Appendices

Appendix I New Zealand Land Use Capability Classification

New Zealand Land Use Capability Units(From Our Land Resources a bulletin to accompany New Zealand Land Resource Inventory Worksheets, 1979)

The Land Use Capability (LUC) is an ordered arrangement of the land according to those properties that determines its capacity to sustain production permanently. The LUC takes into account physical limitations, management requirements and soil conservation needs.

As a basis for the land use capability assessment, an inventory is made of the facts about the land. The facts recorded are: rock type, soil, slope, erosion degree and type, and vegetation. Additional information on climate is also factored in. This information is then displayed on the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory Worksheets as land inventory units.

These units are areas of land which, in terms of the five physical factors mapped, have uniform characteristics. They are therefore 'homogeneous' for every factor.

The classification has three components – a class, subclass and a unit. The diagram below illustrates the relationship between the various components of the land use capability classification:

New Zealand Land Use Capability

The classification has three components – a class, a subclass and a unit. The diagram below illustrates the relationship between the various components of the land use capability classification.



The capability class is the broadest grouping of the capability classification. It is an assessment of how versatile the land is for sustained production taking into account its physical limitations. It give the general degree of limitation to use.

There are eight classes represented by roman numerals. Classes I-IV are suitable for cropping, pasture or forestry while Classes V-VII are limited to pastoral or forestry use. The limitations reach a maximum with Class VIII land which is not suitable for grazing or production forestry; it best serves a protection function.

The capability subclass is identified by a lower case letter in the land use capability code. It divides the land within each class according to the major kind of limitation to use. There are four kinds identified but only the dominant one for each land unit is recorded.

The four subclasses are:

e	erodibility	where susceptibility to erosion is the dominant limitation to use	
w	wetness	where a high water table, slow internal drainage, and/or flooding constitutes the major limitation to use	
S	Soil limitation	Where the major restriction to use is a limitation within the rooting zone. This can be due to a shallow soil profile, stoniness, rock outcrops, low soil moisture holding capacity, low fertility (where this is difficult to correct), salinity or toxicity	
с	climate	Where the climate is the major limitation to use	

In the land use capability code, the capability unit is represented by an Arabic number. It groups together land inventory units which require the same kind of management and the same kind and intensity of conservation treatment. Units of land having the same land use capability unit number are capable of growing the same kind of crops, pasture or forest species and have about the same potential yield.

The capability units are arranged in order of decreasing versatility of use and increasing degree of limitation to use.

Capability Classification

	Class	Cropping Sustainability	* General Pastoral & Production Forestry Suitability	* General Suitability	
increasing limitations to use	I	High	High	Multiple land use	decreasing versatility
	П				
	Ш	Medium			
	IV	Low			
	V	Unsuitable		Pastoral or Forestry land	
	VI		Medium		
	VII		Low		
	VIII		Unsuitable	Catchment protection land	

* land use capability classes IV – VII which have wetness as the major limitation and those units in very low rainfall areas of those occurring on shallow soils are normally not suited to production forestry.

Appendix II Erosion Distribution Maps (from the NZLRI)







Soil Conservation B **A ►5**



These maps only indicate the presence of erosion within large LRI units. As such, they exaggerate how much area is affected by a given erosion type.





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A ►10 Soil Conservation B

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burning, A2►3 channel erosion, A9►9 cultivated soil, A9►3, A9►5 debris avalanches, A6+3 deep-seated mass movement, A4>1 deflation surfaces, A1►3 earth flows, A3►3 earthworks, A8►1 falls, A3►1 flows, A3>1, A4>1 forestry, A9►1 frost heave, A6►2 grain cropping, A9>3 granular loams, A9►4 gullies, mountain, A6+4 tunnel, A5►3, A5►5 U-shaped, A5►2, A5►5 V-shaped, A5►2, A5►6 gully erosion, A5►1 ice and erosion, A6►2 marine sediments, in gully erosion, A5>2 market gardening, A9>3, A9>4 mass movement, shallow, A3>1 deep, A4►1 mountain gullies, A5►3 mountain lands, A6►1 needle ice, A6►2 orchards and vineyards, A9>5 overgrazing, A2>3 pasture, erosion from, A9>6 periglacial erosion, A6>2 plantation forests, A9>1 rill erosion, and grain cropping, A9>5 rills, A2►2 sand dunes, A7►1 sediment, deposition, A9>9 sediment control, earthworks, A8>1 forests, A9►2 non-earthworks, A9►1

shallow mass movement, A3>3, A3>4 sheet and rill erosion, A1>2, A2>1, A6>2 slides, A3►1, A4►1 slip erosion, A3►1 slips, definition, A3►2 slumps, A4►1 surface erosion, plantation forests, A9+1 surface runoff, A2►2 torrents, A6►4 tunnel gullies, control, A5+3, A5+5 urban development, A9>9 U-shaped gullies, A5►2, A5►5 vineyards, A9►5 V-shaped gullies, A5►2, A5►6 wind blow, A1►3 wind erosion, A1+1, A6+2

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alpine zones, B2►5 banks, graded, B9►3 boring and drilling, B10►3 broadbased terraces, B9>9 bunds, B15►1, B17►3 burning management, mountains, B6+1 check dams, B15►1 chutes, B11►1 coastal planting, B5►5 contour banks, B9►8 cultivation, B1►5 drains, B15►2, B9►5 furrows, B9►1 planting, B9>8 contouring and recontouring, B10►4 cover crops, B1►5 cropland management, B1►1 cultivation regimes, B1►5 debris dams, B11►9 dewatering, B10►1 diversion banks, B11►6 channels, B15►1 drainage, subsurface, B10►2 tiled, B9►7, B10►2 drains, **B9**▶4, **B15**▶2 drilling, B1►3, B10►3 drop structures, B11►7 dust control, B10►2, B18►1 earthflows, B10>1, B13>1, B13>2 earthworks, dust control, B18►1 runoff control, B15►1, B17►1 sediment control, B17►1 soil management, B16►1 erosion-control forestry, B13>5 fallow, B1►5 fences, types of B3>2, B3>3 fencing B3►1 fire management, B6►1 firebreaks and tracks, B6►2 flumes, B11+1, B15+3

fodder banks, B7►1 forest management, mountains, B13+6 forest, coastal, B5►5 forestry as erosion control, B13>1 furrows, B9►2 graded waterways, B11+6 grasses, coastal pasture species, B5>8 grassing earthworks, B16+1 gullies, B11►1, B13►2 haybale barriers, B17►4 headlands, runoff from, B9>4 hieracium, B2►3 hill country, fencing, B3>1 pasture management, B2>3 revegetation, B4+2, B8+4 interception drains, B9>4 irrigation, B2►2 lowlands, pasture management, B2>1 runoff control, B9►1 fencing on, B3►1 revegetation of pasture, B4+1 marram, B5►1 mass movements, stabilising, B10>1 mountain lands, forest management, B13+6 retirement, B8►6 revegetation of pasture, B4>3 mulching earthworks, B16+1 native plants in coastal plantings, B5+6 no-tillage cultivation, B1>2 nurse crops, B8►6 pasture management, B2►1 pasture quality, B2►4 pasture, coastal, B5►5 revegetation, B4►1 species, B5►8, B7►1 types, B2►1 pest control, B1>3, B1>4,B2>2, B5>8, B8>2 pingao, B5►3 planting, shelterbelt, B14>3 pole planting, B12►1

poles, B13►1 ponds, sediment retention, B17+1 raised accessways, B9►5 retired land, B2►5, B8►1 revegetation, of pasture, B4+1 of retired land, B8>3 runoff control, **B9**►1, **B15**►1, **B17**►1 sand dune, stabilisation, B5+1 shelterbelt planting, examples, B14+4 shelterbelts, B14►1 silt traps, B9►6 sink holes, B11►5 slope stabilisation, B10►1 slumps, B10►1 soil fertility and pasture mgmt, B2►2 soil management for earthworks, B16+1 spinifex, B5►2 stormwater inlets, B17►5 strip cultivation, B1►5 stubble retention, B1►4 subsoiling amongst trees, B9►7 surface erosion, croplands B1>1 fencing and, B3►1 pasture management, B2►1 terraces, B9►3 tillage practices, B1►1 tussock, B2►4, B2►6 water transport structures, B11>7 watering dust, B18►1 weed control, B8►2 wheel tracks, B1►4 willows and poplars, B12>3 windbreaks, B14+1, B14+4 woodlot erosion control, B13>3