



HOW ARE OUR CRITICAL BIODIVERSITY AREAS DOING?

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CapeNature

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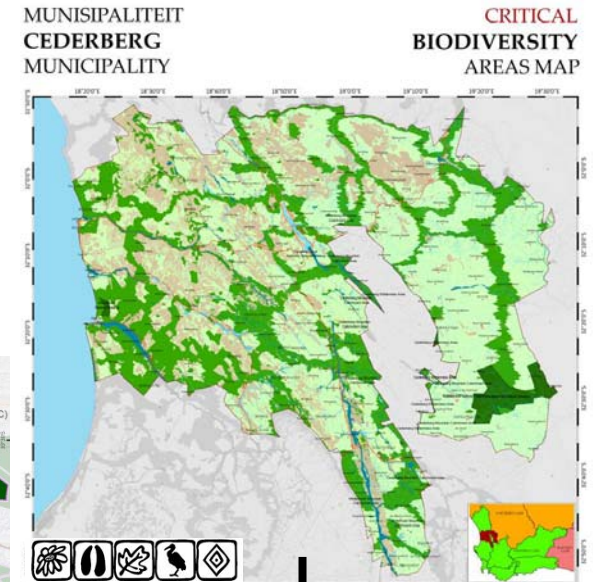
Kruger National Park



INTRODUCTION



Systematic biodiversity plans since 2007 and implementation and mainstreaming thereof started soon thereafter.

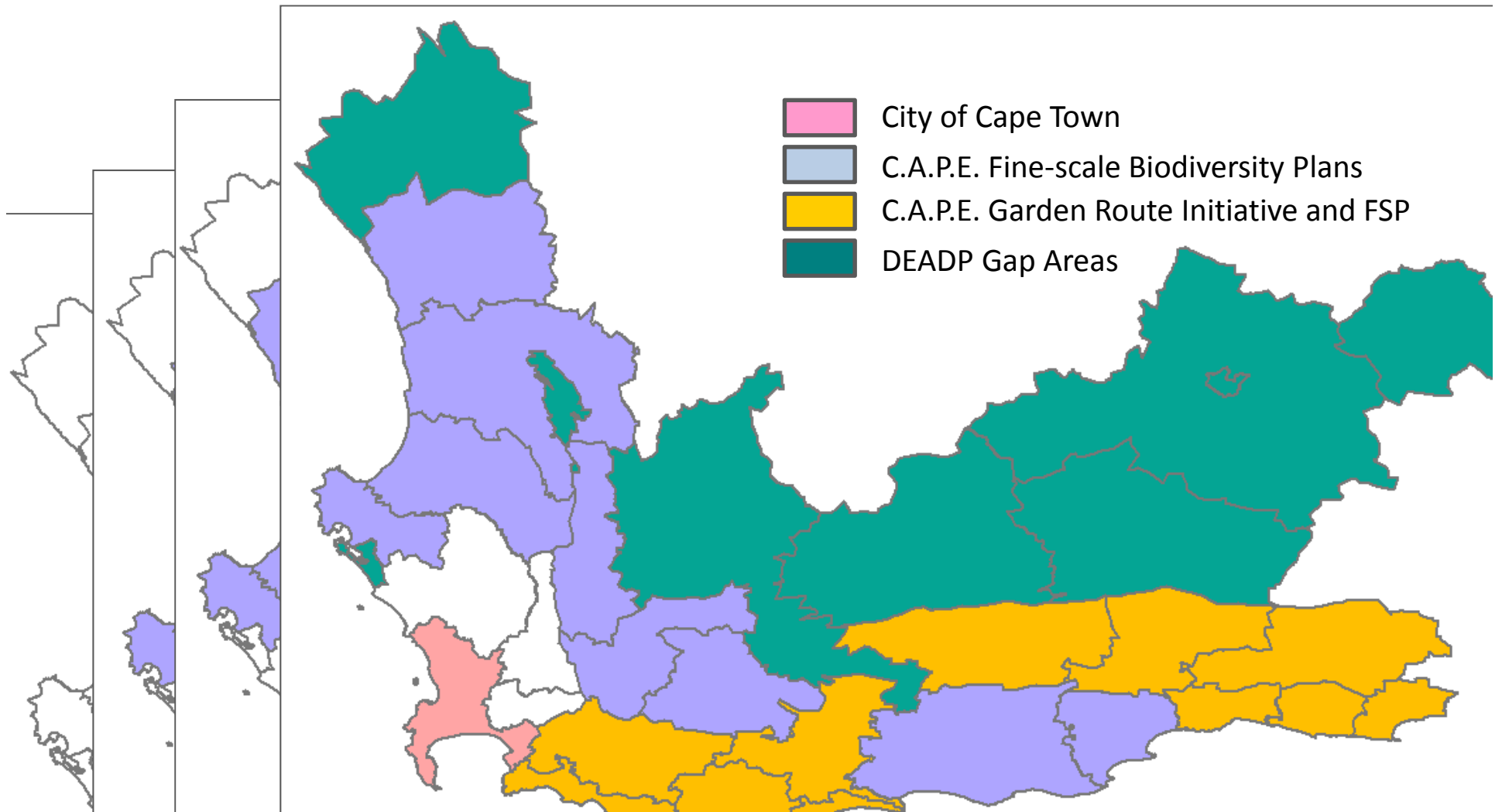


Proactive conservation

Spatial land-use planning

Reactive decision-making

AIM of this State of Biodiversity chapter is 1) report on progress over last 5 years in securing our CBAs and 2) setting up a baseline for future reports



*Assumption: CBAs did exist at point of mapping;
CBAs are correct; and CBAs are adequate
representations of our biodiversity*

PROTECTED AND CONSERVATION AREAS



Aim: Expansion AND better management

Western Cape Conservation Category WCCC1	Western Cape Conservation Category WCCC2	Western Cape Conservation Category WCCC3
Protected Areas with <i>strong</i> legislative security	Protected Areas with <i>some</i> legislative security	Conservation Areas with <i>little or no</i> legislative security
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Parks• World Heritage Sites• Wilderness Areas• Provincial Nature Reserves• State Forest Nature Reserves• Marine Protected Areas• Island Nature Reserves• Contract Nature Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Authority Nature Reserves• Mountain Catchment Areas• Private Nature Reserves• Natural Heritage Sites• Biodiversity Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conservancies• Biosphere Reserves• Conservation Areas

Assumption: managed PAs are in fact, protected



Category	Sub-category	2006/ 2007 ha	2012 ha	CBA ha	% CBA
WCCC1	Wilderness Area	130 570	130 470	64	0.05 %
	SA National Park	290 631	303 424	9 590	3.16 %
	Provincial Nature Reserve	189 474	234 986	5 616	2.39 %
	State Forest Nature Reserve	408 906	409 032	664	0.16 %
	Marine Protected Area	68 338	72 092	NA	NA
	Island Reserve	296	302	NA	NA
	World Heritage Sites	392 710	392 694	33	0.01 %
	Contract Nature Reserves	17 602	52 823.70	12 348	23.38 %
TOTAL WCCC1		1 088 216	1 126 851	28 313	2.51 %
WCCC2	Local Authority Nature Reserve	26 085	32 532	2 162	6.65 %
	Mountain Catchment Area	557 889	575 872	155 626	27.02 %
	Private Nature Reserve	135 432	145 788	80 982	55.55 %
	South African Natural Heritage Sites	31 551	0	NA	NA
	Biodiversity Agreement	960	14 959.32	7 083	47.35 %
TOTAL WCCC2		750 956	740 833	242 040	32.67 %
Excluding WCCC1 areas			719 594		
WCCC3	Biosphere Reserves	321 071	820 336	193 787	23.62 %
	Conservancies	1 277 129	910 490	300 097	32.96 %
	Voluntary Conservation Area	607 123	22 348	11 185	50.05 %
TOTAL WCCC3		1 598 200	1 581 528	471 900	29.84 %
Excluding WCCC1 and WCCC2 areas			1 097 974		
TOTAL WCCC1, WCCC2 and WCCC3			2 952 882		

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MAINSTREAMING



-
- Environmental assessment
 - Reactive conservation/ stewardship
 - Spatial planning
 - Business and Biodiversity
 - Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REACTIVE STEWARDSHIP



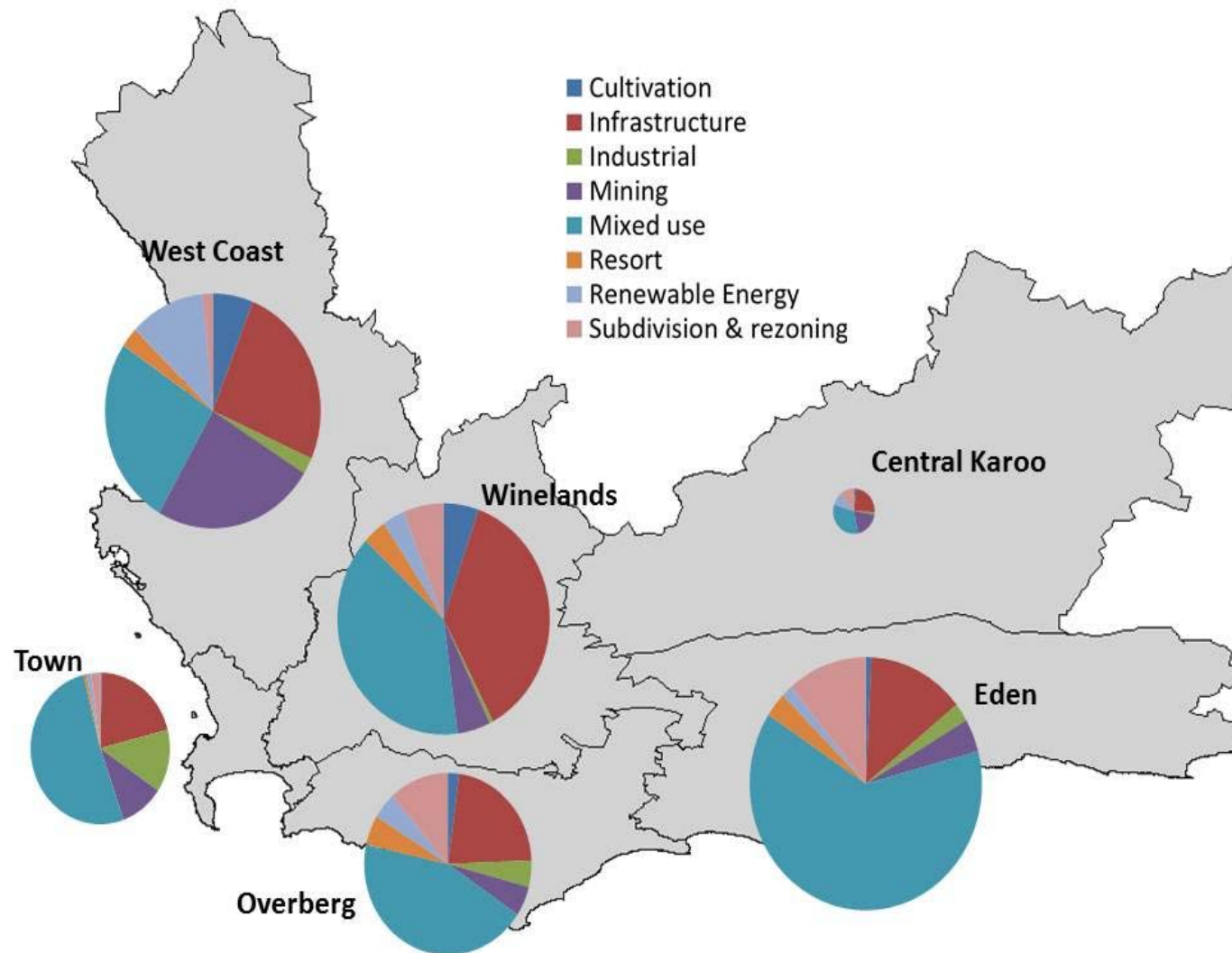
- Authorizations required to NEMA, LUPA, NWA, CARA, etc.
- CapeNature is commenting authority on all applications which could have a detrimental impact on biodiversity
- Through commenting we aim to prevent, and where prevention is not possible, minimise or mitigate impacts on priority biodiversity areas
- Since 2009, 1700 applications covering 700 000 ha were assessed (*BY THREE PEOPLE!*)
- 53% of these applications were in CBAs
- 106 were concluded during this time: 64% satisfied, 32% partly satisfied and only 4% dissatisfied

Assumption: Areas assessed are afforded a better level of safeguarding than those not yet assessed





DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS



REACTIVE CONSERVATION/ STEWARDSHIP

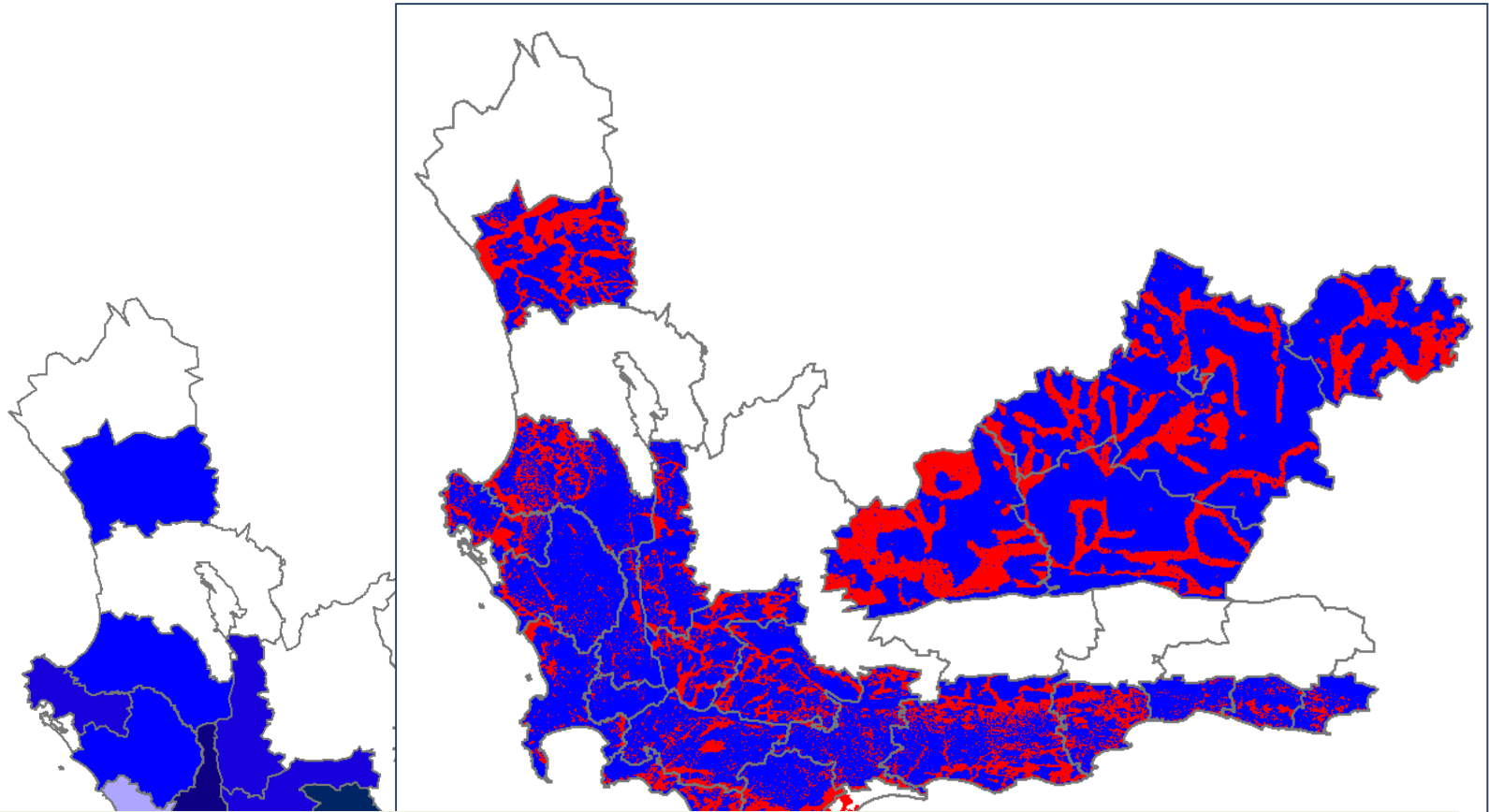


- Opportunities for conservation may also arrive through development
- Stewardship can become a condition or recommendation of authorization
- Benefit: quicker and cheaper
- Disadvantage: hard to plan for and rely on and opportunistic by nature
- 7 000 ha CBAs in better state (usually very small under 300 ha and would otherwise not have been targeted for PA; high degree of threat and very expensive to manage)
- Shaws Pass: 1 ha lost in exchange for 30 ha PLUS R7.5 million

Assumption: Areas set aside (as either conditions or recommendations) are afforded an even better level of safeguarding



SPATIAL PLANNING



Assumption: CBAs cross-walked to appropriate SPCs are afforded a better level of safeguarding

BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY



- threat or opportunity?
- BBIs aim to build a business case in biodiversity conservation and sustainability in farming
- Dec 2010, 127 292 ha CBAs (3.3%) signed up in BBI



Assumption: BBI member's land is afforded a better level of safeguarding than non-BBI members' land

LEGISLATION AND POLICY



Too soon to quantify or qualify

- *DEA's Mining and Biodiversity Guidelines*
- *NEMA EIA Regulations*
- *WCPSDF Rural Land-use and management guidelines*
- *SANBI Guidelines for Publishing of Bioregional Plans*
- *WC Biodiversity Bill*
- *WC Biodiversity Policy*
- *WC Land-use Bill*
- *Provincial Spatial Plan*
- *National SDF Guidelines*
- *National Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill*
- *DEA Protected Area Expansion Strategy*
- *CapeNature's Protected Area Expansion and Implementation Strategy*





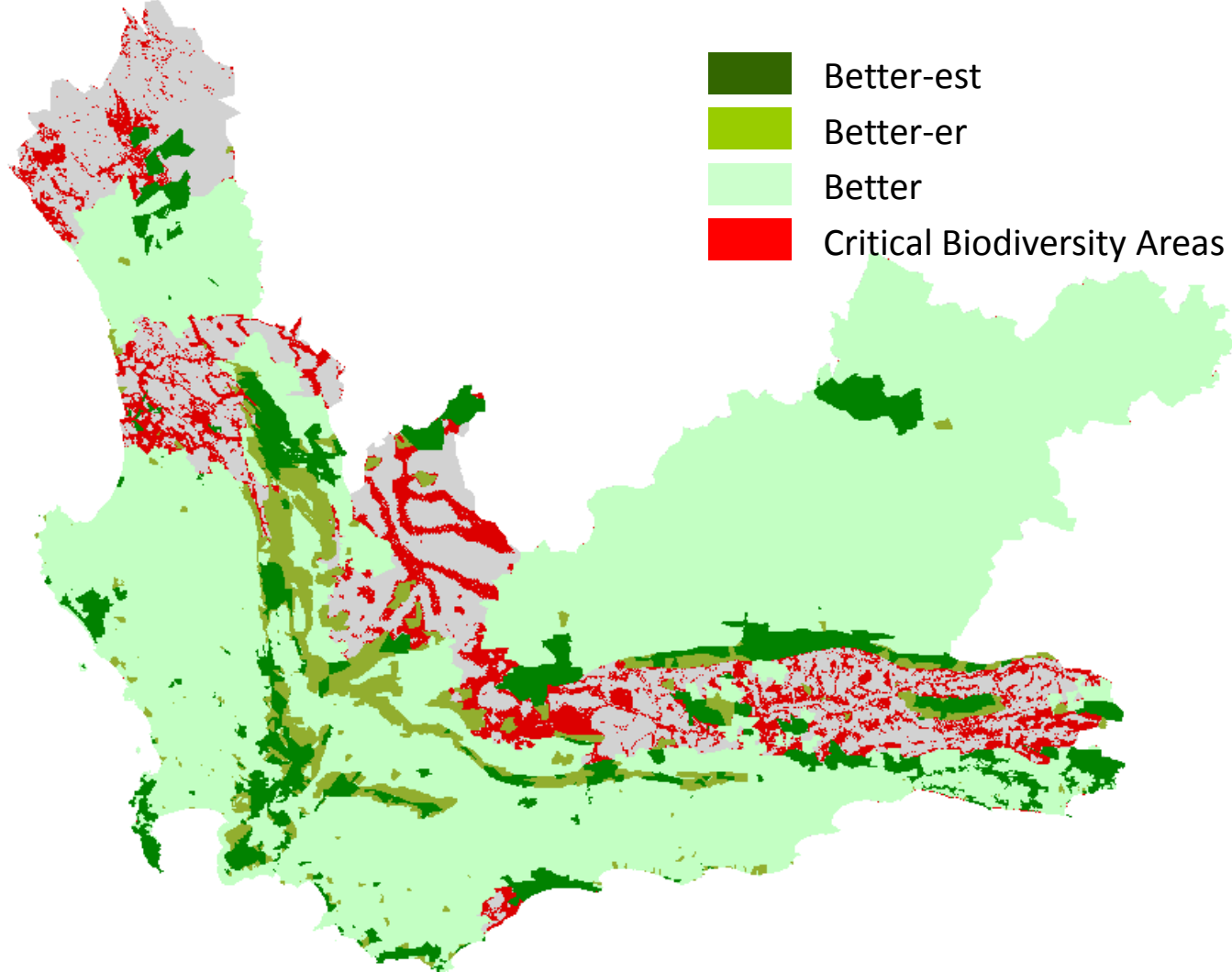
SUMMARY TABLE



LEVEL OF 'SAFENESS'	MECHANISM	CBA HA	CONTRIBUTION TO CBAS
Better-est	WCCC1 (1 126 851 ha)	28 313	0.74 %
Better-er	WCCC2 (740 833 ha)	242 040	6.33 %
	Environmental assessment induced conservation (2009-2012)	7 000	0.18 %
Better	WCCC3 (1 581 528 ha)	471 900	12.3 %
	Spatial planning (8 992 075 ha)	2 658 414	69.5 %
	Business and Biodiversity (412 020 ha) (2004 – 2010)	127 292	3.3 %
	Environmental Assessment (700 000 ha) (2009 -)	206 553	5.4 %



SUMMARY MAP





BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR LOSSES?



- CBA Map problems?
- CBAs not even considered in applications
- Biodiversity losing out to social and/or economic in environmental assessment
- Illegal development



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



- PA and mainstreaming both contributing
- PA needs to be better aligned
- PA not only about expansion but also improved management
- Reactive conservation/ stewardship very valuable tool which needs consideration
- Spatial informants need updating
- Provide support to the commenting role of conservation agencies
- Maintain and establish partnerships, esp. for creative mainstreaming avenues
- Establish a GIS tracking system to capture proposed footprints, approved footprints and actual footprints

Despite our best efforts, are we doing enough?



THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



- Samantha Ralston
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