

Within the State Forest are three RAPs (Recommended Areas for Protection). The Sawpit Range RAP lies to the east of Rossarden whilst the Mt Foster RAP lies towards the south of the licence. A small part of the Dog Kennels RAP intrudes into the south western corner of the licence. Exploration is permitted within RAPs but generally under slightly more stringent guidelines.

Most private land is under improved pasture.

2.4 *Topography and Vegetation*

The area covered by the licence is best described as hilly though the southern part of the licence contains the flood plain to the South Esk River and the northern part contains the smaller Tyne River valley. The hills rise up to the Fingal Tiers to the south of the South Esk and to the foothills of Ben Lomond in the central part of the licence between the South Esk and Tyne Rivers.

Essentially all of the State Forest is covered with wet or dry sclerophyll forest. Wet sclerophyll is usually found in gullies and on southerly facing stopes with dry sclerophyll vegetation in areas with some exposure to the sun. Private land is predominantly under improved pasture, the exception being the private land east of Rossarden which is also forested.

2.5 *Access*

Access to the licence is by bitumen road to the northern, central and southern parts of the licence. Access within the licence is variable however no point is greater than a days return walk from a road or track.

3.0 **GEOLOGY**

The geology of the licence is shown in Figure 3 (Tasmania Department of Mines Mapping).

The licence lies peripheral to, the major north - north-west trending linear of gold deposits running from Mangana in the south, through Mathinna and Alberton, to Lyndhurst on the north coast. The gold deposits consists of mesothermal quartz \pm sulphide (predominantly arsenopyrite and pyrite) veins which were formed in the Mid Devonian Tabberabberan Orogeny, probably from deep seated metamorphic fluids, and are hosted in the Ordovician - Devonian Mathinna Beds.

Within EL 27/94 north-north-west trending structures associated with this major linear, and apparently the along strike extension of structures associated with (hosting?) mineralisation at Mangana on the southern end of the major lineament, have been recognised in the aeromagnetic data (see Appendix A).