

Blackwood scrubs on structured clays



Landform	Level to gently undulating plains.
Woody vegetation	Blackwood scrubs associated with Reid river box and blackbutt. Understorey, if present, of currant bush, false sandalwood, bauhinia, yellowwood and whitewood.
Expected pasture composition	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Desert bluegrass, buffel grass*, curly bluegrass, brigalow grass.
Intermediate	Bull Mitchell grass, silky browntop, windmill grasses.
Non-preferred	Feathertop wiregrass, wiregrasses, winged chloris, fairy grass, lovegrasses.
Annuals	Button grass, Flinders grass, native/spider couch.
Suitable sown pastures	Buffel grass, urochloa, Caatinga stylos, Desmanthus.
Introduced weeds	Rubbervine, parkinsonia, prickly acacia, harrisia cactus, parthenium, mother-of-millions.
Soil	Dark grey to black cracking clays (vertosol). Gilgais present.
Description	Surface: Self-mulching; Surface texture: light to medium clay; Subsoil texture: medium to heavy clay.
Water availability	Moderately high.
Fertility	Moderate
Salinity	Moderate salinity <30 cm.

Sodicity

Highly sodic subsoils.

pH

Slightly alkaline to neutral at surface, increasing acidity in subsoils.

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 – 561 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	1520 - 1910	25%	6.1 – 7.7
	7 TBA 18 FPC	810 - 1250	25%	9.4 – 14
Sown			30%	

Enterprise

Growing, finishing on established sown pastures.

Land use and management recommendations

- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Maintain ground cover of at least 50% at end of dry season to maximise infiltration.
- Heavy grazing can lead to loss of preferred pasture species, increases of currant bush, parthenium and pastures dominated by undesirable forbs (e.g. soft roly poly, gidgee burr).
- Use of fire (4–5 years) after storm rain to control currant bush and maintain desirable pasture composition.

Land use limitations

- Salinity and highly dispersive subsoils.
- Regrowth (blackbutt).
- Limited soil erosion hazard. Prone to sheet, rill and gully erosion along tracks and fence lines and on sloping lands.

Conservation features and related management

- This land type has been extensively cleared for pasture.

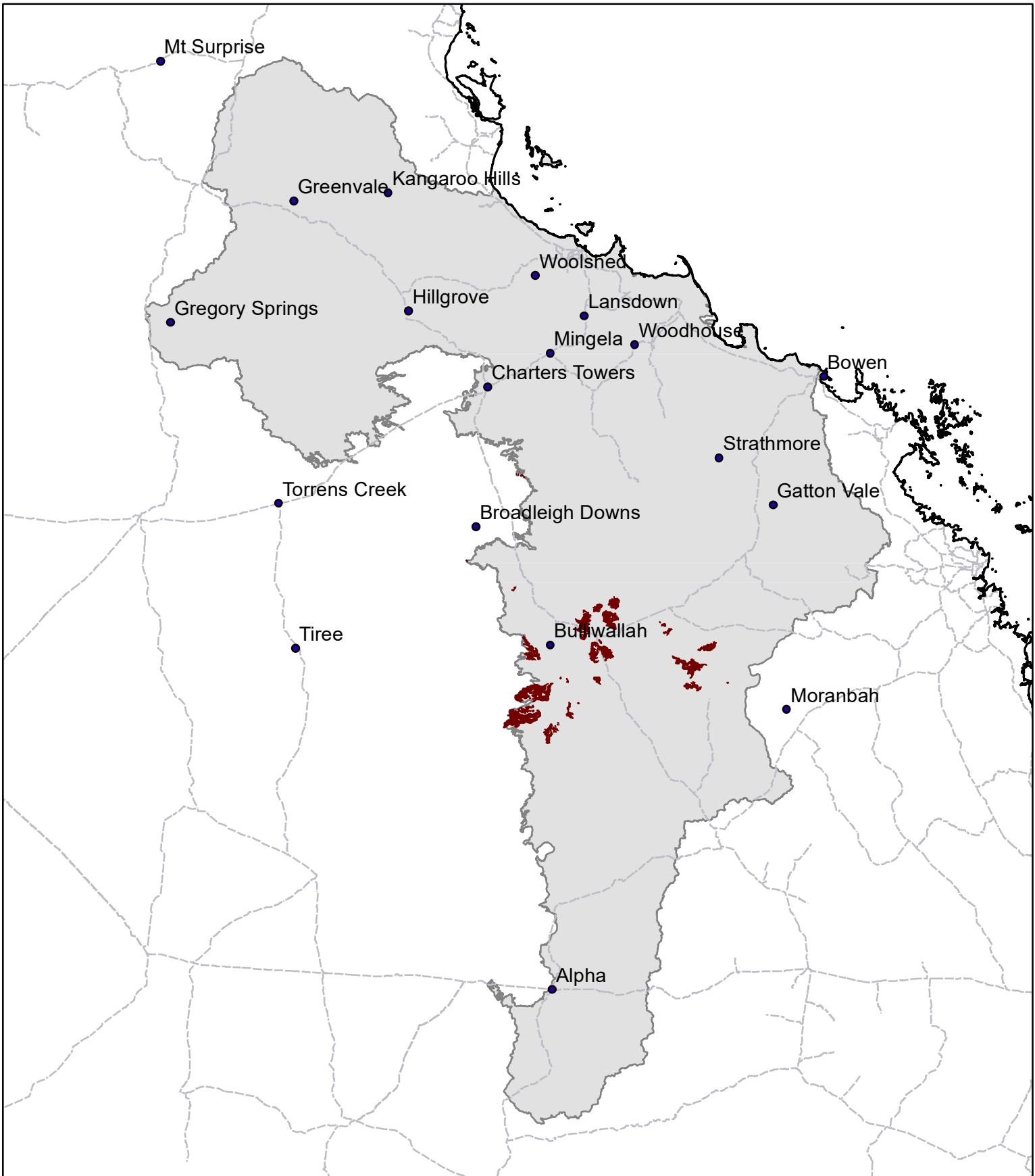
Regional Ecosystems

11.4.5

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

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

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Area of land type in region: 1%
Median rainfall (region): 440 – 981 mm
Average rainfall (region): 476 – 1112 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 34%
Median FPC: 18%
Median TBA: 7 m²/ha



Queensland
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