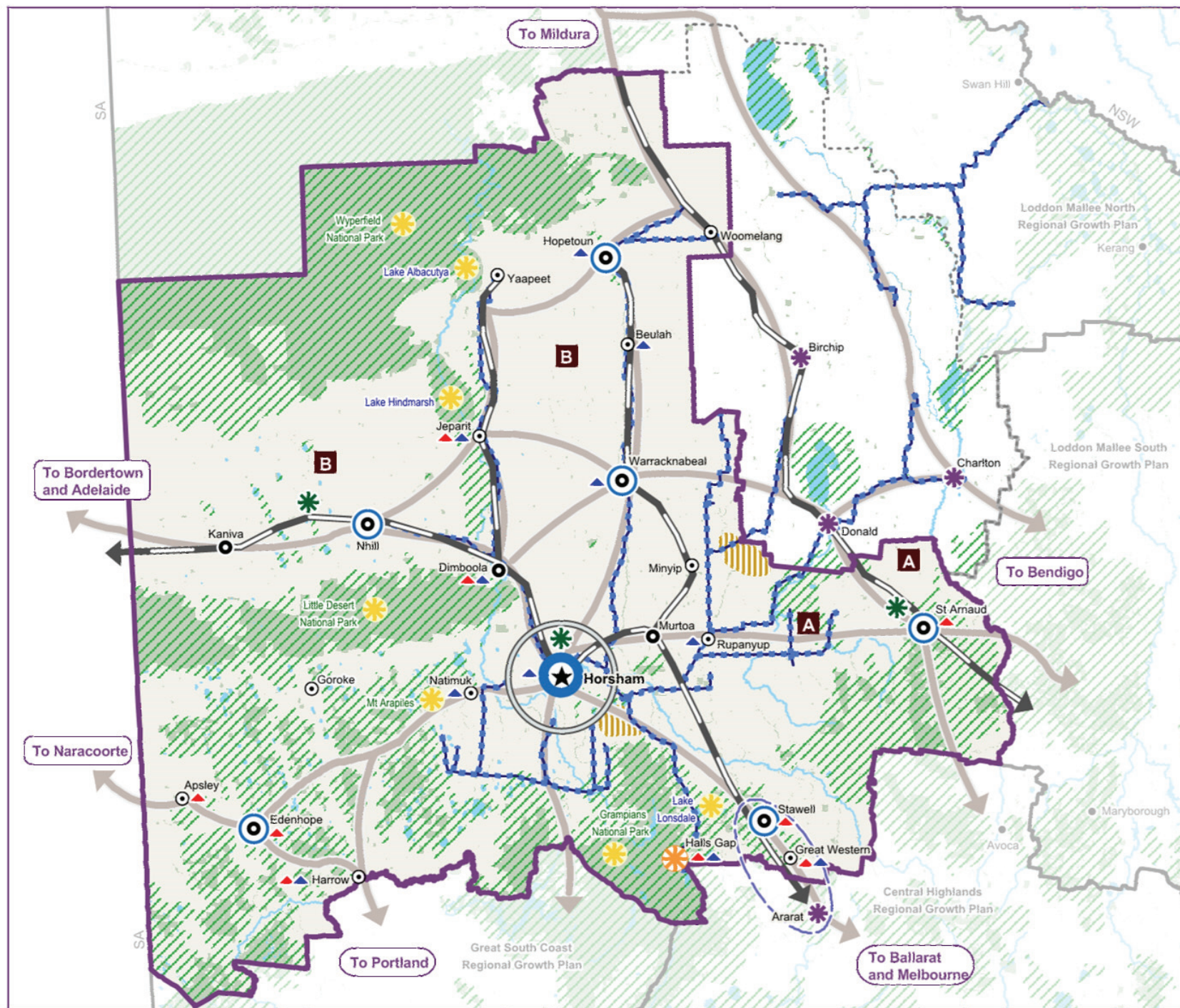




SETTLEMENT NETWORK

-  Horsham – Regional city
-  District town
-  Town
-  Small settlement
-  Stawell-Ararat relationship
-  Halls Gap – tourism hub
-  Key hubs external to the region
- Partner council

Horsham – Regional city

Reinforce the role of Horsham as the key population and employment centre for the region. Locate major regional facilities in this city, particularly commercial activities in the central activities district. Provide for residential growth through infill development and investigate further greenfield sites to the west for medium to long term expansion of the city.

District town

Support the ongoing growth and development of District Towns as the key service hubs within their sub-regional communities of interest. Ensure that these towns provide a supply of residential and employment land to facilitate growth as required.

Town

Continue to provide local and some sub-regional services. Residential growth will generally be provided by infill development.

Small settlement

Plan for change in small settlements to make them more resilient and adaptable. Ensure that these communities retain access to services within the town or local community of interest.

Halls Gap – tourism hub

Support the development of Halls Gap as a resort town and tourism focal point for the region.

Stawell-Ararat relationship

Recognise the close relationship between Ararat and Stawell and plan for these towns as a cohesive sub-regional cluster of housing, employment and services.

INFRASTRUCTURE

-  Key road corridor
-  Key rail corridor
-  Wimmera Mallee Pipeline trunk routes

Improve passenger access to services in towns throughout the region and to other large centres. Ensure that the capacity of the network meets freight demands around the region and to external markets.

Wimmera Mallee Pipeline trunk routes

Take advantage of water security to encourage more intensive agriculture and industry in areas serviced by the pipeline and encourage tourism based on the region's wetlands and lakes.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

-  Preferred location for medium-large piggery and broiler farm intensive agriculture
-  Preferred location for medium-large cattle and lamb feedlot intensive agriculture
-  Freight and industry gateway
-  Mineral sands mining proposal
-  Bioenergy cluster
-  Key tourism asset

Note that application of these principles should not be limited to the resource and economic development opportunities shown on this plan.

Rural land use

Support and protect agriculture as the key driver of the regional economy. Encourage diversification and value adding which builds on existing infrastructure.

Freight and industry gateway

Capitalise on the Wimmera Intermodal Freight Terminal and value adding from the agricultural industry to create a regional freight and industry gateway in and around Horsham.

Mineral sands mining proposal

Protect significant earth resources from incompatible land uses. Ensure that the impacts of these projects are carefully managed.

Bioenergy cluster

Exploit the potential for bioenergy where clusters of agricultural and other waste products exist.

Key tourism asset

Support the development of the tourism sector by building on key natural and agricultural assets throughout the region.

ENVIRONMENT

-  Areas containing high value terrestrial habitat
-  Public land
-  Lakes and wetlands
-  Rivers

Manage risks to settlement growth from natural hazards

-  Urban flood considerations⁽¹⁾
-  Urban bushfire considerations⁽²⁾

(1) Urban flood and salinity considerations are based on existing overlays.
(2) Bushfire considerations may be based on one or more of the following: existing overlays, advice from CFA or Regional Bushfire Planning Assessments. Does not include Bushfire Prone Areas.

Areas containing high value terrestrial habitat

Protect the region's environmental assets and encourage greater connectivity between areas with high natural values. Ensure significant landscapes are recognised and protected.