

MAP UNITS

1. Burnbank Plains Unit

Gently undulating terrain on weathered sedimentary rock or on alluvium from such rock occurs in the valleys of the Burnbank and Bet Bet Creeks in the study area. The characteristic feature of the unit is the severe gully erosion and salting on many of the lower slopes and in drainage depressions.

Geology: Ordovician sandstone and shale

Slope: Average 1-3%

Landforms: 85% gentle slope
15% drainage depression, gully, flat

Soils:

Dominant: Dy3.41, Dy3.42, Db1.81, Dy2.42. Mottled or hole-coloured yellow-brown duplex soils, frequently with red subsoils; a pale or bleached A₂, especially on the lower slopes and depressions, is usually present and may contain quartz and buckshot.

See appendices 1 and 2 for typical soil profile description from this unit.

Stone rock outcrop: Nil

Pans: Predominantly grazing

Observed land deterioration: Severe gully erosion and salting in many of the drainage depressions.

Susceptibility to land deterioration:

Gully erosion (high)

Salting (high)

Sheet erosion (moderate)

Compaction (low to moderate)

Land capability classification:

Generally, land capability class 2 and 3 with soil type and drainage as the dominant factors (see Table 1). However, the soil salinity status in this Unit is such that the land capability classes in this Unit range up to 5, with the class 4 and 5 areas being located in many of the drainage lines and depressions.