

Orange-Senqu River Awareness Kit

[THE RIVER
BASIN](#)[PEOPLE AND
THE RIVER](#)[GOVERNANCE](#)[RESOURCE MANAGEMENT](#)

The River Basin

[Ecology and Biodiversity:](#)

- Introduction
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Climate and Weather
- ▶ Hydrology
- ▶ Water Quality
- ▼ **Ecology and Biodiversity**
 - Ecology
 - Aquatic Ecology
 - Wetlands
 - **Biodiversity**
 - Biodiversity in the Basin
 - Endemic Species
 - Alien Invasive Species
 - Biodiversity Resources
 - Terrestrial Biomes and Eco-regions
 - Human Impacts
 - Laws and Policies
 - Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
 - References

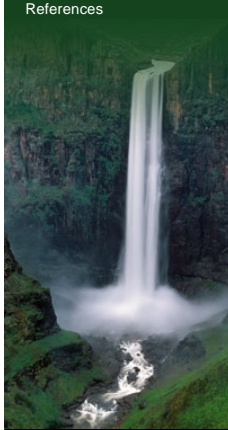
Biodiversity

Biodiversity

Biodiversity refers to the species diversity of the flora and fauna found in an ecosystem and can be used as an indicator of its health. Abundant biodiversity may represent health in one ecosystem, while in another the ecosystem may be optimal when occupied by only a few endemic species. Human activities, water quality and invasive species can alter and threaten the biodiversity of an ecosystem and thus the overall integrity of the ecosystem.

This section explores biodiversity by looking at:

- [Biodiversity in the Basin](#)
- [Endemic Species](#)
- [Alien Invasive Species](#)
- [Biodiversity Resources](#)
- [Terrestrial Biomes and Ecosystems](#)
- [Human impacts on Biodiversity](#)
- [Laws and Policies](#)



Spiral Aloe.
Source: Brew 2006
(click to enlarge)

[Next: Biodiversity in the Orange-Senqu Basin](#) ▶

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Interactive

Basin Map

Explore the sub-basins of the Orange-Senqu River

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Video Tour

Tour video scenes along the Orange-Senqu River related to the River Basin

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Geography Maps

Investigate land cover and terrestrial ecoregions in the basin

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Water Cycle

Examine how the hydrologic cycle moves water through and around the earth

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Food Web

Explore the interactions of living organisms in aquatic environments

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