







15.6 t/ha Eastern Goldfield – Tall *Eucalyptus* shrubland over hummock and shrub.









20–25 tonnes per hectare

20 t/ha Central – Tall Mulga shrubland over hummock.

30+ tonnes per hectare

30.9 t/ha Eastern Murchison – Low open shrubland.





VISUAL FUEL LOAD GUIDE FOR THE GOLDFIELD REGION

38.7 t/ha Southern Cross—Low *Eucalyptus* closed forest over sedges and shrub.





Glossary

Biogeography Geographic patterns of species (plant and animal) distribution and the processes

that combine in a location to produce areas of natural occurrence.

Fuel load The dry weight of fine fuel (<10 mm in diameter) per unit area—commonly

expressed as tonnes per hectare.

Hummock grass Commonly referred to as Spinifex; identified as such because they grow together

in large rounded 'hummocks' which can grow several metres across and often form central dead or decaying patches. Hummock grasses are generally *Triodia*

spp. and are found in arid regions of Australia.

Mulga Shrub or small tree, *Acacia aneura* native to arid regions of Australia.

IBRA Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia—the species distribution

and patterning across Australia often characterised by the local conditions.

Spp. Plant species.

Tussock grass Also known as bunch grasses as they grow in clumps of tufts rather than forming

a sod or mat.

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Appendix 1: Leaf litter

Leaf litter is an accumulated layer of leaves, twigs and bark on the ground. Leaf litter depth varies depending on the type and age of overstorey vegetation and the length of time between bush fires.

If there is leaf litter present, measure the leaf litter depth using a ruler.

Determine the forest type (based on the dominant tree species present) and then convert the leaf litter depth (mm) into tonnes per hectare (t/ha) using Table 1.

If there is also scrub fuel present, add the scrub fuel load (t/ha) and the leaf litter fuel load (t/ha) together to obtain the overall fuel load.

Litter	Forest type						
depth (mm)	Karri dominant	Mixed M., J., K.	Jarrah dominant	P. pinaster needle	P. radiata needle	Wandoo	
	Litter weight (tonnes/ha)						
5	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.8	4.4	
10	6.4	5.1	5.3	4.9	5.2	8.8	
15	9.6	7.7	8.0	7.4	7.2	13.2	
20	13.0	10.3	11.0	10.0	9.0	17.6	
25	16.0	13.0	13.0	12.4	10.7	22.0	
30	19.0	15.0	16.0	15.0	12.0	26.4	
35	23.0	17.0	19.0	17.0	14.0	30.0	
40	26.0	19.0	21.0	20.0	16.0		
45	29.0	22.0	24.0	22.0	18.0		
50	32.0	25.0	27.0	25.0	20.0		
55	35.0	27.0	29.0	27.0	22.0		
60	39.0			29.0	24.0		
65	42.0			31.0	26.0		
70	45.0			33.0	28.0		
80	51.0			37.0	31.0		
90	58.0			41.0	34.0		
100	64.0			45.0	37.0		

Table 1. Relationship between litter depth and weight (Peet, G.B., Sneeuwjagt, R.J. (1998) Forest Fire Behaviour Tables for Western Australia. Dept. of Conservation and Land Management).

Notes



