

## 2.24 RgG3 RISES – gently undulating, GRANITIC, type 3

This gently undulating to undulating landscape is surrounded by a metamorphic aureole ridge, with the only drainage outlets to the east via Kangderaar and Bullabul Creeks. The granite is highly weathered and granitic outcrop is mostly absent. Highly weathered and usually lateritised Tertiary gravels occur as flat-topped cappings on many of the crests, presumably remnants of previously more-widespread Tertiary deposits (Kenley 1976). The soils on the granitic slopes are typically red or yellow and duplex, whereas loams or sands of uniform texture predominate on the Tertiary cappings.

**Geology** Dlg – Devonian granodiorite: Tm, Tp – Tertiary gravels, sands, silts and clays, often ferruginised or lateritised

**Rainfall** 450-500 mm per annum

**Slope** Average 2%; range 0-6%

**Dominant landform element** (70%) Rounded crest, gentle slope

**Minor landform elements** (30%) Flat-topped crest (Tertiary capping), steeper slope surrounding capping, drainage depression

**Soils** Dominant: Dr2.3, Dr2.1, Dr2.22, Dy3. Duplex soils, with subsoils that vary from red and non-mottled to yellow-grey and mottled, usually with a sandy clay texture; the hard-setting sandy topsoils may have a pale A<sub>2</sub> horizon and often contain copious amounts of ironstone buckshot

Minor: Um, Uc. Brown sands or loams of uniform texture on the Tertiary cappings, usually shallow, with fragments of the silicified and ferruginised parent material throughout

**Native vegetation** Largely cleared, with only scattered trees of *E. microcarpa* and *Casuarina luehmannii* remaining throughout; *E. leucoxyton* and *E. polyanthemos* occur with *E. microcarpa* on the Tertiary cappings, and here a shrubby understorey of native vegetation often remains; *E. camaldulensis* occurs in the larger depression

**Stone-rock outcrop** 5-40% (Tertiary cappings)

**Pans** Pans were not observed in the granitic terrain; however, a cemented, ferruginised layer is present on the Tertiary cappings, usually within 0.5 m of the surface

**Land use** Grazing on native or introduced pastures; minor cropping

**Observed land deterioration** Slight wind erosion where overgrazed or disturbed; moderate sheet erosion and gully erosion in some areas; sometimes deposition or sedimentation is a problem lower in these granitic landscapes – particularly off-site

### Susceptibility to land deterioration

Gully erosion (moderate to high)

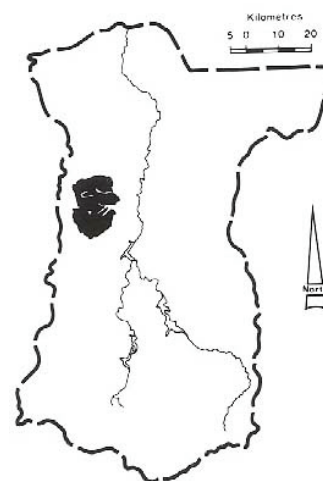
Sheet erosion (moderate)

Wind erosion (moderate to high)

Salting – especially adjacent to metamorphic ridges (moderate to high)



*The gentle rock-free slopes support cropping or grazing.*



*Small cappings of cemented Tertiary gravel remain throughout the unit – indicated in this photograph by the scattered remaining eucalypts.*