

Blackwood scrubs on massive soils



Landform	Level to gently undulating plains.
Woody vegetation	Blackwood scrubs associated with Reid river box and blackbutt, and occasional gidgee. Understorey, if present, of currant bush, false sandalwood, bauhinia, yellowwood and whitewood.
Expected pasture composition	* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.
Preferred	Desert bluegrass, brigalow grass, bull Mitchell grass, windmill grasses.
Intermediate	Rice grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, winged chloris, lovegrasses, fairy grass.
Annuals	Ray grass, dropseed, button grass, Flinders grass, small burr grass, native/spider couch, winged chloris, purpletop Rhodes, ruby saltbush, soft roly poly, pigweed.
Suitable sown pastures	Marginal for sown pastures.
Introduced weeds	Parkinsonia, harrisia cactus.
Soil	Uniform, massive dark grey to brown clays (dermosol). Thin sand veneer on the surface. Highly dispersive subsoils. Slight gilgai occurrence.
Description	Surface: Tendency to seal; Surface texture: sand veneer over light to medium clay; Subsoil texture: medium to heavy clay.

Water availability

Low

Fertility

Low

Salinity

High salinity throughout profile.

Sodicity

Highly sodic subsoils.

pH

Slightly alkaline to neutral at surface, acid at depth.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 502 – 511 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m ² /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	1090 - 1230	15%	16 - 18
	6 TBA 15 FPC	560 - 580	15%	34 – 35

Enterprise

Breeding

Land use and management recommendations

- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Maximise ground cover at end of dry season to reduce soil surface sealing and development of scalds.
- Heavy grazing can lead to loss of preferred pasture species, increases of currant bush, and pastures dominated by undesirable forbs (e.g. gidgee burr).

Land use limitations

- Fragile land type.
- Low fertility, high salinity and highly dispersive subsoils.
- Low soil phosphorus may necessitate use of supplementation for cattle.
- Very high soil erosion hazard. Particularly prone to scalding, gully and tunnel erosion along tracks, fence lines and on sloping lands.

Conservation features and related management

- This land type has been extensively cleared for pasture.

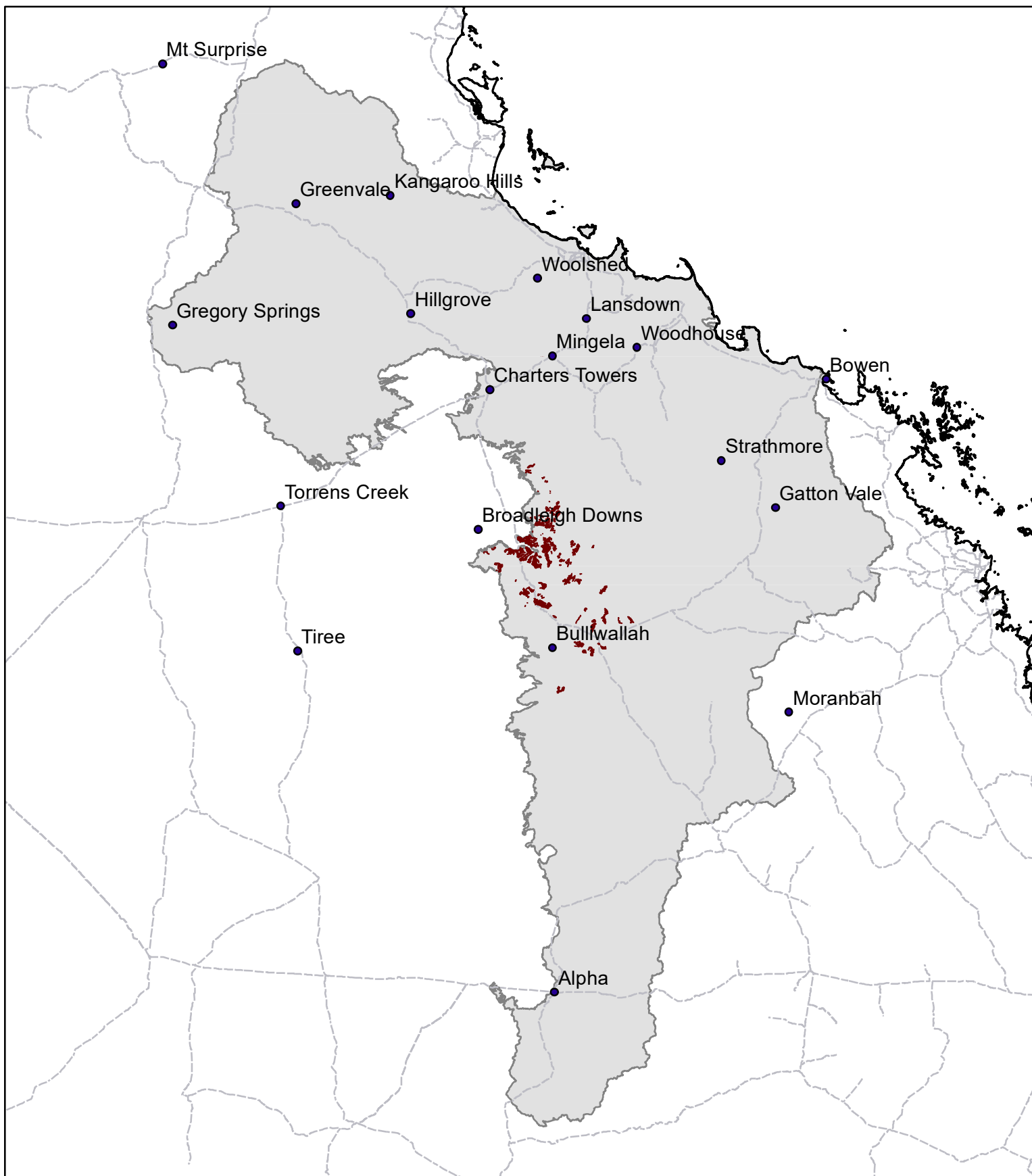
Regional Ecosystems

11.3.8.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967) Somerby 3, Blackwater 3; AMU (DPI 1993) Lonesome; Soil Associations (Roger *et al* 1999) Scartwater, Wambiana, Powlathanga, Victoria Downs.

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Area of land type in region: 0.4%

Median rainfall (region): 440 – 981 mm

Average rainfall (region): 476 – 1112 mm

Area of land type with FPC: 65%

Median FPC: 15%

Median TBA: 6 m²/ha



Queensland
Government