

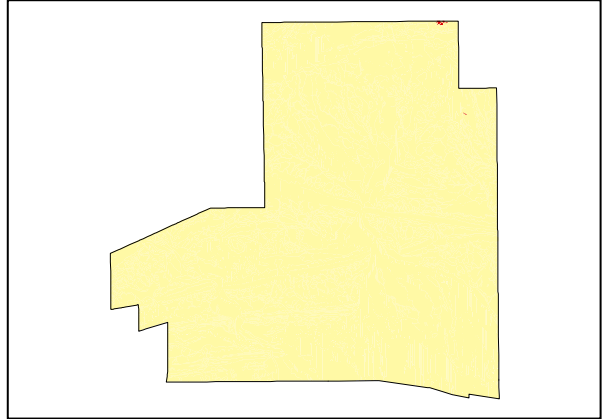
Mountains, Hills and Ranges

**LAND UNIT 1.15**  
**Dolerite Dykes**

**DESCRIPTION:** Dolerite dykes forming elongated ridges with low Witchetty and Fuchsia Bush.  
**SITES:** 006, 016, 019, 044



**Distribution of land unit.**



Area = 0.08 km<sup>2</sup>, 0.02% of mapped area.

**LAND CAPABILITY:**

ATTRIBUTES	
SLOPE (%)	30
RELIEF (m)	40
SOIL DEPTH (m)	0.05
SURFACE CONDITION	Loose
DEPTH to SUBSTRATE (m)	0.00 -0.05
REACTION TREND (pH)	7.0
OUTCROP (%)	95
RUNOFF	Rapid
PERMEABILITY	Highly permeable
DRAINAGE	Rapidly drained
SALINITY (µs/cm)	161.2

DEVELOPMENT RISKS	
EROSION	None
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
Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor

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**TECHNICAL DETAILS****LAND UNIT 1.15**

**DESCRIPTION:** Elongated dolerite dyke ridges protruding from the surrounding country rock.

**GEOLOGY:** The dolerite dykes are most likely part of the Late Proterozoic Stuart Dyke Swarm. They typically form in random orientations throughout the region.

**LANDFORM:** The majority of the dolerite dykes are generally elongated and form an intrusive ridge in the surrounding country rock. They can be traced for up to 3.0 km in some areas and 400m in width. The higher ridges, within country rock, have a relief of up to 40m above the country rock surface with slopes to 30%. In the mapped region the dolerite dykes are about 5.0m to in width to 40m long. The dyke rocks are hard and unweathered but highly fractured allowing the unit to drain rapidly and have high permeability. A drainage channel network is absent. Rapid runoff would tend to wash erosional material down slope resulting in minimal soil formation being restricted to protected areas between rocks.

**SOIL:** Example **Site 016**  
MGA. Coords 7386534mN, 387154mE

<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> Lithosol. Rudosol - RU, CY, CZ, AR, H, L, T					
<b>SURFACE:</b> 40% 200-600mm subrounded dolerite stones and 20% 60-200mm subrounded tabular dolerite cobbles. About 60% 20-60mm coarse dolerite gravel is pervasive throughout the soil profile.					
DEPTH (m)	HORIZON	TEXTURE	pH	SALINITY ( $\mu\text{s/cm}$ )	OTHER DETAILS
0.00 - 0.05	A1	Sandy loam (SL)	7.0	161.2	Dark brown (7.5YR3/3) 10% 6-20mm subrounded tabular medium gravelly dolerite fragments. 20% 2-6mm subrounded tabular fine gravelly dolerite fragments. Soil development is very poor and restricted to small areas between larger rock fragments.

**VEGETATION:** **Site 236** (Albrecht, D. and Pitts, B. 1999).

<b>UPPER STRATUM</b> - Usually absent	
Dominant species	Mulga.
Other species	Ironwood, Bloodwood.
<b>MID STRATUM</b> - Isolated shrubs	
Dominant species	Rock Fuchsia Bush.
Other species	Witchetty Bush, Dead Finish, Native Fuchsia, Silver Cassia, <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>alicia</i> , Blunt-leaf Cassia, Silver Sida, Wild Tomato.
<b>LOWER STRATUM</b> - Isolated clump of tussock grasses	
Dominant species	
Other species	Dwarf Lantern Flower, Wild Hops, Flat-awned Threeawn, Tar Vine & Yipa, Bogan Flea, Buffel Grass, Woolly Cloak Fern, Tickweed, Cotton Panic Grass, Ruby Saltbush, Purplehead Nineawn, Woollyoat Grass, <i>Euphorbia alsiniflora</i> , Caustic Bush, Tropical Speedwell, Long-leaf Corkwood, Orange Spade Flower, Silver Indigo, Green Pepperpress, Veined Pepperpress, Low Bluebush, Velvet Hibiscus, Striped Mintbush, Hairy Mulla Mulla, Northern Mulga Grass, Large Green Pusstail, Yellow Tails, SilverTails, Crimson Foxtail, Tall Saltbush, Mulga bean, Tall Copper Burr, Tephrosia supina, Cattle Bush, Purple Plumegrass.

(See Appendix 3 for botanical names)