

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Freshwater Consulting Group

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): *Wetlands of Kamiesberg Municipality*

Implementation Partners for This Project: Conservation International

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): July 1, 2007-March 31, 2008

Date of Report (month/year): March 2008

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

To build upon the existing conservation planning information and report prepared for the municipality by Dr Philip Desmet and Nick Helme, but with a focus on wetlands, through provision of:

- *a map of wetlands*
- *a map of the catchments of the municipality*
- *recommended general policy on wetlands*
- *supporting text (what are wetlands, how do they function, what are the types of wetlands found in the municipality, land use and rehabilitation recommendations) on specific wetlands*

The objective was to develop accessible products, which can inform local government.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

They remained the same, however the supporting text needed careful attention and was more time-consuming than originally expected. A Guide to the Common Plants of Kamiesberg Municipality was also added, to assist people in the field.

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

Several maps of wetlands, wetland type, major impacts (eg cultivation) and main catchments were prepared.

Supporting text was prepared on how catchments function, on what wetlands are, what the main functions and ecosystem services are that they perform, what the main wetland

types are and the biodiversity they support, a quick identification guide to the common wetland plants, and section was prepared for use in the SDF on existing legislation around aquatic ecosystems in the country, as well as recommended policy.

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

It would have been better to have lots more time to spend in the area and more time transferring information to people working the area.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

This project would have been difficult to carry off on a small budget, on its own. That it could build on the previously funded, high-quality botanical, invertebrate and conservation-planning work, as well as that there could be collaboration on the ground with the Agricultural Research Council staff who have years of experience working in that vicinity, and that there was a home of staff at Conservation International to help take forward the outcomes of the project, both in the field and with the municipality, has greatly helped ensure a positive outcome for this project.

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

A national programme (Working for Wetlands), has confirmed that they will allocate funding for this financial year towards wetland rehabilitation on wetlands in the Kamiesberg Uplands. The Working for Wetlands project is a job-creation programme. The classification of wetland types for this project will form part of a case study example to inform the finalisation of a set of wetland types for South Africa, as part of the National Wetland Classification project currently underway. Typically, the funding continues into future years.

The Wetland Health and Integrity Programme, funded by the Water Research Commission, has based a case study on wetlands in the Kamiesberg Uplands, which will inform the preparation of an index to measure sustainable use of wetlands.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

Final maps and policy recommendations will take a few more weeks before they are finalised, as we would like to show the same terminology and same critically important areas that will appear in the Namaqua District conservation plan, currently in preparation. The Guide to Common Plants of Kamiesberg Municipality is also still being finalized.

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Date Received	Notes

-		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Thank you for the opportunity to undertake this project.

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

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