

PROTECTED

NSW POLICE FORCE (ABN 43 408 613 180)
BIAS CRIMES
OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS
2/20 CHARLES STREET, PARRAMATTA
Tel. (02) 9768 0736 or E/N. 34736



BIAS CRIME ASSESSMENT

North Head Beat

(Op PARRABELL)

PREPARED BY: Sgt G. STEER **ON:** 04/010/2013

REVIEWED BY: S/Sgt J. KENWORTHY **ON:** 08/10/2013

CAVEAT

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NSWPF OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS COMMAND

- 1.** This document has been prepared by the Bias Crimes Coordinator for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited.
- 2.** The contents of this document must not be disseminated, reproduced or referred to, either wholly or in part, by a third party without the prior express permission of the Commander, Operational Programs. The copyright of this document remains at all times with the NSW Police Commissioner, via the Commander, Operational Programs, and ownership of this document and/or any of its contents is not relinquished by its release to a third party. If this document, and/or its contents, appears likely at any time to become the subject of a subpoena or Freedom of Information action, the Commander, Operational Programs is to be advised immediately.
- 3.** This document has been prepared based on information available at the time of publication. It may contain unconfirmed intelligence and/or other information. The onus is on each individual to thoroughly assess the validity of any information presented prior to acting upon it.
- 4.** If you cannot abide by the above conditions you are not to accept this document, nor read or use any of its contents. You are to return this document, and any copies, to the Bias Crimes Coordinator as soon as possible.

PROTECTED

PROTECTED**BACKGROUND:**

Strike Force MACNAMIR was established by Unsolved Homicide Team to reinvestigate the death of Scott JOHNSON. Assistance was offered by the Bias Crimes Coordinator to conduct a bias crime assessment of the North Head beat to determine if anti-gay motivated crimes were happening at the beat or the surrounding area.

INFORMATION & INQUIRIES TO DATE:

Chatswood crime scene log books – 1986 to 2001 (35 suicide incidents identified)

Coronial Briefs

Strike Force MACNAMIR files

NSWPF holdings –

NP5

NSWPF holdings –

NP10

NSWPF holdings –

NP2

COPS events – 1998 to 2000 (Manly LAC)

Site survey – North Head beat and surrounding area

INFORMATION GAPS/DEFICIENCIES:

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION/PREDICTION/ESTIMATE:

In assessing whether the North Head beat was a target for anti-gay bias crimes during the 1980's a review of two prominent groups involved in 'gay bashings' in the northern beaches area was conducted in addition to an assessment of the suitability of the beat location for bias crimes.

North Head Beat

The beat at North Head was located within the Sydney Harbour National Park approx 200 metres south of the Shelley Beach car park. The beat itself was located in scrubland, covering an area approximately 200 metres by 150 metres. The beat consisted of secluded rocky outcrops, screened by low (approximately 2 metres high) dense scrub.

The beat was not in a residential area with the closest premises approximately 150 metres. The beat was not visible from these premises as it was concealed by a high sandstone wall and the natural vegetation. It is not known if the local residents were aware of the beat. The bushland that the beat was located in backed onto St Patricks Seminary which was approximately 300 metres south west of the beat location. St Pauls College is located approximately 600 metres south west of the western edge of the beat (See **Annexure 1**).

The beat was only accessible by walking through bush. There were two start points to reach the beat; the first being the Shelley Beach car park and the second a trail off Bluefish Drive. There was no public transport available to reach Shelley Beach car park or the trail off Blue Fish Point.

PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the CAVEAT on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED

Information from beat users from the time, indicated that the beat operated during daylight hours only due to the difficulty of accessing the beat at night. Users indicated that individuals would find a secluded spot and either sunbake and wait for someone to approach them or actively seek others within the beat. The primary area that beat users would congregate in was the area west of the main trail (See **Annexure 2**). Individuals may go to spots on the eastern side (towards the cliff) but it was not a popular area and individuals would go there to be alone and not to actively engage in beat activities.

Offender Typology

There are four primary offender typologies in relation to bias crimes; Thrill Seeker, Defensive, Mission and Retaliatory. The primary offender typologies associated with anti-gay bias crimes are Thrill seeker and Defensive (See **Annexure 3** for typology). Based on the information available Mission offender and Retaliatory offenders have been ruled out for the following reasons;

- Mission offenders are the rarest form of bias crime offender, with their crimes generally involving mass casualty events and ending with the suicide of the offender.
- Retaliatory offenders have been ruled out as they are compromised of the targeted victim groups who retaliate following a series of bias crimes.

Offender Profile

In assessing the likelihood that the North Head beat was a viable anti-gay bias crime target three offenders identified by Strike Force MACNAMIR were reviewed to assist in assessing the bias crime environment during the 1980's. **NP5**, **NP10** and **NP2** were selected and a bias crime profile was developed.

NP5 (DOB: [REDACTED])

NP5 was a member of the group identified in Strike Force MACNAMIR as the **GR1**. Members of this group were reviewed and **NP5** was selected due to the number of offences he was charged with, the nature of offences and his apparent hatred of members of the gay community.

Out of all individuals identified by Strike Force MACNAMIR, the **GR1** had the most anti-gay offences committed [REDACTED]

PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the *CAVEAT* on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED

[REDACTED]

NP5 died in 1998 and was unable to be spoken to in relation to the incidents. Information from a co-accused (**NP4**) for a robbery offence was spoken to by Detectives attached to Strike Force MACNAMIR. **NP4** stated that he had never heard the group discussing the North Head beat and that he was unaware of the beat existing at North Head.

NP10

(DOB: [REDACTED])

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

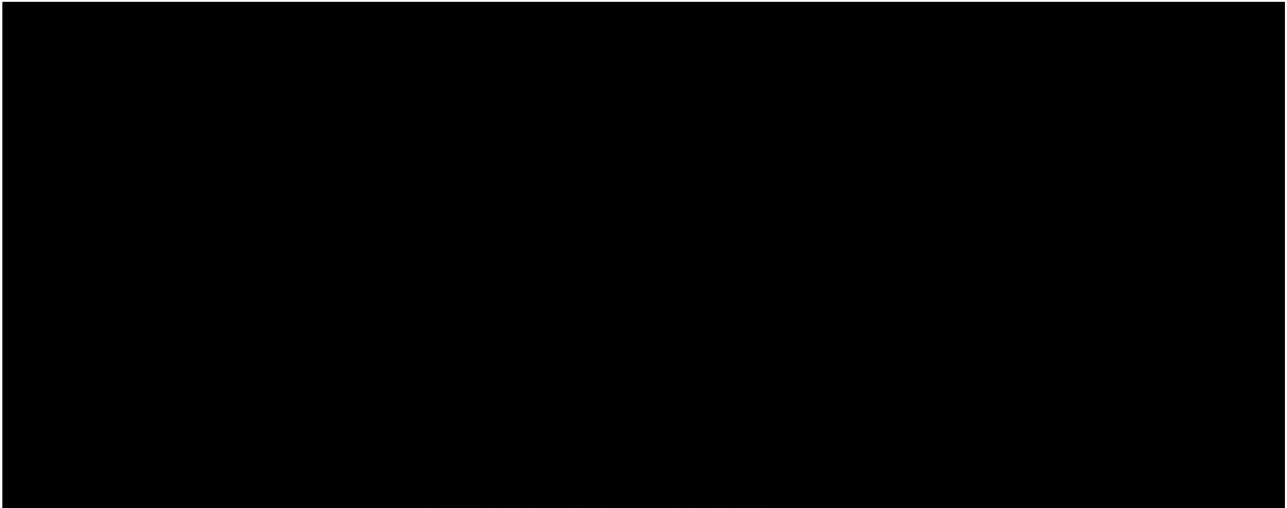
PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the *CAVEAT* on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED

NP2

(DOB: [REDACTED])



Bias Crime Assessment

After reviewing the information it has been assessed that the North Head beat was an unlikely location for anti-gay bias motivated crimes. This assessment has been based on the following facts;

- The location of the beat makes it an unlikely target for attacks. Although the seclusion of the location would be an attractive factor for an offender, the difficulty in reaching the beat would be a deterring factor. The difficulty in reaching the beat relates to both the ability to travel to the beat as well as the making it to the actual beat. Public transport to either access point of the beat was not available, requiring offenders to walk or use private vehicles to get there. Analysis of the offences committed by the identified offenders indicates that the offences committed were either on a public transport route or within close proximity to public transport. The bus schedule for the area in the 1980's shows that there was no bus service to Shelley Beach or to the Bluefish Drive area. The only evidence of the use of a vehicle to travel to beat locations was supplied in the interview with NP4 where he stated he would drive members of the GR1 to locations in North Sydney or Moore Park area. Further to this NP4 stated that he would only do this after he finished work (around 5pm), after the time the beat was operating.

To access the beat requires an individual to walk along a bush track, uphill, to reach the entrance to the beat. Given that there were more accessible beat locations, closer to public transport networks and that operated in times more conducive to the offenders, it is unlikely that thrill seeking offenders would target the North Head beat.

- The terrain of the beat is not conducive to bias crime attacks. Although the low dense scrub would offer offenders a certain amount of cover, it offers more obstacles than benefits. The scrub would obscure likely victims making it more difficult for offenders to locate potential victims. Additionally the dense scrub would make moving through the bush difficult, with offenders suffering minor injuries (scratches and lacerations). The cover the scrub would offer would also increase the risk to offenders as they would be unaware of who may be nearby. Screams from victims would alert others

PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the CAVEAT on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED

within the area, increasing the risk of offenders being identified or apprehended. Given that other beat locations offered easier target identification and selection, access and egress and offender safety factors, it is unlikely that the North Head beat would be an attractive target given the number of better locations within the Northern Beaches area.

- Information obtained regarding the operation of the beat indicates that the beat was a day time beat, effectively operating between sunrise and sunset. However information obtained indicated that the beat would start closing down around 4pm. On days of inclement weather the beat would generally not be used. Given the age of the identified offenders (mid teens to early 20's) which is consistent with hate crime research on the age of bias crime offenders, it is unlikely that offenders would be able to attend the location during the peak time the beat operated as they would be either at school or working during the week.

Associated with the time the beat operated is the fact that from an offender perspective, night is the preferred time to undertake attacks at beats. The reasoning for this is that night offers the offender increased chance of not being seen prior to the attack, increased protection from being identified and reduced risk of witnesses seeing and identifying the offenders or coming to the assistance of the victims.

- 

Additionally a review of COPS events from 1998 (oldest COPS events available from EDW) – 2002 did not identify any incidents at the beat or surrounding areas. Information from Ulo KLEMMER (DVD walkthrough) was that he had been told that students from the local Catholic School (St Paul's College) would assault people at the beat. Although this cannot be discounted, there is no corroborating evidence to support this. The information from KLEMMER is from second hand accounts, with no first hand evidence.

In addition to the safety of the beat, information from Garry WOTHERSPOON indicated that the beat was not a busy beat when compared to other beats. WOTHERSPOON stated, "*Both times I went to the area in North Head, there would have been about 20 men there throughout the day. It wasn't a particularly busy beat compared to some others in Sydney.*" The fact that the North Head beat was not as busy as other beats would likely reduce the attractiveness of the beat to offenders. Offenders would be unlikely to make the effort to reach the beat when there was not a guarantee of finding targets.

- Research indicates that the most common offender typology is Thrill Seeking and this is supported by the analysis of the identified offenders. Thrill seeking offenders are generally young males (under 25 years old) who actively hunt victim groups. Having said this, thrill seeking offenders generally pick locations that offer the easiest opportunities. The North Head beat did not offer the easiest opportunities for offenders as outlined above. There were more active beats within Sydney that were more suited to offenders. This has been evidenced by the activity of the highlighted offenders. These

PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the CAVEAT on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED

offenders selected locations that were easy to access, had a high likelihood of locating suitable targets and were operating at night.

- A review of deaths reported in the North Head area between 1986 - 2000 was conducted with 35 deaths on the North Head peninsula identified [REDACTED]. No suspicious deaths involving suspected bias motivation were identified.

For a detailed summary of the 35 deaths see **Annexure 6**.

- [REDACTED]

PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the *CAVEAT* on the front cover for full conditions.

PROTECTED**CAVEAT**

The above assessment was based on the information available at the time of writing. If new information was to come to light the assessment may change based on new facts.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Forwarded for information

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Annexure 1 – Map of Beat and location of St Patricks Seminary and St Pauls Catholic College
2. Annexure 2 – Map showing primary beat and secondary beat areas
3. Annexure 3 – Bias Crime Offender Typology Guide
4. Annexure 4 – Map of Bias Crimes committed by: **NP5**
5. Annexure 5 – Map of Bias Crimes committed by: **NP10**
6. Annexure 6 – Summary of North Head deaths

COPIES DISSEMINATED TO:

1. Commander, Operational Programs
2. Corporate Sponsor, Bias Crime
3. Corporate Sponsor, Sexuality & Gender Diversity
4. Commander, Homicide Squad

* * * * *

THERE ARE EIGHT (8) PAGES TO THIS DOCUMENT.

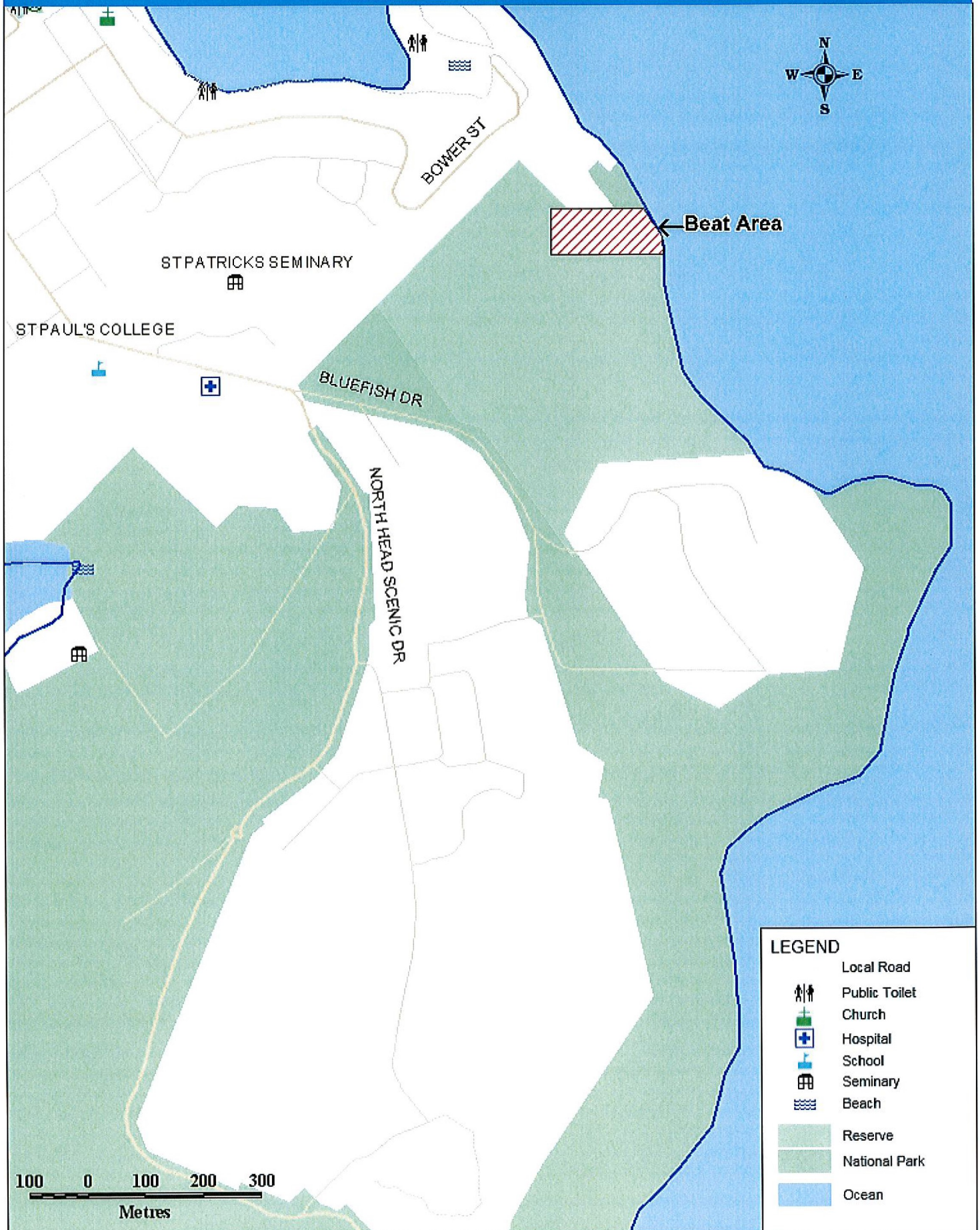
PROTECTED

This document is the property of the NSW Police and is for use by authorised persons, agencies and/or organisations only. Unauthorised possession, storage, use, viewing, duplication or distribution of this document and/or any of its contents, by any means whatsoever, is strictly prohibited. Refer to the CAVEAT on the front cover for full conditions.



NORTH HEAD BEAT

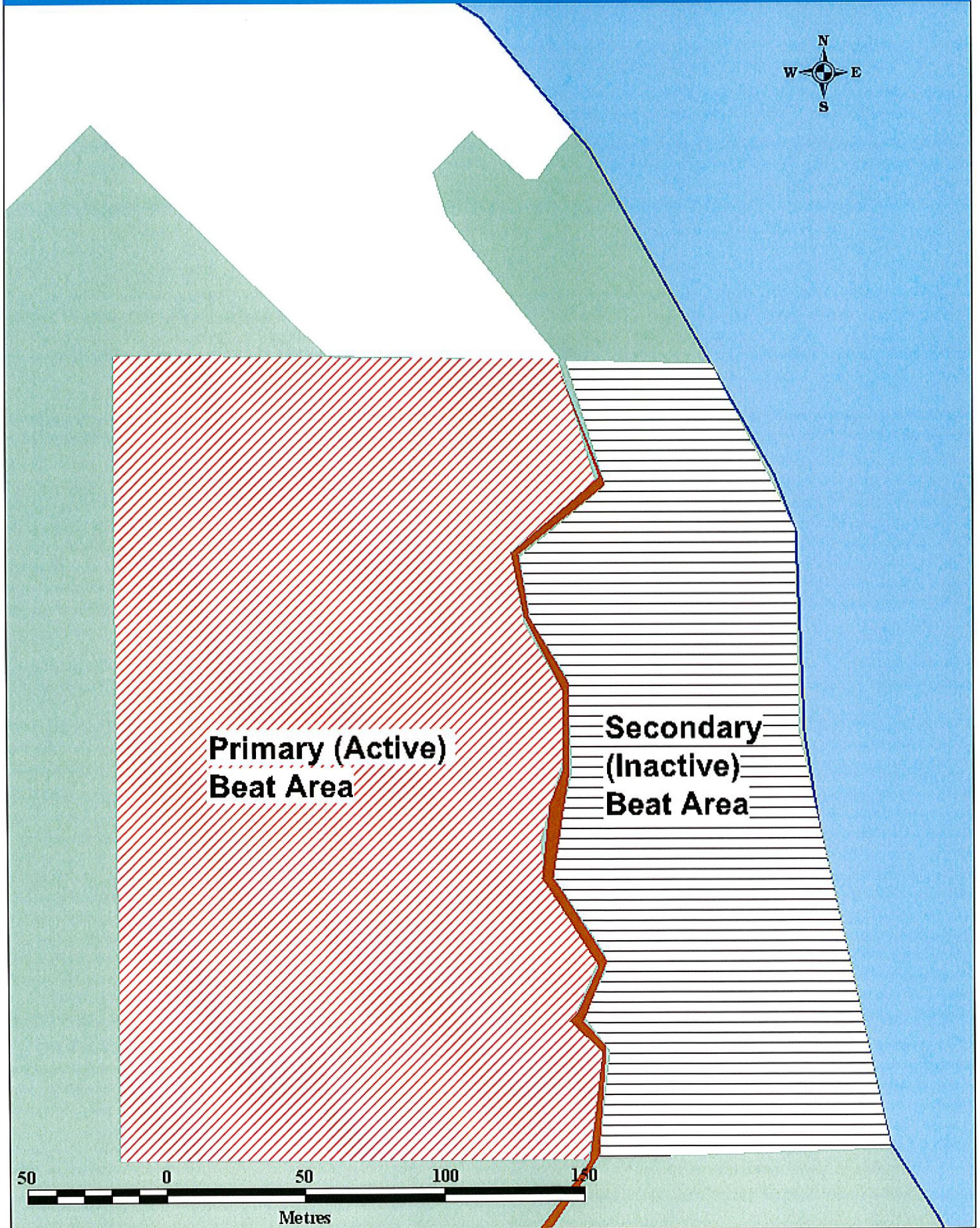
Map created: 04/10/2013





NORTH HEAD BEAT PRIMARY & SECONDARY AREAS

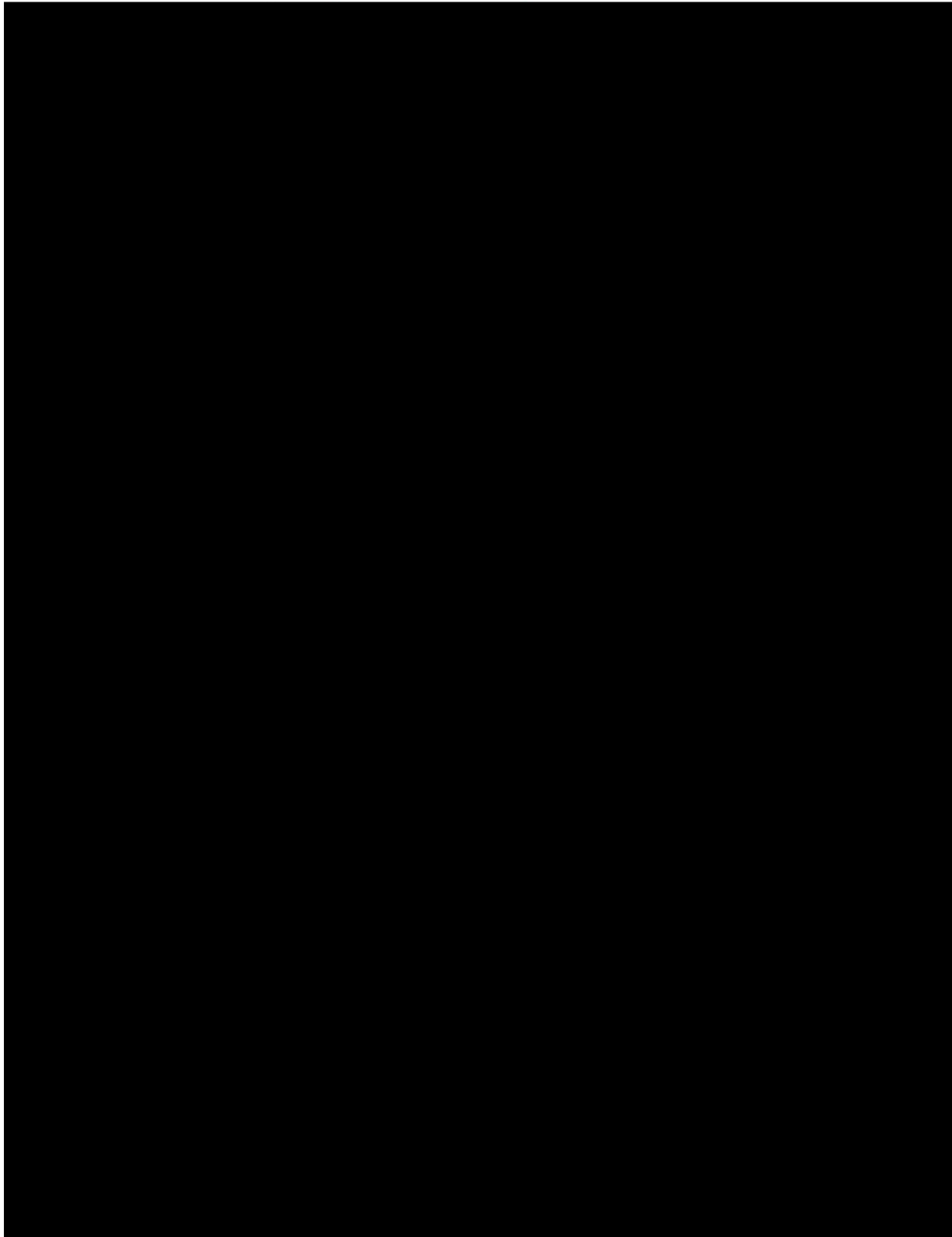
Map created: 04/10/2013



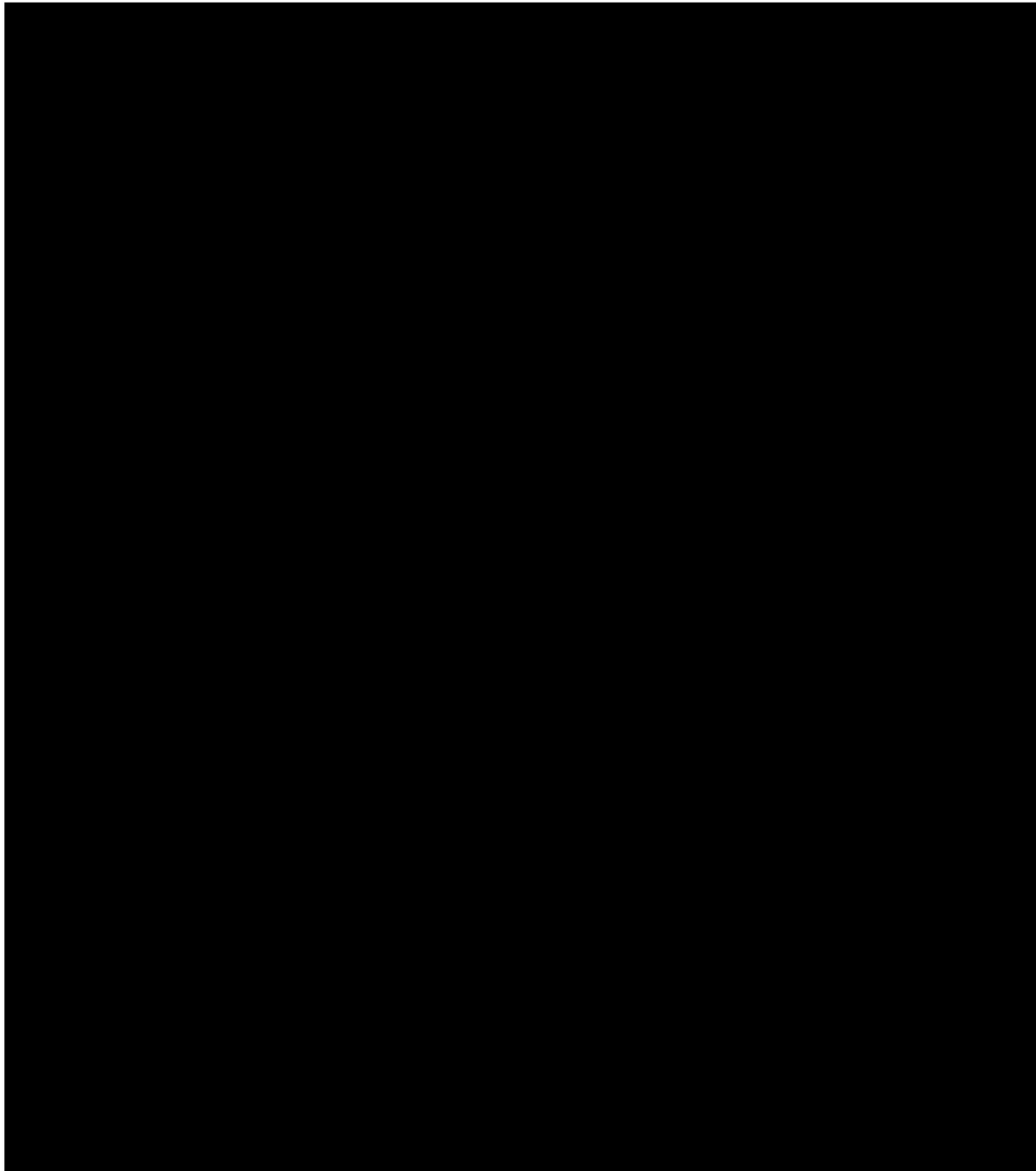


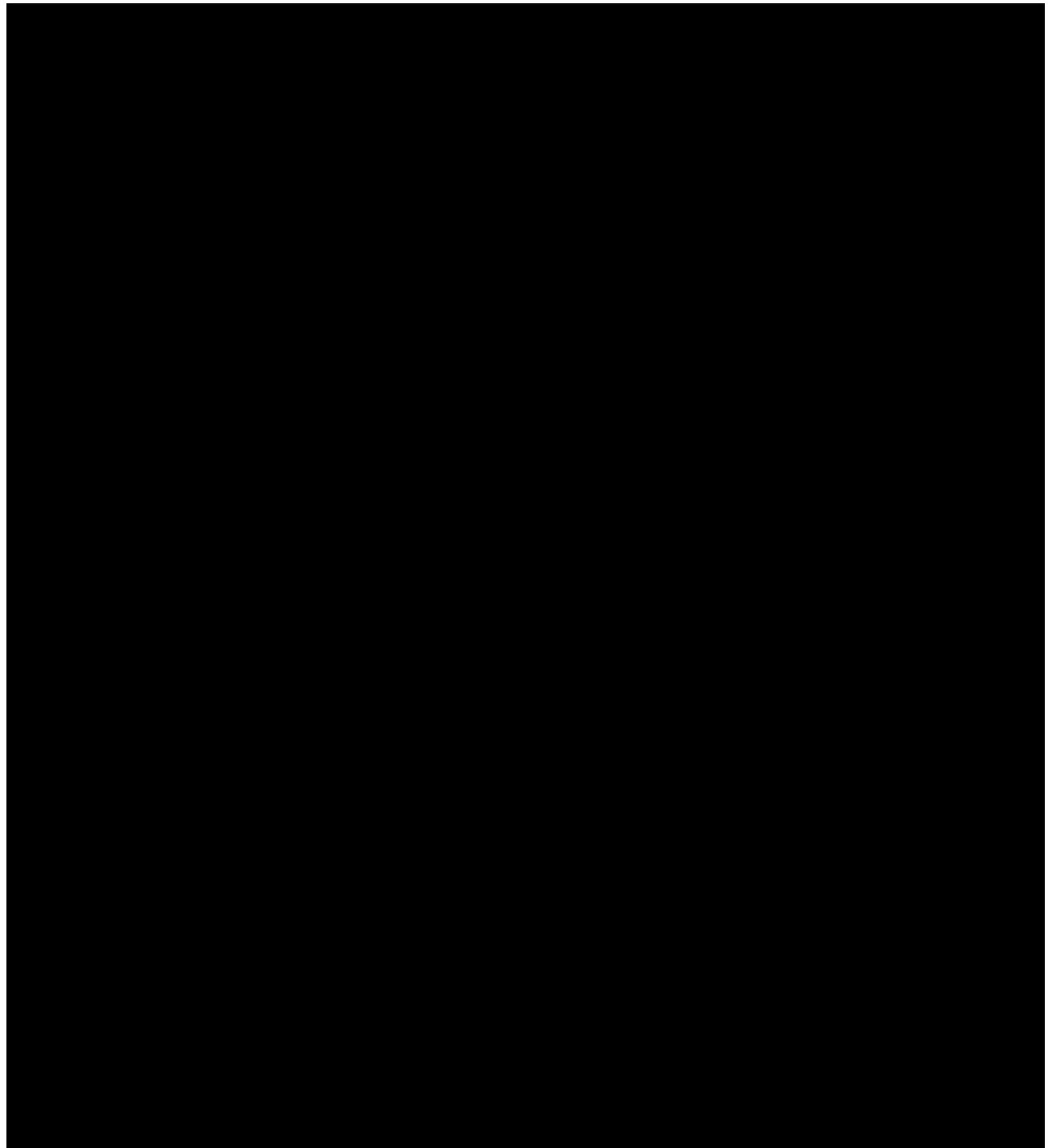
BIAS CRIME OFFENDER TYPOLOGY

The information contained below is only a guide. The motivations and actions of bias crime offenders can vary wildly and sometimes may not be obvious, stated or logical.



This information is not be copied or released with out the permission of the Team Leader, Bias Motivated Crime, Operational Programs, Major Events & incidents Group, NSW Police Force.

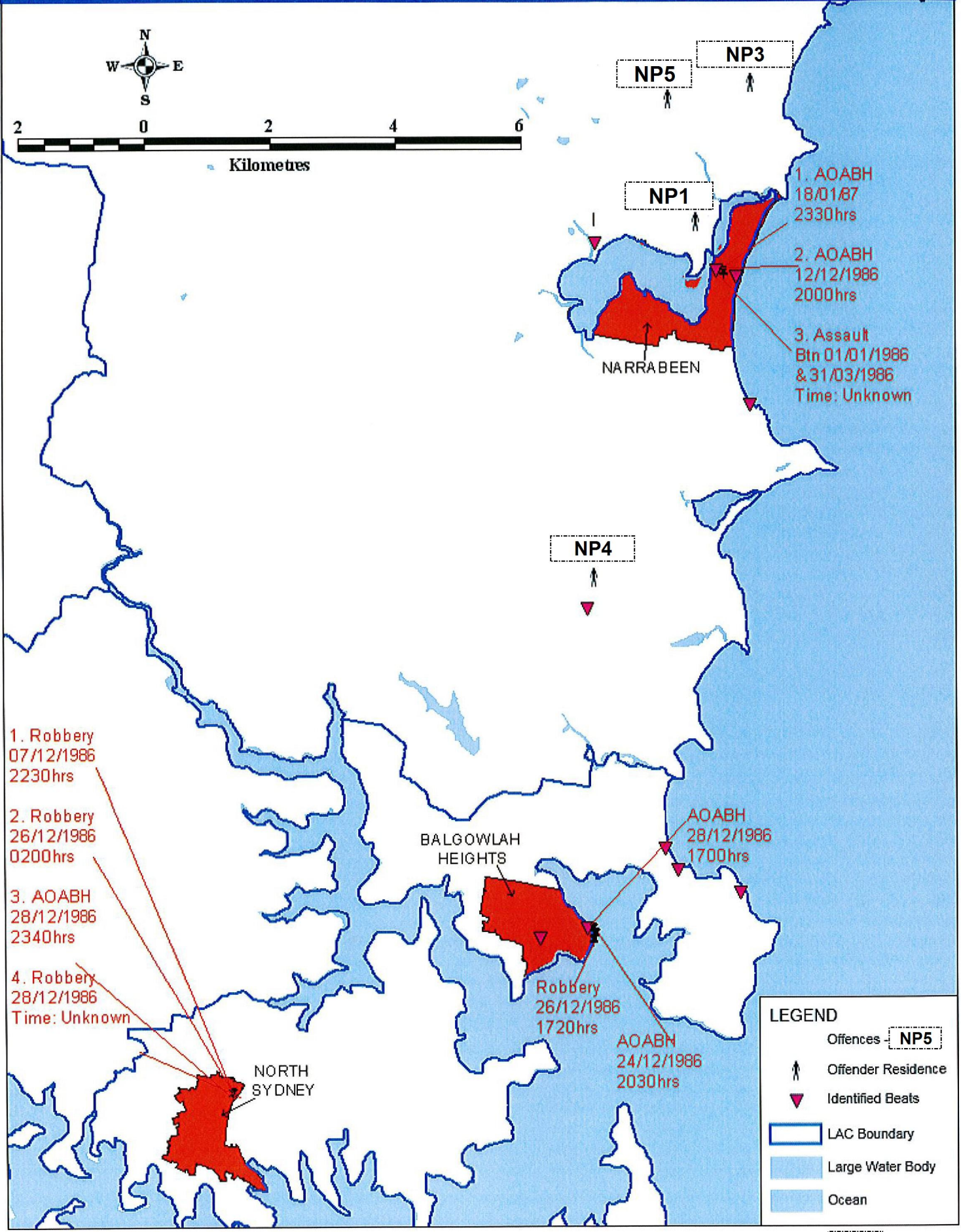






OFFENCE LOCATIONS - NP5

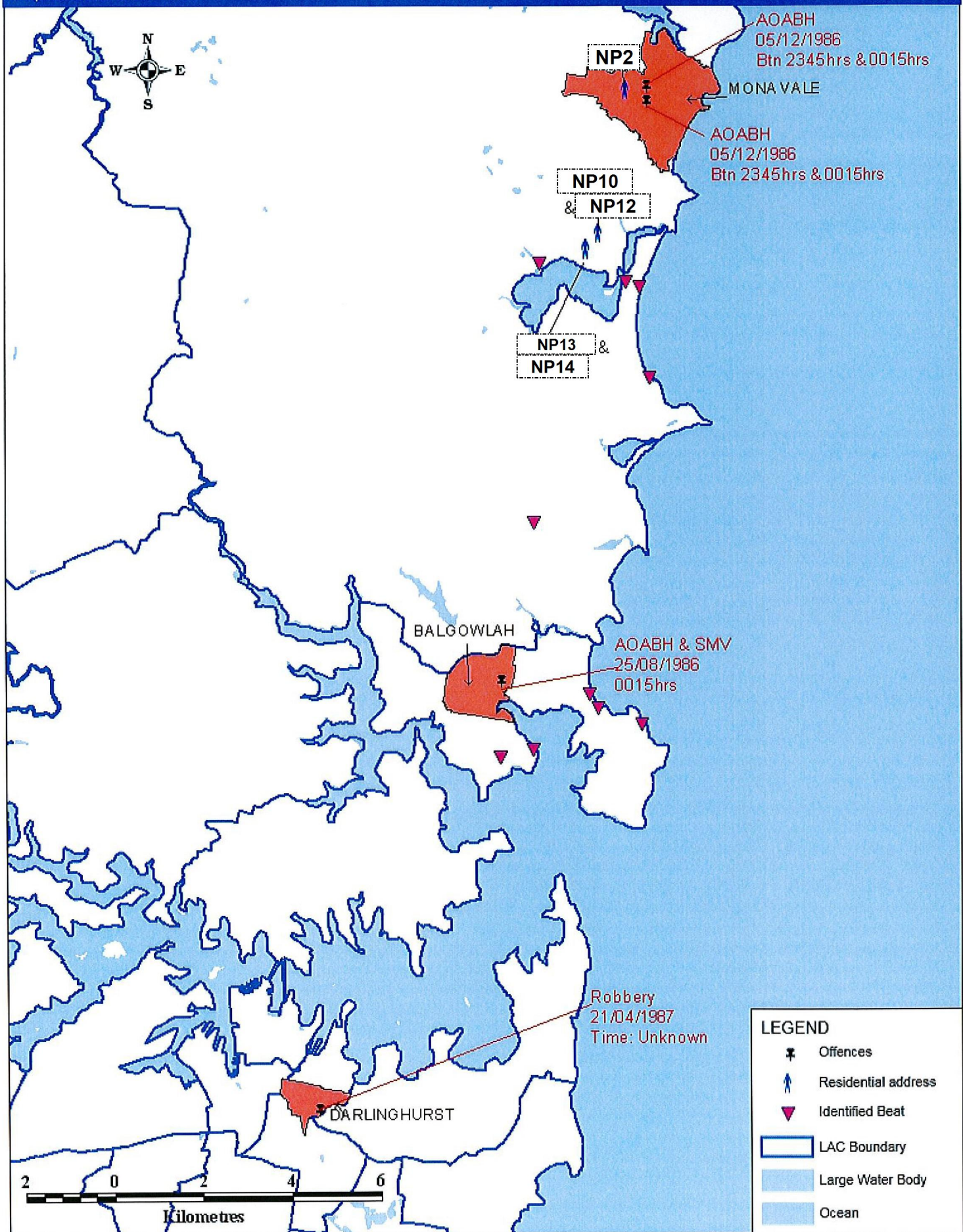
Map created: 04/10/2013





OFFENCE LOCATIONS - NP10

Map created: 04/10/2013





Summary of North Head Deaths For Bias Crime Assessment

A search of crime scene records identified 35 deaths in the North Head area between 1986 and 2000 (*this includes three cases listed by Sue Thompson 1976–79*). According to crime scene job books / briefs the deceased's were located at the base of cliffs around Fairy Bower, Blue Fish Point and Fairfax lookout.

Of the 35 deaths recorded, 5 were identified as misadventure and 5 are undetermined due to a lack of available information and evidence; however these 5 undetermined were recorded as suicide by crime scene officers at the time. There is clear evidence indicating all remaining 25 deaths were suicides. Of these 25 victims, 21 were male. There is no indication in available police records that any of the victims were gay.

Further analysis was undertaken relating to the 21 male victims to identify any patterns or any evidence of bias motivation in relation to their deaths. The following information was gleaned from further analysis:

