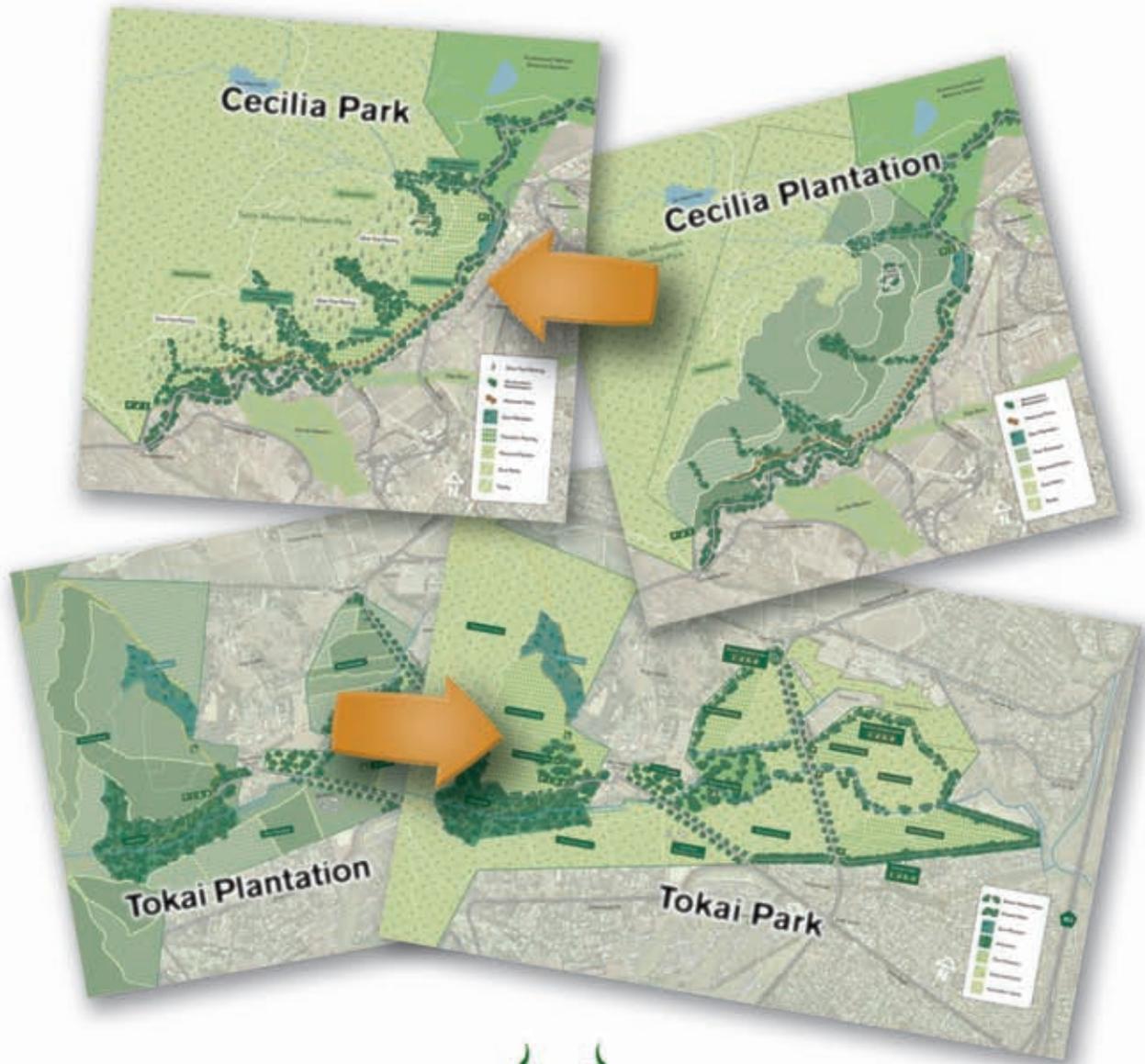


Tokai and Cecilia

Management Framework
2005 - 2025



South African
NATIONAL PARKS

Table Mountain National Park

*A Park for All, Forever 'n Park vir Almal, vir Altyd
iPaka yoluntu lonke ngonaphakade*

May 2009

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GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

CARA	: Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act
CCT	: City of Cape Town
CDF	: Conservation Development Framework
CMP	: Conservation Management Plan
CPNP	: Cape Peninsula National Park
CPPNE	: Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Environment
DWAF	: Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
EPWP	: Extended Public Works Programme
EMP	: Environment Management Programme
IEMS	: Integrated Environmental Management System
MTO	: Mountain to Ocean Pty (Ltd)
NSBA	: National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment
PAWC	: Provincial Administration: Western Cape
SANBI	: South African National Botanical Institute
SANParks	: South African National Parks
TMNP	: Table Mountain National Park

STRUCTURE OF REPORT

This report presents the Management Framework (MF) for the future management of Tokai and Cecilia as an integral part of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP). The framework articulates a long term, 20 year vision by setting out the broad landscape level proposals for Tokai and Cecilia. This vision presents an 'image of the future'.

It is therefore a 'framework for planning' and not a 'plan for implementation'. Implementation will be achieved through the detailed, lower level precinct and local area plans which will involve key stakeholders and authorities as required.

This MF should be read in conjunction with the previous Tokai and Cecilia documents namely:

- Background Information Document (August 2006)
- Issues and Response Report (September 2006)
- Comments and Response Report (March 2007)
- Revised Management Framework (December 2007)

These reports contain the supporting detailed information and proposals that formed part of wider public and stakeholder engagement process followed to date.

This report is structured as follows:

Chapter 1: Background

The background to the process for compiling the Management Framework is outlined and a summary of the Base Information Report is provided.

Chapter 2: Informants

Based on the background information studies and the issues identified through the public process, this chapter sets out the informants to formulating the biodiversity, heritage, recreational and eco-tourism objectives and proposals.

Chapter 3: The Vision and Objectives

The overall vision for Tokai and Cecilia is articulated in line with the TMNP revised Park Management Plan and Conservation Development Framework (CDF) and is refined into broad biodiversity, heritage, ecotourism and recreational objectives.

Chapter 4: Proposals

This chapter sets out the broad landscape proposals for Tokai and for Cecilia. These proposals provide the basis for lower level, more detailed plans to implement the Management Framework proposals.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 1 April 2005, South African National Parks (SANParks) was assigned the management of Tokai and Cecilia plantations as part of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP). TMNP is responsible for the management of the plantations and the 'Exit Lease' whereby the forestry company, MTO Forestry (Pty) Ltd., has been granted the right to harvest about 600 hectares of plantations over a 20-year period to 2025. The remainder of the land, about 400ha comprising the picnic area, Arboretum, administration buildings and conservation land, falls under the direct management of SANParks.

Due to the requirements of the lease, the landscapes of Tokai and Cecilia will be transformed over the next 20 years. SANParks realised that a common vision was required for the management, rehabilitation and use of these areas. A long-term, strategic and spatial framework is necessary to address issues related to biodiversity conservation, heritage resources, recreational activities and ecotourism relevant to the future management and rehabilitation of the plantations.

In late 2006, a process was initiated to compile such a Management Framework. The process commenced with the appointment of a consultant team who compiled a 'Base Information Report' (July 2006) capturing all status quo information relevant to the project. A public engagement process was initiated to identify stakeholder's issues and concerns, which is captured in the 'Issues and Response Report' (23 September 2006). This was followed by a public review of the 'Draft Management Framework' (10 October 2006) that presented the vision, objectives, management program and spatial proposals for Tokai and Cecilia plantations until 2025.

In response to ongoing public concerns about loss of shade trees versus loss of biodiversity, the Mayor of Cape Town, with the support of the Park Manager, requested Prof Richard Fuggle of UCT to facilitate a discussion process involving the key biodiversity, heritage and recreational stakeholders. This 'extended process' resulted in a Revised Management Framework which was presented and explained to the boarder public at 'Open Day' presentations in December 2007.

An innovative, compromise approach emerged from this extended consultation process. This is for certain designated 'transition areas' within Tokai and Cecilia to be replanted with non-invasive exotic shade trees along the periphery and to consolidate existing planted areas. The approach is a long term strategy which accommodates both shaded recreational needs and heritage concerns for maintaining planted landscapes along the urban edge whilst not undermining the core biodiversity objectives and the rehabilitation potential of these 'transition areas'.

The overarching vision identified for Tokai and Cecilia is:

"To manage Tokai and Cecilia into the future in terms of legal requirements, applicable policies and agreements and to accommodate the conservation of biodiversity and heritage, development of eco-tourism opportunities and the provision of areas for recreational activities so as to fully integrate the area into the Park."

The vision has been refined into four themes namely: biodiversity, heritage, recreation and ecotourism. For each theme, informants and objectives have been identified and these spatially mapped out at a broad landscape level.

In summary:

- The **biodiversity** theme and objectives make provision for the restoration of sustainable areas of 'critically endangered' Cape Flats Sand Fynbos, 'endangered' Granite Fynbos, ecological corridors, river and wetland systems and Afromontane forests.
- The **heritage** theme and objectives protect the key heritage resources related to the Tokai Manor precinct, Arboretum, the history of the plantations with the colonial and pre-colonial history being recognised through appropriate interpretation.
- The theme and objectives for **recreation** provide for all current activities to continue at Tokai and Cecilia and for the retention and creation of 'shaded landscapes' in appropriate locations.
- The **eco-tourism** theme and objectives provide for the creation of a high volume, mixed use visitor site at the Tokai Manor precinct, introducing new ecotourism products and job creation through rehabilitation of the plantations.

Overall, **Tokai** in the future will comprise a variety of landscapes ranging from open fynbos to shaded riparian, Afromontane forest and 'transition areas' thus allowing for a variety of landscape experiences. The establishment of ecological corridors linking the lowland fynbos to the mountain fynbos is achieved through both terrestrial and riverine corridors.

In this report, Tokai has been broadly divided into three main planning areas, namely Tokai Manor Precinct, Lower Tokai and Upper Tokai. The main objectives within Tokai are the continuation and enhancement of current recreational activities whilst not compromising the rehabilitation and the sustainability of threatened vegetation types. Tokai Manor Precinct is seen as a high intensity use area - co-operatively managed by PAWC and SANParks - offering a range of recreational and tourism activities. Lower and upper Tokai are seen as areas accommodating a variety of low impact recreational activities.

Cecilia in the future will comprise a variety of landscapes ranging from open fynbos to shaded riparian, Afromontane forest and 'transition areas' thus allowing for a variety of landscape experiences with the current recreational activities ongoing. The establishment of ecological corridors linking the mountain fynbos and forests to low lying areas is achieved through links to the Constantia Green Belt open space network.

CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND

1.1 Background

On 1 April 2005, SANParks was 'assigned', in terms of the National Forest Act, the management of 1000 hectares of publicly owned land located within the CPPNE at Tokai and Cecilia by DWAF. This assignment flows from the original set of decisions in 1997, by National, Provincial and Local Government that all public and other conservation worthy land within the CPPNE should be consolidated into a National Park.

TMNP has taken over the management of the Tokai and Cecilia plantations in terms of an 'exit lease' whereby the forestry company, MTO Forestry (Pty) Ltd., has the right to harvest about 600 hectares of plantations over a 20-year period. The lease excludes the replanting of trees in the areas cleared for commercial harvesting. The remainder of the land, about 400ha comprising the picnic area, Arboretum and conservation land, falls under the direct management of SANParks. (see Map 1 - Tokai and Map 2 - Cecilia)

In terms of the assignment, SANParks is mandated to effect the long-term management and rehabilitation of the Tokai and Cecilia plantations. In order to carry out this mandate, SANParks committed itself to preparing an overarching, long-term strategic and spatial Management Framework. In doing so, opportunity would be provided for public, specialist and management input.

A common vision, rather than a detailed plan for implementation, needed to be formulated for Tokai and Cecilia to provide a framework for addressing issues related to biodiversity conservation, heritage resources, recreational uses and ecotourism potential.

The Management Framework indicates broad recreational areas, rehabilitation priorities and areas to be maintained as shaded landscapes or 'transition areas', as well as eco-tourism and other management uses. The Management Framework provides a basis for further, more detailed planning and management.

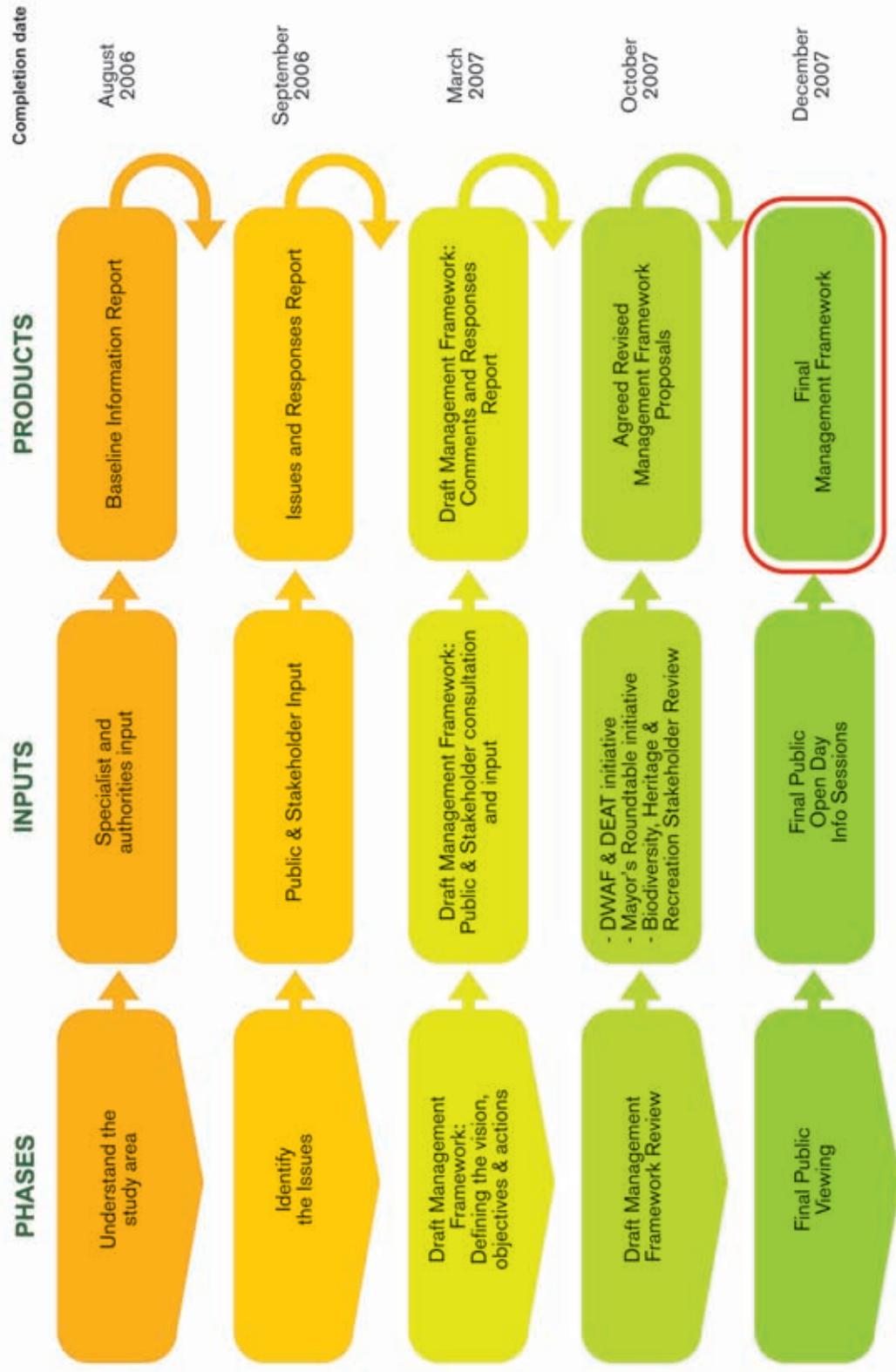
The Framework should not be regarded as a fixed document, but rather as a dynamic, living management tool, which can be reviewed and updated on a five yearly basis in alignment with SANParks adaptive management system.

1.2 Management Framework Process

The Management Framework presents the outcomes of the following steps that are summarised in Figure 1. Key steps in the process were:

- Baseline Information Report
- Issues and Responses Report
- Draft Management Framework
- Comments and Responses Report
- Mayor's Round Table Review
- DWAF and DEAT Initiative
- The Fuggle stakeholder discussion process
- Revised Management Framework proposals

Figure 1:
Process to prepare the Tokai Cecilia Management Framework



1.3 Tokai and Cecilia Context

Tokai and Cecilia plantations are located on the eastern flanks of the Table Mountain range. From the late 1800s to the present, these areas were used for commercial plantations. Cape Town residents and visitors have historically used the plantations for a variety of recreational activities and the plantations provide access to other areas on the mountain. Tokai Plantation is accessed from Tokai and Orpen Roads and Cecilia from Rhodes Drive and Constantia Nek.

Tokai extends from the lowlands (surrounded by suburbs) to the upper mountain slopes in the Park. Cecilia however, is located above the 90m contour and borders residential development along Rhodes Drive on the lower slopes of the mountain. Tokai represents not only one of the last opportunities to effectively link ecological processes from the mountain to the lowlands but also one of the few remaining opportunities to rehabilitate a sustainable area of 'critically endangered' Cape Flats Sand Fynbos. Both Tokai and Cecilia provide sufficient areas suitable for the restoration of the 'endangered' Granite fynbos.

Tokai has a strong colonial history reflected in the plantation landscape but more specifically in the Manor House and Arboretum whilst the pre-colonial history is embedded in place names such as Prinskasteel.

In preparing this report, substantial information has been collated – see the Tokai and Cecilia Base Information Report, Issues and Response Report and Comments and Response Report which provide full details on the biophysical, social and heritage elements and public opinion concerning Tokai and Cecilia Plantations. The main informants flowing from these reports are summarised in Chapter 2 of this report.

Note that in this report rehabilitation and restoration are used interchangeably to generally mean the re-establishment of indigenous vegetation.

CHAPTER 2: FRAMEWORK INFORMANTS

2.1 City context

Within the context of the City of Cape Town, Tokai and Cecilia plantation areas fall outside the Urban Edge, inside the CPPNE and form part of the City's Metropolitan Open Space System. Both areas have been identified in the City's biodiversity and heritage resources studies as having features of significance that require protection and enhancement. The objective of the MF is to achieve this.

2.2 TMNP Conservation Development Framework

Tokai and Cecilia fall within the National Park and therefore the planning for Tokai and Cecilia needs to inform and be informed by the Park's Conservation Development Framework (CDF).

The TMNP CDF is a strategic spatial planning framework for the Park and its surrounds. The CDF indicates visitor use zones, areas requiring special management intervention, sites where facilities are to be provided, entry points and movement routes through the Park and the management of land use along the Park's boundaries. The Park's approved CDF (2006 – 2011) has been revised in accordance with the Strategic Environmental Assessment guidelines.

The CDF identifies Visitor Use Zones and Visitor Sites.

Visitor Use Zones provide for the multi-purpose use of the Peninsula for recreation activities whilst maintaining the experiential quality of each zone (e.g. remote, quite, leisure Use Zones).

Visitor Sites are the designated, existing places where Park visitor, tourism and management facilities and infrastructure are provided in and adjacent to the Park (e.g. destination, park entry, accommodation, mixed use Visitor Sites).

Tokai CDF: (see Map 3)

At Tokai, the Quite Use Zone covers almost the entire area from lower Tokai to the upper mountainside with the Remote Zone above. The Picnic-Braai area is zoned as a Low Intensity Leisure zone and the Tokai Manor Precinct is a High Intensity Leisure zone.

There are two Visitor Sites in Tokai – a high volume, Mixed Use Visitor Site at Tokai Manor precinct and the medium volume, Tokai Picnic -Braai site.

Cecilia CDF: (see Map 4)

At Cecilia, the predominant Visitor Use Zone is the Quite Zone which extends from Rhodes Drive up to the Eagles Nest mountain footpath and then along to the Forest Station with the Remote Zone above.

Designated Visitor Sites are the high volume, Mixed Use site at Constantia Nek and Cecilia car park, a medium volume Park Entry Point.

See the TMNP CDF reports (2008) for more information concerning the above designations.

2.3 Biodiversity Informants

The following are seen as the key informants upon which the Biodiversity Objectives are based:

a) Stakeholder Needs

The primary concern from biodiversity stakeholders is to have sustainable areas and ecological corridors for the restoration of threatened vegetation types and protection of sensitive areas (eg wetlands, river systems, forests).

b) Government Mandate

The core objective of Government, when assigning the Tokai and Cecilia plantations to SANParks, was to manage conservation-worthy land in the national interest. Key to the SANParks biodiversity conservation mandate is the rehabilitation of threatened and endangered ecosystems. As such, biodiversity restoration is a major underpinning informant of the Management Framework.

c) Fynbos Vegetation Types (see Table 1 and Maps 5 and 6)

An important informant of the proposed future use of both areas is the vegetation types, and more specifically the conservation priority of these vegetation types. The lower areas of Tokai to, more or less, the western boundary of the Manor precinct, accommodate Cape Flats Sand Fynbos. According to SANBI's priority rating for this vegetation type, it is 'critically endangered', which means that very little of this vegetation type remains and all efforts should be made to conserve existing remnants but also to rehabilitate areas previously hosting this vegetation type. (see Table 1)

The area to the west of the Cape Research Centre (CRC) facility at the old 'Bosdorp' comprises soils which previously accommodated Peninsula Granite Fynbos. This vegetation type is indicated as 'endangered' by SANBI but recent fine scale assessments by the City of Cape Town indicates that South Peninsula Granite Fynbos will become 'critically endangered' unless the areas currently under pine plantations are harvested and restored to fynbos. The higher slopes of Tokai comprise Mountain Sandstone fynbos which is well protected and thus not under threat at the moment. Most importantly for these vegetation types are the ecosystem patterns and processes and the need to protect red data plant species. The lower slopes of Cecilia comprise 'endangered' Peninsula Granite Fynbos with the upper slopes comprising mountain fynbos. (see Maps 5 and 6)

d) Ecological Corridors

For these ecosystems to survive in the long-term, it is important that ecological corridors are established to link the different vegetation types. Different types of ecological corridors exist, namely, riparian corridors (along river systems) and terrestrial corridors (overland). In the case of Tokai, both need to be established to ensure the survival of the lowland ecosystems and the specific vegetation types.

e) Urban-Park Interface

Where areas are restored, special attention needs to be given to the park-city interface as restoration of the area may have a significant impact on the surrounding area in terms of fire risk, visual impact and fauna distribution. In the case of Tokai, the northern interface can be described as an 'open area interface zone' abutting mainly agricultural land with a 'built interface zone' in the south. Where there is an 'open area interface zone', it is anticipated

that less conflict will occur between the Park area and the neighbours with regard to faunal encroachments. In the case of Cecilia, the interface is clearly demarcated by Rhodes Drive and can thus be dealt with as if it were an 'open area interface zone.'

f) Faunal Species Displacement

Although large areas of Tokai have been altered and disturbed, it does host a range of both indigenous and exotic faunal species. The current studies on bird species (e.g. nesting raptors) and baboon troops will further inform the appropriate management of these species. Trends from the existing data indicate that habitat change should occur incrementally to allow the faunal species to adapt. For this reason, it is proposed that these populations be monitored and if required, the felling schedule be reassessed in cooperation with MTO. As the plantations provide artificial habitats, it is anticipated that the faunal species will revert to utilising the indigenous vegetation, as they would have before the establishment of the plantations. The restoration of Afromontane forests must be prioritised to alleviate shortages of nesting and roosting sites.

Biodiversity Management Framework Concepts:

Drawing on the key informants the following are the overarching biodiversity concepts guiding the Management Framework:

- i. Biodiversity restoration and management ('critically endangered' Sand Plain Fynbos, 'endangered' Granite Fynbos, re-establish Afromontane Forests and lowland wetlands).
- ii. Establishment and maintenance of ecological corridors (riverine and terrestrial).
- iii. Ensure the maintenance of suitable habitats to sustain indigenous faunal populations.
- iv. Balance biodiversity conservation with other activities and obligations.
- v. Manage invasive alien fauna and flora.
- vi. Manage fire to minimise threat to surrounding areas but to maximise biodiversity impact.
- vii. Provide interpretation of rehabilitation / restoration of indigenous vegetation.

2.4 Heritage Informants

The following are seen as the key informants upon which the Heritage Objectives are based:

a) Stakeholder Needs

The primary concern from heritage stakeholders is the protection of key heritage elements such as heritage trees, avenues and maintaining the current urban – natural treed 'interface' between the City and the Park.

b) Colonial links

Both Tokai and Cecilia have been impacted on since the early colonial days and in modern times have become part of the city environment. They have retained a certain rural character formed by the activities of commercial forestry. There is thus a very strong and obvious link between the history of plantation forestry and the colonial past at Tokai. As the first forestry school in South Africa was located at Tokai, the history of forestry with specific reference to the forestry school can be told through information and interpretive material.

c) Historic Plantings

Examples are the Cork Oaks, Red woods, camphor trees and the Arboretum which need to be protected and enhanced.

d) Social Connections

The Manor House precinct and in particular the old reformatory and jail provide an opportunity to revive strong social connections. Tokai as a place of social significance should be linked to the wider Cape Town community through educational and economic opportunities. An immediate priority is, however, to restore elements of high significance to prevent further deterioration and the appropriate use of these facilities.

e) Planted Landscape

The plantation landscape, dating from the late 1800's, is recognised in the Management Framework as a heritage element. Although plantations are a dynamic, changing feature of the landscape, they do provide for a soft urban-park interface which needs to be acknowledged. However, in line with the DWAF – MTO lease, commercial plantations will be phased out.

f) Pre-colonial links

Although there are few tangible pre-colonial links still in existence, the rich pre-colonial history of the area is captured in place names such as that of the Prinskasteel river. In addition, the indigenous vegetation of the area and its use by local people (e.g. medicinal) is a powerful link back to the pre-colonial era which must be recognised.

Drawing on the key informants the following are the overarching heritage concepts guiding the Management Framework:

Heritage Management Framework Concepts

- i. Restoration and upgrade of Tokai Manor and environs (Province / SANParks responsibility).
- ii. Maintain and upgrade the Arboretum.
- iii. Protection and enhancement of planted avenues – Tokai Rd, Camphor Lane, Cork Oak avenue.
- iv. Urban and natural interface: 'transition area' and shaded route planting.
- v. Create opportunities for medicinal plant gardens.
- vi. Introduce appropriate interpretation and information.

2.5 Recreational Informants

The following are seen as the key informants upon which the Recreational Objectives are based:

a) Stakeholder needs

The primary concern from recreational users is to accommodate existing recreational activities within a shaded and open environment.

b) Current usage (see Maps 7 and 9)

Both Tokai and Cecilia are well used for a variety of recreational activities: walking, hiking,

walking with dogs, horse riding, mountain biking, picnicking and braaiing. These occur in different areas and some activities are separated, (e.g. walking with dogs and mountain biking) or confined to a specific areas (e.g. braaiing). There is pressure from walkers with dogs, mountain bikers and braaiers for more areas.

Drawing on the key informants the following are the overarching recreation concepts guiding the Management Framework.

Recreation Management Framework Concepts (see Maps 8 and 10)

i. Range of Activities:

The recreational activities that currently occur in Tokai and Cecilia will continue as before with no net loss in areas available to undertake that activity. Activities that can result in conflict between users shall continue to be separated as per the current delineations and the Park's recreational EMP's. It is acknowledged that the overall experience and routing will change over time as compartments are harvested.

ii. Shaded Recreational Areas:

Strategies to accommodate shaded recreational areas are threefold:

Firstly, to restore Afromontane forest areas to provide natural shade.

Secondly, to establish new 'transition areas', in carefully designated areas of Tokai and Cecilia, consisting of shade tree plantings whilst not undermining the biodiversity restoration potential of the area. (see Chapter 4)

Thirdly, to provide 'shade routes' which are planted / replanted areas that link shade areas along existing heritage avenues, as continuous shade routes or 'broken' shade routes along riverine corridors.

iii. Re-align and upgrade the existing picnic / braai site to accommodate the terrestrial ecological corridor.

iv. Investigate an additional picnic / braai site in the plantation area above Tokai Manor.

2.6 Eco-tourism Informants

The following are seen as the key informants upon which the Eco-tourism Objectives are based:

a) Stakeholders Needs

To provide small scale SMME and BEE opportunities in diversifying the eco-tourism products offered in Tokai.

b) Current usage

Current eco-tourism usage is very limited i.e. the Arboretum tea room. The predominant activities are recreational i.e. mountain biking and picnic braai areas.

c) Infrastructure upgrade

The assignment of Tokai and Cecilia to TMNP opened the way for further investment into facilities, infrastructure and the environment. Donor funds have been secured for the upgrade of the proposed SANParks science research node at the old Tokai 'Bosdorp (R2m). The need for the upgrade of Tokai Road, footpaths, minor access points etc must be recognised.

d) Eco-tourism opportunities

The Park's CDF designates a high volume, mixed use Visitor Site at Tokai Manor precinct. This is to accommodate the number of visitors channelled through the site, to provide appropriate visitor facilities and to guide the future use of the site.

Within the broader Tokai Manor precinct, the developed area where the Park's administrative office and outbuildings are located, provides an appropriate opportunity to concentrate ecotourism activities and also provides space for centralised access control and parking.

The surrounding natural and treed areas (e.g. Arboretum) provide an opportunity for a potential range of eco-tourism activities such as guided walks, hiking trails, tree top canopy tours etc.

Eco-tourism concept for Tokai:

- i. Seek to establish in co-operation with PAWC, the Tokai Manor and outbuildings as a multi-use facility to include the TMNP head office and in line with Province's intentions for the site.
- ii. Create a high-volume, mixed-use visitor site around Tokai Manor and consider alternative uses in the node to accommodate visitor needs, provide support services, establish a gateway to the Park and create economic opportunities to facilitate job creation.
- iii. Evaluate all economic initiatives appropriate to Tokai which will generate income to contribute to the Park's financial sustainability.
- iv. Promote low impact eco tourism activities such as tree top canopy tours, horse riding, mountain biking, trail guides etc.
- v. Upgrade infrastructure at Tokai and Cecilia e.g. Tokai Road, picnic- braai area, footpaths, minor access points, signage.

CHAPTER 3: THE VISION

3.1 The approach

In formulating the vision for Tokai and Cecilia, various alternatives were considered with two opposing positions standing out. The first, a status quo approach with ongoing commercial plantations providing shaded recreational areas but with limited conservation goals, does not adequately provide for sustainable biodiversity restoration. This approach does not achieve the conservation targets set by the South Africa National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). However, the competing purist biodiversity restoration approach does not adequately provide for heritage aspects and the need for 'shaded recreational landscapes'.

SANParks has strived to find 'the middle ground', a compromise between these two seemingly incompatible and competing alternatives. Consideration was given to the various mandates given to SANParks in managing Tokai and Cecilia in terms of international conventions and national legislation, the Protected Areas Act, the TMNP revised Management Plan and the gazetted Assignment. These mandates require SANParks to focus on the conservation of biodiversity, but also to accommodate recreational activities, heritage resources as well as future use and access to the Park by the public.

The vision for Tokai and Cecilia also needs to be aligned with the Vision for the Park: "A Park for all, Forever" as formulated in the original Park Management Policy of 2000. Considering elements of the vision: *A Park*, implies a biodiversity and heritage park: *for all*, embraces the people attached to the Park and *forever* refers to its long-term sustainability.

3.2 The vision statement

The following vision statement underlies the Management Framework:

To manage Tokai and Cecilia into the future in terms of legal requirements, applicable policies and the lease agreement and to accommodate the conservation of biodiversity and heritage, development of eco-tourism opportunities and recreational activities so as to fully integrate the area into the Park.

The above broad vision statement identifies the themes: biodiversity, heritage, recreation and eco-tourism. High level objectives for each theme were developed through the planning and consultation process and are based on the informants set out in the previous section of this report.

3.3 Objectives

a) Biodiversity

- i. To manage and restore 'critically endangered' and 'endangered' vegetation types and to sustain ecosystem patterns and processes;
- ii. To link different vegetation types from the mountain to the lowlands;
- iii. To manage fire during the restoration period as well as into the future;
- iv. To maintain ecosystems in such a manner that risks to the urban environment are minimised and vice versa;
- v. To restore riverine and wetland systems;
- vi. To manage Red Data (Rare and Endangered) species in accordance with international standards as set by the IUCN; and
- vii. To appropriately manage fauna populations during the harvesting and post harvesting phases.

b) Heritage

- i. To conserve and celebrate the pre-colonial, colonial and contemporary heritage resources (tangible and intangible) of Tokai and Cecilia;
- ii. To undertake the necessary heritage research, studies and assessments for the management, use and development of heritage resources in Tokai and Cecilia;
- iii. To celebrate and promote heritage resources through interpretation and educational opportunities.

c) Recreation

- i. To continue to provide opportunities for existing recreational activities in a growing city and to relieve pressure on high priority conservation areas;
- ii. To provide shaded areas for recreational purposes without compromising the biodiversity objectives; and
- iii. To maintain Tokai and Cecilia as access points into the Park for various recreational activities.

d) Eco-tourism

- i. To utilise and develop Tokai Manor precinct (in line with the TMNP CDF and in co-operation with PAWC) as a high volume, mixed use visitor site located in a high intensity leisure use zone visitor site;
- ii. Establish TMNP Park head office at Tokai Manor precinct (in co-operation with PAWC)
- iii. To diversify the eco-tourism opportunities offered at Tokai so as to provide for a variety of appropriate activities; and
- iv. To provide opportunities for local job creation through rehabilitation, operational functions and economic opportunities.

These objectives are carried through into proposals as set out in the next section.

CHAPTER 4: PROPOSALS

Chapter 2 presented the primary informants which underpin the objectives set out in Chapter 3 and from which flow the main proposals for Tokai and Cecilia. These are explained and graphically mapped in this section.

The overall approach is to indicate how the landscape will evolve in Tokai and Cecilia as it changes in time from a Plantation to a National Park over the next 20 years. The proposals are presented at a broad landscape level, as a framework and not a detailed plan. This avoids the pitfalls of an inflexible 20-year blue print plan and provides the opportunity for the broad landscape level proposals to be fleshed out and detailed through lower level implementation plans which address site specific issues and areas.

‘Transition areas’ (see Figure 2)

A key new concept was developed in the Management Framework process to accommodate the need to conserve biodiversity and heritage resources while maintaining recreational activities in Tokai and Cecilia. This concept provides for certain designated ‘transition areas’ to be replanted with non-invasive exotic trees in limited areas along the periphery and to consolidate existing planted areas. This is a long term conservation strategy which accommodates both shaded recreational needs and heritage concerns for maintaining planted landscapes along the Urban Edge, whilst not undermining the core biodiversity objective or the rehabilitation potential of these designated ‘transition areas’.

In the identified ‘transition areas’, pine harvesting will be followed by an initial controlled burn of affected compartments and then an 8 year period of fynbos growth for seed to be dispersed into the soil. Thereafter appropriate pine trees can be re-planted to provide shaded recreation areas and for urban interface landscape purposes. After about 20 years these pines are again harvested for fynbos to return to the area, the seed having already been set in the soil.

The ‘transition areas’ can be linked by both shaded routes along the periphery and footpaths through the rehabilitating fynbos areas. The shaded routes will comprise newly planted continuous shade routes; ‘broken’ shade routes along riverine corridors and existing planted heritage avenues.

‘Transition areas’ are proposed for lower Tokai along the urban edge periphery; alongside the Tokai Arboretum to create a consolidated shade area and along the lower slopes of Cecilia plantation. The major shaded routes are proposed around the periphery of lower Tokai and at Cecilia, from Constantia Nek to Kirstenbosch.

4.1 Tokai proposals (see Maps 11, 12 and 13)

Map 11:	Tokai Plantation: current situation
Map 12:	Tokai Park : future vision
Map 13:	Lower Tokai Park : future vision

Tokai in the future will comprise a variety of landscapes ranging from open fynbos areas to shaded areas in riparian, Afromontane forest and ‘transition areas’ thus allowing for a variety of landscape experiences. The establishment of ecological corridors linking the lowland fynbos to the mountain fynbos is achieved through both the proposed terrestrial and riverine corridors. The main objective for Tokai is the continuation and enhancement of current recreational activities without compromising the sustainable rehabilitation of threatened vegetation types.

Tokai can be divided into three broad planning areas, namely Tokai Manor precinct, Lower Tokai and Upper Tokai. In line with the CDF, Tokai Manor precinct is identified as a 'high volume, mixed use visitor site' in a 'high intensity leisure use zone' whilst the bulk of Lower and Upper Tokai are designated as 'quiet' use zones accommodating a variety of low impact recreational activities, with the re-aligned Picnic-Braai area designated as 'low intensity leisure' use zone.

4.1.1 Tokai Manor Precinct

This precinct is located on Provincial and SANParks managed land and contains the historic Tokai Manor House and outbuildings, old reformatory, Arboretum and a variety of offices, residences and service buildings. The precinct is zoned in the TMNP CDF as a 'high volume, mixed use visitor site' in a 'high intensity leisure use zone'. It is designated to accommodate a high volume of visitors and a range of visitor facilities, uses and activities. Currently, the entire precinct is run down and in need of rehabilitation, upgrade, landscaping and renovation and a detailed precinct plan is required to indicate how and where this will happen.

Although not formally part of the precinct, the other land uses such as the Tokai picnic-braai area, the Arboretum and Cape Research Centre (old 'Bosdorp') should be functionally integrated with the Precinct.

a) Tokai Manor and surrounds:

With the future role of the Tokai Manor precinct envisaged as a multi-use visitor site providing for a range of eco-tourism opportunities; recreational and leisure activity support services and as a base from which recreational and leisure activities can radiate into the Park. The precinct could accommodate a range of uses including:

- Park headquarters and Estate management
- Tearoom / restaurant
- Information, interpretation kiosks and displays
- Parking
- Curio shop
- Visitor accommodation
- Eco-tourism activities (e.g. guided hiking, guided cultural walks, mountain biking hire, etc.)
- Central amphitheatre for events
- Living museum / interpretation facility
- Gateway to the Park
- Conferencing and meeting venue

All these potential uses and activities need to be assessed and accommodated where appropriate in the detailed Tokai Manor precinct plan.

b) Picnic-Braai Area:

The trees in the current Picnic-Braai area are mature and will start dying and this represents a danger to the users and the public. In addition, the current picnic area needs to be realigned to allow for the establishment of the terrestrial ecological corridor to link the lowland fynbos to the mountain fynbos areas. This re-alignment provides the opportunity to upgrade and improve the quality and level of service of the Picnic-Braai area, for both current and future users. The re-alignment, rehabilitation and upgrade needs to be done in a phased manner. A picnic-braai area landscape plan is required to effect this change.

To cope with the demand for picnicking and braaing, an additional area will be investigated and assessed in the treed plantation area above Tokai Manor.

c) Arboretum:

The Arboretum is an important recreational resource and heritage asset for the Park and serves as the major gateway to upper Tokai. The Arboretum will remain in its current location and the visitor experience can be enhanced through improved footpaths, signage, interpretation and ongoing planting. The future role of the Lister's Place facility can be re-assessed to determine its most appropriate use as tea room, interpretive centre, environmental education centre and/or other use.

Other proposals related to the Arboretum include a new shaded 'transition area' linking it to the gum plantation to the north to create a consolidated shaded area and the potential for a new picnic area in the proposed transition area. All these proposals need more detailed assessment and planning to determine how they will be implemented.

d) Cape Research Centre (old 'Bosdorp'):

With the assignment of Tokai Plantation to SANParks in 2005, the use of the old 'Bosdorp' facility (located alongside Tokai Road opposite the current picnic-braai area entrance) as worker accommodation was phased out. Following a detailed investigation of alternatives, the facility was identified as an appropriate site for the establishment of a new SANPark's Cape Science Research Centre with a focus on the Cape Floral Kingdom and marine biodiversity. Two million rand grant funding was made available for the conversion of the Bosdorp into the research facility which opened in 2008.

e) Vehicular Access:

Vehicular access to the Tokai Manor precinct, re-aligned Picnic-Braai area and Arboretum is currently from Tokai Road extension which becomes seriously congested during peak visiting times and events. This congestion creates problems for management, surrounding communities and visitors. With the upgrade and additional activities to the visitor site the problem will exacerbate. Therefore, as part of the precinct planning process, a full traffic assessment is needed to inform the Visitor Site precinct plan to consider alternatives such as:

- Retain existing access via Tokai Road but assess the need to upgrade the traffic circle at the Orpen Road intersection and widen Tokai road after Zwaanswyk turn-off to provide additional stacking for the picnic area.
- Introduce a new access point from Orpen Road to traverse the plantations and current picnic area to join Tokai Road in the vicinity of the current picnic area access gate.
- Relocate the main access to Tokai along the old farm road alignment from Spaansmacht Road at the Stone church. This may require a portion of new road and access across Porter Estate.

These and other options will have to be carefully assessed to determine the most appropriate way to manage traffic and access to and from Tokai.

f) Soetvlei wetlands

The Soetvlei wetlands are located outside the Tokai Plantation area on neighbouring Provincial land. The wetlands are conservation worthy and have good restoration potential. SANParks should negotiate with PAWC for the wetlands to be consolidated into the Park.

4.1.2 Lower Tokai

This is the eastern low lying area up to the current picnic- braai site. In line with its CDF Quiet zonation, the area will retain its current usage as primarily a recreational area, but the character of the landscape will change over time as plantation compartments are harvested and rehabilitation takes effect. This may require the re-arrangement of certain recreational activities (e.g. walking along dedicated footpaths) in rehabilitated areas. The key informants here are the restoration of threatened fynbos and the availability of shade for recreation in this accessible, flat area.

a) **Biodiversity restoration** (see Maps 5, 12 and 13)

The restoration of the 'critically threatened' Cape Flats Sand Fynbos, riverine and wetland ecosystems will be achieved through ongoing plantation harvesting, alien clearing and rehabilitation work. Ecological corridors linking the lowlands to the mountains can be established through a terrestrial corridor along the southern boundary, a riverine corridor along the Prinskasteel River and potentially a terrestrial / riverine corridor link through the northern portion of Porter Estate (Provincial land).

b) **'Transition areas':**

In lower Tokai, three shaded 'transition areas' are proposed along the Park boundaries for easy access and interface planting:

- i. The Stone Church 'transition area' along the Porter Estate boundary.
- ii. The 'Ondertuine' 'transition area' along the Ondertuine boundary.
- iii. The Dennedal 'transition area' along the Dennedal Avenue boundary.

These 'transition areas' will be phased in as the plantations are harvested and following the cycle of burning, fynbos regeneration and re-seeding. Each area will be subject to more detailed planning to determine the precise area, phasing and planting phase.

c) **Recreation activities** (see Map 7 and 8)

The current set of recreational activities – walking, dog walking, horse riding and cycling/mountain biking in lower Tokai will continue (see Maps 7 and 8). However, as plantation compartments are harvested and rehabilitated, footpaths and routes will need to be formalised to minimise impacts on restoring fynbos. Where possible these should link into the City metropolitan open space system.

d) **Shade routes** (see Map 13)

To provide permanent shade for walking, shade routes are proposed which comprise various types of shade - continuous shade route planting; existing planted heritage avenues; 'broken' shade routes along riverine corridors and shade routes linked to the 'transition areas'. Map 13 depicts the proposed shade routes for lower Tokai.

e) **Footpaths**

Currently, there are a network of tracks and footpaths in lower Tokai but most walking is throughout the plantation areas and not along dedicated footpaths. This is one of the low impact benefits of pine plantations. However, as areas are harvested and restored, dedicated footpaths to accommodate walking, dog walking and horse riding will need to be established in the fynbos areas.

4.1.3 Upper Tokai

This area extends from above the Arboretum and gum plantation level upwards to Constantiaberg and is designated as a 'quiet' use zone in the Park's CDF with the highest reaches extending into the 'remote' zone.

a) **Biodiversity restoration** (see Map 5, 12 and 13)

The restoration of the 'threatened' Peninsula Granite Fynbos on the mid-slopes and riverine ecosystems and Afro-montane forest pockets will be achieved through ongoing plantation harvesting, alien clearing and rehabilitation work.

b) **Recreational activities** (see Map 7 and 8)

As with Lower Tokai, the area will retain its current usage as primarily a recreational area for hiking with horse riding and mountain biking on designated routes, but the character of the landscape will change. The area provides a natural environment ranging from fynbos to riverine and Afromontane pockets. This varied landscape provides for open sunny areas as well as semi-shaded and shaded areas.

c) **Access**

The existing main service track to Constantiaberg serves as a "multi-purpose recreational spine" feeding the network of secondary tracks and footpaths which traverse upper Tokai. Otherwise, the route is only for limited use by motor vehicles strictly for management, plantation and maintenance purposes.

However, the network of current management tracks is a substantial visual intrusion to the landscape. As such those tracks not designated for current and future recreational activities or required for management or plantation purposes will be rehabilitated or reduced to footpaths.

4.2 Cecilia Proposals (see Maps 14 and 15)

Map 14: Cecilia Plantation: current situation
 Map 15: Cecilia Park : future vision

At Cecilia Plantation, the predominant Visitor Use Zone is the 'quiet' zone extending from Rhodes Avenue to the Eagles Nest footpath and then along to the Forest Station with the 'remote' zone above. Designated Visitor Sites are the high volume, 'mixed use' site at Constantia Nek and at Cecilia car park, a medium volume 'park entry point' visitor site.

As with Tokai, the vision for the future of Cecilia is one with a variety of landscapes ranging from open fynbos to shade in riparian, Afromontane forest and 'transition areas' in lower Cecilia with restored granite fynbos inter-dispersed with pockets for Afromontane forests in upper Cecilia. The establishment of ecological corridors linking the mountain fynbos and forests to low lying areas can be achieved by linking to the City's established Constantia Green Belt Open Space Network.

Current recreational activities will continue, but with the harvesting of the plantations the landscape experience will change overtime.

a) **Biodiversity** (see Maps 6 and 15)

The restoration of the 'threatened' Peninsula Granite Fynbos on the Cecilia slopes and

riverine ecosystems and Afromontane forest pockets will be achieved through ongoing plantation harvesting, alien clearing and active rehabilitation work.

b) Shade (see Map 15)

The area has a number of management tracks, which are used by the public for recreational purposes, of which walking and walking with dogs are the most common. A need was identified to maintain a shaded route between Constantia Nek and Kirstenbosch. This can be achieved through the establishment of a 'transition area' above Rhodes Drive to the level of the lower track and along to the Forest Station. On the Constantia Nek side, this can link up with the Cork Oak avenue.

Additional shade would be provided by Afromontane forest riverine pockets and 'broken' shade from the planting and return of the endemic and endangered Silver Tree (*Leucadendron argenteum*) to Cecilia slopes.

c) Access

Access to Cecilia is from Cecilia car park, Constantia Nek and the minor access point from Rhodes Drive at Southern Cross Drive.

Cecilia car park is designated as a medium volume Park Entry Point in the CDF with facilities limited to parking and signage. Limited, controlled vehicular access is provided for management, plantation and maintenance purposes and to access the Forest Station.

Constantia Nek is designated in the CDF as a 'high volume Mixed Use' visitor site providing a base for people to park and walk to Cecilia. The site requires upgrade and a plan to effect this has been prepared but needs to be implemented. Facilities envisaged for Constantia Nek are low key and include parking, signage, ablutions and traders stalls. Vehicular access to Cecilia from the Constantia Nek side must be limited to management, plantation and maintenance purposes only. Private vehicular access through this gate is inappropriate and to be avoided so as to minimise additional unnecessary disturbance to walkers and hikers in this designated Quiet zone.

The higher slopes of Cecilia require more physical exertion to reach and are thus mainly used by hikers for accessing trails to the mountain. The objective of these hikers is mainly to enjoy the natural environment with shade at rest points. As such the conservation priority will be the restoration of granite fynbos inter-dispersed with pockets of Afromontane forests.

d) Forest Station

Activity at the old Forest Station is limited to SANParks staff housing. As the commercial plantations are phased out, the forest station and infrastructure should be evaluated for management suitability and assessed for phasing out from the landscape to reduce its visual impact. For the remaining buildings in the forest station, trees should be retained to screen their visual impact.

CHAPTER 5: THE WAY FORWARD

The Tokai and Cecilia management framework is a framework for further planning and not a plan for implementation. Implementation will be achieved through more detailed landscape, precinct and lower level planning which will involve key stakeholders, the public, specialists and scientists as required. This framework articulates a vision for Tokai and Cecilia by indicating broad landscape level changes to guide management and volunteers.

To implement this framework a series of lower level, detailed plans need to be produced, and implemented where these are already in place:

5.1 Tokai:

- i. Plan for the conversion of the old 'Bosdorp' to a SANParks Science Research Centre.
- ii. Tokai Manor Visitor Site precinct plan (with Province).
- iii. Landscape plan for the re-aligned, rehabilitation and upgrade of the picnic/braai area.
- iv. Restoration plans for the 'endangered' Peninsula Granite fynbos and the 'critically endangered' Cape Flats Sand Fynbos areas.
- v. Rehabilitation and planting plans for the identified 'transition areas'.
- vi. Recreational use and footpath routing plans
- vii. Prinskasteel and wetland 'Source to Sea' restoration plan.
- viii. Management plan for historical trees.
- ix. Arboretum Management Plan
- x. Assess existing infrastructure and facilities (to determine appropriateness in relation to the Management Framework proposals).

5.2 Cecilia:

- i. Upgrade plan for Cecilia parking area.
- ii. Upgrade plan to implement the Constantia Nek precinct plan.
- iii. Rehabilitation and planting plan for Cecilia shaded walks and 'transition area'.
- iv. Heritage management plan for historical trees.
- v. Afro-montane rehabilitation and planting plan.
- vi. Management guidelines for replanted recreational areas.
- vii. Recreational use and routing plans
- viii. Assess existing infrastructure and facilities (to determine appropriateness in relation to the Management Framework proposals).

The implementation of a range of upgrade, rehabilitation and maintenance will be guided by existing Park programmes and projects such as:

- Alien vegetation clearing program
- Fire Management Plan
- Footpath upgrade plan
- Visitor Safety and security programme
- Baboon Management Plan
- Recreational Environmental Management Programmes (e.g. walking with dogs, mountain biking, horse riding, etc.).

Table 1: Biodiversity Restoration Potential and 'Transition Area' Planting

Cape Flats Sand Fynbos (CFSF): Tokai			
Conservation Status: "Critically Endangered" - found only in Cape Town			

Total Original Size:	150,000 ha		
Permanent Loss:	129,000 ha	(86%)	
Remaining:	21,000 ha	(14%)	National Target = 30%
Under Conservation:	1,500 ha	(<1%)	

Tokai:	185 ha	(13% to conservation effort)	
Transition Areas:	20 ha		
Shade Routes:	15 ha		
Transformed:	30 ha		
Restored:	120 ha	(8% to conservation effort)	
South Peninsula Granite Fynbos (SPGF) : Tokai & Cecilia			
Conservation Status: "Endangered" - found only in Cape Town			

Total Original Size:	12,000 ha		
Permanent Loss:	8,000 ha	(66%)	
Remaining:	4,000 ha	(33%)	
Under Conservation:	3,500 ha	(30%)	National Target = 30%

<u>Tokai:</u>	410 ha	<u>Cecilia:</u>	150 ha
Transition areas:	35 ha	Transition Areas:	15 ha
Arboretum area:	35 ha	Shade Route Planting:	35 ha
Transformed :	0 ha	Transformed :	5 ha
Restored:	360 ha	Restored:	95 ha

Map 1:
Tokai plantation lease area (April 2005)



Table Mountain
National Park

Land Managed by Table
Mountain National Park

Land Leased
by MTO Forestry

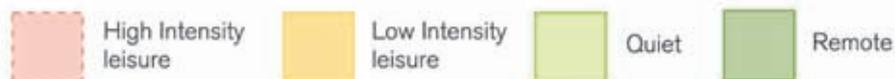
Map 2:
Cecilia plantation lease area (April 2005)



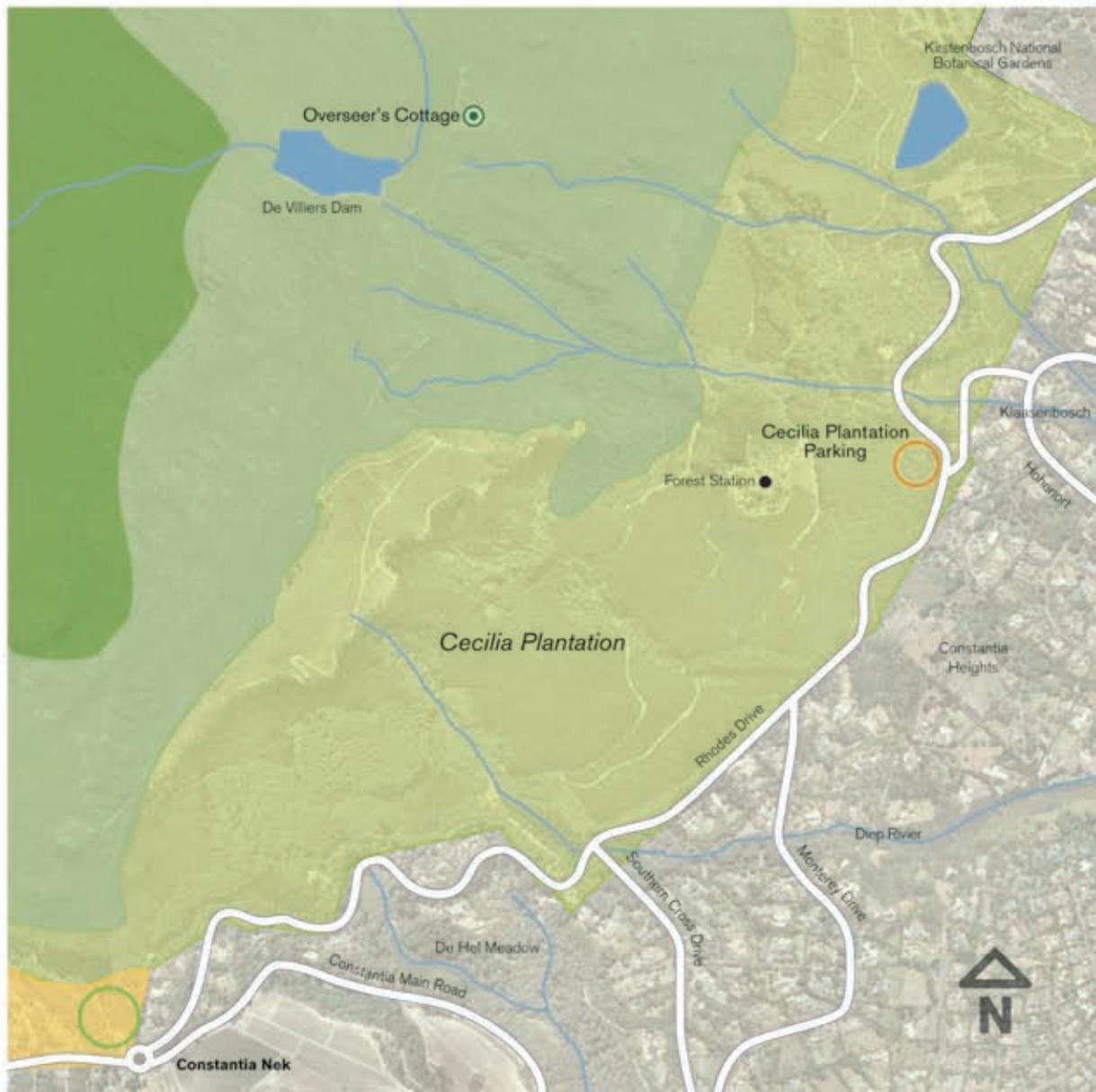
Table Mountain
National Park

Land Managed by Table
Mountain National Park

Land Leased
by MTO Forestry

Map 3:**Tokai plantation Conservation Development (CDF) Visitor Zonation and Use Sites****Use Zones****Visitor Sites**

-  Tokai Precinct: High volume mixed use site
Park Accommodation
-  Tokai Picnic/Braai site: Medium volume picnic site
-  Future Park Head Office

Map 4:**Cecilia plantation Conservation Development (CDF) Visitor Zonation and Use Sites****Use Zones****Visitor Sites**

-  Constantia Nek: High volume mixed use
-  Cecilia Plantation Parking: Medium volume, Park entry point

Map 5:
Tokai biodiversity informants

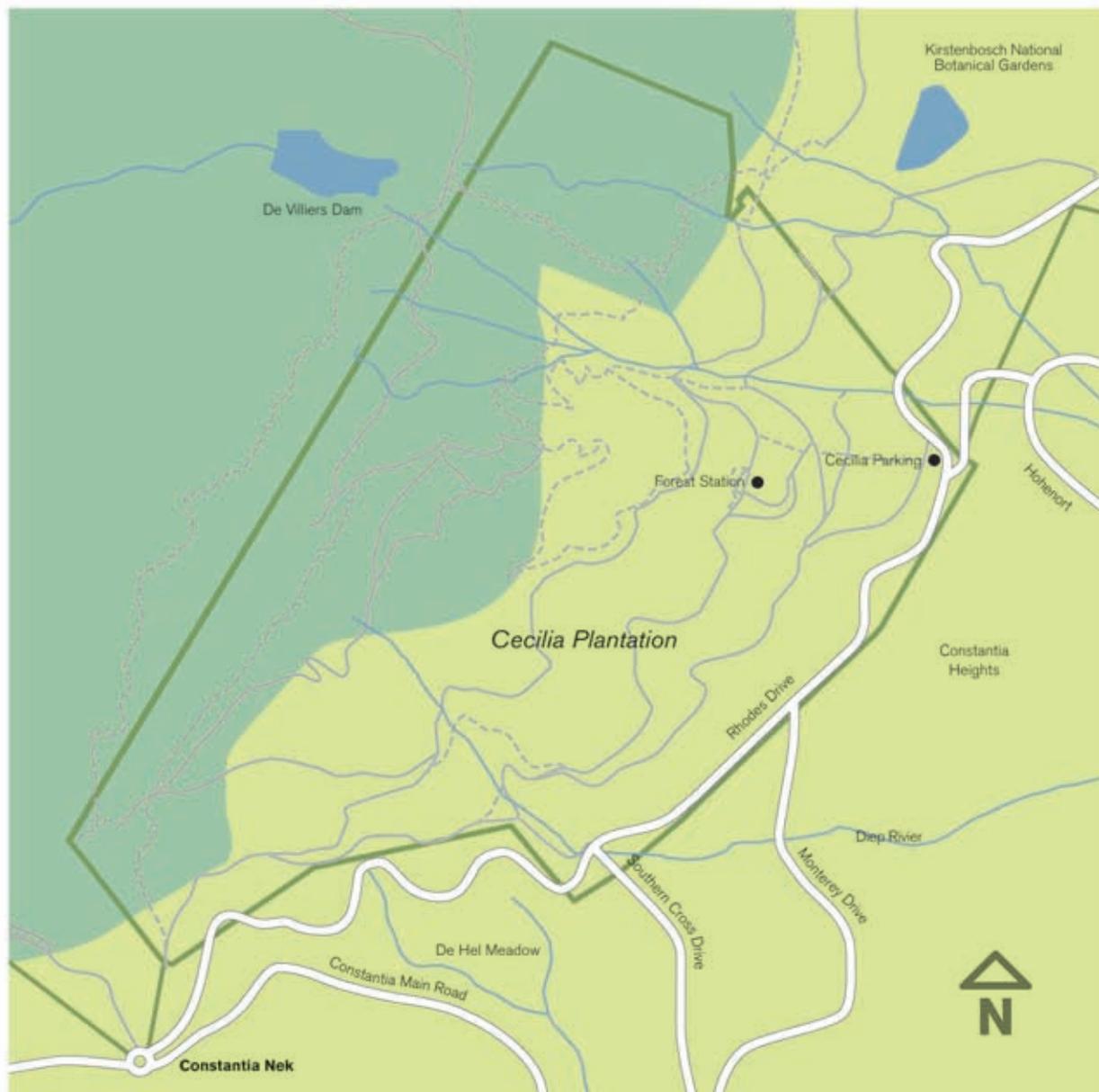


Peninsula
Sandstone Fynbos

South Peninsula
Granite Fynbos

Cape Flats
Sand Fynbos

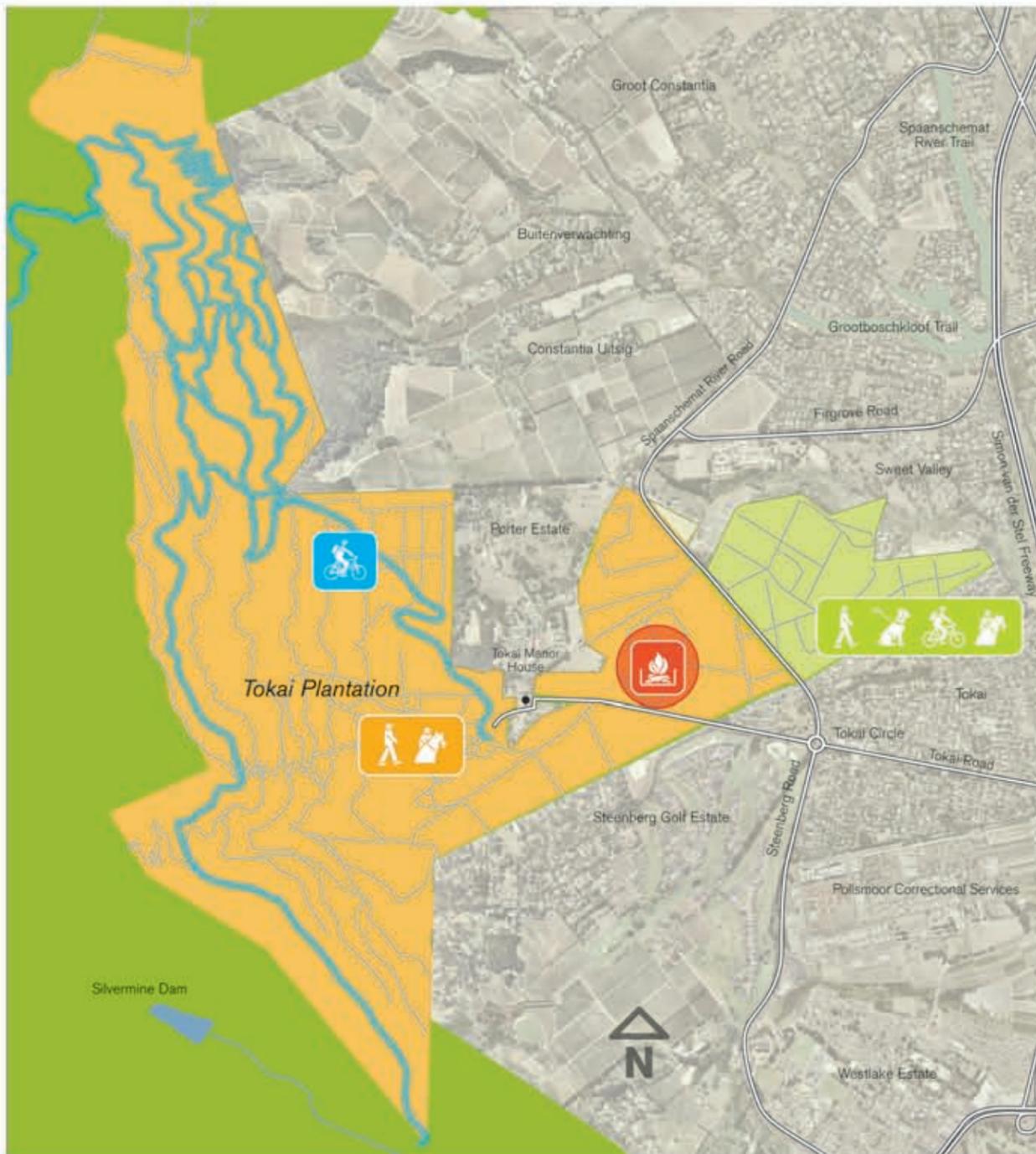
Map 6:
Cecilia biodiversity informants



Peninsula
Sandstone Fynbos

South Peninsula
Granite Fynbos

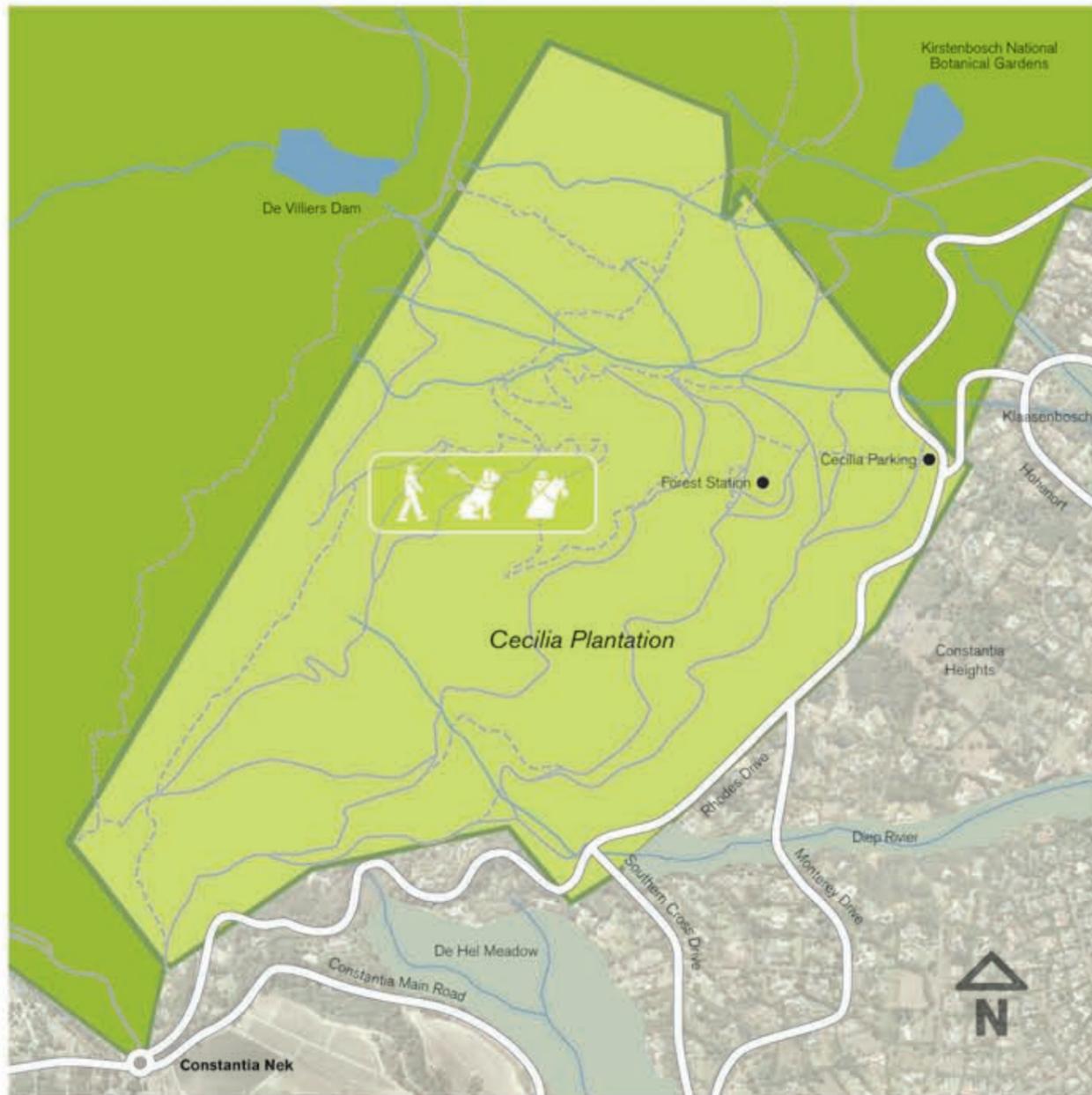
Map 7:
Tokai existing recreational activities



Map 8:
Tokai future recreational activities



Map 9:
Cecilia existing recreational activities



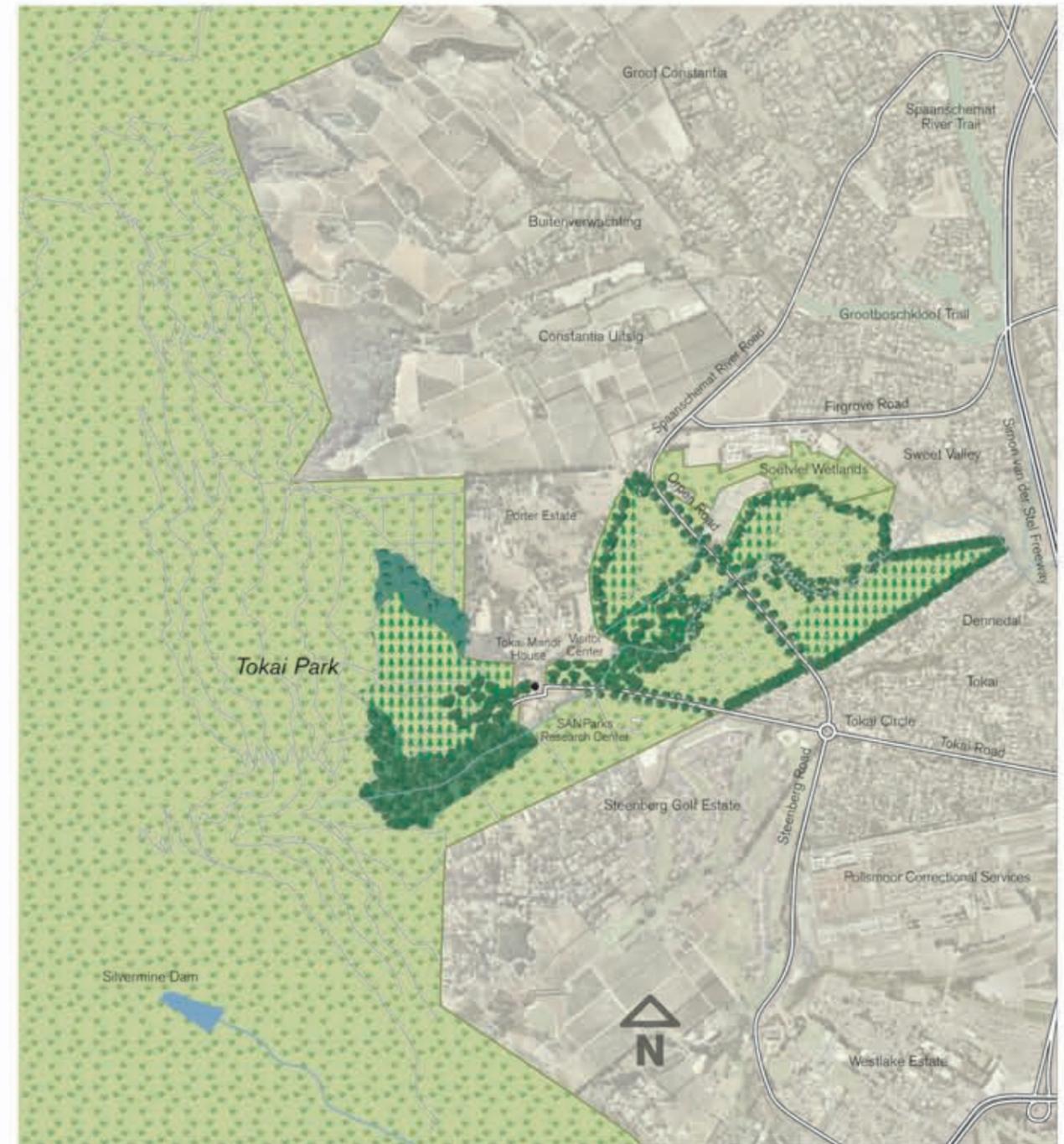
Map 10:
Cecilia future recreational activities



Map 11:
Tokai plantation current management activities



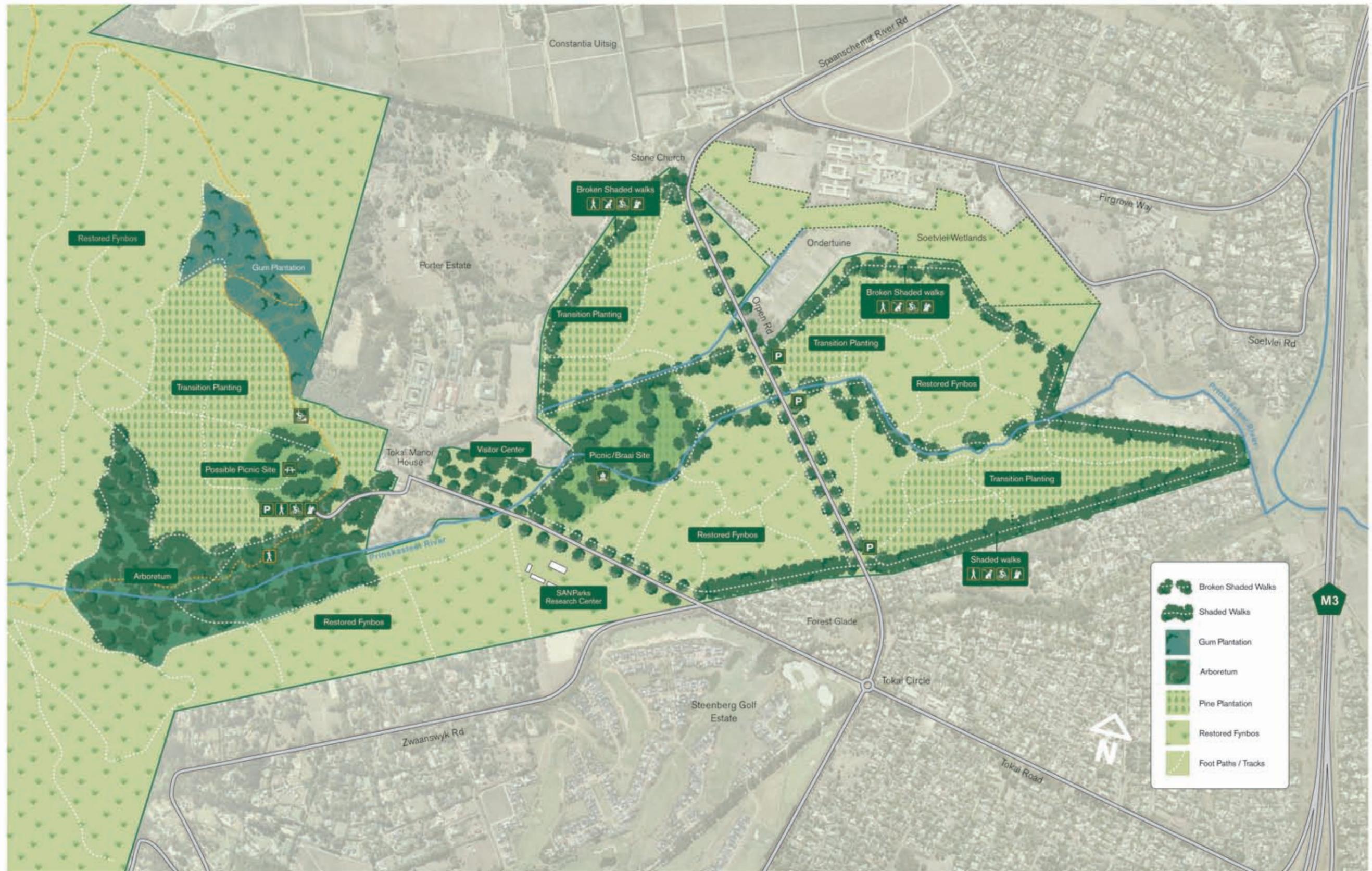
Map 12:
Tokai plantation future vision



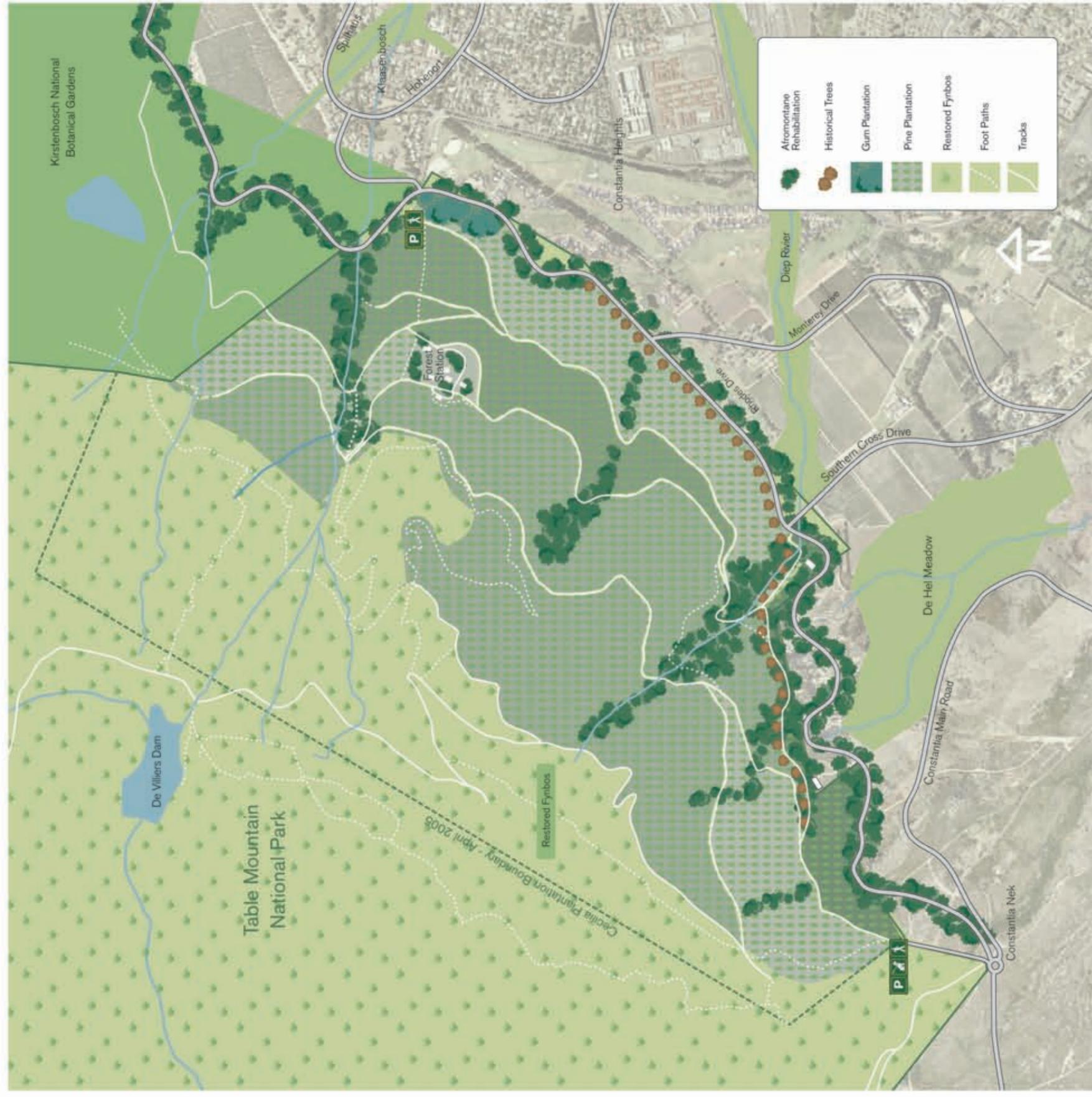
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
|  Table Mountain National Park |  Pine Plantation |  Gum Plantation |
|  Restored Fynbos |  Arboretum |  Other Trees |

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
|  Restored Fynbos |  Transition Planting |  Gum Plantation |  Arboretum |  Other Trees |
|---|---|--|---|---|

Map 13:
Lower Tokai Park future vision



Map 14:
Cecilia Plantation current management activities



Map 15:
Cecilia Park future vision

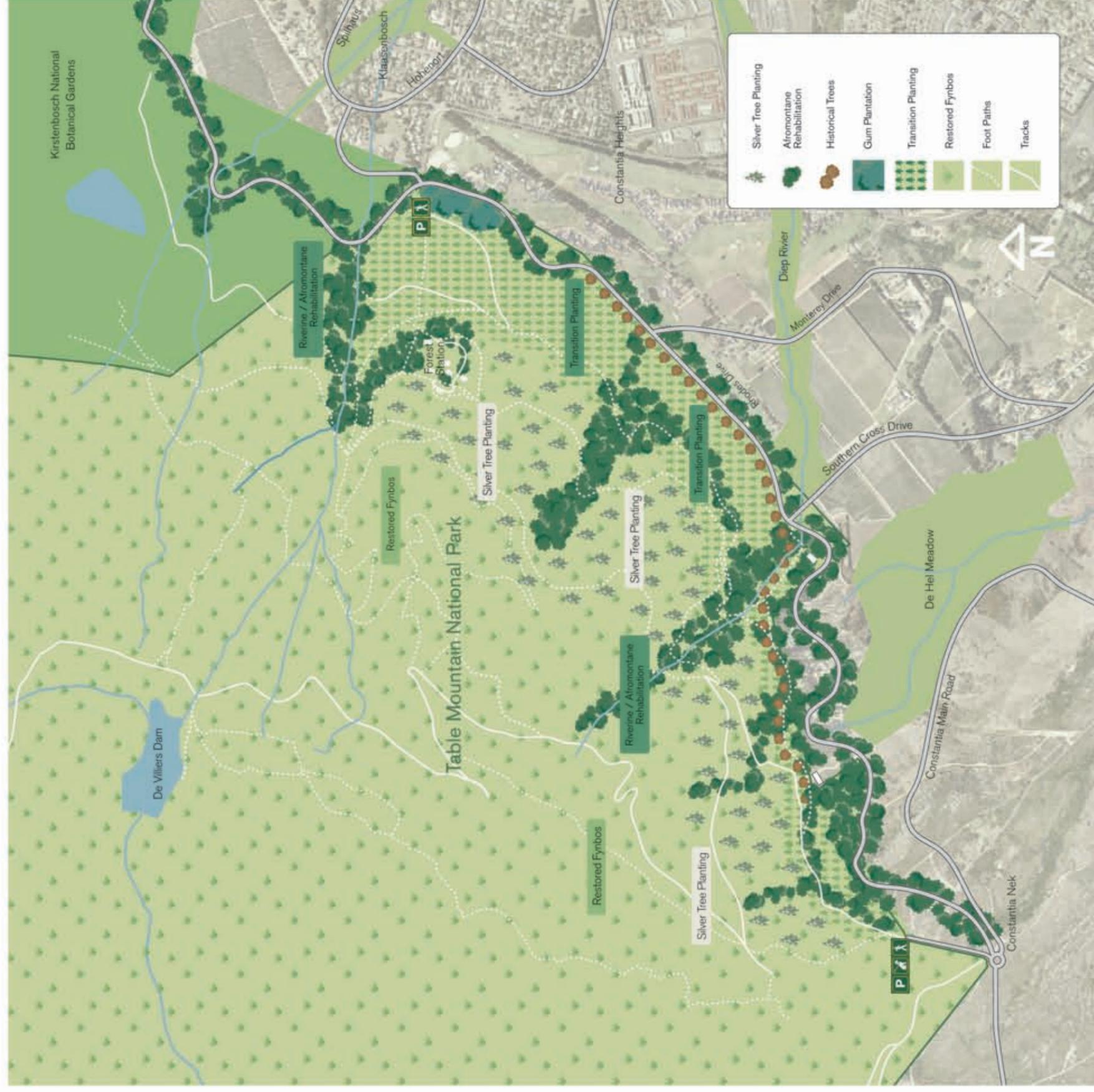


Figure 2: 'Transition Area' planting for shaded recreational landscapes