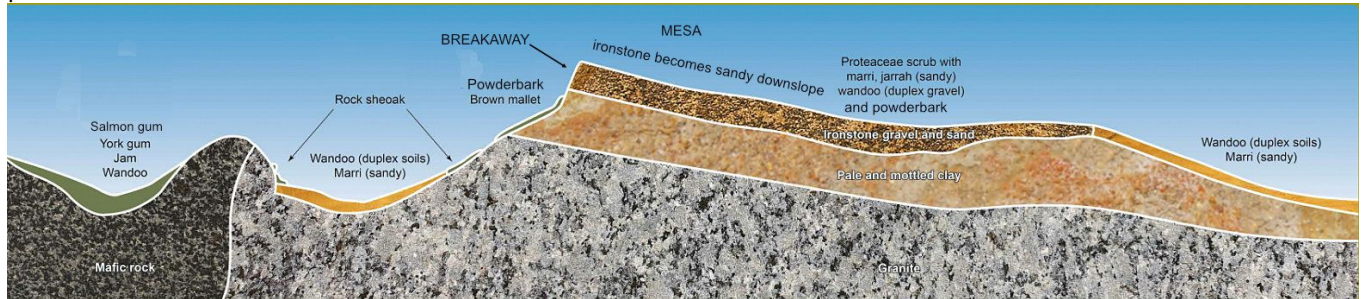


## TUTANNING BANDICOOT-POSSUM-ECHIDNA ROADS LOOP

Tutanning Nature Reserve is on a ridge, which separates the Avon and Hotham River catchments. An ancient lateritic upland has been eroded in places down to the underlying bedrock, producing a patchwork of plants and soils. Like a layer cake, lateritic ironstone, sand and gravel overlies a mottled and pale clay over bedrock. Steep cliffs called breakaways may separate laterite uplands from underlying granite soils, or one may merge into another gradually on slopes. Lateritic areas support many native plant species, particularly on sandier kwongan (shrubs with few trees) patches.



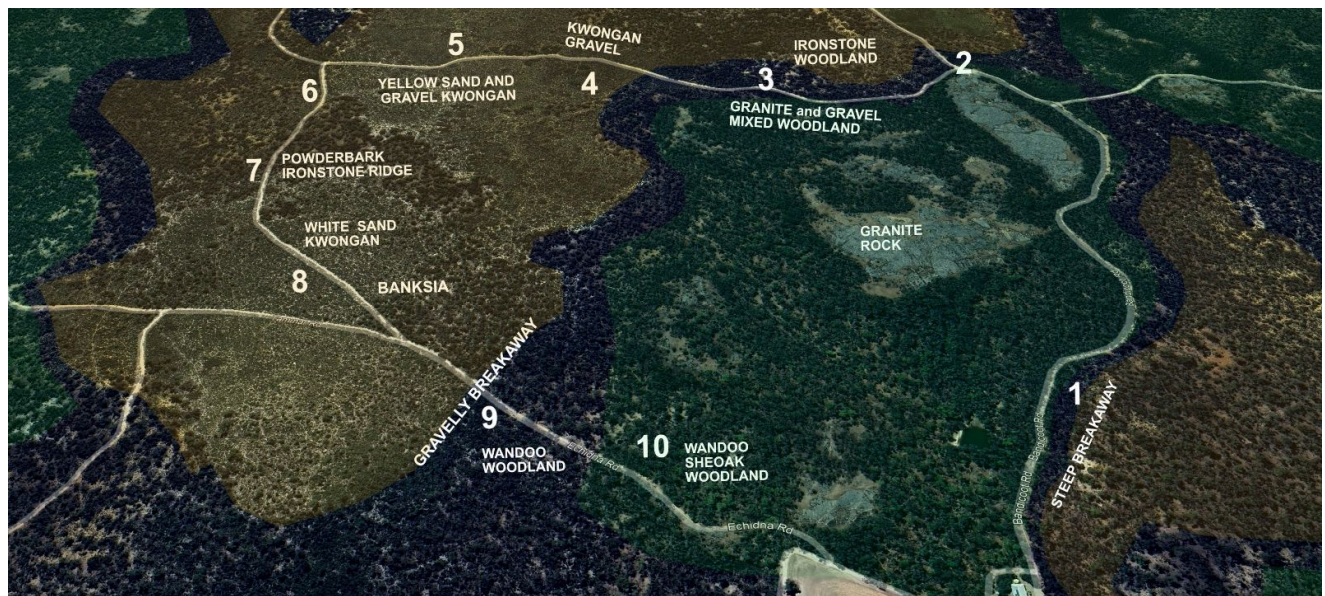
The bedrock is mostly granite (which forms sandy surfaced soils and sandy gravels), with lines of black dolerite rock (that forms red brown loams and stony ironstone).

Frequent changes of soil formed over the layers or washed downslope support a large variety of native plants and animals. For more information scan the embedded QR code

QR Sheoaks



The Level2 / 3.5km trail is a moderately easy circuit. It features a wide range of white and yellow sand and gravel kwongan and granite soil wildflowers. Mountain bikes could be ridden, but may have to walk a sandy 200 metre section.



Brown = upland lateritic sands and gravel. Green = granite/dolerite soils. Uncoloured = woodland soils on slopes



QR  
Breakaways

1. Walk up Bandicoot Road from Percy Marshall Field Study Centre. Note steep breakaways topped by an ancient lateritic mesa on the right, and a broad valley of dense sheoak wandoo woodland that surround granite outcrops on the left.

Did you know that lateritic sands and gravels are created by plants and microbes?



QR Plants  
make gravels

2. Granite rocks support many mosses, lichens, and resurrection plants. **Walk carefully** to avoid crushing delicate plants and don't disturb loose rocks, which are homes for rock dragons. Surrounding rock sheoak woodland is a good place to see orchids and everlastings. Caution wet areas are slippery.



3. The trail separates stony gravel woodland on the right and sheoak granite woodland on the left. There are many flowering plants here including orchids and prickly Proteaceae plants. Look for spring flowering orchids. Pea flower shrubs here include poison pea plants. Because the poisons killed livestock ,farmers fenced remnant vegetation, which protected the bush from grazing.



QR Poison peas



4 Trees merge into low shrub vegetation called kwongan. Slightly taller shrubs on yellow gravelly soil change to low very prickly scrub on stony ironstone soil on the ridge.

QR kwongan

QR Proteaceae



5 Downslope from the ridge, yellow gravel changes to yellow sand over gravel, then yellow and pale-yellow sand. The kwongan scrub gradually includes more tall shrubs with different Proteaceae species and others such as spiny *Daviesia* clumps . This area is also gradually being invaded by rock sheoaks.

6 Pale yellow sand becomes gravellier upslope with more prickly shrubs and wandoo/powderbark trees

7 Stony ironstone ridge with open powderbark tree woodland and few understorey plants.

8 The slope over the ridge goes down a slope, changes from sandy gravel to deep white sand, with sand-loving plants such as woolly bush (*Adenanthos sericea*), banksias and other less prickly shrubs. Rock sheoaks are slowly advancing into this area. **Do not drive here** as the track is deep loose sand and you could get bogged.

9. The steep gravelly slope is a low breakaway, which marks where the upland lateritic plain has eroded to underlying granite further down the trail. Prickly shrubs and poison plants, orchids, and everlastings here.

10 Mixed soil slope with open wandoo woodland to the east and sheoak sandy gravel to the west

Look for spring flowering orchids and everlastings as you return to Percy Marshall Field Study Centre



Synaphea sp.



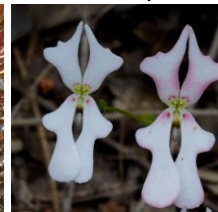
An Isopogon  
dubius/crithmifolius



A Dryandra  
(Banksia stuposa)



Banksia rufa



A Triggerplant



A Petrophila  
(divaricata)



A sundew?  
(*Drosera zonata*)



Astroloma/  
styphelia



Verticordia



Conospermum  
amoenum



Beaufortia incana



Calothamnus  
quadrifidus



A Styphelia or  
Leucopogon



Daviesia sp



Boronia capitata



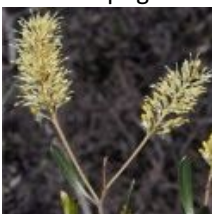
A Hibbertia



Hypocalymma  
angustifolium



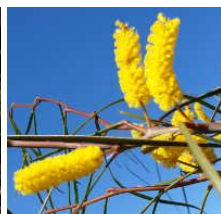
Leptospermum  
erubescens



Grevillea  
integrifolia



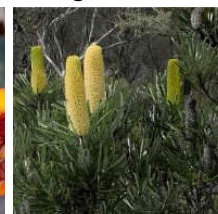
Grevillea tenuiflora



An Acacia  
Acacia multispicata



Gastrolobium  
parviflorum



Banksia attenuata



Cyanostegia  
lanceolata