

Narrow-leaved ironbark on ranges



Landform

Mountains and ranges.

Woody vegetation

Narrow-leaved ironbark woodlands with bloodwood and occasional ghost gum. Often an understorey of rosewood, red ash, turkey bush, currant bush, hopbush.

Expected pasture composition

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

Preferred

Black speargrass, kangaroo grass, desert bluegrass, hairy panic, finger panic grass, tableland couch, forest bluegrass.

Intermediate

Golden beard grass, barbwire grass, pitted bluegrass, brigalow grass, curly windmill grass.

Non-preferred

Dark wiregrass, many-headed wiregrass, wanderrie grass, bottlewasher grasses, summer grass, fairy grass, five-minute grass, lovegrasses.

Annual grasses

Button grass, small burr grass.

Common forbs

Mulga fern, flannel weeds (non-preferred).

Suitable sown pastures

Oversow with legumes; shrubby and Caribbean stylos.

Introduced weeds

Soil

Shallow rocky soils (rudosols).

Description

Surface: Stoney; **Surface texture:** variable; **Subsoil texture:** no sub-soil.

Water availability

Low

Rooting depth

Less than 45 cm.

Fertility

Low total nitrogen, low to moderate phosphorus.

Salinity

Low

Sodicity
pH

Non-sodic
Neutral

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 521 – 653 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	2020 - 2500	20%	5.8 – 7.2
	13 TBA 32 FPC	500 - 780	20%	19 – 29

Enterprise

Land use and management recommendations

Land use limitations

Conservation features and related management

Breeding

- Much of this land type is in forestry reserves.
- Not suitable for clearing.
- Extensive grazing only.

- Low fertility.
- Low pasture production.
- Steep slopes.

- This woodland is an important wildlife habitat with a surprisingly wide range of fauna including: koalas that eat narrow-leaved ironbark leaves; whiptail wallabies; possums and gliders that use tree hollows; for skinks, geckoes and dragons that use rough fissured bark; and ground fauna (e.g. painted button-quail) that use good grass cover which also protects slopes and hillsides from erosion.
- Burning too frequently can result in eucalypts never developing beyond the sapling stage and a reduction in mature trees.
- Retention of mature trees is necessary, as only long-lived trees will form hollows.
- Burning should not occur more frequently than once every three years and should take place in winter or just prior to summer rains.
- To maintain a diversity of habitat for wildlife it is better to burn patches rather than large areas.
- Where these woodlands are grazed it is better to burn at a paddock level to prevent overgrazing of fresh growth.
- Similarly with other woodland communities, mosaic burning for regeneration and retention of microhabitats is critical for maintaining species richness.
- Maintain good ground cover to minimise increases in understorey shrub density (e.g. hobbush, turkey bush, currant bush).

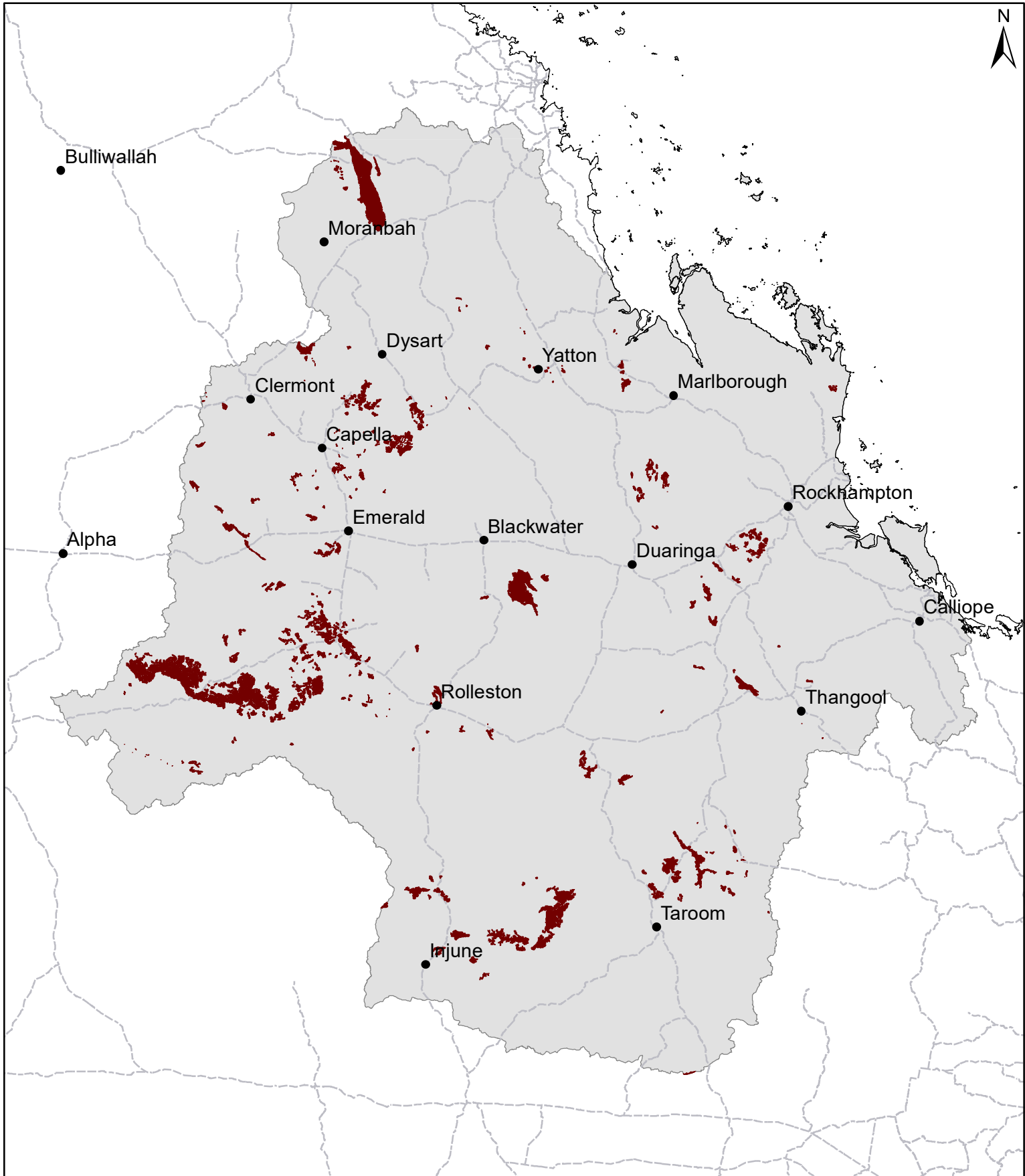
Regional Ecosystems

8.10.1a-d, 8.11.7, 11.8.5, 11.10.1d, 11.10.5, 11.10.4a-b, 11.10.7, 11.10.7a, 11.12.1, 11.12.1a, 11.12.13.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967; Story *et al* 1967) Bogantungan 1 and 2, Playfair 2, Cotherstone 6, Copperfield 2 and 3; AMU (DPI 1993) Highlands; Soil associations (Burgess 2003) Middlemount.

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Area of land type in region: 2%
Median rainfall (region): 494 – 830 mm
Average rainfall (region): 560 – 869 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 82%
Median FPC: 32%
Median TBA: 13 m²/ha



Queensland
Government