

Gum-topped box



Landform	Slightly elevated level to gently undulating relict floodplains, backplains and slightly higher terraces of major streams.
Woody vegetation	Open forest to woodland of gum-topped box, narrow-leaved ironbark and poplar box, with scattered rusty gum and Queensland blue gum. Occasional understorey of wattles, myrtle tree and beefwood.
Expected pasture composition	<i>Wiregrass – pitted bluegrass pastures.</i> <i>* Denotes non-native “Expected Pasture Composition” species.</i>
Preferred	Black speargrass, forest bluegrass, barbwire grass, kangaroo grass, pitted bluegrass grass.
Intermediate	Spider grass (native couch), bottlewasher grasses, umbrella grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark), slender chloris.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, emu foot, creeping tick trefoil.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
Suitable sown pastures	None suitable.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Moderately deep (120 cm) yellow, grey or brown texture contrast soils (solodics).
Description	Surface: Hard-setting; Surface texture: sandy loam to clay loam; Subsoil texture: sandy clay to medium to heavy clay.
Features	Some surface quartz gravel, generally stone free. Small amounts of calcium carbonate and iron/manganese nodules in subsoils.
Water availability	Low to moderate PAWC.
Drainage	Poorly drained subsoils.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth 15–20 cm.
Fertility	Low; low nitrogen, very low to moderate phosphorus, low to high potassium.

Salinity

Moderate to high salinity below 20 cm.

Sodicity

Sodic to strongly sodic subsoils.

pH

Acid (pH 6.5) to alkaline (pH 8.5–9.0) soil reaction trend (solodics).

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 663 – 754 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	3820 - 4500	25%	2.6 - 3.1
	10 TBA 25 FPC	1620 - 2820	25%	4.2 – 7.2

Enterprise

Breeding

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures.
- Maintenance of effective ground cover (>50%) and conservative stocking practices (spelling pastures, flexible stocking rates) are important to retain organic matter, maintain soil structure, reduce runoff and minimise risk of erosion.
- Do not cultivate if surface soil is less than 45 cm deep.
- Retain timber in drainage lines and at changes of slope at base of hills to control erosion.
- Burning is recommended every 2–3 years to control regrowth (gum-topped box, ironbarks, wattles) and to enhance preferred pasture species.

Land use limitations

- Subject to periodic flooding and waterlogging.
- Shallow effective rooting depth often due to impermeable and saline subsoils.
- Soil salinity and or sodicity may affect plant growth.
- When cultivated, surface sealing occurs after rain affecting crop establishment.
- Hard setting surface affects infiltration and cultivation.
- High erosion hazard, particularly prone to scalding and gully erosion.

Conservation features and related management

- Remnant woodlands are important habitat for gliders, possums, koalas, tree creepers, speckled warblers, powerful owls and ground foraging birds.
- These woodlands provide important corridors through the landscape for both resident and dispersing fauna.
- Frequent fires reduce the shrubby understorey, but variable fire regimes encourage mosaics.
- Heavy grazing reduces fuel loads and exposes the soil surface to erosion.

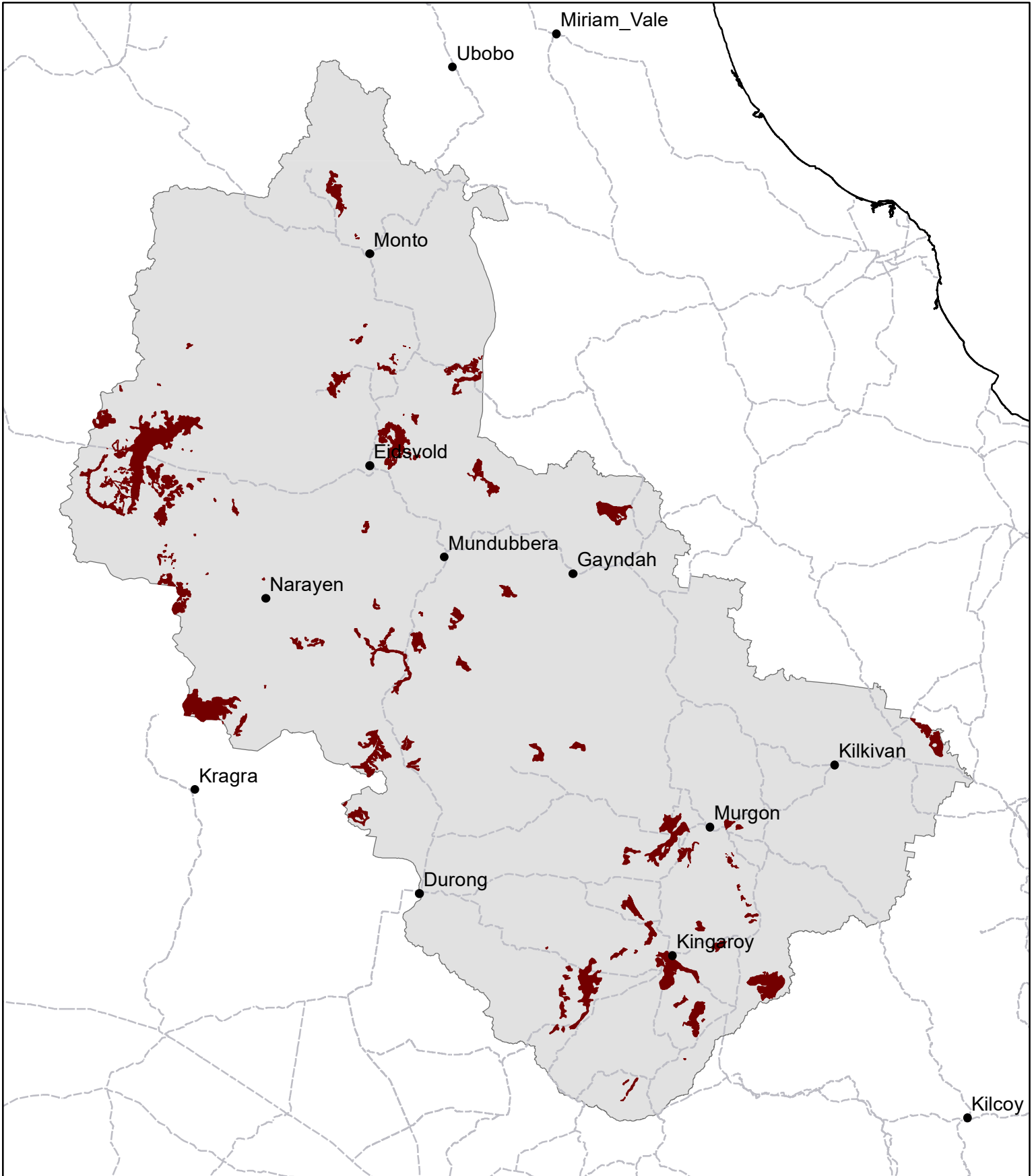
Regional Ecosystems

11.5.20, 11.9.13, 11.11.10a, 11.12.2b, 12.8.14a, 12.9-10.3.

Land resource area

Terraces and Relict Alluvial Plains.

IB09 Gum-topped box



Area of land type in region: 3%
Median rainfall (region): 529 – 1018 mm
Average rainfall (region): 560 – 1070 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 52%
Median FPC: 25%
Median TBA: 10 m2/ha



Queensland
Government