

Fauna

You might encounter one of these animals, however some of them are extremely shy or nocturnal:

Aardvark, Jackal, Cape fox, Cape hare, Baboons, Grey duiker, Grey rhebok, Klipspringer, Kudu, Leopard, Meerkat, Porcupine, Honey badger, Dassie, Genet, Springbok, Steenbok, Mongoose, Eagles.

Snakes (cape cobra, puff adder) are rare due to scarcity of small mammals to feed of but do occur as do scorpions.

Flora

The Tankwa Karoo is within the Succulent Karoo Biome. The Succulent Karoo Biodiversity Hotspot covers some 116,000km² of desert stretching along the Atlantic coast of Africa, from south-western South Africa into southern Namibia. It is one of the 25 richest and most threatened reservoirs of plant and animal life on earth and the only arid region recognised as a biodiversity hotspot. Compared to other hotspots, the vegetation remains relatively intact. The Lowland Succulent Karoo is described as very sparse shrub land and dwarf shrub land. Dwarf Shrubland (Ganna bush) dominated by leaf succulents is found throughout the Tankwa Karoo.

The Succulent Karoo is vulnerable to several land use pressures, particularly overgrazing on communal lands, ostrich farming in the southeast, mining and the illegal collection of plants and animals for trade. Grasses are uncommon, making most the biome unsuitable for grazing. The low rainfall, in fact, discourages most forms of agriculture. Climate change is also expected to have a serious impact on the region's biodiversity.

Herbivory by domestic livestock has probably altered species composition of large sections of the Tankwa. There appears to be no rapid reliable or economically feasible method for restoring function and species diversity to such rangelands.

Dwarf shrubland, succulents, Euphorbia, Ruschia, Stipagrostis obtuse