Wooded alluvial plains

Landform	Periodically or rarely flooded alluvial plains (slopes <1%) associated with levees, watercourses and major river systems. Seasonally swampy areas and billabongs are common.
Woody vegetation	Open tussock grassland to open woodlands dominated by coolibah, yapunyah, poplar box or gidgee depending on soil type. Associated trees include whitewood and boonaree with belalie, sally wattle and fuchsia bush a common understorey. River red gums and coolibah fringe major watercourses. Scattered areas of Queensland bluebush and lignum occur in seasonal swamps.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Mitchell grasses (hoop, curly, bull), forest bluegrass, desert bluegrass, buffel grass* (naturalised), Queensland bluegrass, neverfail, silky browntop, black speargrass, early spring grass.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, golden beard grass, lovegrasses (e.g. dainty, clustered, purple), curly windmill grass, umbrella canegrass, native millet, Warrego summer grass, fairy/yakka grass, katoora, five-minute grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrass (dark, feathertop, Jericho), rat's tail couch.
Annual grasses	Comb chloris, button grass, barnyard/swamp grass, mulka, weeping lovegrass, small and red Flinders grass, pepper grass.
Common forbs	Australian carrot, Queensland bluebush, saltbushes, smooth minuria, ruby saltbush, cow vine, grey raspweed, polymeria, annual verbine, silky goodenia, high sida, down's nutgrass, sedges, nardoo, native bluebell, rhynchosia, and burrs (goathead, galvanised, black roly poly).
Suitable sown pastures	Turanti barley Mitchell and Yanda curly Mitchell in southern Mitchell grass country.
Introduced weeds	Mother-of-millions, Noogoora burr, spiked malvastrum, Bathurst burr, parkinsonia, African boxthorn, mesquite, coral cactus to south, saffron thistle to the east.
Soil	Mix of deep grey to brown cracking clays and texture contrast soils; commonly interspersed with sand patches and lenses.
Description	***Surface*:** self-mulching or thin crust over weakly self-mulching; ***Surface texture*:** medium to heavy clays with sand patches; ***Sub-soil texture*:** heavy clays throughout (grey clays) or generally becoming lighter clay on smaller watercourses (red or grey colouring); more sodic at depth.

Features	Self-mulching or hard-setting.
Water availability	Lower for lighter textured soils, moderate to high for heavier soils.
Rooting depth	Sodicity at depth (usually >60 cm) may limit effective soil depth.
Infiltration	High on self-mulching; low on hard-setting soils.
Fertility	Moderate.
Salinity	Generally low at surface increasing with depth.
Sodicity	Non-sodic at surface, sodic to strongly sodic subsoils.
pH	Slightly acid (red) or neutral to alkaline (grey), increasingly alkaline at depth.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 282 – 461 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	880 - 1300	20%	11 - 17
	2 TBA 5 FPC	640 - 1130	20%	13 – 23

Enterprise

Breeding cows and sheep.

Land use and management recommendations

- Potential pasture growth following light to moderate rainfall (25–50 mm), due to concentration of runoff water on deep clays, is higher than for non-alluvial land.
- Improved pastures possible in some areas not subject to frequent inundation.
- Opportunistic cropping may be undertaken after good rains in some areas.
- Maintenance of vegetation cover can minimise flood (riverbank) and gully erosion and siltation of waterways.

Land use limitations

- In some areas productivity is reduced by shrub invasion and/or thickening of belalie, false sandalwood, Ellangowan poison bush and lignum.
- Texture contrast soils prone to scalding and degradation.
- Difficult to distinguish from adjoining land zones, although it may need different management.

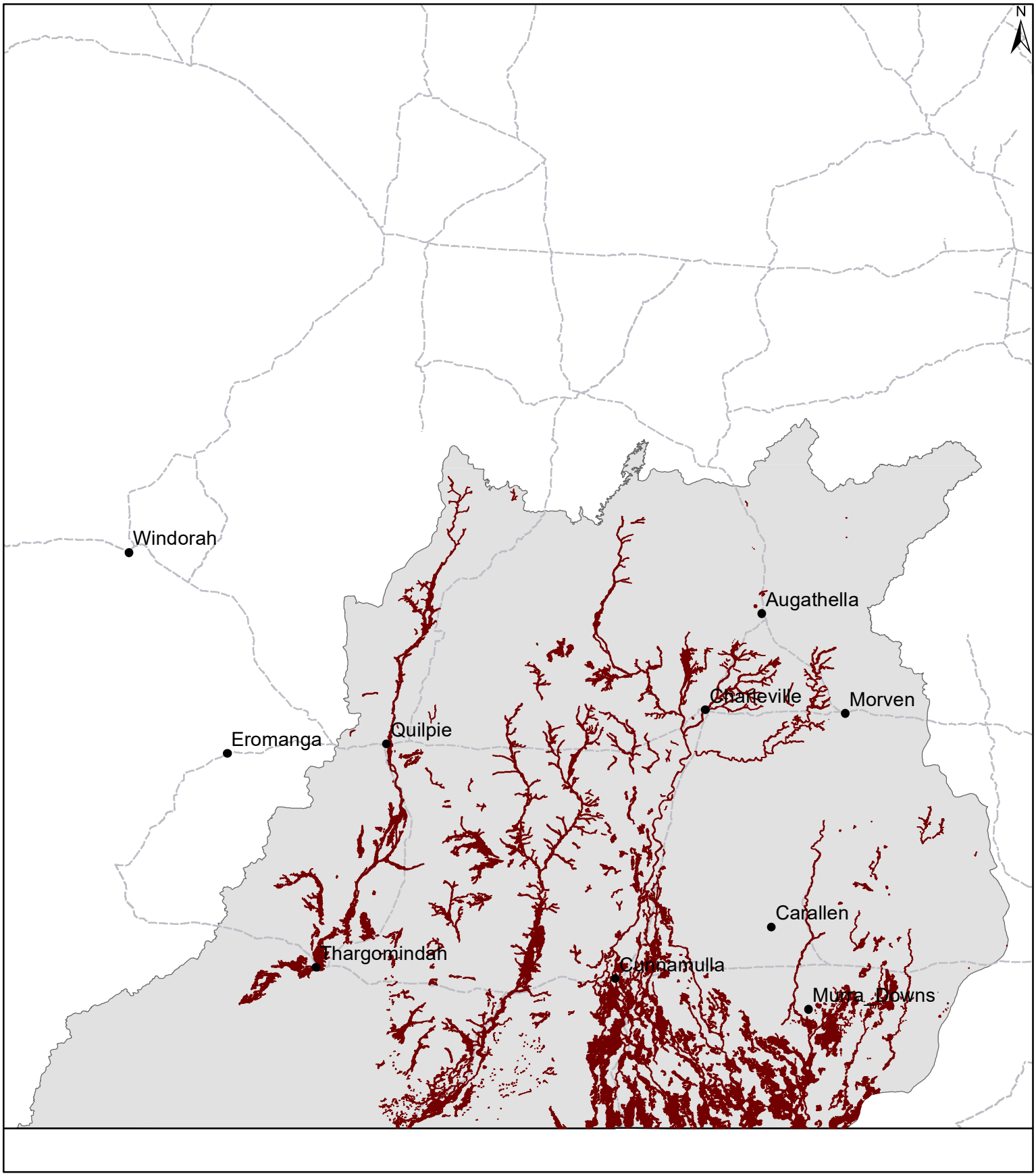
Conservation features and related management

- Timbered watercourses are critically important wildlife habitat in providing a corridor through the landscape, drought refuge and vital resources for a wide range of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians.
- Wooded alluvial plains have the highest bird diversity of all land zones and provide habitat for threatened fauna that includes squatter pigeon, pink cockatoo, black-chinned honeyeater, as well as mammals such as the kultarr and little pied bat.
- Other wildlife that occur in these areas include hollow-dwelling species (e.g. owls, red-tailed black cockatoo, insectivorous bats); koalas; native rodents (long-haired rats); and a wide range of waterbirds (including the threatened freckled duck), frogs and turtles that use the wetlands.
- Structural and floristic compositions may be highly modified; topsoil loss and scalding is widespread; and riparian plant communities may be threatened by weeds (e.g. Noogoora burr, parkinsonia).
- Maintenance of ground cover is important to minimise risk of sheet and gully erosion, reduce runoff, improve water quality and protect the wildlife habitat.
- Vigilance in controlling weed and feral animals can help prevent the degradation of these areas.

Regional Ecosystems

6.3.1, 6.3.1a, 6.3.2, 6.3.2b, 6.3.3, 6.3.3a, 6.3.5, 6.3.5a, 6.3.7, 6.3.8, 6.3.9, 6.12.1, 6.3.13b, 6.3.24, 6.3.24a, 11.3.2, 11.3.16, 11.3.25, 11.3.27, 11.3.28, 11.3.3, 11.3.5.

MU10 Wooded alluvial plains



Area of land type in region: 6%
Median rainfall (region): 253 – 504 mm
Average rainfall (region): 299 – 533 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 63%
Median FPC: 5%
Median TBA: 2 m2/ha

Queensland Government