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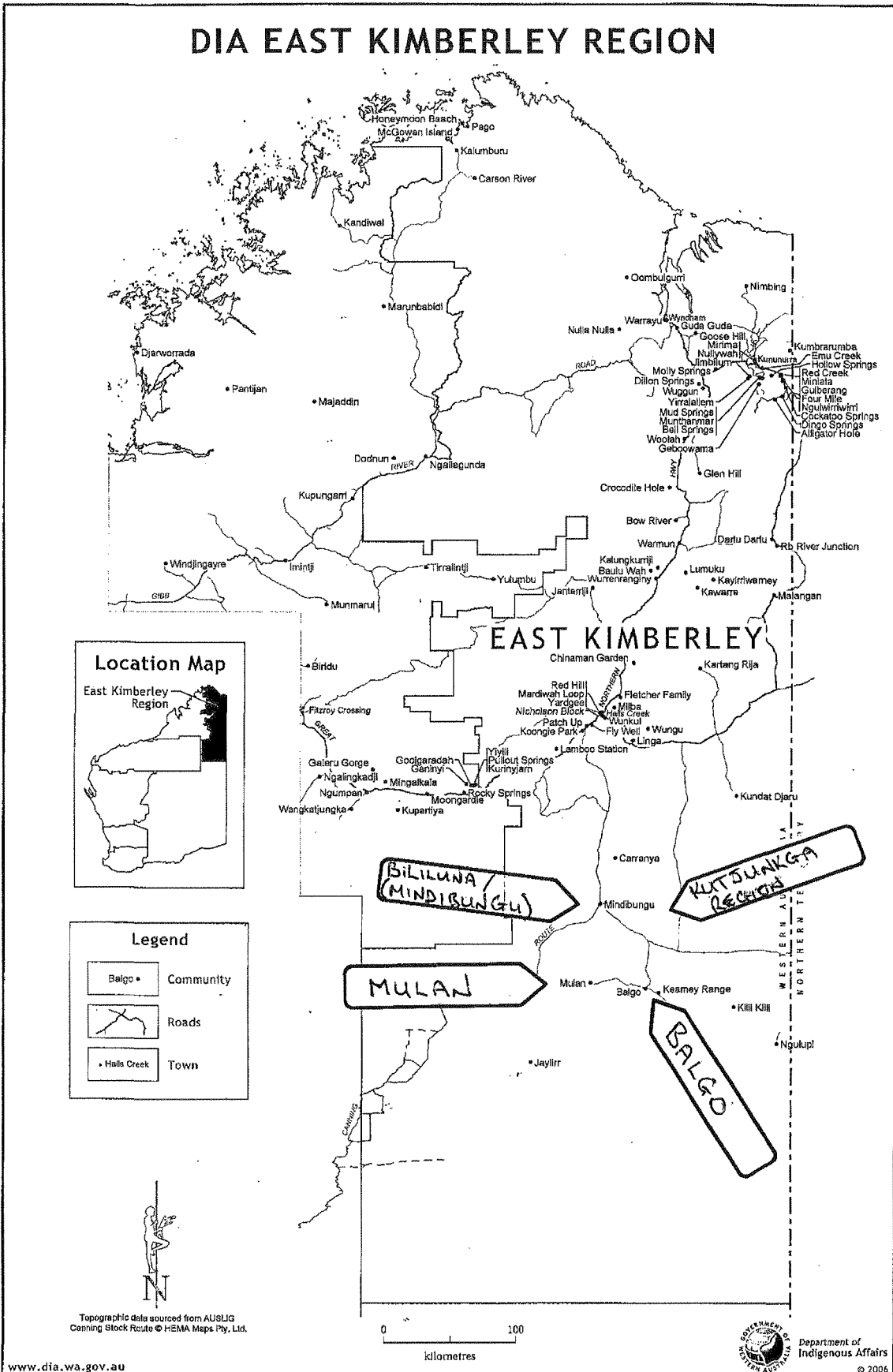
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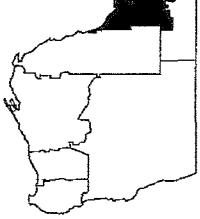
Attachment 1. Regional maps identifying remote community store locations



# DIA WEST KIMBERLEY REGION

## Location Map

West Kimberley Region



## Legend

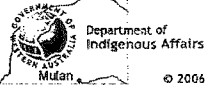
- Morard • Community
- Roads
- Derby Town



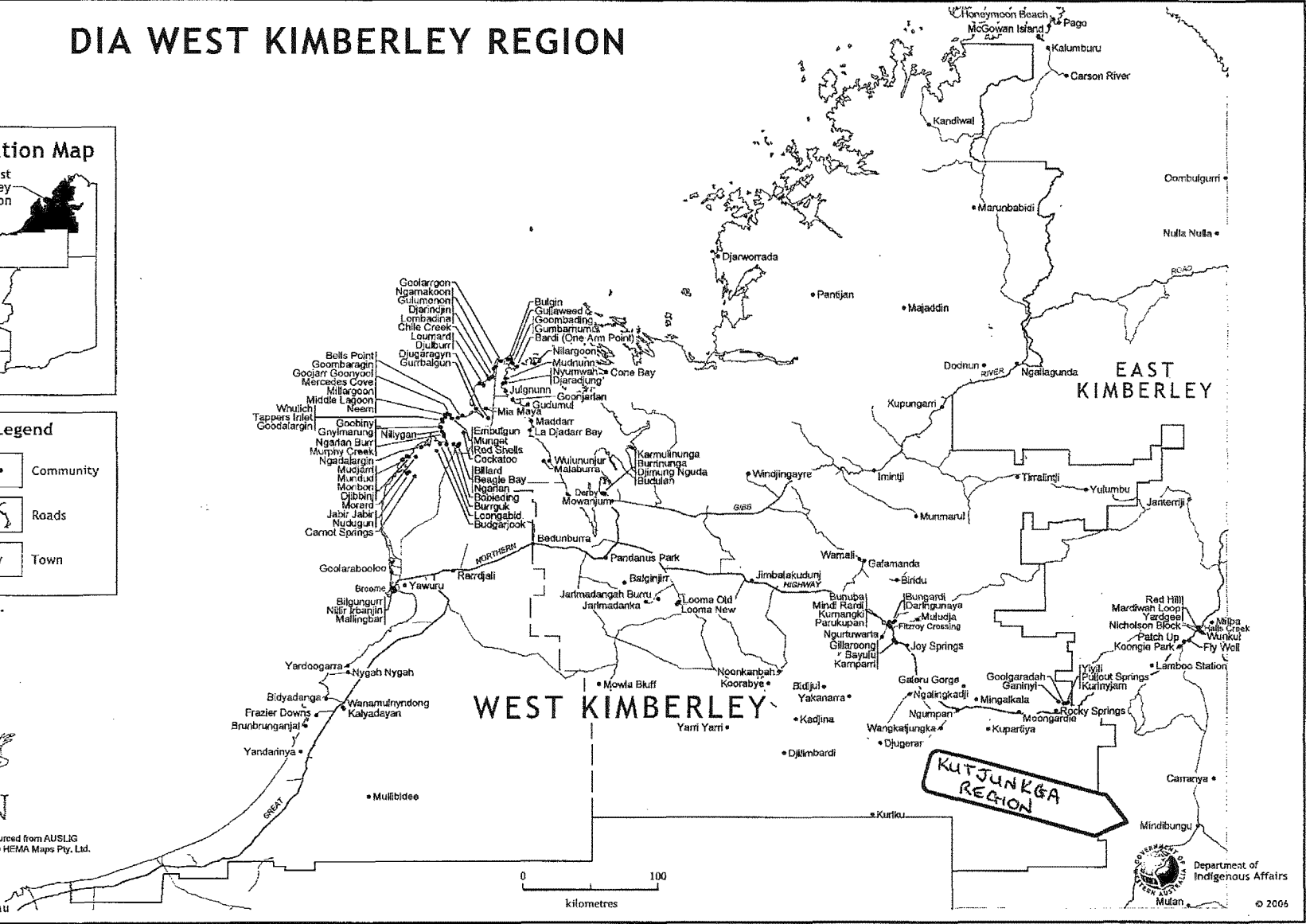
Topographic data sourced from AUSLIG  
Canning Stock Route © HEMA Maps Pty. Ltd.

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kilometres



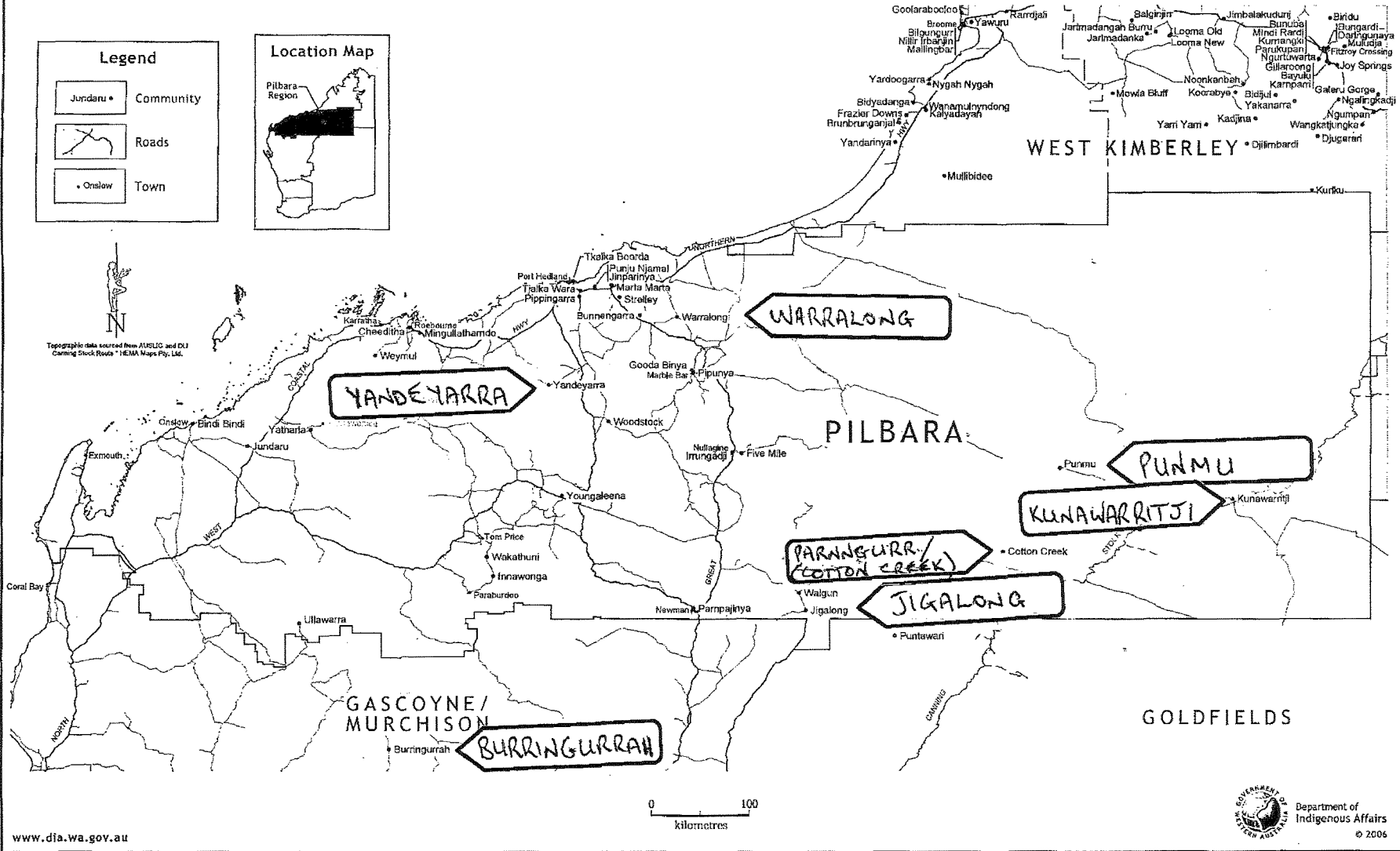
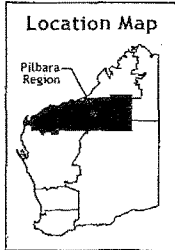
© 2006



# DIA PILBARA REGION

**Legend**

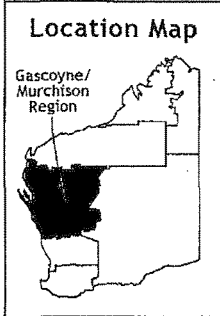
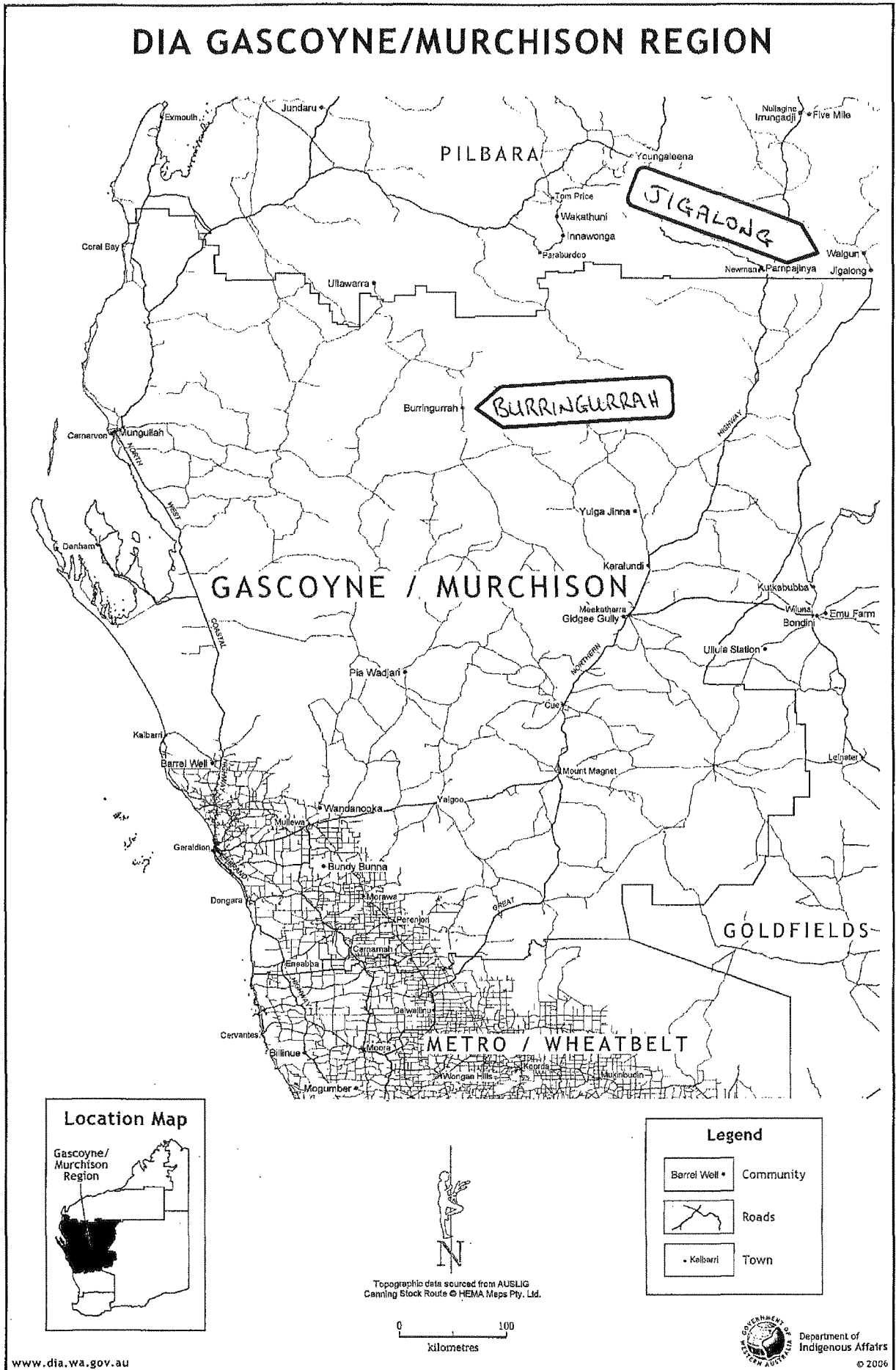
- Jundaru • Community
- Roads
- Onslow Town



Topographic data sourced from AUSLID and DJI  
Canning Stock Routes © IEMA Maps Pty. Ltd.



# DIA GASCOYNE/MURCHISON REGION



**Legend**

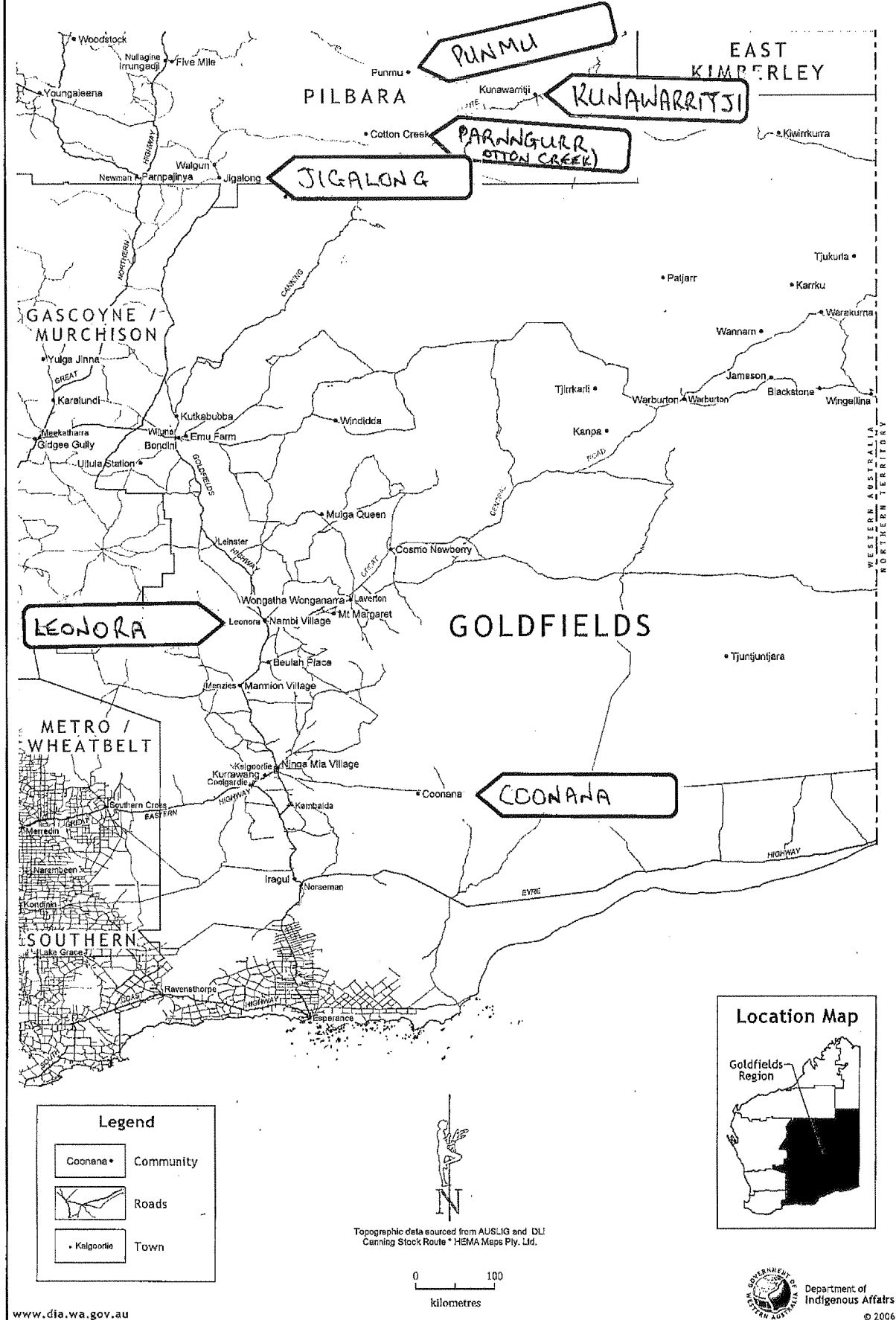
- Barrel Well • Community
- Roads
- Kalbarri Town

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# DIA GOLDFIELDS REGION



**High-ranking interventions in Portfolio 1 Goal: Health Determinant: access to fruit and vegetables (f&v), assessment of actions at one year ( II = not started, ▶ = some progress, ▶▶ = significant progress)**

Management objective: to increase and sustain access to high quality, safe affordable fruit and vegetables		
Policy interventions	Program interventions	Infrastructure support
<p><i>Public Policy development</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and support f&amp;v consumption guidelines and position statements- II</li> <li>2. Develop and support nutrition policies promoting f&amp;v in schools-▶▶</li> </ol> <p><i>Legislation and regulation</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Advocate for legislation for restriction of food advertising directed at children- ▶</li> </ol> <p><i>Community &amp; organisational development (including organisational policy)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Support local initiatives and organisations to develop and implement food and nutrition policies and improve access to f&amp;v- II</li> <li>5. Encourage the development of retailer training policies for handling f&amp;v e.g. 'Retailer of the year' award- ▶</li> </ol>	<p><i>Incentives (financial and non-financial)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Support award schemes that increase access to f&amp;v for consumers:-▶▶ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Worksite</li> <li>- Childcare &amp; Schools (e.g. STARCAP<sup>1</sup> and Start Right-Eat Right<sup>2</sup>)</li> <li>- Hospitality (e.g. Gold Plate Award<sup>3</sup>)</li> <li>- Supplier/retailer and transport operator accreditation/incentive schemes</li> <li>- Product awards (e.g. WA Nutrition Awards<sup>4</sup>)</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><i>Service Development and delivery</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Support the promotion of f&amp;v in hospitality and catering training-▶</li> <li>8. Support ongoing systems and food safety training e.g. HACCP<sup>5</sup>, SQF<sup>6</sup> and approved supply programs-▶▶</li> </ol> <p><i>Communication (including social marketing)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Support dissemination of FSANZ policies and promotional materials relating to f&amp;v- ▶</li> <li>10. Provide consumers with promotional materials on best conditions for storing fresh foods through retail outlets-▶▶</li> </ol> <p><i>Collaboration/partnerships (community and intersectoral)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Support welfare agencies in the provision of f&amp;v (e.g. FoodBank<sup>3</sup>)-▶▶</li> </ol>	<p><i>Identification and surveillance of determinants</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Collect and analyse information to assess f&amp;v supply, cost, quality, access, sales/marketing (e.g. Market basket survey) - II</li> </ol> <p><i>Information systems</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Develop systems to improve communication of f&amp;v marketing &amp; information through the supply chain eg price, quality, volume statistics - II</li> </ol> <p><i>Research and development capacity</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Identify f&amp;v supply issues in rural and regional development plans and make recommendations for action - II</li> <li>15. Identify and test assumptions about critical factors impacting on price, quality and access to f&amp;v – remote, rural and urban - II</li> </ol> <p><i>Plant and equipment</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16. Advocate for appropriate f&amp;v storage facilities in remote community stores - II</li> </ol> <p><i>Leadership</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. Establishment of a Western Australian Taskforce on Equity in Food Access - II</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> Star Canteen Accreditation Program [<http://www.waschoolcanteens.org.au/pages/starcap/01-starcap.htm>], <sup>2</sup> (Pollard, Lewis et al. 2001), <sup>3</sup> Foodbank Western Australia [[www.foodbankwa.org.au](http://www.foodbankwa.org.au)], <sup>4</sup> WA Nutrition Awards [[http://www.population.health.wa.gov.au/Promotion/wa\\_nutrition.cfm](http://www.population.health.wa.gov.au/Promotion/wa_nutrition.cfm)], <sup>5</sup> HACCP Based Food Safety Programmes and Endorsements [<http://www.haccp.com.au/>], <sup>6</sup> Safe Quality Food Institute [<http://www.sqfi.com/>]

**Attachment 3. Relevant media articles**

Print this article | Close this window

**Aboriginal store ripoff 'widespread'**

Geoff Vivian

December 30, 2008 - 12:00PM

Remote Aboriginal community stores are being ripped off throughout the Kimberley, prominent indigenous residents say. The stores have become prime targets for unscrupulous store managers, with those doing it almost always escaping prosecution. "They haven't even been asked to pay the money back," retired Aboriginal policeman Gordon Marshall said.

Community councils usually responded to complaints of corrupt behaviour by simply sacking the storekeeper, rather than going to the trouble of pressing charges. Mr Marshall, who served in various Kimberley, Pilbara and Mid-West communities, said storekeepers sacked by one Aboriginal community often get a job at another. Lingiari Foundation chief executive Paul Lane said it was part of a broader pattern of corruption not restricted to managers of community stores.

"In 40 years (as an Aboriginal activist) I don't know of one single community store ... that hasn't had a bad management experience," said Mr Lane, the head of an indigenous advocacy, research and development organisation. "It often requires collusion among suppliers and ... the boards of the communities that run the store," he said. He knew of cases where prominent members of an Aboriginal community supported a storekeeper politically in return for favours, such as free family holidays.

By the time a storekeeper was dismissed or left, the store was usually in danger of closing down and needed a manager so desperately there were no proper reference or security checks. Northern Territory Emergency Response Review chairman Peter Yu said most managers came into the job with little experience or qualifications. The community members who employ the managers often had very low levels of literacy or grasp of proper governance standards. "Most times he gets the job because people think he is a good bloke," he said.

Wayne Gordon, an Aboriginal stockman who manages a cattle station for his central Kimberley Aboriginal community, said store managers should be subject to regular scrutiny. "You need to get every one of these places audited and you need an accountant to come every three months - 12 months is too long, it lets them get away with too much," he said.

Department of Indigenous Affairs spokeswoman Simmone Meakins said her department had no jurisdiction over remote community stores. "If the stores are privately owned there is no government involvement," she said.

Mark Sewell, who managed a Kimberley Aboriginal community for four years, said most remote community stores were privately owned by the Aboriginal corporation that runs the community.

*This story was found at: <http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/aboriginal-store-ripoff-widespread-20081219-7271.html>*



News

# Exorbitant food prices mean some Aboriginals go hungry

LISA UPTON and GREG BEARUP

With potatoes at \$1.50 each, half a pumpkin costing \$14 and sausages more than \$1 each, the tiny Aboriginal settlement of Mulan in the State's north, may well have the most expensive groceries in Australia.

Amid growing concerns about diet-related and lifestyle diseases afflicting remote Aboriginal communities, it has emerged that health workers believe the prohibitive cost of household staples in the Tanami Desert settlement is causing widespread malnutrition.

Its 160 residents are among the country's poorest and many are going hungry for a couple of days each week. A health worker from the Kutjungka region, which covers a number of Aboriginal settlements in the area, told *The West Australian* that alcoholism was not the problem in Mulan as it was in some Aboriginal communities.

The big concern was that many people were simply unable to feed their families because of the cost of food. "People are malnourished," the worker said.

Peter Yoomarie, the local Assembly of God pastor, said the extremely high prices at the Mulan Community Store were hurting everyone but particularly the elderly.

"Everyone shares food, it is part of the culture," Mr Yoomarie said. "But the old people will give away their food to see children eat."

Several pensioners he knew were forced to survive the last few days before their next pension payment by eating homemade damper or their simply went hungry.

We became aware of the extremely high costs when, after spending a week in Mulan, we bought meat and vegetables to host a simple barbecue for eight people. The bill came to almost \$150. We did not realise how expensive it would be until we got to the checkout because the prices are not displayed on any items in the shop. A receipt is only supplied on request.

With the majority of Mulan's residents on welfare benefits, receiving between \$200 and \$250 a week, it is virtually impossible to live in the community and eat a healthy diet.

The *West Australian* was told that while both the local school and the community health centre had programs to encourage people to eat fresh food, the reality was that mothers were also being advised to buy dehydrated potato because it was more affordable than fresh potatoes.

With diesel costing \$2.80 a litre and the nearest regional centre an eight-hour round trip, along the corrugated Tanami Track to Halls Creek, people have little choice but to shop at the Mulan Community Store.

The store is a non-profit operation which is managed by two non-indigenous people on behalf of the community.

One of the managers, Annie, who

**CRIPPLING COSTS**

Grocery bill for a barbecue for eight:

1.7 kg of sausages	\$16.42
1.4 kg of chops	\$33.92
1.3kg (5lb) potatoes	\$8.71
1.8kg (half) of pumpkin	\$14.42
Foam cups	\$2.99
3 x 1.25 bottles of Diet Coke	\$15
12 Bega cheese slices	\$6.78
Two small tins of tuna	\$6
Four ears of corn	\$15.50
Sara Lee cheese cake	\$12.99
Bread	\$3.50
Paper plates	\$8.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$144.72</b>



Hurting: Peter Yoomarie outside the Mulan Community Store. Picture: Greg Bearup

## Costs turn eat healthy message into a farce

DAWN GIBSON

Freight subsidies are needed to reduce the exorbitant cost of fresh fruit and vegetables in remote communities, according to Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service chief executive Henry Councillor.

Politicians did not seem to see the irony of spending thousands on healthy lifestyle campaigns in Aboriginal communities when a single apple often cost \$1.50 or more, he said.

Kimberley communities went without fresh produce for weeks while waiting for deliveries and even then the "fresh" food they got could be two weeks old.

Mr Councillor said local stores took freight charges into account, which put prices beyond the reach of many residents with Balgo, Kalbarbura and Mulan among the worst affected.

Poor access to healthy food was clearly significant to the Aboriginal diabetes epidemic and other lifestyle diseases that caused the huge chasm in life expectancy between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, yet State and Federal politicians seemed reluctant to tackle the problem.

Mr Councillor said he did not care which level of government took responsibility but it was critical to subsidise the cost of delivering fresh food to remote communities and passing the saving to consumers.

"I have been arguing this issue for a long time," he said. "Everybody shakes their heads and says it is dreadful to have such high costs, but no one does anything about it."

"I challenge people to live in these communities, to live on the wages that these Aboriginal people are living on and see if they can live any better."

Kimberley Land Council executive director Wayne Bergmann said the situation was getting worse with recent price rises, particularly for fuel. Governments could not ignore the issue with up to 100 WA communities in the same position as Mulan.



Far from anywhere: The Mulan community in the Tanami Desert.

would not give her surname, also refused to give any figures on the cost of freight. But, she said: "It's probably triple what we pay for our stock. It's a joke."

It is a problem faced by many remote communities and Annie said the only way to reduce the cost of food was to subsidise the freight costs. She said the groceries sold in Mulan came from Darwin, Perth, and Kununurra. The truck comes once a fortnight.

Donald Mathews, who is working as a builder at the community, said that almost every day he had people coming to his house. "humbugging" him for food.

He was in the supermarket recently when he saw an old woman throw a frozen chicken in anger because she couldn't afford it. "You often see the

old people get worked up because they don't have the money to pay for food," he said.

The majority of people in Mulan don't own fridges and therefore can't take advantage of fresh food specials and buy in bulk.

"I don't know how people live," said Peter Lockyer, a builder/architect from Victoria who spends three months a year working on building projects in Mulan.

"I've got the resources to get in my ute and go to Halls Creek to stock up."

Mr Lockyer also saves money because he has a small vegetable garden.

"Mulan could grow its own food, but it would require a quantum leap in desire to do it," he said.

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AUSTRALIA

## Fuel costs cause more hunger in the bush

Kerry Smith  
30 August 2008

**"People are eating mainly bread, flour, milk powder and sugar, and deriving a huge proportion of their energy from these foods that cost the least but are going to fill people up and divert hunger", Julie Brimblecombe told ABC Radio National's *The World Today* on August 25.**

Brimblecombe, an Aboriginal nutrition expert from the Menzies School of Health Research in the Northern Territory, has completed research indicating an alarming inequity between food prices in Australian cities and remote Aboriginal communities.

While food has always been more expensive to buy in the bush, because much of it is transported from thousands of kilometres away, rising fuel prices have exacerbated the high transport costs.

Stores run as not-for-profit enterprises on behalf of the community are forced to pass this increased cost onto consumers, leading to a situation in which the country's poorest people are paying 50% more for food than city dwellers, Brimblecombe's report has found.

The August 25 *Sydney Morning Herald* reported that in the Tanami Desert community of Mulan, six potatoes cost \$8.71, half a pumpkin cost \$14.42 and sausages were more than \$1 each.

Emma Murphy, a Socialist Alliance activist who spent three years living and working in a remote Aboriginal community in Western Australia, told *Green Left Weekly* that even when the fortnightly fresh produce truck finally arrived, the fruit and vegetables didn't last long. "In extreme cases, when the roads are rough, the food is already six days old. So people want to buy up while it's 'fresh'.

"This means that those with the money and fridges to be able to buy more than a day's worth of food — the non-Indigenous staff — do a big shop. Most Indigenous people don't have fridges, so will tend to do a small shop every day. What is left when all the fresh food goes is frozen white bread, cheap cuts of meat, flour, milk powder and canned food."

Murphy added that non-perishable, low-nutrition food is cheaper, because it doesn't need refrigerated transport and can be ordered from the cities in bulk quantities.

The *SMH* article reported that, while healthy eating is encouraged through school and clinic programs, people's budget doesn't allow for the diet that government nutrition guidelines recommend. Acknowledging this reality, health workers admit to also recommending dehydrated potatoes, for example, because they are cheaper.

Michael Parnis, manager of the Mulan community store, told *The World Today* that the only way the prices can come down is through improved infrastructure and government subsidies for fuel and electricity costs.

In the meantime, Murphy said, hunger is a fact of life in remote communities and Indigenous people do what they can to survive. "If someone can afford a tank of petrol, they can go hunting and get a kangaroo that might feed the family for a day or two", she told *GLW*. "Also, the kids have learnt that, if they get \$5 to spend after school, Coke and chocolate will fill them up more than a few pieces of fruit."

From: Australian News, Green Left Weekly Issue #765 3 September 2008.