

SSD File: SSD14/3/8/5/4

BSP_Ecosystem_Threat_Status_2016.shp

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**Title:** BSP Ecosystem Threat Status 2016**Date of layer completion:****Brief Description:** Biodiversity Spatial Plan - Ecosystem Threat Status 2016**Abstract Description:**

The Western Cape's 2016 Ecosystem Threat Status layer was developed to more accurately reflect the current threat status of ecosystems in the Western Cape Province, especially in terms of habitat loss (criterion A1). Ecosystems are based on the SA Vegetation Map (2012 version) and relevant indigenous forest types (DAFF, 2010), as per the national approach to assessing ecosystem threat.

Threat status is provided for each ecosystem according to three assessments: (1) the national assessment in 2011 (note: threatened ecosystems identified in the NBA 2011 are the same as those listed in the gazette in December 2011); (2) CapeNature's 2014 assessment of criterion A1 (habitat loss); and (3) the highest status achieved in either the national assessment or CapeNature's 2016 assessment of criterion A1 (habitat loss). This latter category is considered the best available status for the Western Cape Province (see field "WC_ETS2016" in this shapefile).

Description of Purpose:

The 2016 Western Cape Ecosystem Threat Status should be considered as best available science in all land-use planning and decision-making. It should be considered as one of the lead informants when assessing significance ratings of development applications or in calculating biodiversity offsets.

Threatened ecosystems identified according to CapeNature's 2014 or 2016 assessments will not, however, trigger a basic assessment in terms of listing notice 3 of the NEMA EIA regulations as they have not yet been gazetted. Until such time, 'Listed threatened ecosystems' will continue to refer to those NBA 2011 threatened ecosystems which were published in terms of NEMBA, and are noted in the attribute table accompanying this product (see field "NBA_ETS11"). It is also important to note that while the original extent of each ecosystem has been mapped, a basic assessment report in terms of the EIA regulations is only triggered in remaining natural habitat within each ecosystem and not in portions of the ecosystem where natural habitat has already been irreversibly lost.

Methodology / Lineage Description:

The original extent of ecosystems falling within the Western Cape Province and the current remaining extent of those ecosystems were both assessed in a Geographic Information System (GIS), using a UTM34 South projection.

Ecosystem boundaries are based on the most recent version of the Vegetation Map of South Africa (SANBI, 2016; nvm2012beta2_wgs84_Geo.shp), as well as national indigenous forest types (DAFF, 2010), as per the national approach to ecosystem threat assessment.

Results from three threat assessments were joined to this ecosystem map: (1) the national assessment in 2011 (note: threatened ecosystems identified in the NBA 2011 are the same as those listed in the gazette in December 2011); (2) CapeNature's 2014 assessment of criterion A1 (habitat loss); and (3) the highest status achieved in either the national assessment or CapeNature's 2016 assessment of criterion A1 (habitat loss).

The 2016 assessment of habitat loss primarily utilized CapeNature's revised 2013/14 land cover product, as well as the 2010 Western Cape Biodiversity Framework land cover data. All land cover classes representing the outright loss of natural habitat (e.g. cultivated areas, forestry plantations, mines, dams, urban or built-up areas) or areas of severe degradation (e.g. pure invasive alien plant stands, significantly over-grazed or heavily eroded areas devoid of vegetative cover) were removed from the ecosystem map described above to create a remaining natural habitat layer.

In addition, all areas falling within DAFF's 2007, 2013, or 2015 field crop boundary datasets were removed from the remnant layer described above. Additional on-screen digitizing of cultivated areas was also carried out where obvious habitat loss had occurred in the Sandveld region, according to SPOT5 2014 imagery and January 2016 Landsat8 imagery. The resulting remnants layer was used to calculate the amount (area) of each ecosystem remaining in good ecological condition. Compared to the original extent, the intact proportion of each ecosystem could be determined and used to categorize its threat status according to national thresholds.

Product Classification: Standard**Temporal Extent of the Dataset:****Descriptive Keywords:** Biodiversity, Spatial Plan, Ecosystem Threat, Status

Supplemental Information / Report Reference:**Category Name:** Natural Environment**Project Name:** WCBSP 2016**Scale:****Bounding Polygon:** **North =** -30.42 **East =** 24.22
 South = -34.83 **West =** 17.76**Theme Type:** Feature**Content Type:** Polygon**Language:** English**Minimum Zoom:****Maximum Zoom:****DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION****Path:** Q:\2_Geographic\Natural_Environment\Biotic\Sensitive_Areas\WCBSP_2016_17\ETS_2016**File Name:** BSP_Ecosystem_Threat_Status_2016.shp**File Type Name:** ArcView Shapefile**Distribution - Internal:** Yes**External:** Yes**List of Formats:****File Size:****Online Resource URL:****Distribution Contact Information and Ordering Instructions****Name of Contact Person:** Therese Forsyth**Name of Contact Organisation:** CapeNature**Position of Responsible Person:** GIS Technologist**Contact Address:** Private Bag X5014, Stellenbosch, 7599**Contact E-mail:** tforsyth@capenature.co.za**Contact Telephone:** (021) 866 8026**Ordering Instruction:**

The data can be downloaded from the SANBI BGIS website (www.bgis.sanbi.org). OR The data can be obtained from either the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP): Spatial Information Management, with written approval of request from CapeNature. Email: cpetersen@capenature.co.za for a data application and agreement form.

Fees and Terms:**Turnaround Time:****DATA OWNER AND METADATA INFORMATION****Data Owner****Name of Contact Person:** Genevieve Pence**Name of Contact Organisation:** CapeNature**Position of Responsible Person:** Conservation Planner**Contact Address:** Office 18, CBC, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens

Cell: 072 476 1433

Contact E-mail: gpence@capenature.co.za**Contact Telephone:** 021 866 8000**Data Origin from Old records:****Metadata Creator****Metadata Creator Name:** Genevieve Pence**Contact Telephone:** 021 866 8000**Contact E-mail:** gpence@capenature.co.za**Metadata Date Stamp:** 06/03/2017**CONSTRAINTS AND LIMITATIONS****Use Constraints:**

All data are supplied with no expressed or implied warranty as to their suitability for purpose, planimetric accuracy or completeness. The WCNCB cannot be held responsible for any errors, which may occur in provided data sets. DEADP will not incur any legal liability pertaining to this data or use thereof.

Access Constraints:**Copyright:** No

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PROJECTION PARAMETERS

Reference System Name:		Reference System Code:	
Projection Name:	Geographic - WGS84	Projection Type:	
Central Meridian:	0	Upper Parallel:	0
Latitude of Projection Origin:		Lower Parallel:	0
Projection Units:		False Easting:	
UTM Zone:		False Northing:	
Datum Name:	WGS84		
Scale Factor at Equator:			

MAINTENANCE INFORMATION

Maintenance and Update Frequency: Unknown

Revision and Update History**CONTENT INFORMATION**

Has SAGDAD been used? No

Has another Feature Catalogue been used? No

Catalogue Title: **Catalogue Date:**

Attribute Codes and Descriptions

Field	Description	Alias
Name	The name of the ecosystem; either representing a national vegetation type (SANBI, 2016) or indigenous forest type (DAFF, 2010).	
NBA_ETS11	Ecosystem Threat Status, as per the National Biodiversity Assessment 2011 ("Vegmap_with_threatened_ecosystems.shp") and as gazetted in December 2011.	
CNa1_ETS14	Ecosystem Threat Status as assessed for Criterion A1: Habitat Loss, in the Western Cape Province, as per CapeNature's 2014 analysis.	
WC_ETS2016	Best available Ecosystem Threat Status for the Western Cape Province; reflecting the highest status assigned in either the national assessment (NBA, 2011) or most recent provincial assessment (CapeNature, 2016).	
chng	Change in Ecosystem Threat Status between the National Listing and the latest provincial assessment (CapeNature, 2016).	
chng_type	Categorical characterization of change.	
chng_year	Date of assessment where change occurred.	

Thumbnail: