MAP 17 - AGRICULTURAL LAND CAPABILITY CLASSES IN THE NORTHERN NRM REGION

NRM North Map Description				
NAME	AGRICULTURAL LAND CAPABILITY CLASSES IN THE NORTHERN NRM REGION			
Date Source/s	Land Capability: Mapped and Modelled Land Capability (DPIW 2007, Meander Valley Council 2008), Unmapped Private Property: LIST Parcels (Private) (ILS, 2007), CFEV Catchments (CFEV, 2004)			
Description and Uses Summary	The map shows land capability classes for private land only in the region. Small areas, shown as grey are unmapped. Land capability classes provide an important guide to the appropriate agricultural uses for a given class of land. The system comprises of seven classes ranked in order of agricultural veratility. Class 1 land is the best land well suited to agriculture and Class 7 is the poorest.			
	Prime agricultural land (Classes 1-3), that is land capable of sustaining most uses, is a scare resource in the Northern NRM region. There is no Class 1 land. The majority of the land falls in Classes 4-6.			
	The land capability data in this map comes from three sources: DPIW modelled land capability, DPIW mapped land capability and Meander Valley Council mapped land capability (1:125k). Due to varying scales of data collection, care needs to be taken with the interpretation of these data. The area of the region that has been modelled (and therefore has a lower accuracy) is approximately east of Scottsdale and south of Campbell Town.			
	The figures below are based on the coastline of the land capability datasets (and have been rounded to the nearest 100 hectares). The percentages use the area of land identified on Map 1. The figures should be used as an approximate indication of land capability only.			
Table/s				

Class	Description	Area (ha)	% of Region
2	Land suited to a wide range of intensive cropping and grazing activities with slight limitations to use	2,700	0.1
3	Land suited to cropping and intensive grazing with moderate limitations to use	35,300	1.8
3+4	At least 60% Land suited to cropping and intensive grazing with moderate limitations to use, up to 40% Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops	3,900	0.2
4	Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops	356,900	17.8
4+3	At least 60% Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops, up to 40% Land suited to cropping and intensive grazing with moderate limitations to use	1,500	0.1
4+5	At least 60% Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops, up to 40% Land unsuited to cropping and with slight to moderate limitations to pastoral use	17,200	0.9
5	Land unsuited to cropping and with slight to moderate limitations to pastoral use	424,500	21.
5+4	At least 60% Land unsuited to cropping and with slight to moderate limitations to pastoral use, up to 40% Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops	2,900	0.1
5+6	At least 60% Land unsuited to cropping and with slight to moderate limitations to pastoral use, up to 40% Land well suited to grazing but which is limited to occasional cropping or a very restricted range of crops	11,600	0.6
6	Land marginally suited to grazing due to severe limitations	266,200	13.2
6+5	At least 60% Land marginally suited to grazing due to severe limitations, up to 40% Land unsuited to cropping and with slight to moderate limitations to pastoral use	2,300	0.
6+7	At least 60% Land marginally suited to grazing due to severe limitations, Up to 40% Land with very severe to extreme limitations that make it unsuitable for agricultural use	4,500	0.2
7	Land with very severe to extreme limitations that make it unsuitable for agricultural use	13,500	0.7
	TOTAL	1,143,000	56.9