

Appendix. Summary of all environmental variables, codes, definition and collection methodology, utilised in the generalised linear modelling and other analyses

Degree of freedom for each variable = 1 unless indicated. (+) and (–) indicate the direction of the relationship, and % indicates total deviance explained for that variable examined individually. Probability levels are: *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.001$

Variable	Data collection method
<i>DEU survey</i>	
LATDEC (–) 12%***, LONGDEC (–) 1%***	GPS data for quadrat location
SEASON n.s.	Wet (October–March) or dry (April–September)
PERWATER (+) 12%***, EPHWATER (+) 1%***	Distance (km) to nearest perennial and ephemeral water sources
FIRE (–) 1%***, CATTLE (–) 17%***, WEED (–) 8%***, TREE (–) 2%	Level of impact in each category (tree represents tree senescence) recorded on continuous scale.
GCBARE (–) 4%***, GCROCK n.s., GCHUMM (+) 45%***, GCTUSS (–) 21%***, GCSEDD (–) 5%***, GCFORB (–) 11%***, GCLITT (–) 9%***, GCFERN n.s.	Percentage ground cover for categories bare, rock, hummock grass, tussock grass, sedges, forbs, litter, ferns. Cumulative total to equal 100%
LOG > 10 (–) 18%***, DEAD > 10 (–) 3%***, FALL > 10 (–) 13%***	Total number of logs (along total quadrat perimeter), dead trees and fallen trees (within quadrat) > 10cm diameter
CRACK/M (–) 7%***, CRACMODE (–) 6%***	Average number of cracks/m along 50m quadrat edge and modal size (mm)
TERMITE n.s., TERMMODE (+) 1%*	Total number of termite mounds in quadrat and the modal height (m)
CANHEIGHT (–) 9%***, CANRICH n.s., CANCOVER (–) 10%***	Average canopy height (m), number of canopy species and average canopy crown cover (subjective assessment) in quadrat
TOTBASE (–) 14%***, LIVEBASE (–) 10%***, DEADBASE (–) 10%***	Total basal area (m ² /ha) averaged from 5 Bitterlich sweeps (one at each corner and one in centre of quadrat), and the live and dead component of the total
GSHEIGHT (+) 1%***, GSRICH (–) 18%***, GS COVER (+) 10%***	Average ground stratum height (m), total number of species and total alive ground cover (%) for quadrat
FPC > 10 (–) 13%***, FPC5–10 (–) 5%***, FPC3–5 (–) 2%***, FPC1–3 (+) 2%***, FPC1/2–1 n.s., FPC < 1/2 (+) 16%***	Foliage profile cover score (%) for height categories > 10m, 5–10m, 3–5m, 1–3m, 1–0.5m, < 0.5m within quadrat.
<i>NBB/SDEU survey</i>	
SEASON n.s.	Summer (October–March) or winter (May - August)
SITETYPE 23%***	Eight site types chosen: as shown in Table 4. Eight replicate sites in each site type, except unconnected linear strips (5 replicates) and regrowth (7 replicates)
LATDEC (–) 2%, LONGDEC n.s.	GPS data at site location
TIMECLEA (–) 2%*, FIREFREQ (–) 8%***, BUFFSEED (–) 5%***	Average number of years since sites were isolated by tree clearing (remnants) or were cleared (pasture and regrowth, number of years between fires, deliberate sowing of Buffel grass (<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>) (yes/no)
PADDAREA (+) 2%**, STOCK (+) 10%***	Area of paddocks containing sites, average stocking rate of paddock.
ONEACAC n.s., ONECLEAR (+) 2%**, ONEEFW n.s.	% area of major vegetation communities (ACAC = Acacia communities, EFW = Eucalypt forest and woodland); and cleared land (ONECLEAR) within 1km of each site.
FIVEACAC (–) 2%*, FIVECLEA (–) 2%***, FIVEEFW (+) 3%***	% area of major vegetation communities and cleared land within 5km of each site (as above)
TENACAC (–) 3%**, TENCLEAR (–) 8%***, TENEFW (+) 8%***	% area of major vegetation communities and cleared land within 10km of each site (as above)
THIRACAC (–) 6%***, THIRCLEAR (–) 1%**, THIREFW (+) 2%**	% area of major vegetation communities and cleared land within 30km of each site (as above)
LOG > 5 (+) 4%***, TERM n.s., TERMHT n.s., HOLLTREE (–) 7%***, STAGTREE (–) 9%***	Density of habitat feature attributes; fallen logs > 5cm diameter, number and height of termite mounds, hollows in live and dead standing trees. Recorded as the number in each of 16 sub-quadrats, 25m by 4m, along each quadrat's long axes.
HCABS n.s., HC0–2 (–) 4%**, HC2–5 n.s., HC5–10 (–) 7%***, HC10–20 (–) 3%***, HC20–50 n.s., HC50–70 (+) 3%***, HC > 70 (+) 9%***, AVHTCOV (+) 21%***	Average hits for ground stratum foliage profile cover (%) in eight cover categories from absent to > 70%, and height of ground cover, recorded from 20, 50 × 50cm frames located at 25m intervals around the perimeter of each quadrat.
DEADSPP (–) 12%***, AVACSH n.s., AVACTR (–) 3%*, BLOODS (–) 2%*, BLOODR (–) 4%**, AVPOP (–) 8%***, AVSLI (–) 1%*, AVTREE (–) 11%***, DIEBLS1 (–) 2%*, DIEBLDR1 (–) 3%***, DIEPOP1 (–) 7%***, DIESLI1 (–) 2%*, BASAL (–) 17%***	Density and basal area of canopy and mid storey tree species (and standing dead trees), and dieback condition of these species from categories: 1 = healthy, 2 = major branches dead, 3 = tree nearly dead, 4 = tree dead with bark, 5 = tree dead without bark. Recorded from six Bitterlich sweeps positioned around edge of quadrat.
SPPRICH n.s., PERALL (+) 2%**, ANNUAL (+) 2%**, ANNPER (+) 2%**, ALLGRASS n.s., ALLNATIVE n.s., NATTUSS n.s., HUMM (+) 10%***	Ground cover variables; species richness, perennial grasses, annual grasses, all grasses, all native species, tussock grasses and hummock grasses, from 50cm by 50cm frames placed 10m apart over 20 points.