Scrubs on shallow clays

Landform	Plains, footslopes and hillslopes.
Woody vegetation	Blackwood open woodland with scattered occurrences of coolibah, river red gum, blackbutt, false sandalwood, bauhinia, belah, ironbark, leopardwood, Reid river box, currant bush, mimosa.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Mitchell grasses (barley, bull, hoop, curly), desert bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, forest bluegrass, silky browntop.
Intermediate	Fairy grass, bottlewasher grasses.
Non-preferred	
Annual grasses	Flinders grass, button grass.
Common forbs	Non-preferred forbs include gidgee burr, sida, soft roly poly.
Suitable sown pastures	Buffel grass more suited to central and southern part of the region.
Introduced weeds	Parthenium, mother-of-millions, parkinsonia.
Soil	Shallow, uniform grey and brown cracking clays with hard-setting topsoil over sodic subsoil.
Description	***Surface*:** Cracking; sometimes hard-setting; ***Surface texture*:** light to medium clay; ***Subsoil texture*:** medium clay.
Water availability	Low
Rooting depth	Shallow
Fertility	Moderate; moderate nutrient status.

Salinity

Subsoil has moderate to high levels of soluble salts.

Sodicity

Subsoils are usually sodic.

pH

Strongly acid to neutral surface over strongly acid to moderately alkaline 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 432 – 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	1060 - 1130	25%	10 - 11
	3 TBA 8 FPC	670 - 770	25%	15 – 17

Enterprise

Breeding and growing.

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing. Capable of moderate pasture growth.
- This is a suitable land type for growing stock if used according to capability.
- Adequate ground cover should be maintained to prevent the surface becoming bare and prone to annuals and parthenium infestation.

Land use limitations

- Native pasture species can be quite sparse under a dense tree canopy.
- Production is limited by lack of moisture, due to the inherent nature of these soils with high clay content holding water, rather than fertility.
- Sodic subsoils limit rooting depth.
- Limited soil erosion hazard. Prone to sheet, rill and gully erosion along tracks and fence lines and on sloping lines and drainage lines.

Conservation features and related management

- These acacia woodlands support high abundances of particular fauna guilds including arboreal mammals (e.g. sugar gliders), reptiles and some woodlands birds species (e.g. crested bellbird, grey-crowned babblers, brown treecreepers).
- The highly diverse reptile community, particularly geckoes, skinks, dragons and skinks, utilises fallen timber, dead trees and exfoliating bark.
- Retaining fallen timber and dead trees in this land type provides valuable habitat for birds and reptiles. Also, the gradual decomposition of timber is important in the ecosystem's nutrient cycling.
- It is important to maintain ground cover in the form of litter and pasture where possible as the soil B horizon is very sodic, dispersive, erosive and hard to re-pasture.

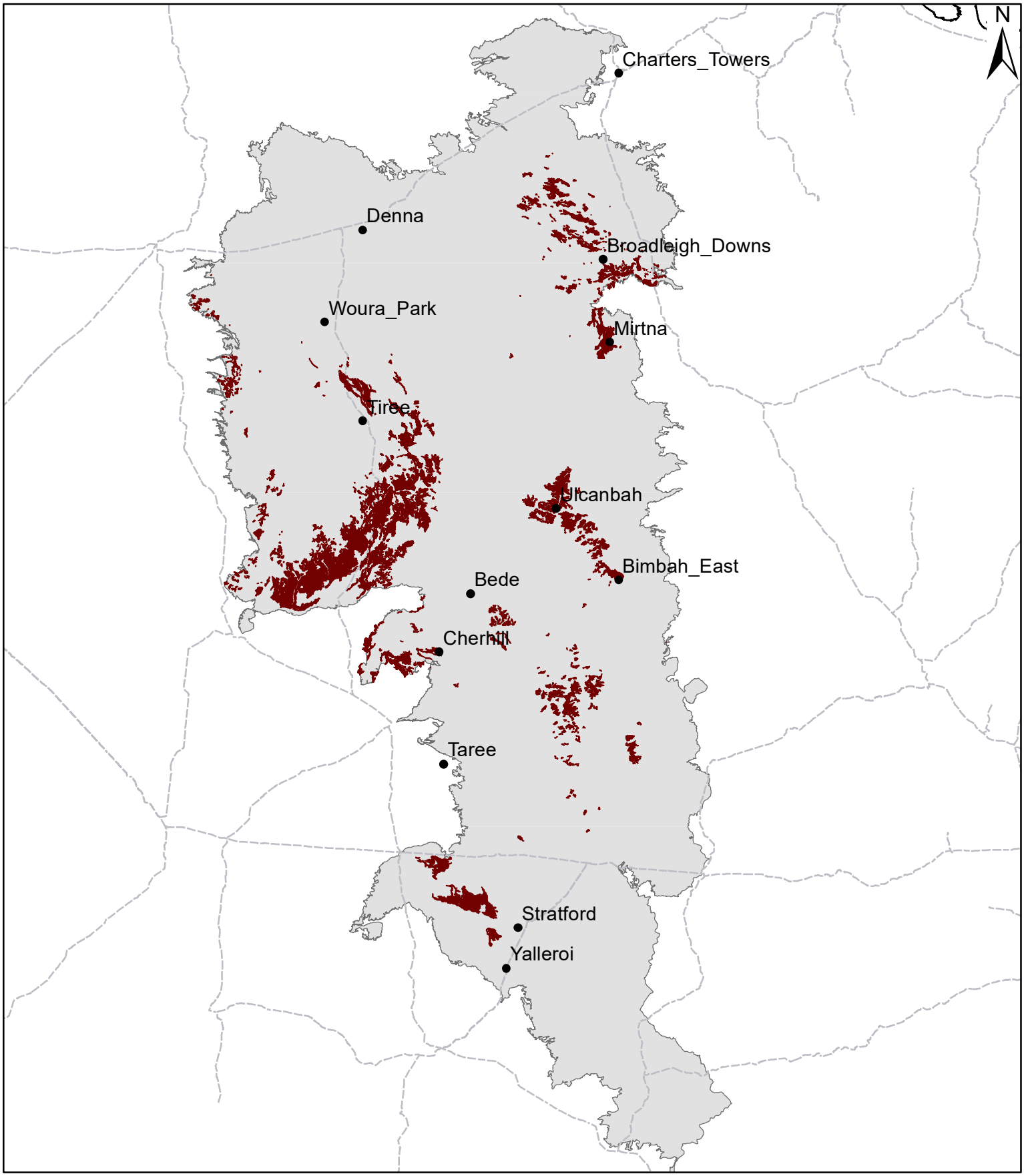
Regional Ecosystems

10.3.1, 10.3.2a, 10.3.2bx1, 10.4.1, 10.4.9, 10.9.1a-c, 10.9.2a-c, 10.9.2ax1, 10.9.6x2, 10.9.3a-b, 11.4.6.

DUSLR project land units

BK1, DE1, GK5, LD3, MH3, PK4, PP4, PT5, TC3, UH4, WV4, WY3.

DU12 Scubs on shallow clay



Area of land type in region: 4 %
Median rainfall (region): 400 – 608 mm
Average rainfall (region): 440 – 679 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 58%
Median FPC: 8%
Median TBA: 3 m2/ha

Queensland Government