

MBL Marble Range Land System

- Area:** 31.3 km²
- Landscape:** Steep abrupt hills formed on granites, gneisses, quartzites and schists - Marble Range, North Block and South Block. There is extensive rock outcrop. The hills are partly surrounded by fans of stony colluvial sediments.
- Annual rainfall:** 500 – 615 mm average
- Main soils:** Skeletal soil - L1 (Lithic / Paralithic, Leptic Tenosol / Rudosol)
Variable gravelly loamy sand to light sandy clay loam over basement rock at depths usually less than 50 cm.
L1a Gritty loamy sand on granite
L1b Sandy loam on gneiss or schist
L1c Sandy loam to light sandy clay loam on quartzite
- Minor soils:** Colluvial - M3 (Clastic Rudosol)
Thick to very thick very gravelly loamy sand to sandy loam over variable colluvial / alluvial wash, or buried laterite.
Coulta - F1/M4 (Ferric, Eutrophic, Red / Brown Chromosol)
Medium thickness hard sandy clay loam with abundant ironstone gravel in a paler coloured A2 layer, overlying a red or brown well structured clay with variable ironstone gravel, grading to alluvial / colluvial wash.
- Summary:** Marble Range, North Block and South Block - steep rocky hills with shallow, stony and erosion prone soils which are predominantly covered by scrub. Minor fans of colluvium partly encircling the bases of North and South Blocks are semi arable, but soils have limited waterholding capacity and are highly erodible.

Soil Landscape Unit summary: 3 Soil Landscape Units (SLUs) mapped in the Marble Range Land System:

SLU	% of area	Component	Main soils	Prop#	Notes
AMD	67.6	Steep rocky slopes	Skeletal	D	Shallow stony soils, steep slopes and extensive rock outcrop prevent any significant primary production on this land. Most is covered by scrub.
AMJ	23.8	Steep rocky slopes with some eroded watercourses and scree slopes	Skeletal	V	
			Colluvial	L	
KZI	8.6	Lower slopes	Colluvial	E	Moderate slopes where colluvial wash has accumulated. Soils are variable, but usually deep and stony. Surface stone interferes with cultivation and profile stone reduces waterholding capacity. Potential for water erosion is moderately high.
			Coulta	E	

PROPORTION codes assigned to Soil Landscape Unit (SLU) components:

D	Dominant in extent (>90% of SLU)	C	Common in extent (20–30% of SLU)
V	Very extensive in extent (60–90% of SLU)	L	Limited in extent (10–20% of SLU)
E	Extensive in extent (30–60% of SLU)	M	Minor in extent (<10% of SLU)

Further information: [DEWNR Soil and Land Program](#)

