



MAP UNIT Escarpment, steep

SYMBOL Es

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This map unit is comprised of the steeper areas of the escarpment between the basalt plateau and the exposed underlying Ordovician sediments.

It is characterised by steep slopes and shallow soil.

Map Unit is	1.0	% study area	Ref. Plate	10
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PARENT MATERIAL

Ordovician sediment, some Quaternary basalt

Depth to rock	50	cm
Rock outcrop	0	%
Surface stones	0	%
Landslip risk	Low	
Shrink/swell potential	Moderate	
Northcote code & SCS Ext.	Gn - 4/3/25	

LANDFORM

Escarpment

Slope-common	30	%
- range	20-35+	%
Flood risk	Nil	
Profile drainage	Imperfect	
Seasonal watertable	Nil	
Unified soil group	A	
	B	MH/CL

EROSION HAZARD

High: Steep sloping, B horizon disperses and slakes slightly

NATIVE VEGETATION	Manna gum	LAND USE	Low intensity grazing
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PROFILE DESCRIPTION

0-25 cm Dark brown (10YR 3/3) fine sandy clay loam; strong fine subangular blocky structure; friable when moist; pH 6½;

Gradual transition to:

25-35 cm Brown (7.5YR 4/3) distinctly mottled medium clay; weak fine subangular blocky structure; firm when moist; pH 6½;

Continuing with depth but with 30%+ of soil volume as stones of parent material to 10 cm diameter.

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Capability of the land to support various activities

ACTIVITY	RATING	MAJOR LIMITING FEATURES OF THE LAND
Building foundations	Poor	Slope; stoniness
Absorption fields	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock
Secondary roads	Very poor	Slope
Gravel roads	Poor	Slope
Access tracks	Very poor	Slope
Shallow excavations	Very poor	Slope
Farm dams	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock
Sewage lagoons	Very poor	Slope; depth to rock
Intensive cultivation	Very poor	Slope
Path & trails	Very poor	Slope

SYMBOL Es

Capability of the land to support subdivision

SUBDIVISION TYPE	RATING	MAJOR LIMITING ACTIVITIES
Urban (sewered)	Very poor	Secondary roads; shallow excavations
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
<p>Effect of subdivision on the town water supply</p> <p>This map unit has a low to very low capability for all activities relating to residential use and the servicing of small allotments. However, areas of it could be included in the larger Farmlets without prejudicing water quality <u>provided</u> no earthworks were undertaken on the map unit, that sufficient control is exercised to prevent overgrazing and that this map unit does not constitute the major portion of the grazing land on each allotment.</p>		