

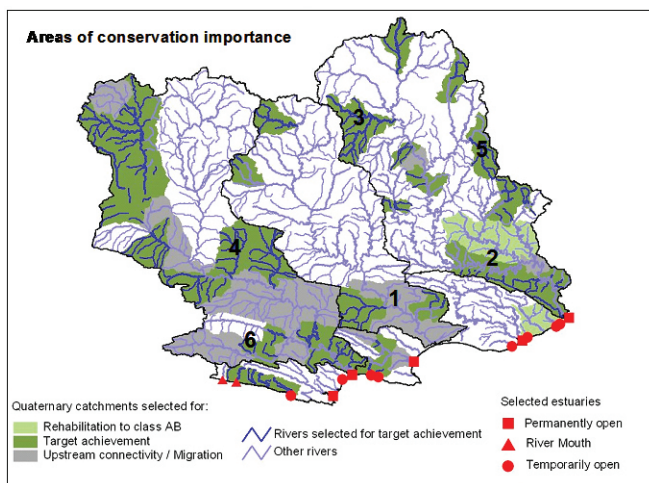
Focus on CSIR Research in Water Resources

Conservation planning for river and estuarine biodiversity in the Fish-to-Tsitsikamma water management area

Project Aims

- To put in practice and refine, through a pilot study in the Eastern Cape Province, the policy and planning tools developed for systematic conservation planning of rivers. This would facilitate testing, refinement and demonstration of the river prioritization and selection tool, and provide an example of best practice for use elsewhere in South Africa.
- To ensure local and national stakeholder engagement in developing the technical approach to river prioritization and selection, as well as the reviewing of results to facilitate buy-in and ownership of the product.

the Eastern Cape Province. The systematic conservation plan used quaternary catchments for planning units and rivers were classified into 113 river types using a geomorphological and hydrological classification system. A target of 20% of river length was set for each river type. In order to meet these targets the freshwater conservation design determines which rivers (within quaternary catchments) and estuaries are needed for protection. The plan recommends: negate the effects of deleterious land-use activities, retain natural flow regimes and exclude alien species.



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Project Description

The Fish to Tsitsikamma Water Management Area is one of 19 water management areas in South Africa and is situated mainly in