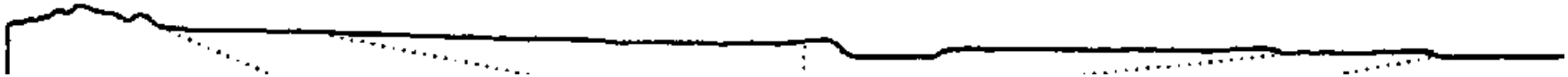
LAND SYSTEM
Ellinthorp Plains

271122

Area(ha):
8078



COMPONENT	A	B	C	D	E	F
PROPORTION(%)	10	10	30	30	10	10
RAINFALL(mm)	Approximate Annual Rainfall: 500-625					
GEOLOGY	Triassic Sandstone, Siltstone					
TOPOGRAPHY	Rolling Plains and Associated Lagoons					
Position	(Stony) Crests/upper Slopes	Mid Slopes	Lower Slopes/Flats	Drainage Flats/Lagoons	Saline Drainage Flats	Drainage Lines
Typical Slope(o)	7	10	5	0	0	0
NATIVE VEGETATION						
Structure	(Open) Woodland	(Cpe	n) Woodland	Grassland/Herbland	Sedgeland/Herbfield	Woodland
Floristic Association (See Appendix 1 for common names)	Eucalyptus viminalis	Eucalyptus viminalis	Eucalyptus viminalis	Poa sp.	Gahnia trifida	Eucalyptus ovata
	Lomandra longifolia	Eucalyptus pauciflora	Hibbertla fasciculata	Plantago coronopus	Poa sp.	
		Latandra longifolia			Juncus kraussii	
		Lissanthe strigosa			Plantago coronopus	
		Wahlenbergia sp.			Samolus repens	
		Acacia dealbata			Acaena novae-zelandiae	
		Danthonia sp.			Trifolium fragiferu	
		Themeda australia			Hordeum marinum	
					Distichlls distichophylla	
					Puccinellia stricta	
SOIL						
Surface(A) Texture	Sand	Loamy Sand	Loamy Sand	Sandy Loam/Sandy Clay Loam	Light Clay	Heavy Clay
B Horizon(subsoil) Colour (moist) Texture and primary profile form	Extremely shallow (stony) sand - very dark greyish brown (10 YR 3/2) to dark yellowish brown (10 YR 3/4) on bedrock. Uniform.	Sandy clay - brown/dark brown (10 YR 4/3) sometimes with red (2.5 YR 4/8) mottle. Duplex.	Deep sandy to medium clay-yellowish brown (10 YR 5/4) sometimes with greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) mottle. Duplex.	Deep heavy clay - Dark brown (10 YR 3/3) to olive brown (2.5 Y 4/4). Duplex.	Deep clay - various colours e.g. Very dark grey (10 YR 3/1) to pale brown (10 YR 6/3) to yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6). Uniform.	Deep heavy clay - Black (10 YR 2/1) to greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) with dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/6). Uniform.
Permeability	High	High/Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low
Typical depth(m)	0.25	0.55	>1.40	0.80	1.10	>1.40
LAND USE	Grazing, Cropping					
HAZARDS	Moderate Sheet, Rill, Gully Erosion			Flooding, Waterlogging	Flooding, Salting Waterlogging	Flooding, Waterlogging

ELLINTHORP PLAINS

This land system is located about 10 km west of Ross and includes Triassic sandstone hills, extensive rolling plains and a series of lagoons.

The crests and upper slopes of the sandstone hills typically have less than 0.25 m of stony uniform sand which supports a woodland/open woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus vimlnalis* with an understorey of *Lomandra longifolia.*

Deep (0.60 m) duplex soils on mid and lower slopes have a light surface texture, such as a loamy sand over a dark brown to yellowish brown sandy clay with a red to greyish brown mottle. These soils support a woodland/open woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus viminalis* and *Eucalyptus pauciflora* over an understorey of *Lomandra longifolia, Lissanthe strigosa, Wahlenbergia sp, Acacia dealbata, Danthonia sp, Themeda australis,* and H*ibbertia fasciculata.*

On saline drainage flats, associated with lagoons, deep duplex soils are found. These consist of a sandy loam/sandy clay loam surface over a dark brown to olive brown heavy clay. They support a grassland/herbland dominated by *Poa sp* and *Plantago coronopus.* On the most saline of these flats, uniform light clays occur that vary in colour from very dark grey to pale brown to yellowish brown. These support a sedgeland/grassland dominated by *Gahnia trifida,* and *Poa sp* with *Juncus kraussii, Plantago coronopus, Samolus repens, Acaena novae-zelandiae, Distichlis distichophylla* and *Puccinellia stricta.*

A number of dune and lunette landforms occur in the area. These consist of aeolian sand and clay deposits. This type of landform has been described by Hill (1940), Nicolls (1958a), Bowler (1973, 1976). The examples on the Ellinthorp Plains have been described by Leamy (1961). The aeolian material which form these deposits may have been derived from the Central Plateau following the retreat of Pleistocene ice caps. They have been described from areas such as Lake Crescent, Lake Sorell, Lagoon of Islands and Lake Augusta (Pemberton 1986).

Soils in the area have been described and mapped by Leamy (1961).

The region has been extensively cleared for grazing and cropping. Sheet and rill erosion are potential hazards on the crests and slopes whilst flooding, waterlogging and salting are hazards on the drainage flats. The saline drainage lines and lagoons in this land system are similar to those described in the adjoining Tunbridge Flats (173121) Land System to the south.

Undulating plains and saline lagoons of the Elllnthorp Plains Land System with the Western Tiers in the background.