

Access is via the sealed Murchison Highway to a point approximately 5 km north of Tullah, thence westward along a bulldozed dirt track passable by four-wheel drive vehicles all year round.

Alternative access to the southern part of the area is available from the Hydro-Electric Commission gravel road south of Chester, (Plan TAS/2/1608).

Access within the area is available via several tracks bulldozed into the individual grid areas.

#### 1.5. Physiography and Climate

The area is situated in dense rain-forest with open areas of button grass plain, usually overlying transported (glacial) soils. The area represents a drainage divide between Boco Creek to the east and the Marionoak River to the west; both of which flow southward into the Pieman River. The western part of the Chester grid is the long, steeply sloping, east bank of the Marionoak River, deeply incised by westward flowing tributaries.

Burns Peak, the Pinnacles and Mount Kershaw are the outstanding topographic features, and bear evidence of frost action during the Pleistocene glaciation. The whole area has been affected to some degree by this glaciation, the most obvious result of which is the widespread deposition of glacial till. Periglacial deposits are present in the western part of the Pinnacles grid in the form of varved clays, laminated clays and sandy foreset beds formed in the Marionoak valley from waters draining off a retreating valley glacier.

The north-east of the Chester grid, the southern part and much of the eastern part of the East Chester grid are covered by varying thicknesses of glacial till. This till has a strong masking effect on surface geochemistry, reduces the chance of discovering outcropping bedrock, and possibly affects geophysical surveys.

There is evidence that the glacier reached a present altitude of about 520m, leaving Mount Kershaw, Burns Peak and the Pinnacles as nunataks. The ice appears to have spread from the east as a sheet, entered the Marionoak valley through Holloway Rivulet, and spread north and north-west along the valley.