

Calls to Police related to alcohol

South Wairarapa District

Released 10 February 2014



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CAVEAT

Police data examined in this report is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is continually recorded. It is only as accurate as the information contained in the databases at the time that it is sourced. Statistics from provisional data are counted differently than official statistics and should not be compared.



Key Findings

Analysis of calls to Police was conducted in relation to events occurring within South Wairarapa District from January 2008 to December 2012. During that time, within this area, Police received 1,535 calls for types of events that are typically related to alcohol (approximately 300 per year).

The following has been identified:

- Alcohol related calls for service are predominantly centred within the business areas, or along roads leading into this area for all three towns of Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough.
- Calls for service have fluctuated during the reporting period of 2009 to 2012.
- Large public events in Martinborough during the summer period, involving alcohol are likely to be contributing to increasing numbers of alcohol related offending.

Police would like to strengthen partnerships with the South Wairarapa District Territorial Authority (TA) to develop solutions that will reduce the demand currently placed on police resources. This can be achieved by:

- Reducing on-licence closing hours from 2 am to 1 am. This will reduce the window in which offending and social harm can occur and bring on-licence premises in line with those of neighbouring TA's of Masterton and Carterton.
- Reducing off-licence alcohol trading hours by one hour to between 7am and 9pm is likely to limit the opportunities for purchasing alcohol for sole purpose of becoming intoxicated. It will require patrons to plan their evening better, lowering the chances of offending and victimisation.
- Introducing a one-way door policy at 12am for on-licence premises, across the South Wairarapa TA area. This would align South Wairarapa TA on-licence premises with neighbouring on-licence premises in Masterton and Carterton TA's. International research supports this to be an effective tool in reducing alcohol related offending, within an overall robust alcohol policy.
- Collaboration between community partners on maximum numbers or 'capping' of both on and off-licensed premises is likely to assist with reducing levels of alcohol related harm. Careful consideration on location of any future premises, to ensure vulnerable communities are not further exposed to alcohol related harm.
- Consideration could be given to the introduction of alcohol ban areas, covering alcohol-related hotspots within the townships, where none exists. This is likely to assist in reducing levels of alcohol-related harm. Consideration should also be given to signage and clear delineation between on-licence 'outside space' and public place to ensure accurate policing of any future alcohol ban areas.
- Consideration should be given to community partners developing a desired ratio of security guards required, for large scale alcohol-related events. Security guards should be trained in alcohol harm reduction and the management of large crowds. Behavioural expectations and the encouragement of responsible drinking should be advertised well before the event; at the time of ticket purchasing. This could be achieved using social media sites specific to the event, and existing mainstream media.



Introduction

1. The operating strategy for New Zealand Police to 2015 is *Prevention First*. The strategy is aimed at preventing crime before it happens using targeted policing, partnerships, and focusing on the drivers of crime.
2. The new Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 states that when developing a draft or provisional Local Alcohol Policy, a Territorial Authority (TA) must consider a range of factors set out in the Act, including the nature and severity of the alcohol-related problems arising in the district¹. To that end, Police (along with Licensing Inspectors and Medical Officers of Health) must make reasonable efforts to give the Territorial Authority any relevant information they may hold².
3. This report analyses calls made by the public to police. In each case the Police employee who takes the call, categorises the incident based on what the caller tells them into basic event types such as violence, disorder, etc. These calls are then recorded in the Police Communications and Resource Deployment database (CARD). An event can be re-categorised into different types throughout the life of a call, so for the purposes of this analysis, event types are considered at the time of call closure.
4. Although CARD does not hold information on whether alcohol was consumed by the offender or by the victim, certain types of events are typically considered to be related to alcohol. These are:

Grievous Assaults	Sexual Affronts	Disorder
Serious Assaults	Abduction For Sex	Breach Of The Peace
Minor Assaults	Sexual Attacks	Obstructing/Hindering/Resisting
Intimidation/Threats	Rape	Unlawful Assembly
Crimes Against Personal Privacy	Domestic Dispute	Breach Of Local Council Liquor Ban
Drunk Custody/Detox Centre	Domestic Violence	Sale of Liquor offences (old Act)
Drunk Home	(Sale and Supply of Alcohol offences – new Act)	

5. The calls analysed in this report were made between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2012 and fall into the categories listed above. They are presented visually in the attached maps by individual years. In the future, yearly updates will be provided. The calls do not include those initiated by Police (ie, officer-discovered contact with the Communications Centre) and exclude duplicate calls.
6. In this analysis, the calls to Police were spatially analysed using a hotspotting technique called Gi*. The Gi* technique aggregates events to a grid, the size of which depends on the area of analysis. The totals within each grid square are then compared with each other across the entire study area.
7. Gi* compares local averages with global averages, identifying those areas where the local averages (eg, concentrations of crime) are significantly different from the global averages (ie, in comparison to what is generally observed across the whole study area).
8. Gi* identifies if the local pattern of crime is different from what is generally observed across the whole study area, and produces a level of significance. The areas identified as not significant are those where clustering would likely have occurred due to chance and not due to the location itself.
9. As Gi* adds statistical significance to hotspot analysis, it shows which hotspots are significant, and alerts to something unusual occurring at specific locations.

¹ Sections 78 and 79(2) of the Act

² Section 78(4) of the Act



10. Hotspots identified as 99.9% significant using the Gi* technique are most likely to be locations that are generators, attractors, or enablers of crime. Focusing on these locations and determining the underlying causes of crime happening there is likely to reduce the level of crime across the overall study area.
11. The Appendix includes:
 - Map one – first level hotspots; Gi* analysis of alcohol-related events in the given year for the entire Territorial Authority.
 - Map two – second level hotspots; Gi* analysis of alcohol-related events that occurred only in those locations that were identified as 90% significant hotspots from map one. If multiple second level hotspots are present, multiple maps are provided.
 - Data clocks – time distribution of events that occurred within the second-level hotspots, showing when those events took place.
 - Map of licensed premises – the data (current as at 2011) was sourced from the Local Licensing Authority and provided to Police by Massey University in May 2013. The displayed licensed premises are only of those types that Massey University consider contribute to alcohol-related harm; these are supermarkets, bottle stores, grocery stores, night clubs, and taverns. The map shows the distribution and number of on-licensed and off-licensed premises. As the data relates to 2011, there may have been some changes to the licensed premises since that time.

Analysis

High Risk Area

12. The first level hotspots for South Wairarapa areas of Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough, shows steady levels of alcohol related calls for service, throughout the reporting period 2008-2012.
13. The second level yearly hotspots indicate locations of concern within the individual towns and are discussed as follows:
 - *Greytown*
14. Greytown has a stable resident population with visitor numbers increasing population levels during weekends, particularly during the summer months.
15. Hotspots for Greytown show a steady increase in alcohol related calls for service between 2008 and 2011, predominantly along the main road, leading to and from the central business district (CBD). Significant levels continue to occur in the central and northern quadrants of the CBD where the majority of on and off-licence premises are situated.
16. A decrease in calls is observed during 2012. This may be due to a greater police focus on liquor licensing compliance during that year.
17. Greytown does not currently have an alcohol-ban area within the township. The introduction of an alcohol ban area is likely to assist in reducing alcohol-related harm further.
 - *Featherston*
18. Hotspots for Featherston show consistent alcohol related calls for service throughout the town. Persistent areas include the central and southern quadrants, near both off and on-licensed premises. Much of the central portion of the CBD is covered by an alcohol ban area. This area is favoured by youth as an area to socialise.
 - *Martinborough*
19. Hotspots for Martinborough again show consistent alcohol related calls to police based around the CBD, throughout the reporting period. Many of the on-licensed premises are



within easy walking distance from each other around the town square and residential areas beyond.

20. Martinborough has previously had ad-hoc alcohol-ban area for hotspots within the township, specific to large events taking place within the township. Introducing a permanent alcohol-ban area is likely to assist with reducing alcohol-related harm throughout the year.
21. Martinborough is host to a number of annual events during the summer months including concerts, wine and food festivals. Numbers at events can often be in the thousands, attracting attendees from around New Zealand, requiring a greater need for well-trained security staff. Such events are not included in the 'calls for service' data as these are generally detected by police during the event. However, they do add to the overall picture of alcohol related events within Martinborough.
22. Recent analysis of two such events, which took place in 2013, identified a number of possible options to reduce the level of harm at future events. They include:
 - An agreed ratio of suitably trained security guards who have received specific training in Alcohol Harm Reduction with a focus on large crowd situations.
 - Advertising early to patrons attending, behaviour expectations and the consequences of detected breaches.

Temporal Analysis

23. The spring and summer months of October to March have the greatest calls for service as is the case in other TA's throughout Wairarapa.
24. It is likely that a portion of the calls for service during this period will be linked to annual events in Martinborough.
25. Alcohol related calls for service predominantly occur between 6 pm and 3 am, with increasing levels between 7 pm and 3 am on Saturdays and to a lesser degree on Friday night.

Collaboration between Wairarapa Territorial Authorities

26. All three TA licensing inspectors, police and health representatives meet together regularly to discuss licensing issues. The Wairarapa Area TA's have chosen to collaborate to ensure agreements made are mirrored across all three TA's. A recent decision between TA's will see those wishing to hire community premises controlled by the Carterton, Masterton or South Wairarapa TA's, will be supplied with guidelines outlining their responsibilities under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. This is seen as a valuable tool in reducing the alcohol related harm throughout all three TA's.

Five Year Trend

27. Alcohol related calls for service have fluctuated in the South Wairarapa, during the reporting period.

Year	Alcohol-related events
2008	286
2009	325
2010	293
2011	293
2012	338
Total	1,535



Possible Prevention Measures

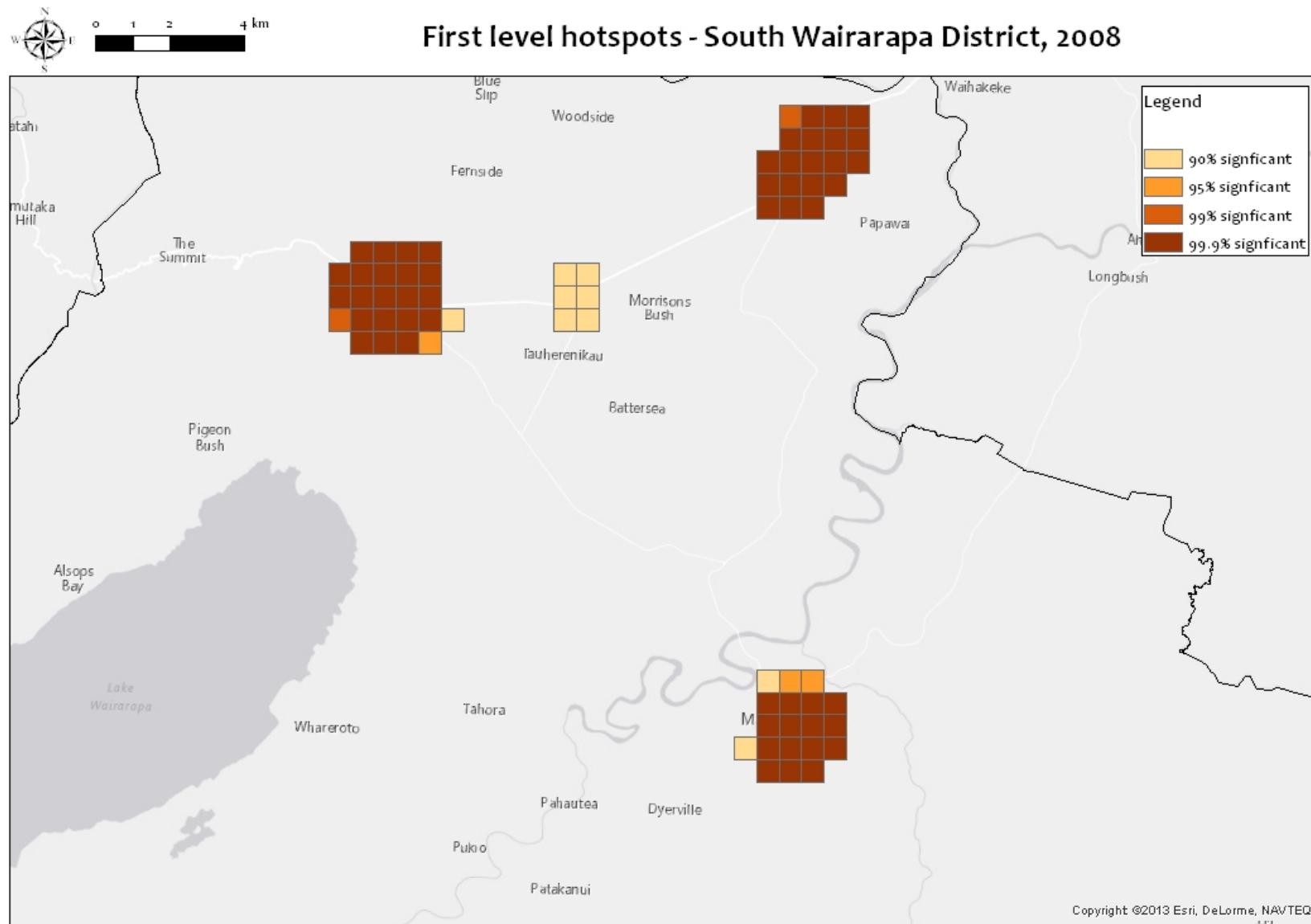
28. Wairarapa Police ask that consideration be given to the following measures to assist with reducing calls for service relating to alcohol.

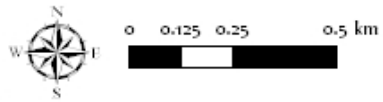
- Reducing trading hours of on-licence premises to 1am is likely to reduce the levels of calls for service between 1 am and 3 am, particularly during weekends. International research suggests the longer licensed premises trade the greater alcohol-related harm can result in communities.
- Adopt maximum trading hours for off-licence premises from between 7 am and 10pm, to between 7 am and 9pm, a reduction of one hour. This will reduce opportunities for alcohol to be purchased with the sole purpose of becoming intoxicated, leading to less offending and victimisation.
- Adopt a one-way door police for all on-licence premises of 12am. This is considered to be a good tool, within a robust alcohol policy. Both local and international studies suggest this measure assists with reducing alcohol related harm in communities. This should be accompanied by an education programme for both patrons and owner/operators of licensed premises.
- Collaboration between community partners when considering granting further alcohol off-licences, to ensure proposed new premise are not located in vulnerable areas of the community. Consideration should also be given to maximum numbers of on and off-licences within each of the South Wairarapa communities.
- Consideration should be given to introducing an alcohol ban area within the hotspot locations for each of the townships where none exists. Consideration should also be given to introducing signage clearly identifying an on-licence premise that has outside space for the use of patrons. A well delineated area between on-licence area and public space will assist with identifying those in breach of any alcohol ban area that may be in place.
- Consideration should be given to community partners formulating an agreed ratio for security guards for large scale alcohol related events. They will ideally be trained in alcohol harm reduction and the management of large crowds.
- The advertising of behavioural expectations could be publicised well before the event is to take place, utilising existing media relationships. This could also be achieved using social media, such as a Facebook page, specific to the event and at the time of online ticketing.



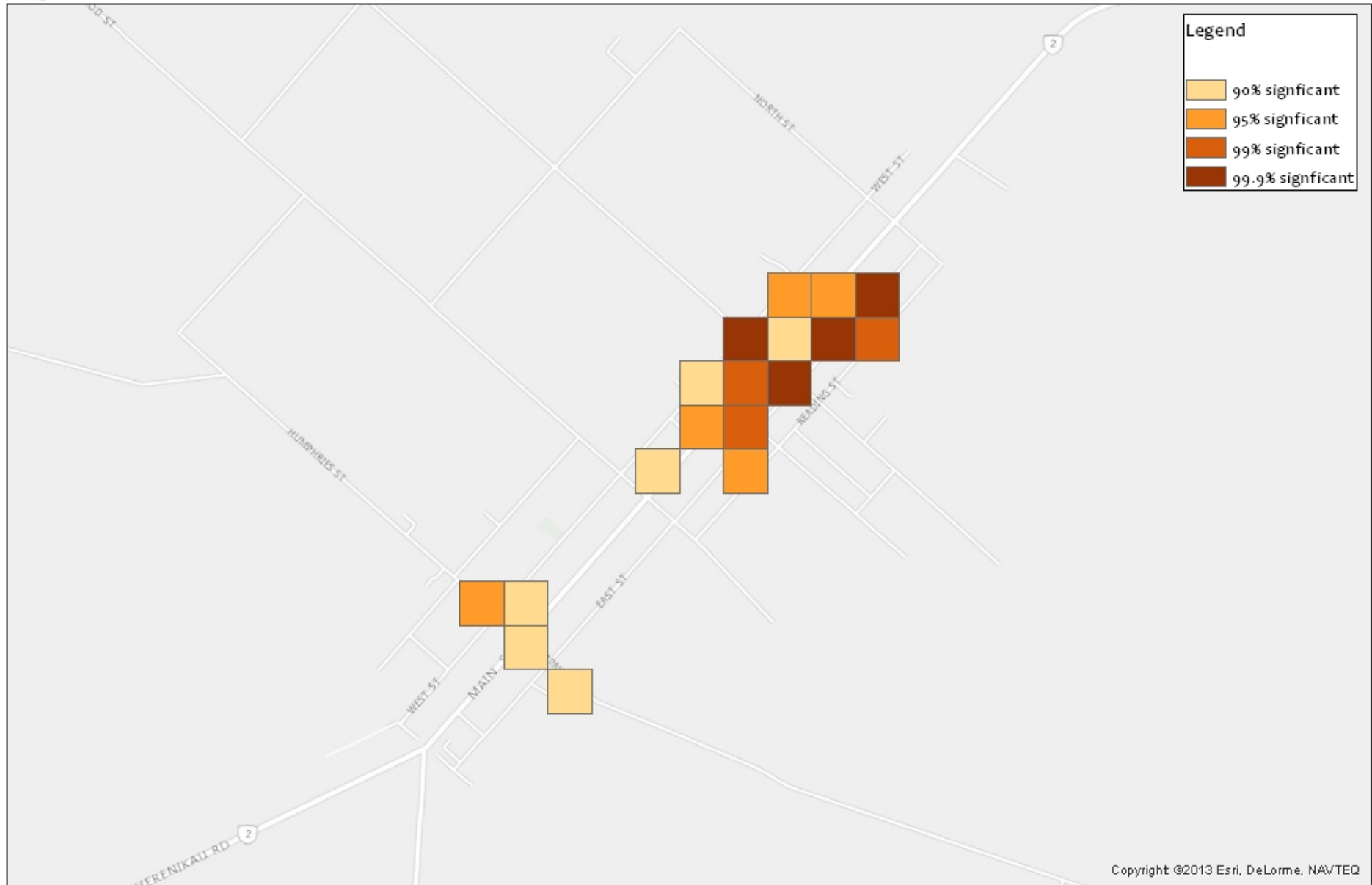
Appendix – Hotspot Maps and Data clocks

2008



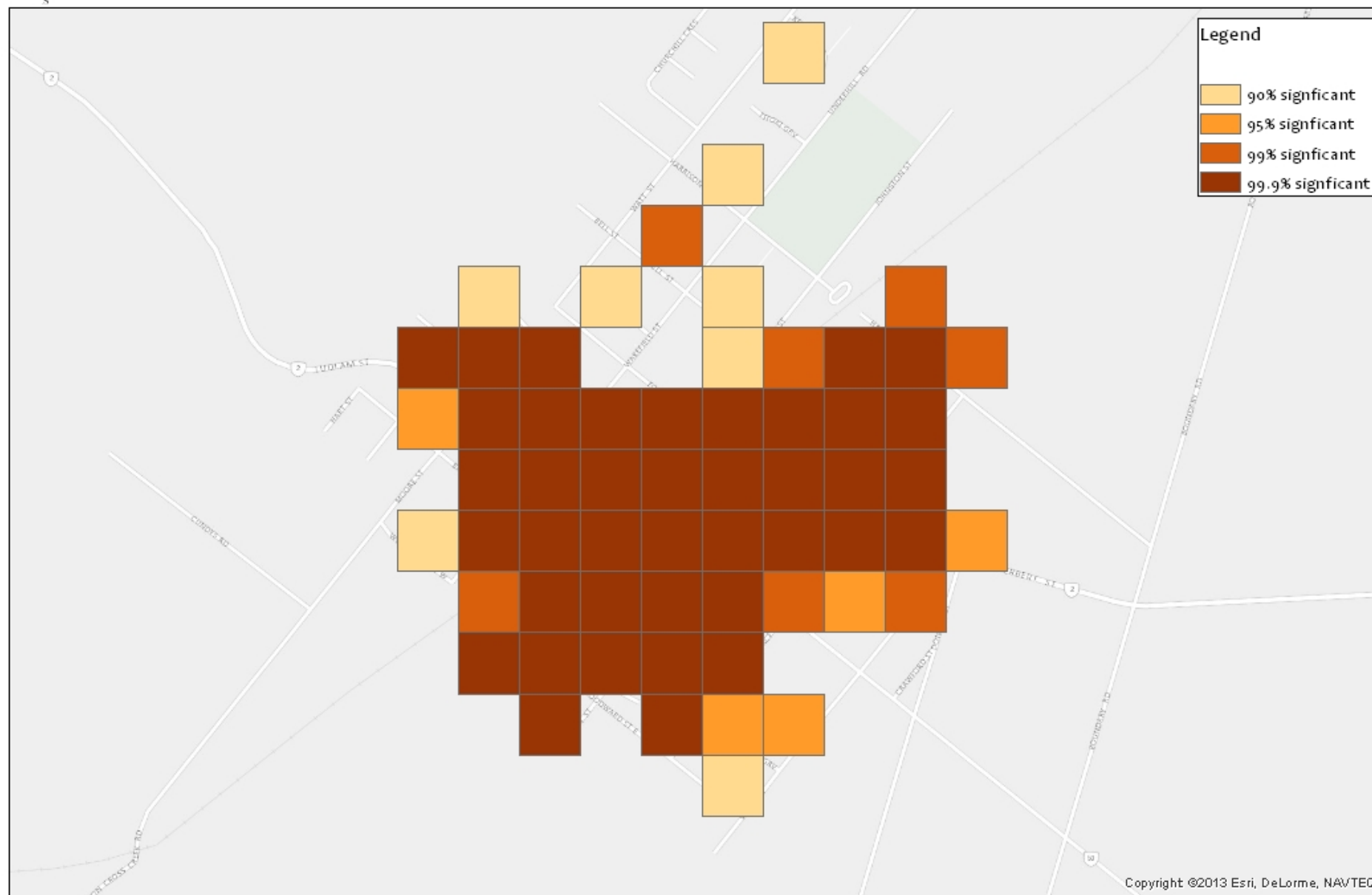


Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Greytown)





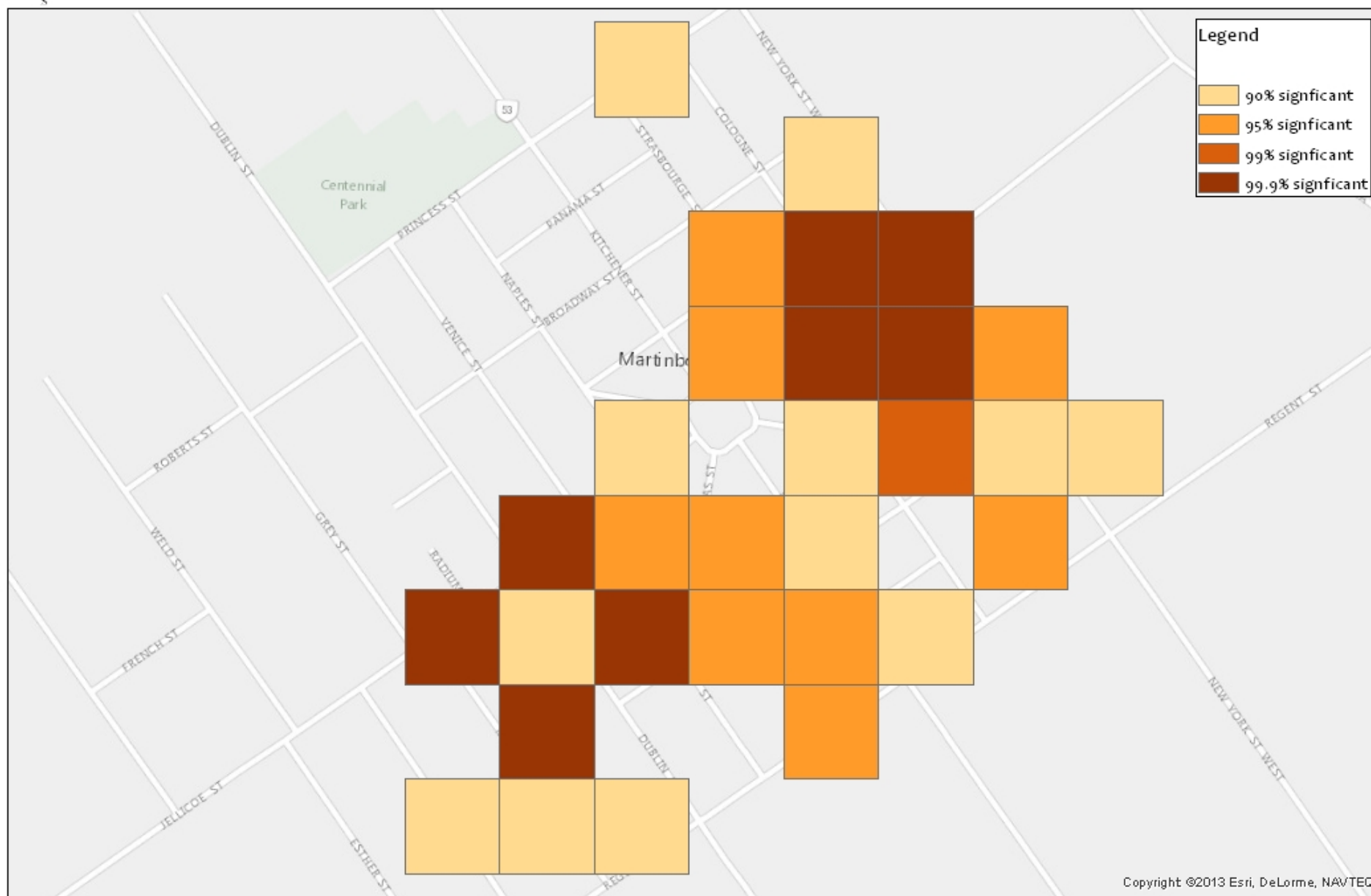
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Featherston)

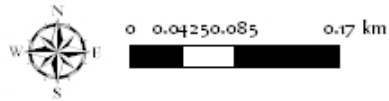




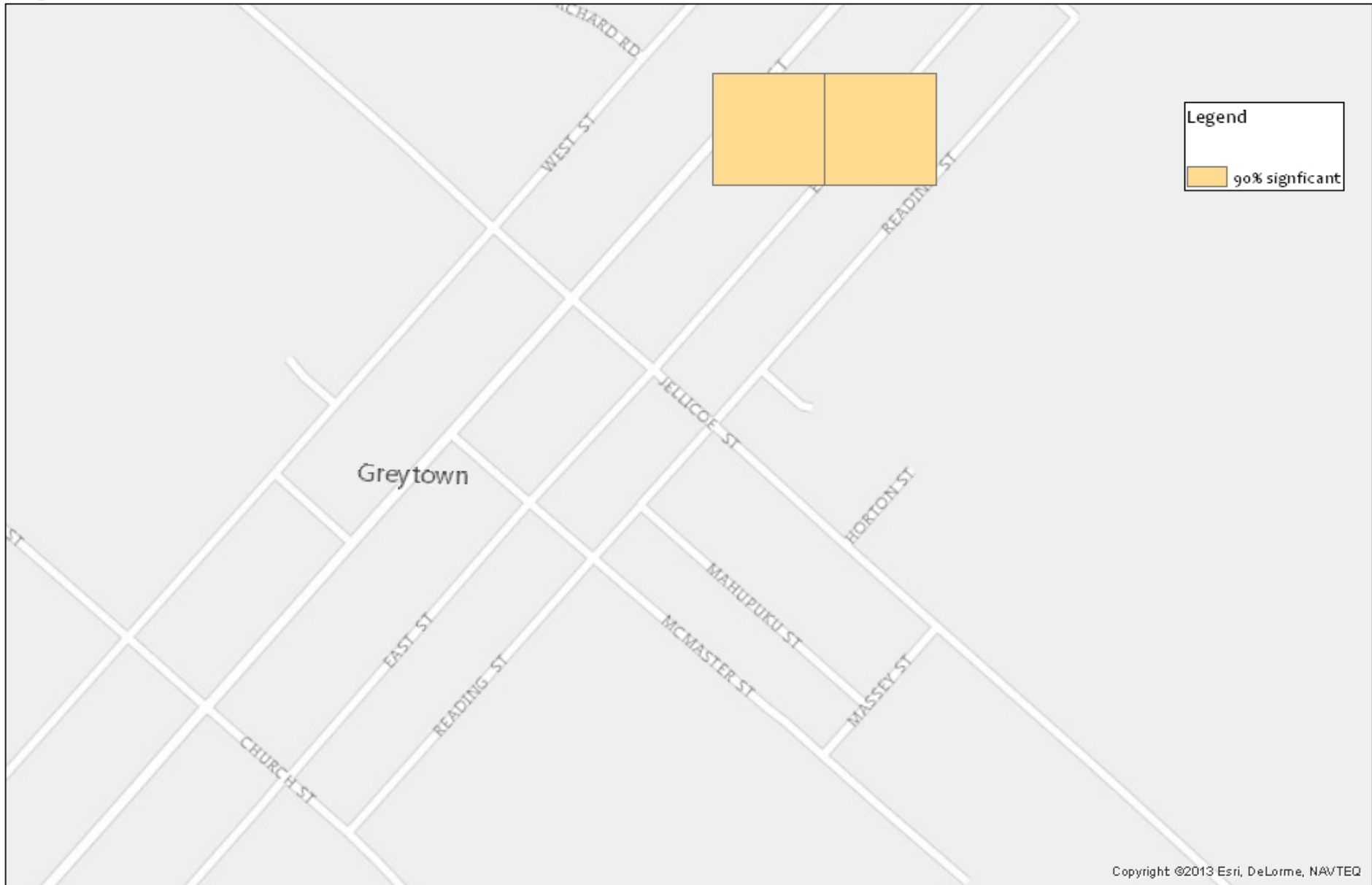
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Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Martinborough)



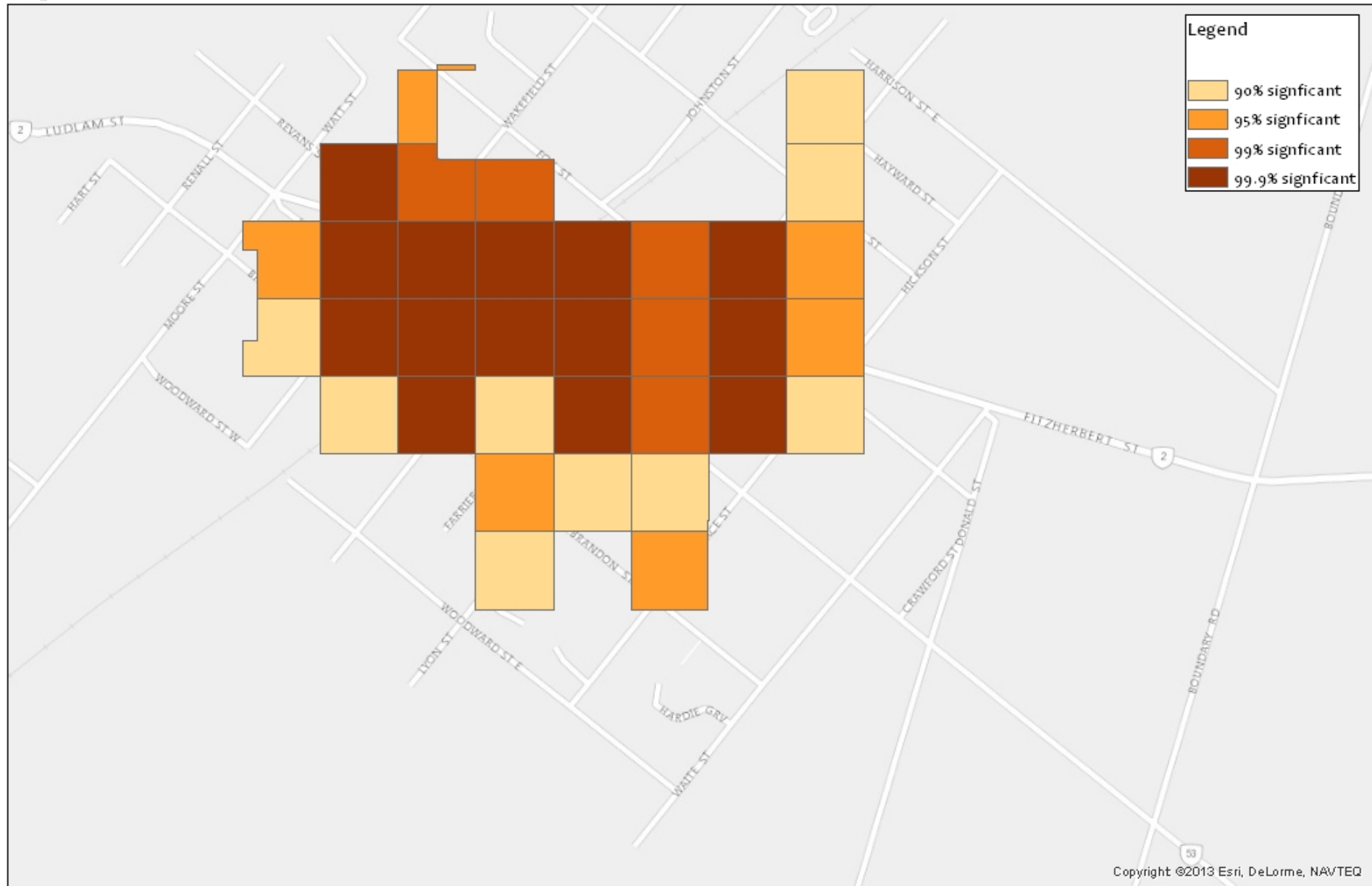


Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Greytown)





Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Featherston)



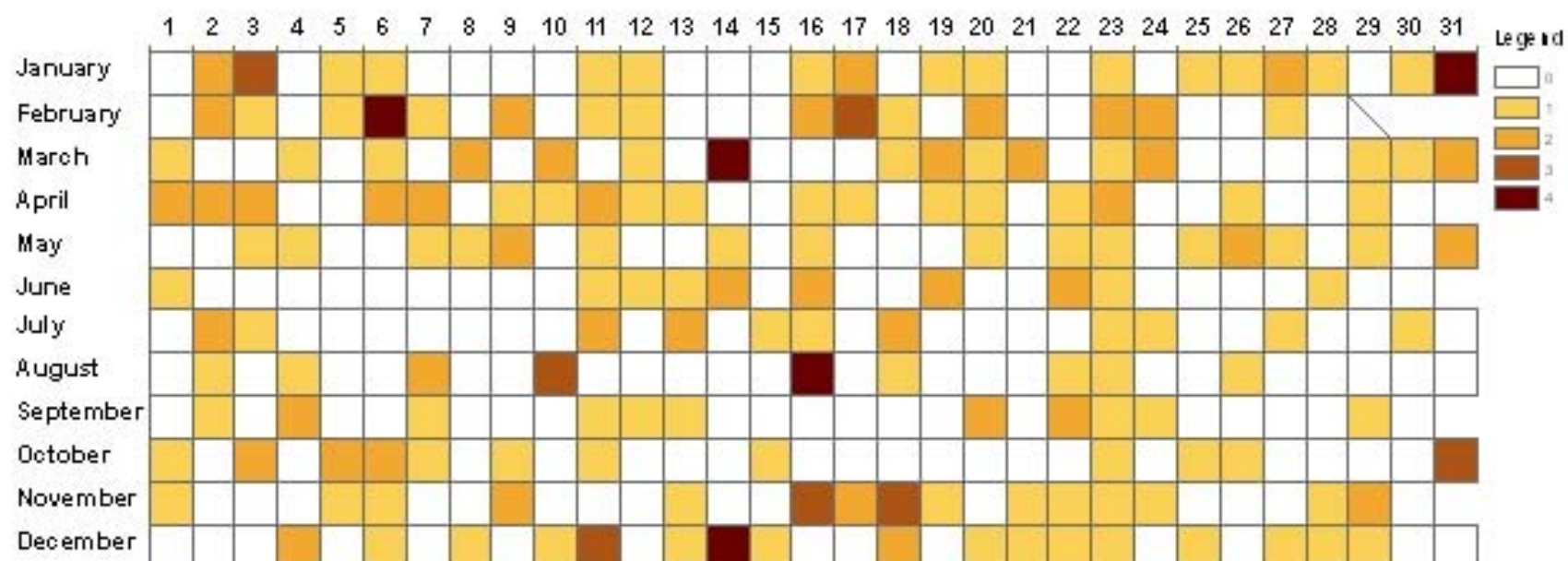


0 0.04 0.08 0.16 km

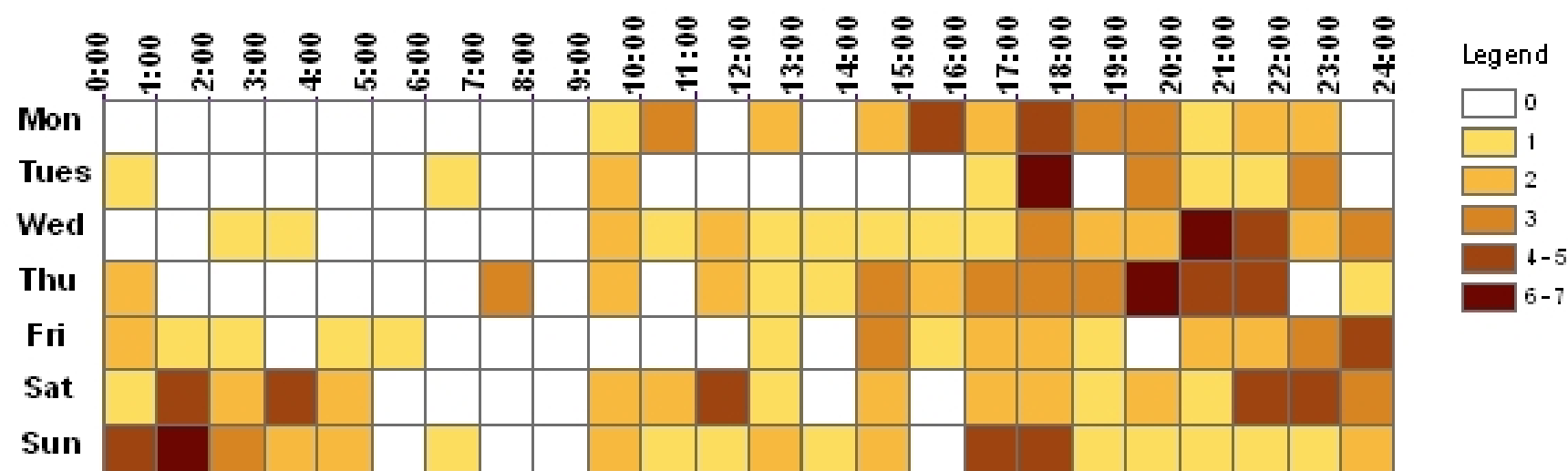
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008 (Martinborough)



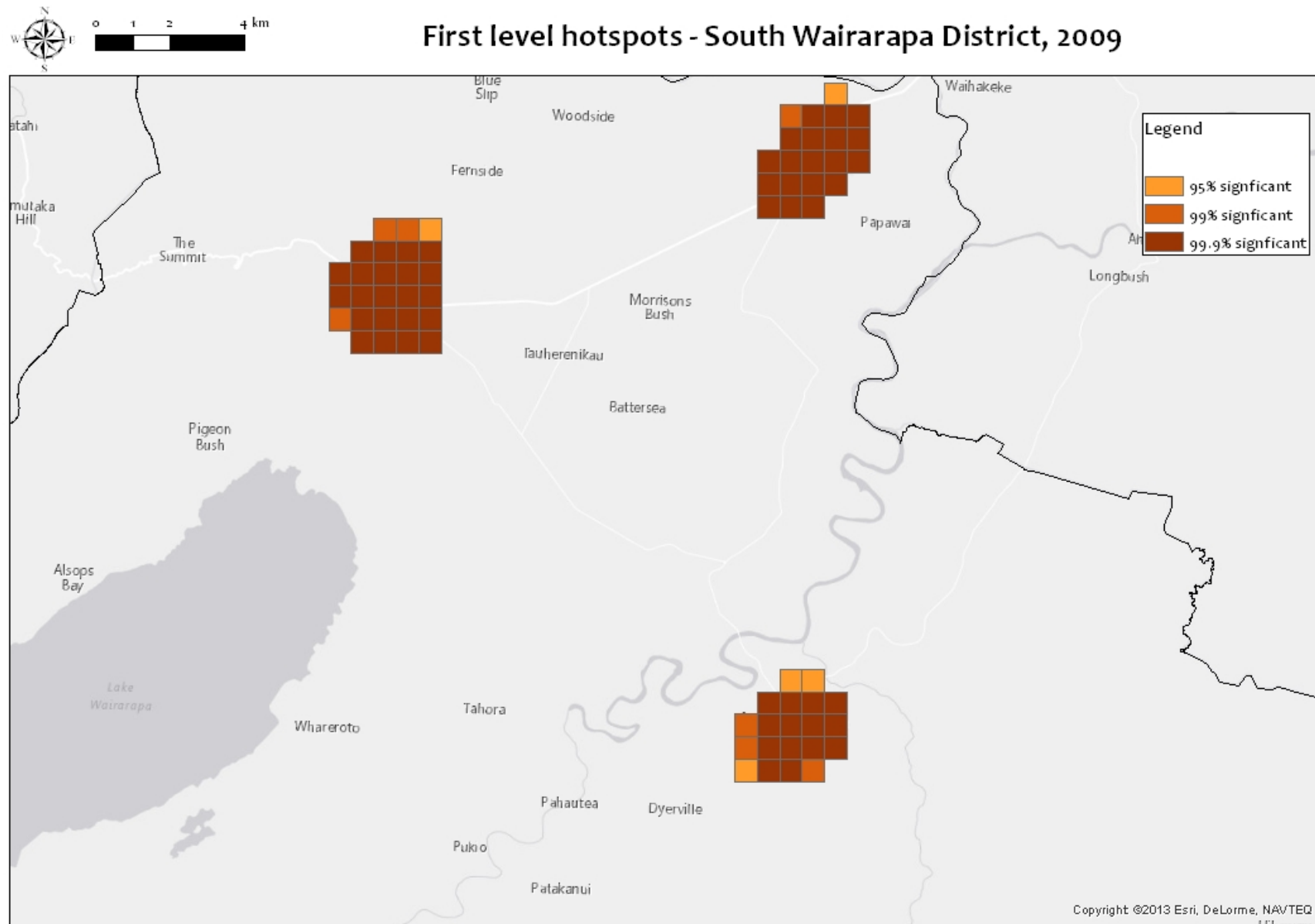
Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008

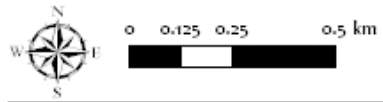


Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2008

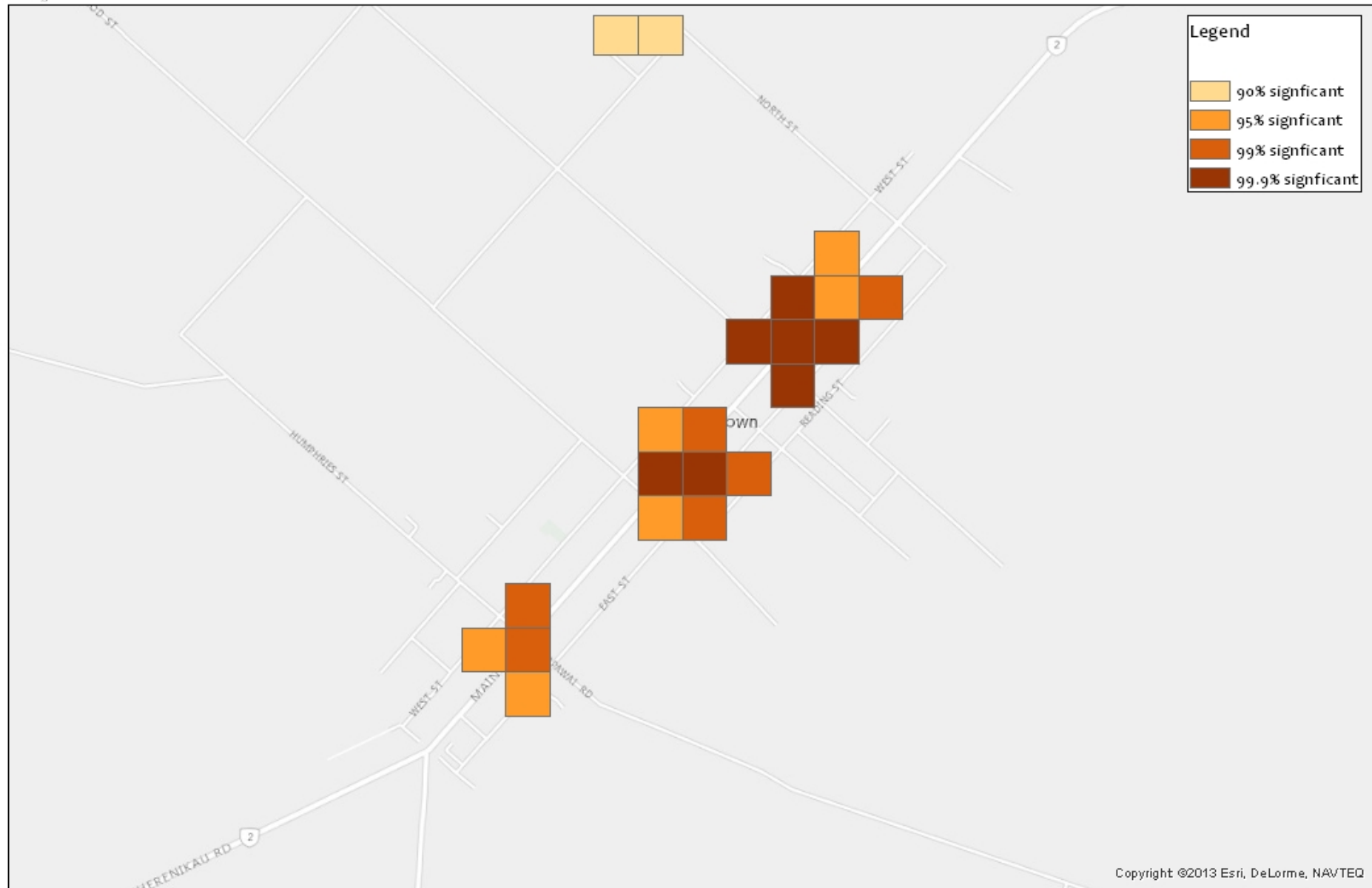


2009





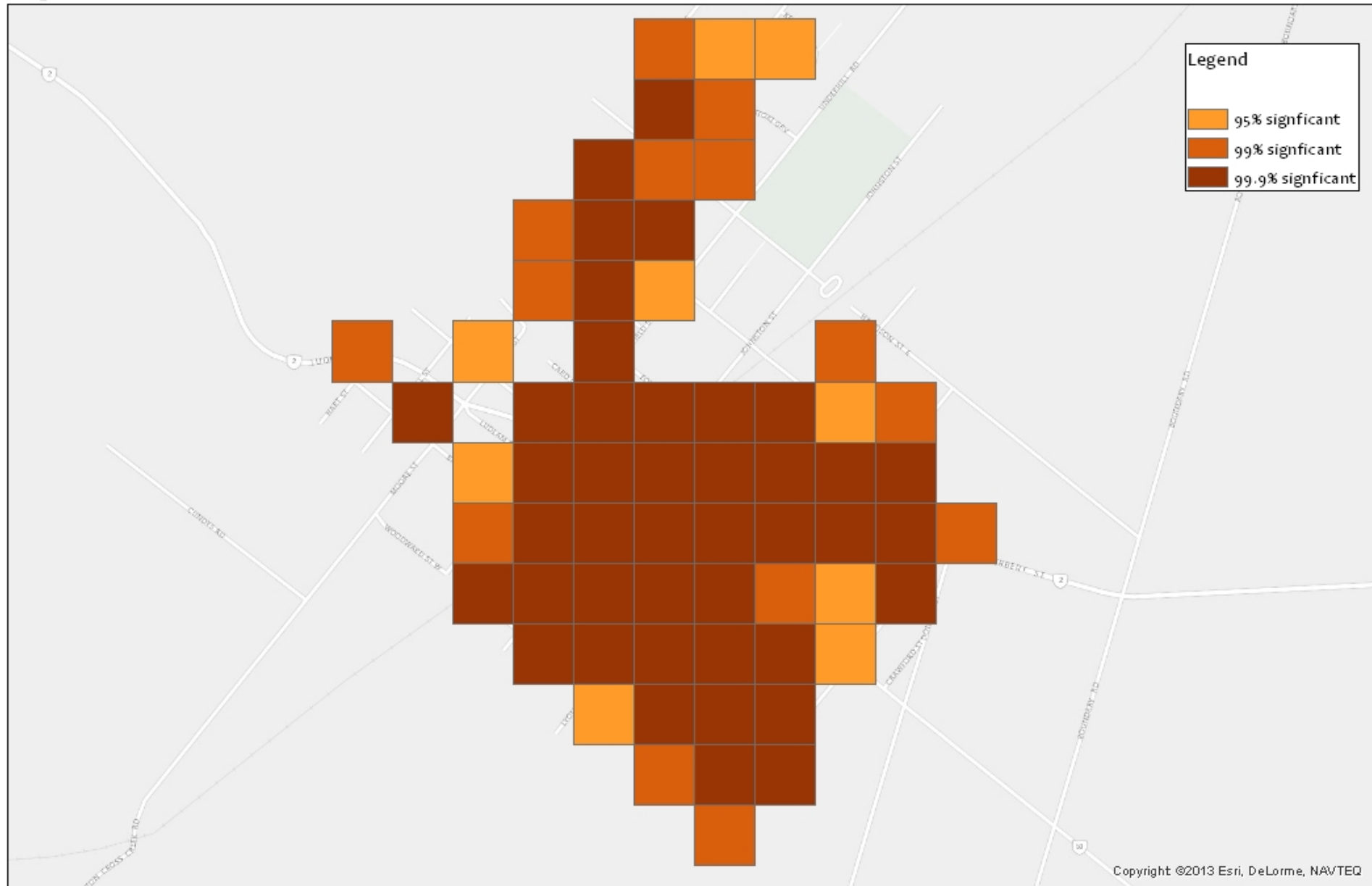
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Greytown)





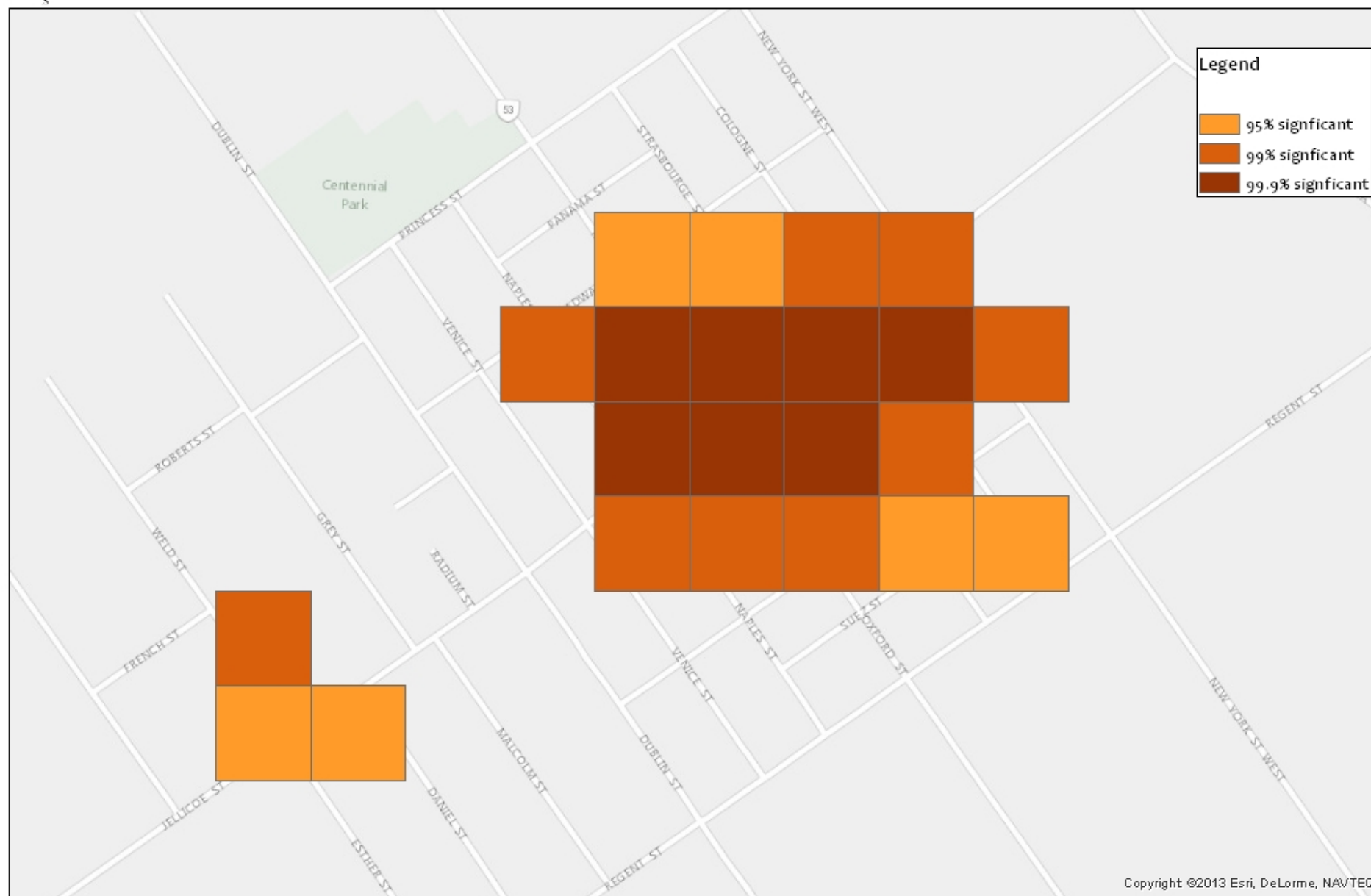
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Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Featherston)





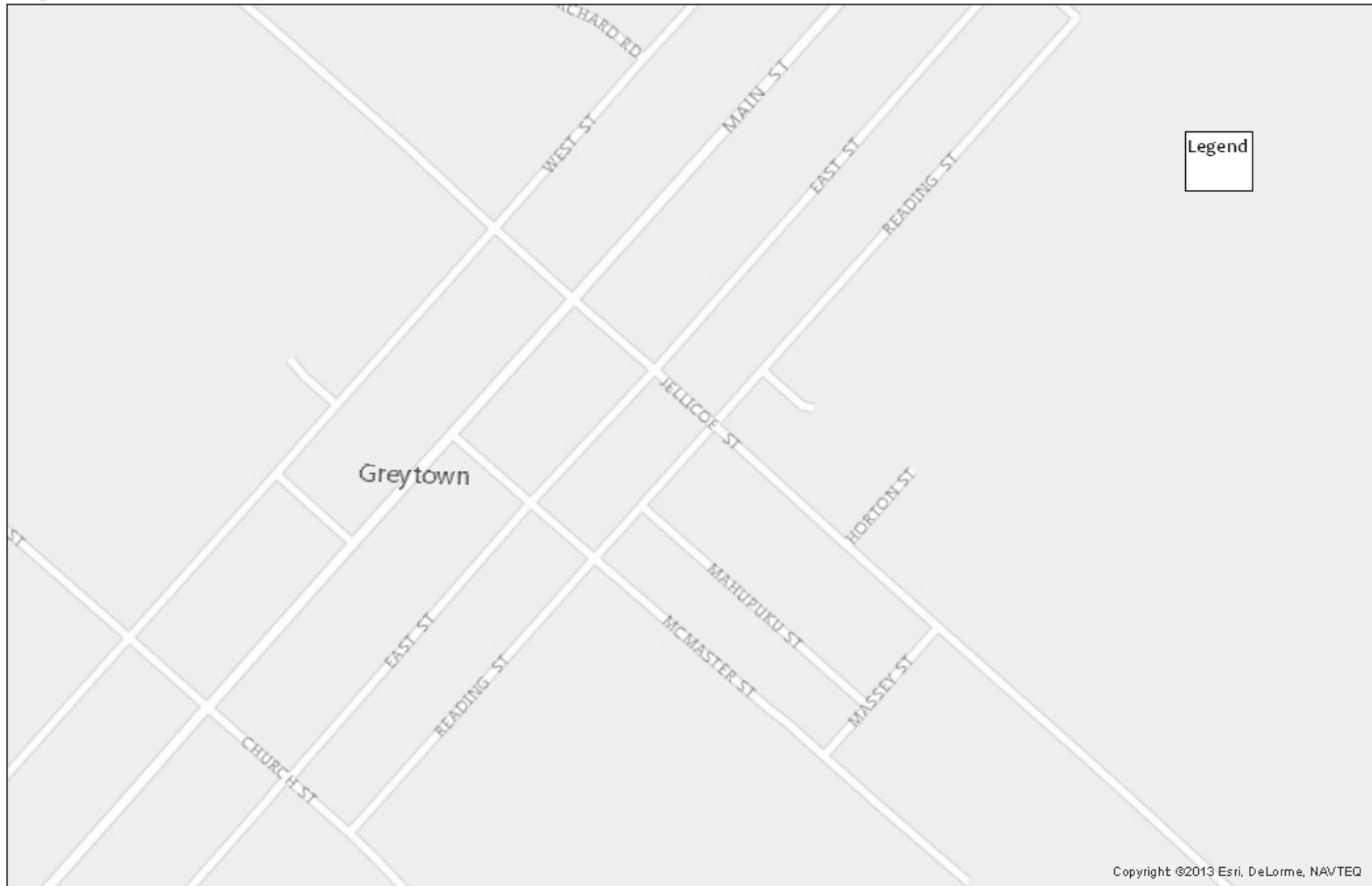
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Martinborough)





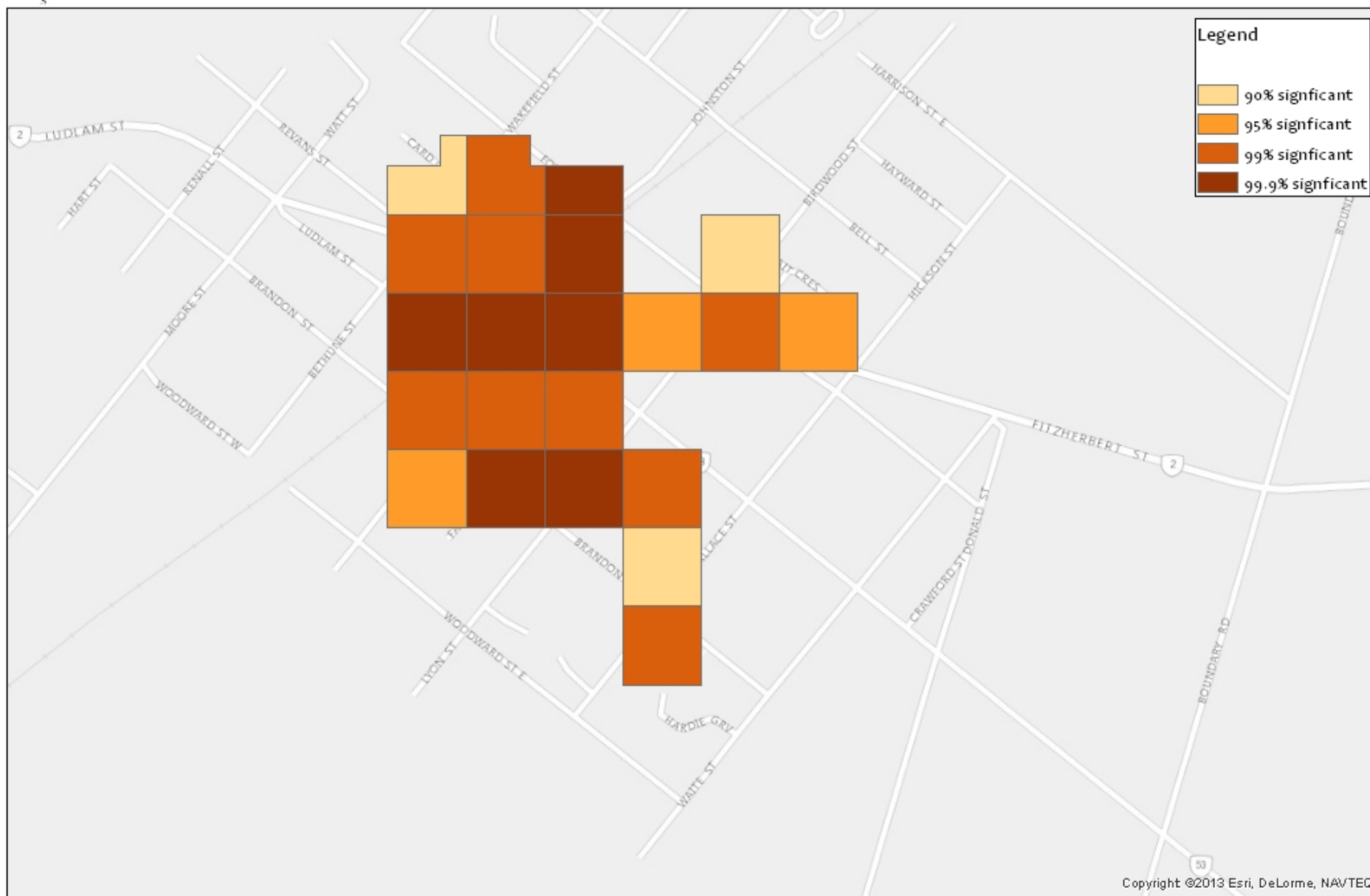
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Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Greytown)





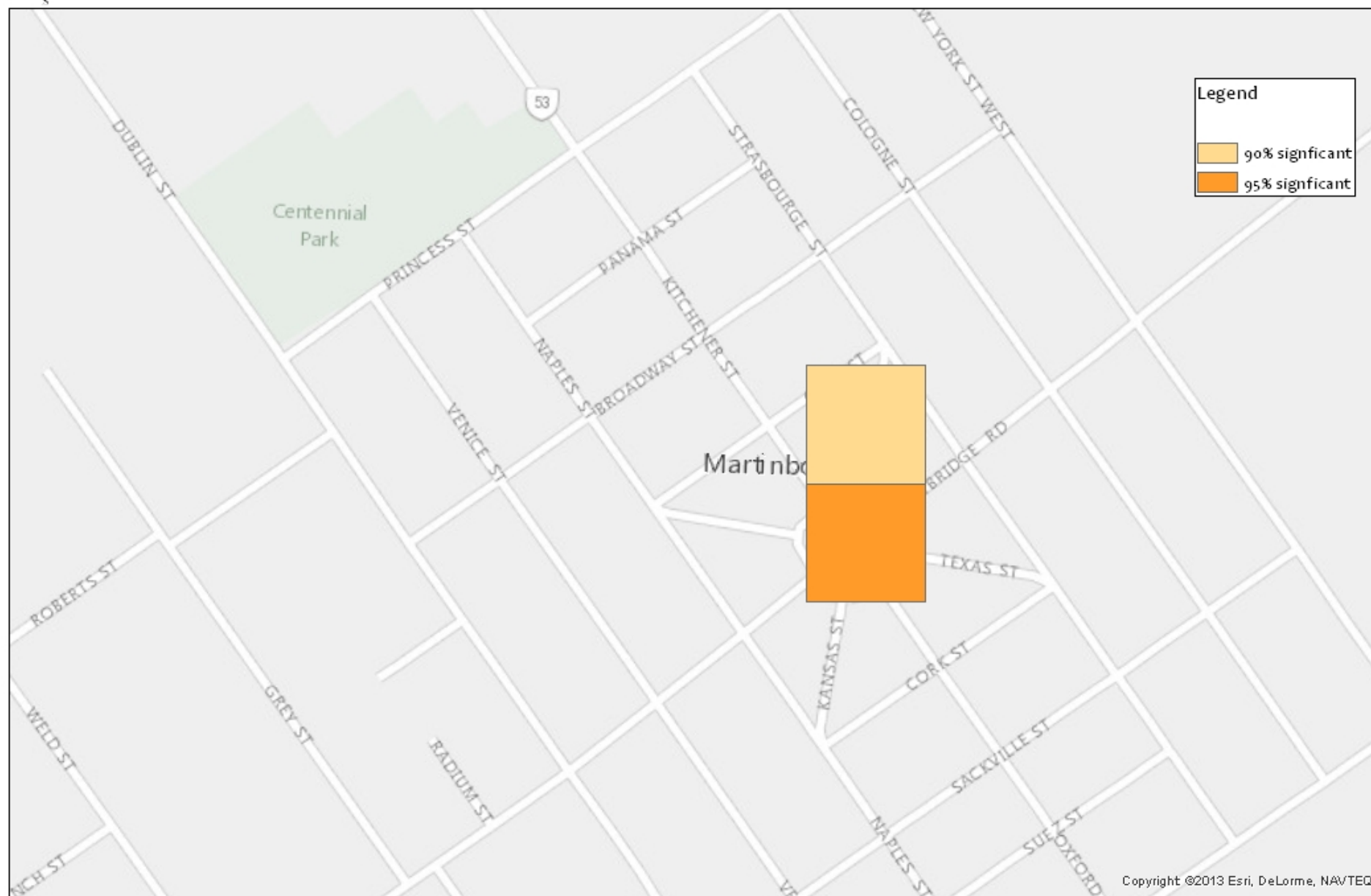
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Featherston)



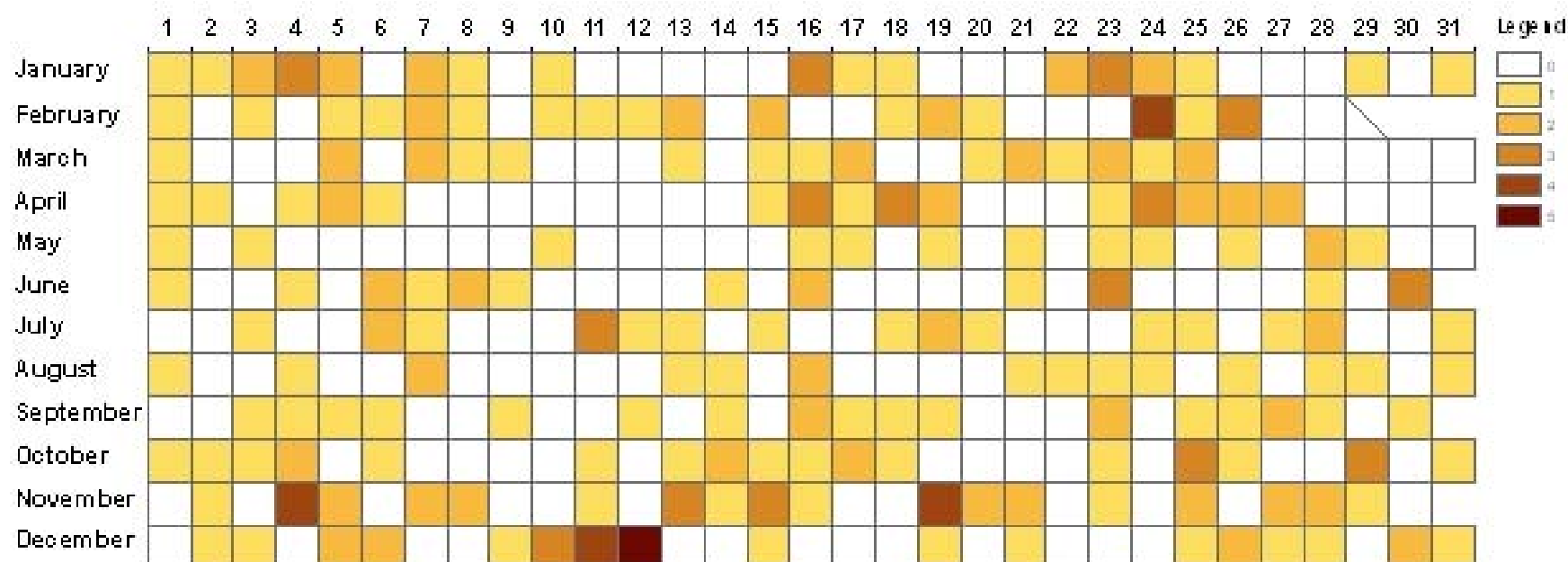


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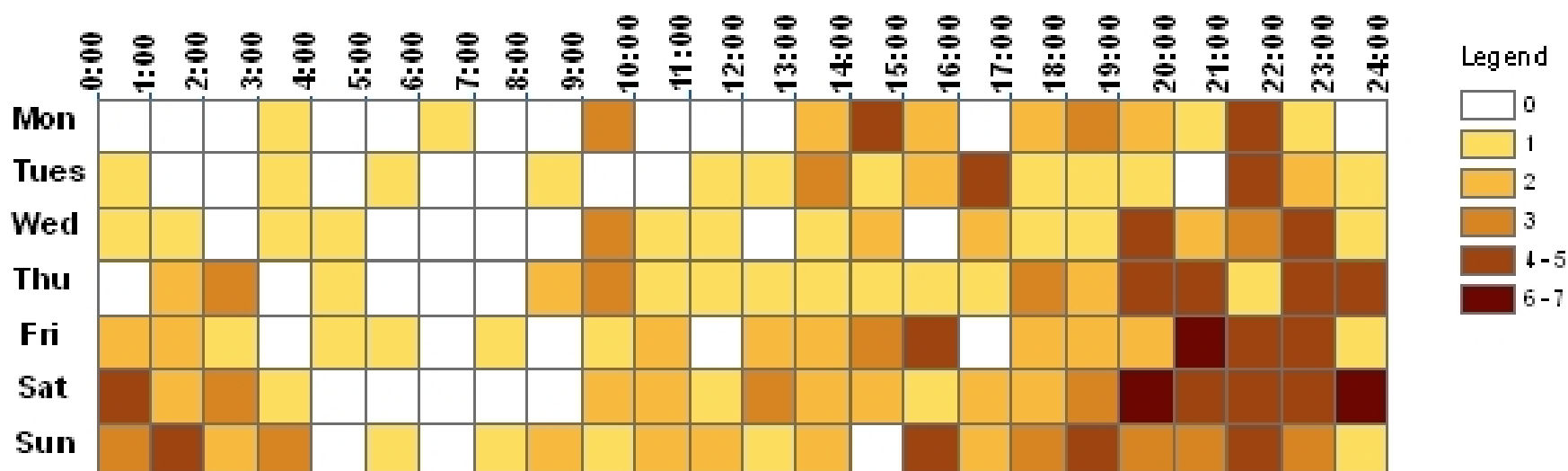
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009 (Martinborough)



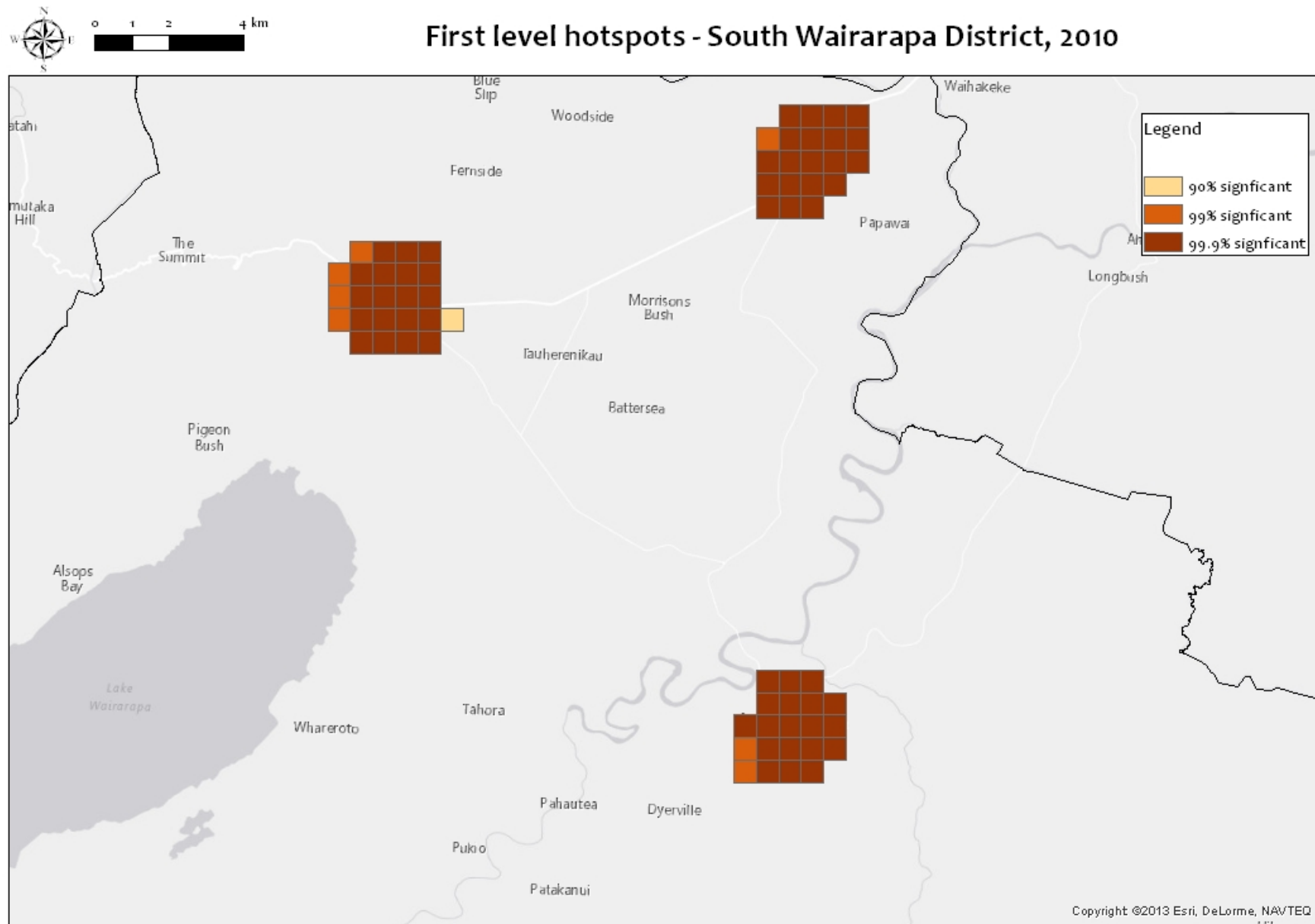
Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009



Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2009

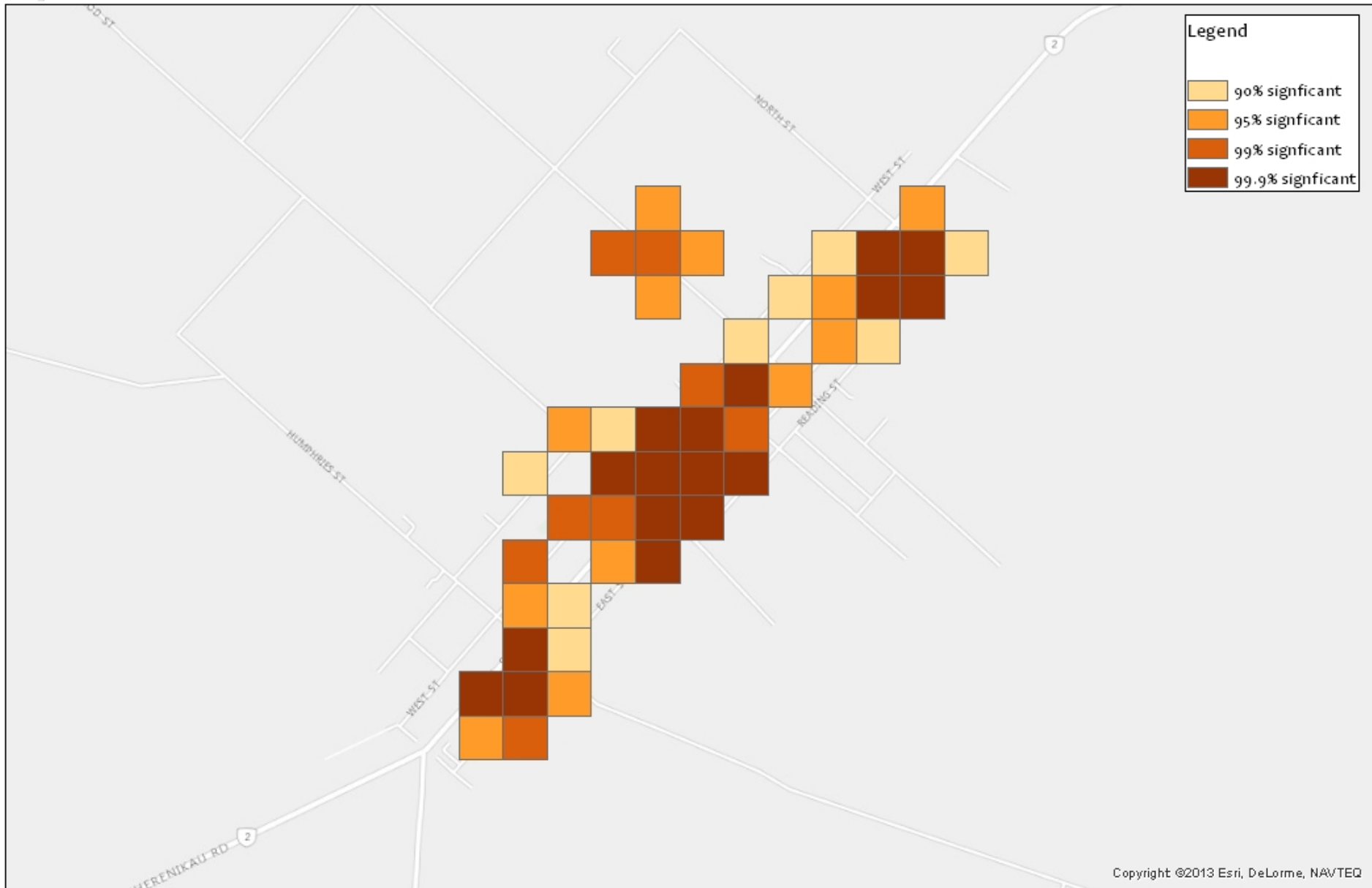


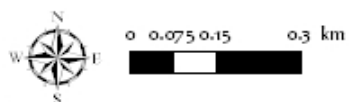
2010



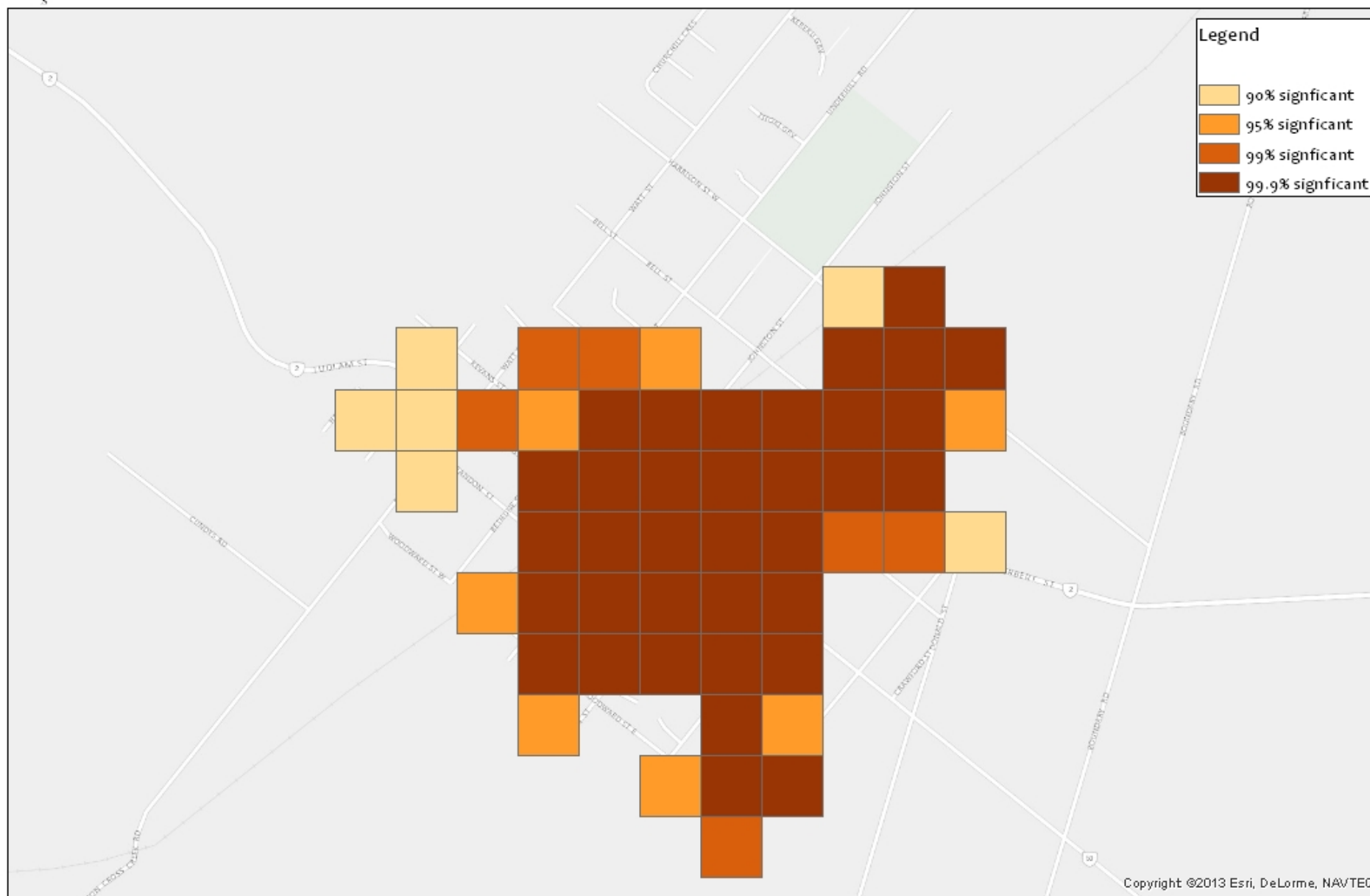


Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Greytown)



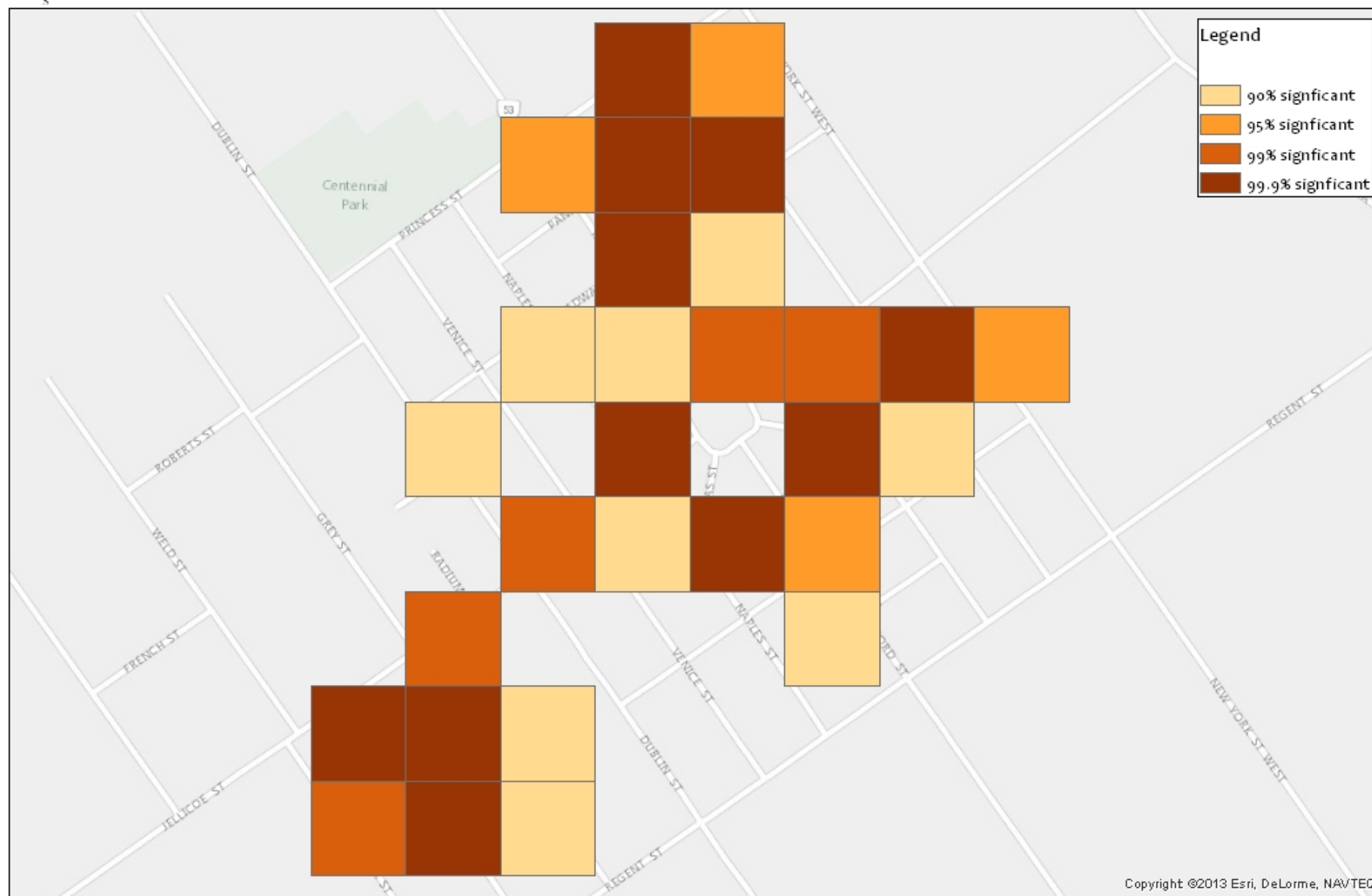


Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Featherston)





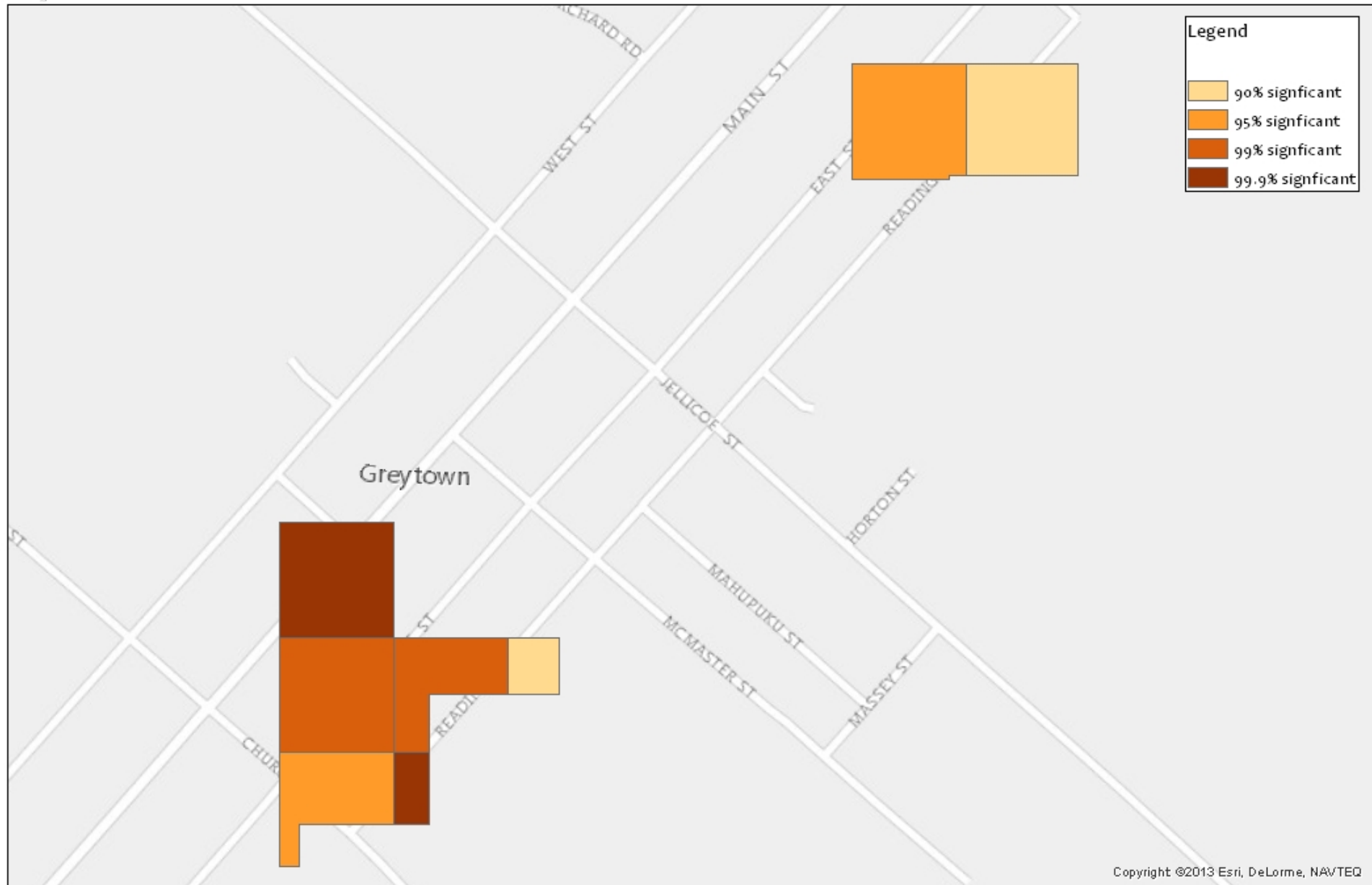
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Martinborough)





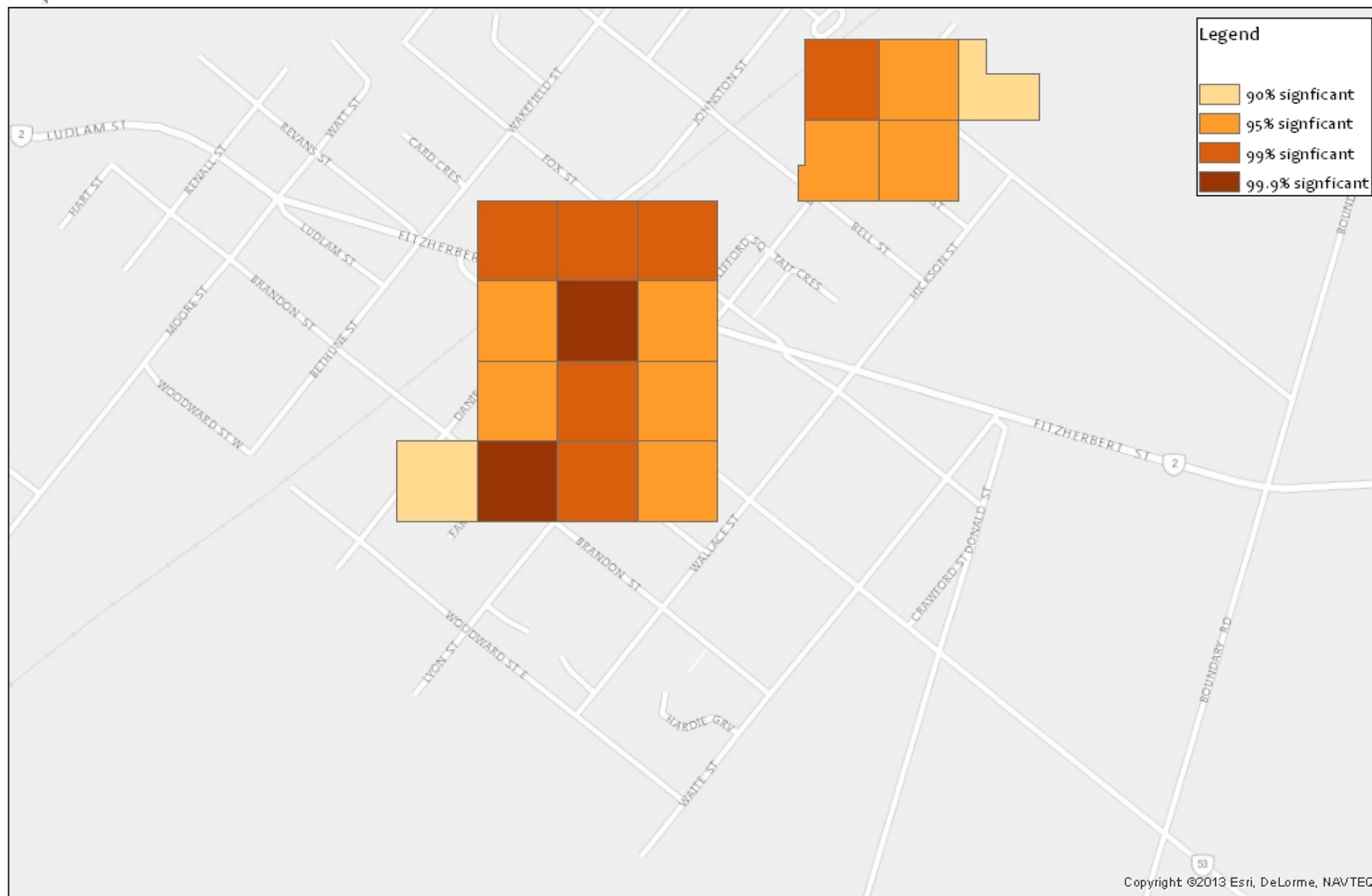
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Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Greytown)





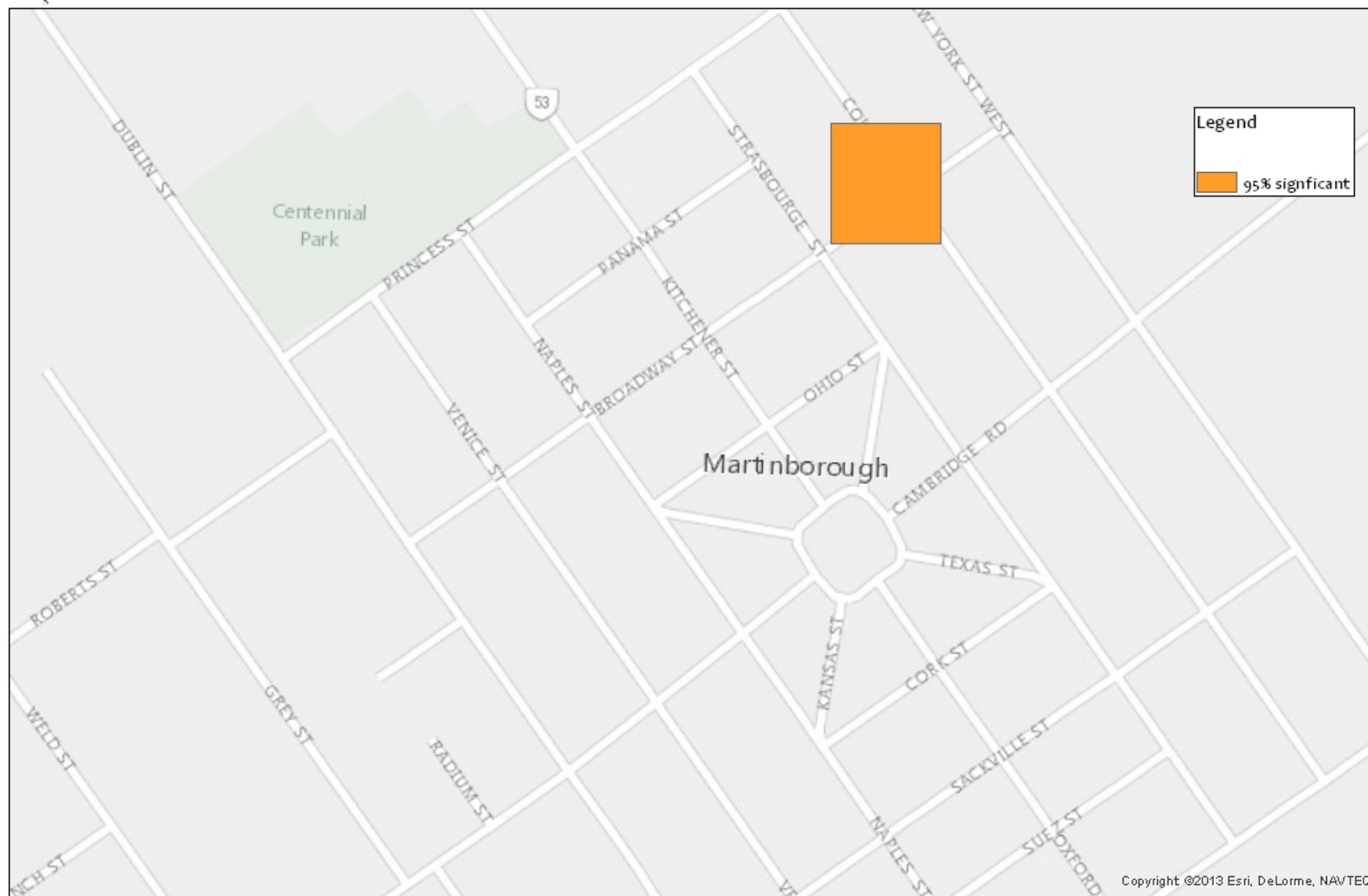
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Featherston)



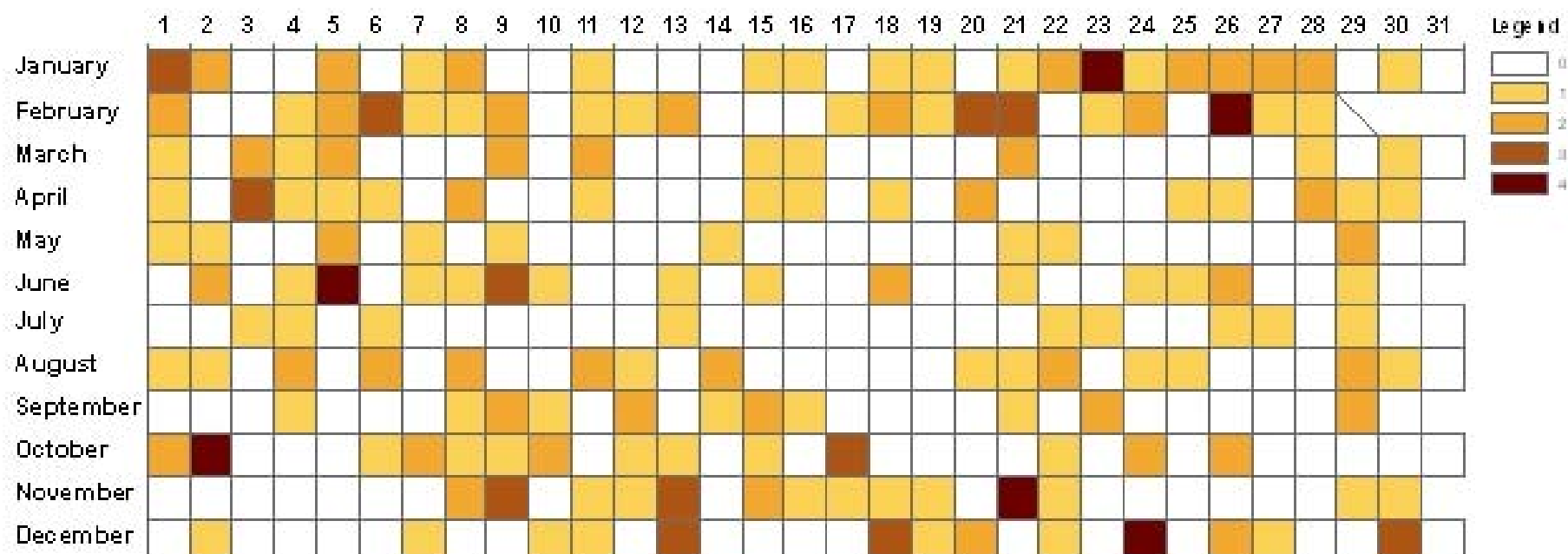


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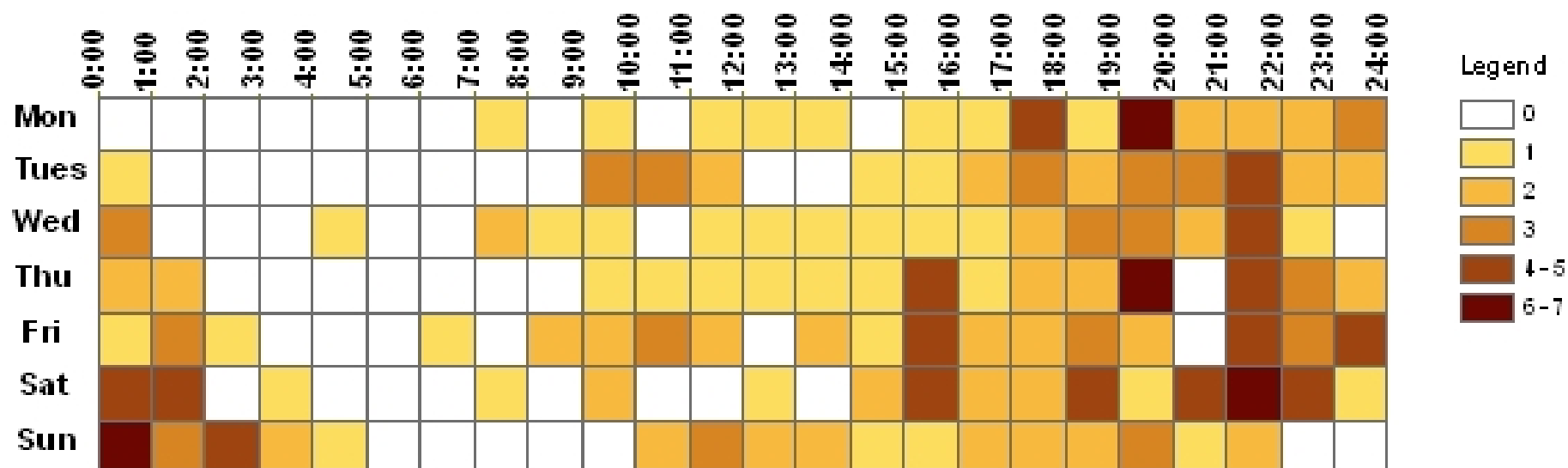
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010 (Martinborough)



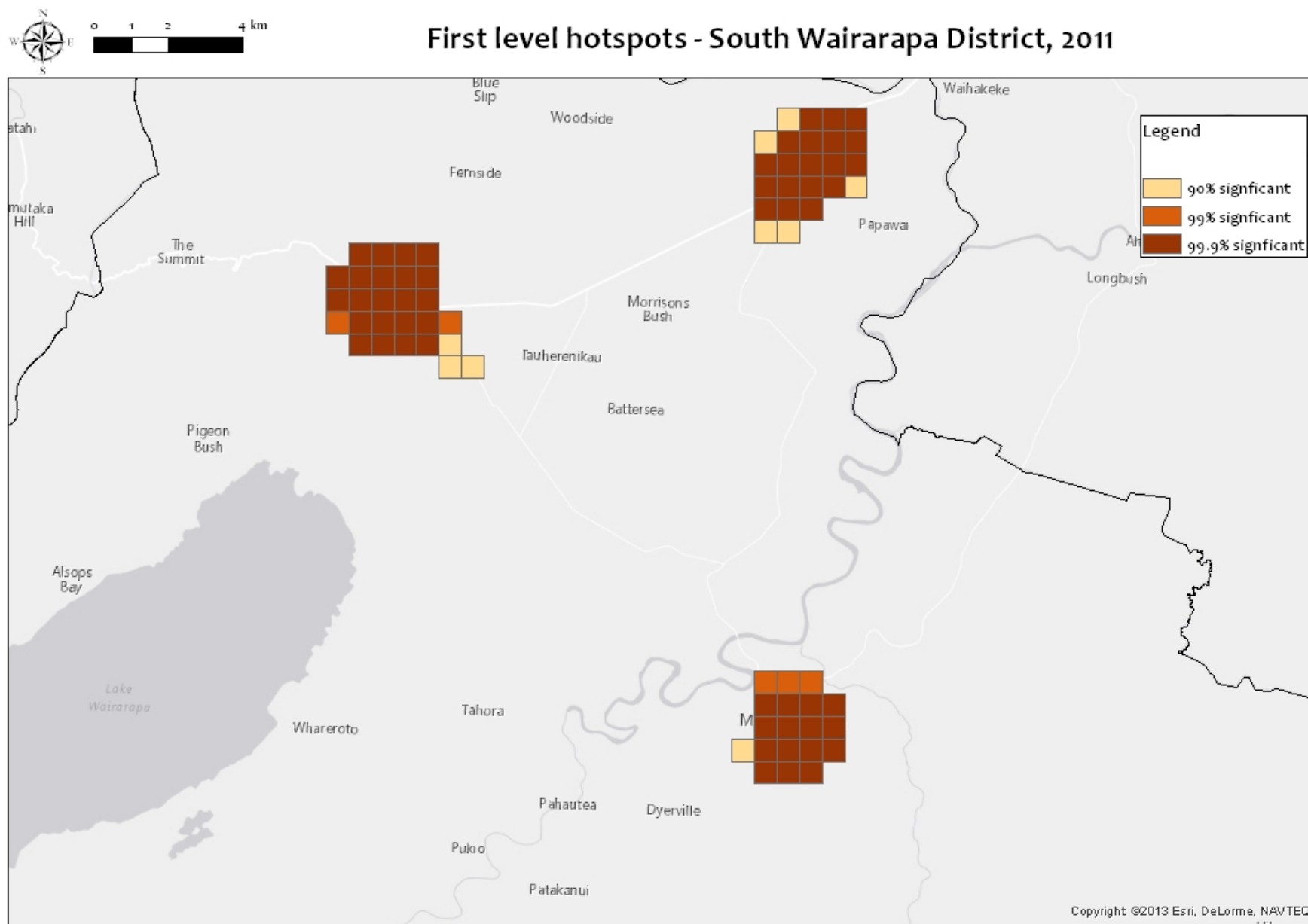
Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010

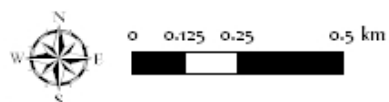


Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2010

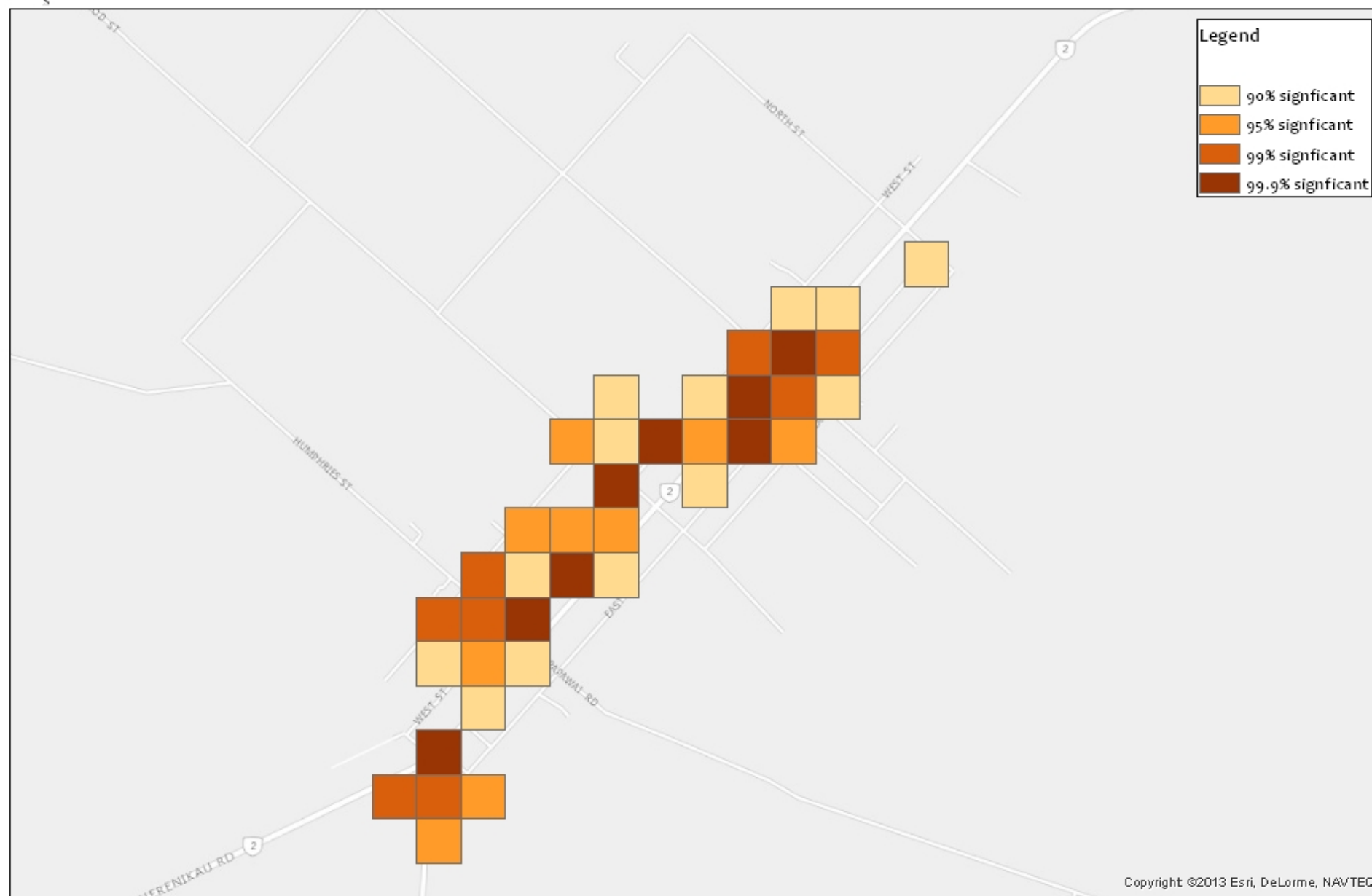


2011





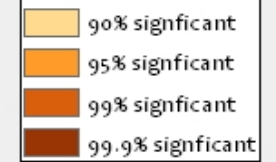
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011 (Greytown)





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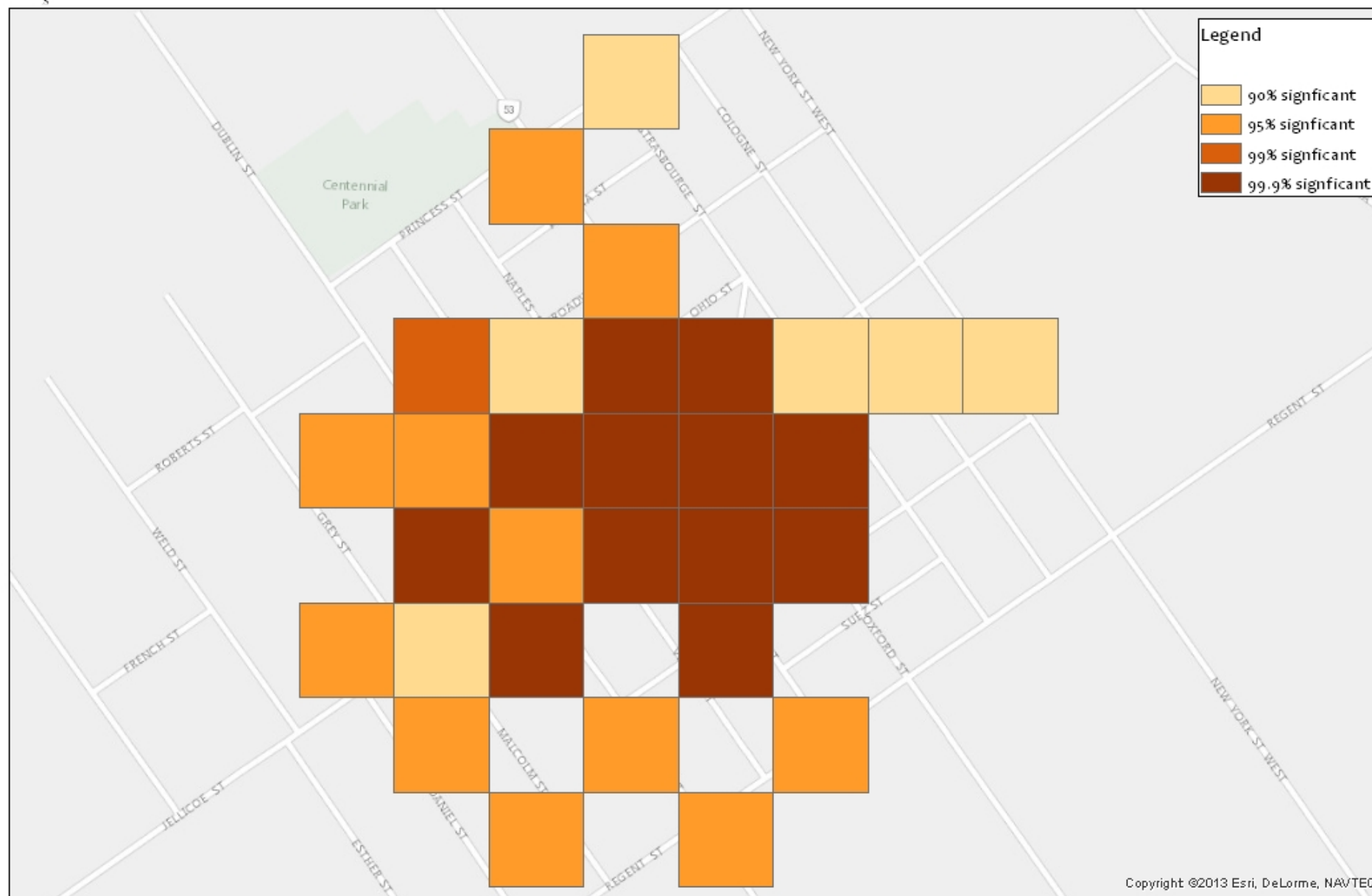
Legend



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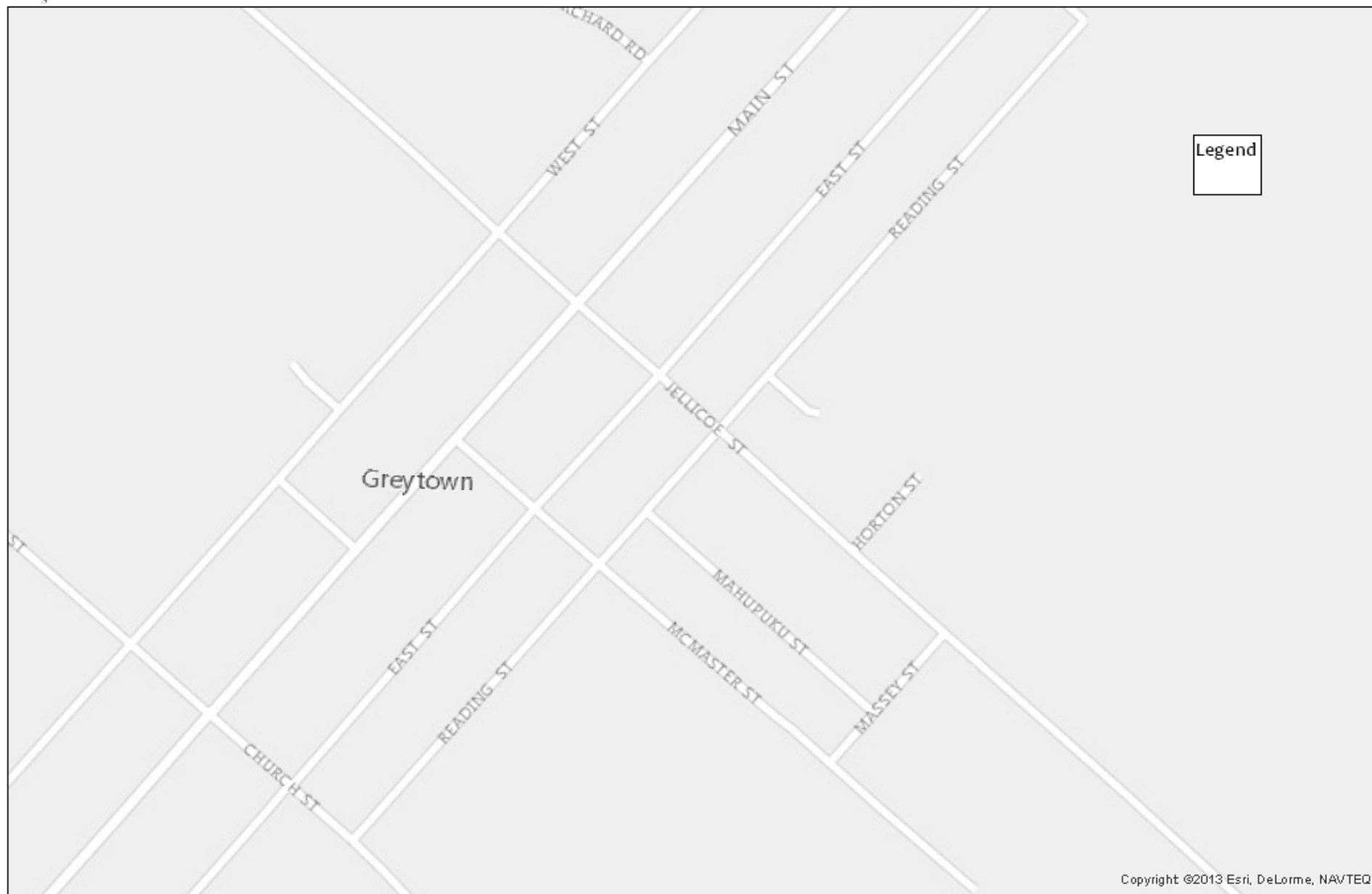
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011 (Martinborough)





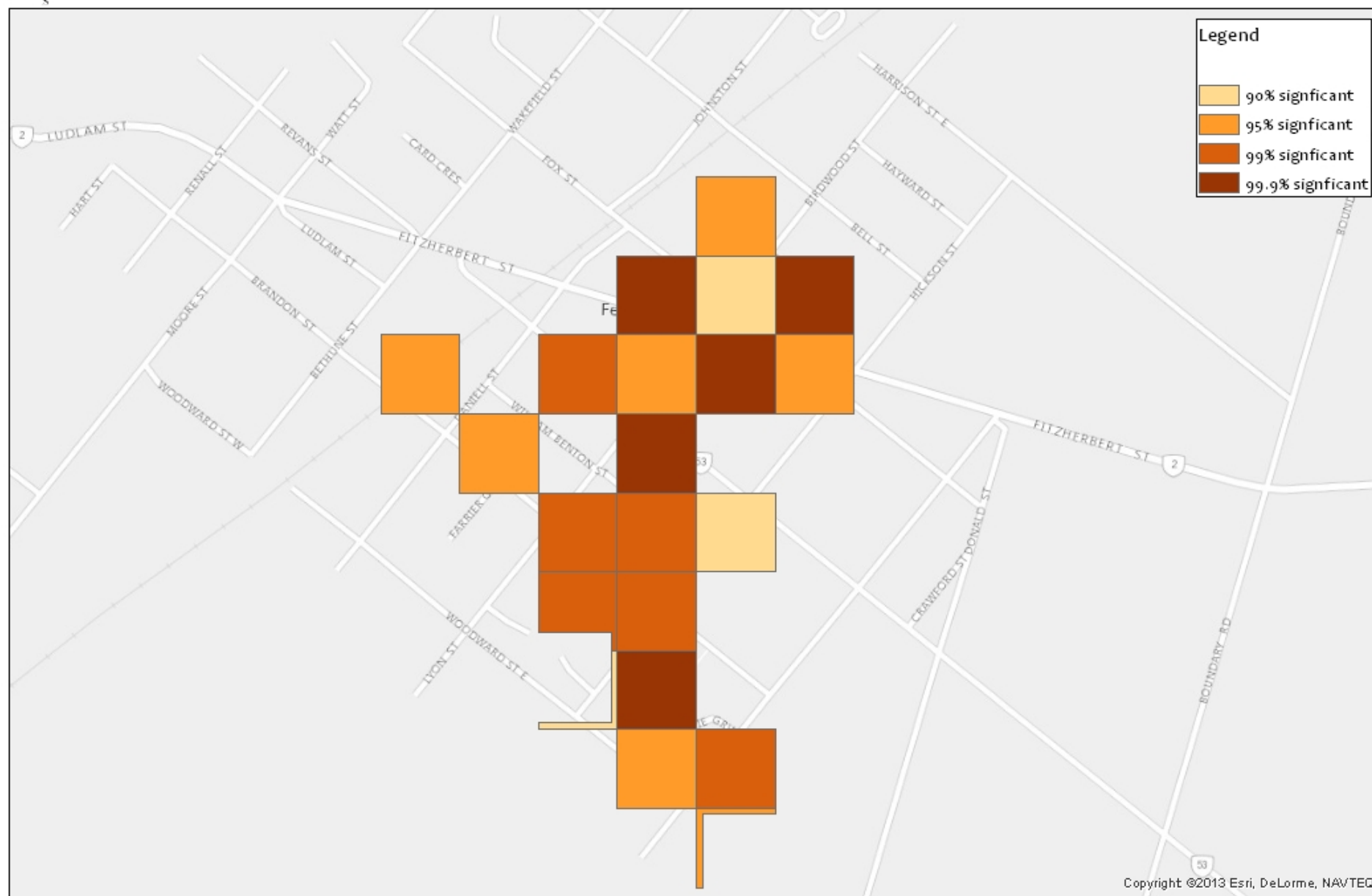
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Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011 (Greytown)



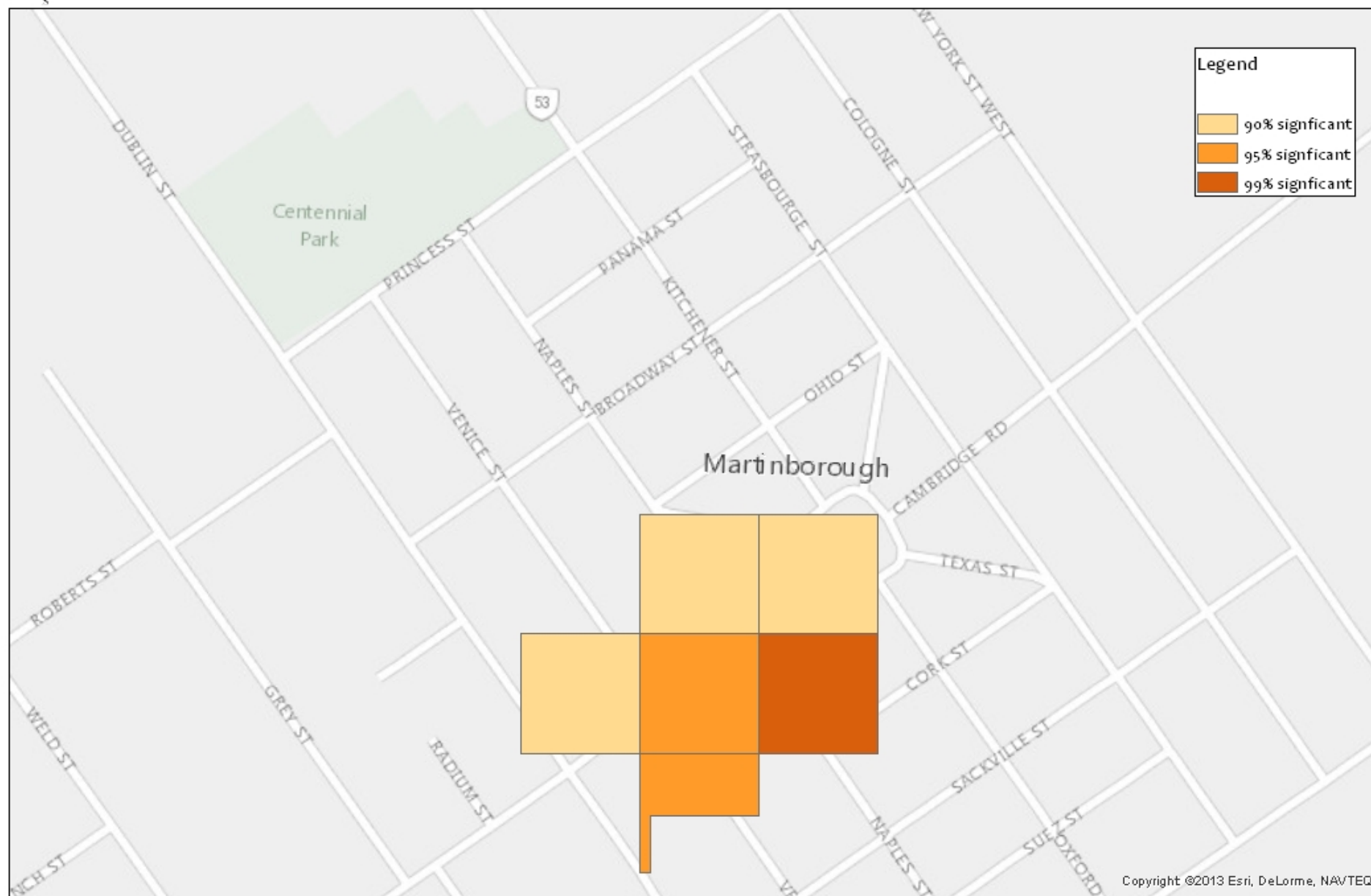


Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011 (Featherston)

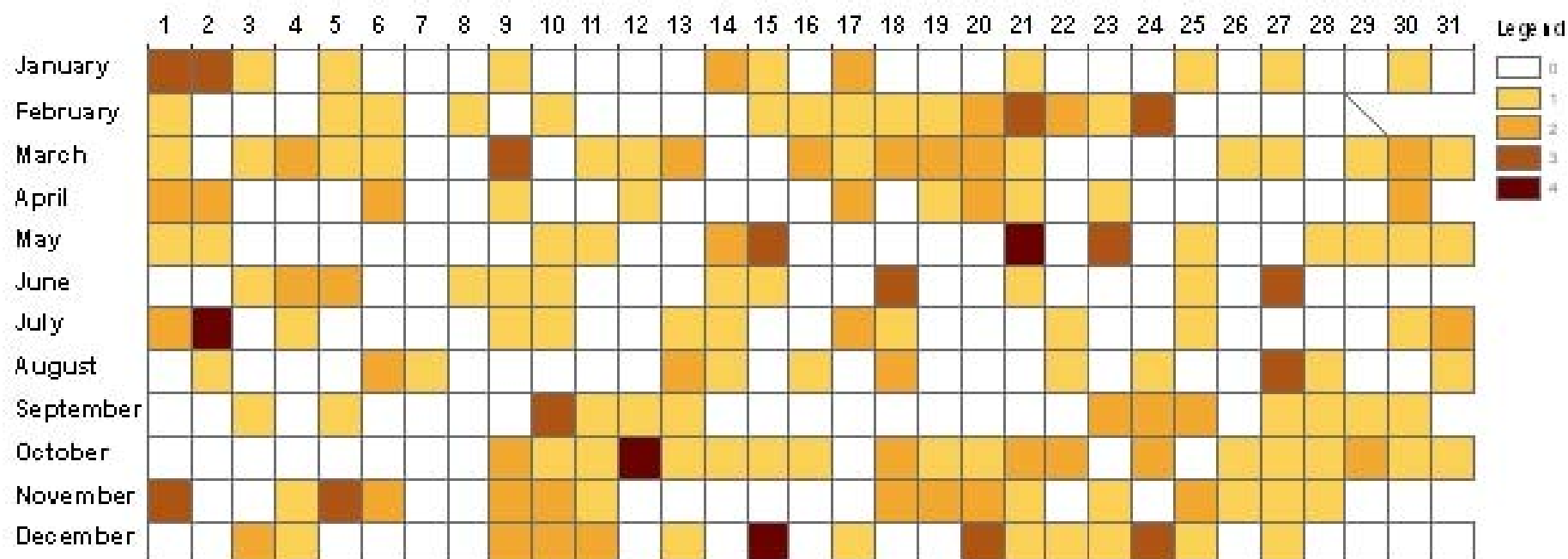




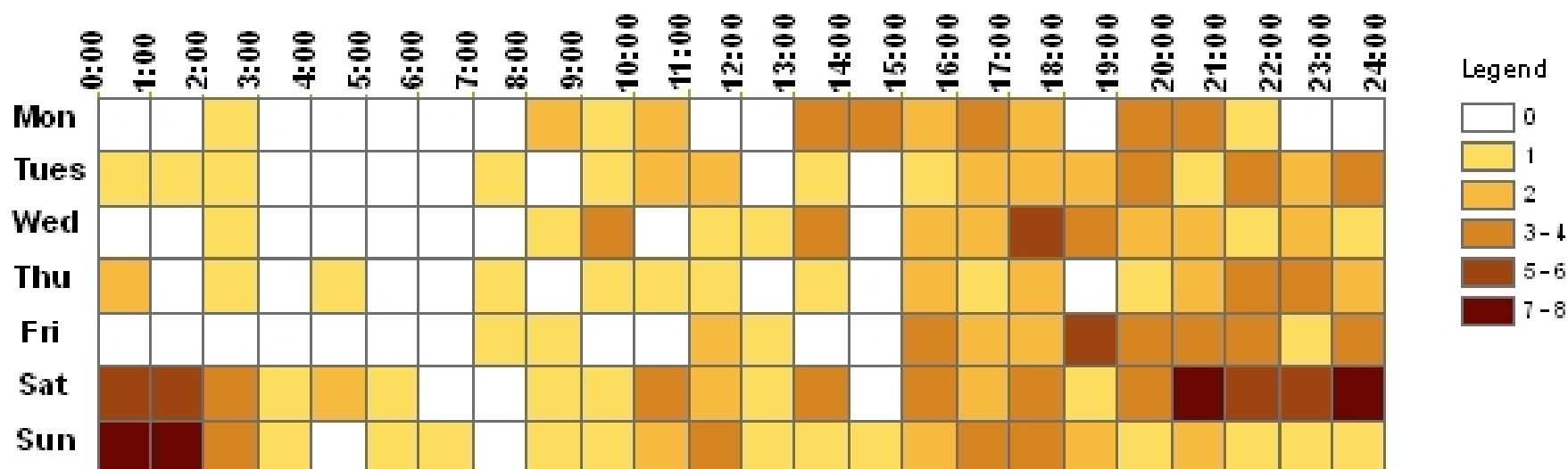
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011 (Martinborough)



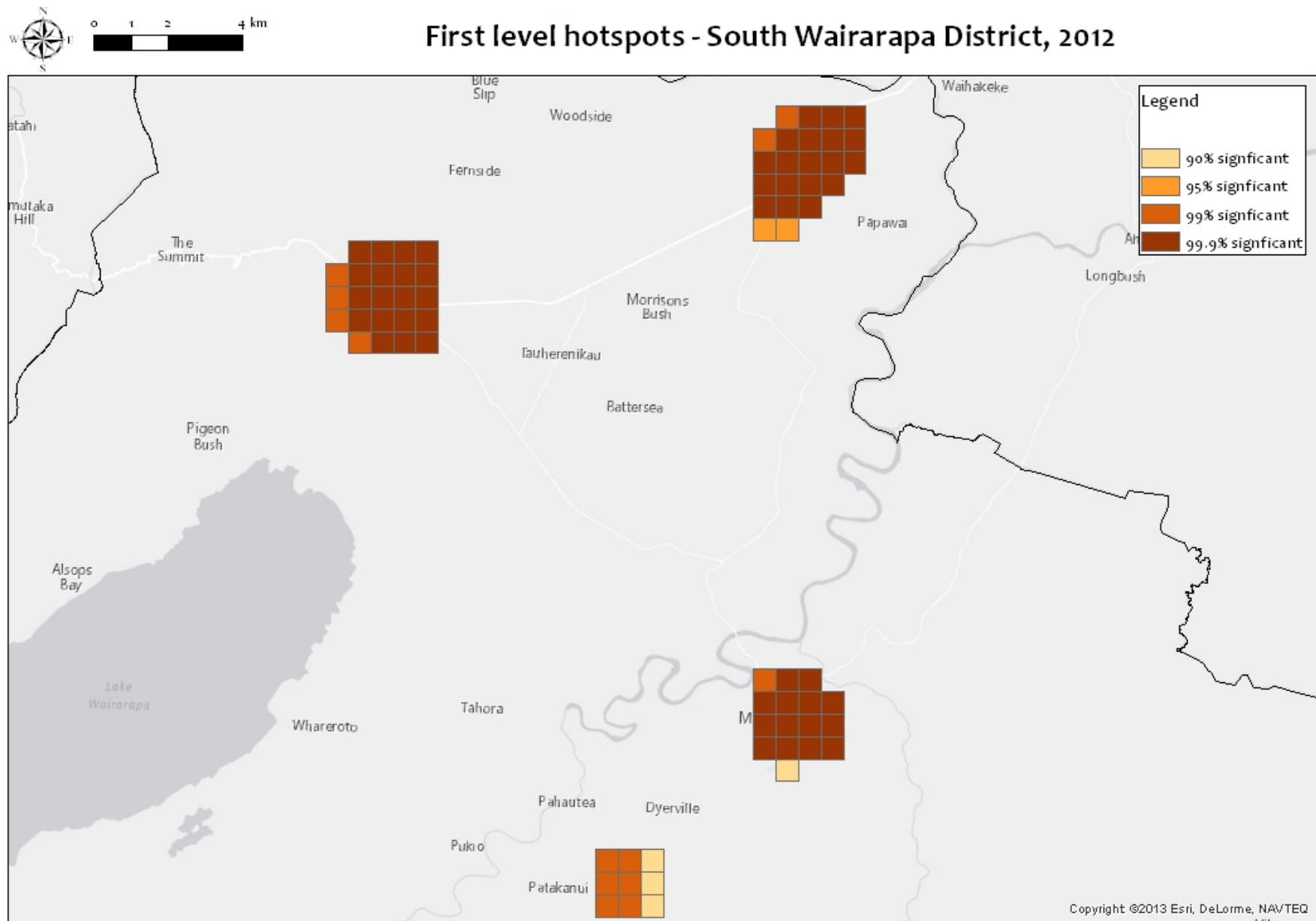
Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011

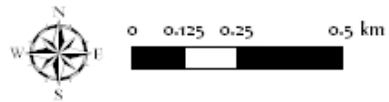


Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2011

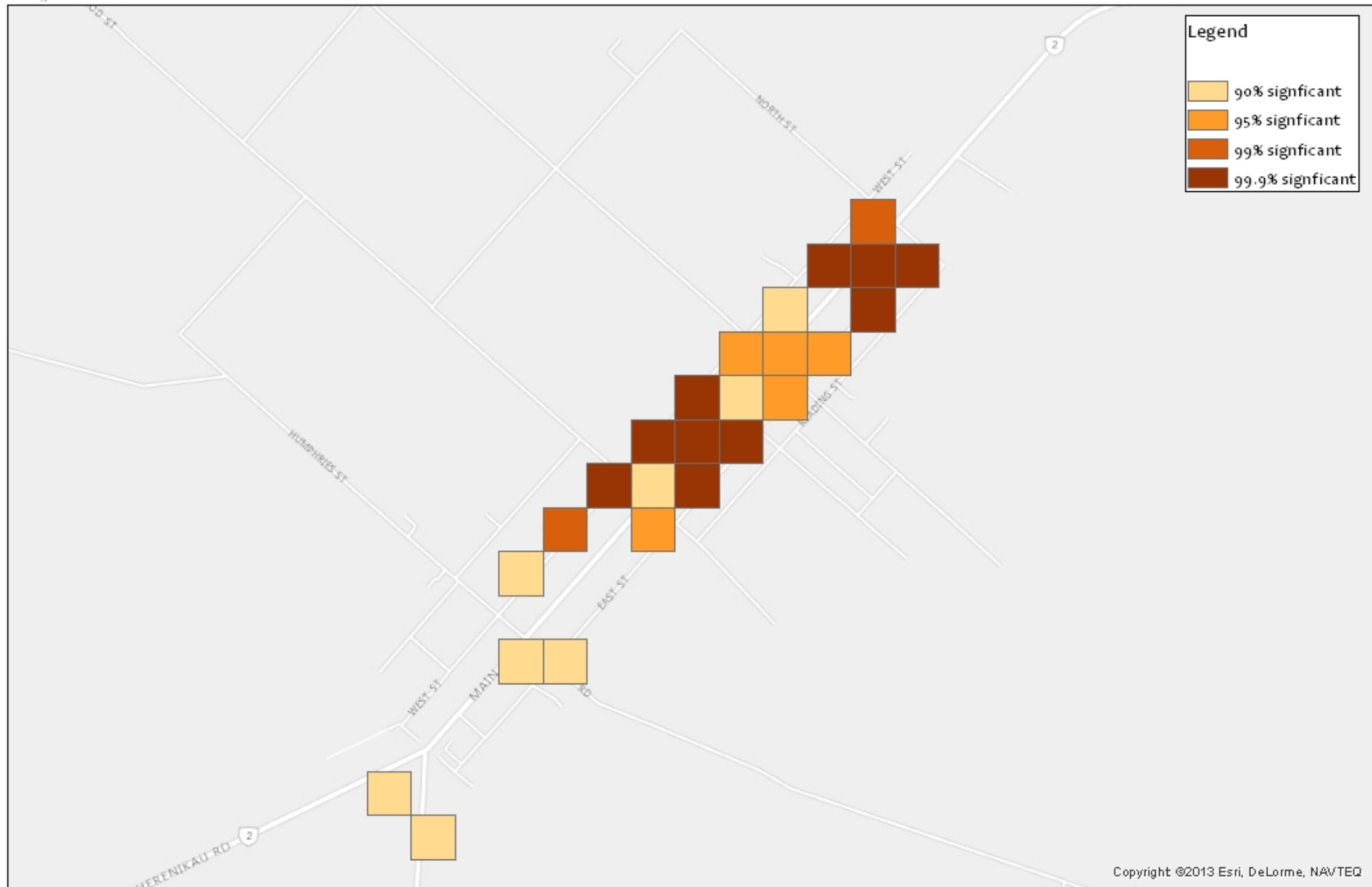


2012





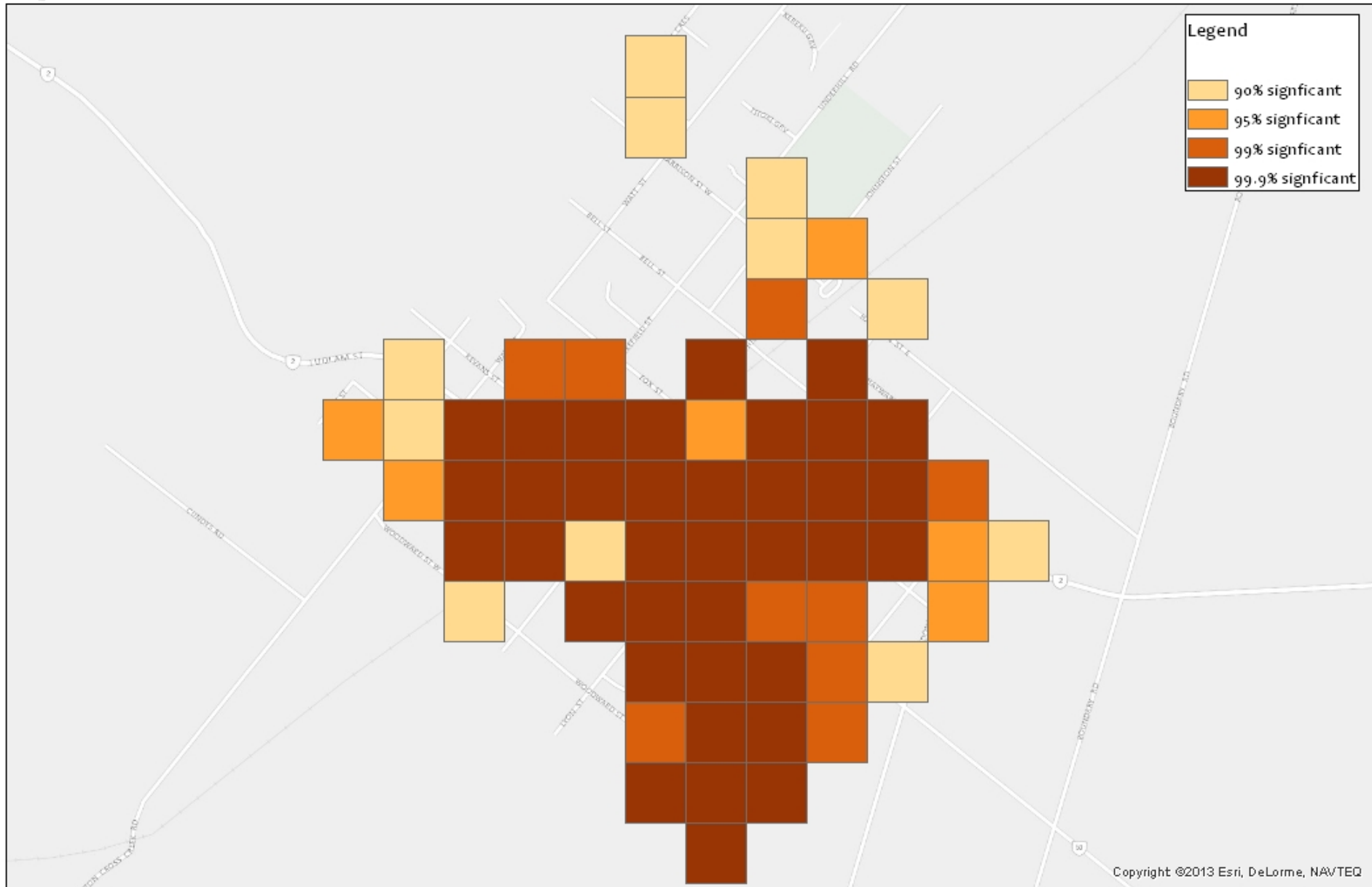
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Greytown)





0 0.075 0.15 0.3 km

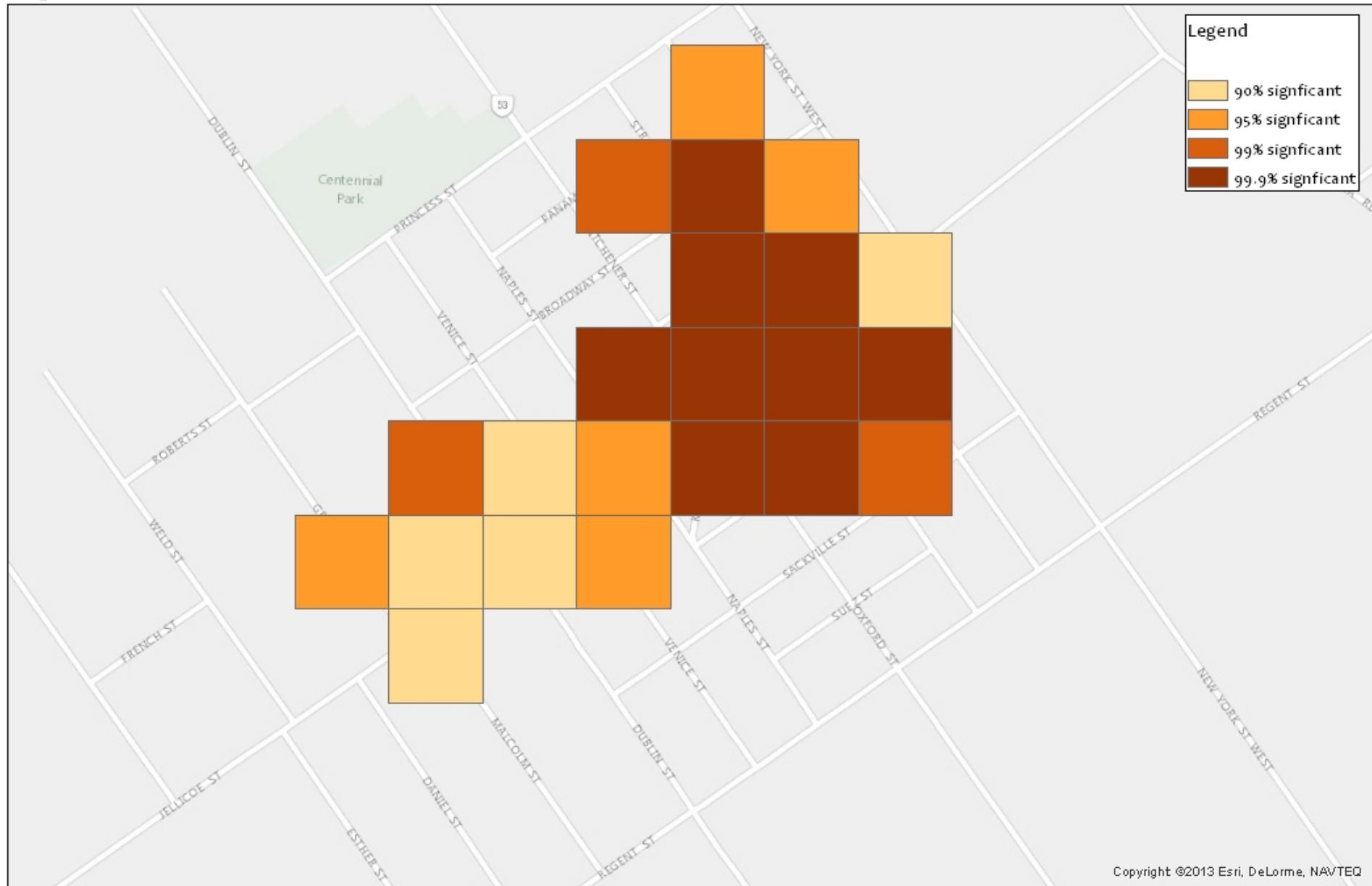
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Featherston)





0 0.05 0.1 0.2 km

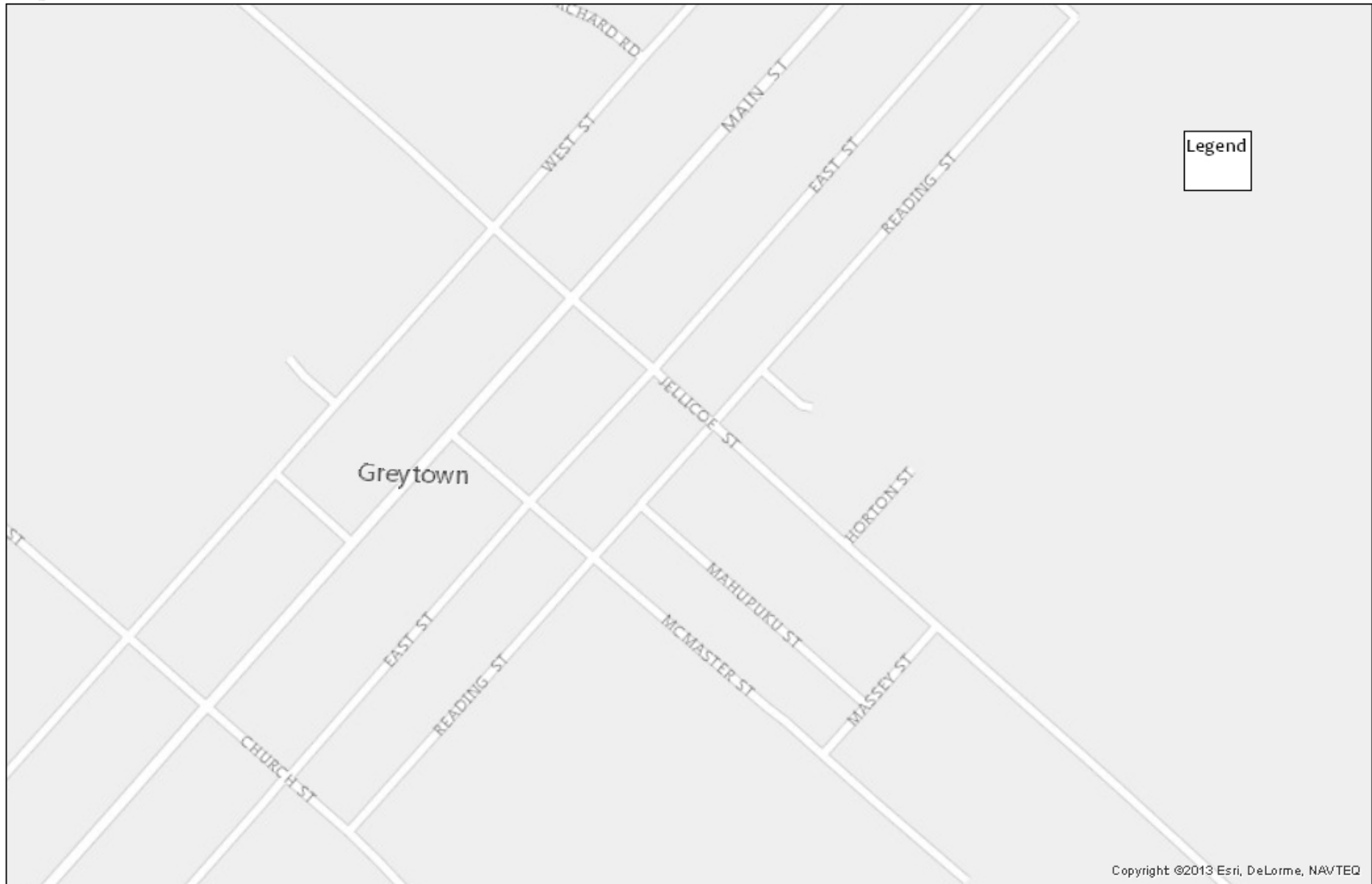
Second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Martinborough)





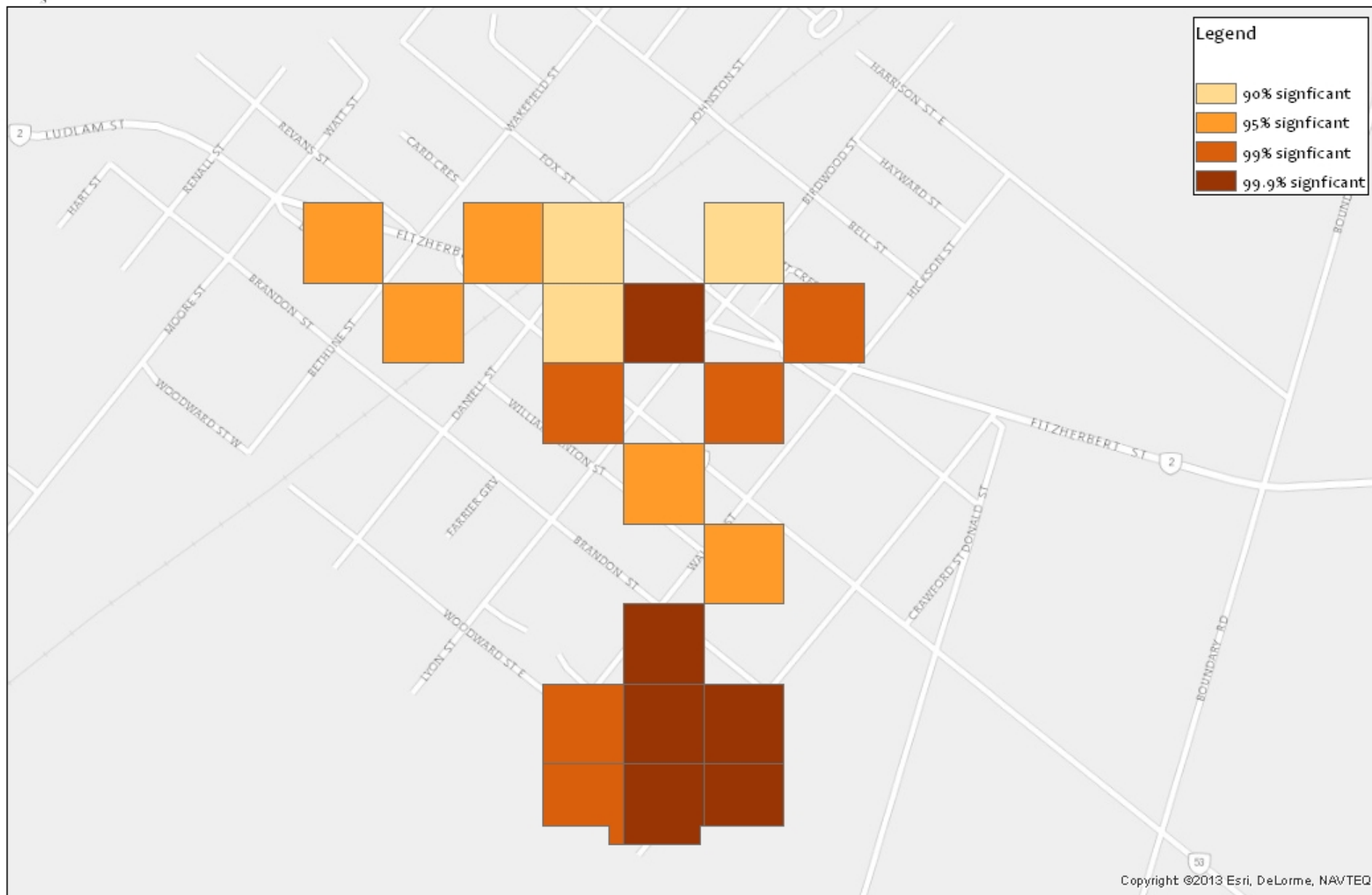
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Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Greytown)





Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Featherston)



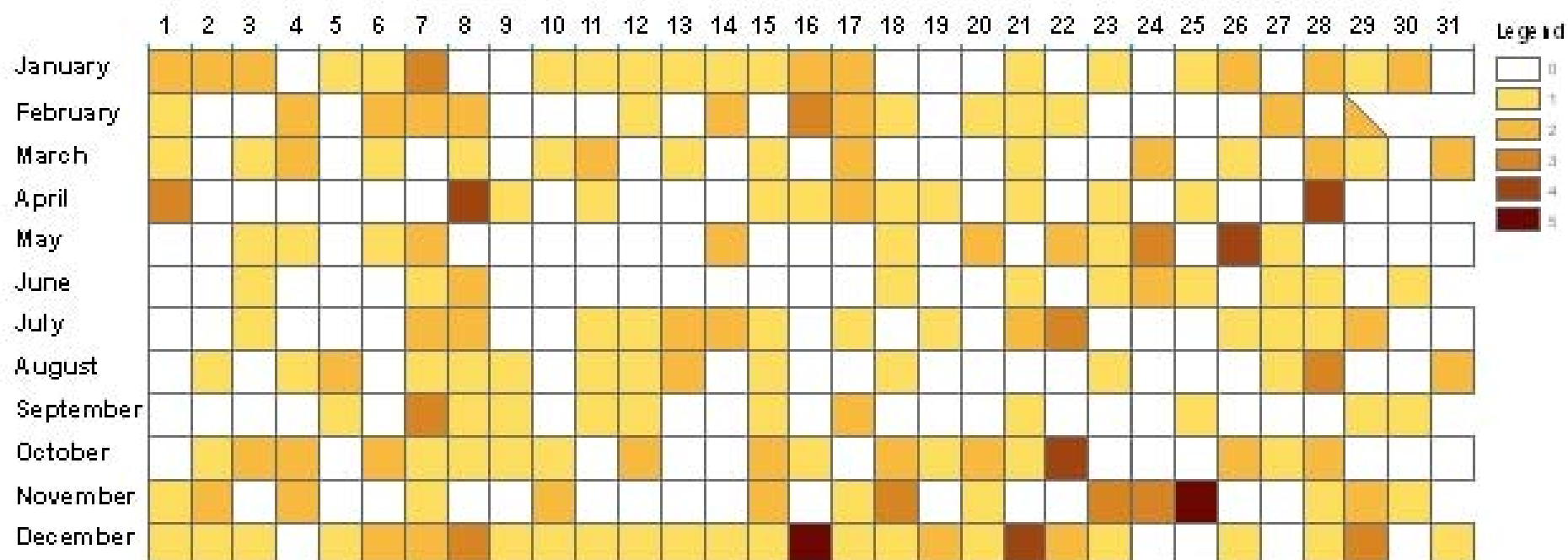


0 0.04 0.08 0.16 km

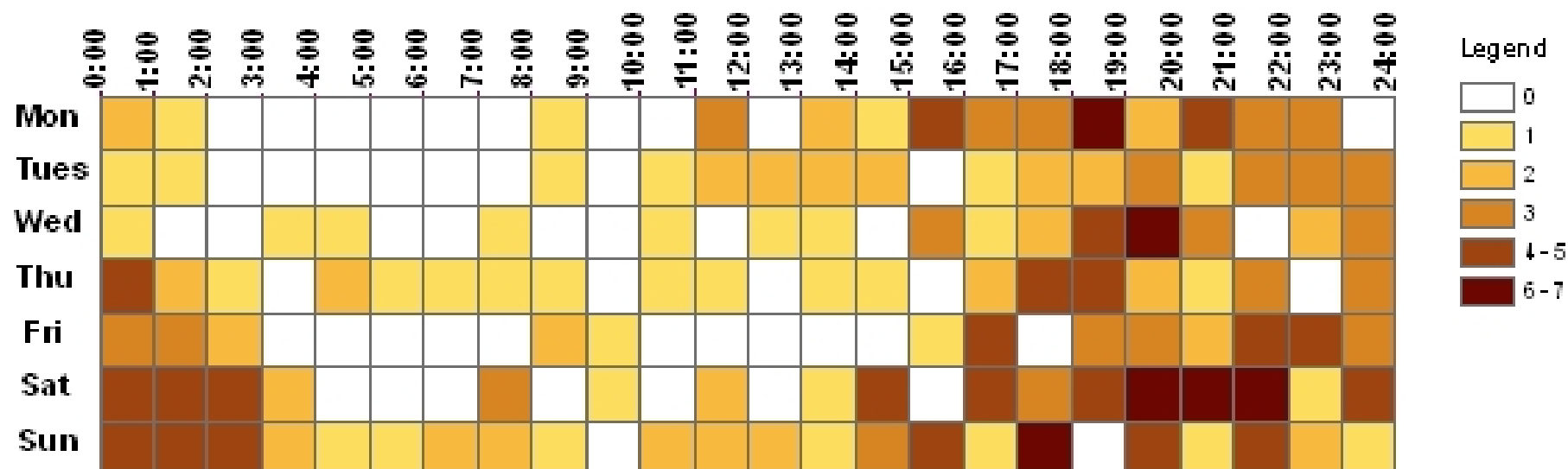
Third level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012 (Martinborough)



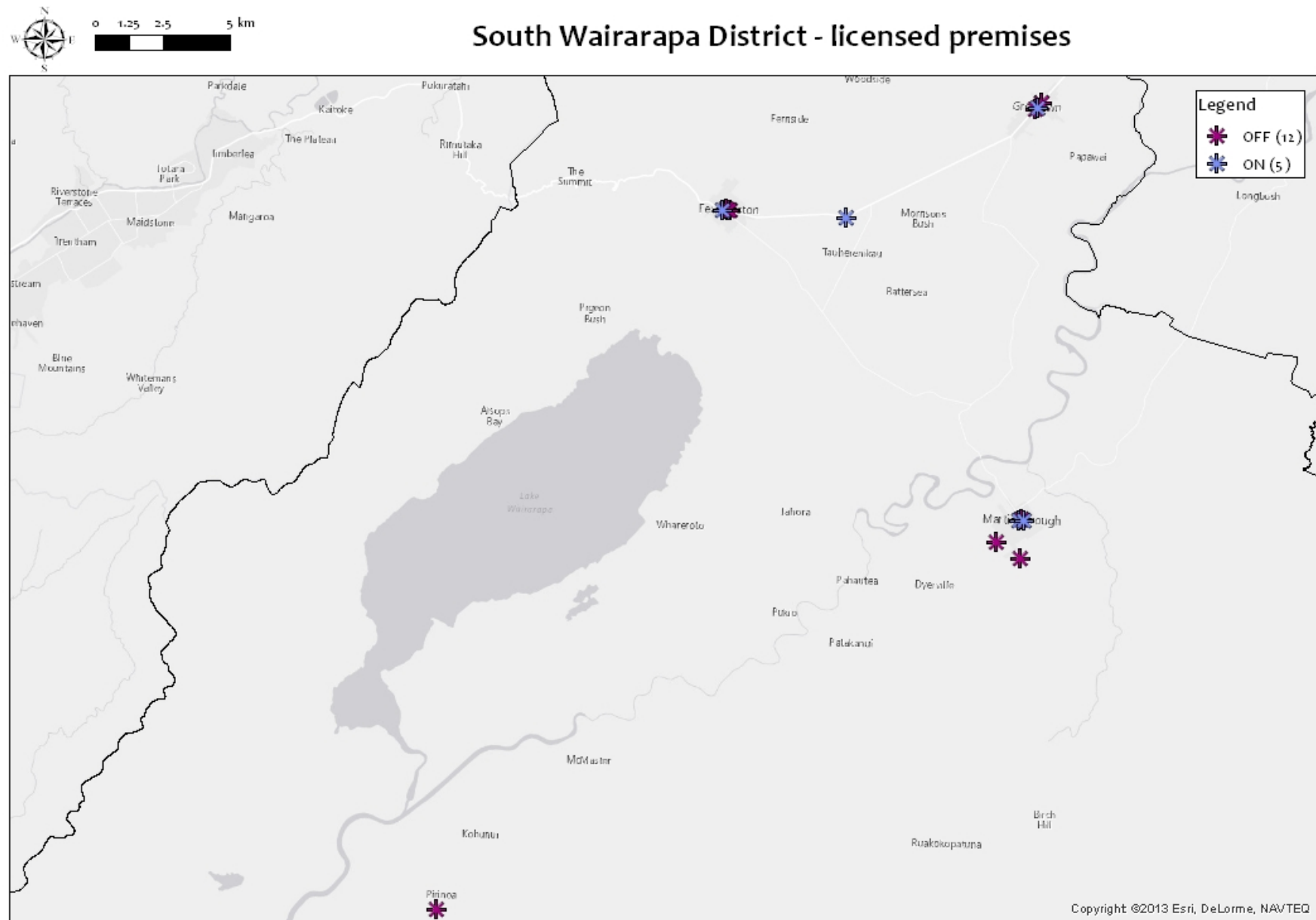
Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012



Alcohol-related calls that occurred in second level hotspots - South Wairarapa District, 2012



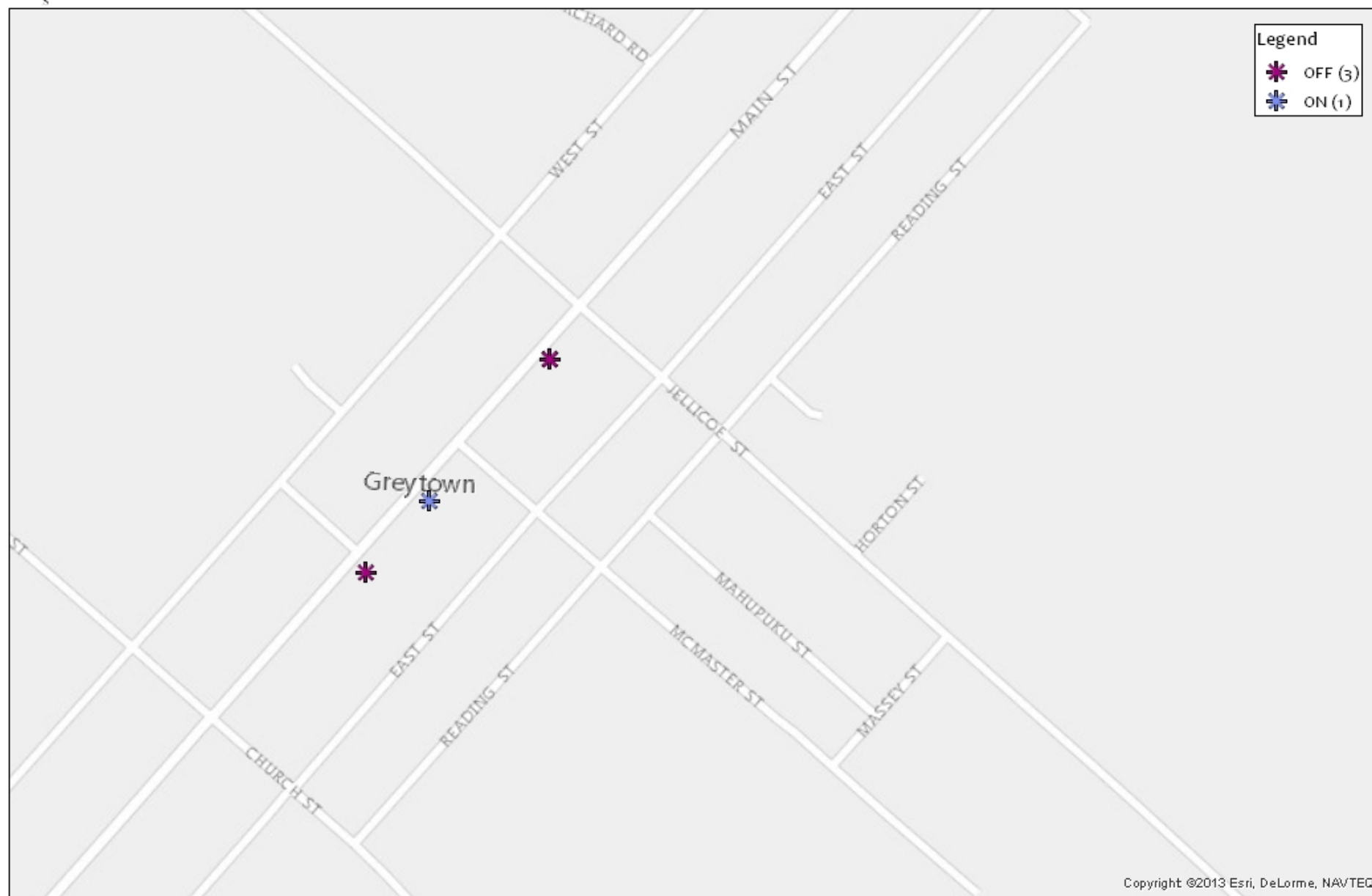
Appendix – Licensed Premises





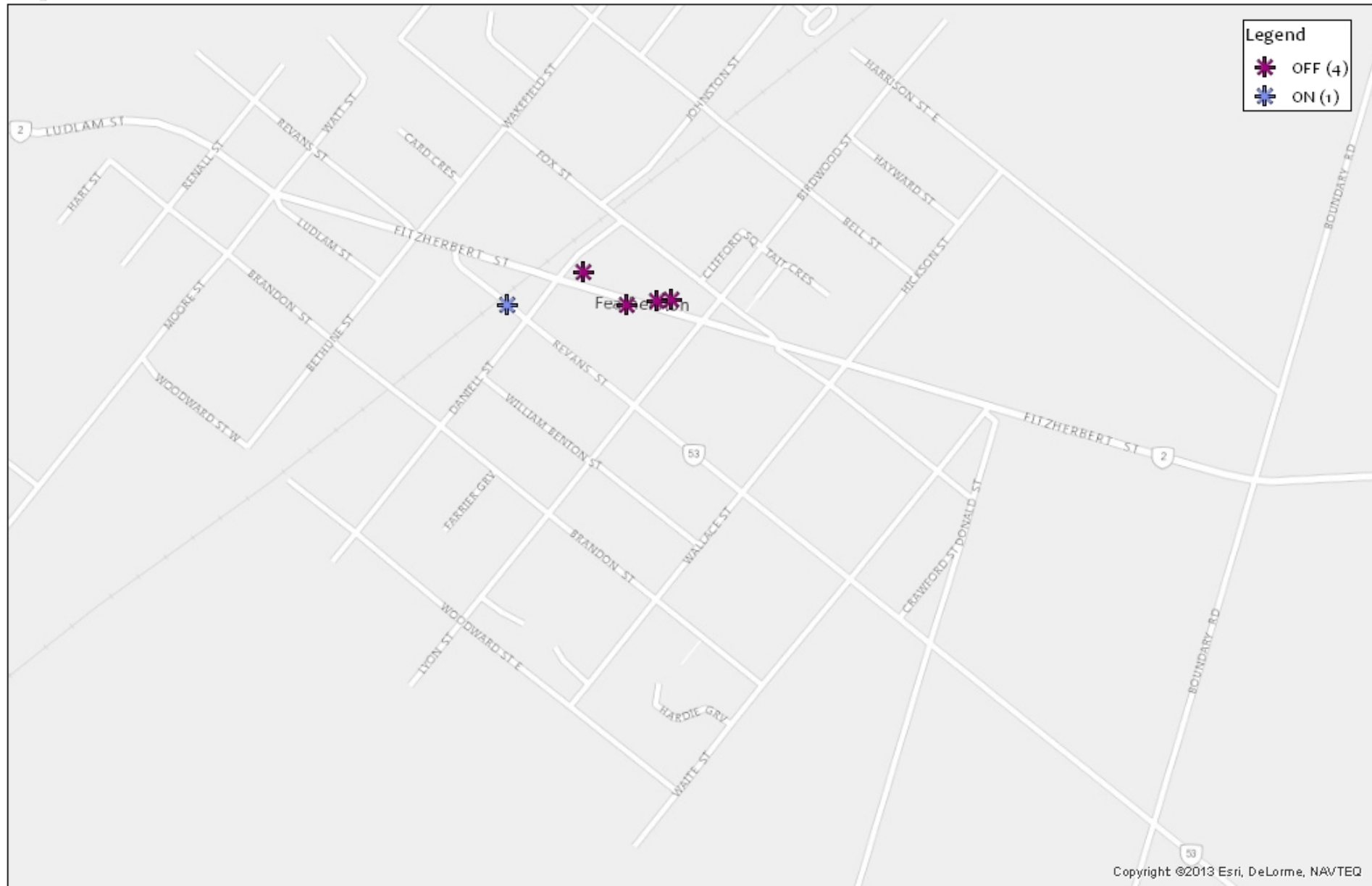
0 0.04250.085 0.17 km

South Wairarapa District - licensed premises (Greytown)





South Wairarapa District - licensed premises (Featherston)





South Wairarapa District - licensed premises (Martinborough)

