

HIGH RELIEF 'RIDGE AND RAVINE' TERRAIN ON DEVONIAN PLUTONICS AND METAMORPHICS

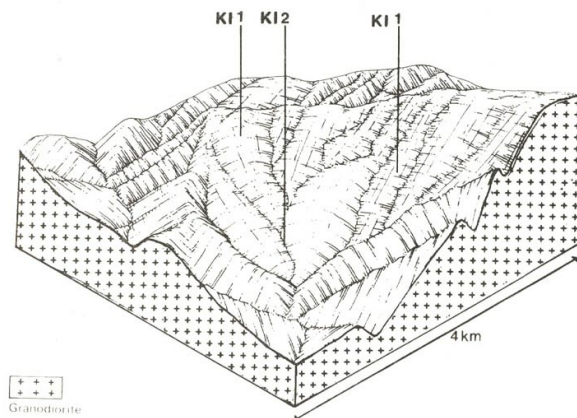
Land System: *Kirchubel K1 – Public land only.*

This land consists of long precipitous mountain slopes with very high relief 'ridge and ravine' topography and a dendritic drainage pattern. It occurs in the northern part of the catchment on the lower slopes of Mt Toorong and Mt Baw Baw. The underlying geology is Devonian granodiorite, granite and associated metamorphics (DGA, DGT, m). These areas are frequently snow covered in winter.

The soils that occur are most commonly gradational, friable, deep, well drained and acidic. The dominant soils have very dark brown to black sandy loam to sandy clay loam topsoils merging into structured red or brown sandy clay loam to sandy clay subsoils. They are classified as Red and Brown Earths.

The native vegetation is a layered open forest with shining gum (*E. sieberi*), mountain grey gum (*E. cypellocarpa*) and mountain ash (*E. regnans*) commonly occurring. The huge white remnant 'stages' of mountain ash that can be frequently seen within this land type, are stark reminders of the effect of previous bushfires in the area. The fires are also believed to be responsible for the occurrence of limited patches of forest where silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*), is now the dominant species.

Three components have been delineated on the basis of the broad topographic differences, K1 the steep slopes, K12 the crest areas and K13 the drainage floors of major watercourses.



Kirchubel Land System & Components (Public land only)