

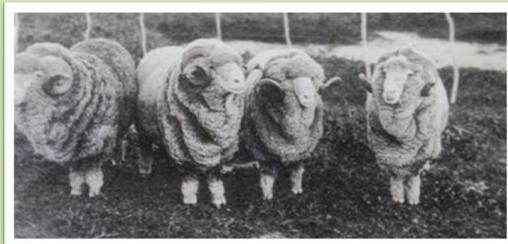


AUGUST eBULLETIN

If you would like to be added to our email list please send an email with **"SUBSCRIBE"** on the subject line to emmerentiad@sanparks.org

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF AFRICA

S34°49'59" E20°00'12"



The southernmost tip is situated on the original farm, Paapenkuil Fontein, which belonged to Michiel Van Breda of Zoetendals Valleï who is the founder of the original merino sheep wool farming tradition. Some of the limestone that was used to build the Cape Agulhas Lighthouse came from his farm, and he also played a huge role in getting the lighthouse built.

RESTCAMP NEWS



The Restcamp – pristine coastal vegetation

The Restcamp development is situated on the Cape Agulhas coast to the west of the southern tip in pristine coastal vegetation known as Overberg Dune Strandveld. This

vegetation type is described in detail in *The Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland*, edited by L. Mucina and M.C. Rutherford, and published in 2006, Pretoria.

The Overberg Dune Strandveld vegetation type is distributed in scattered patches from Rooiels to the east as far as Cape Infanta, with the largest section surrounding the Agulhas Peninsula ranging in altitude from 0m to 100m, but reaching up to 160m in places.

The vegetation and landscape features are dominated by flat or slightly undulating dune fields which can support up to 4m high, closed, evergreen, hard-leaved shrublands in the moist dune slacks and wind-protected valleys and up to 1m high, coastal thicket in the more wind-swept areas.

The geology and soils are deep, recent marine-derived calcareous sands forming dunes along the coast with patches of shelly, shallow marine sandstone and limestone of the Bredasdorp group.

The rainfall ranges from 400mm in the east to 600mm in the west and mainly falls in winter, but with a considerable summer rainfall in the east. The winter rains are accompanied by strong north-westerly winds and cooler temperatures, and strong south-easterlies in the summer. The mean daily minimum and maximum temperatures are 7°C and 25°C respectively.

Among the important tall shrubs in the area are *Euclea racemosa* subsp. *racemosa* (Sea Guarri/Kersebos), *Metasia muricata* (Blombos) and *Rhus crenata* (Rosyntjebos). Low shrubs include *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* (Boetabessie/Bushtick Berry/Bietou), *Passerina paleacea*, *Passerina rigida* (Gonnabas) and *Aspalathus forbesii*.

Lighthouse Precinct Development



SSI, the civil engineering group concerned with the Lighthouse development had their terrain meeting with the roleplayers, SANParks, Transnet National Ports Authority and Cape Agulhas Municipality, on 26 July 2010. The meeting was

about Phase 1 of the development which is moving the navigation component of Transnet.

To unsubscribe to this email please send an email with the subject **"UNSUBSCRIBE"** to emmerentiad@sanparks.org





Fauna



Gewone Duiker, Common Duiker, *Sylvicapra grimmia*

The name of this small antelope refers to its habit of quickly running away and ducking into a safe place when disturbed. The Duiker is widely distributed, prefers shrub veld and is usually a solitary animal. Colouring is grey-brown, but this can differ depending on the area. It has a black blaze on the face, a short tail and long narrow ears; also a long tuft of hair on the head. Only the male has sharp pointy horns. The Duiker has survived both intensive hunting and escalating agricultural development. They even occur in urban areas.



Surings, *Oxalis* sp.

Oxalis sp., flourishing in big patches on burnt veld all over the Park.



International Year of Biodiversity

Biodiversity is Health

Give a thought to biodiversity's potential to deliver new nature-based cures and treatments; how it can help us fight pests and diseases and the revitalizing power of spending time in nature.

DID YOU KNOW....

That Agulhas National Park is buffered by the Nuwejaars Wetland Special Management Area on its northern border?

Flora



Skaablom, Mountain dahlia, *Liparia splendens*

The Mountain dahlia belongs to mountain and lowland fynbos in the southwestern Cape and appears in the Park on Soetanyberg. It is an erect or creeping, resprouting shrub and bears nodding heads of orange to red flowers.



www.nuwejaars.com

To unsubscribe to this email please send an email with the subject "UNSUBSCRIBE" to emmerentia@sanparks.org





Red Data species



Gladiolus overbergensis
Status: Vulnerable (VU)

Distribution: Western Cape, Hermanus to Cape Agulhas

Habitat: Either low fynbos or mixed fynbos-renosterveld, in sandy loams on sandstone slopes.

Rationale: Extent of occurrence < 2 100 km², known from fewer than ten locations. Declining as a result of encroachment from invasive alien plants.



(Document available at the Agulhas Office for referencing)



What is CITES?

CITES is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

Because the trade in wild animals and plants crosses borders between countries, the effort to regulate it requires international cooperation to safeguard certain species from over-exploitation. CITES was conceived in the spirit of such cooperation. Today, it accords varying degrees of protection to more than 30 000 species of animals and plants, whether they are traded as live specimens, fur coats or dried herbs.

CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union). The text of the Convention was finally agreed to in Washington DC, United States of America, on 3 March 1973, at a meeting of representatives of eighty countries. On 1 July 1975 CITES entered in force. The original of the Convention was deposited with the Depositary Government in the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, each version being equally authentic.

CITES is an international agreement to which States (countries) adhere voluntarily. States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties. Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties – in other words they have to implement the Convention – it does not take the place of national laws. Rather it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

For many years CITES has been among the conservation agreements with the largest membership, with now 175 Parties. South Africa ratified the CITES agreement on 15 June 1975 and it came into force on 13 October 1975.

2010 Soccer and the Lighthouse Museum and Tower Visitors

A survey was conducted recently on the impact of the 2010 Soccer event on the Cape Agulhas area. We can report that the visitor statistics and variance report for the Lighthouse Museum and Tower for June showed an increase of 93.30% between 2010 and 2009. A total of 1759 individuals visited the Museum and Tower in June 2010 against a total of 910 in June 2009. This figure includes adults and children, as well as overseas visitors. A total of 442 overseas visitors were recorded for 2010 against 198 for 2009.

Agulhas National Park Working for Water project

Our mission is to eradicate all alien plant species from the natural Agulhas fynbos areas in order to restore the veld processes and patterns to their original state and in so doing

To unsubscribe to this email please send an email with the subject "UNSUBSCRIBE" to emmerentia@sanparks.org





improve the rich biodiversity and associated life forms of the Agulhas Plain, as well as regenerate the natural water flows.



The Agulhas Work for Water project commenced in 1998 and several hectares cutting and felling have been done since then. It is estimated that ± 7 135 hectares infested with alien trees, which were originally planted as woodlots, have been cut and felled. Nobody realized at the time at what significant rate the alien trees would invade the natural vegetation. Most of the work area is in the wetlands. This makes accessibility to the work very difficult during winter, and therefore monitoring and follow-ups are critical. These areas within the park boundaries comprise ± 20 000 hectare with varying infested thickets stretching from L'Agulhas to Waterford Farm in the west

The management component consists of the project manager, Thys Ahrends, the administrative assistant, Wilmine Cupido and two new veld assistants, Lana Du Toit and Christa Jomat. The management staff are all local community members. Currently the project employs 132 workers from the communities of Bredasdorp, Elim, Napier, surrounding farms and other informal settlements.

For more information on the Agulhas Working for Water project, contact Thys Ahrends, 028 435 6261, Monday to Friday, 08h00 – 16h00.

Environmental Education in Agulhas National Park



Our mission is to develop an educational and interpretational resource for all visitors to the Agulhas National Park in order to instill an enhanced insight, respect and appreciation for the natural and cultural heritage of the Agulhas area. Our programme consists of one-day and three-day programmes.

One-day programmes:

Marine Environmental programme: Learners and Adults: Awareness of marine conservation issues and sustainable livelihoods.

Cultural experience programme: Learners and Adults: Fish traps, Middens, Salt pans, Lighthouse and immediate surrounding area.

Environmental Calendar Days: Learners and Adults: Working for Water, Working on Wetlands, Biodiversity day, Environmental week, Heritage month, Marine week, Partners are the Special projects and Community groups.

Wetlands: Learners: Focus on the Agulhas wetlands with associated animals, plants and bird life; canoe trips on Nuwejaars River.

For more information on the Environmental Education programmes, contact Alliston Appel at 028-4356216, Monday to Friday, 08h00 to 16h00.

EVENTS

August	
	Fynbos Birding (Date to be announced)
September	
3 – 4	Overberg Eco-Expo
18	Birding Open Day
19	Coastal Clean-up Day
24	Heritage Day Braai4Heritage (Springfield)

'n Groen Wenk

Green cleaning

You can easily make your own green, cleaning solutions that are financially, medically and environmentally more effective than commercial ones. In many cases simple ingredients such as lemons, vinegar, borax, old newspapers, soda water, bicarbonate of soda, Maizena and olive oil will do the trick just as well as commercial products.

For some great home, green, cleaning suggestions go to: <http://all4women.co.za/how-to/make-own-cleaning-products.html> Whilst you are there please suggest your own favourite home cleaning ingredients and recipes.

To unsubscribe to this email please send an email with the subject "UNSUBSCRIBE" to emmerentia@sanparks.org

