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| WORKING PROJECT TITLE | Making informed trade-offs to maximise returns on investment into alien plant control operations |
| CORE TEAM MEMBER | Prof. Dave M. Richardson |
| ACADEMIC LEVEL OF THE PROJECT | M. Sc |
| PROJECT BACKGROUND | <p>Given that funding for water and biodiversity conservation projects will always be limiting, managers have to make trade-offs in terms of where to spend the available funds most effectively. This is seldom done explicitly. This project will examine the outcomes of several types of trade-off in alien plant control projects, in terms of slowing or reversing rates of spread of the most harmful alien plants in the Cape Floristic Region. This will best be done in a series of case studies in selected protected areas or catchments. Scenarios could include the consequences of focussing on selected areas (e.g. concentrating on lightly-infested areas while not attempting to control highly-invaded areas), or selected species (e.g. a focus on pines, leaving wattles to biological control and wood cutters), or trading off different approaches (e.g. labour-intensive vs highly mechanised approaches). For each, the likely outcomes could be expressed in terms of costs and benefits (both ecological and social).</p> |
| FURTHER READING | |
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