

LAND SYSTEM
Middleton Hills

473141

Area (ha):
11135

COMPONENT

A

B

C

D

PROPORTION (%)

20

60

10

10

RAINFALL (mm)

Approximate Annual Rainfall: 750-1000

GEOLOGY

Triassic Medium-Coarse Grained Sandstone Predominantly

TOPOGRAPHY

Hills

Position

Crests/Upper Slopes

Sandy Slopes

Flats

Drainage Flats/Marshes

Typical Slope (°)

10

10

5

0

NATIVE VEGETATION

Structure

Woodland/Open Forest

Floristic Association
(See Appendix 1 for common names)

Eucalyptus obliqua
Eucalyptus amygdalina
Pteridium esculentum
Phebalium squameum
Cassinia aculeata
Acacia riceana
Oxylobium ellipticum
Monotoca glauca

Eucalyptus obliqua
Eucalyptus amygdalina
Pteridium esculentum
Leptospermum scoparium
Exocarpos cupressiformis
Cassinia aculeata
Pultenaea juniperina
Acacia botrycephala
Goodenia ovata

Eucalyptus obliqua
Melaleuca squarrosa
Pteridium esculentum
Leptospermum scoparium
Banksia marginata
Acacia dealbata
Acacia melanoxylon

Eucalyptus ovata
(Eucalyptus amygdalina)
Lomandra longifolia
Melaleuca squarrosa
Leptospermum lanigerum

SOIL

Surface(A) Texture

Sandy (Clay) Loam

Sandy Loam/
Sandy Clay Loam

Silty Clay Loam

Light Clay

B Horizon (subsoil) Colour (moist) Texture and primary profile form

Shallow sandy clay loam-very dark grey (10 YR 3/1) or sandy loam - very dark greyish brown (10 YR 3/2) on bedrock. Uniform.

Deep brownish yellow (10 YR 6/8) sandy clay or heavy clay - sometimes with a pale brown (10 YR 6/3) to yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) mottle. Duplex.

Deep sandy clay - grey (10 YR 5/1) to dark grey (10 YR 4/1) with strong brown (7.5 YR 5/8) to yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) mottle. Gradational.

Deep medium clay - grey (10 YR 5/1) to yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) with light grey/grey mottle. Gradational.

Permeability

High

Moderate

Moderate

Low

Typical depth(m)

0.60

>1.40

>1.40

>1.40

LAND USE

Grazing and Cropping

HAZARDS

Moderate/High Sheet, Rill, Gully and Streambank Erosion

MIDDLETON HILLS

This land system consists predominantly of sandstone hills and associated flats formed on sediments of the Upper Parmeener Supergroup in the vicinity of Middleton and Snug. It has been extrapolated to include country on South Bruny Island, and in the Garden Island Creek, Pelverata, Sandfly and Huonville districts.

Crests and upper slopes contain a shallow (0.60 m), uniform, sandy loam or sandy clay loam developed on sandstone bedrock. This supports an open forest to woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus obliqua* and *Eucalyptus amygdalina* with an understorey that includes *Monotoca glauca*, *Pteridium esculentum*, *Phebalium squameum*, *Cassinia aculeata*, *Acacia riceana* and *Oxylobium ellipticum*.

Slopes have a deep (>1.40 m), duplex soil with a sandy loam to sandy clay loam surface over a sandy clay or heavy clay. This supports an open forest to woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus obliqua* and *Eucalyptus amygdalina* with an understorey that includes *Pteridium esculentum*, *Leptospermum scoparium*, *Exocarpos cupressiformis*, *Cassinia aculeata*, *Pultenaea juniperina*, *Acacia botrycephala* and *Goodenia ovata*.

Flats contain a deep (>1.40 m), gradational soil that consists of a silty clay loam to clay loam surface over a grey to dark grey, sandy clay with a strong brown to yellowish red mottle. This supports a woodland to open forest dominated by *Eucalyptus obliqua* with an understorey that includes *Melaleuca squarrosa*, *Pteridium esculentum*, *Leptospermum scoparium*, *Banksia marginata*, *Acacia dealbata* and *Acacia melanoxylon*.

Drainage flats and marshes have a deep (>1.40 m), gradational soil with a light clay surface over a mottled, grey to yellowish brown, medium clay. This supports an open forest to woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus ovata*, sometimes with *Eucalyptus amygdalina*, with an understorey of *Melaleuca squarrosa*, *Leptospermum lanigerum* and *Lomandra longifolia*.

Grazing and cropping are the major land uses. This land system is particularly prone to sheet, rill, gully and streambank erosion.