

784121

DUCK CREEK

Duck Creek land system forms an area of undulating plain round the headwaters of Duck Creek which is near Granville Harbour, on the west coast. Another small area occurs south of there on the Badger River, and another at the southern end of the Region on the eastern side of Macquarie Harbour. It consists of a thin layer of Tertiary sub-basalt material, incompletely covering the underlying Precambrian strata, which outcrop in the swales.

Relatively deep, friable gradational soils have developed on the Tertiary parent material occupying the rises. On the other hand shallow organic soils occur on the Precambrian rocks in

the swales. Strong brown, brownish yellow and gravelly mottled profiles were also seen and are probably attributable to the presence of Tertiary non-marine sequences.

Smithton peppermint dominates a tall mixed forest on the rises. Sassafras, celery-top pine and blackwood represent a secondary tree layer while dogwood, prickly mimosa and soft tree fern constitute the understorey. Manuka, *Acacia mucronata* and cutting grass form a closed scrub in the depressions and swales.

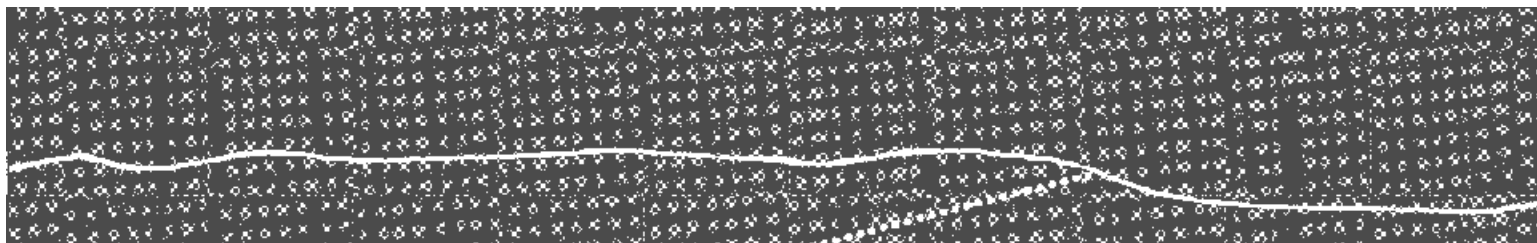
The area mainly serves as a zone of nature conservation.

There is only a slight erosion hazard on the better quality soils and the likelihood of some flooding in the swales.

LAND SYSTEM

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Duck Creek



COMPONENT	1	2
PROPORTION %	70	30
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 500-2 000 mm	
GEOLOGY	Tertiary sub-basalts	Precambrian siliceous sediments
TOPOGRAPHY	Undulating plain	
Land form	Undulating plain	
Position	Hills	Depressions, swales
Average Sideslope °	3	1
NATIVE VEGETATION	Tall open forest	
Structure	Closed scrub	
Association	Smithton peppermint, sassafras, celery top pine, dogwood, blackwood, prickly mimosa, soft tree fern	Manuka, <i>Acacia mucronata</i> , cutting grass
SOIL	Friable, yellowish red (5 YR 5/6) gradational soil	Gravelly, dark grey (5 YR 4/1) organic sand, siliceous gravel pan
Surface Texture	Peat	
Permeability	High	
Average Depth m	1.5	0.4
PRESENT LAND USE	Nature conservation	
HAZARDS	Low sheet erosion hazard	Moderate flooding