4. CHAPTER FOUR: RESOURCE DEPENDENCY AND LINKS WITHIN THE SEQ RFA REGION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a brief overview of the analysis of the results of forest-user industry surveys conducted as part of the social assessment of the South East Queensland RFA region. The purpose of the research is to identify social catchments (later referred to as Town Resource Clusters) based on current forest industry use patterns in the SEQ region. The results of the survey are presented in the technical report *SE 5.4 Business Dependency Survey - Resource, Forest Industry and Employee Catchment Analysis for the SEQ RFA Region.* The objective of this report was to identify communities which were reliant on forest industry activity in the SEQ RFA region and to identify significant relationships between areas of forest use and communities dependent on that forest use. The identification of resource dependent communities and the flow-on effects to other communities were identified through (a) the location of mills with a Crown hardwood allocation, (b) the location of forest contractors, (c) the location of other forest related industries including apiarists and graziers, (d) the residential location of employees of these businesses, (e) the use of schools by employees, (f) employee household expenditure and (g) forest industry expenditure.

In identifying forest dependent communities and the flow-on effects to other communities, primary data were collected through the use of industry and employee surveys and existing mailing lists and databases held by DPI-Forestry and the Department of Natural Resources. Industry surveys were distributed to forest industries in the region, which for the purpose of the report were defined as (a) timber processing industries, (b) forest contractors, (c) apiarists, (d) holders of State grazing permits and (e) holders of special or term leases in State forests. With the exception of special or term lease holders, employee surveys were distributed to all forest industries which had also received an industry survey. The industry surveys provided a description of the specific forest industry (ie., number of employees, years in operation, use of forest areas) and information on the town location of the industry, industry clients and from which towns specific goods and services were purchased. The employee surveys obtained information which allowed the development of a social profile of forest industry employees (ie., age, sex, education, housing tenure, family size, marital status) and information on the residential location of employees and detailed information on the towns from which they purchased household goods and services.

4.2 TOWN RESOURCE CLUSTERS

Town Resource Clusters (TRCs) represent clusters or groupings of towns and communities which consist of (a) timber processing industries which draw their hardwood resource from similar geographic

areas, (b) the majority of towns and communities at which employees of timber processing industries reside and (c) towns and communities in addition to resident employee towns, which are used by employees when accessing goods and services. A total of 17 TRCs were identified for the SEQ RFA region (refer to Map 4.2).

Within the South East Queensland RFA Region, the DPI-F administers 14 Sawmill Allocation Zones (SAZs). The SAZs from which each of the timber processing industries with a crown allocation draw their resources were identified. Table 4.1 shows the relationship between the town location of the timber processing industry and the dependency on hardwood resource drawn from each of the 14 Sawmill Allocation Zones. For instance, and in relation to Table 4.1, 100 percent of the resource drawn from the Brisbane SAZ is used by timber processing industries within Woodford. However, industries within the town of Woodford are only 39.2 percent reliant on resource from the Brisbane SAZ, with industries within Woodford also drawing 60.8 percent of their resource from the Kilcoy-Woodford SAZ.

Further examination of Table 4.1 also shows that only five towns have timber processing industries which are dependent upon resource drawn from multiple SAZs, with the majority of industries using resource from a single SAZ.

Map 4.1 shows the location of the 14 SAZs and the towns reliant upon resource from each of these zones. It is clear from an inspection of Map 4.1 and Table 4.1 that there are specific town catchments associated with each of the SAZs. That is, the majority of towns with timber processing industries are located in close proximity to the SAZ from which they draw their resource.

TABLE 4.1. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TIMBER PROCESSING TOWN AND SAWMILL ALLOCATION ZONE

Sawmill Allocation Zone	PERCENT Mill	PERCENT Resource
Brisbane		
Woodford	39.2	100.0
Boonah-Warwick		
Beaudesert	100.0	87.6
Boonah	100.0	8.1
Killarney	100.0	6.3
Builyan-Gladstone		
Builyan	100.0	61.0
Rockhampton	100.0	38.5
Bernarby	100.0	0.5
Bundaberg		
Bundaberg	100.0	97.9
Thabeban	100.0	2.1
Eidsvold-Monto		
Eidsvold	100.0	62.8
Monto	100.0	28.7
Mulgildie	100.0	8.5
Gatton-Toogoolawah		
Gatton	100.0	45.8
Ravensbourne	100.0	38.2
Esk	100.0	11.9
Fernvale	100.0	2.1

Laidley	100.0	2.1
Gayndah-Mundubbera		
Allies Creek	100.0	57.9
Mundubbera	100.0	42.1
Gympie		
Cooroy	47.3	89.9
North Deep Creek	76.3	8.0
Gympie	7.5	1.9
Kilcoy-Woodford		
Cooroy	39.4	63.2
Woodford	60.8	28.0
Gympie	41.4	8.8
Maryborough		
Maryborough	100.0	78.4
Brooweena	100.0	17.6
North Aramara	100.0	2.9
Howard	100.0	0.6
Murgon-Wondai		
Wondai	100.0	87.4
North Deep Creek	23.7	12.6
North Coast Zone		
Cooroy	13.1	32.7
Caboolture	100.0	17.6
Linville	44.1	11.2
Peachester	100.0	10.9
Gympie	32.3	10.6
Eudlo	100.0	9.4
Conondale	100.0	7.5
Yarraman-Toowoomba		
Linville	56.0	54.7
Gympie	18.8	23.6
Yandina	100.0	17.6
Blackbutt	100.0	4.1
Duaringa-Dingo		
Dingo	100.0	100.0

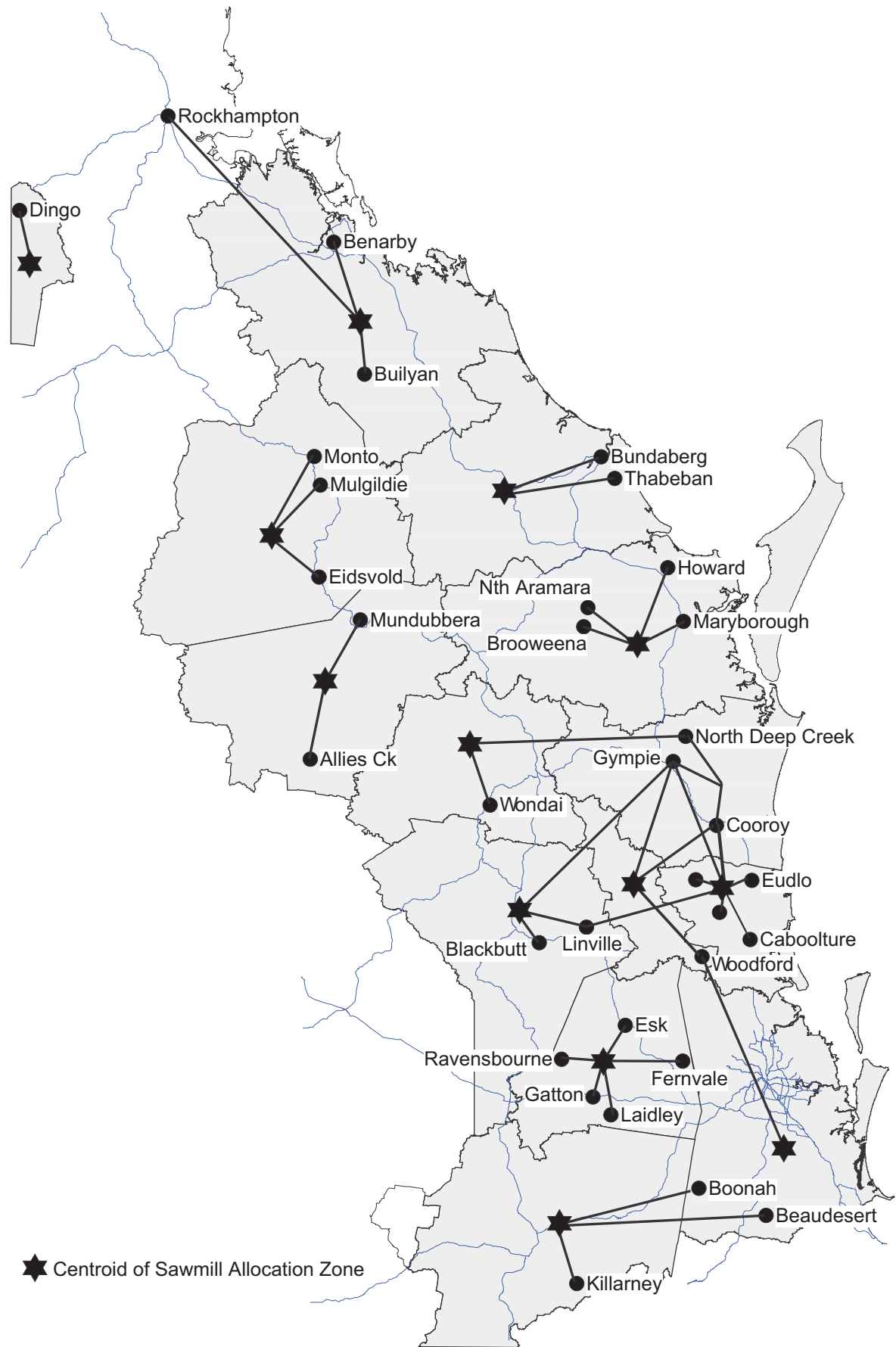*Source: Based on information provided by DPI-Forestry*
Prepared by EBC (1998)

Using the industry town to resource links identified in Map 4.1, clusters or groupings of towns were identified which: (a) were linked to similar resource locations (b) contained towns in which employees were resident and (c) contained towns where employees purchased the majority of their goods and services. These clusters are referred to as Town Resource Clusters (TRCs). The distribution of TRCs across the SEQ RFA region is shown in Map 4.2. Map 4.3 shows a summary of each of the TRCs in greater detail and the dependency of TRCs on resource from Sawmill Allocation Zones.

Table 4.2 Summary of Town Resource Cluster (TRC) Characteristics: Timber Processing Industries

TRCs	Number of Timber Processing Industries	Location of Timber Processing Industries	Main Locations of Industry Expenditure	Total Number of Industry Employees	Main Residential Location of Employees	Estimated Annual Household Expenditure	Main Locations for Household Expenditure	Percent Household Expenditure Within TRC
Rockhampton	2	Rockhampton Dingo	Rockhampton Dingo	36	Rockhampton Dingo	$649,000	Rockhampton Blackwater	98.6%
Gladstone	2	Benaraby Builyan	Gladstone Builyan	21	Builyan	$379,000	Gladstone Monto Builyan	72.3%
Monto	2	Monto Mulgildie	Monto Biloela	35	Monto Mulgildie	$631,000	Monto	87.6%
Bundaberg	2	Bundaberg Thabeban	Bundaberg Childers	70	Bundaberg	$1,300,000	Bundaberg	97.4%
Maryborough	4	Maryborough Brooweena North Aramara Tiaro	Maryborough	203	Maryborogh Tiaro Hervey Bay	$3,700,000	Maryborough	95.3%
Mudubbera	2	Eidsvold Mundubbera	Mundubbera Brisbane	77	Eidsvold Mundubbera	$1,400,00	Eidsvold Mundubbera	78.5%
Gympie	2	Gympie Nth Deep Creek	Gympie	74	Gympie	$1,300,00	Gympie	90.9%
Wondai	1	Wondai	Kingaroy Murgon Wondai	26	Wondai Kingaroy	$500,00	Wondai Kingaroy Murgon	93.3%
Cooroy	2	Cooroy Yandina	Nambour Cooroy	96	Cooroy Yandina	$1,700,000	Cooroy Nambour Maroochydore Noosa	92.0%
Blackbutt	3	Blackbutt Linville	Brisbane Blackbutt Kingaroy Nanango	18	Linville Moore Esk	$324,000	Toogoolawah Kilcoy Ipswich	54.3%
Woodford	5	Conondale Eudlo Peachester Woodford Caboolture	Caboolture Kilcoy Woodford Brisbane	61	Caboolture Kilcoy Woodford	$1,100,000	Caboolture Woodford	80.0%
Gatton	2	Gatton Laidley	Gatton Toowoomba Brisbane	31	Gatton Toowoomba Brisbane	$600,000	Gatton Toowoomba Laidley	92.6%
Brisbane	2	Fernvale Brisbane	Brisbane	11	Brisbane	$200,000	Brisbane Ipswich	81.0%

Source: EBC (1998)

MAP 4.1 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TIMBER PROCESSING TOWNS AND SAWMILL ALLOCATION ZONES

Rockhampton

Dingo

Benarby

Builyan

Monto
Mulgildie

Bundaberg
Thabeban

Eidsvold

Howard

Nth Aramara

Mundubbera

Maryborough

Brooweena

Allies Ck

North Deep Creek

Wondai

Gympie

Cooroy

Eudlo

Blackbutt

Linville

Caboolture

Woodford

Esk

Ravensbourne

Fernvale

Gatton

Laidley

Boonah

Beaudesert

★ Centroid of Sawmill Allocation Zone

Killarney

Source: EBC (1998)

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Each of the 17 TRCs were defined in such a way that the relationship between each TRC and specific Sawmill Allocation Zones would be optimised. That is, if there was a change in the availability of the resource within a specific Sawmill Allocation Zone, there would be a high degree of certainty that any corresponding social changes would be located within identified and associated TRCs.
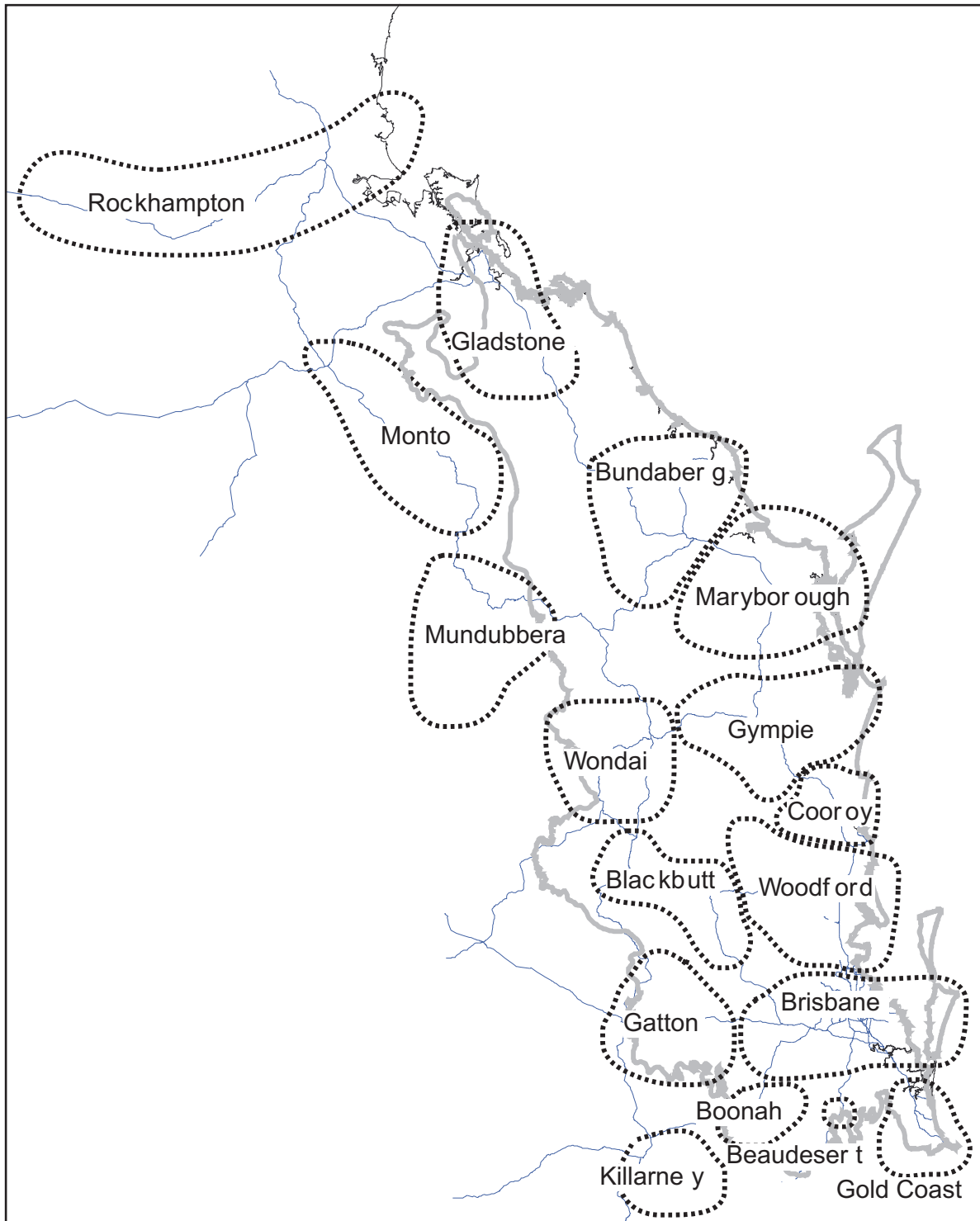
Table 4.2 provides a summary of the relevant key aspects of each TRC reported on in Project SE 5.4.

The use of Town Resource Clusters (TRCs) in the analysis of any potential changes in towns and communities as a consequence of a change in the status or access to resource is highly significant. As a very strong relationship exists between the use of Sawmill Allocation Zones and TRCs, any change in the Sawmill Allocation Zone has the potential to affect specific TRCs. From the perspective of identifying social impacts and managing any social change as a consequence of a change in the status of the resource, the TRCs play a central and significant role. From a social perspective, issues of sustainability in the management of natural resources require not only the management of the resource itself but also equal and concurrent consideration of the management of resource dependent communities. While the Sawmill Allocation Zone maybe an administrative unit for the management of the natural resource, the TRC is the parallel management unit when issues of social change are to be considered.

The linkage between areas of resource and TRCs has generally been considered in terms of a top down management process, with core ecological and environmental criteria identifying those areas of resource which should be placed in reserve or which might have special management controls applied to them. Potential social and community impacts are then considered as a consequence of such a top down process. However, it should be emphasised that while ecological and environmental criteria are obviously important in the development of a reserve system, the model which has been identified also requires social criteria to be used in the establishment of reserves. This approach permits the identification of those areas of resource which if placed in reserve would have minimal social impacts associated with them.

The technical report *SE 5.4 Resource, Forest Industry and Employee Catchment Analysis for the SEQ RFA Region* includes full details of the findings for each of the 17 TRCs and is available upon request.

MAP 4.2 LOCATION OF TOWN RESOURCE CLUSTERS

Rockhampton

Gladstone

Monto

Bundaber g

Marybor ough

Mundubbera

Gympie

Wondai

Cooroy

Blackbutt

Woodf ord

Brisbane

Gatton

Boonah

Beaudeser t

Killarne y

Gold Coast

Source: EBC (1998)