MU 32 TABLELAND SCRIBBLY GUM – NARROW-LEAVED STRINGYBARK SHRUBBY OPEN FOREST

❑ *CORRESPONDING CLASSIFICATIONS*

Regional: possibly a component of DSF14 Western Tablelands Dry Forest

State: Southern Tableland Dry Sclerophyll Forests

Number of Sites: 16 Average number of identified native species per plot: 32.4

❑ *DESCRIPTION*

An open forest or woodland community found along the spine of the Great Dividing Range and on exposed Permian coarse-grained sediments in the Upper Wolgan Valley. Tableland scribbly gum (*E. rossii*) and stringybark (*E. sparsifolia*) dominate the canopy, sometimes with grey gum (*E. punctata*). Localised occurences pf Sydney peppermint (*E. piperita*) and silvertop ash (*E. sieberi*) are common along the Dividing Range. Shrubs are generally patchy and low growing and include a range of wattle species *Acacia* sp., *Dillwynnia, Monotoca* and *Podolobium*. Grasses, *Joycea pallida* and *Entolasia stricta* in particular mix with exposed rocks, soil and litter, typify the ground cover. These grasses and forementioned shrubs are indicative of the infertile sandstone soils that are common on adjoining narrabeen sandstones. These substrates are usually quite rich in quartz, and weather to a shallow, stony, well-drained sandy loam soil

The favoured lithology is the Permian and metamorphic materials immediately overlying Sydney Basin sediments. The main distribution of the unit is in the upper Wolgan Valley, with outliers in the Capertee near Glen Davis and Glen Alice, and in to the Cox's catchment around Ben Bullen and Lidsdale State Forests. The altitudinal range is from 290 metres to 1100 metres above sea level, although the bulk of the community occurs between 600 metres and 700 metres above sea level in the Wolgan and 1000 metres and 1100 metres in the Cox's. Precipitation is of the order of 750 millimetres to 900 millimetres *per annum*.

Surprisingly data analysis revealed poor association with sites describing vegetation on similar habitats elsewhere within the study area and surrounds. This unit shows some similarity to the Western Tablelands Dry Forest community in Tindall *et al.* (2004) and as such may be considered as part of the Southern Tableland Dry Sclerophyll Forests of Keith (2004). Given the underlying infertile soils, clearing is unlikely to have resulted in significant reductions of its original area, however there are only isolated examples in the adjoining reserve system.

❑ *STRUCTURAL SUMMARY*

Stratum	Count	AvLowHt	AvHt	maxHt	AvCover	SDcover	minCover	maxCover
T	11	8.82	19.82	30	40.27	9.37	25	50
M1	10	0.65	4.60	25	14.60	15.29	3	50
L1	11	0.3	0.67	1.5	23	19.97	3	60
L2	2		0.3	0.5	3.50	2.12	2	5

❑ *FLORISTIC SUMMARY*

Trees

Eucalyptus rossii, E. sparsifolia, E. mannifera, E. punctata

Low Trees and Shrubs

Acacia buxifolia, A. decora, A. terminalis, A. ulicifolia, Brachyloma daphnoides, Dillwynia phylicoides, Hovea heterophylla, Lissanthe strigosa, Monotoca elliptica, Platysace ericoides, Podolobium ilicifolium

Ground Covers

Astroloma humifusum, Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia, Dianella revoluta, Entolasia stricta, Gonocarpus tetragynus, Goodenia bellidifolia, Goodenia hederacea, Hibbertia obtusifolia, Joycea pallida, Patersonia sericea, Rhytidosporum procumbens, Stackhousia viminea, Stylidium graminifolium

Vines & Climbers

Billardiera scandens, Hardenbergia violacea

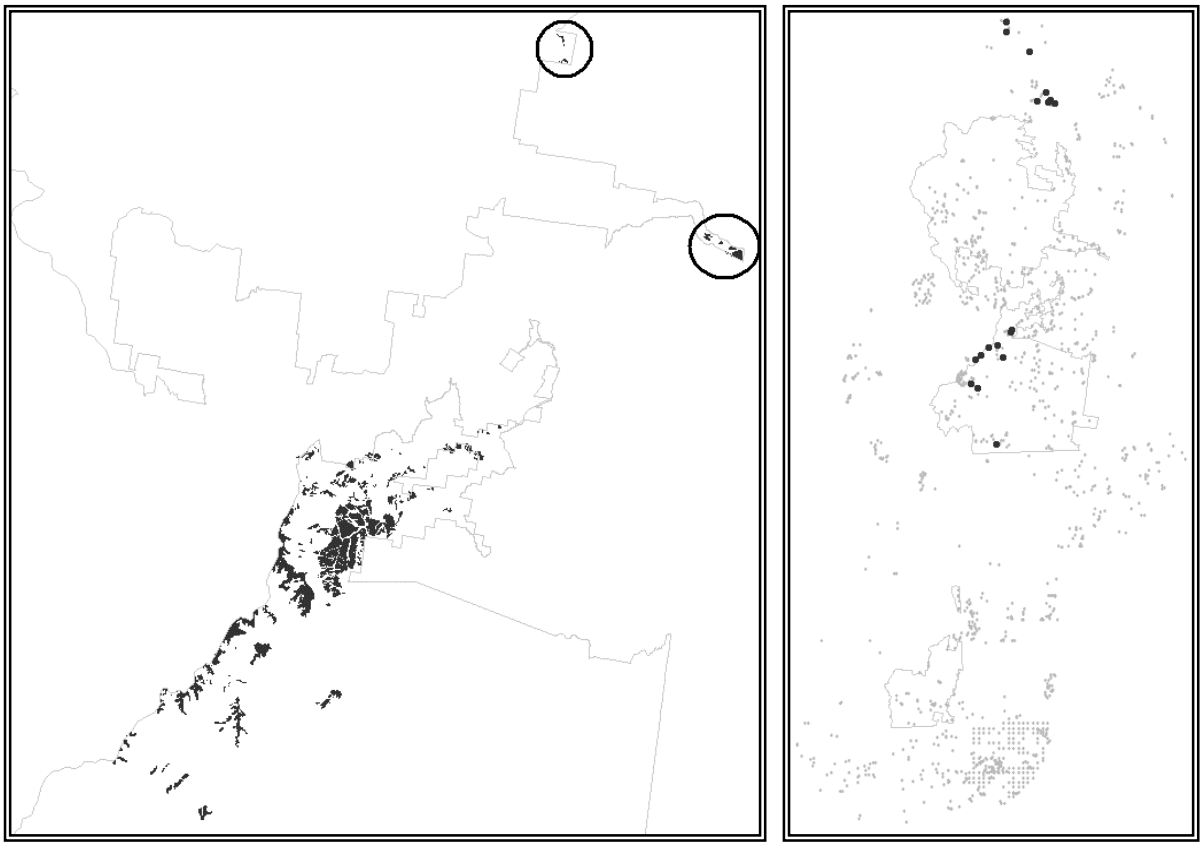
❑ *KEY IDENTIFYING FEATURES*

Easily recognisable features to assist in identifying this map unit are:

- Open forest with tablelands scribbly gum, and narrow-leaved stringybark with an open midstorey of legumes and epacrids.
- Sparse groundcover with *Joycea pallida* as the dominant graminoid.
- Moderately diverse groundcover.

❑ *EXAMPLE LOCATIONS*

Wolgan valley in Ben Bullen State Forest; Ben Bullen State Forest along Great Dividing Range; and near the Capertee River near the junction of Freshwater Creek.



❑ *CONDITION ASSESSMENT*

Disturbance Class	Area (ha)	Proportion Extant (%)
A Low	99.24	10.62
B Medium	208.59	22.33
C High	626.41	67.05
Total	**934.77**	**100**

❑ *THREATENED PLANT SPECIES*

Definite: *Eucalyptus cannonii, Persoonia marginata*

Possible: *Apatophyllum constablei*, *Persoonia hirsuta*, *Prostanthera cryptandroides, Pultenaea glabra*

❑ *DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES*

Species Name	Group Score	Group Freq (%)	Non Group Score	Non Group Freq (%)	Fidelity Class
Acacia buxifolia	2	61.11	1	7.18	positive
Acacia venulosa	2	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Brachyloma daphnoides	2	66.67	1	13.88	positive
Brachyscome heterodonta var. *heterodonta*	2	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Daviesia pubigera	2	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Dianella revoluta	2	44.44	2	27.68	positive
Digitaria parviflora	2	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Dillwynia phylicoides	2	83.33	2	6.69	positive
Entolasia stricta	2	50.00	2	17.59	positive
Eucalyptus rossii	4	88.89	3	12.19	positive
Eucalyptus sparsifolia	3	38.89	3	10.82	positive
Genoplesium nudiscapum	1	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Gonocarpus tetragynus	2	61.11	2	27.36	positive
Goodenia bellidifolia	2	55.56	2	10.25	positive
Goodenia hederacea	2	61.11	2	17.59	positive
Hakea dactyloides	2	38.89	2	10.73	positive
Hardenbergia violacea	2	44.44	1	20.10	positive
Hovea linearis	2	61.11	1	10.49	positive
Ixiolaena leptolepis	2	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Lomandra glauca	2	55.56	2	24.86	positive
Mirbelia pungens	1	5.55	0	0.00	positive
Patersonia sericea	2	83.33	1	11.78	positive
Persoonia linearis	2	50.00	2	34.46	positive
Persoonia myrtilloides	2	50.00	1	3.71	positive
Platysace ericoides	2	44.44	2	9.76	positive
Poranthera microphylla	2	61.11	1	22.84	positive
Rhytidosporum procumbens	2	38.89	1	4.43	positive
Stylidium graminifolium	2	44.44	1	7.26	positive
Lomandra filiformis	3	50.00	2	36.00	constant
Poa sieberiana	2	50.00	2	39.78	constant
Lomandra longifolia	2	22.22	2	39.78	negative