

484126

GLADSTONE

Found mainly in the north-east of the Region is an area of undulating plains formed on Tertiary clays and gravels. Areas of this system are found between Gladstone and Ansons Bay and to the north of Winnaleah.

Whole coloured or mottled duplex soils have developed on these plains. Although this system does not contain the large gravel component so characteristic of the Bridport Road Land System (484125), small areas of white gravel soil do occur in some localities.

The woodland vegetation is predominantly white gum, black peppermint and stringybark with an understorey of sunshine wattle, oaks and heath.

Near the coast, a considerable area is devoid of eucalypts and the vegetation is composed mainly of she-oak, bull-oak and heath.

Approximately half the area has been cleared and is used for grazing. The rest remains undeveloped or is used for hardwood forestry and firewood production. In the past large areas were used for alluvial tin mining.

Sheet and gully erosion are the main hazards associated with these somewhat sandy soils. Massive erosion of old mine workings, devoid of vegetation, is occurring with subsequent siltation of creeks and rivers which drain this area. The eroded material forms large deposits of silt at the mouths of many of the major rivers in the north-east of the Region (see Great Forester (393112) and St Helens (493111) Land Systems).

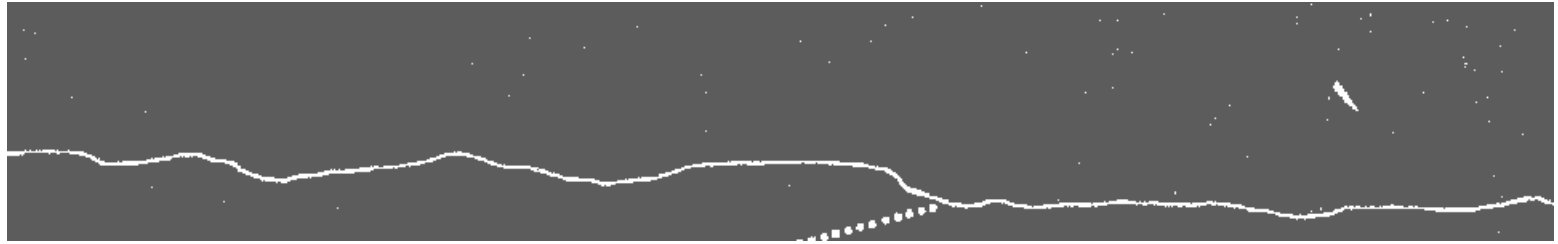


Erosion of old tin mining area in the east of Region 4.

LAND SYSTEM

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Gladstone



COMPONENT	1	2
PROPORTION %	60	40
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm	
GEOLOGY	Tertiary clays and gravels	
TOPOGRAPHY	Undulating plains	
Land form	Undulating plains	
Position	Dissected plains	Lower plains
Average Sideslope °	2	1
NATIVE VEGETATION	Woodland	
Structure	Woodland	
Aaociation	White gum, black peppermint, stringybark, silver wattle, she-oak sunshine wattle, prickly box, heath, bracken fern	Black peppermint, white gum, sunshine wattle, she-oak, bull-oak, <i>Casuarina monilifera</i> , heath, bracken fern
SOIL	Brownish yellow (10 YR 6/8) duplex soil	Mottled grey (10 YR 6/1) strong brown (7.5 YR 5/8) duplex soil
Surface Texture	Sandy loam	
Permeability	Moderate	
Average Depth m	1.5	1.7
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, nature conservation, forestry	
HAZARDS	Low sheet and gully erosion	