



Invasive Species

DATE: XXX

VENUE: XXX

XXX

Job Title: XXX

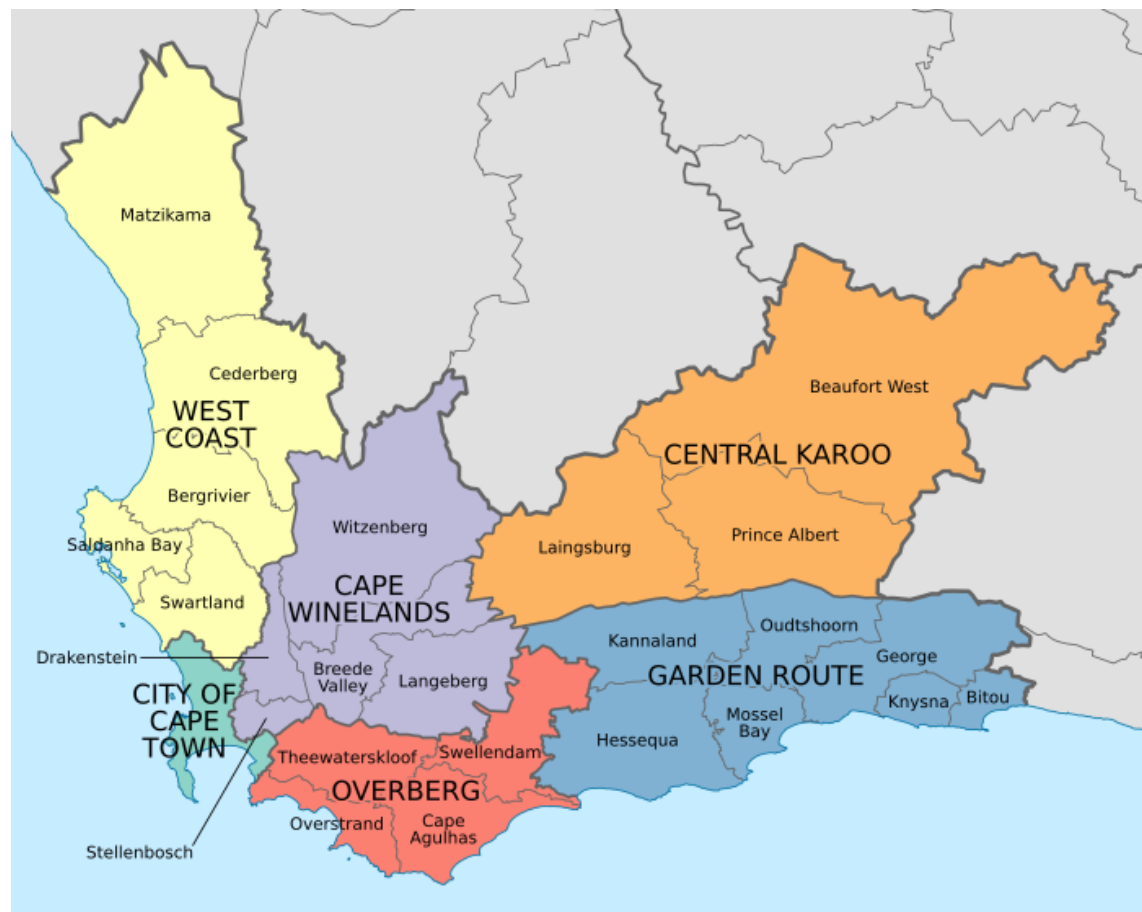
INTRODUCTION



Who are we?



CapeNature is the part of government that protects natural occurring plant and animal life (biodiversity) in the Western Cape.



What is an invasive species ?

A species that has established and spread (or has the potential) outside of it's natural range.

- Threatened ecosystems, habitats and other species
- Can cause economic and/or environmental damage or harm to human health



INDIGENOUS



INVASIVE

Invasive vs Exotic

When an exotic species becomes harmful to the ecosystem, it is called an invasive species.

Exotic = harmless to an ecosystem



INVASION-THE PROBLEM



Biodiversity in the Western Cape is - unique and irreplaceable

The Western Cape is home to the **smallest** of the world's six floral kingdoms, the Core Cape Sub region – it can be found **NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH**



● Boreal (Holarctic) ● Neotropical ● Australian ● Palearctic ● South African (Capensis) ● Antarctic

Let that sink in...

- The Western Cape has approximately **9 300** plant species (more than the whole of Europe!)

Almost **70%** of its species are endemic, which means it is found nowhere else on Earth.



The Core Cape Subregion comprises

less than
0.05%
of the earth's land surface, yet harbours
3% or 4%
of the world's species.

Let that sink in aswell...

Invasive plants have a huge impact

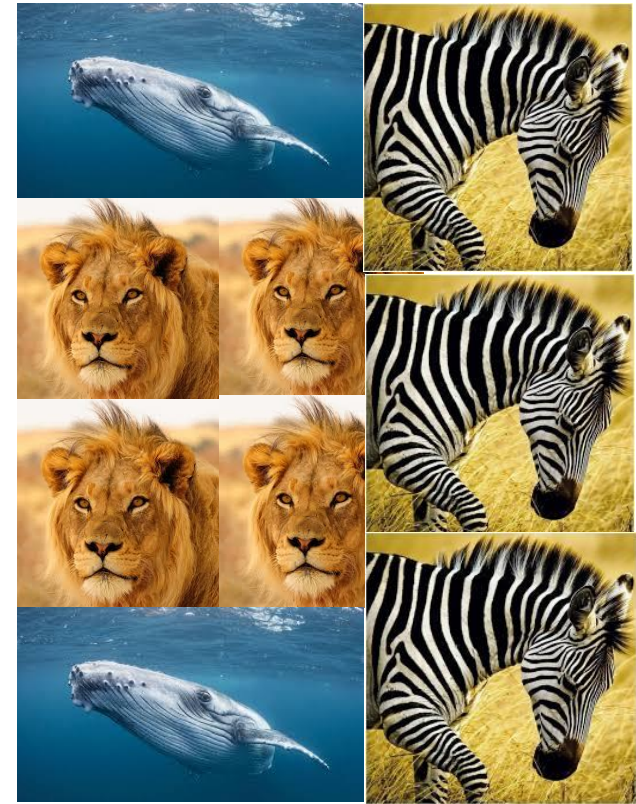
Can cause extinctions of native plants and animals



Invasive Species
Have Led to a
Third of Animal
Extinctions
Since 1500

Reduce biodiversity

From this...



..to this.

Affect water availability

Damage soil nutrients

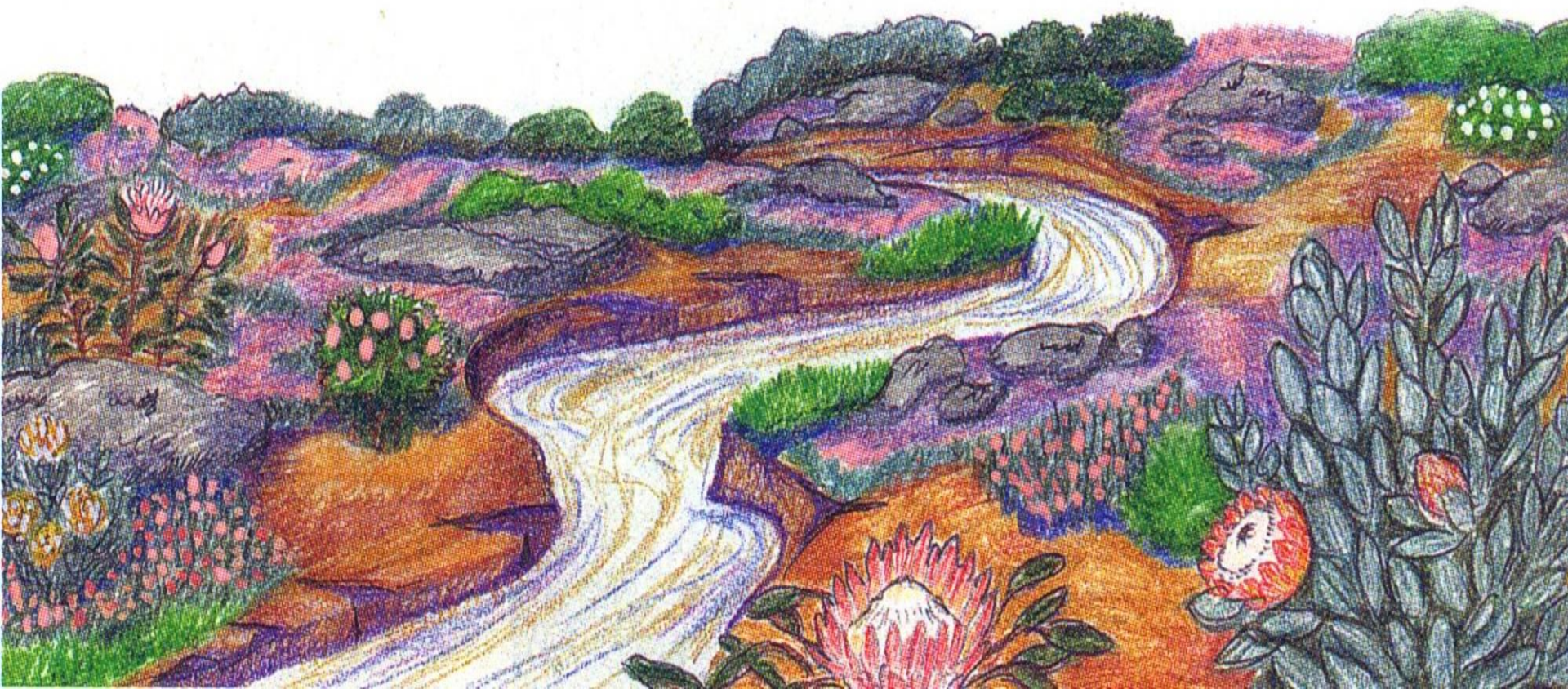
Changes habitats



Did you know that the black rat is an invasive species considered among the world's 100 & estimated to occur on 80% of the world's archipelagos?

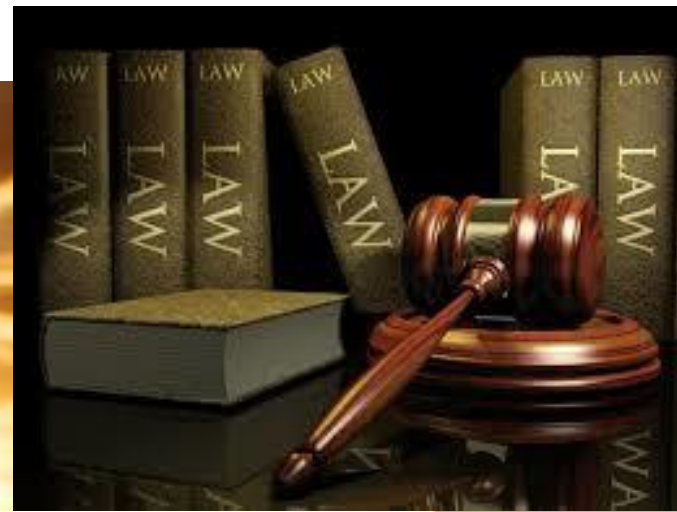
**ADD IN A FEW IMAGES OF COMMON
INVASIVE SPECIES FOR YOUR AREA**

INVASION-THE SOLUTION



What does the law say?

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) manages Invasive Alien Species under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity (NEMBA) Act 10 of 2004. This act aims to provide the framework, norms, and standards for the conservation, sustainable use, and equitable benefit-sharing of South.



559 species Invasive species are divided into four categories:

- Category 1a: Requiring compulsory control. Remove and destroy. No trade or planting.
- Category 1 (b): Controlled wherever possible, removed and destroyed. No trade or planting.
- Category 2: Potentially invasive, permit required. Includes some commercial species
- Category 3: May remain in prescribed areas. Further planting, trade and propagation prohibited.



Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)



Castor-oil plant (*Ricinus communis*)

What CapeNature is doing

Teams of staff & contractors controlling species
327 835 ha cleared in the past 5 years



X 1



50 LITRES/DAY

1 pine tree uses 50 litres/day = 1000 pine trees cleared = 50 000
liters water back into system

What can you do

Remove invasive species when required by law. Join a hack group.



Report invasive species.

Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) can stop the spread of new and emerging invasive species before they become established.

It is one of the most cost-effective and ecologically viable methods for controlling invasive species and is well worth the effort to protect natural and agricultural resources.

WANTED

the European Paper Wasp *Polistes dominula*



DESCRIPTION



BIOLOGY

Nests are made in spring (August) and abandoned in winter (June). Wasps eat other soft bodied insects.

CAUTION

Approach with caution. Wasps STING.

How can you help?

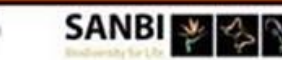
DO look for **NESTS** near eaves, gutters and washing lines.

DO NOT remove OR Doom nests with wasps present.

If you see this **WASP** or a **NEST** >> **CONTACT**: PC Benadé

How: pcbenade@sun.ac.za OR 082 555 8642

Please include: a **PHOTO**, **GPS** coordinates & **DATE** of observation



Plant indigenous plants.



What else?



THANK YOU.

More info: www.invasives.co.za