

# Rough spinifex hills



|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Landform</b>                     | Rugged mountains, rocky plateaus and high plains, and hilly country.  |
| <b>Woody vegetation</b>             | Sparse low-woodland of snappy gum with scattered Cloncurrybox, western bloodwood, winged nut tree, turpentine, wattles and cassias.   |
| <b>Expected pasture composition</b> | <i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>   |
| Preferred                           | Soft spinifex, Cloncurry buffel grass*.   |
| Intermediate                        | Bottlewashers, wanderrie grasses, hard spinifex, five-minute grass.   |
| Non-preferred                       | Wiregrasses.  |
| Annual grasses                      | Native couch, small burr grass, Australian dropseed, fire grass, slender wanderrie grass.   |
| Common forbs                        | Gidgee burrs, foxtails, sidas, red spinach.   |
| <b>Suitable sown pastures</b>       | Not suitable for sown pastures.   |
| <b>Introduced weeds</b>             | Kapok bush.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                         | Skeletal and rock outcrops poorly drained deeper soils along drainagelines.   |
| Description                         | <b>Surface:</b> Massive with varying stone cover; <b>Surface texture:</b> sandy loam to sandy clay loam; <b>Sub-soil texture:</b> clay.   |
| Features                            | Deeper soils occur along drainage lines. Soils drain poorly at depth. Surface soil tends to seal. Generally, shallow soils less than 30cm are frequently stony and occur on steeper slopes. |
| Water availability                  | Very low to low.  |

Rooting depth

Low.

Infiltration

High on the steeper country until surface wets up after 10-15 mm of rain. On the deeper soils along drainage lines, light rain will be required to allow water to infiltrate down to the deeper clays once profile is wet, little through drainage is likely to occur, rest will run off.

Fertility

Low.

Salinity

Low, unknown at depth along the drainage lines.

Sodicity

Low, unknown at depth along the drainage lines.

pH

Neutral to acidic.

### Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

| Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day |  |  |  |                 |
|--|--|--|--|-----------------|
| Median annual rainfall 398– 831 mm                                       |  |  |  |                 |
| Pasture type   | Median tree cover<br>(TBA m <sup>2</sup> /ha)<br>(FPC %) | Median annual pasture growth<br>(DM kg/ha) | Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%) | LTCC<br>(ha/AE) |
| Native species   | 0 TBA/FPC  | 220 - 960                                  | 15%  | 20 - 87         |
|  | 4 TBA<br>10 FPC  | 130 - 560                                  | 15%  | 35 – 146        |

### Enterprise

Breeding.

### Land use and management recommendations

- Maintenance of perennial pastures is required to allow infiltration in the deeper soils.
- Maintenance of ground cover to minimise shrub invasion and erosion.
- Mosaic burning for wildfire control, turpentine management and to improve access and grazing value of spinifex.

### Land use limitations

- Steepness of slope may limit available grazing areas.
- Steepness of slope and shallow stony soils limit cultivation opportunities.
- Turpentine thickening can limit productivity.

### Conservation features and related management

- Historic mining has potential to impact water quality.

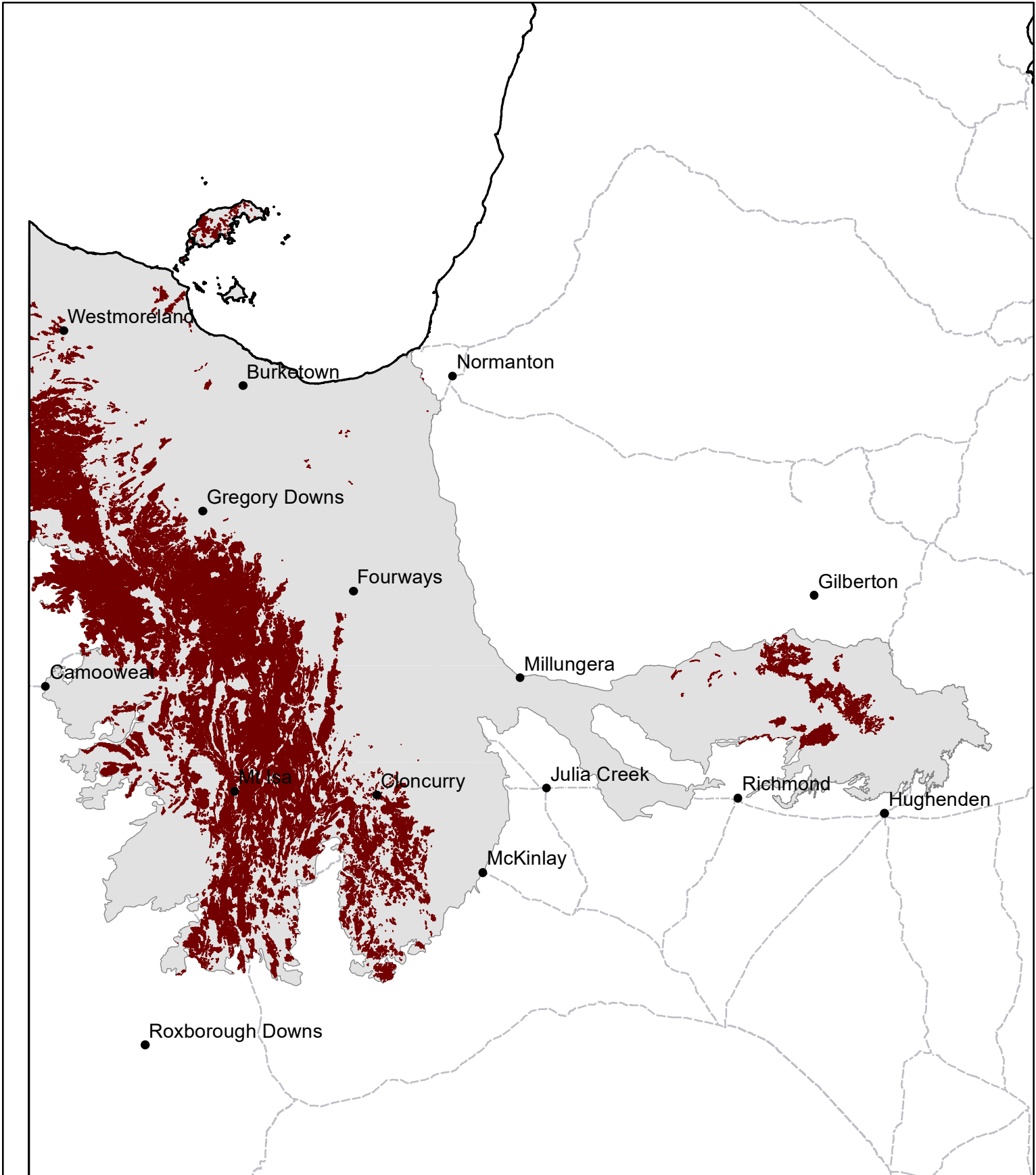
### Regional Ecosystems

1.11.6, 1.11.8, 1.11.9, 1.12.3a, 1.7.1a, 1.7.7a, 1.9.10, 1.9.11a, 1.9.11c, 1.9.12, 1.9.13, 1.9.14, 1.9.4b-c, 2.3.20b, 2.3.37, 2.5.4, 2.5.9, 4.9.12x4a.

### Land Systems

Kuridala (18), Argylla (8) Merlin (13) (Perry 1964).

# SG11 Rough spinifex hills



Area of land type in region: 17%  
Median rainfall (region): 233 – 831 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 271 – 952 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 76%  
Median FPC: 10%  
Median TBA: 4 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland**  
Government