



BGIS Land Use Decision Support (LUDS) Report

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Disclaimer:

The Land-Use Decision Support (LUDS) Tool has been developed to facilitate and support biodiversity planning and land-use decision-making at a national and provincial level. Its primary objective is to serve as a guide for biodiversity planning and should not replace specialist ecological assessments.

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Please note: that the spatial information incorporated into the LUDS Tool was mapped at various scales, with much of the spatial information mapped at a scale of 1:250 000 (i.e. 1 cm on the map = 2,5 km on the ground) or greater. To ensure maximum accuracy, always check the map against actual conditions on the ground when undertaking planning and decision-making, or contact the relevant conservation authority for additional assistance.

Please forward any queries or concerns to BGIShelp@SANBI.org.za.

1. Information extracted from national datasets

The information below is extracted for the analysed area from national datasets available on BGIS. There is a short description of the dataset under each heading and the URLs to the webpage on BGIS with further information.

1.1. National terrestrial information

1.1.1. National list of threatened terrestrial ecosystems

BGIS source: National list of threatened terrestrial ecosystems for South Africa (2011) – original extents

A list of all threatened ecosystem patches which original extent intersects the analysed area. Note: the data represents the **original extents** of the threatened ecosystems; in other words, natural areas which have been converted to agriculture, mining and urban areas have been **included**. Please view the area using the BGIS online map viewer Bing maps or Google maps tool in order to see whether any natural vegetation may still exist.

BGIS project overview and report: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/ecosystems/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/ecosystems/map.asp>

Ecosystem Name	Code	Status
Garden Route Shale Fynbos	FFb 9	VU
# threatened ecosystems: 1		

1.1.2. National vegetation types

BGIS source: Vegetation Map of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Mucina & Rutherford 2006)

A list of all the national vegetation types the corresponding number of patches of each which original extents covered the analysed area. Note that this list is based on the estimated original extents of the vegetation types prior to any transformation. Please view the area using the BGIS online map viewer Bing maps or Google maps tool in order to see whether any natural vegetation may still exist.

BGIS project overview and report: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/vegmap/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/vegmap/map.asp>

Instructions on how to find Mucina & Rutherford (2006) vegetation type descriptions using BGIS online maps:

http://bgis.sanbi.org/vegmap/Veg_Map_Instructions.pdf

The **map code** below refers to the short code used on the wall map and BGIS interactive maps which helps to accurately

identify a vegetation type given the complexity of the map's legend colours.

Vegetation type name	Map code	Biome
Garden Route Shale Fynbos	FFh 9	Fynbos Biome
Southern Afrotropical Forest	FOz 1	Forests

1.1.3. Indigenous forest patches (DWAF)

BGIS source: DWAF Indigenous Forest Patches (2005)

A list of all the indigenous forest patches found within the analysed area

BGIS project overview and report: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/indigenousforest/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/indigenousforest/map.asp>

Forest name	Forest group	Patch Size
# forest patches: 0		

1.1.4. National soil classes

BGIS source: General soils and soil classes

A list of all the dominant soil classes the extents of which cover the analysed area. Please note that these soil classes were developed for agricultural use.

BGIS project overview and report: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/Soils/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/Soils/project.asp> (Please contact the data owner, the Agricultural Research Council, to obtain the GIS data)

Soil Class	Soil Class ID
Association of Classes 13 and 16: Undifferentiated shallow soils and land classes	S21

1.2. National aquatic information

1.2.1. Wetlands (NFEPA Wetlands/National Wetlands Map 4)

BGIS source: National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFPEPA) Wetland Map/National Wetlands Map 4 and NFPEPA wetland clusters

A list of all Wetland units found within the analysed area, should these belong to a wetlands cluster its information is also included. Wetlands and wetland clusters which were selected as freshwater ecosystem priority areas (FEPAs) are indicated. A key to the information codes used is given below.

BGIS project overview and report (National Wetlands 4/Wetland clusters):

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/nfepa/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer (National Wetlands 4/Wetland clusters):

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/nfepa/NFEPAmap.asp>

Wetlands

Wetland type	Description	Condition	NFPEPA rank	FPEA status
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wetland units: 0

Wetland clusters

Wetland cluster ID	Vegetation type	Wetland units	FPEA status
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wetland clusters: 0

Key for NFPEPA wetlands condition information codes

NFPEPA condition	Description	% of total wetland area
AB	Percentage natural land cover \geq 75%	47
D	Percentage natural land cover 25-75%	18
DEF	Riverine wetland associated with a D, E, F or Z ecological category river	2
Z1	Wetland overlaps with a 1:50 000 'artificial' inland water body from the Department of Land Affairs: Chief Directorate of Surveys and Mapping (2005-2007)	7
Z2	Majority of the wetland unit is classified as 'artificial' in the wetland locality GIS layer	4
Z3	Percentage natural land cover < 25%	20

* This percentage excludes unmapped wetlands, which includes those that have been irreversibly lost due to draining, ploughing and concreting

Key for NFPEPA wetlands rank codes 1-6

Rank	Criterion
1	Wetlands that intersect with a Ramsar site
2	Wetlands within 500 m of a IUCN threatened frog point locality
2	Wetlands within 500 m of a threatened waterbird point locality
2	Wetlands (excluding dams) with the majority of its area within a sub-quaternary catchment that has sightings or breeding areas for threatened Wattled Cranes, Grey Crowned Cranes and Blue Cranes
2	Wetlands (excluding dams) within a sub-quaternary catchment identified by experts at the regional review workshops as containing wetlands of exceptional biodiversity importance, with valid reasons documented
2	Wetlands (excluding dams) within a sub-quaternary catchment identified by experts at the regional review workshops as containing wetlands that are good, intact examples from which to choose
3	Wetlands (excluding dams) within a sub-quaternary catchment identified by experts at the regional review workshops as containing wetlands of biodiversity importance, but with no valid reasons documented
4	Wetlands (excluding dams) in A or B condition AND associated with more than three other wetlands (both riverine or non-riverine wetlands were assessed for this criterion)
4	Wetlands in C condition AND associated with more than three other wetlands (both riverine or non-riverine wetlands were assessed for this criterion)
5	Wetlands (excluding dams) within a sub-quaternary catchment identified by experts at the regional review workshops as containing impacted Working for Wetland sites
6	Any other wetland (excluding dams)

1.2.2. Sub-quaternary catchments and rivers (NFEPAs)

BGIS source: National rivers and sub-quaternary catchment FEPA status (NFEPAs)

A list of all NFEPAs sub-quaternary catchments and their FEPA status followed by the river units they contain with various parameters and indicators. A sub-quaternary catchment and its river indicated as FEPA are fresh water ecosystem priority areas, A blank FEPA status indicates that NFEPAs did not give the sub-quaternary catchment or river priority status. A key to the other information codes used is given below.

BGIS project overview and report (NFEPAs river FEPAs and NFEPAs rivers):

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/nfepa/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer(NFEPAs river FEPA and NFEPAs rivers):

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/nfepa/NFEPAmapping.asp>

Sub-quaternary catchments (river FEPAs)

NFEPA ID **FEPA status**

9110

9097

FEPA

sub-quaternary catchments: 2

NFEPA river units

River name **FEPA status** **River type** **Condition** **Mainstem** **Flagship**

river units: 0

Key for NFEPA sub-quaternary catchment and river units information codes

FEPA status	River types	River condition
<p>Summarized FEPA status using a text description, where:</p> <p>FEPA= freshwater ecosystem priority area FISHFSA= fish support area FISHCORRID= corridor critical for movement of threatened Fish between habitats PHASE2FEPA= phase 2 freshwater ecosystem priority area UPSTREAM= upstream management area</p> <p>In instances where several of these map categories overlapped, the status took the following order of precedence: "FEPA", "PHASE2FEPA", "FISHFSA" or "FISHCORRID", and then "upstream management area"</p>	<p>Used by NFEPA which comprises:</p> <p>the level 1 ecoregion number hyphen (-)</p> <p><i>followed by</i> the flow</p> <p>N= not,permanent/flashy P= permanent or seasonal hyphen (-)</p> <p><i>followed by</i> the geomorphological zone</p> <p>M= mountain stream U= upper foothills L= lower foothills F= lowland river</p>	<p>Used by NFEPA, A or B is considered intact and able to contribute towards river ecosystem biodiversity targets.</p> <p>A= unmodified, natural B= largely natural with few modifications AB= A or B above C= moderately modified D= largely modified E= seriously modified F= critically extremely modified EF= E or F above Z= Tributary condition modeled as not intact, according to natural land cover</p>

1.3. National protected area information**BGIS source:** Protected areas formal and informal (NBA 2011 and NPAES 2010)

A list of all protected areas the extents of which intersect with the analysed area. The formal protected areas were updated by the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA 2011) whereas the informal protected areas were updated by

the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES 2010).

Also included is a list of any NPAES 2010 focus areas that were intersected by the analysed area.

BGIS NBA 2011 project overview and report:

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/NBA/project.asp>

BGIS formal protected areas (NBA 2011) download metadata and layer:

http://bgis.sanbi.org/NBA/terrestrial_formalprotecedareas.asp

BGIS NPAES 2010 project overview and report:

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/protectedareas/NPAESinfo.asp>

BGIS informal protected areas (NPAES 2010) download metadata and layer:

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/protectedareas/ProtectedAreas.asp>

BGIS NPAES 2010 focus areas download metadata and layer:

<http://bgis.sanbi.org/protectedareas/NPAES.asp>

Protected area name	Category	Management agent
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Formal protected areas

Formal protected areas: 0

Informal protected areas

Informal protected areas: 0

NPAES focus area name

NPAES focus areas: 0

2. Information from the most relevant biodiversity conservation plan for the Garden Route

The information below is extracted for the analysed area from the most relevant and up to date biodiversity conservation plan available on BGIS - **The Garden Route Biodiversity Sector Plan**. There is a short description of the dataset under each heading and the URLs of the webpage on BGIS with further information.

Note on the criteria defining the CBA map categories used by the Garden Route Biodiversity Sector Plan

In order to better understand the Garden Route Biodiversity Sector Plan CBA maps examine the table below which briefly summarises the CBA categories it uses. Note the CBA map does not differentiate between terrestrial and aquatic CBA map categories. Please refer to the relevant biodiversity sector plan handbook for more information.

Category	Defining criteria
Protected areas (PAs)	Any formally Protected Area including nature reserves, national parks, forest nature reserves, mountain catchment areas. RAMSAR sites, World Heritage sites and marine protected areas.
Critical Biodiversity areas (CBAs)	Any terrestrial or aquatic area required to meet biodiversity pattern and/or process thresholds including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any area that is required for meeting biodiversity pattern thresholds such as remaining areas of Critically Endangered habitat types, special habitats, listed threatened ecosystems, indigenous forest patches • Any area that is required for meeting ecological process thresholds including: ecological or landscape corridors (comprising upland-lowland, river, coastal and sand-movement corridors), • Hydrological process areas (estuaries, wetlands, important catchment areas). • All 'best design' sites (largest, most intact, least disturbed, connected and/or adjacent) in terms of meeting pattern and process thresholds.
Ecological Support Areas (ESAs)	Supporting zone required to prevent degradation of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas required to prevent degradation of CBAs and formal PAs. • Remaining catchment and other process areas (river, fire, etc) that are required to prevent degradation of CBAs and formal PAs. • Areas that are already transformed or degraded, but which are currently or potentially still important for supporting ecological processes
Other Natural Areas (ONAs)	Natural areas not required included in the categories above
No Natural Remaining Areas (Transformed)	These areas no longer contain natural areas and their safeguarding would not result in any biodiversity protection including cultivated lands, plantations, mined areas, urban areas, infrastructure, dams and areas under coastal development.

2.1. Terrestrial and aquatic information for the Garden Route

BGIS source: Garden Route Biodiversity Assessment – CBA map lookup layer

A list of Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) map lookup layer units that intersect with the analysed area. Included are each unit's CBA map category and biodiversity features information which is indicative of its CBA map category

classification. Descriptions of the biodiversity features are given below.

Note that the list combines both terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity feature information. All aquatic information is grouped together under the “Aquatic” biodiversity features

BGIS project overview and report: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/GardenRoute/project.asp>

BGIS download metadata and layer: <http://bgis.sanbi.org/GardenRoute/CBAs.asp>

List of CBA map units

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.094

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Natural

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: Potential occurrence of important area of nationally listed Critically Endangered or Endangered habitat, or fine-scale GR habitat with equivalent status

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.014

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Natural

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: Potential occurrence of important area of nationally listed Critically Endangered or Endangered habitat, or fine-scale GR habitat with equivalent status

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.021

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Degraded

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.002

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Degraded

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.016

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Degraded

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.004

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Natural

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: Potential occurrence of important area of nationally listed Critically Endangered or Endangered habitat, or fine-scale GR habitat with equivalent status

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.012

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Natural

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Critical Biodiversity Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.02

Management objective: Maintain natural land. Rehabilitate degraded to natural or near natural and manage for no further degradation.

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Degraded

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Critical area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Ecological Support Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.024

Management objective: Maintain ecological processes

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Farm

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Important supporting area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

Ecological Support Areas

Unit size (Ha): 0.013

Management objective: Maintain ecological processes

Biodiversity feature information

Transformation: Farm

Required habitat: N/A

Corridor: Important supporting area for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes

Special species: N/A

Threatened habitats: N/A

Other protected habitats: N/A

Coastal zone: N/A

Marine: N/A

Aquatic: N/A

CBA map units: 10

Descriptions for the biodiversity feature information included with each CBA or ESA lookup table unit

Biodiversity feature	Description
Category	This gives the CBA category for the polygon. It indicates whether the polygon is a Formal Protected Area, a Critical Biodiversity Area or an Ecological Support Area.
Management objective	This field outlines the management objective for the land parcel (i.e. Desired Management Objective). This relates to either maintaining ecological/biodiversity pattern or processes.
Transformation	This indicates the transformation status (or land cover) of the area (polygon) as mapped in the conservation planning process. This is particularly important where a field visit indicates a degraded or transformed site, as this layer would then show whether the site was deliberately selected despite it not being in a natural state; as opposed to where a site has either suffered degradation since the mapping or was incorrectly mapped. It is critical to note that many degraded and even transformed sites are include in the CBA (and especially the ESA) network, with for example ploughed fields on floodplains may still retain significant hydrological value and hence are included as Ecological Support Areas.
Required habitat	Indicates areas where the remaining intact habitat within that planning unit is contributing significantly to meeting habitat conservation targets. Habitats are indicated as contributing to best design if this was likely to be a major reason why the polygon was selected.
Corridor	Critical areas (CBA) and important supporting areas (ESA) for maintaining corridors, linkages and ecological processes.
Special species	Indicates if threatened species are likely to occur at the site. This includes areas identified by experts as having potential value for threatened species.
Threatened habitats	These are the identified areas required to meet targets for habitats listed as threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered, and Vulnerable) under the provisions of NEMBA.
Other protected habitats	These area areas containing habitats protected under a range of environmental legislation other than NEMBA (especially wetlands and forests).
Coastal zone	Critical areas (CBA) and important supporting areas (ESA) for maintaining coastal processes.
Marine	Areas required to meet marine pattern targets.

Aquatic	Critical areas (CBA) and important supporting areas (ESA) for maintaining hydrological processes. These are areas where proposed developments should be carefully screened to ensure no major impact on the rivers and their riparian corridors, wetlands and their buffers or estuaries and their buffers are likely.
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3. Municipal and cadastral information

3.1. Province and municipality

The Municipal Demarcation Board's 2009 boundaries are used for the BGIS LUDS tool as these correspond with the municipal biodiversity summaries. The boundaries in the LUDS tool will be updated along with the next municipal biodiversity summaries update.

Municipal biodiversity summary information can be on BGIS by going to the following link

<http://196.21.45.151/devBGIS/municipalities/municipality.asp>.

and following the steps i.e. choose a province and then a municipality on the map or from the dropdown box. These steps also constitute STEP 1: *Find the appropriate BGIS map (LUDS Map) for your municipality*. Please contact [SANBI municipal programme](#) for more information about the Municipal Biodiversity Summaries Project.

Note: the LUDS tool does not allow analyses to cut cross municipal and provincial boundaries i.e. any analysis must fall within a single province and municipality.

Province (code): Western Cape(WC)

Municipality (Cat B): Bitou (WC047)

3.2. Cadastral information

A list of all cadastral units (parent farm and sub-unit properties only) which intersect the analysis area.

SG 21 code	Parcel number	Size (Ha)
C05500000000072800271	271/728	0.746

properties: 1

4. Envisaged development information

Development type: Conservation and ecotourism

Additional information:

Description of the envisaged development

5. Analysis area information

Below are the size (Ha) and location (centroid and extents) in degrees, minutes and seconds of the analysis area, shown in red on the map.

Unfortunately a map of the analysis area cannot at this stage be included in these LUDS reports. If you wish to have a map of the analysis area please use the print map button provided on the LUDS toolbar.

Analysis area centroid (decimal degrees): 23.4050896212998,-34.0015720604806

Analysis area extents (decimal degrees): 23.4050896212998,-34.0030143611393,23.4099011890543,
-33.9999945160923

Analysis area size (Ha): Cannot be calculated, please use area tool