

# 635241

## MARAKOOPA

Steep valley slopes and ridges characterise these areas developed on Ordovician limestone. Between Liena and Mole Creek is an area which includes King Solomons and Marakoopa caves. The other two main bodies lie along the River Leven; one at Loongana and the other further downstream round the southern margins of Gunns Plains.

The yellowish red to brown soils are stony on the highest parts and gravelly on the steeper midslopes and footslopes. There is frequent limestone rock outcrop on the footslopes and water worn stones form a pan along the flowlines.

A tall open forest originally clothed the whole land system. On the crests and steep slopes stringybark, gum-topped stringybark and mountain white gum are the principal species with dogwood and black wattle prominent in the understorey. On the rocky footslopes and river alluvium, white gum, stringybark and black peppermint predominate.

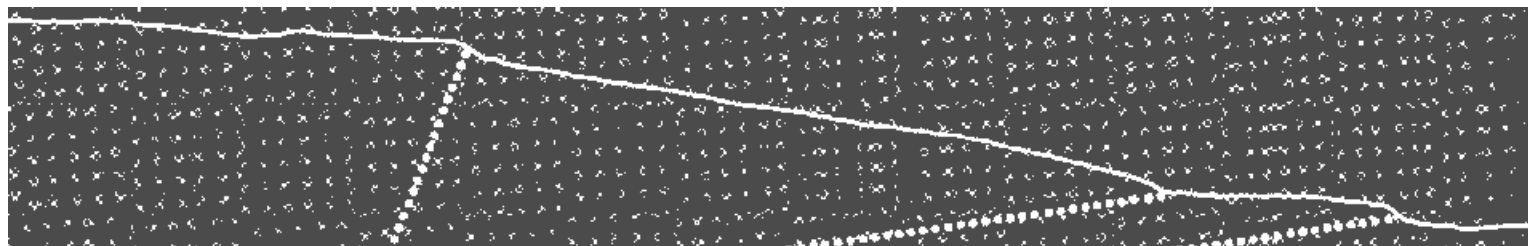
Forestry is the main land use but a State Reserve has been established in the area of limestone caves and some parts are grazed.

There is a moderate hazard of soil erosion in Marakoopa land system.

**LAND SYSTEM**

635241

Marakoopa



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	30	45	15	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 250-1 500 mm			
GEOLOGY	Ordovician limestone sequence with areas of Jurassic dolerite and Permian sediments			
		Colluvium		Alluvium
TOPOGRAPHY	Ridges trending WNW-ESE			
Land form	Ridges trending WNW-ESE			
Position Average Sideslope °	Crests upper slopes 6	Steeper midslopes 15	Rocky footslopes 7	Flowlines 1
NATIVE VEGETATION	Tall open forest			
Structure	Tall open forest			
Association	Stringybark, gum topped stringybark, mountain white gum, dogwood, black wattle, bracken		White gum, stnngybark, black peppermint	
SOIL	Stony brown ( 7 5 YR 4/4 ) gradational soil	Gravelly, yellowish red ( 5 YR 5/6 ) gradational soil	Gravelly, reddish brown ( 5 YR 4/4 ; gradational soil, frequent rock outcrop	Friable, brown ( 10 YR 4/3 ) gradational soil, water worn stone pan
Surface Texture	Clay loam	Gravelly loam	Clay loam	
Permeability		Moderate		High
Average Depth m	1 0	2 0	1 5	
PRESENT LAND USE	Forestry, national park, grazing			
HAZARDS	Moderate sheet erosion	High gully erosion, moderate mass movement	Moderate sheet, gully erosion	Moderate streambank erosion