

Northern sandy forest



Landform	Outwash plains.
Woody vegetation	Broad-leaved and narrow-leaved tea tree low woodland and Georgetown box woodland. In areas of higher rainfall messmate and bloodwood woodlands occur. Associated species include Cooktown ironwood, wattles, terminalia, guttapercha, quinine and bauhinia. Sparse occurrence of currant bush and wait-a-while.
Expected pasture composition	<i>*Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i> Pastures often dominated by <i>Aristida</i> and the annual fire grass species.
Preferred	Golden beard grass, forest bluegrass, plume sorghum, black speargrass, giant speargrass.
Intermediate	Northern wanderrie grass, cotton panic, wiregrasses.
Non-preferred	
Annual grasses	Fire grass, silkytop grass, lovegrasses, long-awn wanderrie grass, rare panic, comb finger grass, pigeon grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Shrubby and Caribbean stylos with fertiliser.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Texture contrast soils and sandy grey and yellow earths.
Description	Surface: unstructured; Surface texture: loamy sand; Subsoil texture: loamy clay.

Features	Frequently turn to bulldust, mottling of subsoils, slow or impeded drainage.
Water availability	Low to moderate.
Fertility	Low nitrogen (0.022%); low phosphorus (2 mg/kg); low potassium (0.1 cmol /kg).
Salinity	Non-saline
Sodicity	Moderate to high sodicity at surface; high to extremely high at depth.
pH	Acidic (5.5–6.0) throughout the profile; sometimes becoming more neutral (6.5) 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 723 – 1297 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	1210 - 1580	15%	12 - 16
	7 TBA 18 FPC	460 - 980	15%	20 – 42

Enterprise

Breeding

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native pastures.
- Spelling to achieve fuel loads and strategic burning (late dry hot burn) to manage woody thickening (e.g. tea trees).
- Native pastures need to be burnt prior to over-sowing with stylos.

Land use limitations

- Extremely low fertility limits potential carrying capacities.
- Phosphorus supplements are essential in wet season.

Conservation features and related management

- Subject to heavy total grazing pressure. In some areas prone to scalding and wind erosion.
- Provides wetland habitat for a flora and fauna.
- Includes seasonal wetlands significant as feeding sites for water birds.
- The rare species Kurrajong *Brachychiton vitifolius* and *Homoranthus tropicus* and vulnerable species *Macropteranthes montana* can occur in this land type

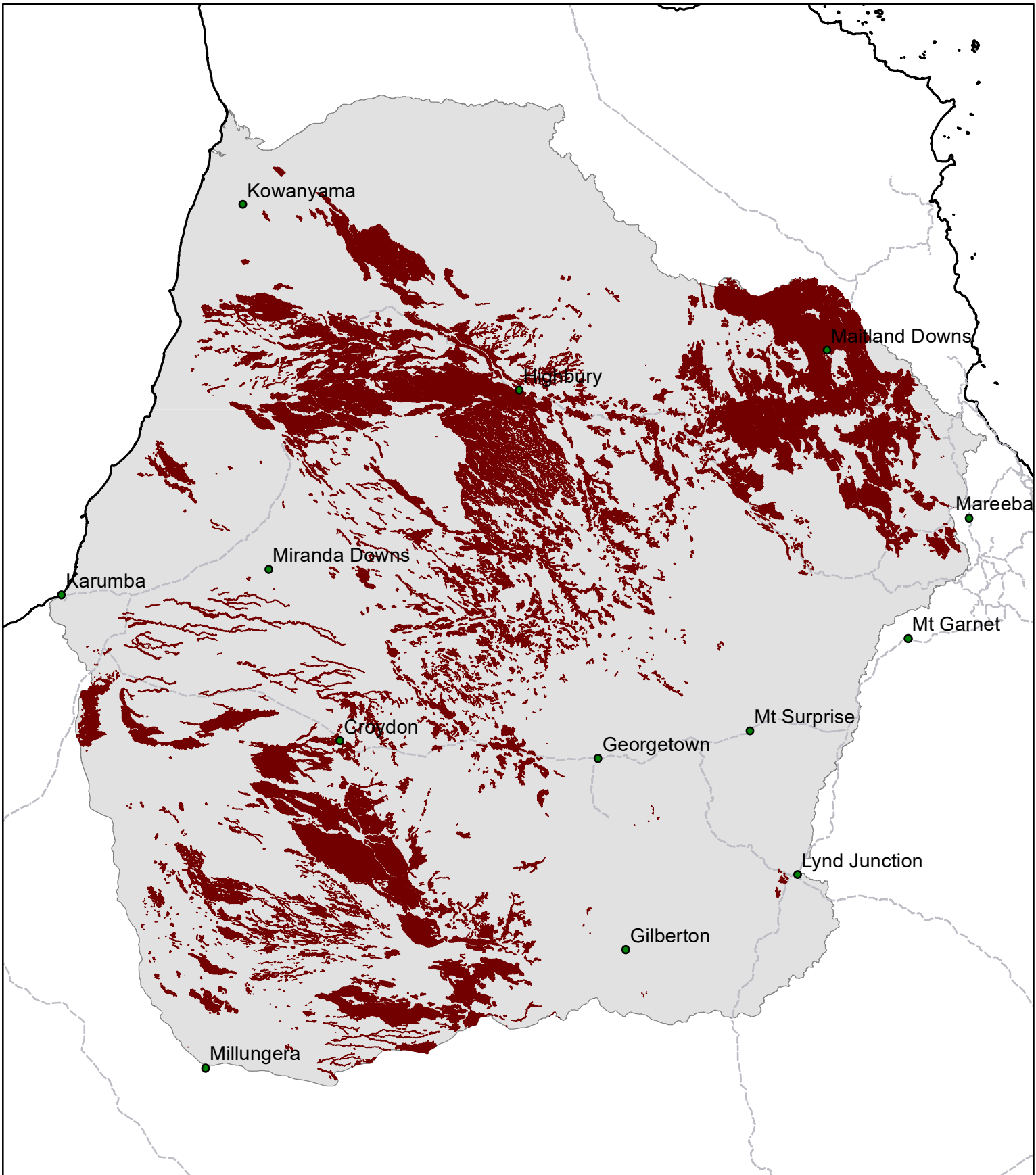
Regional Ecosystems

2.3.29a-c, 2.3.30a-e, 2.3.36a, 2.5.18a-b, 2.9.6x1, 2.9.7a-b, 9.11.3a, 9.3.24, 9.5.12, 9.5.16, 9.5.8.

Land system, Local Pasture Unit

Strathmore (23), Mayvale (42), Claraville (43), Prospect (57), Strathpark (19), Dandry (21), Esmeralda (22), Stanhill (36), Abingdon (45) (Perry *et al* 1964); LPU 41, 42 (Tothill and Gillies 1992).

NG14 Northern sandy forest



Area of land type in region: 14%
Median rainfall (region): 544 – 1297 mm
Average rainfall (region): 580 – 1370 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 92%
Median FPC: 18%
Median TBA: 7 m²/ha



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