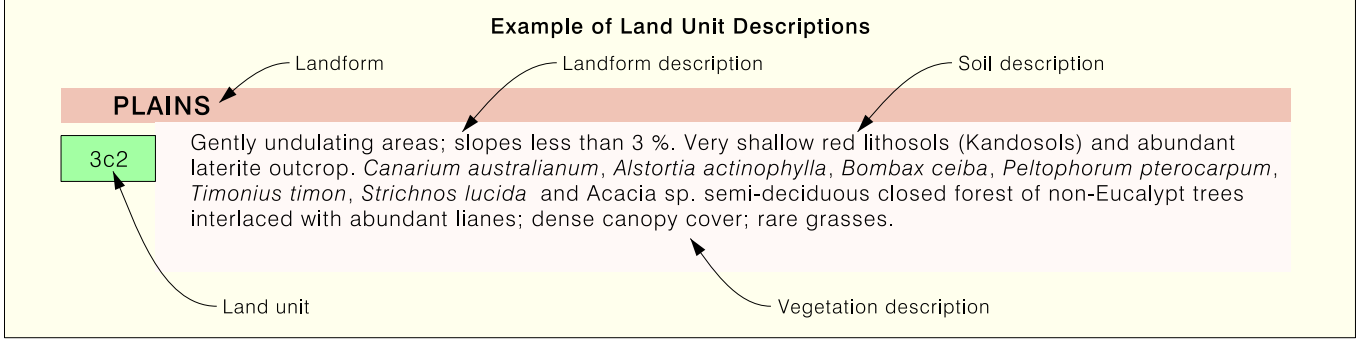


LAND RESOURCES of CROKER ISLAND

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LAND UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

- SIDESLOPES**
- 1a** Steeply sloping crests with abundant laterite outcrop; slopes 15-40%; plateaux areas absent. Very shallow, red lithosols (Kandosols) with outcrop increasing towards the crest of the slope. *Eucalyptus bleeseri*, *E. tetradonta* and *E. miniata*, open forest; generally slender trees; scattered shrubs; perennial grasses.
- RISES**
- 1b1** Sloping surface with frequent laterite outcrop; slopes 5-15%; surface covered by abundant stones and gravel. Very shallow red lithosols (Kandosols) and shallow gravelly red earths (Kandosols). *Eucalyptus tetradonta*, *E. bleeseri* and *E. miniata*, open forest; slender trees; shrub layer common; perennial grasses.
 - 1b2** Sloping areas with frequent laterite outcrop; slopes 5-15%; surface covered with abundant stone and gravel. Very shallow red lithosols (Kandosols) and shallow gravelly red earths (Kandosols). *Acacia*, *Sorghum*, *Schizanthium*, open tussock grassland with both annual and perennial species; scattered shrubs and small areas of semi-deciduous closed forest with non-Eucalypt trees.
- LOW RISES**
- 2a** Footslope areas of units 1a, 1b1 and 1b2; slopes 3-5%. Shallow yellow lithosols (Tenosols); moderately deep siliceous sands (Tenosols) with very loose sandy surfaces. *Eucalyptus tetradonta*, *E. nesophila*, *E. miniata*, open forest, with a well-developed shrub understorey including *Terminalia grandiflora*, *Petalostigma*, *Acacia*, *Grevillea dimidiata* and an understorey of annual and perennial grasses.
 - 2b** Footslope areas of units 1a; slopes 3-5%. Deep red earthy sands (Kandosols) with surface textures of loamy sand. *Eucalyptus miniata*, *E. tetradonta* and *E. polycarpa* open forest with a scattered shrub understorey and an understorey of perennial grasses.
- PLAINS**
- 3a1** Predominantly short gentle slopes, less than 3%; some areas are broad catchments for small indistinct drainage lines. Deep, well-drained red earths (Kandosols) with small areas of red podzolics (Chromosols). *Eucalyptus tetradonta* tall open forest with *E. miniata*; minor *E. polycarpa* and *E. caryocarpus* often a well-developed shrub understorey including *Livistona*, *Acacia*, *Planchonia*, *Buchanania*, *Pandanus* species; minor *E. tetradonta* closed forest.
 - 3a2** Short, gentle slopes, less than 3%. Deep well-drained red earths (Kandosols) with small areas of red podzolics (Chromosols) with restricted drainage. *Planchonia careya*, *Ficus opposita* low open woodland with perennial grasses; merging to a perennial tussock grassland with scattered shrubs including *Planchonia*, *Pandanus* species and *Ficus opposita*.
 - 3b1** Gently undulating areas; slopes less than 3%. Shallow and gravelly red earths (Kandosols) with small areas of shallow red lithosols (Kandosols) and some rock outcrop. Poorly formed *Eucalyptus tetradonta* dominated open forest with *E. miniata* and *E. bleeseri* subdominant; often a shrub understorey comprising *Livistona*, *Acacia*, *Planchonia*; and perennial grasses.
 - 3b2** Gently undulating areas; slopes less than 3%. Gravelly red earths (Kandosols) on the western side of the island; shallow, red lithosols (Kandosols) with laterite outcrop on low crests on the eastern side. *Acacia* sp., *Acacia dimidiata*, *Grevillea dimidiata*, *Calytrix exaltata*, and *Pandanus* sp. tall shrubland on the western side of the island, on the eastern side an *Acacia* sp. and *Planchonia careya* low open woodland exists with perennial grasses.
 - 3c1** Gently undulating areas; slopes less than 3%. Shallow red lithosols (Kandosols) with abundant laterite outcrop. *Sorghum plumosum* and *Heteropogon contortus* perennial tussock grassland with scattered low trees and shrubs and small areas of semi-deciduous closed forest with non-Eucalypt trees.
 - 3c2** Gently undulating areas; slopes less than 3%. Very shallow red lithosols (Kandosols) and abundant laterite outcrop. *Canarium australicum*, *Alstonia acrotrophyla*, *Bombax cecilia*, *Peltophorum petricarpum*, *Timonius timon*, *Schinus lucida* and *Acacia* sp., semi-deciduous closed forest of non-Eucalypt trees interlaced with abundant lianes; dense canopy cover; rare grasses.
 - 4a** Short gentle slopes less than 3%. Deep sandy yellow earths (Kandosols). *Eucalyptus tetradonta* open forest with *E. bleeseri*, *E. miniata* and *Lophostem latifolius* and a shrub understorey with perennial grasses.
 - 4b** Short gentle slopes less than 3%. Deep, yellow podzolics (Chromosols) with loose surfaces of loamy sand texture. *Eucalyptus miniata* dominated open forest; *E. bleeseri* subdominant; *Acacia* sp. subordinate; shrub understorey; perennial and annual grasses.
 - 4c1** Undulating areas; slopes less than 3%. Moderately deep yellow earths (Kandosols) and shallow yellow lithosols (Tenosols) with some laterite outcrop on crest areas. *Eucalyptus bleeseri* open forest with *E. miniata* and *E. tetradonta* and sparse shrubs with a patchy grass understorey.
 - 4c2** Gently sloping areas; slopes less than 3%. Shallow yellow podzolics (Hydrosols); minor surface stone. *Melaleuca viridiflora*, *Melaleuca acacioides* and *Eucalyptus latifolia* low woodland at the southern tip of the island. On the eastern side a *Pandanus* sp. tall shrubland with *Ficus opposita*, *Planchonia careya*, occurs with an understorey of perennial grasses.
- ALLUVIAL PLAINS**
- 5b** Broad drainage floors with slight slopes; seepage areas; no channels developed. Yellow podzolics (Hydrosols) with hard setting surface horizons. *Eucalyptus tetradonta* open forest with subdominant *E. nesophila*, *E. miniata* and *Lophostem latifolius*; scattered shrubs and perennial grasses.
- DUNE PLAINS**
- 6b** Stable reardunes parallel to the coast; relict beach ridges interspersed by channels on the estuarine plain (unit 7a). Calcareous sands with detrital A1 horizons (Tenosols) over cemented shell materials. *Melaleuca viridiflora*, *Melaleuca viridiflora*, *Planchonia careya* open woodland and grasses of *Imperata cylindrica*, *Vegetia elongata* occur on the beach ridge. On rear dunes: *Acacia* and *Pandanus* sp. tall shrubland to *Spinifex longifolius* grassland.
 - 6c** Recent foredunes along the coast line, variable elevation; unconsolidated; frequent blow-outs evident. Beach sands; loose unconsolidated sand. (Arenic Rudosols). Unstable grass cover of *Spinifex longifolius*; scattered shrubs and trees.
- DRAINAGE**
- 5a** Drainage lines, often channelled, fanning out at their lower end; conducting water intermittently during the wet season; associated slopes of alluvial origin. Deep yellow earths (Hydrosols) and siliceous sands (Hydrosols), frequently layered. *Melaleuca viridiflora*, *Lophostem latifolius* low woodland with *Corymba cecilia* and *Corymba polycarpa* and dense shrubs with an understorey of dense grasses.
 - 7b** Depression areas located between relict beach ridges; connected to the sea via unit 9a; filled with brackish water for a large part of the year. Saline grey, brown and red clays (Aquic Vertosols); salt cracks; highly dispersible when wet; surface cracks on drying. Almost devoid of vegetation; patches of salt tolerant species including *Fimbristylis* sp., *Phyla nodiflora* and *Vegetia elongata*.
 - 9a** Major fresh water creeks and channels with tributaries; limited sources of permanent fresh water; tidal channel areas with brackish water. Vegetation has not been described.
- SWAMPS**
- 6a** Drainage lines with permanent springs or seepage areas; small freshwater depressions adjacent to the coast; shallow linear depressions fringing the paludal plain. Acidic humic gleys (Hydrosols); very deep organic surface horizons. *Carpentaria acuminata* and *Melaleuca viridiflora* combined tall closed forest with other non-Eucalypt trees; abundant lianes and epiphytes; sometimes exclusively populated by paperbark or palms; rare grasses.
 - 6b** Paludal plain, inundated for some months every year. Acidic humic gleys (Hydrosols); very deep surface horizon consisting almost entirely of organic matter; wet, anaerobic, clay subsoil. *Hymenoclea acutiligula* grassland dominates in the wettest areas with some *Acrostichum* sp. and *Phyla nodiflora* in the drier areas, and clumps of *Scleria poaeiformis*, particularly on the drier outer edge of the plain.
- COASTAL FLOODPLAINS**
- 7a** Saline flats adjacent to the coast; drained by tidal channels; seasonally inundated. Solonchaks (Vertosols); puffy cracked surface; highly saline. (Supratidal Hydrosols). Predominantly devoid of vegetation; areas of samphire occur on the salt flats with mangrove closed scrub along salt water channels.
- MARINE**
- 8a** Saline flats adjacent to the coast; drained by tidal channels; seasonally inundated. Solonchaks (Vertosols); puffy cracked surface; highly saline. (Supratidal Hydrosols). Predominantly devoid of vegetation; areas of samphire occur on the salt flats with mangrove closed scrub along salt water channels.
- WATER BODIES**
- Water. Vegetation has not been described.
- SIGNIFICANTLY DISTURBED LANDSCAPES**
- Airstrip. Vegetation has not been described.



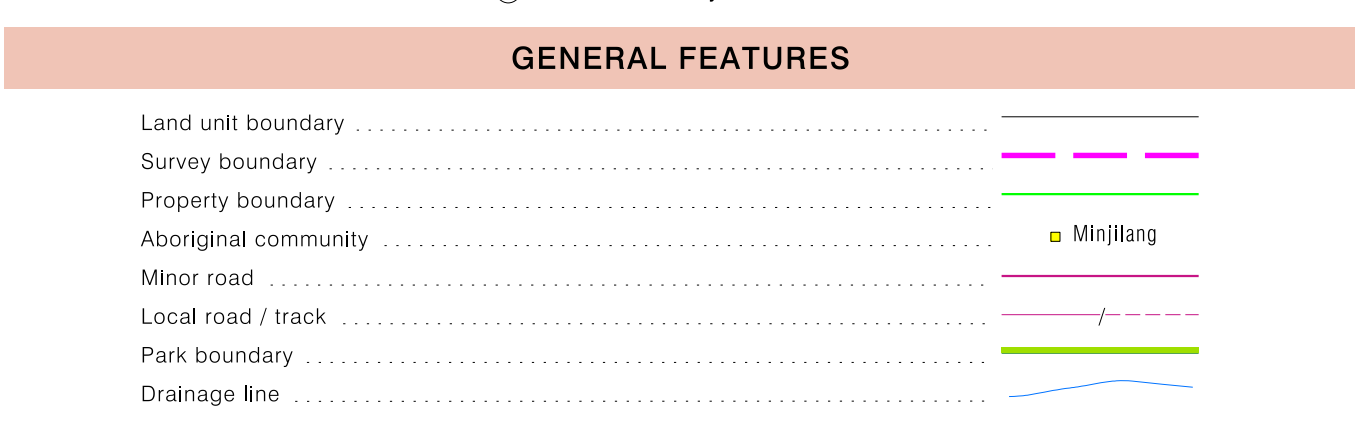
MAP DISCLAIMER:
 Land resource information has been derived from aerial photograph interpretation and field data describing landform, soil and vegetation. Mapping has been collected according to the national standards and prepared at a scale of 1:50 000. Enlarging this map beyond this scale will not provide further detail.
 A site inspection should always accompany mapping for specific areas.

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