917351

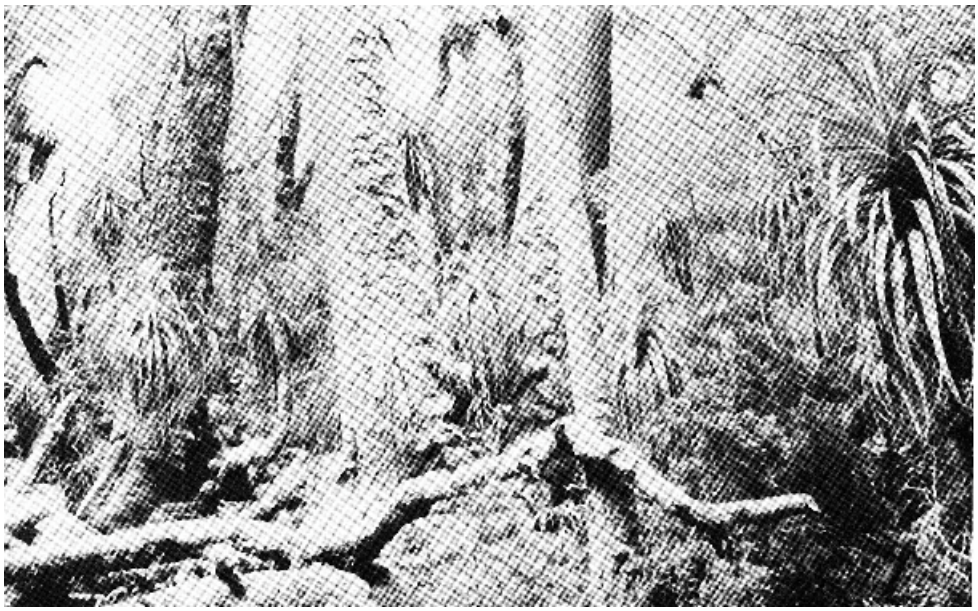
LAKE VERA

The Lake Vera Land System is restricted to the mid slopes of the Frenchmans Cap massif. It is a rugged mountainous area with glacial lakes (see previous page), u shaped glacial valleys, and moraines. Precambrian rocks dominate with softer schists typically occurring in valleys and more resistant quartettes on ridges and crests.

In comparison to other parts of the South West this land system has relatively well developed mineral soils derived from schists. These (schists) often produce mica that can be abundant in the soil profile. Peat horizons sometimes overlie these soils. Sedgeland/heath is typical on the flats and some exposed slopes where *Eucalyptus nitida* often forms small stands. Creek banks at lower altitudes were not examined in detail during this survey, but usually have an open forest or woodland of *Eucalyptus nitida, Cyathodes parvifolia, Cenarrhenes nitida, Leptospermum glaucescens, L. nitida, L. scoparium, L. lanigerum, Banksia marginata* and *Lomatia polymorpha* growing on sandy peat which overlies quartzitic gravels. Lake Vera (600 m) is one of the highest locations at which Huon pine *(Lagarostrobos franklinii)* is found. It occurs in rainforest around the shores of Lake Vera together with *Nothofagus cunninghamii, Eucryphia lucida* and *Atherosperma moschatum.* At slightly higher altitudes, in protected valleys, tall specimens of *Athrotaxis selaginoides* dominate the forest with well developed stands of *Richea pandanifolia.* The dwarf conifer *Diselma archeri,* is found in the highest parts of the land system.

Nature conservation and recreation are the most important land uses in this spectacular area which is part of the Franklin—Lower Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. Landslips and the loss of organic soil through firing and subsequent erosive processes are two degradation problems which occur in the area.

Photo 64



Athrotaxis selaginoides (trunks) with *Richea pandanifolia* just below Barron Pass

LAND SYSTEM
LAKE VERA

917351

Area(ha): 4519

ALTITUDINAL RANGE (m)	600-900	APPROXIMATE ANNUAL RAINFALL *dm)* >2500 (2600-2800)		
SITE NO.	122/560/-	121/600/N	123/600/SE	124/640/N
(m) /ASPECT				
TOPOGRAPHY		Rugged glaciated mountainous area		
Position	Exposed slopes and flats Well drained slopes (moraine)		Protected slopes	Protected higher valleys
Typical Slope(^{0})	0	10-40	10-30	15-40
Proportion (%)	30	25	25	20
GEOLOGY		Precambrian quartzites and shists with glacial features		
NATIVE VEGETATION	Open to closed heath	Cpen forest	Closed forest (rainforest)	Cpen to closed forest
	Gymnoschcenus	Eucalyptus nitida	Nathofagus cunninghamii	Athrotaxis selaginoides
Floristic	Sprengelia incarnata	Blanksia marginata	Eucryphia lucida	Nothofagus cunninghamii
Association	Melaleuca squamea	Melaleuca squarrosa	Atherosperma moschatum	Eucryphia lucida
(See Appendix 1	Leptospermum nitidum	M. squamea	Lagarostrobos franklinii	Atherosperma moschatum
for common	Empodisma minus	Lomtia polymorpha	Anopterus glandulosa	Richea pandanifolia
names)	Banksia marginata	Gahnia grandis	Richea pandanifolia	Archena eriocarpa
	Microlaena tasmanica	Gleichenia dicarpa	Phebalium squameum	Anodopetalum biglandulosum
	Eucalyptus nitida	Empodisma minus	Anodopetalum	Blechnum wattsii
	(site burnt in Decenter	Bauera rubioides	Phyllocladus	Libertia pulchella
		Diplarrena	Archeria hirtella	Orites diversifolia
		Pimelea drupacea	A. enocarpa	Anopterus glandulosus
		Blechnum wattsii	Orites diversifolia	Grammitis billardieri
		Microlaena	Tetracarpaea tasmanica	Clematis aristata
			Aristotelia peduncularis	Polystichum proliferum
SOIL Surface (A or P horizon) Colour (moist)	Black (5 *YR* 2. 5/1) sandy fibrous peat	Dark greyish brown (10 YR 4/2) gravelly clay loam	Very dark greyish brown (10 YR 3/2) sandy loan	very dark grey (5 *YR* 3/1) fibrous peat
Subsoil *(or* B horizon) colour (moist) and texture	very dark grey (5 YR 3/1) gravelly sandy clay loan		Olive brown (2. 5 Y 4/4) clay loam	Olive grey (5 Y 4/2) gravelly sandy clay
Primary Profile form	Organic	Uniform	Gradational	Uniform
Depth surface horizon(nV	) 0. 25	>0. 40	0. 10	0. 05
Typical total depth(m)	>0. 40	>0. 40	>0. 75	>0. 40
Permeability	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
IAND USE			Nature conservation, recreation	
HAZARD	High sheet erosion if burnt frequently Moderate	Moderate land slip hazard on shist		