

Slopes

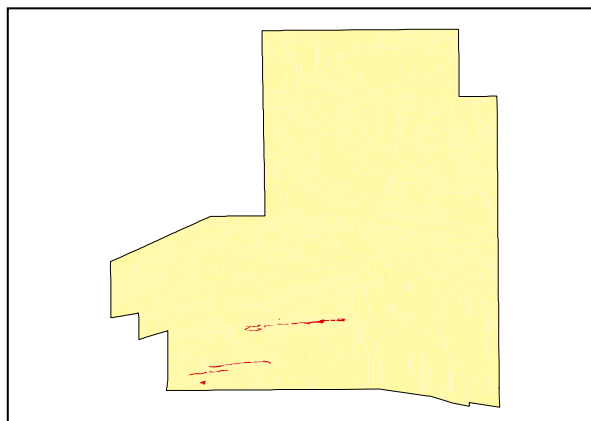
LAND UNIT 3.13

SST/ Upper Wash Slope

DESCRIPTION: Sandstone upper (10-38%) colluvial wash slope with low shrubs over sparse forbs.
SITE: 111



Distribution of land unit.



Area = 0.78 km², 0.24% of mapped area.

LAND CAPABILITY:

ATTRIBUTES	
SLOPE (%)	24
RELIEF (m)	75
SOIL DEPTH (m)	0.10
SURFACE CONDITION	Cryptogram dominant. Loose in many parts.
DEPTH TO SUBSTRATE (m)	>0.10
REACTION TREND (pH)	7.0
OUTCROP (%)	10
RUNOFF	Very rapid
PERMEABILITY	Slowly permeable
DRAINAGE	Moderately well drained
SALINITY (µs/cm)	27.5

DEVELOPMENT RISKS	
EROSION	Moderate
ROCK FALL	Slight
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	Fair	Poor

Slopes

TECHNICAL DETAILS**LAND UNIT 3.13**

DESCRIPTION: Sandstone upper (10-38%) colluvial wash slope with low shrubs over sparse forbs.

GEOLOGY: Loose Quaternary rubble derived from a variety of sources including Late Proterozoic to Early Cambrian sandstone and siltstone of the Pertaoorrta Group - Arumbera Sandstone unit, Devonian Mereenie Sandstone and Late Cambrian to Early Ordovician Pacoota Sandstone - N'Dahla Member. There appears to be a higher level of ferruginous cementation in the slope rubble than in other areas.

LANDFORM: The steep slopes of this unit are formed by the continual erosion of the upper sandstone and siltstone ridges. The evidence of a cryptogram surface indicates that this landform is relatively stable however, areas disturbed by mechanical or natural elements appear to develop rapidly into erosional channels. Natural, rapid runoff of this landform would normally follow a sheet flow pattern. The clayey characteristics of the soil combined with the shallow depth to substrate would restrict permeability but allow moderate drainage to occur.

SOIL: Example from **Site 111**
MGA. Coordinates: 7369827mN, 382577mE.

CLASSIFICATION: Lithosol. Rudosol - RU, CY, CZ, AR, I, K, T

SURFACE: 80% 20-60mm angular coarse gravelly ferruginous sandstone fragments and 20% 6-20mm angular medium gravelly ferruginous sandstone fragments. Soil profile formation is minimal with coarse fragments dominating the profile to substrate depth.

DEPTH (m)	HORIZON	TEXTURE	pH	SALINITY ($\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$)	OTHER DETAILS
0.00 - 0.10	A1	Clayey sand (CS)	7.0	27.5	Reddish brown (5YR4/4). 20% 2-6mm fine gravelly angular quartz and sandstone fragments. 20% 6-20mm medium gravelly angular sandstone fragments. 80% 20-60mm coarse subangular sandstone fragments. Apedal with single incoherent structure. Non effervescent.

VEGETATION: **Site 296** (Albrecht, D. & Pitts, B. 1999).

UPPER STRATUM - Absent	
Dominant species	
Other species	
MID STRATUM - Isolated clump of shrubs	
Dominant species	
Other species	Mulga, Native Fuchsia, Silver Cassia.
LOWER STRATUM - Isolated heath shrubs	
Dominant species	Mountain Wanderrie, Silver-leaf Mint-bush
Other species	Woolly Cloak Fern, Cotton Panic Grass, Fire Sida, Mulga Fern, Hill Everlasting, Mulga Grass, Green Peppergrass, Olearia stuartii, Buffel Grass, Ruby Saltbush, Tall Saltbush, Desert Goosefoot, Pale-leaf Mistletoe, Native Current.

(see Appendix 3 for botanical names)