

Detailed soil survey (Part Reconnaissance) of the Upper Gajkhad watershed (Bb2g (partly), Bb3r, Bb3s, Bb3t and Bb3z) Beas RVP Catchment, Tehsil and District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

Abstract

1. Survey area : Upper Gajkhad watershed (Bb2g (partly), Bb3r, Bb3s, Bb3t and Bb3z), Beas RVP Catchment, Tehsil and District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Total survey area: 12066 hectare
3. Kind of survey : (a) Detailed survey -- 4683 ha
(b) Reconnaissance survey--7383 ha
4. Period of survey: November, 1975 to May, 1976
5. Soil series mapped and area covered by each series

(a) <u>Soil series</u>	<u>Area in ha</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Banoi	328	2.7
2. Bentlu	724	6.0
3. Chakban	1275	10.6
4. Dharansala	184	1.5
5. Dhial	1214	10.0
6. Ghroh	207	1.7
7. Kareri	65	0.5
8. Rajol	924	7.6
9. Rauva	45	0.4
10. Totarani	434	3.6

b. Soil Complex

11. Chakban-Ranva	128	1.1
12. Dharansala- Dhial	262	2.2

c. Soil Association

13. Chakban-Ranva	3123	25.9
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d. Snow covered area	3153	26.2
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<u>Total</u>	<u>12066</u>	<u>100.0</u>
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6. Land capability classes		Forest Management		Snow covered area
		Units		
Class II	1358 ha	F1	- 544 ha	3153 ha
Class III	465 ha	F2	- 1660 ha	
Class IV	180 ha	F3	- 4526 ha	
Class VII	180 ha			
<u>Total</u>	<u>2183 ha</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>- 6730 ha</u>	<u>Total</u> 3153 ha

7. Soil Erosion

	Areas ha.	Percent
Slight	758	8.5
Moderate	1290	14.5
Severe	6865	77.0
	<u>8913*</u>	<u>100.0</u>

* Excludes snow covered area of mountainous area of 3153

8. Salient features and watershed problems

(a) Of the total area of 12066 hectares, only 16.6 percent area is suitable for agriculture, 57.2 percent is under forestry and 26.2 percent area is snow covered and is unproductive for both forestry and agriculture.

(b) Only 758 ha (8.5%) area has none to slight erosion problem, while rest of the area is under moderate and severe erosion covering about 1270 and 6865 ha. respectively (excludes snow covered area).

(c) Besides erosion in the unprotected deep ill slopes imperfect terracing also causes moderate to severe erosion in cultivated area gullies, land slides and slips cause considerable damage in forest area.

(d) Water resources in the high hill region need to be harnessed for both irrigation and domestic purposes.

(f) There is enough scope to develop agriculture, horticulture grassland, forestry and animal husbandary.