



MAP UNIT Ordovician, steep

SYMBOL Ors

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

This map unit contains the steepest slopes of the site underlain by Ordovician rocks.  
It occurs adjacent to and drains directly into the Cosgrave Reservoir.

Map Unit is 1.8 % study area Ref. Plate 8

PARENT MATERIAL		
Ordovician sediments (in situ)		
Depth to rock	50	cm
Rock outcrop	0	%
Surface stones	0	%
Landslip risk	Low	
Shrink/swell potential	Low-moderate	
Northcote code & SCS Ext.	Gn 4 – 4/10/12	

LANDFORM		
Well dissected steep hills		
Slope-common	23	%
- range	20-30+	%
Flood risk	Nil	
Profile drainage	Well drained	
Seasonal watertable	Nil	
Unified soil group	A	
	B	ML/CH

**EROSION HAZARD**

High: steep slopes and shallow stoney soil draining directly into the Cosgrave Reservoir

<b>NATIVE VEGETATION</b>	Broad-leaf peppermint, Messmate	<b>LAND USE</b>	Forestry
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**PROFILE DESCRIPTION**

0-12 cm Dark brown (7.5YR 3/4) clay loam; apedal massive structure; friable when moist; 5% of soil volume as gravel of parent material, to 10 mm diameter; pH 4;

Gradual transition to:

12-40 cm Bright reddish brown (5YR 5/8) faintly mottled light clay; strong fine subangular blocky structure; firm when moist; 10% of soil volume as gravel of parent material to 5 mm diameter; pH 5;

Giving way to decomposing parent material.

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Capability of the land to support various activities

Capability of the land to support subdivision

ACTIVITY	RATING	MAJOR LIMITING FEATURES OF THE LAND
Building foundations	Poor	Slope
Absorption fields	Very poor	Depth to rock; slope
Secondary roads	Poor	Slope
Gravel roads	Poor	Slope; B horizon disperses/slakes
Access tracks	Very poor	Slope
Shallow excavations	Very poor	Depth to rock; slope
Farm dams	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock; thin layer of construction material
Sewage lagoons	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock
Intensive cultivation	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock
Path & trails	Very poor	Slope

SUBDIVISION TYPE	RATING	MAJOR LIMITING ACTIVITIES
Urban (sewered)	Poor	All relevant activities
Bush Blocks (4 ha)	Very poor	Absorption fields; access tracks
Small Farmlets (4 ha)	Very poor	Absorption fields; access tracks
Large Farmlets (16 ha)	Very poor	Absorption fields; access tracks; dams
Effect of subdivision on the town water supply		
<b>URBAN</b>	Extensive soil disturbance required during development will be a temporary but very significant source of turbidity and/or sediment. Increased hard surfacing (roofs and roads) will increase peak runoff, resulting in increased erosion hazard at the discharge point of surface drainage.	
<b>FARMLETS AND BUSH BLOCKS</b>	As for urban, with the additional hazards of failure of septic tank absorption fields, clearing and overgrazing.	
Any hazard to water supply is more significant on this map unit than most others as much of the Ors unit drains directly into the Cosgrave Reservoir.		