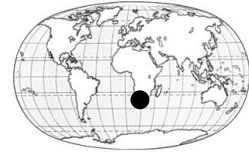


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INTEGRATION OF INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT: LESSONS FROM THE KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA

A core principle of adaptive management emphasises implementation, re-examination and refinement for continuous self-improvement. Through the development of various strategies, the Kruger National Park (KNP) has attempted to manage invasions in a comprehensive approach. Some of these components include the Working for Water programme, the development of thresholds of potential concern (TPCs), strategic adaptive management (SAM) and the development of management objectives. The integration thereof has however poorly implemented. Many scientists and managers do not fully understand the links and interactions between the various components. Further, the links between the thresholds of potential concern and physical clearing efforts are poorly defined in certain circumstances. Although the development of the adaptive management framework and updated KNP management objectives has alleviated this to some extent, this problem still persists. If management is to be successful in the long-term, all the components of a management plan need to be fully integrated. Various accounts have described the development some of these processes, providing a point of reference for further integration. This paper aims to contextualise the various components of the KNPs management approach by placing emphasis on the linkages between all the components. Further, it builds on new understanding of the invasion process in the KNP ecosystem.

keywords: management, objectives, adaptive, invasive species