

DNA barcoding of native and non-native aquatic plants to complement biodiversity management of freshwater ecosystems in South Africa

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1. A comprehensive database for native and non-native aquatic plants of South Africa. An open access database, which is incorporated into the online open access South African e-Flora project. • Species pages for all newly collected species will be produced. 2. Extensive field surveys to source specimens. • Barcodes For at least 450 native aquatic plants. • Barcodes for All non-native aquatic plants (funded by a grant from DEA) • Voucher specimens and DNA extracts. 3. A public DNA reference library for freshwater plants (Native and non-native freshwater aquatic plants of SA) created on BOLD. • An open access reference barcode library for freshwater plants of SA. 4. Several hypotheses based research projects tested using the data • At least two peer reviewed papers published. 5. Up-skill of young scientist • One MSc.