

16.30	Registration	
19.00	Cocktail dinner at Drosdty Hotel	
	Tuesday 6 October 2009	
7.30	Late Registration	
8.00	Patrick O'Farrell	Opening Address
8.15	Andrew Skowno	Thinking Big (5) in the Eastern Cape; private game reserves and biodiversity conservation.
8.45	Trenly Spencer	Local farming perspectives in the Eastern Cape
	Session 1 - Conservation perspectives (Chair Patrick O'Farrell)	
9.15	Rina Grant-Biggs	Using science to achieve management goals in National Parks.
9.30	S Swartbooi, R Isaacks	Bridging the gap – para-ecologists in action. A film project to promote capacity development and awareness raising.
9.45	Mahlet Bekele	Soda-ash mining and local communities in a national park in the arid Ethiopian Rift Valley
10.00	Philip Desmet	Patterns of Land Ownership Change in Namaqualand Since 1994: Is Conservation in Conflicting with Land Reform?
10.15	Tea	
	Session 2 – Soils (Chair Sue Milton)	
10.45	Jennifer Lalley	Quantifying the vulnerability of biological soil crusts in conservation planning
11.00	Freddie Ellis	A review of soil properties as indicators of plant diversity in the Karoo
11.15	Denise Mager	Changes in vegetation structure in southern Africa and the association with soil nutrient content
11.30	Justine Nyaga	A comparison of empirical and theoretical based model predictions of CO ₂ efflux in different soils of an arid South African ecosystem
11.45	Phil Desmet	Ecological Best-Practice Livestock Production Guidelines for the Namakwa District
12.00	Lunch	
	Session 3 - Arid zone water issues (Chair Phil Desmet)	
13.30	Marinda Avenant	Proposing a new prototype methodology for setting environmental flows for non-perennial rivers.
13.45	Harry Biggs	SANParks adopts a more structured approach to rivers in arid zones
14.00	Maitland Seaman	Pans and rock pools as model ecosystems in dry areas
14.15	Linda Rossouw	Understanding water quality and biota of a non-perennial river.
14.30	Marie Watson	Depauperation and generalization of freshwater invertebrate communities because of non-perenniality
14.45	Ignatious Matimati	The Relevance Of Fog And Dew Precipitation To Succulent Plant Hydrology In An Arid South African Ecosystem
15.00	Tea	
	Session 4 - Speed presentations (Chair Ute Schmiedel)	
15.30	Clement Cupido	What are the threats to the ephemeral wetlands of the Kamiesberg Mountains in Namaqualand?
	Mireille Lewarne	Using GIS based hydrological modeling for Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) – Verlorenvlei case study
	Clyde Lamberts	Hydrology of two ephemeral wetlands in semi-arid communal areas in Namaqualand, South Africa

	Reda Potts	Implementing riparian rehabilitation and soil conservation on the Sak River, Nama Karoo
	Dave Joubert	Hare today Gone Tomorrow? Preliminary data used to develop a hypothesis that Cape Hares may be ecosystem engineers
16.15	AZEF AGM	
19.00	Supper at the Drostdy Hotel	
Wednesday 7 October 2009		
7.45	Late Registration	
8.00	Ken Coetzee	Rehabilitating Ostrich Farmed Veld In The Little Karoo
8.30	Sue Milton	Biodiversity-based business as a tool for mainstreaming environmental
	Session 5 – Restoration (Chair Dave Joubert)	
9.00	Wiebke Hanke	How to mitigate the drying up of arid rangeland soils? Impact of rehabilitation techniques on soil hydrology
9.15	Andre Meyer	Revisiting Restoration Transplant Methodology on the Namaqualand West Coast, South Africa
9.30	Angela Gaylard,	Managing herbivory in Camdeboo NP – approaches and challenges
9.45	J Kauatjirue	Restoration of a key gully system in the Auas-Oanob Conservancy of central Namibia
9.45	Tea	
	Session 6 - Speed presentations (Chair Mandy Schumann)	
10.15	Clement Cupido	Seed islands in Namaqualand: can it facilitate species diversity and productivity in the Kamiesberg?
	J Kauatjirue	An attempt to restore rangeland condition with charcoal fines
	S Ruwanza	Soil nutrient depletion as a restoration aid in a South African ecosystem: an empirical appraisal
	Marco Pauw	The ecological effects of restoration on a coastal mineral sands mine in the arid Namaqualand, South Africa
11.00	Sarah Meyer	Evaluation of different restoration treatments to rehabilitate mechanical disturbed quartz fields (Knersvlakte) in the lowland Succulent Karoo.
	Martin Siyamana	Bio-diversity friendly approaches to tick control in north-east Namibia
	S Muheua	Bio-diversity friendly approaches to nematode control in central Namibia
	Carl Stoltz	Herbicidal control of pink tamarisk (<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i> Ledeb.) by cut-stump and coppice treatments
	Thabisisani Ndhlovu	Prosopis clearing in the Karoo: Assessing the value of restoring Nama Karoo rangeland through the recovery of ecosystem structure, function and agricultural productivity
	L Tjilumbu	The influence of patch burning on rates of plant mortality and regrowth in Namibia's Thornbush savanna
11.45	Field trip information session	
12.00	Field Trips	
19.00	Spit braai at Camdeboo National Park	
Thursday 8 October 2009		
7.45	Late Registration	
8.00	Lubabalo Ntsholo	No easy path to conservation in arid areas: Reflections from the first phase of the SKEP programme
	Session 7 - Conservation strategies (Chair Colleen Seymour)	

8.30	Pippin Anderson	Skep Research Strategy
8.45	Patrick O'Farrell	Biome level ecosystem service assessments: do they contribute to conservation goals?
9.00	Doreen Atkinson	What do ecologists need to know about social and economic systems when they calculate ecosystem services?
9.15	Andrew Skowno,	Conservation planning in arid environments: Identifying Critical Biodiversity Areas in the Central Karoo
	Session 8 – Grazing (Chair Colleen Seymour)	
9.30	U Schmiedel	Distribution of grazing pressure in a semi-arid communal rangeland in Namaqualand: the roles of resources and herding
9.45	Igshaan Samuels,	Distribution Of Grazing Pressure In A Semi-Arid Communal Rangeland Under Variable Environmental Conditions
10.00	Melvin Swarts	The Forgotten Stock:Assesing the economic and cultural value of cattle for the Leliefontein community.-Namaqualand
10.15	Tea	
	Session 9 - Disturbance and monitoring (Chair Simon Todd)	
10.45	I Zimmermann	The influence of strategic trampling in Namibia's Kalahari
11.00	Dave Joubert	Fire, competition and browsing: what are their respective roles in preventing bush thickening by <i>Acacia mellifera</i> ? What the preliminary results suggest.
11.15	S Muheua	Problem trees to analyse relationships between rangeland degradation and chemical parasite control
11.30	Mike Rutherford,	Fragmentation of vegetation types of South Africa: lessons from the arid and semi-arid regions
11.45	Bradley Gibbons	Monitoring of Blue Crane Breeding Sites in the Karoo
12.00	P Burgoyne	<i>Frithia humilis</i> revisited: additional insights gained since 2000
12.15	Lunch	
	Session 10 - Understanding and managing change (Chair Ute Schmiedel)	
13.30	Alastair Potts	Repeat photographs (between 1973 and 2008) in a semi-arid Karoo shrubland: vegetation response to drought events and the growth rates of shrub species
13.45	Mmoto Masubelele	Long-term environmental and vegetation change (1961-2009) in the eastern Karoo-Grassland ecotone
14.00	Simon Todd	Management implications of vegetation change associated with 6 years of livestock exclusion for two threatened Renosterveld vegetation types on the Nieuwoudtville Plateau
14.15	Colleen Seymour	Twenty years of rest: just what the doctor ordered? The effect of herbivore exclusion on veld carrying capacity and diversity of palatable plant species
14.30	S Parring, D Kotze	Increasing Resilience: Adaptation to Climate Change in the Suid Bokkeveld
14.45	Kai Collins	Climate change and endangered species in semi-arid rangelands, the case of the riverine rabbit, <i>Bunolagus monticularis</i> .
15.00	Emma Archer	Climate Change and Desertification in South Africa – moving from science to response
15.15	Tea	
	Session 11 - Speed presentations (Chair Mandy Schumann)	
15.45	Walter Maphangwa	Effects of climatic warming on lichens populations in a South African arid ecosystem
	Gigi Laidler	South Africa's Second National Communication to the UNFCCC: A useful tool for raising awareness on the challenges of climate change
	Marisa Coetzee	A Framework for Rangeland Monitoring and Management within the arid and semi-arid rangelands of the Eastern and

		Northern Cape
	Enrico Oosthuysen	Namakwa Critical Biodiversity Area Map
	Pieter Bester	WANTED: pickled or pressed and definitely GPS'ed
16.30	Prize giving	
17.00	FILM	Special screening of the BIOTA para-ecologists film
19.00	Dinner	