

**MT IDA SYNDICATE
Pastoral Occupation Licence**



The Mt Ida upland plateau, in the middle distance, contrasts markedly with the surrounding dissected steep lands.



The Hawkdun Plateau, an ancient peneplain, is a classic Central Otago landform. Vegetative cover is extensive and intact *Chionochloa macra* tussocklands.



The deeply incised Rambling Gorge bisects the plateau/peneplain.



The main ridge system is scree covered. These greywacke scree are stable and are a typical Canterbury landform.



The exposed crest of the boulderfield is dominated by shattered greywacke, with a light distribution of cushion plants and tufts of tussock.



An ephemeral tarn is a feature of the low alpine zone. Dry at the time of inspection, the tarn is surrounded by hummocks of *Sphagnum cristatum* and *Oreobolus pectinatus*.



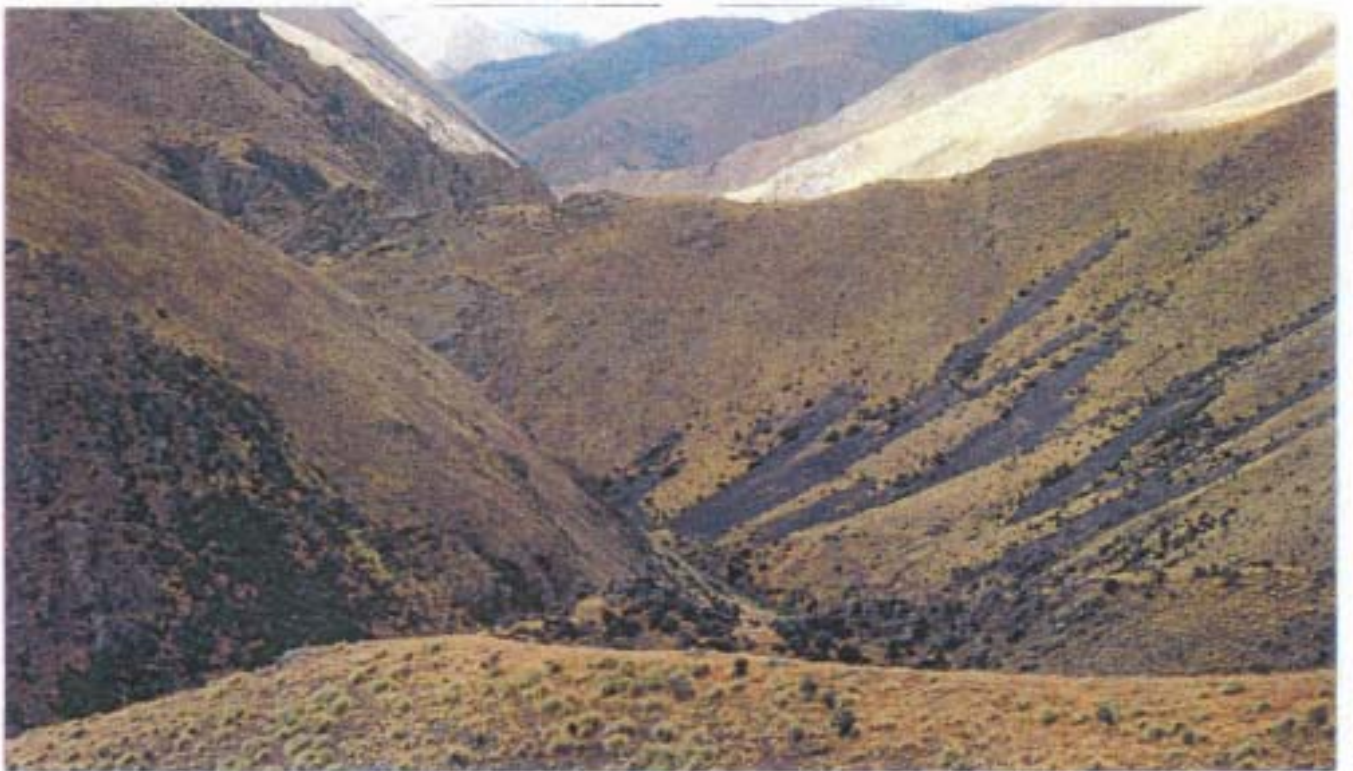


Wet flush areas at 1350m on the plateau have been simplified and patterned by sheep. Often surrounding tussocks are severely trimmed by grazing pressure.





At 1350m, *Chionochloa macra* tussockland dominates. In moister areas, *Schoenus pauciflorus* is common.



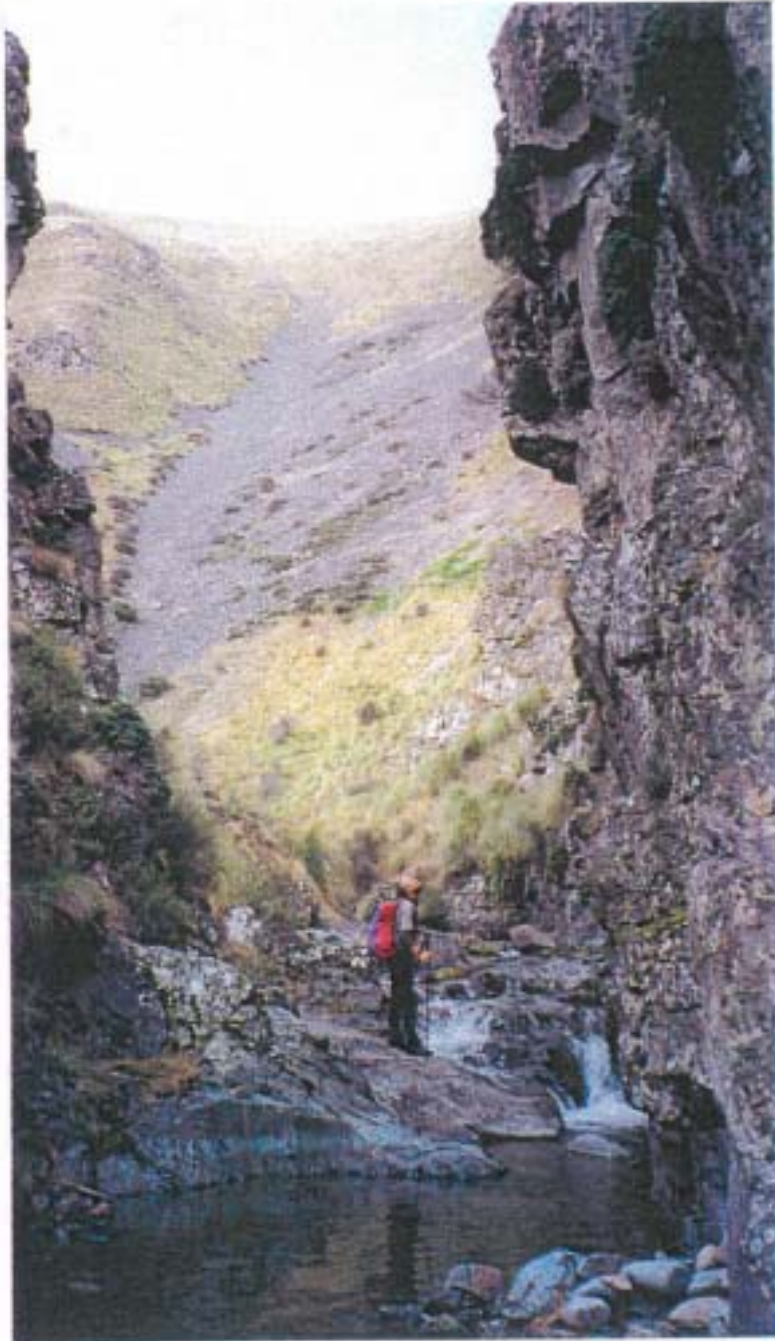
In the river gorges, *Chionochloa rigida* is common although scattered on sites favoured by stock. *Hieracium pilosella* is present throughout.



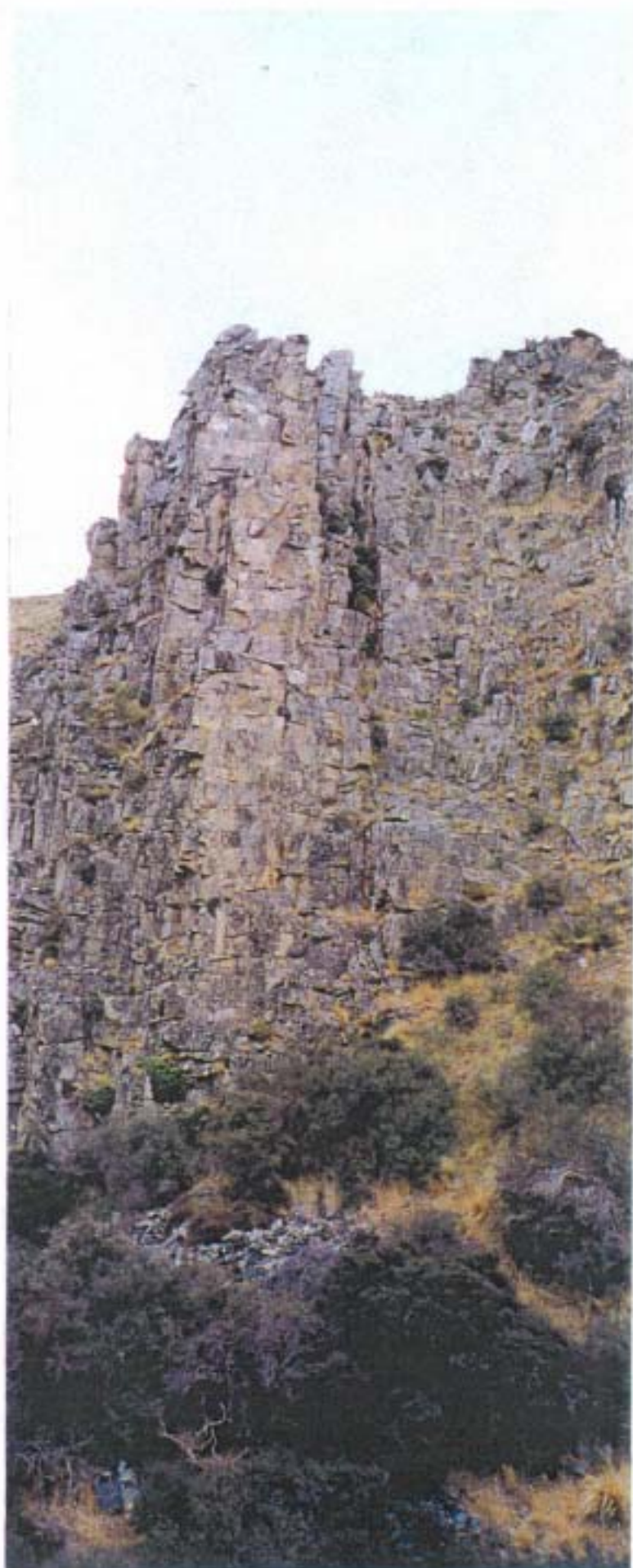
Oreobolus bogs are targeted by sheep and resultant discarded comb sedge tufts lie on the surface and the native grass component is tightly cropped.



Heavy sheep useage of high altitude *Chionochloa macra* margins with the fellfield is common.



In Rambling Gorge, *Helichrysum intermedium* occurs on bluffs with snow tussock and mixed shrublands on gorge slopes.



Greywacke bluffs at Boundary Creek, 780m. Note *Helichrysum* on bluffs. Shrublands consist of *Matagouri*, *Aristotelia fruticosa*, *Olearia odorata*, *Muehlenbeccia axilaris* with *Poa cita*.



The old stockbridge over the Otematata River.



Inders Castle aka the Ida Valley railway station is the main farming base on the POL. It has been combined with the 1934 vintage Boundary Hut.



1934 vintage mustering hut ,one of three identical huts on the POL.