

Jump-ups



Photo: R4 (Bladensburg) Land System

General description

Flat-topped and rounded hills with steep eroding slopes (mesas and buttes) that have been modified by weathering, chemical alteration of sediments and extensive erosion. Stone cover and rock outcrops are extensive and soil development is minimal. Sitting the highest in the landscape, jump-ups usually represent the divisions between drainage zones. Generally adjacent to spinifex sandplains, pebbly downs or hard gidgee.

Landform

Mesas and buttes.

Woody vegetation

Mulga, bende, lancewood open scrub to tall open scrubland on the scarps, with Normanton box, mineritchie tall open shrubland on lower stages; western bloodwood, beefwood, eastern dead finish on flat tops; a variety of other trees, including bastard mulga, mountain yapunyah and gidgee. Coolibah, river red gum, ghost gum along shallow creeks.

Expected pasture composition

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

Preferred

Kangaroo grass, soft spinifex, barley Mitchell grass.

Intermediate

Lovegrasses, mountain wanderrie grass, woollybutt wanderrie grass, hard spinifex.

Non-preferred

Wiregrasses.

Annual grasses

Bottlewasher grasses.

Common forbs

Sida, flannel weed.

Suitable sown pastures

Not suitable for sown pastures.

Introduced weeds

Cactus (snake, devil's rope, harrisia and coral).

Soil

Skeletal soils and shallow red earths; texture contrast soils and stony brown clays on steep slopes at the base of cliffs; often extensive rock outcropping.

Description

Surface: Variable stone and gravel cover; **Surface texture:** sandy loam to none; **Subsoil texture:** weathered parent material.

Features	Extensive rock outcropping and/or extensive cover of rock, rubble and gravel.					
Water availability	Very low.					
Rooting depth	Very shallow.					
Infiltration	Very low. High proportion of runoff following 5 mm of rain, even under low intensity rainfall. Runoff contributes to neighbouring land types.					
Fertility	Very low.					
Salinity	Non-saline					
Sodicity	Non-sodic					
pH	Very acidic.					
Utilisation	10%					
Enterprise	Rarely grazed.					
Land use and management recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These lands are generally unproductive but are of value for water-shedding and recreation. • These areas provide good runoff for adjacent country. • Provide shade. • Maximise ground cover to reduce soil erosion, especially on slopes 					
Land use limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturally unstable with high rates of erosion. • No top-feed. • Livestock may need phosphorus supplements. • Stock water is often limiting. • Often poisonous plants such as spotted emu bush and pencil caustic. • Woodland thickening, stone and gravel cover, slope and fragile soils limit productivity. 					
Conservation features and related management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinifex areas are potential habitat for rare bird, pictorella mannikin. • Spinifex needs patch burning regime to maintain diversity and reduce risk of extensive wildfires. 					
Regional ecosystems	4.5.5, 4.7.1, 4.7.1a-b, 4.7.2, 4.7.2x1 a-c, 4.7.2x2, 4.7.3, 4.7.6a, 4.7.6x1, 4.7.7x1, 4.7.8a-b, 4.9.13a-d, 4.9.13x1.					
WARLUS land systems	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
	R1 to R6	R1 to R8	R1, R2, R3	R1, R2, R3, R4	R1, R2, R3, R4	R1, R2, R3, R4