

3 PLANNING CONTEXT

3.1 General Description of LGA

Dungog LGA is located inland and to the north of Newcastle in the Hunter Region of NSW, and comprises a total area of approximately 2,265 km². The LGA's largest population centre is the township of Dungog, located approximately 75 kilometres north of Newcastle and 215 kilometres north of Sydney. Other main population hubs include the townships and villages of Paterson, Clarence Town, Gresford (and East Gresford), Martins Creek and Vacy, all of which are located in the southern half of the LGA.

The LGA is bounded to the north by the mountainous Barrington Tops plateau, and comprises generally steep and hilly country that becomes less rugged towards its southern reaches. The landform typically consists of cleared rural land; a significant proportion of forested land, including national parks and State Forests; and small settlements and villages dotted around the region, predominantly centred in the southern half of the LGA. The LGA contains two main rivers, the Williams to the east and the Paterson to the west, both of which traverse in a general north-west to south-east direction. A third river, The Allyn, joins the Paterson River at Vacy.

Some of the LGA's major industries include dairy and beef production; poultry meat production; timber; and a growing tourism industry, centred on the natural mountain topography and wilderness areas. Aside from agriculture, education and training, retail trade, healthcare and social administration, and safety are the major employers. Small businesses employing less than four people dominate the business community.

The LGA's first inhabitants were thought to be the Gringai Tribe, who formed part of the Wanaruah Tribe. 'Dungog' is an Aboriginal name which means 'place of thinly wooded hills'. European settlement of the LGA occurred in the early 1800's when settlers were initially attracted by the numerous cedar trees for timber production. Later settlement was typically driven by agricultural production, and in more recent times, by the quality and range of rural and rural residential lots in the southern part of the LGA, where many residents consider the proximity to Newcastle and Raymond Terrace attractive.

In the ABS Census in 2001, the LGA had a population of 7,875. This rose to 8,062 in 2006. The average density of the population is indicated below with Dungog having 8,062 people in an area of 2,248 km², representing 7.3% of the total Hunter area land mass.

The local population and area, relative to the Lower Hunter and Hunter Region is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Dungog LGA, Regional Area and Population

	Area		Population	
	Km ²	% of Hunter area (total 30,944 km ²)	No. of people (2006)	% of Hunter population
Dungog LGA	2,248	7.3%	8,062	1.4%
Lower Hunter Planning Region	4,291	13.9%	493,467	83.7%
Hunter Region	30,944	100%	589,239	100%

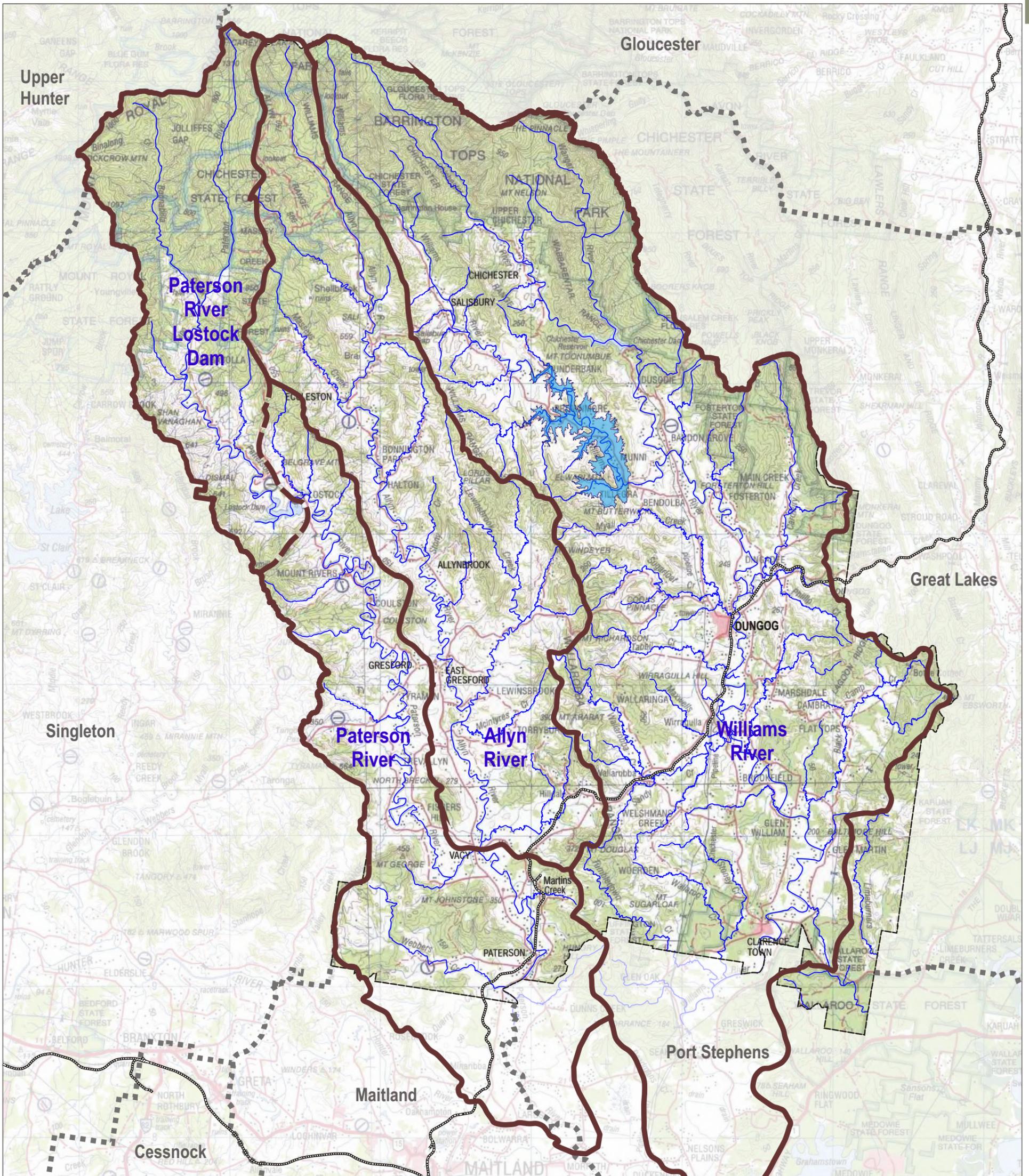
Source: ABS 2006 Census Data

3.2 Rivers, Water Catchments & Regional Administration Boundaries

There are two main river catchments within the LGA; the Williams River catchment (dominated by the Williams River) and the Paterson-Allyn catchment (dominated by the Paterson River and the Allyn River). The LGA is further subdivided into a number of smaller sub catchments. The main towns and villages drain into these waterways in the following way (Hunter Water Australia Strategic Services, 2000):

- The town of Dungog drains into the Williams River
- Paterson drains into the Paterson River
- Clarence Town drains via Town Creek into the Williams River
- Gresford generally drains to the Paterson River
- East Gresford generally drains to the Allyn River

The location of the main rivers within the Dungog LGA is shown in Map 3.1. The LGA is wholly contained within the Hunter-Central Rivers catchment, and is administered by the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority. The proposed Tillegra Dam catchment is located along the Williams River, in the Williams River valley at Tillegra. Map 3.2 shows the location of the proposed Tillegra Dam catchment.



DISCLAIMER:
 This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (wether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

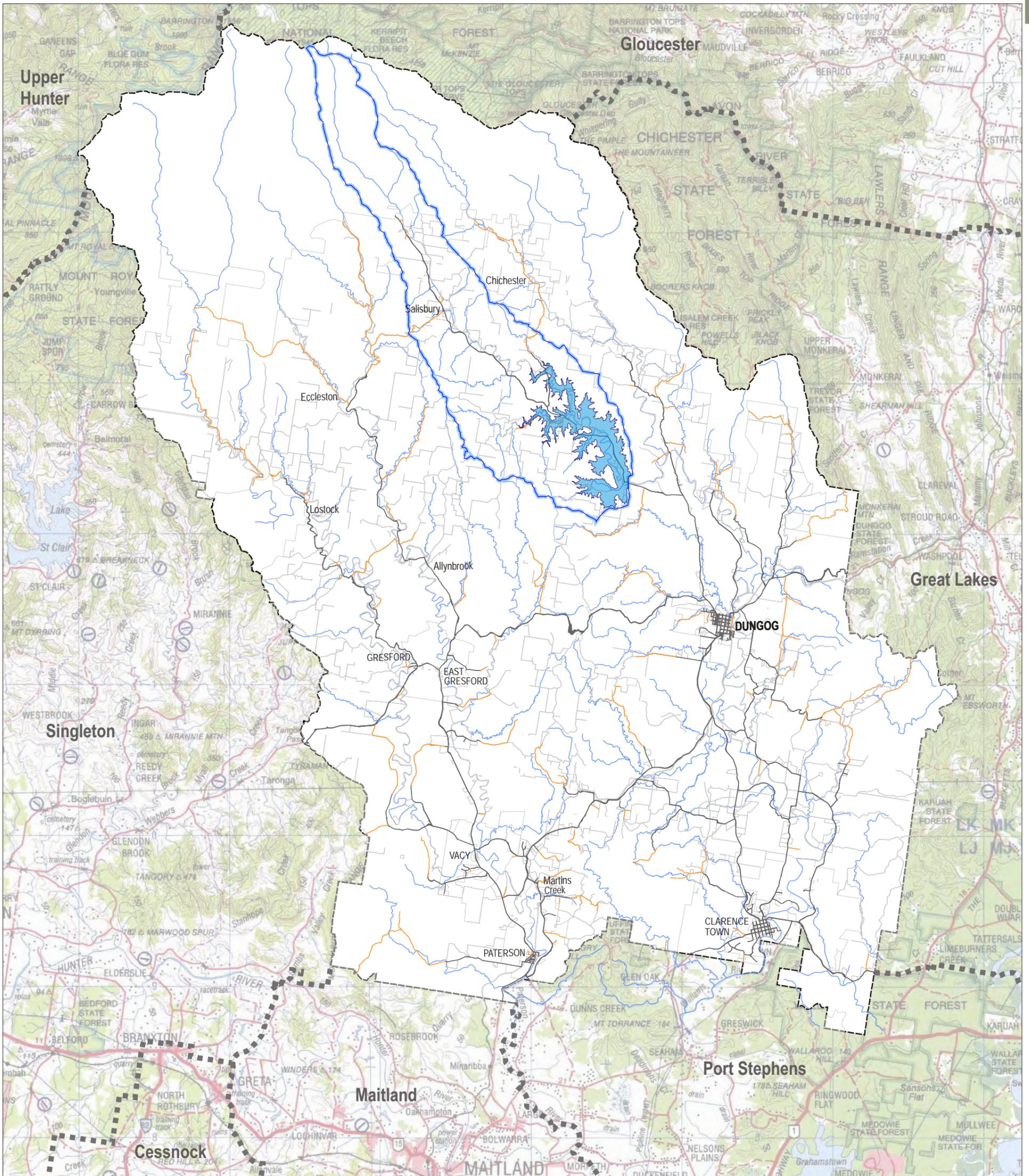
Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008) LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)

This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report.

LEGEND

-  MAIN RIVER CATCHMENTS
-  RIVERS AND CREEKS
-  PROPOSED TILLEGRA DAM

Main River Catchments



DISCLAIMER:

This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008) LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)

This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report.

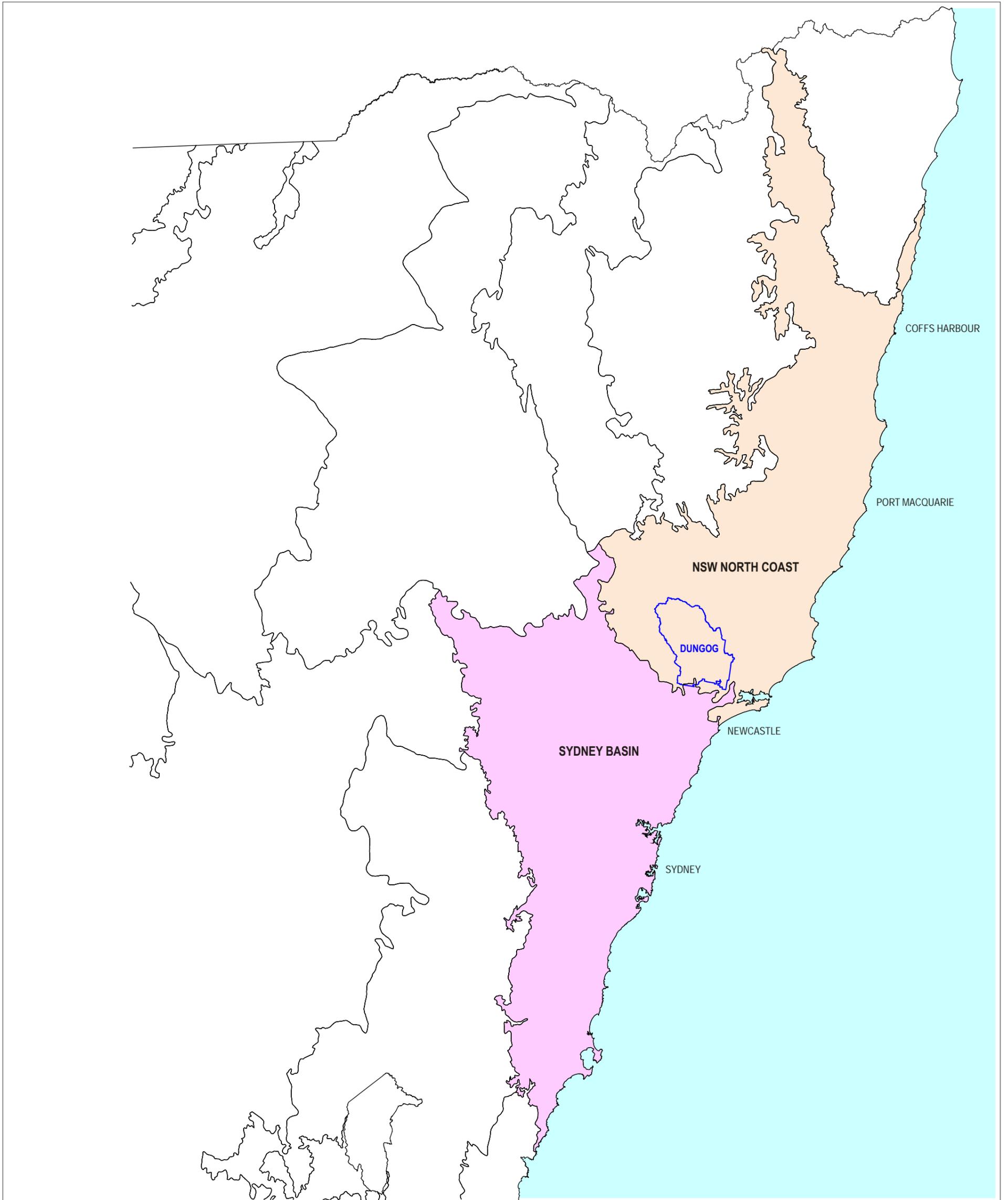
LEGEND

- ▭ TILLEGRA DAM CATCHMENT
- ▭ PROPOSED TILLEGRA DAM
- ▭ RIVERS & CREEKS
- ▭ ROADS - SEALED / UNSEALED

Tillegra Dam Catchment

The Local Government Areas that adjoin the Dungog LGA are Singleton, Upper Hunter, Gloucester, Great Lakes, Port Stephens and Maitland. The Dungog LGA and its adjoining LGA's are all included within the Hunter Planning Region, as identified by the Department of Planning (DoP).

Other boundaries relevant to this study are Biogeographic Regions and Aboriginal Land Council Boundaries. These can be viewed at Maps 3.3 and 3.4.



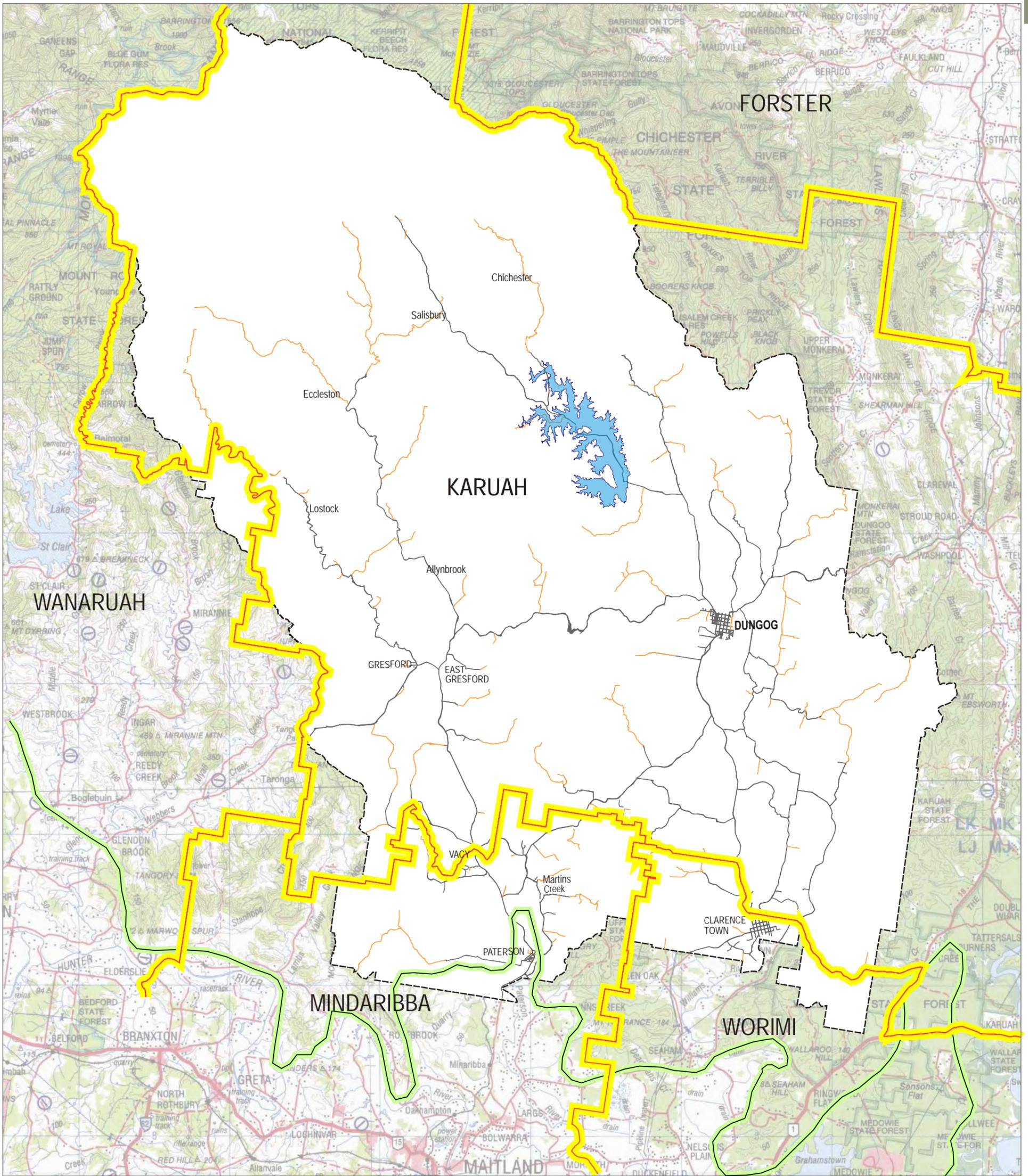
DISCLAIMER:
 This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (wether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008) LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)
 This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report

LEGEND

- IBRA REGION - NSW NORTH COAST
- IBRA REGION - SYDNEY BASIN
- DUNGOG LGA

Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation For Australia - IBRA Regions



DISCLAIMER:

This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008)
LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)

This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report

LEGEND

- ▬ ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL BOUNDARIES
- ▬ PROPOSED TILLEGRA DAM
- ▬ IBRA REGION BOUNDARY
- ▬ ROADS - SEALED / UNSEALED

Aboriginal Land Council Boundaries & IBRA Boundary

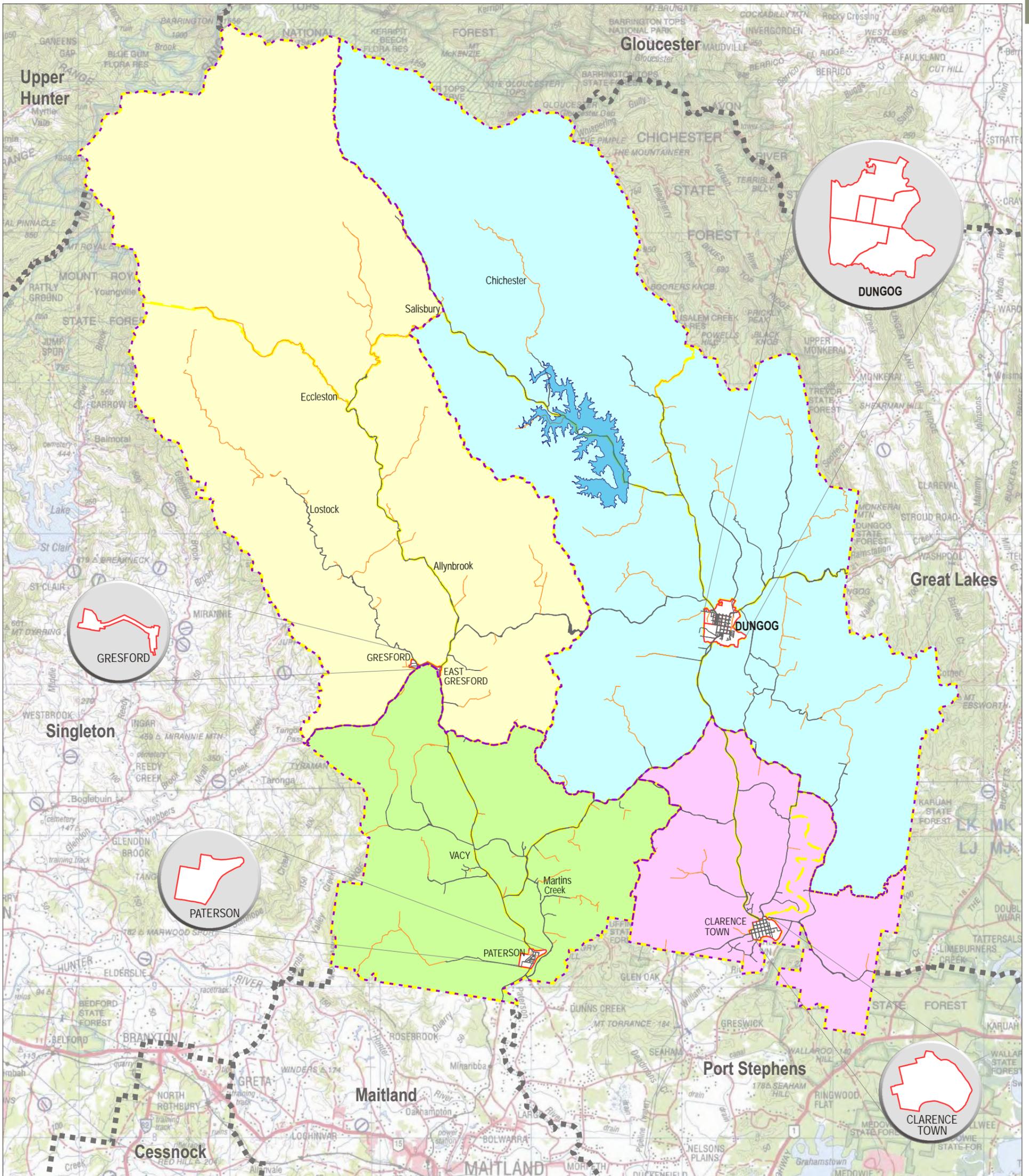
For the purpose of the Situation Analysis, the LGA has been divided into general planning 'districts' in order for significant planning issues to be considered. These districts primarily focus on the main population centres and their surrounding rural areas. In some cases the urban and rural areas may also be differentiated into 'precincts'.

Some additional planning precincts have been selected to identify areas of special interest. These are the Proposed Tillegra Dam Catchment and the Dungog Shire Council's Section 94 catchments. These precincts may overlap with the general precincts and districts listed above.

The precincts and districts used in this analysis are listed in Table 2 below. The general planning districts and precincts are shown on Map 3.5 and the 'special interest' precincts are shown on Map 3.6.

Table 2: Dungog LGA Situation Analysis Planning Districts and Precincts

District	Precinct
Gresford	Gresford Urban
	Gresford Rural
Dungog	Dungog Urban
	Dungog Rural
Paterson	Paterson Urban
	Paterson Rural
Clarence Town	Clarence Town Urban
	Clarence Town Rural
Special interest	Tillegra Dam catchment
	Paterson Urban Section 94 catchment
	Martins Creek Section 94 catchment
	Vacy Section 94 catchment



DISCLAIMER:

This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008) LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)

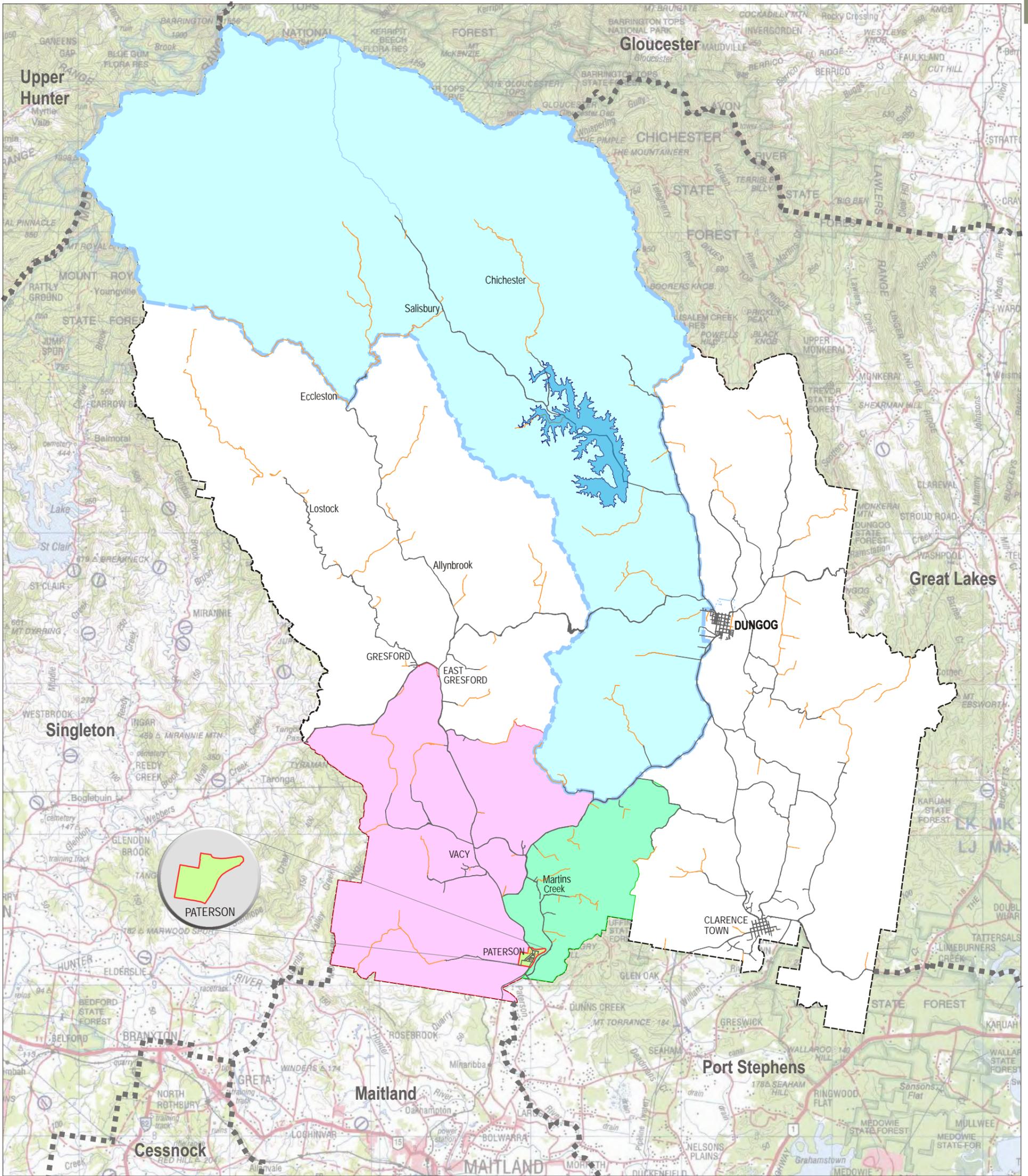
This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report.

LEGEND

- PLANNING DISTRICTS
- URBAN PRECINCTS
- GRESFORD RURAL PRECINCT
- DUNGOG RURAL PRECINCT
- PATERSON RURAL PRECINCT
- CLARENCE TOWN RURAL PRECINCT
- PROPOSED TILLEGRA DAM
- ROADS - SEALED / UNSEALED

General Planning Precincts & Districts





DISCLAIMER:

This map has been produced to assist individuals in determining land details within Dungog Shire Council, the information contained is made in good faith but on the basis that Council or its staff are not liable (wether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of representation, statement or advice referred to above.

Source & Copyright: Dungog Shire Council (2008)
LPI(2008), DNR(2008), RFS(2008), HCED(2008)

This map has been prepared for Dungog Shire Council for the purposes of the Tillegra Dam Situation Analysis and should be read in conjunction with the report.

LEGEND

- TILLEGRA DAM PLANNING DISTRICT
- S94 Area - PATTERSON URBAN
- S94 Area - MARTINS CREEK
- S94 Area - VACY
- PROPOSED TILLEGRA DAM
- ROADS - SEALED / UNSEALED

Special Interest Precincts