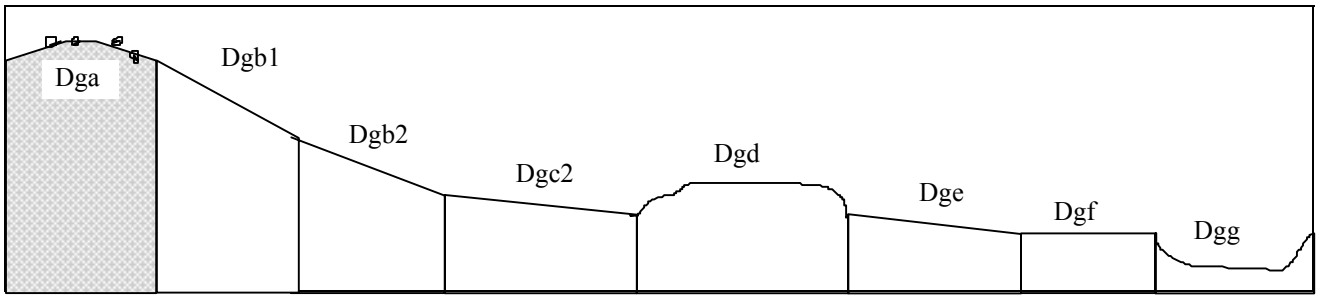
Land Unit:	Devonian granodiorite, narrow crest	**Land Unit symbol:**	Dga
		% of study area:	0.1



General Description:

The ridgeline and crests of this granitic hill form only a small narrow land unit, but the scene is one of high value to the local population and the large number of travellers that pass through Buxton. Large tors are abundant and the coarse sandy soils are variable in depth and area. Frequent rainfall provides sufficient moisture to maintain the tall eucalypt forest on soils that drain rapidly and have an extremely low water-holding capacity.

Site characteristics: Site No. -

Parent material		Depth to seasonal watertable:	> 5 m
Age:	Devonian		
Lithology:	Granodiorite	Potential recharge to groundwater:	Low *
Landform		Flooding risk:	Nil
Pattern:	Steep hills	Drainage:	Rapidly drained
Element:	Sharp crest	Depth to hardrock:	Variable; 0 - 50 cm
Slope		Rock outcrop:	80%
Common:	5%	Annual rainfall:	1090 mm
Range:	3 - 10%		
Native vegetation:	Broad-leaf and Narrow-leaf Peppermint, Messmate, Blackwood, Silver Wattle		
Present land use:	Recreation, native forest		

* Granitic areas do not have a high 'recharge' capacity despite high permeabilities of the soil profile (P.R. Dyson - pers. comm.)

Land degradation:

Degradation process	Water erosion Sheet/rill	Gully	Wind Erosion	Salting	Acidification
Susceptability	Low	Low	High	Low	Moderate
Incidence	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Low

Soil profile characteristics:

Permeability	(measured - average, range):	-
	(estimated):	Excessive
Available water capacity:		< 50 mm H_2O
Linear Shrinkage (B horizon):		Very low (est.)

Soil profile description:

Land Unit symbol: Dga

A 0 - 10 cm Dark brown (7.5YR3/2) loamy coarse sand, weak subangular blocky structure, 5% organic matter, weak, consistence, quartz gravel fragments, pH 5.7. Diffuse transition to:

B 10 - 45 cm Reddish brown (5YR4/4) coarse sandy loam, apedal, weak consistence, pH 6.0. Clear transition to weathering parent material

Soil classification:

Factual Key (Northcote, 1979):	Uc 5.11 - 1/1/010
Australian Soil Classification (Isbell, 1992):	Basic, Paralithic Orthic Tenosol; medium, slightly gravelly, sandy/loamy, shallow
Unified Soil Group:	SP

Interpretation of soil analyses: (see Appendix 2 for analytical results)

Horizon	pH	Gravel %	E.C. (salts)	Nutrient status	P	K	Al	Organic matter	Dispersibility
A	5.7	5	VL	VL	D	S	S	H	L
B	6.0	3	VL	VL	D	S	S	L	L

VL: Very Low L: Low M: Moderate H: High VH: Very High
D: Deficient S: Satisfactory T: Toxic NA: Not Available ** Acidic

Land capability ratings and limitations for specific land uses:

Land use	Rating	Major limiting factor(s)
Agriculture	$C_3T_3S_5$	Very shallow soils, very low water-holding capacity of soils
Building foundations - slab - stumps/footings	 5 5	 Very high proportion of boulders and tors within and above the shallow soil
Effluent disposal (septic tanks)	5	Very shallow soils, excessive permeability may contaminate fresh water springs further downslope
Farm dams	5	Very low suitability of subsoil, very shallow soils, excessive permeability
Residential - rural - urban	5 5	Very low capability for building foundations, effluent disposal, farm dams and secondary roads Very low capability for building foundations, secondary roads
Scenic value	2	-
Secondary roads	5	Very high proportion of boulders and tors, shallow soils