

Basalt



Landform	Basalt undulating plains, rolling hills and plateaux.
Woody vegetation	Ironbarks, bloodwoods, open woodland characterised by whitewood, ghost gum, coolibah and bauhinia.
Expected pasture composition	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Black speargrass, Queensland bluegrass, kangaroo grass, forest bluegrass, desert bluegrass, plume sorghum.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, golden beard grass, Indian couch*, white grass, canegrass, giant speargrass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (eg: feathertop, white speargrass).
Annual grasses	Native couch, hairy armgrass, button grass, weeping lovegrass.
Common forbs	Rattlepods, rhynchosia, vernonia, indigofera.
Suitable sown pastures	Oversow with legumes; Shrubby stylo (e.g. Seca) (lighter soils), Caatingo stylo and Desmanthus.
Introduced weeds	Rubbervine, grader grass, stinking passionfruit, pricklyacacia.
Soil	Predominantly black earths (vertisols) with minor areas of red basalt(ferrosols).
Description	Surface: Self mulching black earths with potential to crack, soft (red basalt), both with varying level of basalt stones; Surface texture: medium to heavy clay; Subsoil texture: medium to heavy clay.

Features

Little white Carbonate nodules may occur in black earths. Presence of basalt stones varies from sparse to almost complete boulder coverage.

Water availability

Red Basalt: moderate water holding capacity with medium to rapid internal drainage.
Black Earths: moderate to very high water holding capacity with moderate to slow internal drainage.

Rooting depth

Shallow to moderate.

Infiltration

Moderate to high.

Fertility

Moderate to high. Tendency to be low in salt and sulphur.

Salinity

Low to very low.

Sodicity

Non-sodic.

pH

Alkaline (black earths): neutral to slightly acidic (redbasalt/ferrosols).

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 409 – 473 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	1930 - 2140	20%	6.8 – 7.6
	5 TBA 13 FPC	1090 - 1280	20%	11 – 13

Enterprise

Breeding and fattening.

Land use and management recommendations

- Use combination of control methods (fire, chemical, mechanical and biological) as management tool to control woody weeds.
- Maintenance of ground cover to minimise shrub invasion and wind and water (gully) erosion.

Land use limitations

- Timber thickening can limit productivity.
- Basalt stone cover affects infrastructure development eg: fences, roads, stock water

Conservation features and related management

- Subject to high grazing pressure.
- Subject to weed infestation by rubbervine (*Cryptostegia grandiflora*) and grader grass (*Themeda quadrivalvis*) and invasive exotic weed species such as mimosa (*Acacia farnesiana*) that may change the community to a tall open shrubland.

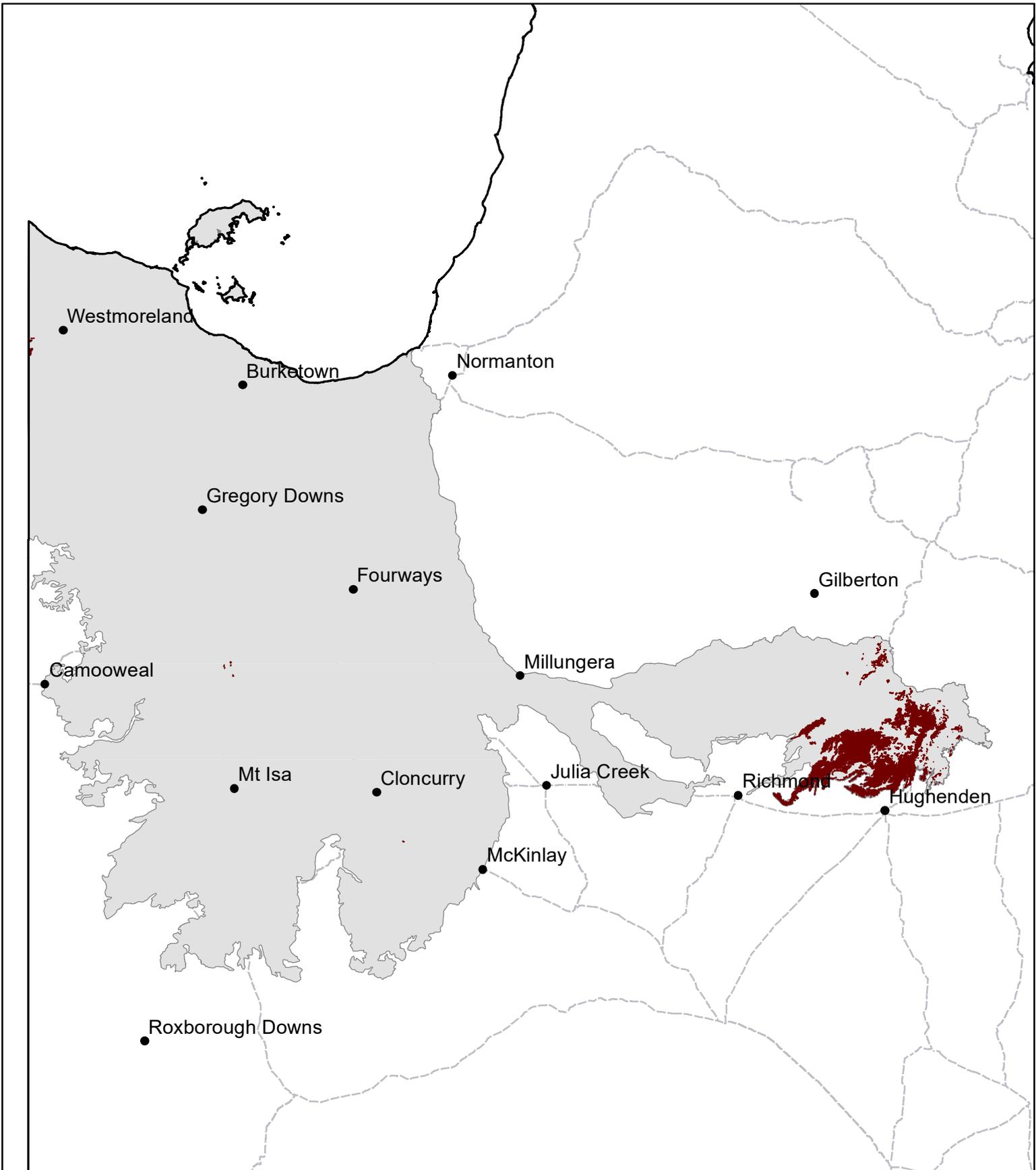
Regional Ecosystems

1.12.5, 9.3.11, 9.8.13, 9.8.1a, 9.8.5a-b, 9.8.9.

Land Systems

Rosella (59), Boonderoo (60) (Perry 1964), Land zone F (Fox *et al*2001).

SG01 Basalt



Area of land type in region: 2%
Median rainfall (region): 233 – 831 mm
Average rainfall (region): 271 – 952 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 31%
Median FPC: 13%
Median TBA: 5 m²/ha



Queensland
Government