

## SECTION 2 – CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT OFR LAND BASED RECREATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Land capability for a given use or activity requires consideration of:-

- (i) the nature of land resource,
- (ii) the level of output or performance,
- (iii) the level of input or management,
- (iv) the resultant level of deterioration.

In this study, the map units indicate areas which require similar management to hold deterioration at a tolerable level. It is assumed that acceptable performance of the activities is required.

The capability of the distinct types of land which are described by the mapping units has been assessed. Capability has been expressed in terms of the degree of limitation which the physical characteristics in the mapping units impose upon each of the activities considered (Reference 3, 10). The activities are:-

- (i) camp sites,
- (ii) bridle paths and walking trails,
- (iii) roads and parking lots,
- (iv) intensive use areas,
- (v) gold course fairways,
- (vi) permanent water bodies
- (vii) equestrian activities (dressage and agistment),
- (viii) motor bike trails,
- (ix) service buildings,
- (x) on-site septic effluent disposal.

The summary of limitations, Table I, can be interpreted to indicate the areas of highest limitation or hazard and conversely, those areas requiring lower levels of management for particular activities. Table II, identifies the limitations. Once the limitations to an activity have been identified, management can be directed towards the environmental aspects which are most sensitive. For example:-

If a decision was made to locate a bridle path and walking trail (activity ii) so that it crossed map unit 3, special attention would be indicated with respect to slope and soil surface stabilization.

It should be noted that there are some areas of land which are too small to be indicated on the mapping scale chosen. These can nevertheless be identified in the field and rates according to their capability.

**Table 1 – Summary of Limitations – Yarra Metropolitan Park**

ACTIVITY	MAP UNIT								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
i) CAMP SITES									
ii) PATHS & TRAILS									
iii) ROADS & PARKING LOTS									
iv) INTENSIVE USE AREAS									
v) GOLF COURSE FAIRWAYS									
vi) PERMANENT WATER BODIES									
vii) EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES (DRESSAGE & AGISTMENT)									
viii) MOTOR BIKE TRAILS									
ix) SERVICE BUILDINGS									
x) ON-SITE SEPTIC EFFLUENT DISPOSAL									

KEY:-

- SEVERE LIMITATION
- MODERATE LIMITATION
- SLIGHT

DENOTES RANGE OF CONDITION

N.B. REFER TO TABLE II TO IDENTIFY NATURE OF LIMITATION(S)

**Table II – Summary of Map Unit Limitations**

Activity Map Unit	i Camp Sites	ii Paths & Trails	iii Roads, Parking Lots	iv Intensive Use Areas	v Golf Course Fairways	vi Permanent Water Bodies	vii Equestrian Activities (Dressage Agistment)	viii Motor Bike Trails	ix Service Buildings	x On-Site Effluent Disposal
1	Severe G.D.	Severe G.D.	Severe G.D.	Severe G.D.	Severe G.	Severe G.D.	Severe G.S.D.	Severe G.S.D.	Severe G.D.	Severe G.D.
2	Mod W.K.	Mod S. Disp. K.	Slight	Mod. G.W.K.	Slight	Mod D.S.P.K.	Mod. W.S.K.	Mod. W.S. *Disp.	Slight	Mod. W.S.
3	Severe G. Mod-W.P.S.K.	Mod. G.S.	Mod. G.P.	Severe G. Mod-W.P.S.K.	Mod. G.	Severe G. Mod-W.S.D.	Mod. G.W.S.K.	Severe S Mod-G.W.P.	Mod. G.	Mod. G.W.P.S.Disp.K
4	Severe W. Mod. F.P.	Mod. W.P. Disp	Mod. F. W. P.	Severe W. Mod. F.P.	Mod. W.	Slight	Severe W.	Severe W. Mod-P.S. Disp	Severe F. Mod. W.	Severe F.W. Mod. P
5	Mod. W.	Slight S*	Slight	Slight S*	Slight S*	Mod. W.S.	Mod. W.S.	Mod. W.S.	Slight	Mod. W.S.
6	Severe W.	Mod. W.Disp.K.	Mod. G.W.	Severe W. Mod. K.	Mod. W.	Severe G. Mod. P.S.	Severe W. Mod. G.K.	Severe W.S.	Mod. G.W.	Severe W. Mod. Disp. K
7	Severe F. (W.P.)	Mod. F.(W.P.)	Mod. F.(W.P.)	Mod. F.(W.P.)	Mod. F.(W.P.)	Mod. F.W.P.S.	Mod. F.(W.)	Severe F.(W.P.S.)	Mod. F.(W.P.S.)	Severe F.(W.P.)
8	Mod. F.S.	Slight S*	Mod. F.	Mod. F.S.	Slight S*	Severe W.S.	Mod. F.S.	Severe S.	Severe F.	Severe F.
9	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.	Severe F.	Slight	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.	Severe F.W.
10	Not considered									

Key to Limiting Factors

G: Gradient  
 F: Flood  
 W: Groundwater Table  
 P: Permeability  
 S: A Horizon Texture &/or Structure  
 Disp. Aggregate Stability

D: Soil Depth  
 R: Outcropping Rock  
 K: Stones or Gravel  
 \*: Denotes limitation one class higher than overall rating