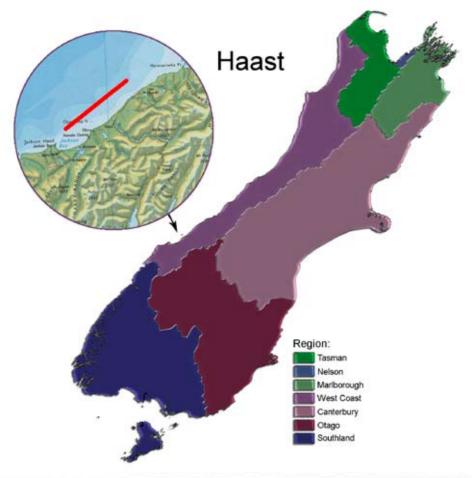
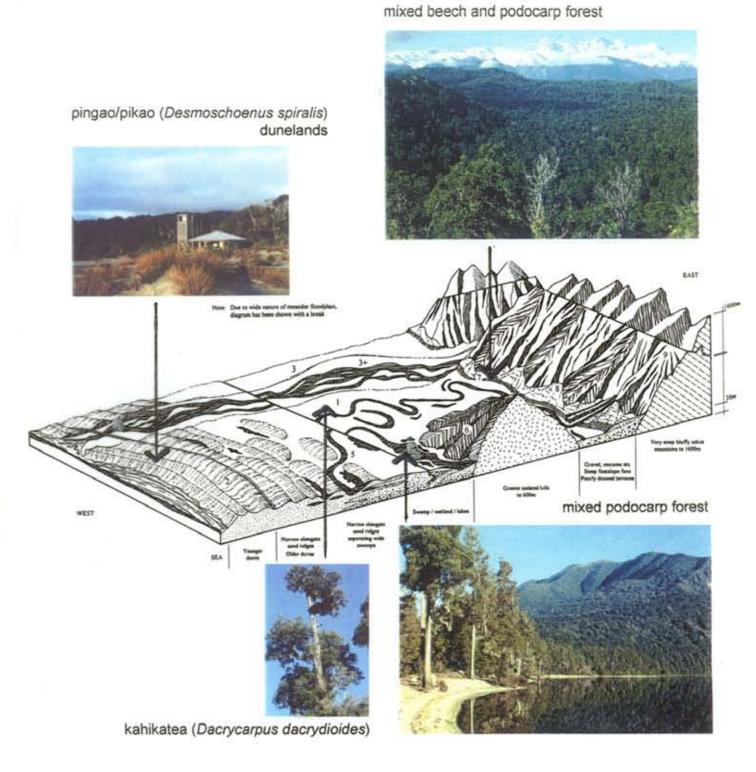
#### **West Coast Region**



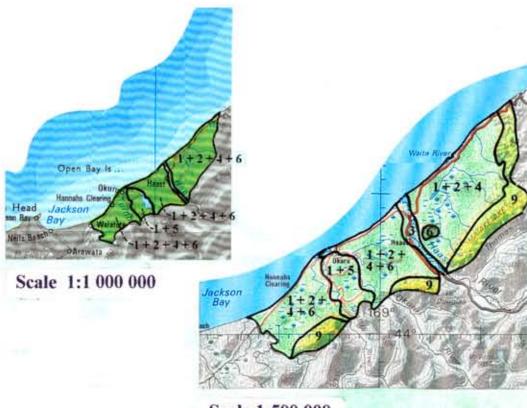


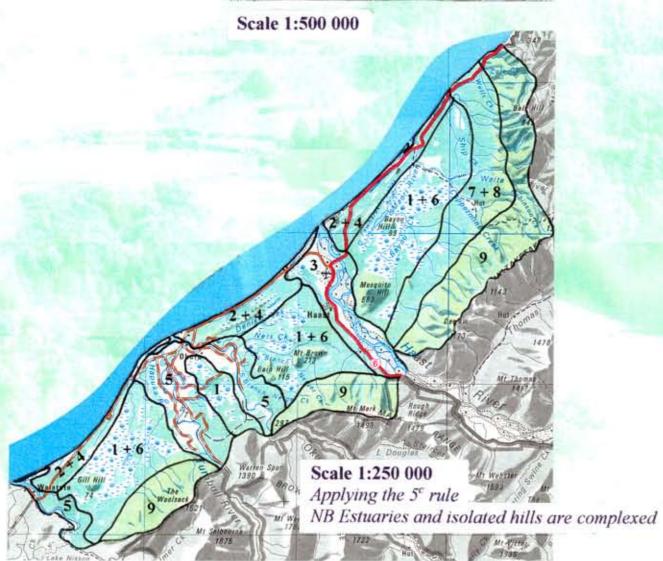
Low tide on the Okarito Lagoon, South Westland

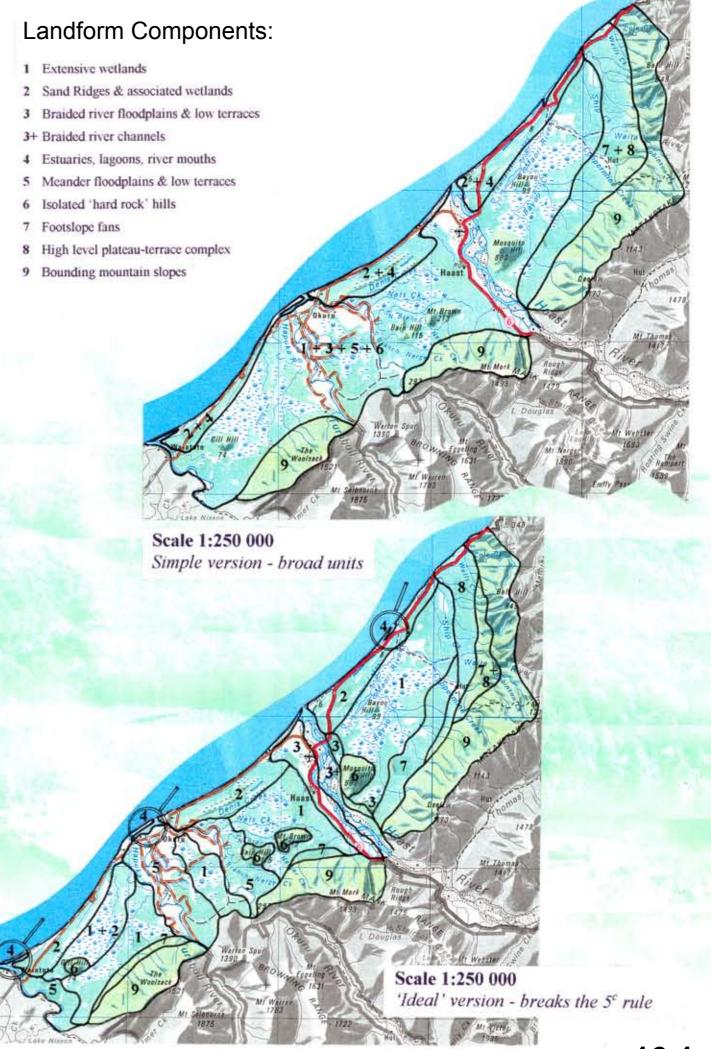


# **Westland District** Land Type & Vegetation Cover from the mountains to the coast

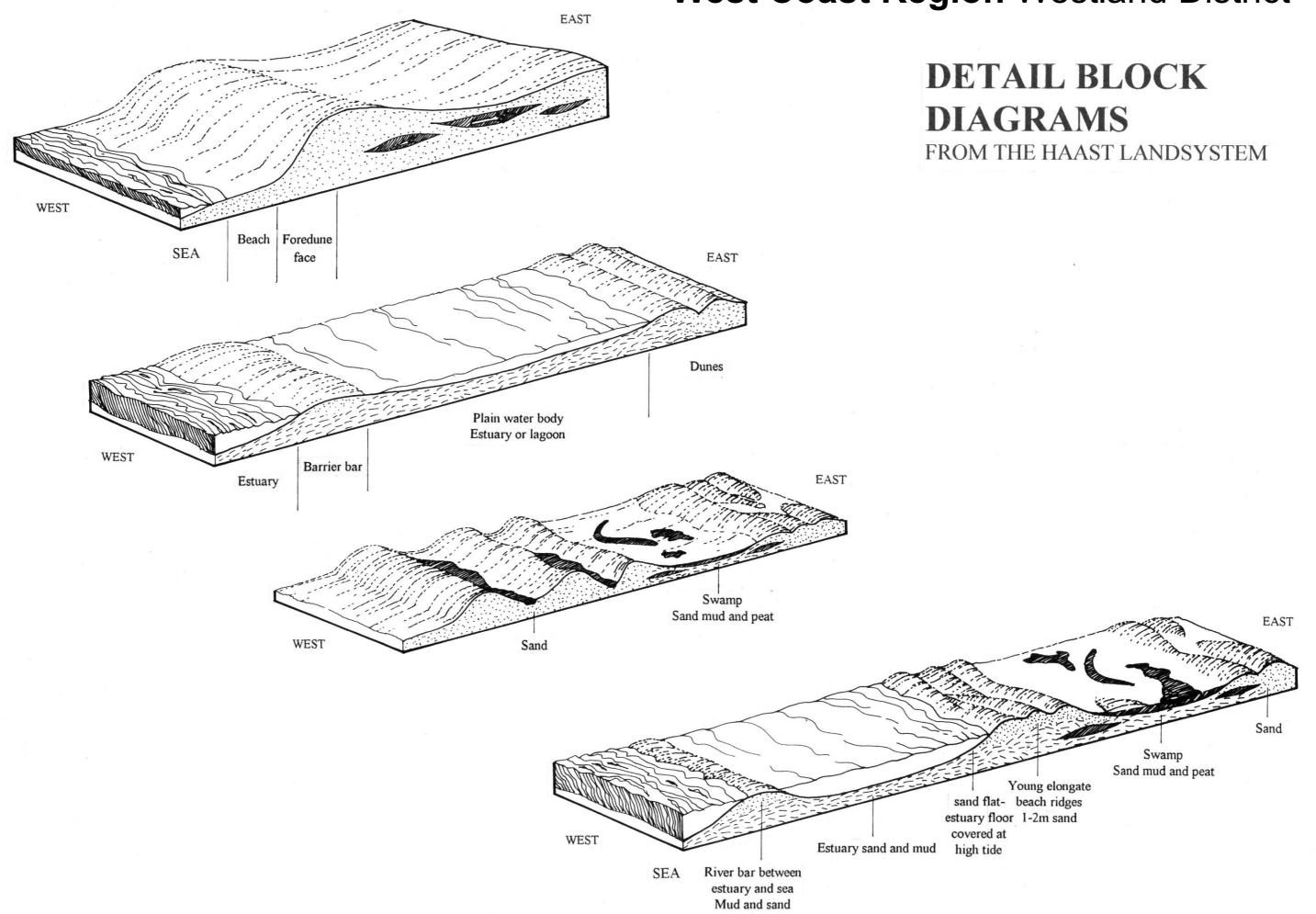
#### **HAAST LANDSYSTEMS**

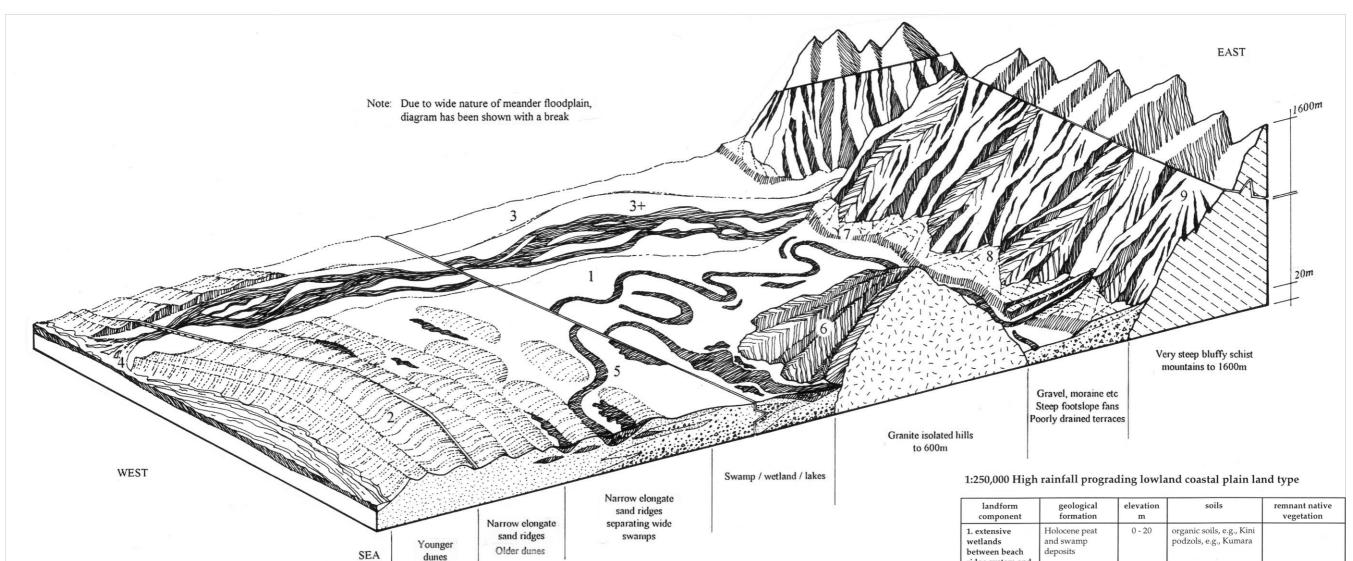






## West Coast Region Westland District





#### **High Rainfall Prograding Lowland Coastal Plain Land Type**

The land type includes the lowland prograding coastal plain extending westwards from the Alpine fault to the Tasman sea southwards from Seal Point to Jackson Head. Poorly drained, braided and meander floodplains with prominant meander scrolls, estuaries and lagoons, extensive low terrace wetlands and outwash plains with isolated 'hard rock' hills, high level plateau terraces and moraine, and footslope fans between the rising mountain front and an arcuate dune belt of narrow elongate sand ridges and associated interdune wetlands. Elevation ranges from sea level to 600 m on the plains and to 1800+ m on the bounding ranges. Cool temperate superhumid climate with rainfalls ranging from 3500 mm [Haast] up to 6500+ mm pa on the ranges. Vegetation ranges from mixed rimu and general hardwood, rimu general hardwood-beech, lowland wetland and highland softwood-beech forest, pakihi bog and wetland vegetation etc.

1:250,000 High	rainfall prograc	ding lowla	and coastal plain la	nd type
landform component	geological formation	elevation m	soils	remnant native vegetation
1. extensive wetlands between beach ridge system and rising mountain front	Holocene peat and swamp deposits	0 - 20	organic soils, e.g., Kini podzols, e.g., Kumara	
2. alternating narrow elongate beach (2a) sand ridges and associated wetlands	Holocene and recent beach dune sands and organic deposits	0 - 4	raw and recent soils, e.g., Karoro, yellow brown sands, e.g., Mahinapua, podzols, e.g., Waita, organic soils, e.g., Kini	rimu and general hardwoods, softwoods
3. braided river floodplains and associated low terraces	Recent and Holocene schistose alluvium	0 -20	raw soils recent and gley recent soils recent soils, e.g., Harihari, Karangarua	5
3a. braided river channels	Recent schistose alluvium	0 -20	raw soils	
4. estuaries, 4a lagoons & wetlands 4b, tidal flats 4c & river mouths 4d	Recent lagoonal & estuarine muds and sands	<2	raw soils mottled-saline fluvial recent soils	
5. meander floodplains and low terraces	Recent and Holocene schistose alluvium	0 -20	raw soils recent and gley recent soils recent soils, e.g., Harihari, Karangarua	softwoods
6. isolated 'hard rock' hills eg Mosquito Hill	Tuhua Group plutonics, undifferentiated greywacke	20 - 600	Upland & high country podzolized yellow brown earths & podzols e.g, Kaniere	rimu and general hardwoods, rimu general hardwoods beeches
7. footslope fans adjacent rising mountain front	Holocene and Recent fan alluvium	20 - 200	lowland yellow brown earths, e.g., Ikamatua	
8. high level plateau - terrace complex	Okarito aged morainic and outwash deposits	20 -300+	lowland podzolized yellow brown earths & podzols e.g, Kumara, Arahura	rimu general hardwoods beeches
9. bounding mountain slopes	High grade schist (t.z. III & IV) of Haast Schist Group	100 - 1800	Upland & high country podzolized yellow brown earths & podzols e.g, Haast	Lowland wetland and Highland softwood-beeches



Birchfield and Jones Creek from Mt Augustus



Podocarp forest on Jones Creek dune system



Jones Creek dune system from Mt Augustus



Jones Creek dune system

### West Coast Region

Buller **District** 

Birchfield & Jones Creek, Granity

