



MAP UNIT Quaternary basalt, swampy

SYMBOL Qbs

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The majority of this map unit occurs in association with the Qbw unit; however, it also occurs sporadically throughout the basaltic areas of the catchments to the Cosgrave and Russell Reservoirs.

The map unit is comprised of swamps, wet for most of the year and its soils are variable.

Map Unit is	4.9	% study area	Ref. Plate	4
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PARENT MATERIAL

Quaternary basalt		
Depth to rock		cm
Rock outcrop	0	%
Surface stones	0	%
Landslip risk	Nil	
Shrink/swell potential	Moderate	
Northcote code & SCS Ext.		

LANDFORM

Swampy depressions		
Slope-common	1	%
- range	0-3	%
Flood risk	Variable	
Profile drainage	Very poor	
Seasonal watertable	At surface	
Unified soil group	A	
	B	

EROSION HAZARD

NATIVE VEGETATION

LAND USE

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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	Very poor	Site drainage
Absorption fields	Very poor	Site drainage; watertable at surface for long periods
Secondary roads	Very poor	Site drainage; watertable at surface for long periods
Gravel roads	Very poor	Site drainage; load bearing capacity when wet
Access tracks	Very poor	Site drainage; load bearing capacity when wet (boggy)
Shallow excavations	Very poor	Site drainage; watertable at surface for long periods
Farm dams	Poor	Poor storage/excavation ratio; too wet for construction for long periods
Sewage lagoons	Very poor	Watertable at surface for long periods
Intensive cultivation	Very poor	Site drainage
Path & trails	Very poor	Site drainage

SUBDIVISION TYPE	RATING	MAJOR LIMITING ACTIVITIES
Urban (sewered)	Very poor	All relevant activities
Bush Blocks (4 ha)	Very poor	All relevant activities
Small Farmlets (4 ha)	Very poor	All relevant activities
Large Farmlets (16 ha)	Very poor	All relevant activities
Effect of subdivision on the town water supply		
URBAN	There are no land features of this map unit which pose a specific hazard to water supply.	
FARMLETS AND BUSH BLOCKS	A high probability of unsatisfactory operation of septic tank absorption fields for long periods will result in serious bacterial contamination of runoff water and, ultimately, water in Cosgrave Reservoir.	