872441

Lake Myrtle

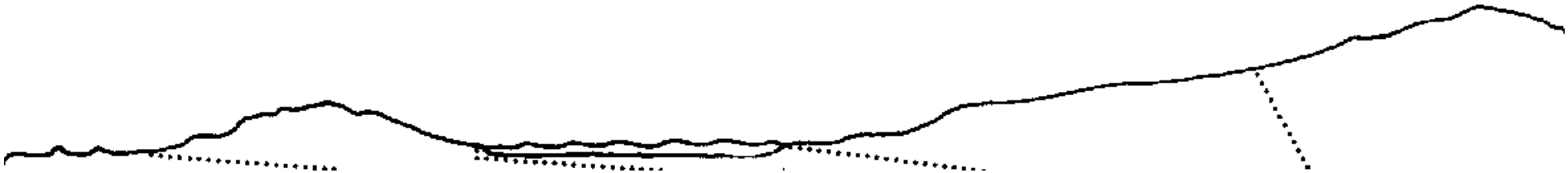
Ice moving off the western edge of the Central Plateau sculptured the step like appearance of much of this land system, which is situated immediately south west of the Walls of Jerusalem. It also covers an area of land near Lake Ayr. Due to access problems this land system could not be thoroughly investigated in the field, and the description provided here is derived from aerial photo-interpretation and extrapolation from similar country nearby.

Geologically the area is dominated by Jurassic dolerite with minor morainal deposits in the Junction Lake region. Pleistocene ice erosion activity is responsible for most of the lakes which have been produced by glacial overdeepening. Soils in the areas of glacial deposition appear to be relatively sandy, and may be underlain by till deposits. Surface deposits in poorly drained areas are probably dominated by peat. Yellowish brown gradational soils are likely on better drained positions and brown gradational profiles may occur on crests. Extensive rock outcrop occurs on ridges and crests while talus deposits are common on slopes.

Organic soils probably support sedgeland communities, with Eucalyptus coccifera, Leptospermum lanigerum and orites spp. occurring on moraines in the Junction Lake area. E. coccifera is likely to inhabit the yellowish brown soils on well drained ridges and slopes while Athrotaxis cupressoides and A selaginoides occupy fire protected situations. Exposed crests with brown gradational soils are probably dominated by E. coccifera and Orites spp.

The Lake Myrtle land system falls into the central Plateau Conservation Area, and its main land use is recreation. The greatest hazard is sheet erosion on drier situations if vegetation is removed by fire. These could spread from forest operations in the Mersey Valley.

LAND SYSTEM
Lake
Myrtle
872441
Area(ha):
8514



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION(%)	10	20	20	30	20
RAINFALL (mm)		Approximate Annual Rainfall: 2000-2500			
GEOLOGY		Jurassic dolerite with Pleistocene glacial deposits			
	Moraines and fine sandy material along drainage	Extensive outcrop			Extensive outcrop
TOPOGRAPHY		Hilly to mountainous alpine terrain			
Position	Lower Flats/Swamps	Rocky Ridges	Lakes	Rocky Slopes	Crests
Typical Slope( )	0-1	10-15	0	30	10-15
NATIVE	Sedgeland with			Open Forest to	Low Woodland/
Structure	Open Forest/Woodland	Woodland		Woodland	Open Heath
Floristic Association (See Appendix 1 for common names)	Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus Lepidosperma filiforme Empodisma minus Restio australis Astelia alpina Various bolster plants Leptospermum lanigerum	Eucalyptus coccifera Orites revoluta O. acicularis Lissanthe montana		Eucalyptus coccifera E. delegatensis Athrotaxis cupressoldes A. selaginoides Nothofagus cunnlnghamii Drimys	Eucalyptus coccifera Orites revoluta O. acicularis Epacris serpyllifolia Diselma archeri
SOIL Surface(A)Textu	Peat	Loam		Loam	Loam/Peat
B Horlzon(subsoil) Colour (wet) Texture and primary profile	Sandy mineral soil. Organic.	Yellowish brown soils Gradational.		Yellowish brown to Brown soils. Gradational.	Brown Gradationa l.
Permeability					
Typical depth(m)			Not sampled		
Depth(A)Horizon(m)					
LAND USE		Nature conservation recreation			
HAZARDS		High sheet erosion			