564142

BLACKFISH CREEK

Steep-sided valleys have resulted from the deep incision of Permian and Upper Carbonferous mudstones and tillites by Blackfish, Big, Camp and Seabrook creeks south of Wynyard.

Reddish yellow duplex soils have formed on the highest slopes. Yellowish red gradational soils on the midslopes become deeper and more friable on the colluvial material which covers the steeper areas. Yellowish brown to brown soils were found on the gentler slopes along the floors of the valleys. The vegetation changes from a tall, open forest on the upper and steep side-slopes, to a tall closed community on the valley alluvium. The typical association is stringybark, white gum, blackwood and silver wattle.

As well as representing important areas for recreation, Blackfish Creek land system is a source of high quality hardwood and softwood timber.

High sheet and rill erosion is a danger on the steepest slopes, with the consequent risk of siltation below. There is also the likelihood of sheet erosion on the gentler higher slopes and streambank erosion along the edges of the creeks.

LAND SYSTEM

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Blackfish Creek

COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION %	10	55	15	15	5
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 000-1 250 mm				
GEOLOGY	Permian mudstones and tillites				
			Colluvium	Alluvium	
TOPOGRAPHY					
Land form			Mainly steep sided valleys		
Position	Crests, gentle upper slopes	Midslopes	Steeper slopes	Upper terrace	Floodplain
Average Sideslope °	5	12	18	2	1
NATIVE VEGETATION		·			
Structure	Tall open forest			Tall closed forest	
Association	Stringsbark white gum blackwood silver wattle				
SOIL	Reddish yellow (7 5 YR 6/8) duplex soil	Gravelly, yellowish red (5 YR 4/8) gradational soil	Gravelly, friable, yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) grada- tional soil	Yellowish brown (10 YR 5/4) gradational soil, fine structure	Brown (10 YR 4/3) grada- tional soil
Surface Texture	Loam	Clay loam		Light clay	Clay loam
Permeability	Moderate		High		Moderate
Average Depth m	2 0	1 0	>2	0	15
PRESENT LAND USE	Forestry (softwoods and hardwoods), nature conservation, recreation				
HAZARDS	Moderate sheet erosion		High sheet and rill erosion	Moderate siltation	Moderate streambank erosion