

# 472141

## TIPPOGOREE

Large areas of gently rolling hills formed on Jurassic dolerite and related rocks are found in the north-east and east of the Region. These hills trend mainly north-west/south-east. The largest body of this system stretches in a band from George Town to the Nile River near Deddington. The band averages four kilometres in width but is up to eight kilometres wide in some areas. A broad band extends from Exeter to Hadspen in the West Tamar area. The third major occurrence is in the west of the Region, stretching from Birralee and Bridgenorth to the Bass Highway between Deloraine and Westbury. This system incorporates the western suburbs of Launceston.

Average altitude of the system is about 200 m, with Mount Direction, Mt George, Tippogoree Hills and Grassy Hut Tier some of the highest points. The system is the lower counterpart of the adjoining Prossers Forest Land System (572241). It is traversed by the North Esk and South Esk Rivers and numerous rivulets and small creeks. A number of small areas of Quaternary deposits similar to those of the Dalrymple Land System (493123) are

found scattered throughout the system, but are too small to be mapped separately.

Stony gradational soils have formed on all components except in the drainage lines, where a stony clay has developed on dolerite alluvium. All soils, except those on the gentler lower slopes have a gravelly clay loam surface so typical of doleritic soils. Dolerite boulders and outcrops are common, especially on the upper components. Some small areas of lateritic soils on dolerite are found in this system.

The open-forest vegetation is dominated by eucalypts, white gum and black peppermint being the major species. Understorey plants include black wattle, silver wattle, she-oak, native hop and paperbark.

Due to the rugged terrain and stony soils large areas are undeveloped but parts are used for forestry, rough grazing, quarrying and recreation. Considerable areas are being logged for woodchips and sawlogs. Dolerite quarries are scattered throughout the system, with the gravel being used extensively for road construction.

The major hazards are low to severe sheet and gully erosion.

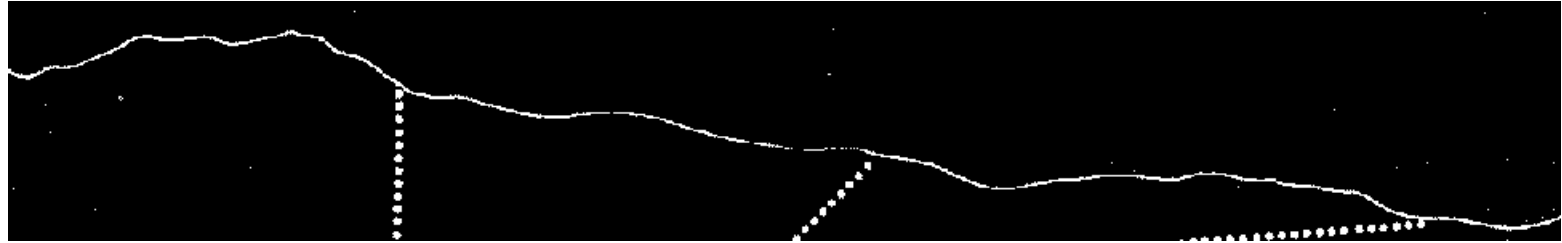


Colluvium from dolerite.

**LAND SYSTEM**

472141

Tippogoree



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	25	30	35	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm			
GEOLOGY	Jurassic dolerite and related rocks			
			Colluvium from dolerite	Alluvium from dolerite
TOPOGRAPHY				
Land form	Hills trending mainly N.W.-S.E.			
Position	Crests and upper slopes	Mid slopes	Gentler lower slopes	Drainage lines
Average Sideslope °	10	7	6	2
NATIVE VEGETATION				
Structure	Open-forest			
Association	White gum, black peppermint, black wattle, she-oak, native hop, native cherry, bracken fern	Black peppermint, white gum, black wattle, silver wattle, native hop	Stringybark, black peppermint, white gum, black wattle, tea-tree, paperbark	White gum, black peppermint, black wattle, bull-oak, paperbark
SOIL	Stony brown (7.5 YR 4/4) gradational soil	Stony red (2.5 YR 4/6) gradational soil, coarse structure	Stony yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) gradational soil	Stony dark brown (10 YR 4/3) clay soil, uniform texture
Surface Texture	Gravelly clay loam		Clay loam	Gravelly clay loam
Permeability	Moderate			
Average Depth m	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.8
PRESENT LAND USE	Nature conservation, forestry, quarrying, recreation, grazing			
HAZARDS	Severe sheet erosion		Moderate sheet erosion	Low sheet and gully erosion