# Red basalt

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|---|---|
| **Landform** | Level to gently undulating plains. |
| **Woody vegetation** | Narrow-leaved ironbark open woodland associated with ghost gum, bloodwood and grevilleas. Rainforest to wet sclerophyll forest in high rainfall areas in north-east. |
| **Expected pasture composition** | ** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species*. |
| Preferred | Desert bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, curly bluegrass, giant speargrass, plume and brown sorghum. |
| Intermediate | Indian couch*. |
| Non-preferred | Pitted bluegrass, dark wiregrass, lovegrasses, fairy grass. |
| Annuals | Button grass, annual lovegrasses (e.g. delicate, soft, stinkgrass, weeping, drooping), liverseed grass*. |
| **Suitable sown pastures** | Buffel grass, urochloa, creeping bluegrass, Rhodes grass, Shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo, Caatinga stylo. |
| **Introduced weeds** | Rubbervine, parthenium, giant rat's tail grass, calotrope, chinee apple, Captain Cook bush, grader grass, lantana. |
| **Soil** | Shallow, occasionally moderately deep, reddish brown clay loam grading to light clay (ferrosol). Basalt rock and surface stone are common features. |
| Description | ***Surface*:** Variable stone cover; ***Surface texture*:** clay loam; ***Subsoil texture*:** light medium clay. |

Water availability: Moderate

Fertility: Moderate

Salinity: Non-saline

Sodicity: Non-sodic

pH: Slightly acidic (pH 6.6).

## Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

| Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Median annual rainfall 564 – 739 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 | 3100 - 3640 | 30% | 2.7 - 3.1 |
| | 7 TBA<br>18 FPC | 1830 - 2040 | 30% | 4.8 – 5.3 |

## Enterprise

Fattening and growing.

## Land use and management recommendations

- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Heavy grazing encourages domination of Indian couch and reduced productivity.

## Land use limitations

- Use of fire (4–5 years) after storm rain to address woodland thickening and maintain desirable pasture composition.
- Weed invasion (chinee apple, giant rat's tail grass).
- Establishment problems with improved pastures (stylos) due to high incidence of frosts.
- Limited soil erosion hazard. Prone to rill and gully erosion along tracks and fence lines and on sloping lands.

## Conservation features and related management

- These woodlands, particular more mature hollow-bearing trees, provide important habitat and nesting sites for arboreal mammals including yellow-bellied gliders and koalas. Also provide habitat for the Eungella hairy daisy *Ozothamnus eriocephalus.*
- Areas may have been subject to clearing/timber harvesting and grazing and, hence, are vulnerable to invasion by weeds such as grader grass, lantana, rubbervine.

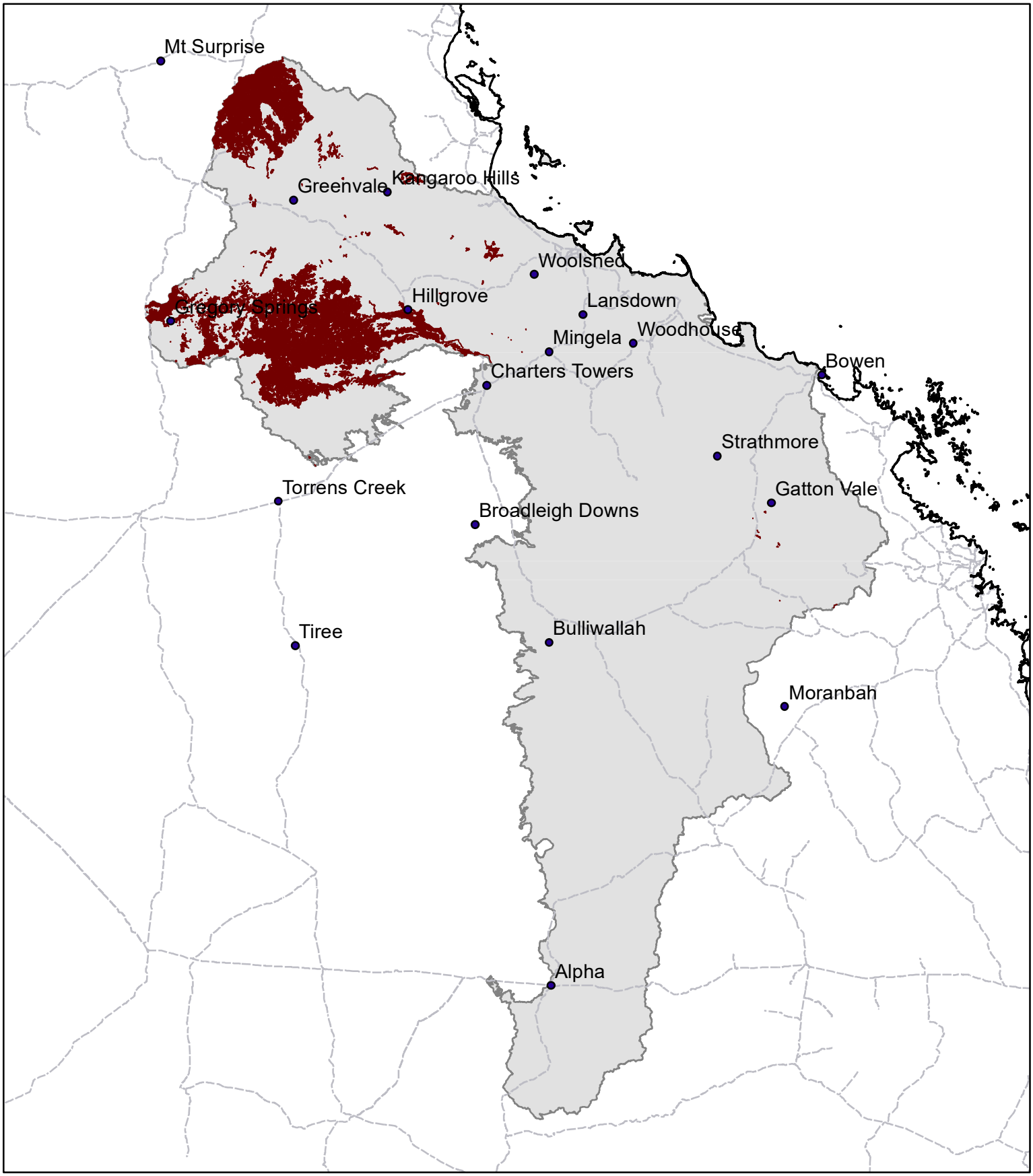
## Regional Ecosystems

7.5.4f, 7.8.10a-b, 7.8.15a-b, 7.8.16a-c, 7.8.17a-c, 7.8.18a-d, 7.8.7a, 7.8.8b, 9.12.16, 9.8.1a, 9.8.1c, 9.8.4a-b, 11.8.14.

## Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Soil Associations (Rogers *et al* 1999) Hillgrove, Felspar, Nulla, Pin Gin, Newlands.

# BD17 Red basalt




Area of land type in region: 7%
Median rainfall (region): 440 – 981 mm
Average rainfall (region): 476 – 1112 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 78%
Median FPC: 18%
Median TBA: 7 m2/ha

Queensland Government