

# Poplar box flats



## Landform

Plains associated with past and present drainage lines.

Poplar box flats are associated with major creeks throughout the Border Rivers including wide alluvial plains of the lower Macintyre and Weir rivers.

## Woody vegetation

Poplar box woodlands with false sandalwood and wilga understorey. Associated species include whitewood, leopardwood, ironwood, kurrajong, boonaree, mallee box, Blakely's red gum and fuzzy box (in granite/traprock).

## Expected pasture composition

\* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species

### Preferred

Queensland bluegrass, pitted bluegrass, kangaroo grass.

### Intermediate

Windmill grass, tall chloris, golden beard grass, hairy panic.

### Non-preferred

Corkscrew grass, rough speargrass, granite lovegrass

### Annuals

Mueller's saltbush, joyweed.

### Common forbs

Common fringe rush (non-preferred).

## Suitable sown pastures

Creeping bluegrass, digit grass, tall finger grass, Gatton panic, Rhodes grass, buffel grass (in the west).

Barrel, burr and hybrid disc/strand medics, Caatinga stylo.

## Introduced weeds

Noogoora burr, lippia, African lovegrass, African boxthorn, cat's claw creeper.

## Soil

### Description

Grey and red-brown texture-contrast soils (chromosols, sodosols).

### Water availability

**Surface:** Hard-setting, frequently gravelly; **Surface texture:** sandy clay loam to clay loam; **Subsoil texture:** medium to heavy clay.

### Fertility

Low to medium, PAWC 57–100 mm.

### Salinity

Low–medium.

### Sodicity

High to very high in subsoil.

### pH

Variable; non-sodic to strongly sodic from 50 cm depth

Acid in surface and strongly alkaline in subsoil.

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

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day

Median annual rainfall 538 – 583 mm

Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m <sup>2</sup> /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	2610 - 2650	30%	3.7 - 3.7
	9 TBA 23 FPC	990 - 1260	30%	7.7 – 9.8

## Enterprise

Breeding and growing out.

## Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native and sown pastures, forage cropping.
- Maintain maximum ground cover to minimise erosion of dispersive soils and formation of scalds.
- Use spelling and rotational grazing practices to encourage pasture vigour and desirable species, to suppress wiregrasses and obtain fuel loads.
- Grazing and burning practices are important controls of regrowth and woody weeds.

## Land use limitations

- Hard-setting surface and impermeable, poorly structured subsoils.
- Low water holding capacity.
- Prone to flooding and seasonal waterlogging.
- Dispersive subsoils prohibit deep ploughing or ripping.
- Cropping limited on low-lying areas due to risk of erosive flooding.

## Conservation features and related management

- Land type has been extensively cleared and modified for crops and pastures.
- Extensively cleared or modified by grazing.
- Little or no representation in conservation reserves.
- Woodlands provide important habitat for arboreal mammals and bird species
- Lots of hollow logs provide nesting sites for birds and sanctuary for bats and reptiles
- Habitat for rare and threatened flora species including *Homopholis belsonii*.

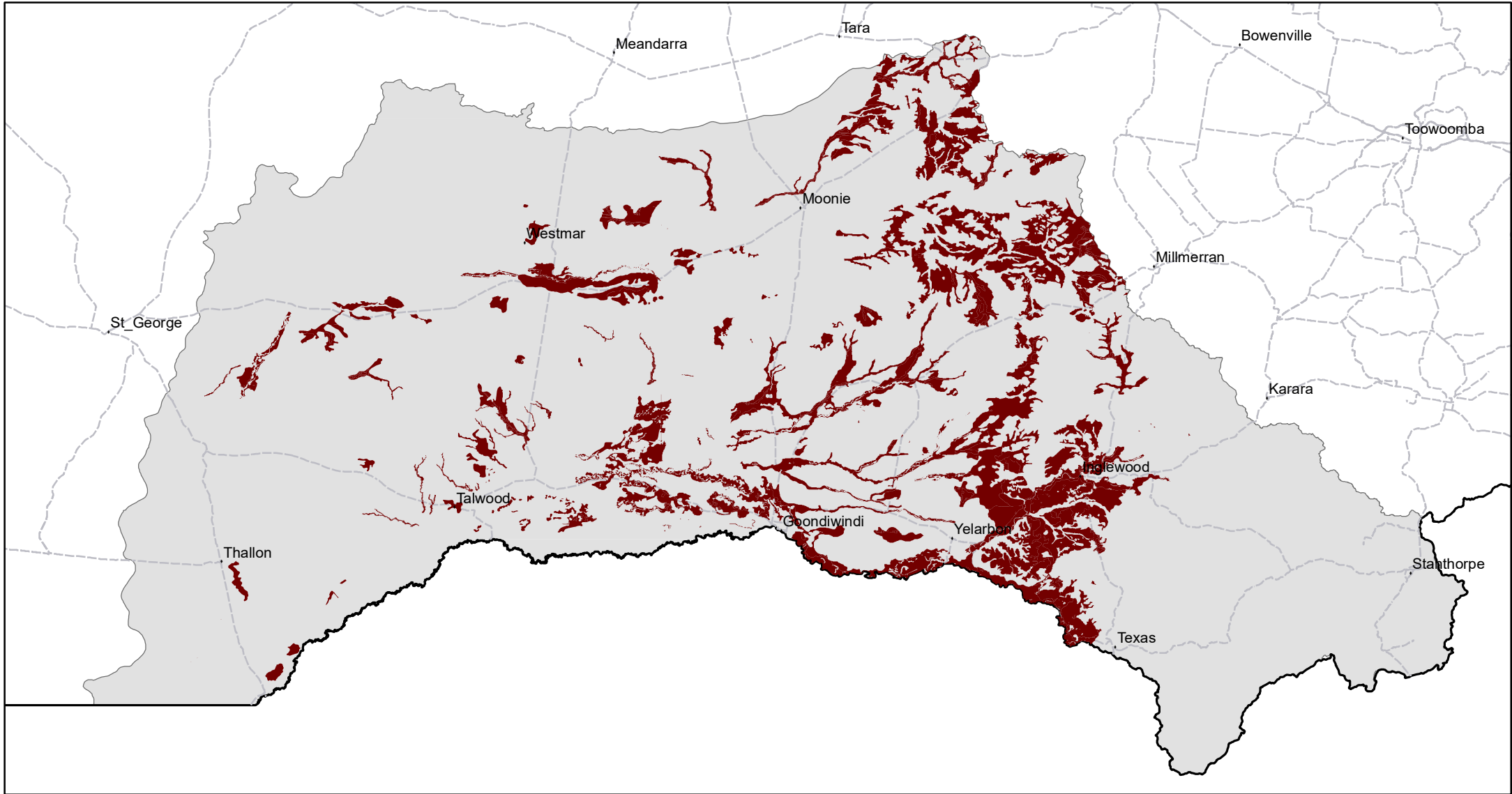
## Regional Ecosystems

11.3.17, 11.3.2, 11.4.10, 11.4.12.

## Land Resource Areas; Land types; Soil associations

Land Resource Area (Thwaites and Macnish 1991) Serpentine, Boogara. Soils associations (Lloyd 1980) Si 2, Hg1–2 Box country. Land type (Maher 1996) 2 Granite/traprock alluvial plains and 3 Traprock/sandstone alluvial plains.

# BR09 Poplar box flats



Area of land type in region: 12%  
Median rainfall (region): 469 – 748 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 516 – 758 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 54%  
Median FPC: 23%  
Median TBA: 9 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland  
Government**