

A. 1.0 MOUNTAINS, HILLS and RANGES

There are numerous mountains, hills and ranges within the mapped Alice Springs urban and rural area. From south to north the following formations can be observed.

- The Mereenie, Pacoota and Arumbera Sandstone Mountains form the southern most ranges trending generally east west with a maximum relief of up to 600 metres. They are composed mainly of sandstone and quartzite.
- The Blatherskite Range is comprised of Heavitree Quartzite and has a relief up to 694 metres.
- The Macdonnell Ranges follow a generally east west trend and are a rugged cuesta range of Heavitree Quartzite.
- Alice Springs Granite, Sadadeen Range Gneiss, Teppa Hill Metamorphics, Emily Gap Schist and Charles River Gneiss form part of the Arunta Block mountains, hills and ranges at the northern end of the Alice Springs municipal boundary.

Land unit splits were based heavily on the geological characteristics of the various areas of high relief. Vegetative coverage on the high relief areas was used to determine the lower limits of particular land units that then graded into either Group 2 (Rises) or Group 3 (Slopes).

This group of nineteen land units totals 60.12 km² or 18.28% of the mapped area.

Table 1 represents a summary form of the total area, as a percentage and in square kilometres, of the capability class ratings for each development purpose within Group 1.

CAPABILITY CLASS						
	Formed Roads	Shallow excavations	Septic Disposal	Horticulture	Building Foundations	Landscaping
Very Good						
Good					18.09 km ² 5.50 %	
Fair						
Poor	51.96 km ² 15.79 %			9.34 km ² 2.90 %	36.67 km ² 11.14 %	31.35 km ² 9.58 %
Very Poor	8.17 km ² 2.47 %	60.12 km ² 18.28 %	60.12 km ² 18.28 %	50.78 km ² 15.38 %	5.36 km ² 1.64 %	28.77 km ² 8.70 %

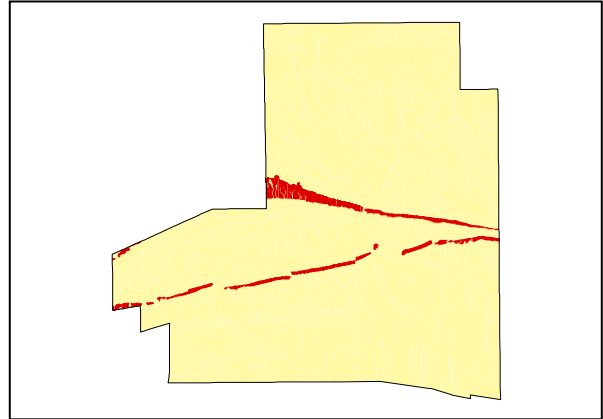
Table 1. Summary of Group 1 land unit areas. Mountains, Hills and Ranges.

Mountains, Hills and Ranges

LAND UNIT 1.01
Heavitree Quartzite Cuesta Ridges

DESCRIPTION: Rugged silicified sandstone / siltstone cuesta ridges with Spinifex and Mallee.
SITE: 070

Distribution of land unit.



Area = 7.21 km², 2.19% of mapped area.

LAND CAPABILITY:

ATTRIBUTES	
SLOPE (%)	58
RELIEF (m)	900
SOIL DEPTH (m)	0.00 - 0.15
SURFACE CONDITION	Loose
DEPTH to SUBSTRATE (m)	0.00 - 0.15
REACTION TREND (pH)	7.0
OUTCROP (%)	75
RUNOFF	Very Rapid
PERMEABILITY	Moderately Permeable
DRAINAGE	Rapidly drained
SALINITY (µs/cm)	31.5

DEVELOPMENT RISKS	
EROSION	Severe
ROCK FALL	None
SHEET FLOODING	None
INUNDATION	None
SALINITY	None
ALKALINITY	None
ACIDITY	None

CAPABILITY CLASS					
Formed Roads	Shallow excavations	Septic Disposal	Horticulture	Building Foundations	Landscaping
Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Good	Poor