

8. Trawalla-Pinepark Unit

The soils of this unit are located on alluvium from weathered sedimentary rock and occur in the valleys of the Mt Emu and Trawalla Creeks in the south-west of the study area. In this unit there is some gully erosion and severe salting on the lower slopes and in drainage depressions.

Geology: Alluvium from Ordovician sandstone and shale.

Slope: Average 0-3%

Landforms: 85% Plain, gentle slope
15% Drainage depressions, gully

Soils:

Dominant: Dy3.41, Dd2.81, Db2.41, Dy3.42, Dy2.42. Mottled or whole-coloured yellow-brown duplex soils; a pale bleached A₂, especially on the lower slopes and depressions, is usually present, is often deep and may contain quartz and buckshot.

See appendices 14, 15 and 16 for typical soil profile descriptions from this unit.

Stone rock outcrop: Nil

Pans: Weakly cemented hardpans occur in some drainage depressions.

Land use: Predominantly grazing.

Observed land deterioration: Gully erosion and severe salting in many of the drainage depressions.

Susceptibility to land deterioration:

Gully erosion (moderate to high)

Salting (high)

Sheet erosion (moderate)

Compaction (low to moderate)

Land capability classification:

Generally, land capability class 3 with drainage as the determinant factor (see Tab 1). However, the soil salinity status in this Unit is such that the land capability classes in this Unit range up to 5, with the class 4 and 5 areas being located in many of the drainage lines and depressions.