

**Invitation to attend:**

**Workshop for the Marine Habitats of the Prince Edward Islands**

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Time: 9:00 – 16:00

Place: Colophon conference room, CBC, Kirstenbosch

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) will be hosting a workshop to evaluate the means and methods of inclusion of the Prince Edward Island's marine habitats and biodiversity into the 2018 National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA).

To bring the marine habitats into the NBA requires a review of empirical and proxy habitat and biological information, as well as expert opinion, for the full extent of the island's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This will need to cover hierarchical information from ecoregions to species, as well as fixed and dynamic processes. The workshop will allow for:

- 1) Presentation of current planning and progress towards a rules-based approach to habitat classification and mapping for the area
- 2) Expert input, discussion and evaluation of the presented plan
- 3) Formulation of a revised plan

Creating an updated spatial understanding of marine habitats and biodiversity at the islands will be an important foundation for future management and conservation decisions. As such, the workshop is open to all interested stakeholders, researchers and experts, allowing input into how the assessment happens, what data is included, and what priorities are set.

**Kindly RSVP by 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug to Charles von der Meden**  
[C.vondermeden@sanbi.org.za](mailto:C.vondermeden@sanbi.org.za) (Tel. +27 8444 0295)

**International stakeholders:** please simply indicate your interest (or not) as we will email the presented plan for comment

Please pass this on within your networks to any further interested parties

SANBI sincerely appreciates your contribution to the National Biodiversity Assessment 2018 through funding or part-funding your workshop participation costs; however we are willing to arrange travel and accommodation if absolutely necessary – please send me your travel needs as soon as possible, as there is a limited budget available for support