

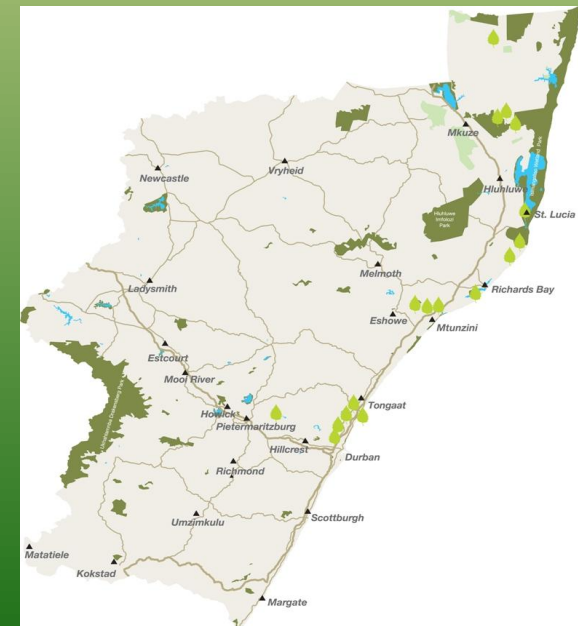
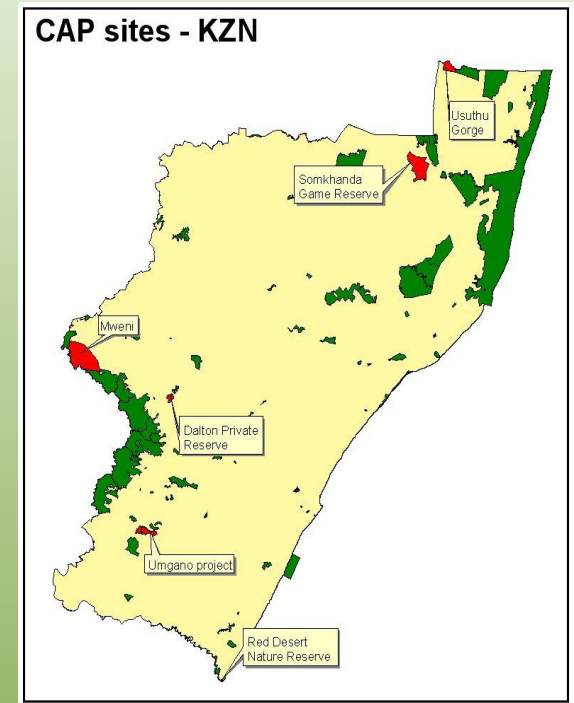
An assessment of existing CAP EbA Corridors

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Existing CAP corridor sites

- Northern Cape (restoration site)
- Eastern Cape (restoration site)
- Wildlands Trust Reforestation sites (3)
- *EKZNW* stewardship sites (6)



Rationale



- Conservation management of healthy ecosystems is part of the solution to climate change.
- Corridors linking across landscapes are critical for nature and communities to adapt.
- May need to restore functionality to certain areas.
- Monitor and track progress over time (robust criteria).
- Prioritize adaptation sites with conservation priority for future work.

Main Aims

- Assess the suitability of current CAP adaptation corridor sites in relation to current provincial biodiversity corridor maps and climate change information.
- Identify the ideal adaptation sites using conservation priority plans and climate change models and local knowledge in all of SA.
- Design how to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of corridors and adaptation projects for both biodiversity and people.
- Improve the site assessment process for better selection of future adaptation corridors in KZN and Eastern Cape.

Assessment criteria

- Fragmentation as a result of transformation.
- Degradation due to poor management (fire and grazing).
- Conservation significance (C-Plan).
- Vulnerability to climate change.
- Likelihood of climate change.
- Current and predicted competing land uses
 - Commercial agriculture incl. plantation forestry
 - Subsistence agriculture
 - Current and future scenarios

'Good' corridor features

- Avoid crossing the borders of major bio-geographic zones.
 - Geological groups (and major soil families).
 - Major valley systems.
 - Climatic anomalies such as rain-shadows.
- Along macro-climatic gradients
 - Topographic (upland-lowland)
 - Coastal – Inland
- Include both N- and S- facing slopes.
- Areas that are largely free of alien plants.
- Where people are likely to be responsive.

monitoring and evaluation (1)

- Climatic
 - Rainfall.
 - Temperature regimes.
 - Frost, storms, extreme weather events.
 - Fire (frequency, intensity, seasonality)
- Biological
 - Presence / Absence of indicator species
 - Populations of key species
 - Veg boundaries (where definable, e.g. forest)

monitoring and evaluation (2)

- Ecological
 - Alien plant indicators
 - Shifts from C3 to C4 species
 - Long-terms observation sites (SAEON)
- Socio-economic
 - Crop returns / growth
 - Changes in landuse
 - Poverty / vulnerability
 - Abandonment of fields
 - Anecdotal comments

Way forward

- GIS / desktop assessments based on existing data sets.
- Expert evaluation by 'on-the-ground' people
- M & E Workshops

Thanks

