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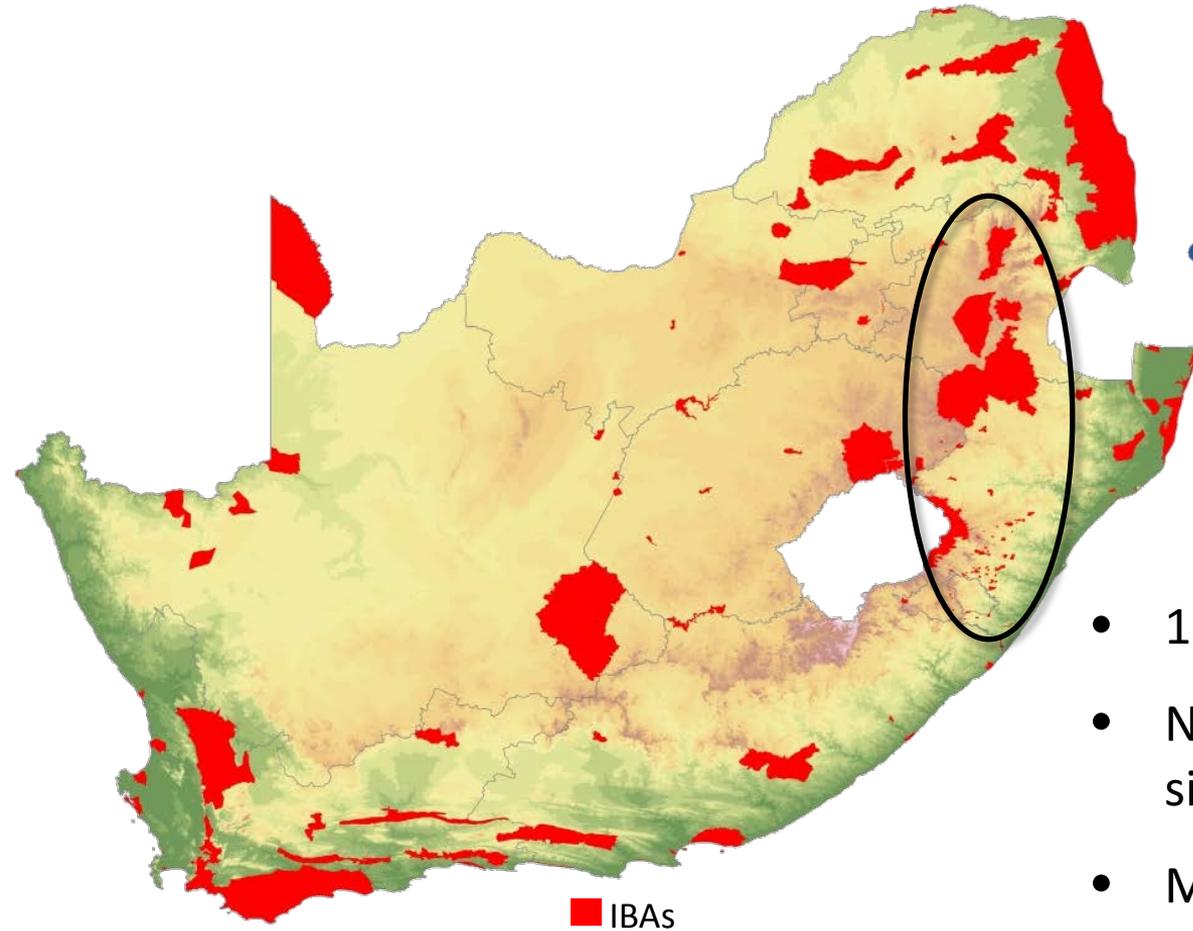
*Parks, people, planet:
inspiring solutions*

Protecting Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas using Biodiversity Stewardship: through government, landowner and NGO partnerships

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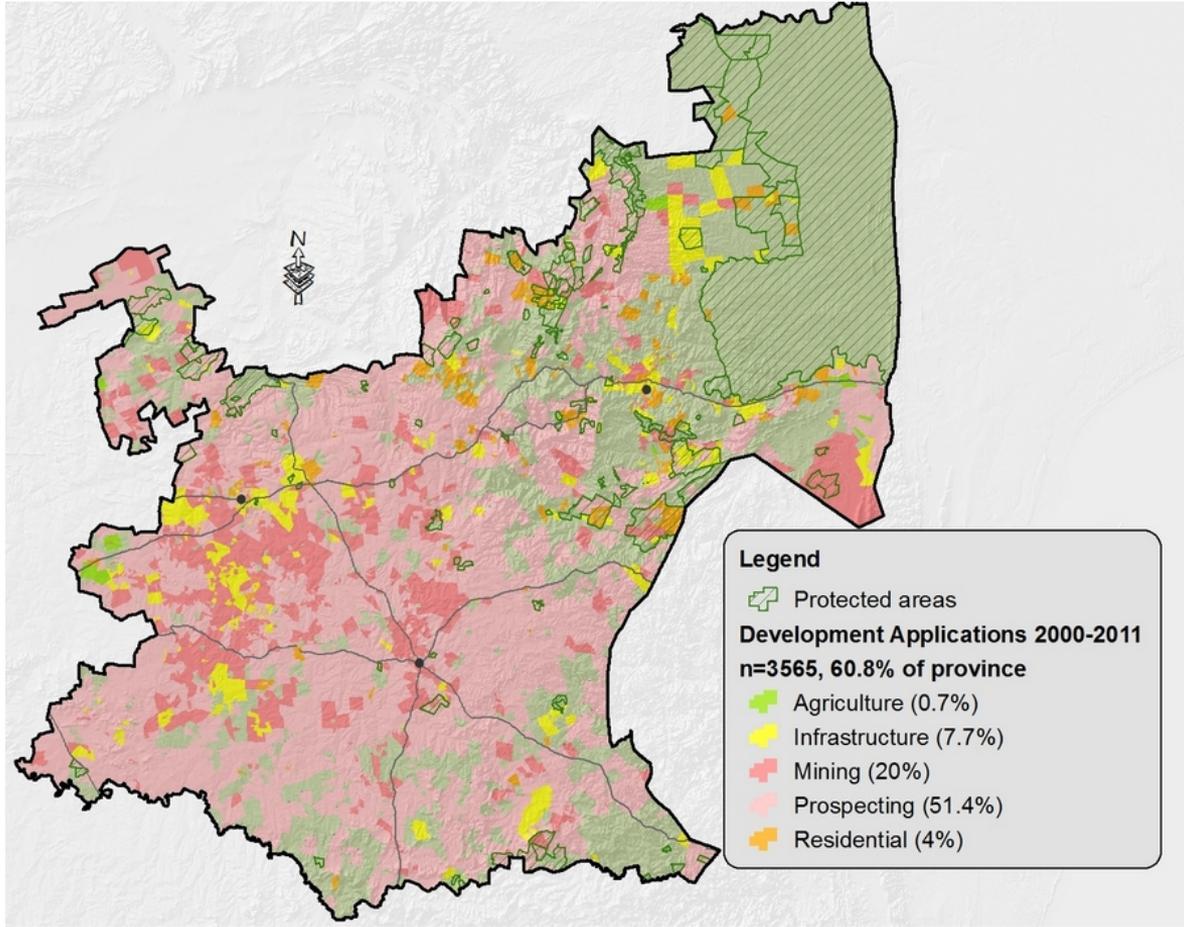


Background: Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas



- 122 IBAs in South Africa.
- Network of most important sites for bird conservation.
- More than 60% unprotected.

Background: Development context



Threats to grasslands

- Mining & agriculture.
- Only 2.8% protected.
- 65% transformed.
- 71% under mining.

Background: Expanding Protected Areas

National Protected Area Expansion Strategy for South Africa 2008

Priorities for expanding the protected area network for ecological sustainability and climate change adaptation



Government of South Africa



- Road map for PA expansion.
- Aims to meet targets – CBD Aichi target 11.
- Speaks to development and biodiversity needs.
- Allows the formal protection of a multiple use landscape, under private ownership.
- **Biodiversity Stewardship**, a policy enabled, cost-effective model to expand protected area network.

The Tool: Biodiversity Stewardship

Case Study: Mpumalanga Lakes District

- 350 natural pans and wetlands in pristine grasslands.
- An 'IBA in Danger'.
- Proclaimed a PA in January 2014 using Biodiversity Stewardship.



Case Study: Threats



Inappropriate Mining



Over Grazing



Incorrect
Burning

Biodiversity Stewardship: Expand the PA Network

Privately owned areas with high biodiversity value receive secure conservation status and are linked to a network of other conservation areas in the landscape.



60 000ha
16 land owners

Landowner Incentives & Benefits



- Management support.
- Economic development.
- Fiscal benefits, e.g. taxes & rebates.
- Protection in perpetuity.

Creates Tourism and Jobs



Management for Biodiversity and Development

Climate change mitigation



Food and water security



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