

572341

FISHERS TIER

An area of rugged low hills, formed on Jurassic dolerite, occurs in the south of the Region, the major occurrence being to the west of Ben Lomond. Other occurrences include Tower Hill, Byatts Razorback, Fishers Tier and Three O'Clock Hill. The system is drained by the Nile River and numerous rivulets and small creeks resulting in a dissected landscape. The Ben Lomond State Reserve and Ben Lomond Conservation Area contain sections of this system. The steep upper slopes are mainly composed of dolerite scree from the adjoining Ben Lomond Land System (672551).

The dolerite debris from the adjoining country has accumulated as a mantle over most of the in-situ dolerite. This debris is largely unsorted with dolerite stones and boulders in an earthy matrix. Shallow stony gradational soils have developed on all components.

Stringybark, black peppermint and white gum dominate the open-forest vegetation. Understorey plants include wattles, native cherry, *Bedfordia salicina* and *Olearia* spp.

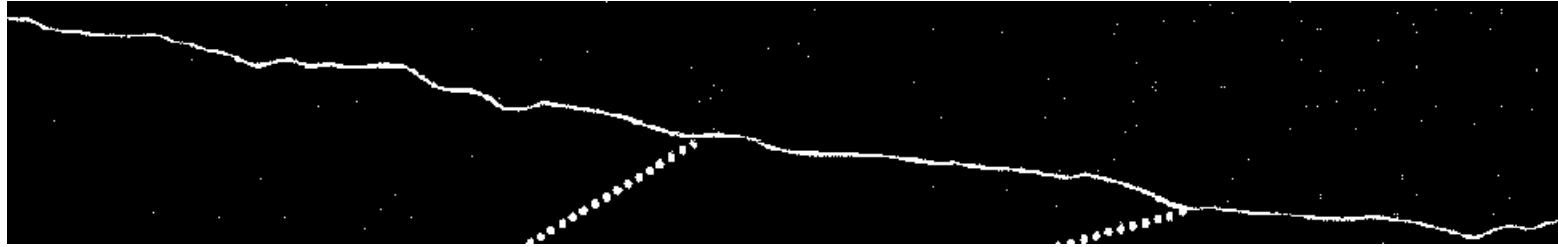
Land use is limited by the rugged terrain and stony soils. Most of the system remains undeveloped, although small areas are used for hardwood forestry or rough grazing.

Low to moderate sheet erosion is the principal hazard.

LAND SYSTEM

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Fishers Tier



COMPONENT	1	2	3
PROPORTION %	45	30	25
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 000-1 250 mm		
GEOLOGY	Mainly dolerite scree	Jurassic dolerite	
TOPOGRAPHY			
Land form		Rugged low hills	
Position	Steep upper slopes	Gentle mid slopes	Lower slopes and drainage lines
Average Sideslope °	25	8	4
NATIVE VEGETATION		Open-forest	
Structure			
Association	Stringybark, white gum, black peppermint, black wattle, silver wattle, native cherry, <i>Olearia</i> spp.	Stringybark, black peppermint, white gum, silver wattle, native cherry, <i>Bedfordia salicina</i> , <i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Stringybark, black peppermint, silver wattle, black wattle, native cherry, bracken fern
SOIL	Stony, brown (10 YR 5/3) gradational soil	Stony, yellowish brown (10 YR 5/8) gradational soil	Stony, light olive brown (2.5 Y 5/4) gradational soil
Surface Texture		Clay loam	
Permeability		Moderate	
Average Depth m	0.5	0.8	1.0
PRESENT LAND USE		Nature conservation, forestry, grazing	
HAZARDS		Moderate to low sheet erosion	