This map is designed to correspond to Salva Kiir's October 2, 2015 decree replacing South Sudan's 10 existing states with the 28 states presented here. This map is based on what appears to be an official map produced by the Government of South Sudan's Office of the President and has been hosted on a number of websites covering South Sudan political affairs. For instance: https://paanluelwel2011.files.wordpress.com/2015/10/map-of-the-28-states-decreed-by-president-kiir1.jpg

This map presents a very simplified portrait of the ethnic groups which would likely hold administrative control in the proposed states. There are noticeable areas in which administrative control at the state-level obscures the diversity of ethnic groups at county, payam, and boma levels. Most notably, Shilluk claims to Makal County west of the Nile and other areas in the proposed Eastern Nile State are ceded to Dinka. Some Nuer claims to land in the proposed Ruweng State (Abiemnom, Rubkon, and Pariang counties in the current administrative divisions) are also ceded to Dinka. Similarly, ethnically heterogeneous proposed Lol State might be expected to be politically dominated by Dinka hailing from present-day Aweil West and Aweil Centre counties.

This map does not include internationally contested areas such as Kafia Kingi, 14 Mile, and Abyei, but does include the Illemi Triangle as belonging to South Sudan.