



WORKING TOGETHER ON
WATER CONSERVATION



WWF-Reckitt Partnership

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Our Journey of Water: From Source to City



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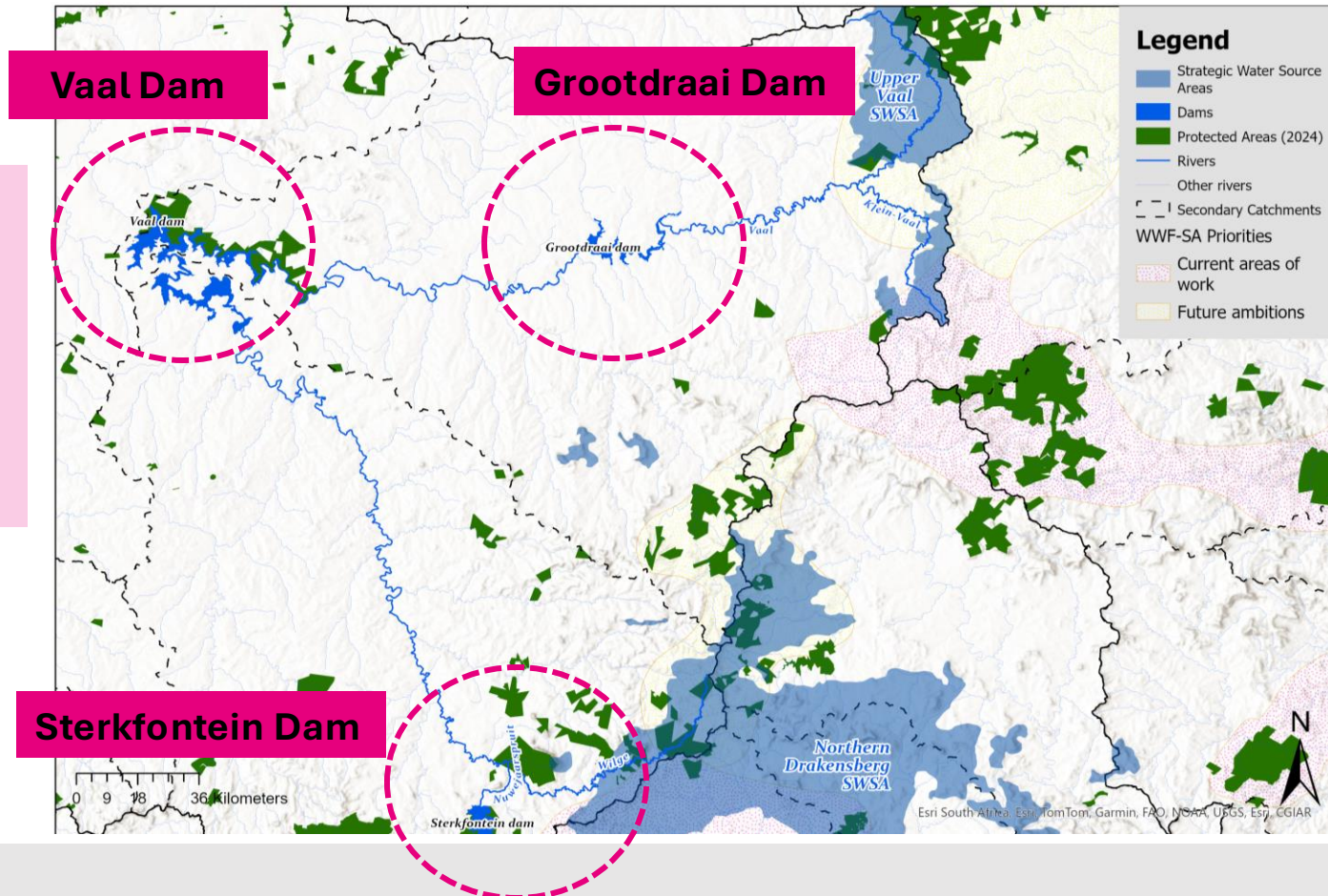


How Does Water Reach You?



Northern Drakensberg/Upper Vaal Water Stewardship Projects

- Approximately 20% of Gauteng's water comes from this Strategic Water Source Area.
- Around 12 million people indirectly depend on this source.



Our 22 strategic water source areas cover 10% of the land, where most of our rainfall lands, collectively producing 50% of our country's surface water.



What does our water future look like?



South Africa is expected to experience a 17% water deficit by 2030... this means that the country will need 17% more water than what is available or what can be sustainably supplied.



Sakhiseni Nxumalo

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Water Stewardship Project in South Africa



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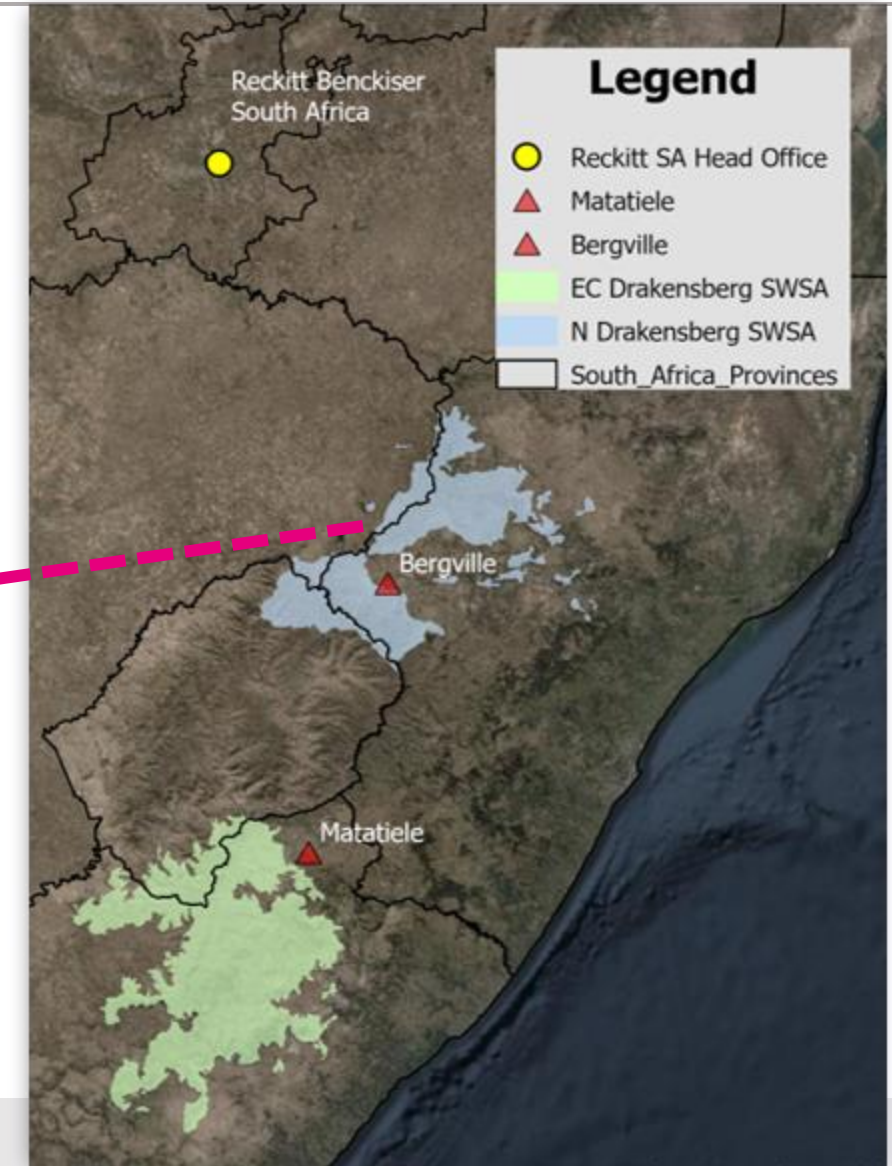
In 2 years

Water Stewardship

Northern Drakensberg SWSA

Key Activities:

- Expanding **restoration and maintenance**
- Deepening **agroecology and water security** (spring protection) work
- Strengthening **biodiversity governance**
- Broadening **collaborative governance**
- Maximizing **societal impact**



Why Protection of Strategic Water Source Areas?



1. Threats to Water Security:

- EI degradation = reduced water quantity and poor quality.
- IAPs use more water than indigenous vegetation.
- Unmanaged grazing and overgrazing lead to vegetation loss and land degradation.
- Soil erosion and siltation reduce dam lifespan and water storage capacity.



2. Ecological Risks:

- Loss of productive topsoil = reduced agricultural viability.
- Reduced river flows = water shortages in downstream cities.
- Increased flood and drought risk due to degraded ecosystems.
- Compromised water infrastructure due to sediment buildup and reduced storage.



3. Building resilient landscapes:

- Restoration of ecological infrastructure (grasslands, riparian zones).
- Invasive alien plant clearing to reclaim natural water flow.
- Scaling biodiversity stewardship through land-user partnerships.
- Empowering local custodians (e.g., Eco-Champs) to steward water and land resources.

Our Work: WWF x Reckitt



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Northern Drakensberg and Eastern Cape Drakensberg

1. Nature

Invasive Species Management - Clear 166 hectares of invasive alien vegetation in the AmaNgwane and AmaZizi communal areas using trained local teams.

Spring Protection - Implement fencing and monitoring for two natural springs to prevent degradation

2. People

Community Engagement - Through the Northern Drakensberg Collaborative

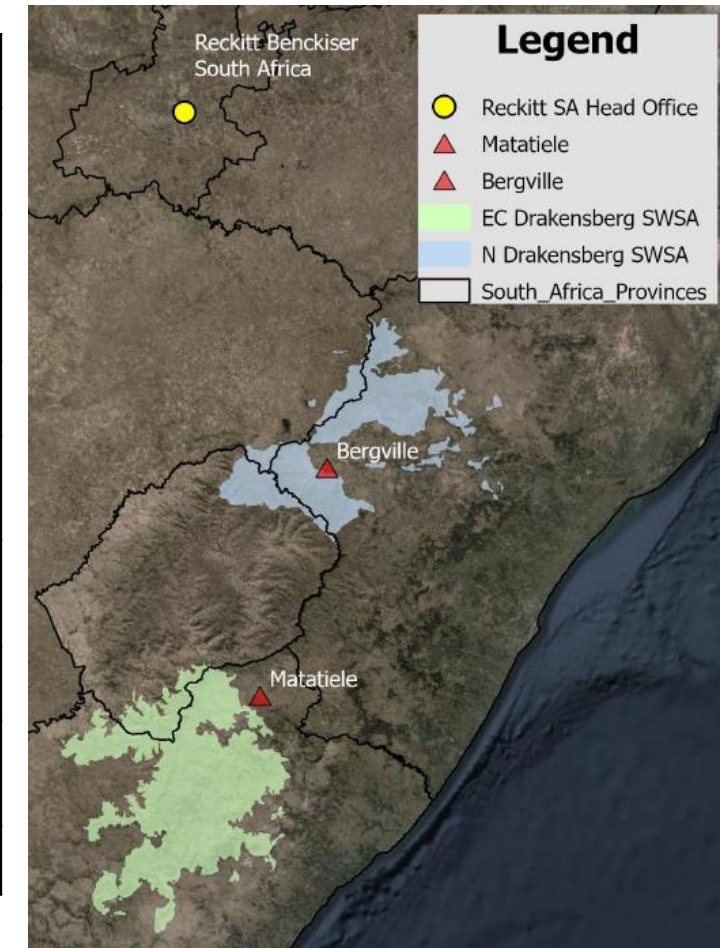
Training Local Monitors - Equip local teams with skills for alien clearing maintenance and resource monitoring

Participatory Governance - Collaborative governance in water source partnerships between WWF SA, local NGO's, local landscape stakeholders and traditional councils

3. Business

Agroecology Training for Farmers – To promote sustainable productivity, food security, and climate resilience

Market Access Initiatives - Facilitate platforms for farmers to sell livestock and produce locally



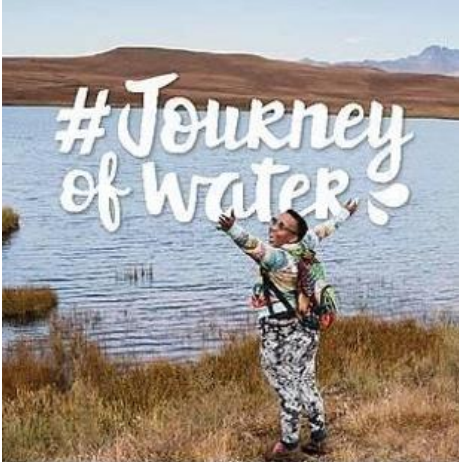
Journey of Water (Jow) Challenge



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Connecting to the Source



1. Background:

- Launched by WWF South Africa in 2013 and since then, has taken participants to many parts of SA.
- Highlights critical role that Strategic Water Source Areas play in supporting ecosystems and people.
- Chance to engage with the landscapes, ecosystems, and communities that sustain SA's water resources.
- Highlights efforts of business to address climate change, invasive species, unsustainable land use.



2. What the Journey will offer:

- Chance to experience the impact of the water stewardship project in the N. Drakensberg first-hand.
- Meet the people whose lives are directly connected to conservation efforts, including farmers adopting new agroecology practices, community leaders managing water systems, and local conservationists working to secure the future of this water source.

Journey of Water (Jow) Challenge



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Connecting to the Source

3. What to expect on the Journey:

- Opportunity to follow water from its source into the heart of the communities and businesses that it feeds.
- Visiting mountain springs, wetlands, and restored landscapes.
- Seeing first-hand the work being done to protect and restore this vital area.
- Plenty of opportunities to enjoy the Drakensberg's natural beauty and outdoor activities.
- Participate in fun conservation activities, e.g. clearing of alien vegetation and visiting restored springs which provide more reliable access to clean water for nearby communities.

