

Boree wooded downs

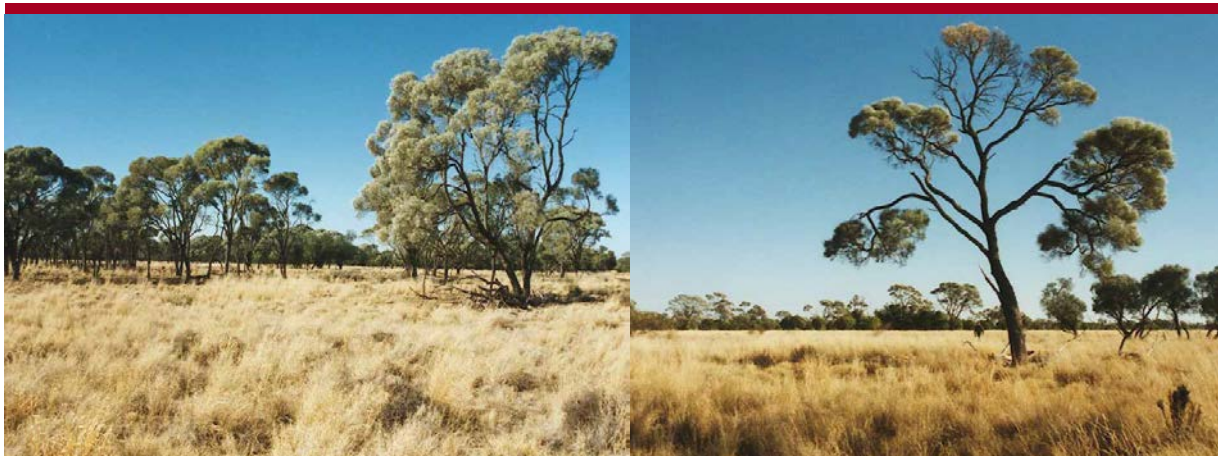


Photo: T2 (Kentle) Land System

General description

Flat to gently undulating plains of boree wooded Mitchell grassland on brown and grey moderately cracking clays. Dense stone cover in patches is common. Generally drain into open or wooded alluvial plains and adjacent to open downs, soft gidgee or wooded downs.

Landform

Flat to gently undulating plains.

Woody vegetation

Boree, occasionally with whitewood, boonaree, leopardwood, vine tree, broom bush, mimosa, and a cassia or turkey bush layer. Often with false sandalwood.

Expected pasture composition

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

Preferred

Mitchell grasses, desert bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, finger panic.

Intermediate

Star grass/native millet, fairy grass, bottlewasher grasses, katoora.

Non-preferred

Feathertop.

Annual grasses

Flinders grass, button grass.

Common forbs

Native legumes (e.g. grey rattlepod, glycine, rhynchosia), annual verbine, sida, potato bush, soda bush, pigweed, saltbush, tarvine, red spinach.

Suitable sown pasture

Not suitable for sown pastures.

Introduced weeds

Parthenium, rubbervine, bellyache bush, mother-of-millions, cactus (snake, devil's rope, harrisia and coral), spiked malvastrum, mesquite (hybrid), prickly acacia, parkinsonia.

Soil

Moderately deep to deep brown and grey clays derived from freshwater siltstone, usually with dense gravel cover. Clay soils moderately cracking to depth.

Description

Surface: Self-mulching beneath weak crusts; **Surface texture:** heavy clay, occasionally light clay; **Subsoil texture:** heavy clay.

Features

Usually patches of dense stone cover which limit cracking. Ironstone occurs throughout the profile. Lime and gypsum are present in profile.

Water availability

Moderate

Rooting depth

Deep

Infiltration

High initially on a dry soil profile, slowing to moderate levels after 35 mm of rain as cracks close and to low levels after 60 mm of rain. High runoff following 60 mm of rain. Estimates based on low to moderate intensity storm rain.

Fertility

Moderately high.

Salinity

Non-saline at surface, rapidly increasing to very high levels >20 cm.

Sodicity

Non-sodic

pH

Moderately alkaline throughout profile.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 406 – 468 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	2000 - 2940	22%	4.5 – 6.6
	4 TBA 10 FPC	1040 - 1770	22%	7.5 – 13

Enterprise

Breeding, fattening and wool production.

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native pastures.
- Provides valuable shade with sparse top-feed.
- Rotational wet season spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Maintain adequate ground cover to minimise soil erosion.
- Strategic burning to manage thickening with late dry season hot fires may be required in some areas.

Land use limitations

- Dense stone cover may restrict infiltration and limit productivity but reduces erosion.
- Seasonal prominence of poisonous plants, such as pimelea.
- Boree thickening in some areas.
- High salt levels close to the surface (>20 cm) may limit productivity.
- Moderate clay soils that require 50–75 mm of rain for Mitchell grasses to grow.

Conservation features and related management

- Wooded grassland is habitat for seed and insect eating birds; tussock structure is important for crack-dwelling specialists such as dunnart, planigale and Collett's snake.

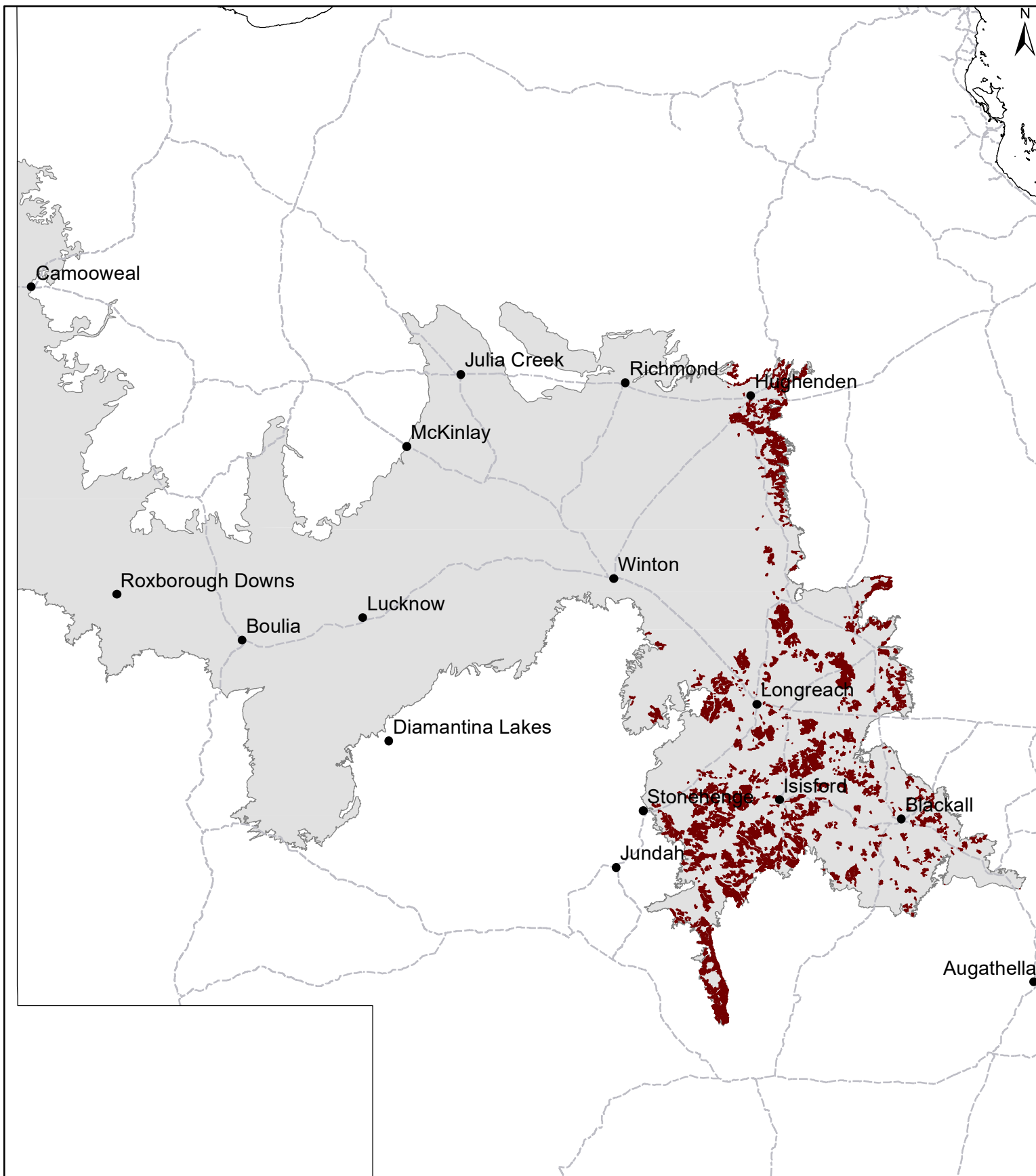
Regional Ecosystems

4.9.7, 4.9.7a.

WARLUS land systems

I	II	III	IV	V	VI
	T1, T2, T4		T2	T2	

MGD05 Boree wooded downs



Area of land type in region: 4%
Median rainfall (region): 233 – 494 mm
Average rainfall (region): 253 – 533 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 43%
Median FPC: 10%
Median TBA: 4 m²/ha



**Queensland
Government**