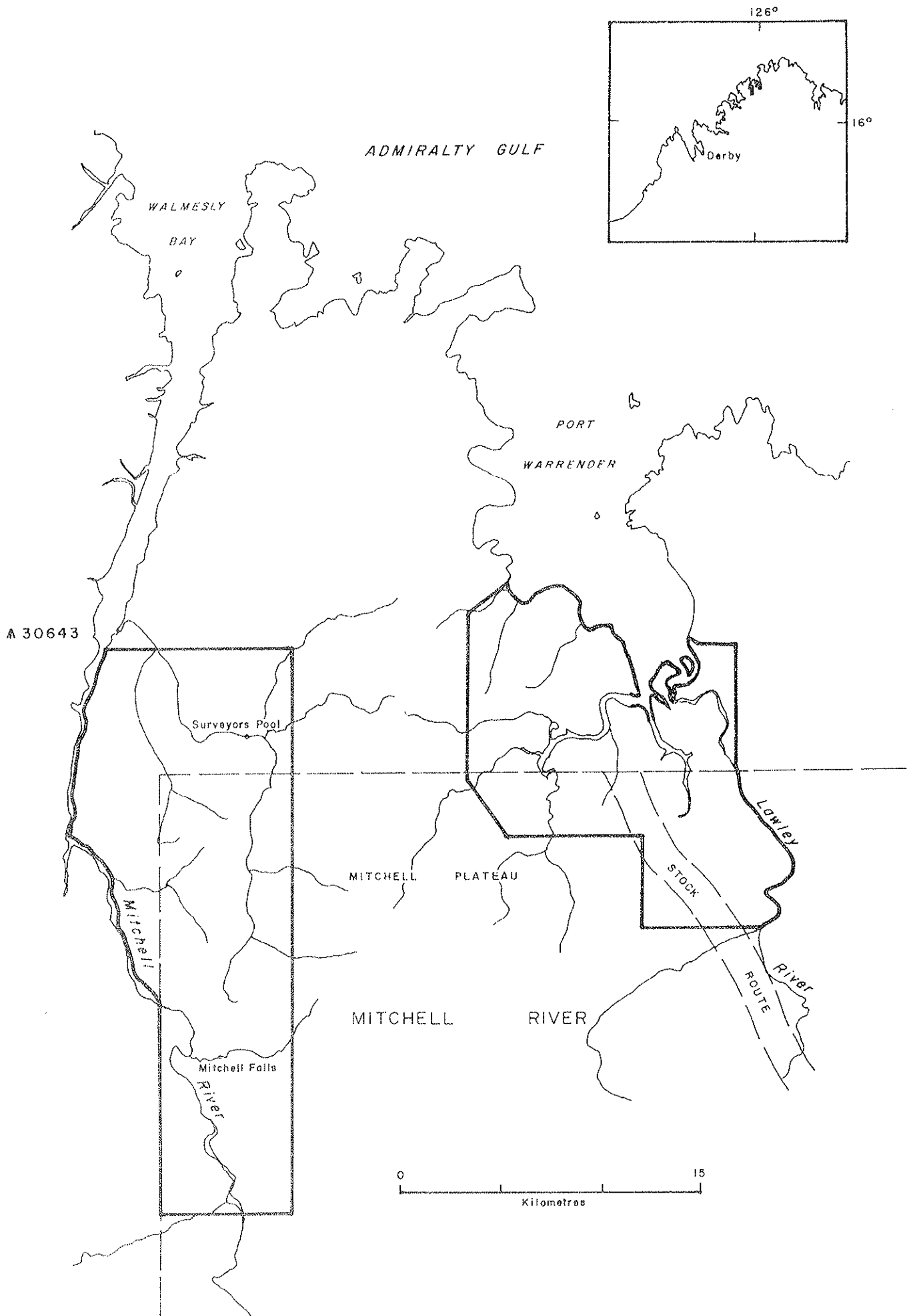


FIG 7.7

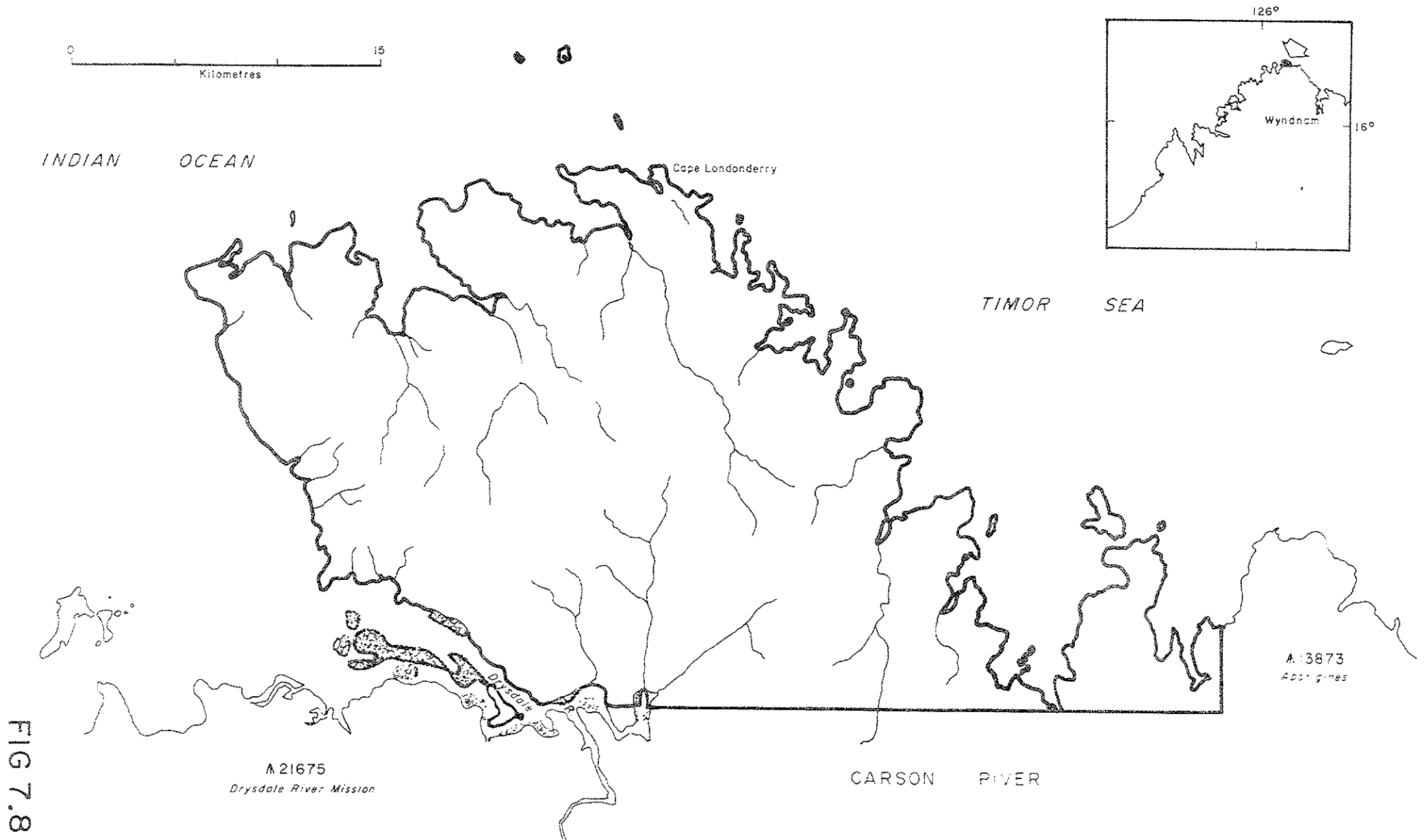
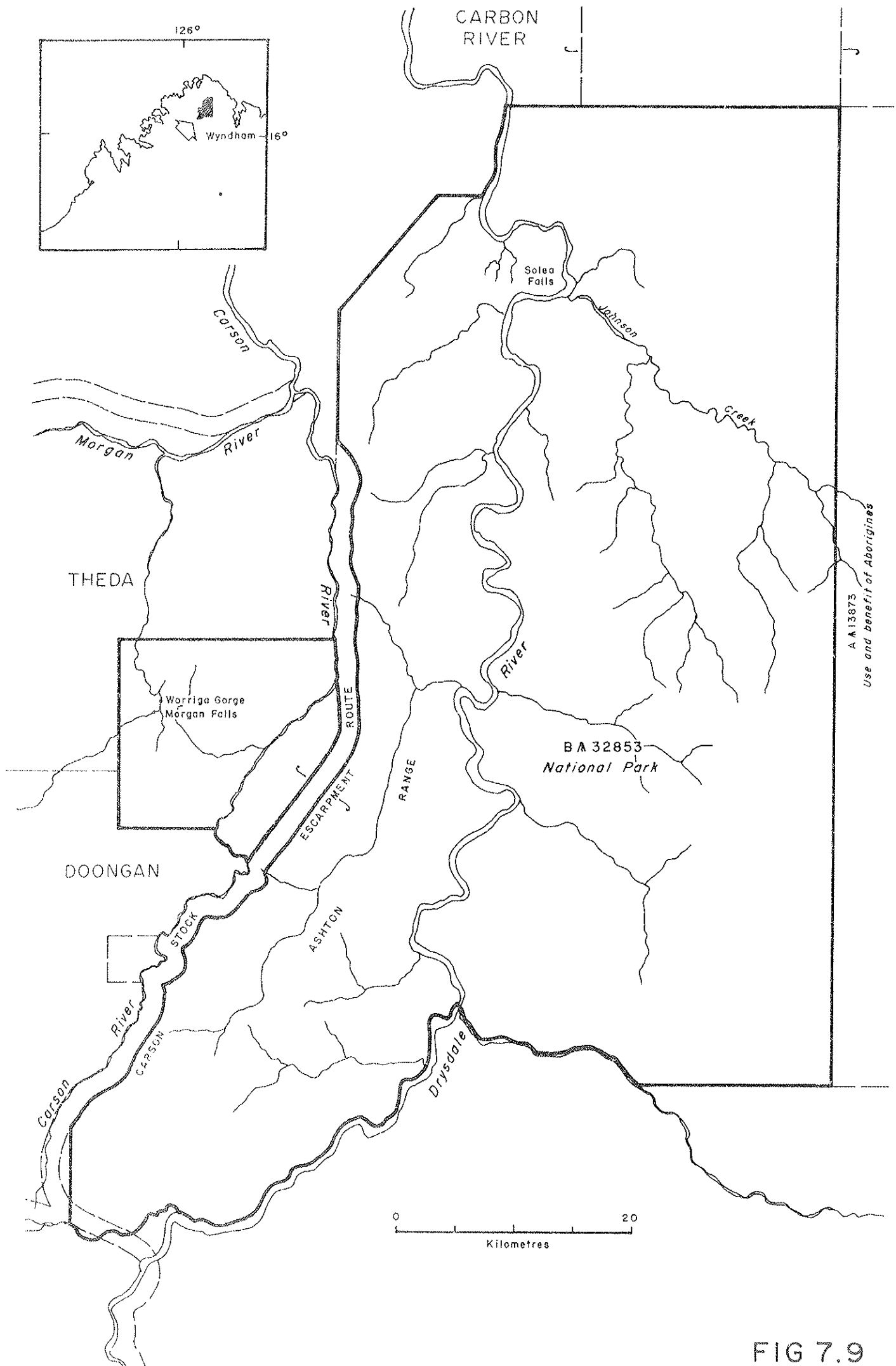


FIG 7.8



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Use and benefit of Aborigines

FIG 7.9

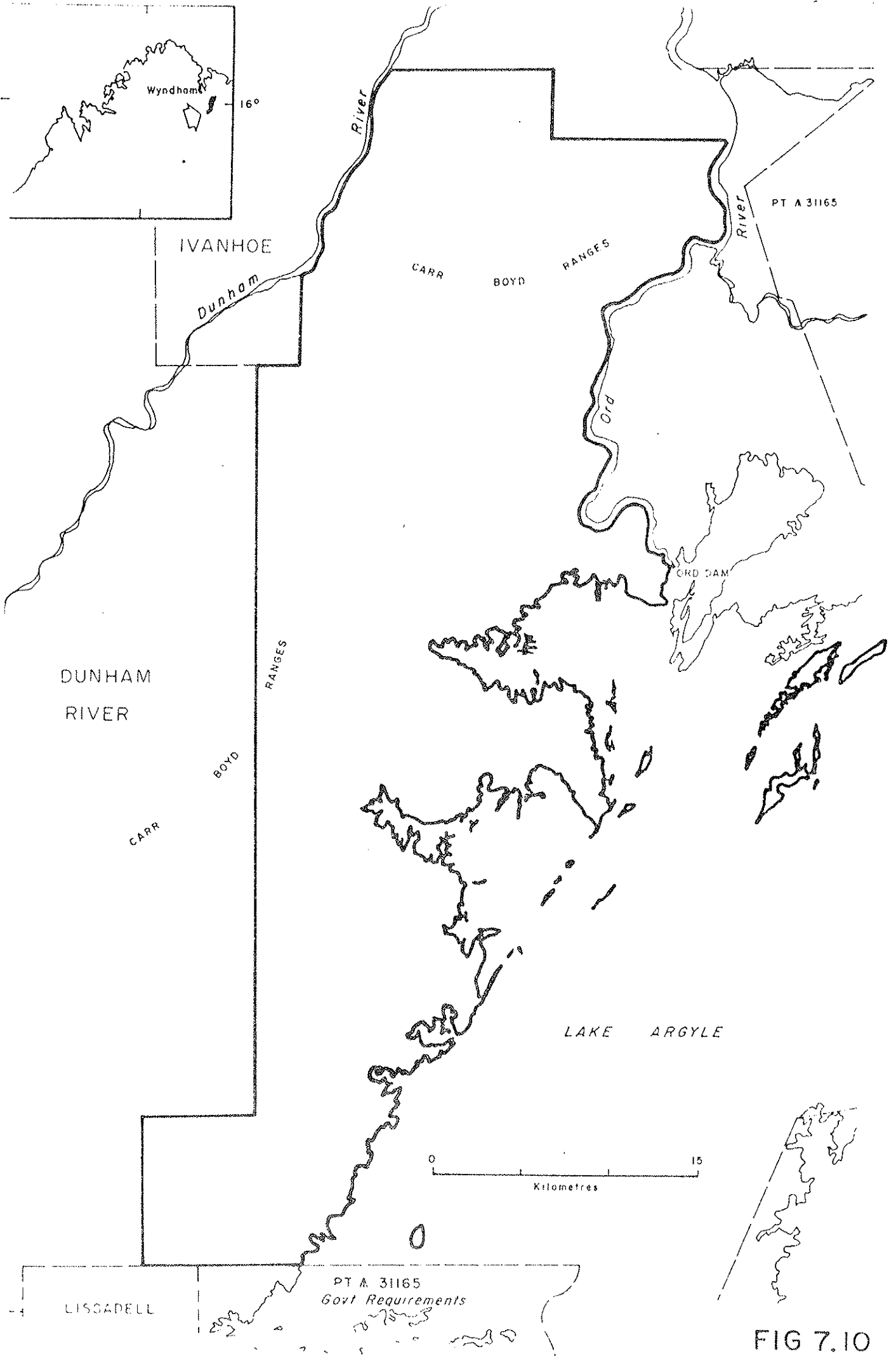


FIG 7.10

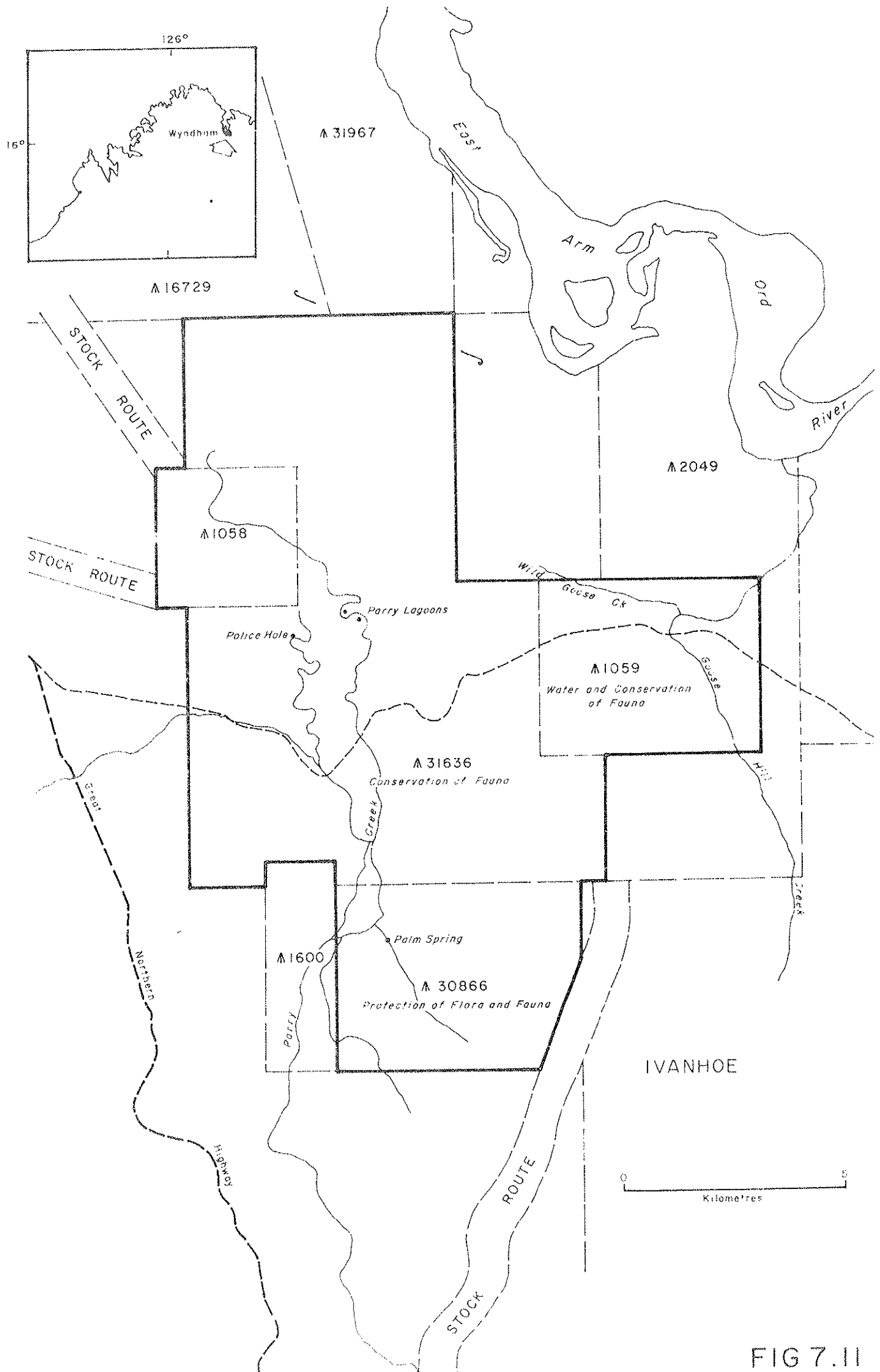


FIG 7.11

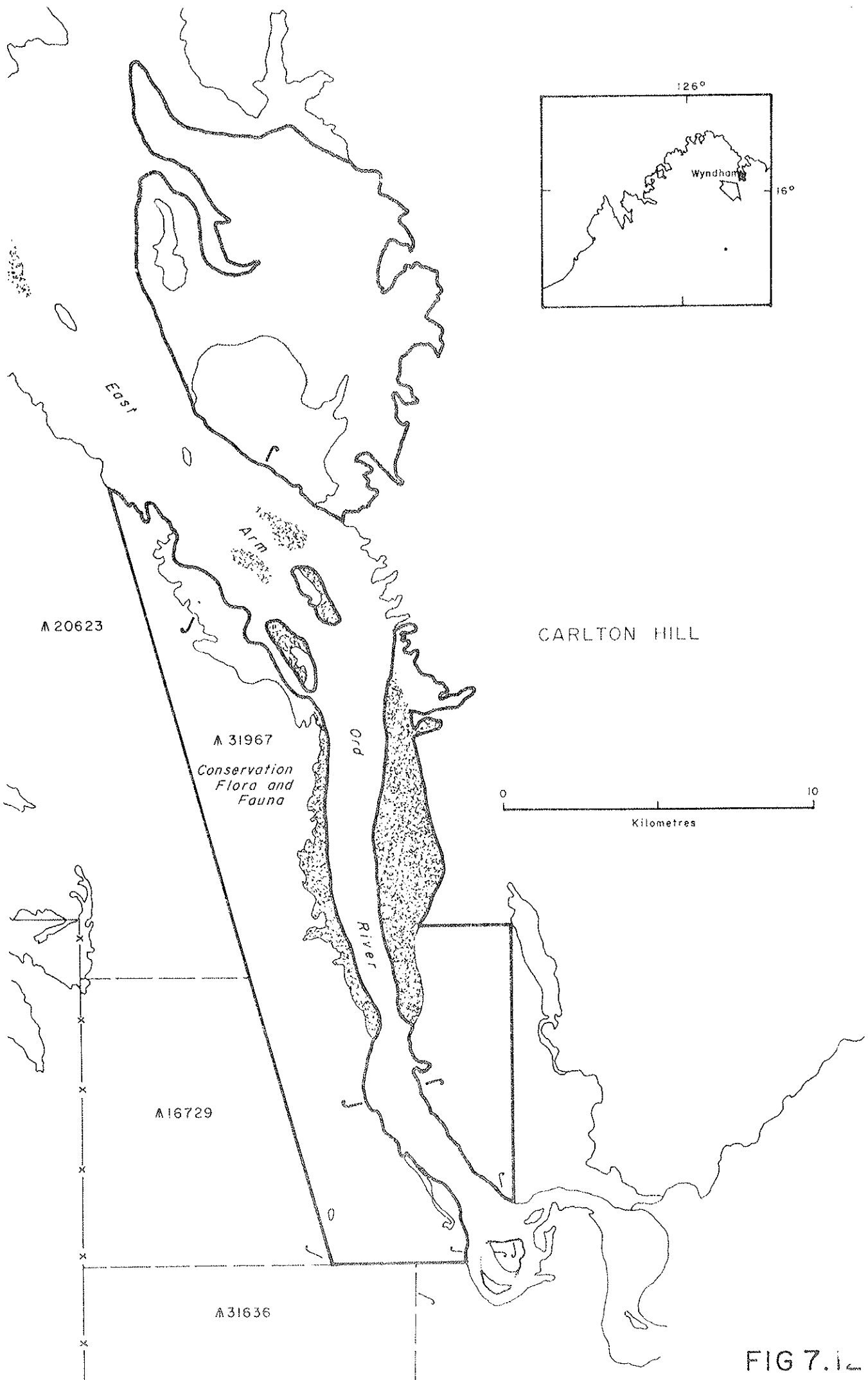


FIG 7.12

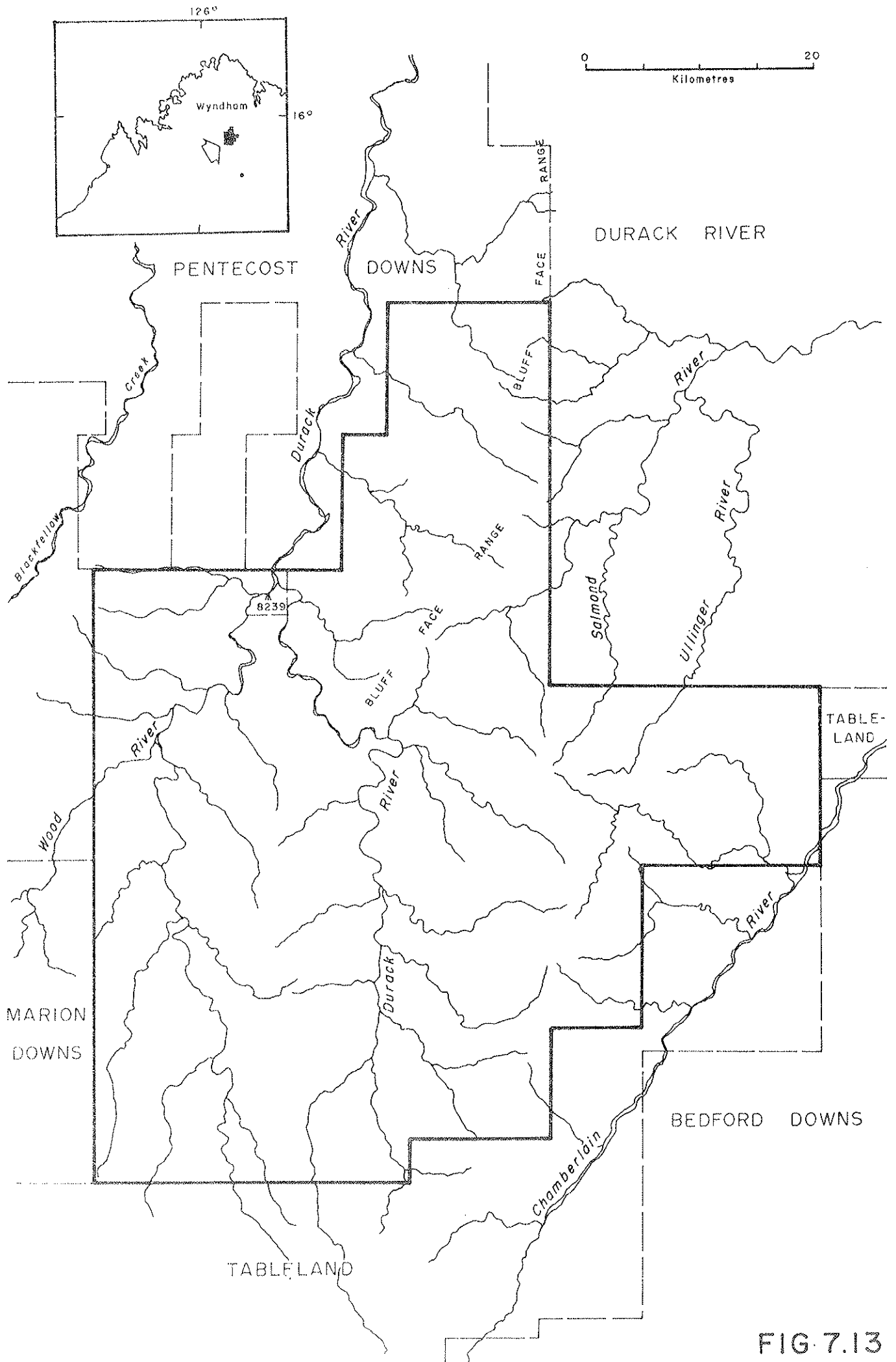


FIG. 7.13

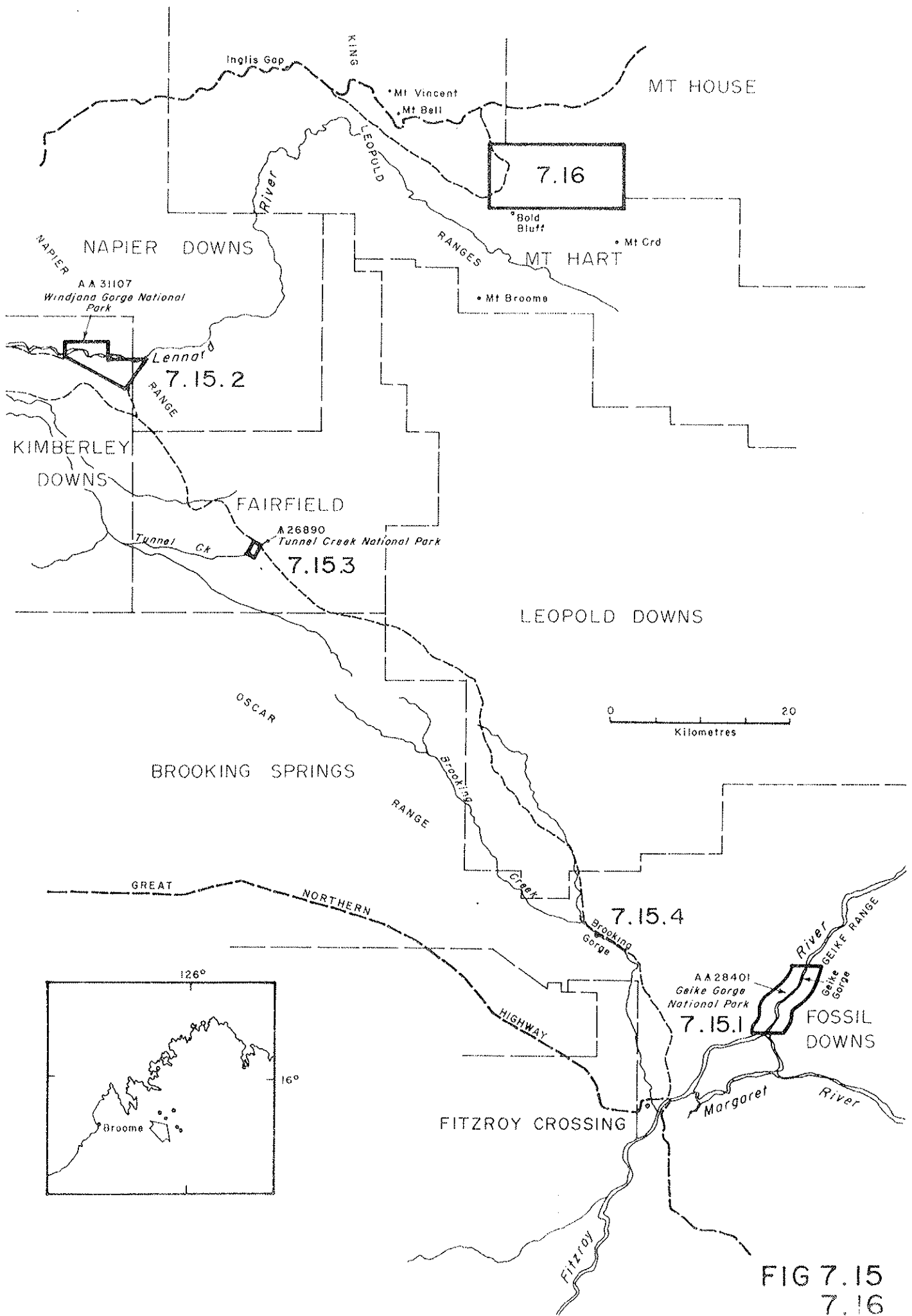


FIG 7.15
7.16

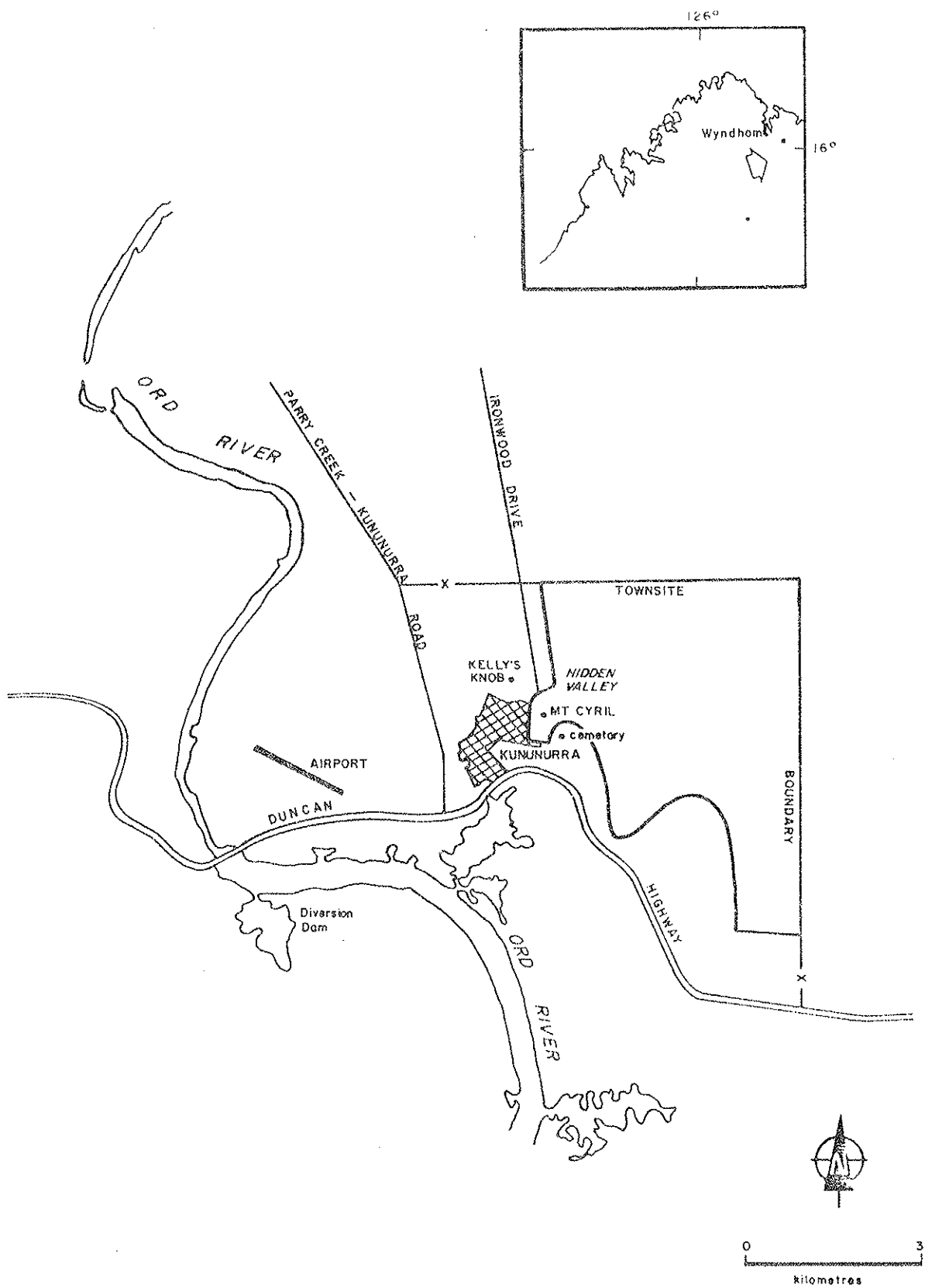


FIG 7.18