

413141

ASBESTOS RANGE

These rugged, steep and rocky hills formed on Precambrian quartzites and phyllites in the north-east of Region 4 trend north-west/south-east. This system and the adjoining Dazzler Range Land System (513241) are the only two areas of Precambrian deposits in the Region. Restricted to the area between Port Sorell and the Tamar River, the system includes Asbestos Range and Badger Head.

The stony gradational soil on the crests gives way to a duplex soil on the steep upper slopes. Clay soils have developed on the gentler lower slopes and drainage lines.

Stringybark and black peppermint dominate the open-forest on the two upper components and the closed-forest on component 3. The tall closed-forest in the drainage lines is predominantly white gum and stringybark. Remnants of rainforest vegetation are found in sheltered gullies throughout the system.

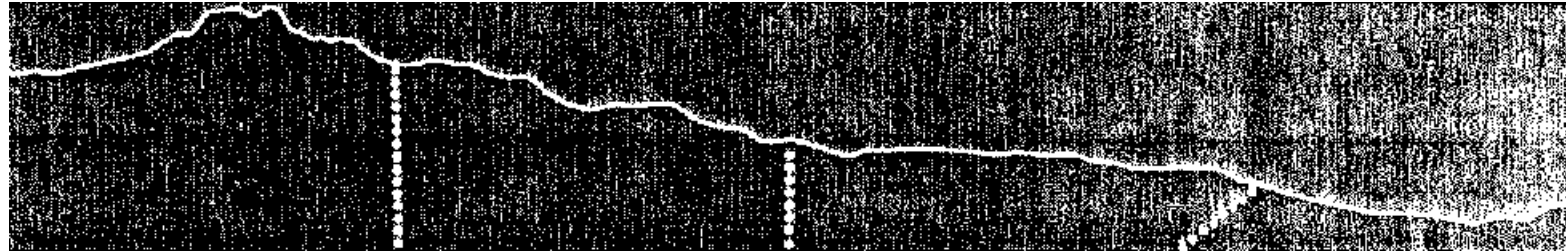
The major land uses are forestry and grazing, although large areas remain as zones of nature conservation. Pine plantations have been developed in certain localities and some areas show evidence of being heavily logged sometime in the past. Quartzitic gravel quarries are scattered throughout the system.

Hazards are severe to moderate sheet erosion. Some sheet erosion has occurred in and around the gravel quarries.

LAND SYSTEM

413141

Asbestos Range



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	25	25	30	20
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm			
QEOLQY	Mainly rock outcrops	Precambrian quartzites and phyllites		
TOPOGRAPHY				
Land form		Rugged, steep and rocky hills		
Position	Crests	Steepest upper slopes	Gentler lower slopes	Drainage lines
Average Sideslope °	15	18	8	6
NATIVE VEGETATION				
Structure	Open forest		Closed-forest	Tall closed-forest
Association	Stringybark, she-oak, bull-oak, sunshine wattle, manuka, <i>Acacia genistifolia</i> , prickly box, native cherry, <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Stringybark, black peppermint, silver wattle, sunshine wattle, bull-oak, manuka, native cherry, heath	Stringybark, black peppermint, silver wattle, <i>Helichrysum dendroideum</i> , <i>Bedfordia salicina</i> , bull-oak, prickly mimosa	White gum, Stringybark, silver wattle, paperbark, manuka, prickly mimosa, ferns
SOIL	Stony, grey (10 YR 5 /1) gradational soil	Brownish yellow (10 YR 6/6) duplex soil	Reddish brown (5 YR 4/4) clay soil, uniform texture	Reddish yellow (7.5 YR 6/6) clay soil, uniform texture
Surface Texture	Sandy clay loam	Gravelly loam	Gravelly light clay	Sandy light clay
Permeability		Moderate		Low
Average Depth m	0.5	0.7	1.4	>2.0
PRESENT LAND USE	Nature conservation, forestry, grazing, recreation			
HAZARDS	Severe to moderate sheet erosion			