How to interpret and integrate biodiversity plans in today's spatial planning imbroglio

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2014 Biodiversity Planning Planning Forum
What to expect from this talk...

• No solutions....just requests
• No detail ............ examples only
• and finally, no acronyms.
imbroglio

/inˈbrɒɡliəʊ/

noun
an extremely confused, complicated, or embarrassing situation.
"the abdication imbroglio of 1936"
synonyms: complicated situation, complication, complexity, problem, difficulty, predicament, plight, trouble, entanglement, confusion, muddle, mess, quandary, dilemma. More

archaic:a confused heap.
Broad scale biodiversity planning environment

CSIR Mandate

Introduction

In this context, the National Biodiversity Center of KwaZulu-Natal and the local authority contended that the conservation of nature is a public concern. The environmental and ecological sustainability of the nation is an essential aspect of the conservation effort.

Mandate

DEA Mandate

In line with its statutory mandate, the board is responsible for:

- The management of nature conservation within the Province of KwaZulu-Natal both inside and outside the protected areas and;
- The development and promotion of ecotourism facilities within the protected areas.

The duties and objectives of the board are:

- To provide strategic leadership;
- To monitor the operational performance of management;
- To protect the organisation’s financial position;
- To ensure that the organization adheres to high standards of ethics and corporate behaviour;
- To review and adopt the appropriate risk management and regulatory compliance policies;
- To set policies, standards and objectives and ensure implementation by the Executive Management Committee.

We hope to gain a lot of expertise and experience from them and their valued inputs to the operations of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.
We desperately need a single reference document which clearly outlines:

- key reference datasets that HAVE to be considered.
- clearly outline how the different products relate to one another
- standardisation of buffers.
## Example of buffer variations currently in play (not exhaustive)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Regulations/Handbook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1km</strong></td>
<td>Dept Water Affairs: 500m around wetland as a trigger for Water Use License</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>275m</strong></td>
<td>Burke VJ &amp; Gibbons JW 'Terrestrial Buffer Zones and Wetland Conservation: A Case Study of Freshwater Turtles in a Carolina Bay' Conservation biology 9(6) (1995), 1365-1369 - 275-m upland buffer zone to protect 100% of the nest and hibernation sites. Insulating 90% of the sites required a 73-m buffer zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30m</strong></td>
<td>EIA Regs (Gauteng):  LN3: 6, 7, 8, 10, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>50m</strong></td>
<td>FEPA: 500m buffer for irrigation of waste &amp; waste treatment works near wetlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>100m</strong></td>
<td>FEPA: generic buffer is 100m from outside edge of wetland; buffer for septic tanks on wetland FEPAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>200m</strong></td>
<td>Dept Water Affairs: 100m from watercourse (no mining infrastructure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>250m</strong></td>
<td>KZN CBA/ESA: 50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>300m</strong></td>
<td>KZN CBA/ESA: 20m from 1:100 year flood line (perennial &amp; non perennial)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>500m</strong></td>
<td>FEPA: 500m buffer for treatment plants &amp; and herbicide &amp; pesticide applications (excl alien clearing) near wetland FEPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1000m</strong></td>
<td>EKZNW Handbook: site specific based on slope, erosion potential, rainfall, vegetation cover, wetland type and functionality, habitat for threatened species, development type impact (noise, pollution, runoff, invasive species, sediments, firebreaks)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We desperately need a single reference document which clearly outlines:

• key reference datasets that HAVE to be considered.
• clearly outline how the different different products relate to one another
• standardisation of buffers.
• Nacelle’s, Felicity’s and Mervyn’s comment on standardisation for species of common distribution