



Assegaaiboskloof

Citizen Stewardship
initiatives towards
protection & restoration



Jonkershoek valley

Santie Gouws

founder

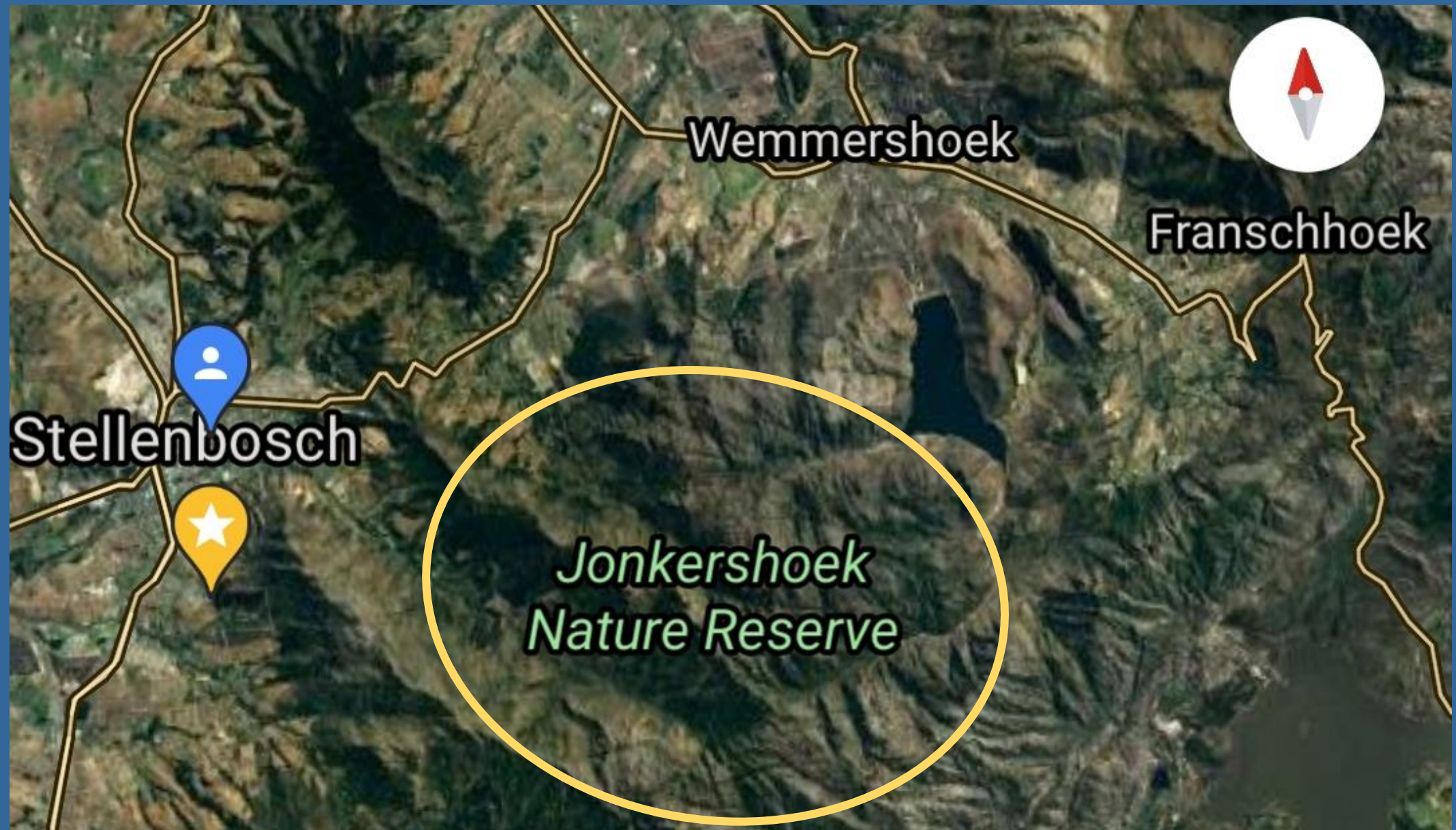
FRIENDS OF THE BRIDE

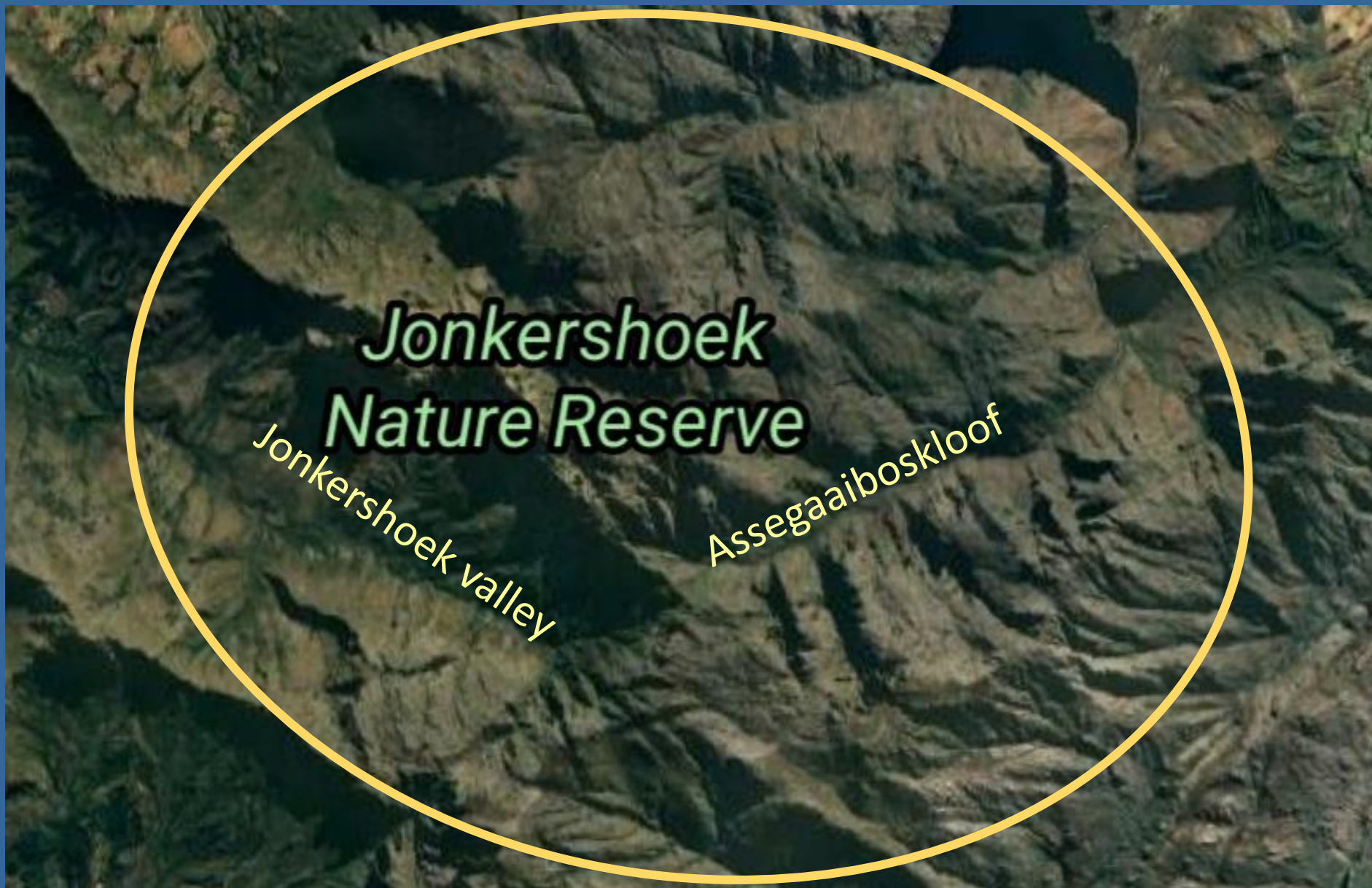
19 January 2022

Overview

- Introduction
- Blushing Bride Bioblitz
- Alien Clearing
- Friends of Bride
- Post-fire fynbos assessments







Jonkershoek Nature Reserve

Jonkershoek valley

Assegaaiboskloof

Introduction

- Jonkershoek – ‘my fynbos teacher’
- Assegaaiboskloof – blushing brides

(Serruria Florida)

critically endangered in the wild

IUCN RED LIST

- iNaturalist ⇨ citizen scientist platform



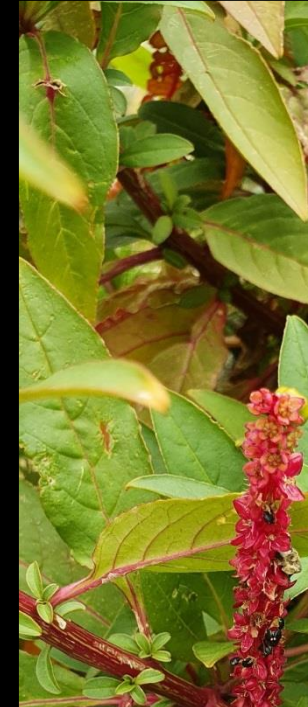
Introduction

- Jonkershoek – ‘my fynbos teacher’
- Assegaaiboskloof – blushing brides
- iNaturalist ⇒ citizen scientist platform

[https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?nelat=-](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?nelat=-33.95344126226574&nelng=19.10556008431307&order=asc&order_by=observed_on&place_id=any&subview=table&swlat=-34.03172063849561&swlng=18.937519197093238&user_id=dryfveer&verifiable=any)

[33.95344126226574&nelng=19.10556008431307&order=asc&order_by=observed_on&place_id=any&subview=table&swlat=-34.03172063849561&swlng=18.937519197093238&user_id=dryfveer&verifiable=any](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?nelat=-33.95344126226574&nelng=19.10556008431307&order=asc&order_by=observed_on&place_id=any&subview=table&swlat=-34.03172063849561&swlng=18.937519197093238&user_id=dryfveer&verifiable=any)

- Threat of invasive alien vegetation



CANARY ISLAND PINE

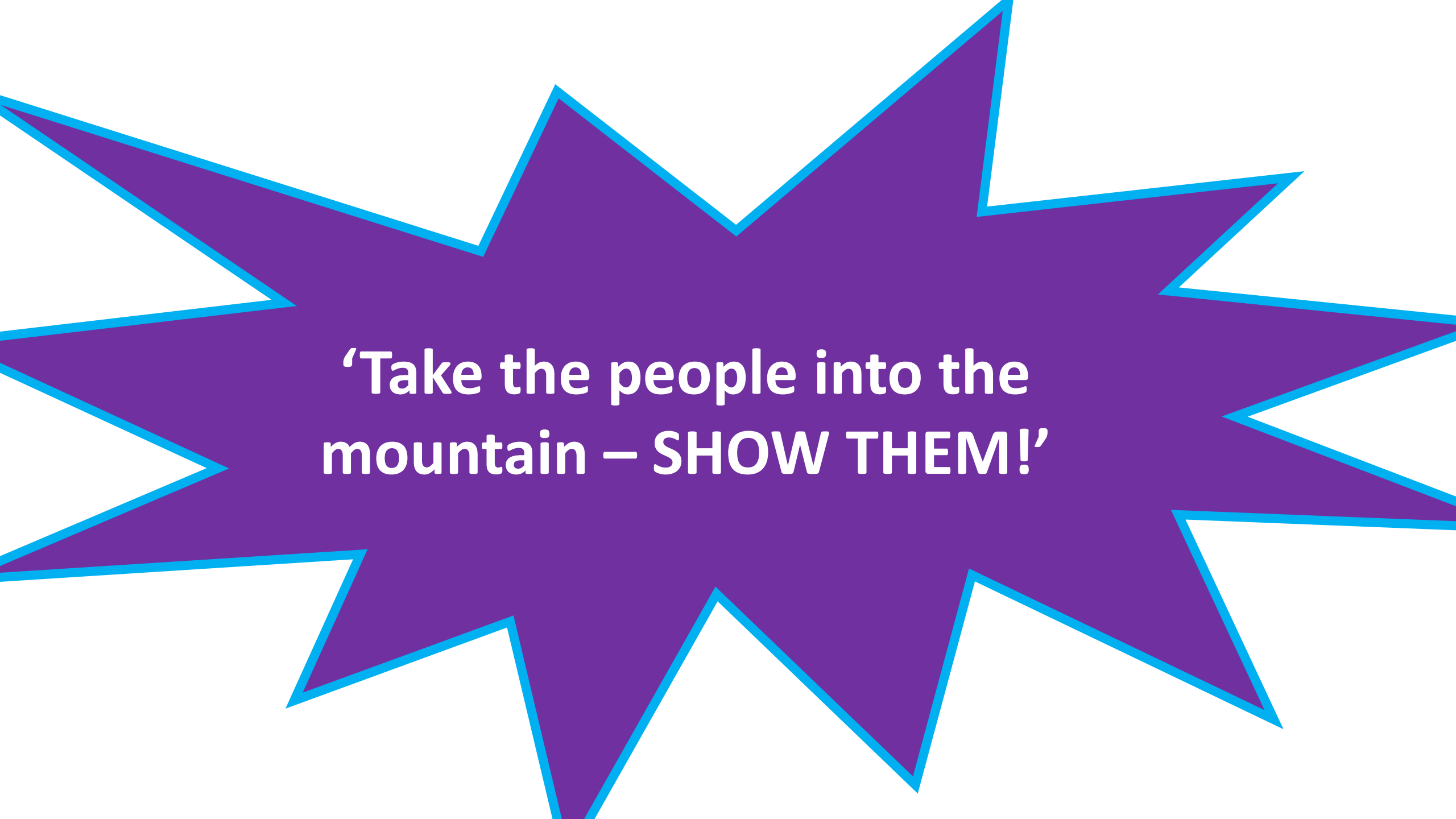
NEMBA Cat 3 Invasive Alien

Assegaaiboskloof



RESPROUTS



A large, multi-pointed starburst shape in a vibrant purple color. It has a thick, bright blue outline that makes it stand out against the white background. The points of the starburst are of varying lengths, giving it a dynamic, explosive appearance.

**‘Take the people into the
mountain – SHOW THEM!’**

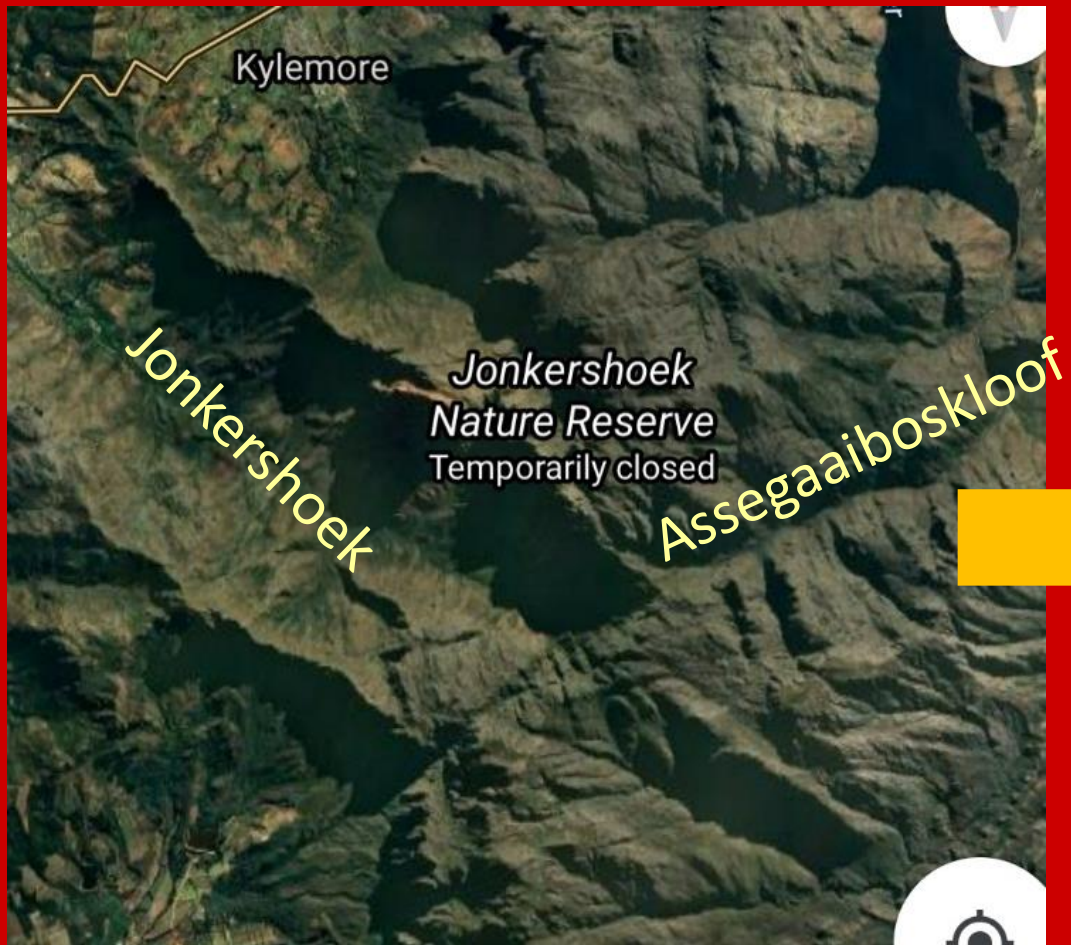
‘Blushing Bride’ Bioblitz & Hack

- CapeNature – buy-in from Monique
- Help from Dr Tony Rebelo - SANBI
- iNaturalist Project ‘Saving the Bride’

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/saving-the-bride>



February 2021



Photocredit - AFIS



Blushing Baby Bride Bioblitz! ☺

- 3 October '21 - Assegaaiboskloof
- lead by dr. Tony Rebelo (SANBI)
- 32 participants



Baby Bride Bioblitz! 😊

- 19 observers
- +1600 observations
- +300 species

https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?on=2021-10-03&place_id=any&project_id=saving-the-bride&subview=table&verifiable=any

©Justin Hawthorne

©Brendan Louw

STINK BEAN
NEMBA Cat 1B
Invasive Alien

**CANARY
ISLAND PINE**
**post-fire
RESPROUTS**



Alien clearing - Assegaaiboskloof

- 6 November & 12 December '21
 - 34 participants over the 2 days
 - 7km hike to the pines carrying chain saws, hand saws, axes
 - ± 120 pines cut and poisoned
 - ± 16 000 baby wattle & stink bean pulled out
- 
- A group of approximately 15 people are posing for a photo on a rocky, forested hillside. They are dressed in outdoor gear, including hats, long-sleeved shirts, and trousers. Some are holding tools like chainsaws or axes. The background shows a steep, rocky mountain slope with sparse vegetation and a cloudy sky. The foreground is filled with large, light-colored boulders and some low-lying green plants.

Alien clearing - Assegaaiboskloof



Alien clearing - Assegaaiboskloof

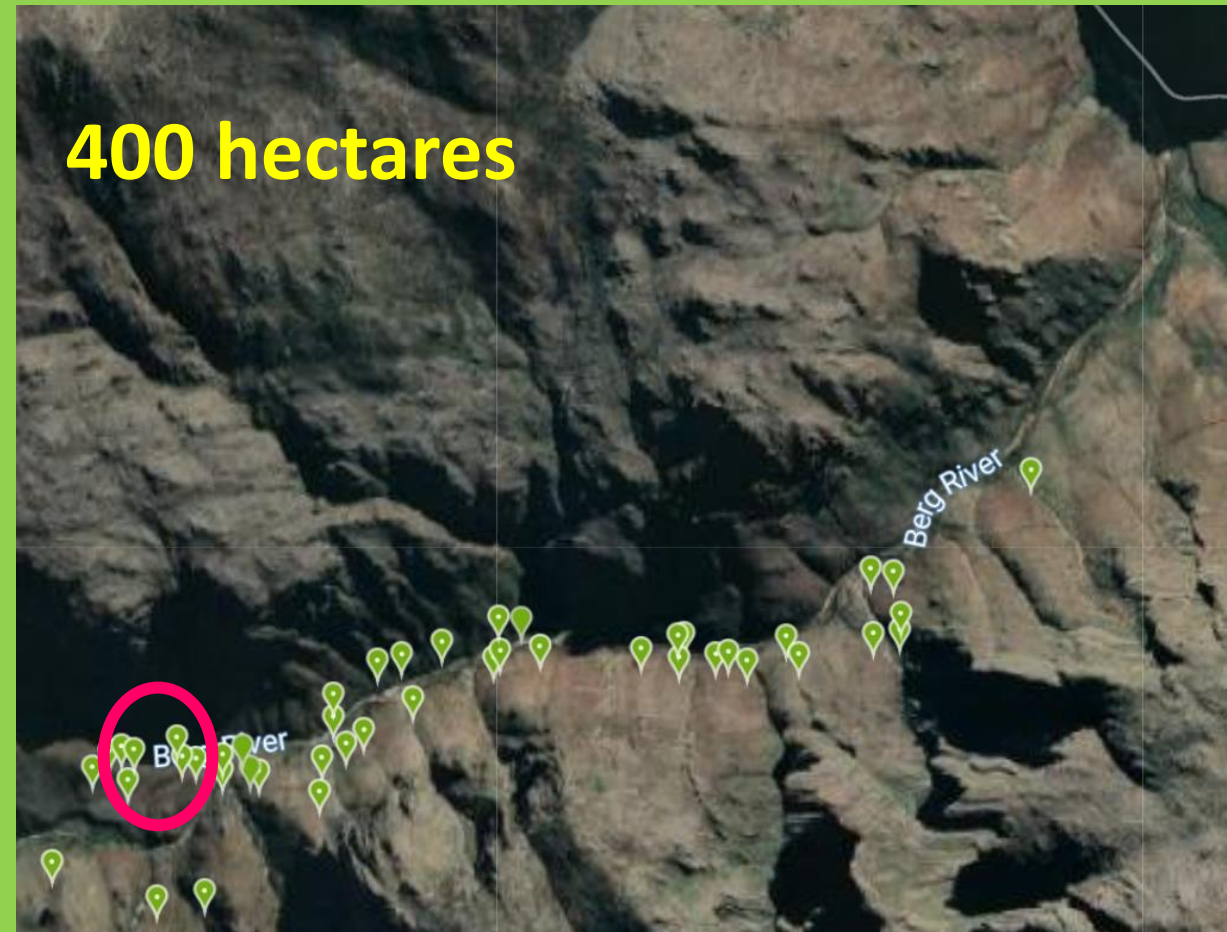


Alien clearing - Assegaaiboskloof

Stink bean (Immediate threat)



Canary island pine (medium-term threat)



HOW DO WE TURN THIS...



INTO THIS?

⇒ ***‘FRIENDS of the BRIDE’***

<https://www.friendsofthebride.org/>



FRIENDS of the BRIDE

- **GOAL:** Protect and restore the natural home of the Blushing Bride
- **HOW:** By bringing the *people* back into the mountain
 - Hacks and invasive alien clearing
 - Guided Bioblitzes and iNaturalist training
 - Guided botanical walks



FRIENDS of the BRIDE

PLANNED UPCOMING EVENTS

- April '22 - STINK BEAN HACK-A-THON
- May '22 - City Nature Challenge



‘FRIENDS of the BRIDE’

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- **SPONSORSHIPS**
- **DONATIONS**
- **SUPPORT & INVOLVEMENT**



‘FRIENDS of the BRIDE’

CONTACT US:

<https://www.friendsofthebride.org/>



Post-fire assessments - Jonkershoek

- 8 post-fire fynbos assessments July '21 – Jan '22
- Panorama & Swartboskloof Trails
- Dwarsberg Plato & Victoria Peak
- Tweeling Pieke
- **Coffee Table Book Project**

• https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?nelat=33.95344126226574&nelng=19.10556008431307&order=asc&order_by=observed_on&place_id=any&subview=table&swlat=-34.03172063849561&swlng=18.937519197093238&user_id=dryfveer&verifiable=any





©Jeremy Gilmore

‘FRIENDS of the BRIDE’

CONTACT US:

<https://www.friendsofthebride.org/>

