

## **SEMINAR DATE: 6,7 and 8 June 2018**

### **INVITATION & REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION**

*2018 Garden Route Environmental Restoration Seminar:*

*George/ Knysna/ Plettenberg Bay – An environmental seminar with a national and regional focus on ecological restoration*

The Secretariat of the Southern Cape Landowners Initiative wishes to extend an invitation to you to attend, present and exhibit at the RSA Environmental Restoration Seminar in George/ Knysna, hosted by numerous regional partners.

*Theme: From devastation to restoration...*

*Aimed at: The environmental and agricultural sectors*

*Hosted by: The Garden Route Rebuild Initiative – GRRI (Environmental Working Group), Eden District and Knysna Municipalities and the Southern Cape Landowners Initiative*

*Venue: George/Knysna area. Details to be announced*

#### **Who must attend:**

- *Landowners*
- *Local, provincial and national government officials – Environmental and Agricultural sectors*
- *Environmental groups and companies*
- *Agricultural organisations and input suppliers*
- *Corporate / private sector companies with an interest in the environment and agriculture*
- *Media groups / environmental and agricultural journalists*

Aimed to reflect on the 2017 Knysna/ Plettenberg Bay fires, as well as the prevailing regional drought, the seminar will focus on regional and national efforts aimed at ecological restoration of natural infrastructure systems.

Reviewing progress made over the past year, since large parts of the Garden Route has been devastated by fire during the first week of June 2017, the Southern Cape Landowners Initiative and partners, wish to host an environmental seminar looking into ecological restoration work done in the burn scar and beyond.

Much of the Western and Eastern Cape have, in recent years, been suffering from increasingly serious drought and fire.

Although much of the prevailing hardship can be ascribed to the effects of climate change, much can be done from an environmental planning point of view to improve conditions.

Reducing fire risk, improving the rural/ urban interface scenario, more effective invasive alien plant management strategies and implementation, and taking (better) care of our natural infrastructure for a better future is not negotiable.

### *Partner organisations*

- Garden Route Rebuild Initiative (GRI)
- Western Cape Government
- Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Planning (DEADP)
- Department of Environmental Affairs: Natural Resource Management Programmes (DEA NRM Programmes)
- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
- Eden District Municipality
- Eden District Disaster Management Services
- Knysna Municipality
- George Municipality
- SANParks
- Cape Nature
- DOW AgroSciences
- Southern Cape Fire Protection Association (FPA)
- Plettenberg Bay Municipality
- World Wide Fund for Nature, South Africa (WWF-SA)
- Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency
- Eastern Cape Government
- City of Cape Town
- Nelson Mandela Metro (Port Elizabeth)
- Gamtoos Irrigation Board (GIB)
- Nelson Mandela University, Sustainability Research Unit (NMU SRU)
- Other stakeholders from the agricultural sector

### *International participation is envisaged from countries including:*

- USA
- Portugal
- Spain
- Australia

### *For more information:*

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