

# 844131

## TULLY RIVER

Low hills and some areas of undulating plain formed on Lower Devonian and Silurian sediments are generally found surrounded by higher ridge country described as Zeehan land system. Tully River land system mainly occurs in the Huskisson and Wilson Rivers north-west of Rosebery and around Zeehan in the Little Henty, and areas are also present in the Henty, Tully and King Rivers.

Soils are generally gravelly and peat is a feature of the surface layers over most of the system. Profiles are shallow on the highest parts but increase considerably in depth downslope. Brownish grey and greyish brown are the main profile colours, becoming yellower on the gentle footslopes, while dark coloured soils occur on the flattest sites. Isolated areas of shallow, pale sandy gravels and gravelly peat soils were also observed.

In many of the areas examined the vegetation gave the appearance of major past disturbance. The

dense vegetation on the crests, for example, looked like a regrowth scrub rather than a climax community. A mixed forest of myrtle and Smithton peppermint exists on the sideslopes and gentle footslopes. Beneath the tree canopy is a dense tall scrub of blackwood, manuka, leatherwood and horizontal. A closed scrub was also found in the drainage lines and is dominated by woolly tea-tree, *Acacia mucronata* and dogwood. Button grass and other sedges form a closed community on low flat areas.

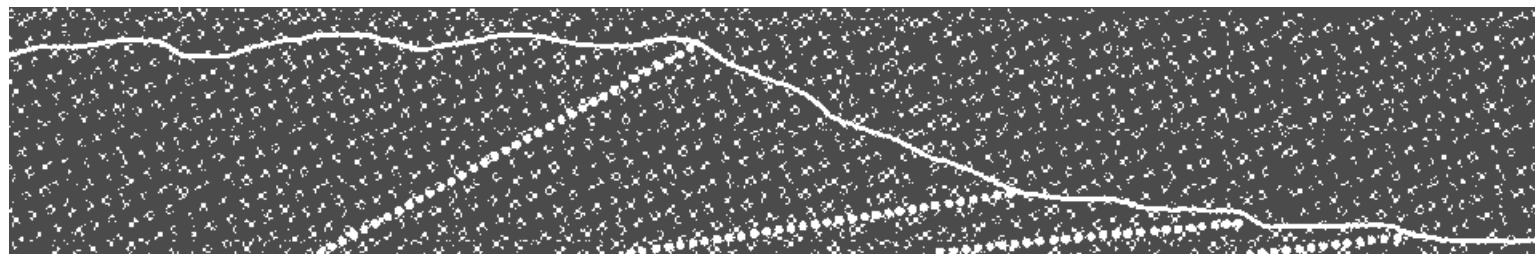
Tully River land system principally serves as zones of nature conservation. Zeehan township mainly lies on this land system and mining and recreation are other uses. The effects of large scale mining activities in the past probably explains the disturbed appearance of the native vegetation.

There is a moderate to low soil erosion, hazard on the crests and slopes. Flooding and waterlogging would be a problem on the flats and there is a minor streambank erosion hazard along the drainage lines.

LAND SYSTEM

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Tully River



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION %	45	20	15	10	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 2 000-2 500 mm				
GEOLOGY	Lower Devonian-Silurian slate, siltstone, shale				
TOPOGRAPHY	Low hills				
Land form	Low hills				
Position	Crests, upper slopes	Sideslopes	Footslopes	Flats	Drainage lines
Average Sideslope °	3	8	3	1	1
NATIVE VEGETATION					
Structure	Closed scrub	Closed forest and scrub		Closed sedgeland	Closed scrub
Association	<i>Acacia mucronata</i> , <i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i> , manuka, lance-wood	Myrtle, Smithton peppermint, blackwood, manuka, leather wood, horizontal, hard water fern		<i>Leptocarpus tenax</i> , button grass, <i>Xyris operculata</i> , <i>Calorophus lateriflorus</i> , <i>Lepidosperma filiforme</i> , <i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i>	Woolly tea tree, <i>Acacia mucronata</i> , dogwood, swamp gum, Smithton peppermint
SOIL	Gravelly, light brownish grey (2.5 Y 6/2) clay soil, uniform texture	Gravelly greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) gradational soil	Brownish yellow (10 YR 6/6) to yellow (2.5 Y 7/6) medium clay soil, uniform texture	Gravelly, dark grey (10 YR 4/1) gradational soil	Dark greyish brown (10 YR 4/2) gradational soil
Surface Texture	Gravelly peat		Peat		Clay loam
Permeability			Moderate		
Average Depth m	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.9
PRESENT LAND USE	Nature conservation, residential, mining, recreation				
HAZARDS	Moderate sheet erosion		Low sheet erosion	Moderate flooding	Low streambank erosion