



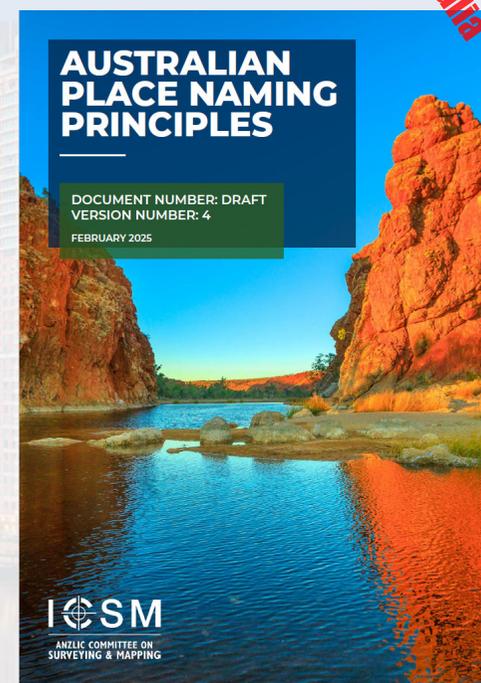
Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience: Championing a Digital Generation

Brisbane, Australia 6-10 April

Aligning Place Naming with Community Expectations: Developing the Australian Place Naming Principles

Lisa Powell, NSW, Australia

Mirranie Barker, QLD, Australia



PLATINUM SPONSORS





Place naming is integral to identifying your location and underpins foundational spatial data



Place naming impacts on people's sense of identity, wellbeing and belonging



Place naming is a recognised way of preserving language and culture

ICSM Place Names Working Group





AND

Locate25

THE NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL CONFERENCE

Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience:
Championing a Digital Generation



Brisbane, Australia 6–10 April



Principles for the Consistent Use of Place Names

includes
Principles for the Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names
and
Dual Naming Depiction Principles

Australia and New Zealand
Working Group on Place Names



TABLE OF CONTENTS

GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSISTENT USE OF PLACE NAMES	5
1 Introduction	5
2 Place Names Authorities	6
3 Australia and New Zealand Working Group on Place Names	6
4 Guidelines	7
4.1 Official Language	7
4.2 Names Governed by Statutory or Administrative Authority	7
4.3 Official or Approved Names	7
4.4 Feature Description and Identification	7
4.5 Features which Cross State/Territory Boundaries	7
4.6 Personal Names	8
4.7 Form and Character Of Names	8
4.8 Use of Titles, Honorifics and Postnominals	8
4.9 Coastal Waters Hydrographic Features	8
4.10 Offshore Undersea Features	8
4.11 Limits of Oceans and Seas	9
4.12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names	9
4.13 Dual Naming	9
4.14 Possessive Apostrophe	9
4.15 Diacritical Marks	10
4.16 Uniformity of Spelling	10
4.17 Generic Terminology	10
4.18 Qualifying Terminology	10
4.19 Duplication	10
4.20 Abbreviations	11
4.21 Use of Numbers in Place Names	11
4.22 National Gazetteer	11
4.23 Exonyms	11
4.24 Road Names	11
4.25 Use of the Definite Article 'The'	11
4.26 Use of Hyphens	11
4.27 Commercial Names	11
4.28 Use of Protected and Restricted Words	12

APPENDIX A: Guidelines for the Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names

.....	13
1. Background	13
2. Introduction	13
3. Objectives	14
3.1 Main Objective	14
3.2 Secondary Objectives	14
4. Policy Guidelines	14
4.1 Recognition	15
4.2 Preferences	15
4.3 Writing System	16
4.4 Education	16
4.5 Procedural	17
5. Review	17
6. Implementation	18
APPENDIX B: Dual Naming Depiction Guidelines	19
1 Order of Names	19
2 Style	19
3 Jurisdiction	19
4 Cartographic Practice	19

First Nations place naming survey

Feedback on First Nations Place Naming principles

About the ICSM Place Names Working Group

The place names working group brings together place naming experts from Australia and New Zealand. You can learn more about ICSM here: <https://www.icsm.gov.au>

What are the Principles for the Consistent Use of Place Names and why are they being reviewed?

The *Principles for the Consistent Use of Place Names* is a document that provides guidelines for the consistent and accurate use of place names in Australia. You can view and download the current principles here: <https://www.icsm.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-09/principles-consistent-use-place-names-May-2023%20%281%29.pdf>

For further information you can contact:

Rafe Benli, Chair, ICSM Place Names Working Group E: rafe.benli@transport.vic.gov.au

Lisa Powell, Deputy Chair, ICSM Place Names Working Group E: lisa.powell@customerservice.nsw.gov.au

1. Are you a First Nations* person?

**Note: The use of the term First Nations is used throughout this survey to reference both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and languages.*

Yes

No

2. What language group/s do you belong to?

Enter your answer

3. What State or Territory do you live in?

ACT

NSW

NT

QLD

SA

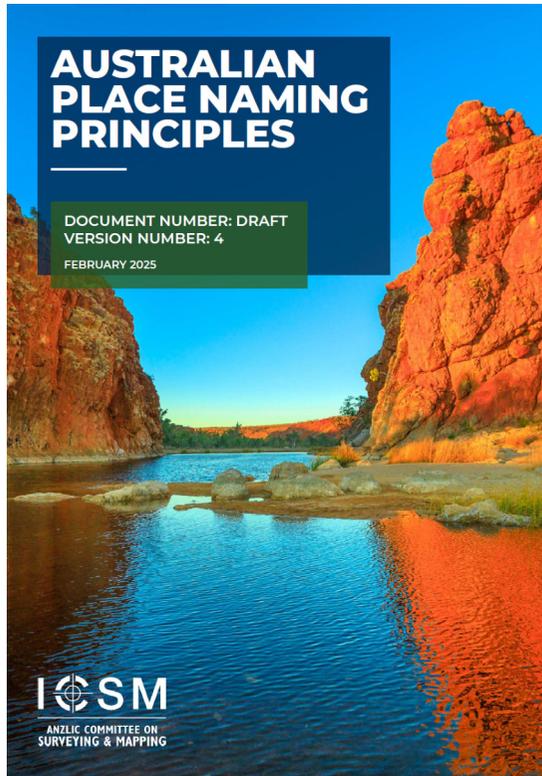
TAS

VIC

WA

Other

Australian Place Naming Principles



CONTENTS

Foreword	5
Glossary	6
Principles	7
Principle 1: Place naming across Australia is consistent	7
1.1 Language	7
Principle 2: Place naming information is accurate and accessible	8
2.1 Accessible	8
2.2 Unique	8
2.3 Clearly described	8
2.4 Places which cross State / Territory / Jurisdictional boundaries	8
2.5 Onshore and Offshore Places	8
2.6 Road names	8
Principle 3: Place naming promotes connection, inclusivity and the rights of others	9
3.1 Connection	9
3.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names	9
3.3 Dual Naming	9
3.4 Commemorative Names	9
3.5 Unacceptable names	10
3.6 Consultation	10



Australian Place Naming Principles – February 2025





Principle 1: Place naming across Australia is consistent

Principle 2: Place naming information is accurate and accessible

Principle 3: Place naming promotes connection, inclusivity and the rights of others

Principle 3: Place naming promotes connection, inclusivity and the rights of others

Connection

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names

Dual Names

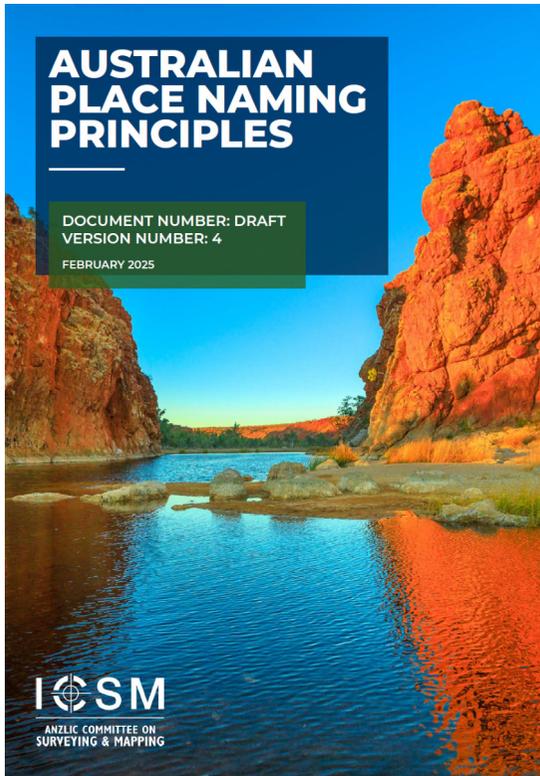
Commemorative Names

Unacceptable names

Consultation



Have Your Say on the Australian Place Naming Principles



<https://forms.office.com/r/18WaiQU1sF>

Have your say on the Australian Place Name Principles

Who are we?
The Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM) Place Names Working Group (PNWG) brings together place naming experts from Australia and New Zealand. You can learn more about ICSM here: <https://www.icsm.gov.au>

What's this about?
The ICSM PNWG is seeking feedback on the draft Australian Place Name Principles. As there is no official national naming authority within Australia the PNWG has developed the Australian Place Naming Principles to provide a consistent and unified approach to place naming across the country. The principles replace the previous *Principles for the Consistent Use of Place Names* and are designed to address contemporary community expectations, with a particular focus on safety, cultural sensitivity and inclusivity.

You can access the Australian Place Name Principles here: https://www.icsm.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-04/Draft%20Australian%20Place%20Naming%20Principles%20%281%29_1.pdf

Have Your Say
We want to hear from you! Please complete this survey, we appreciate your clear and constructive feedback.

For further information you can contact:
Rafe Benli, Chair, ICSM Place Names Working Group E: rafe.benli@transport.vic.gov.au
Lisa Powell, Deputy Chair, ICSM Place Names Working Group E: lisa.powell@customerservice.nsw.gov.au

1

Who are you providing feedback on behalf of?

Yourself

An organisation, i.e. community group, association, government agency, club or business

You can print a copy of your answer after you submit

 Microsoft 365

This content is created by the owner of the form. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner. Microsoft is not responsible for the privacy or security practices of its customers, including those of this form owner. Never give out your password.
Microsoft Forms | AI-Powered surveys, quizzes and polls | [Create my own form](#)
[Privacy and cookies](#) | [Terms of use](#)

The most relevant SDGs related to the presentation and theme of this session

1st relevant SDG

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



2nd relevant SDG

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



3rd relevant SDG

5 GENDER EQUALITY



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

International Federation of Surveyors supports the Sustainable Development Goals



WORKING WEEK 2025

AND

Locate25 | **G**
THE NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL CONFERENCE

Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience:
Championing a Digital Generation



Brisbane, Australia 6-10 April

STEP 1: SELECT HERE THE THREE MOST RELEVANT SDGs
STEP 2: COPY THE SDG INTO PREVIOUS SLIDE

1 NO POVERTY 	2 ZERO HUNGER 	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	5 GENDER EQUALITY 	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	13 CLIMATE ACTION 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	15 LIFE ON LAND 	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	