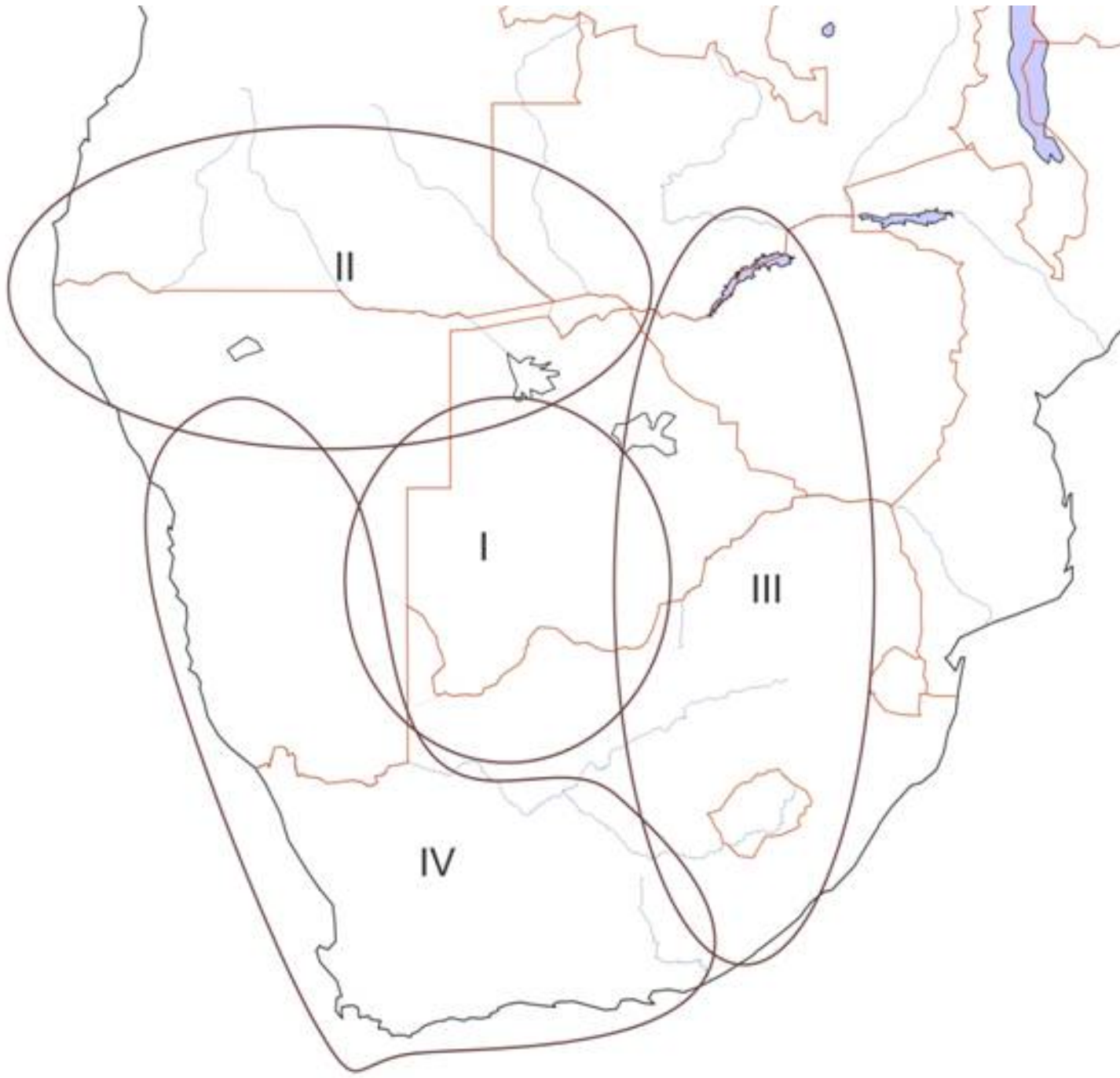


Area IV: Holocene Occupation Atlantic Coast and Interior

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BRANDBERG: Some occupation from 6500, but repeated occupation only from 5000 BP (Kinahan 2005)

ERONGO REGION: Hill country, water available
Nothing older than 6000 BP

Big Elephant Shelter dates (Wadley 1976): [some marine shell]
2600 ± 50 BP
2550 ± 80 BP (both dates on charcoal and associated with pottery)

Leopard Cave (Pleurdeau et al 2014)
2430 ± 50 BP (on charcoal)
2270 ± 40 BP (on sheep bone)
2190 ± 40 BP (on sheep bone)

SOUTHERN NAMIBIA:

“people were absent from southern Namibia between 5100-2300 BP” (Mitchell 2002)

Short-lived ecological windows of cooler/wetter conditions to Namaqualand Coast and Namibia before 2000 BP may have facilitated movement of sheep to the Cape.

NAMAQUALAND:

No LSA presence until after 3800 BP
(sheep at Spoegrivier Cave 2100 BP)

GORDON'S GREAT MAP C. 1785



BUSHMANLAND:

Two episodes of occupation:

1. 4500-4300 BP
2600-2300 BP (Springbokoog industry)
2. post-2100 (Swartkops industry, with ceramics)

Occupation of Orange (Gariep) River by herders, but dates later than at coast.

Historic evidence of hunters away from the river interacting with herders along the river.

CAPE WEST COAST:

Limited occupation 7900-4300 BP (hiatus at Elands Bay Cave, however, deposits at Steenbokfontein to the north, and at Diaz St midden, Saldanha during this period).

Widespread use of adzes after 3500 BP, suggested as sign of geophyte exploitation).

Shifts in settlement patterns c. 3000 BP before arrival of domestic stock (including mega-middens): more open air sites, but coastal occupation dominated.