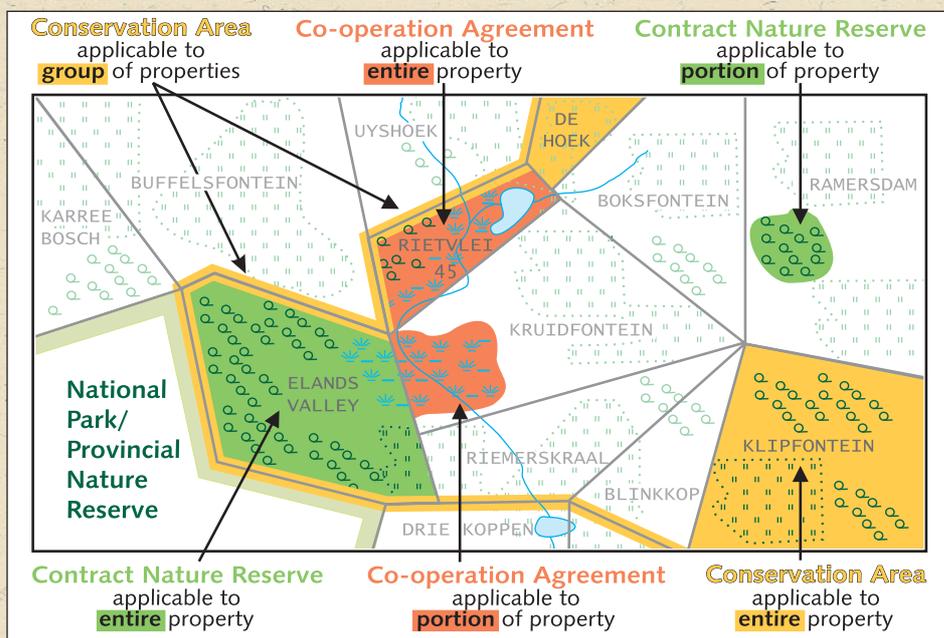


# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP

## Options for landowners

- All 3 options are voluntary
- Each option is tailored to your needs as a landowner
- None of these options mean ceding ownership rights to Cape Nature Conservation
- Existing types of protected areas (e.g. private nature reserve, natural heritage site, mountain catchment area) can be accommodated within any of these options

OPTION	1 CONTRACT NATURE RESERVES	2 CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS	3 CONSERVATION AREAS
WHICH OPTION APPLIES TO YOUR LAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority areas adjacent to statutory reserves or sufficiently large to be self-contained ecosystems.</li> <li>• Critically important and threatened sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable for any conservation worthy land (especially wetlands and water catchments), not excluding small and isolated fragments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any natural land is suitable but not a good option if your land has rare or endangered habitats, unless this initial designation is seen as part of a plan to progress to higher conservation security</li> </ul>
POSSIBLE LAND USE LIMITATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No development or land use rights will be allowed, but access and residence rights are unrestricted</li> <li>• Owners retain title</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land must be managed in a way that will support natural processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very few, but the area needs to retain its natural character</li> </ul>
BENEFITS TO THE LANDOWNER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantial assistance with habitat management</li> <li>• Increased recognition and marketing exposure</li> <li>• We will lobby on your behalf for incentives e.g. rates rebates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific agreements for fire, alien, plant and animal management</li> <li>• Advanced extension services (e.g. alien clearing planning)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice &amp; support through basic extension services</li> <li>• Assistance with management plans and farm maps</li> </ul>



# Frequently Asked Questions about Stewardship Options



## What are the benefits of becoming a custodian of natural habitat on your property?

- Natural vegetation (particularly wetlands) can act like a filter and preserve the quality of drinking water that collects in dams
- Clearing alien plants and implementing firebreaks will reduce the risk of damaging fires
- Conserving vegetation on slopes will prevent soil erosion
- Your income-base can be diversified through the wise use and marketing of your natural resources (e.g. ecotourism opportunities, professional hunting)
- By becoming involved in conservation on your land, you will have access to support, advice and assistance from dedicated Cape Nature Conservation staff
- By conserving natural habitats on your property, you may be keeping certain plants and animals from extinction, while dramatically improving the survival chances of many others!

## CONTRACT NATURE RESERVES

**Q:** If I sell my property, will the restrictions stipulated in the contract apply to the owner?

**A:** Yes, the same restrictions will apply. However, a new contract will have to be negotiated.

**Q:** Will I have to remove existing infrastructure from the area that becomes the contract nature reserve?

**A:** No, all existing infrastructure may remain.

**Q:** Will Cape Nature Conservation have unlimited access to my property if it becomes a Contract Nature Reserve?

**A:** No, but terms and conditions regarding access can be negotiated within the agreement.

**Q:** Can I be assured that Cape Nature Conservation can support the terms of the contract agreement in the future?

**A:** Yes, Cape Nature Conservation is a government agency tasked with the mandate of nature conservation throughout the province, and is committed to this long-term vision.

## CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS

**Q:** Who will bear the legal costs for drawing up a co-operation agreement?

**A:** This will be negotiated, but where possible, Cape Nature Conservation will facilitate reduced costs.

**Q:** What will the consequences be if I choose to terminate the co-operation agreement?

**A:** You will be liable for the total cost of Cape Nature Conservation's management interventions and assistance over the period for which the agreement was valid.

**Q:** Will I be able to utilise an independent arbitrator if conflict arises over the legalities of the agreement?

**A:** Yes, you are fully entitled to make use of such services.

## CONSERVATION AREAS

**Q:** Is a conservation area applicable to an individual property, a collectively managed/multi-landowner area (e.g. conservancy), or both?

**A:** Both. It can apply to a single property or a group of properties, like a conservancy

**Q:** What do basic extension services include?

**A:** General advice, support and assistance, as well as input into the drafting of management plans.

**Q:** Will other people in the area be allowed access to my conservation area?

**A:** No. Specific rules and agreements can be dictated by each individual landowner.



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