

# LAND RESOURCES of the PROPOSED WARRAI DAMSITE CATCHMENT AREA

Edition 1/09 - June 2009

For further information contact: Principal Scientist, Land & Vegetation, Natural Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport  
Ph. (08) 8999 4579, Fax. (08) 8999 8667  
Goyder Centre, Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, Northern Territory of Australia.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:**  
C. J. Olsen, A REPORT ON THE LAND UNITS, EROSION AND LAND USE WITHIN THE CATCHMENT AREA OF THE PROPOSED WARRAI DAM, Land Conservation Unit, Conservation Commission Of The Northern Territory, Darwin, Tech. Mem. 85/5

**TECHNICAL REFERENCES:**  
Isbell R.F (1998). "The Australian Soil Classification", CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.  
McBalla R.C., Isbell R.F., Steigelt J.G., Walker J. and Hopkins M.S (1998). "Australian Soil and Land Survey Field Handbook", 2nd edition, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

## LAND UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

**PLATEAUX**

1a High level plateau; flat to sloping (slopes <10%). Lithosols. *Eucalyptus miniatia*, *Eucalyptus tetrodonta* and *Corymbia bleeseri* woodland to open forest.

**HILLS**

2a Hills and rises; generally slopes greater than 40%; boulder-strewn slopes and rocky crests. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus spp.* open woodland to woodland (variable communities).

2b Hills and rises; high hills and strike ridges up to 100m in height; slopes >30%; abundant outcrop of Burrell Creek siltstone and greywacke. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* low open woodland.

**LOW HILLS**

2b Hills and rises; generally slopes 15-40%; boulder-strewn slopes and rocky crests. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus spp.* open woodland to woodland (variable communities).

2b Hills and rises; hills and strike ridges between 5 and 25m in height; slopes 15-40%; abundant outcrop of Burrell Creek siltstone and greywacke. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* low open woodland.

2b Hills and rises; hills and strike ridges between 5 and 25m in height; slopes 15-40%; abundant outcrop of Burrell Creek siltstone and greywacke. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* low open woodland.

**RISES**

2c Low erosional slopes and rises; hilly terrain with slopes 5-15%; rock and boulder strewn. Shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Eucalyptus tecifolia* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* mixed spp. open woodland.

2c Low erosional slopes and rises; footslopes of m2a and m2b; slopes generally 5-15% with scattered outcrop of Burrell Creek siltstone and greywacke. Very shallow, stony and gravelly lithosols. *Corymbia confertiflora*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia foelscheana* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* low open woodland.

**LOW RISES**

2e Low erosional slopes; gently undulating crests and upper slopes, (slopes <5%). Shallow gravelly sands. *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Eucalyptus tetrodonta*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia* open woodland with *Sehima nervosum*.

3ds Gently undulating slopes; sloping terrain (slopes <5%). Loamy red earths (Tippera & Tindall); small inclusions of gravelly yellow earths. *Corymbia foelscheana* mixed spp. open woodland to woodland.

3e Heads of drainage systems and distinct breaks of slope; undulating terrain with slopes up to 5%, loamy red earths (Ellis & Elizabeth); yellow earths (Ellis & Elizabeth) both often shallow & stony. *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Corymbia foelscheana* open woodland with *Themedia triandra*, *Eragrostis sp.* and *Sorghum spp.* tussock grassland.

3m3 Low erosional slopes and rises; low erosional rises, rounded crests and upper slopes, slopes <5%; occasional outcrop. Gravelly yellow brown & yellow lithosols (Burrell). *Corymbia foelscheana* mixed spp. open woodland with *Themedia triandra*, *Eragrostis sp.* and *Heteropogon triticeus* tussock grassland.

3m3b Erosional slopes below m3a & m2c; slopes less than 5%; extensive surface gravels. Gravelly yellow brown & yellow lithosols (Burrell). *Corymbia foelscheana* mixed spp. open woodland with *Themedia triandra*, *Eragrostis sp.* and *Heteropogon triticeus* tussock grassland.

3m4 Colluvial slopes below m3a & m2b; slopes less than 5%. Shallow to moderately deep yellow earths (Batten). *Eucalyptus tetrodonta* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* mixed spp. low woodland with a *Sorghum sp.* and *Chrysopogon sp.* tussock grassland.

**PLAINS**

3c Gently undulating plains; flat to gently sloping (slopes <2%) with scattered limestone outcrop. Loamy red earths (Tippera & Tindall); deep, with minor outcrop, or shallow and gravelly surface stone and gravel. *Corymbia foelscheana* mixed spp. open woodland to woodland.

3d Gently undulating plains; flat to gently sloping (slopes <2%) with distinct drainage floors. Loamy red earths (Tippera & Tindall); small inclusions of gravelly yellow earths.

3d2 Lower slopes and drainage floors; undulating with short and variable slopes. Loamy red earths (Ellis), frequently shallow, sometimes gravelly, often associated with gravelly yellow earths. *Corymbia foelscheana*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* woodland.

3d3 Lower slopes and drainage floors; undulating with short and variable slopes. Loamy red earths (Ellis & Elizabeth); occasional loamy red earths (Tippera). *Corymbia confertiflora*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia foelscheana* and *Terminalia grandiflora* open woodland with *Themedia triandra*, *Sehima nervosum* and *Sorghum spp.* tussock grassland.

3d4 Gently undulating plains; lower slopes and flats in gently undulating terrain; slopes up to 3%; occasionally sandstone outcrop. Deep sandy yellow earths (Venn). *Eucalyptus tetrodonta* and *Eucalyptus miniatia* open forest with *Themedia triandra*, *Allettropis semialata*, *Eragrostis sp.* and *Themeda triandra*.

3d5 Gently undulating plains; undulating terrain; slopes generally less than 3%; extensive surface gravels. Typically shallow, gravelly or deep yellow earths (Ellis and Elizabeth). *Corymbia foelscheana*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Terminalia grandiflora* open woodland with *Themedia triandra*, *Sehima nervosum* and *Corymbia polycycla* woodland.

3d6 Gently undulating plains; generally flat (slopes <1%). Moderately deep to deep gravelly and/or gravelly yellow earths (Elizabeth and Elliott). *Corymbia foelscheana*, *Corymbia grandiflora* and *Eucalyptus tecifolia* open woodland with *Sehima nervosum*, *Themeda triandra* and *Eragrostis sp.* tussock grassland.

3d7 Gently undulating plains; intense drainage pattern; undulating terrain; slopes less than 4%; occasional rock outcrop. Yellow earths with gravel; frequently shallow (Ellis). *Corymbia foelscheana*, *Eucalyptus tecifolia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Terminalia grandiflora* open woodland with a *Panicum mindanense* and *Eragrostis sp.* mixed spp. tussock grassland on levees.

3d8 Active levees associated with rivers and major creeks; slopes generally <1%. Deep red and yellow earths (Heaton); less frequently deep yellow earths (Tortilla). *Eucalyptus miniatia*, *Corymbia confertiflora*, *Corymbia grandiflora* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* open woodland with a *Panicum mindanense*, *Eragrostis sp.*, *Erfachea sp.* and *Themeda triandra* tussock grassland.

**ALLUVIAL PLAINS**

m5b Alluvium; irregular slopes. Solonites and solonchaks (Bundey & Ringwood), minor yellow earths (Tippera). *Corymbia granulata*, *Corymbia polycarpa*, *Corymbia bella*, and *Livistona mixta* mixed spp. open woodland to woodland.

m6a Alluvium of major rivers and creeks associated with narrow levees; channels incised up to 6m. Deep red and yellow earths (Heaton and Tortilla). Mixed spp. non-Eucalypt open forest on river and creek banks; *Eucalyptus miniatia*, *Corymbia confertiflora* and *Corymbia foelscheana* open woodland with a *Panicum mindanense* and *Eragrostis sp.* mixed spp. tussock grassland on levees.

m6b Active levees associated with rivers and major creeks; slopes generally <1%. Deep red and yellow earths (Heaton); less frequently deep yellow earths (Tortilla). *Eucalyptus miniatia*, *Corymbia confertiflora*, *Corymbia grandiflora* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* open woodland with a *Panicum mindanense*, *Eragrostis sp.*, *Erfachea sp.* and *Themeda triandra* tussock grassland.

**DRAINAGE SYSTEMS**

7a2 Slightly elevated back plains and drainage floors. Grey and brown clays, frequently with CaCO<sub>3</sub> concretions at depth (Coolibah), *Bostrychus bladhi*, *Dichanthium sp.*, *Panicum trachyphyllum* and *Passalum sp.* tussock grassland.

7a3 Flat plains with large number of perennial springs; occurrences of limestone outcrop. Grey, brown and red clays, strongly gleyed in areas. *Calystegia soldanella*, *Calystegia soldanella* and *Curunurra*. *Themeda triandra*, *Mitchella repens*, *Malvastrum coccineum*, *Corymbia bella* and *Panicum mindanense* and *Panicum trachyphyllum* tussock grassland.

7b Drainage floors or high level plains; drainage lines, occasionally camouflaged; slopes rarely exceed 1%. Yellow earths and minor solonetics (Elizabeth and Bundey). *Themeda triandra*, *Eragrostis sp.* and *Panicum mindanense* tussock grassland; minor *Corymbia bella* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys*.

7c Drainage floors and alluvial plains; ill-defined depositional drainage lines in close association with plateau sidsionens. Sandy soils. Mixed spp. non-Eucalypt open forest.

7d Broad drainage flats or seasonally ponded plains; slight slopes. Loamy red earths with alluvial and colluvial surface horizons (Tippera). *Corymbia foelscheana*, *Corymbia polycarpa* and *Corymbia bella* woodland with *Panicum mindanense* and *Panicum trachyphyllum* tussock grassland.

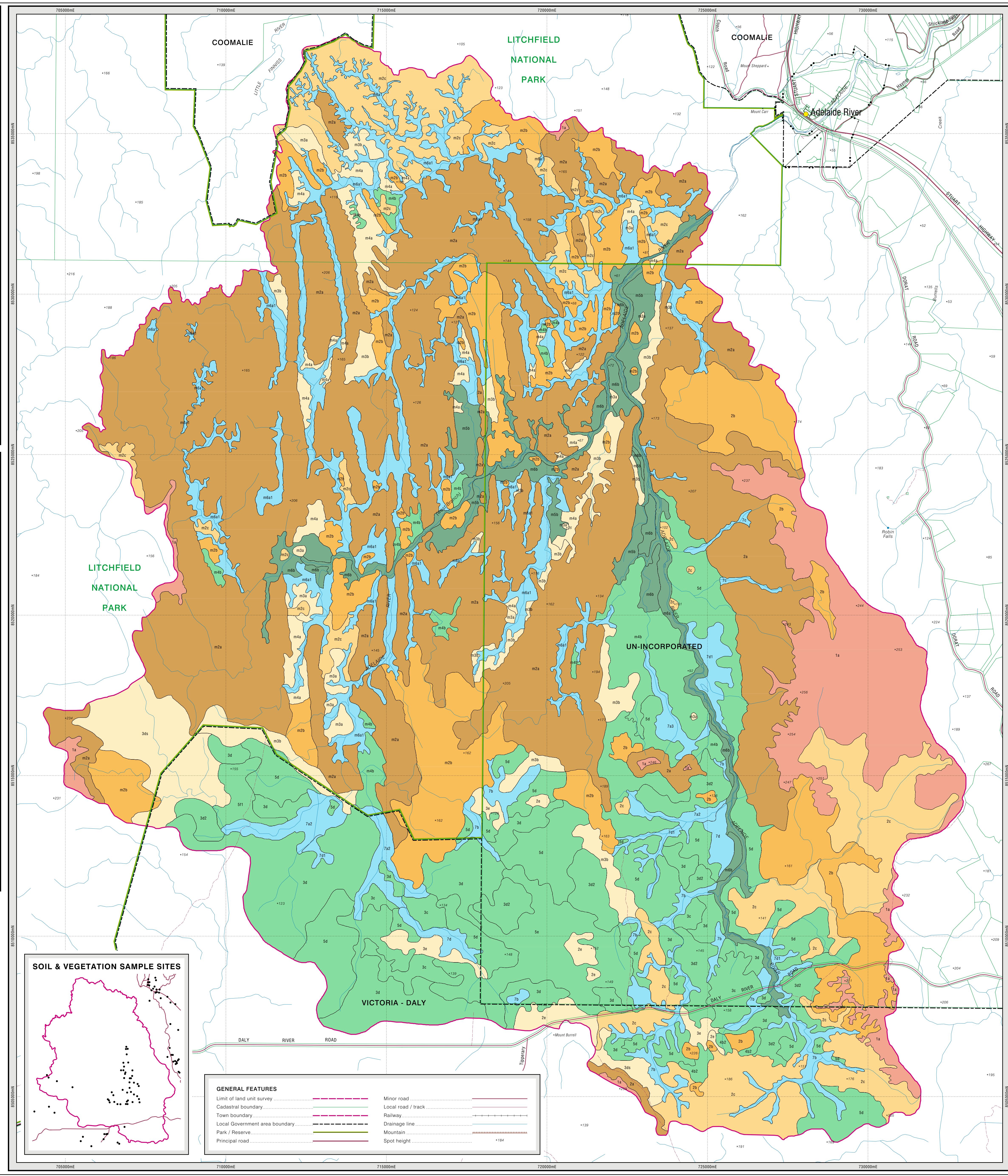
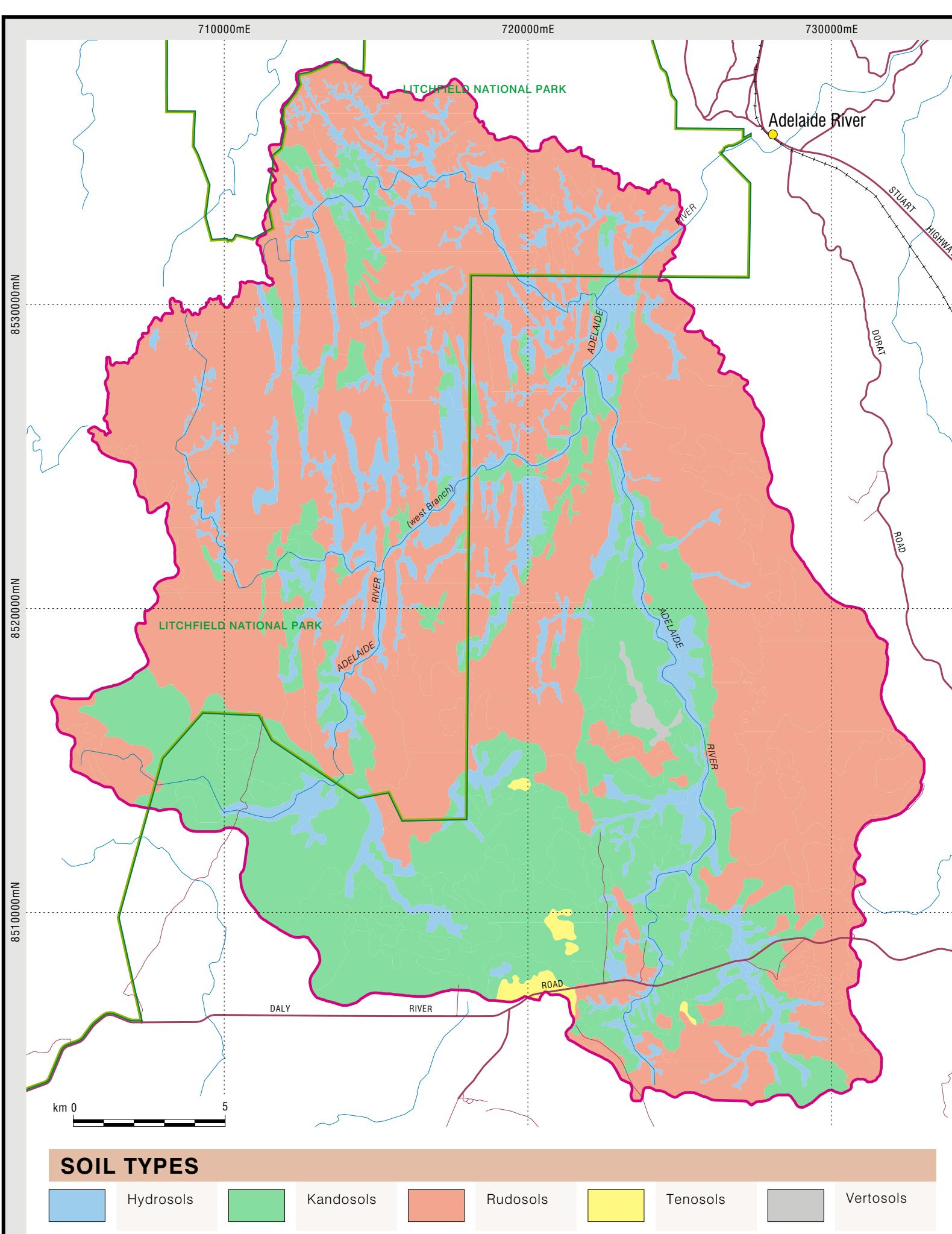
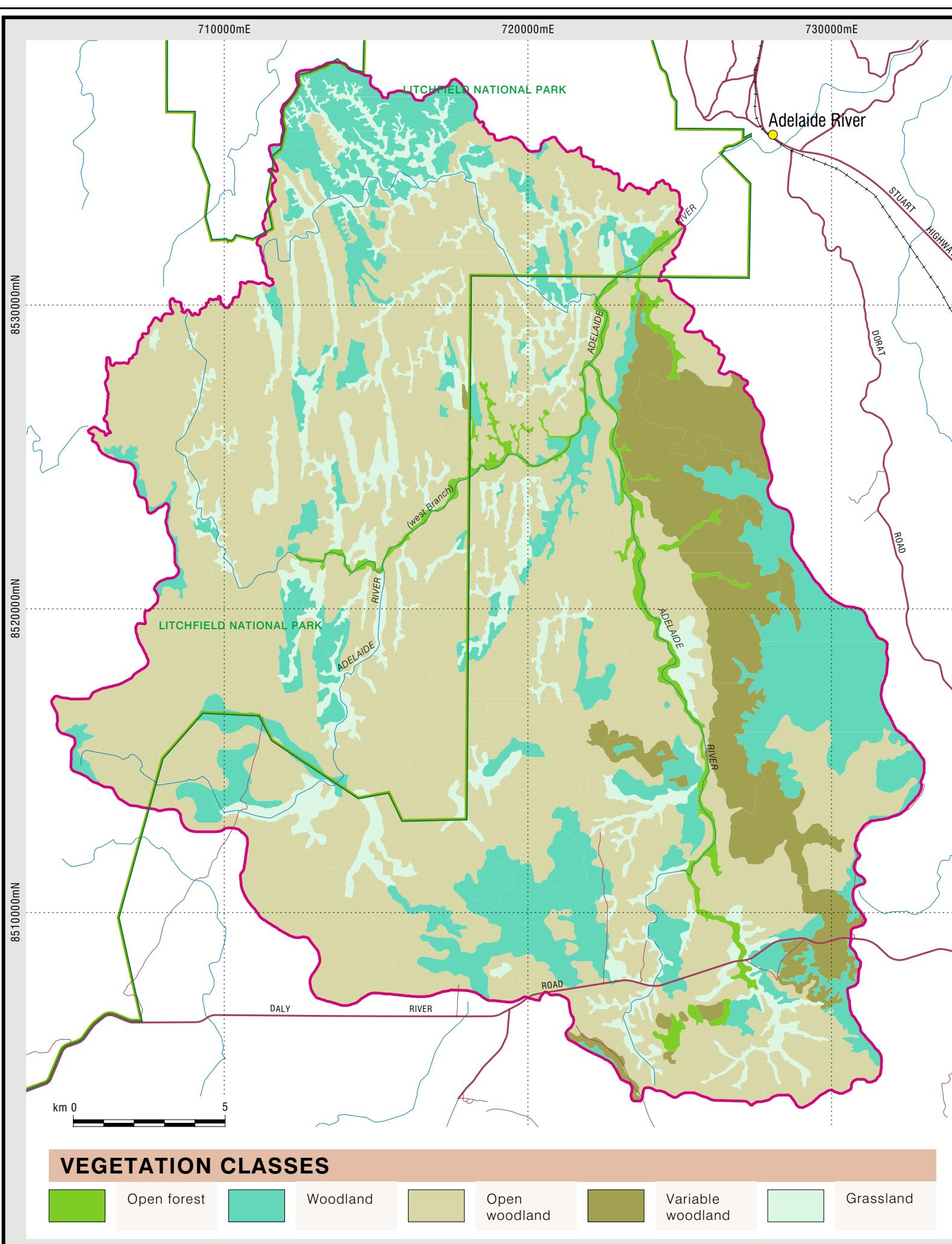
7d1 Broad drainage flats or temporally ponded plains; very slight slopes (Ellis). *Erfachea sp.* and *Panicum mindanense* tussock grassland; minor *Corymbia bella* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* open woodland.

7d1a Drainage flats or temporally ponded plains; very slight slopes (Ellis). *Erfachea sp.* and *Panicum mindanense* tussock grassland; minor *Corymbia bella* and *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* open woodland.

7d1b Shallow depressions in the floodplain; upper reaches; solonetics (Ellis). *Erfachea sp.* lower reaches. *Erfachea burkittii*, *Panicum trachyphyllum*, *Themeda triandra* and *Eragrostis sp.* tussock grassland and *Livistona sp.* open woodland.

Land resource information has been derived from aerial photograph interpretation and field collection of data describing landform, soil and vegetation. Mapping has been conducted according to the national standards and prepared at a scale of 1:100 000. Enlarging this map beyond this scale will not provide further detail. A site inspection should always accompany mapping for specific areas.

Kilometres 0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometres  
Black numbers and lines indicate the location of the Map Grid of Australia (MGA) Zone 52  
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA 94)  
Universal Transverse Mercator Projection



Prepared and produced by:  
Spatial Data & Mapping Unit, Natural Resources Division  
Department of Natural Resources, Environment,  
The Arts and Sport  
Northern Territory of Australia, March 2010

File: Warrai-Damsite\_Land-Resources

© Northern Territory of Australia  
This product and all material forming part of it is copyright belonging to the Northern Territory of Australia. You may use this material for your personal, non-commercial use or use it within your organisation for non-commercial purposes, provided that an appropriate acknowledgement is made and the material is not altered in any way. Subject to the fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act 1968, you must not make any other use of this product (including copying or reproducing) if part or in any way unless you have the written permission of the Northern Territory of Australia to do so.

The Northern Territory of Australia does not warrant that the product or any part of it is correct or complete and will not be liable for any loss damage or injury suffered by any person as a result of its inaccuracy or incompleteness.

This map was produced on the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA 94)