

# **DWAF's Institutional Responsibilities**

Presentation for Water Affairs &  
Forestry Portfolio Committee,

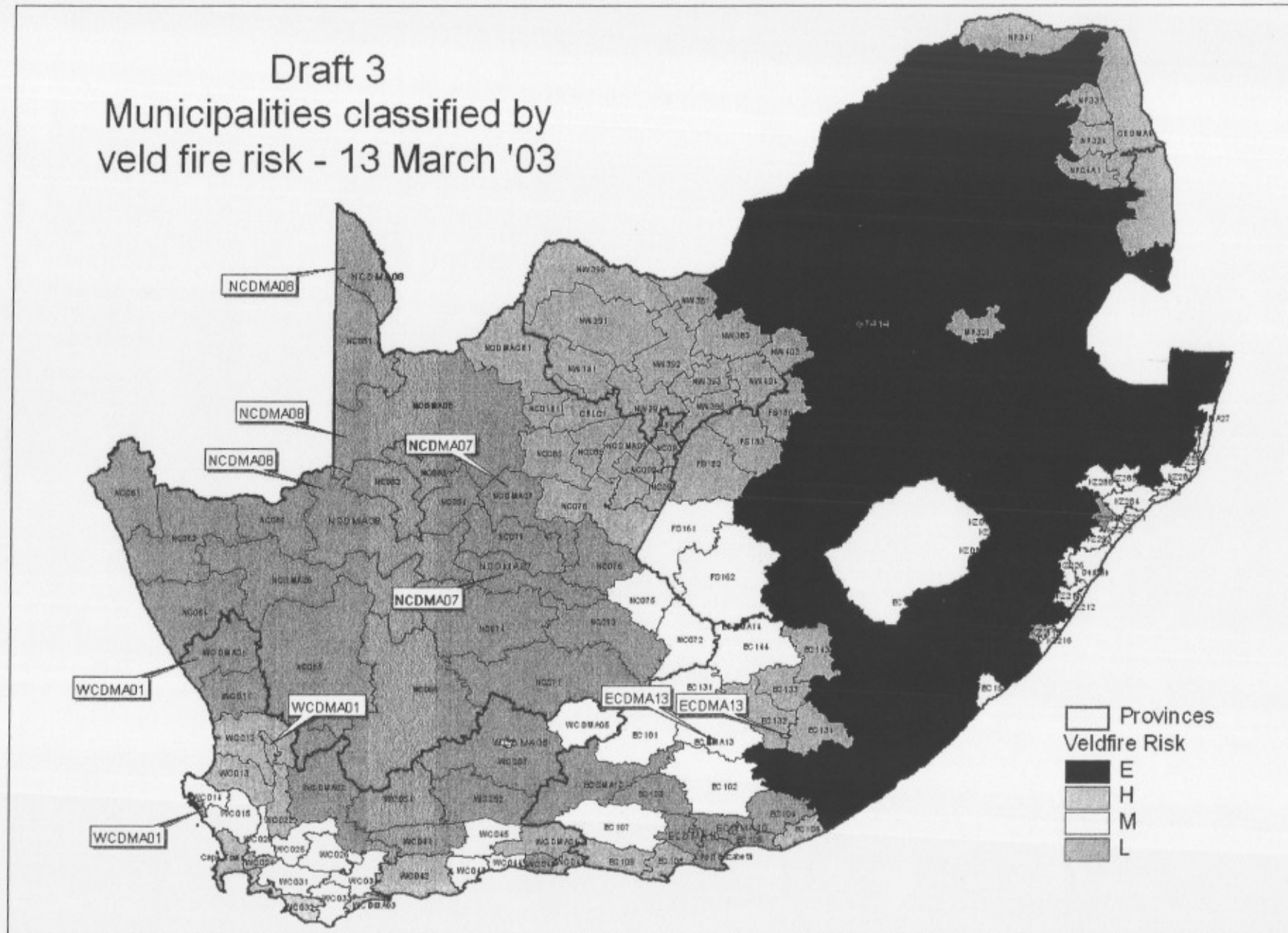
Cape Town

31 May 2006

## Implementing South Africa's National Veld & Forest Fire Act, No 101 of 1998

- Veldfire risk in SA threatens rural development.
- 57% of SA is in a high or extreme risk category (see map in next slide).

Draft 3  
 Municipalities classified by  
 veld fire risk - 13 March '03



# DWAF's Approach as Custodian of the Act

- The Fire Act is not legislation for emergency management of wild fires, but rather a statute that introduces certain legal instruments which enable and promote integrated veldfire management.
- The Act is about environmental management.

## DWAF's Responsibility

- DWAF's function does not include on-the-ground management of veldfires except in areas where it is still managing plantations (category B's & C's) or natural forests.
- This is the responsibility of owners, FPAs and local fire services.
- DWAF's role as the Custodian of the Act, is about development of policy, systems, and procedures to achieve its regulatory functions. This includes systems that we are now developing like FDRS, NVIS, FPARMS for the public good.



# Core functions arising from NV&FF Act

## **Chapter 2: Fire Protection Associations (FPAs)**

Support and promote the formation of FPAs including maintenance of FPARMS

- Develop guidelines for FPAs
- Assist FPAs in developing their Veldfire Management Strategies
- Policy on Umbrellas (developed)
- Policy on Financial Assistance to FPAs (draft phase)
- Registration of FPAs and FPOs
- De-registration of FPAs and FPOs.
- M& E of registered FPAs

# Core Functions Arising from the Act

- Chap 2: Fire Protection Associations
  - 64 FPA's registered as of 30 May 2006 (see next slide for breakdown).
  - Kwazulu-Natal Umbrella FPA recognised during May 2006.
  - Full details of registered FPAs attached as annexure

## Table of Registered FPA's

Province	Form 1	Form 2	Registered
Eastern Cape	17	01	14
Free State	14	02	18
Gauteng	13	02	05
KZN	11		06
Limpopo	03		01
Mpumalanga	05		05
North west	08		04
North Cape	15		06
Western Cape	12		05
Total	128	05	64



# Core functions arising from NV&FF Act

## Chapter 3: Fire Danger Rating

- The Minister is required to Prepare and maintain a national Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS)
- Communicate the fire danger ratings, publish warnings
- Ensure records are kept
- A study was done to choose an appropriate system for SA. The US system was chosen.
- Delegated National Fire Danger Rating System powers and duties to SA Weather Services or successor

# Core functions arising from NV&FF Act

## **Chapter 4:** Veldfire prevention through firebreaks

- Developed policy on fire breaks and exemption from duty to prepare and maintain firebreaks

## **Chapter 5:** Fire fighting Stds

Policy on Law Compliance & Enforcement developed. Also developed guidelines on how to enforce the Act.

# Core functions arising from NV&FF Act

## **Chapter 6: Administration of the Act**

- Making of regulations (regs for Ch 2 done Aug 2003) and gazette notice for chapter 3 published 8/07/05)
- Possible amendments
- Delegation of powers and duties
- Assignment of powers and duties

# Communicating the Act

- A Budget of nearly R2m set aside to communicate the Act with emphasis on envisaged new fire danger rating system.
- Print and electronic media to be used
- Reprinted posters on Compliance and Enforcement
- Mmadistela “Bokkie” posters available and distributed on request. Many of these have been distributed to communities in the past.
- Reproduced about 4 000 Fire CD and these to be distributed shortly.
- The quartely veldfire bulletin/ newsletter is currently been produced.



## 64 REGISTERED FPA'S

<b>FPA REGISTRATION</b>						
<b>PROVINCE</b>	<b>REGISTERED FPA'S</b>	<b>FPO</b>	<b>FPO STATUS</b>	<b>LOCAL MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>CONTACT NO.</b>
Eastern Cape	Bedford 4(2)	Mr A. Dixie	Farmer	Nxuba	Amatole	046-685 0650
	Aliwal North 4(2)	Mr A.L Lyons	Farmer	Maletswai	Umkhahlamba	051-641 0873
	Cullenswood 4(2)	Mr W.A. du Randt	Self Employed	Sakhisizwe	Chris Hani	045-931 2287
	Jamestown 4(2)	Mr P. Coetser	Farmer	Maletswai	Maletswai	051-641 0613
	Post Retief 4(2)	Mr D.S. Davies	Farmer	Nxuba	Amatole	046-684 0742
	Table Hill 4(2)	Mr J.S. Brown	Farmer	Makana	Cacadu	046-636 2987
	Snow Hill 4(2)	Mr A. Catherine	Self Employed	Emalahleni	Chris Hani	045-943 1767
	Sakhisizwe 4(2)	Mr J.C. Muller	CFO	Emalahleni	Chris Hani	045-931 2422
	Glenconner 4(2)	Mr JMA Spangenberg	Fire Officer		Cacadu	041-992 4558
	Macleaer 4(2)	Mr D.B. Butt	Forester	Elundini	Ukhahlamba	045-933 1150
	Lady Grey 4(2)	Mr J. Botha	Farmer	Maletswai	Ukhahlamba	083 294 9477
	Penhoek 4(4)	Mr S. Bryan	Farmer Manager	Inkwana Emalahleni	Chris Hani	045-966 9622
	Elandsriver 4(4)	Mr JMA Spanenberg	Senior Fire Officer		Cacadu	042-530 0942
	The Sterkstroom 4(2)	Mr A.C. Berry	Owner Farmer	Inkwana	Chris Hani	045-9669620
Free State	Phillipolis 4(2)	Mr J.A. Cilliers	Farmer	Kopanong	Xhariep	051-773 7006
	Cornelia 4(2)	Mr S.J. Ungerer	Farmer	Mafube	Northern FS	058-841 0510
	Villiers 4(2)	Mr C.M. de Beer	Farmer	Mafube	Northern FS	058-821 0149
	Ladybrand 4(2)	Mr E.M. Makateng	CFO	Mantsopa	Motheo	082 835 7195