Proposed residential development of Erf 325 Theescombe NMBM, Eastern Cape

BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

FOR Engineering and Advice Services (Pty) Ltd



DATE 20 September 2024

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ACRONYMS

CARA	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, now DWS
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation formerly the Department of Water Affairs (DWA)
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	Ecological Importance and Sensitivity
EMPr	Environmental Management Plan/Programme Report
ESA	Ecological Support Area
GA	General Authorisation (WUA type)
GIS	Geographic Information System
HGM	Hydrogeomorphic
IHI	Integrated Habitat Index
IUCN	International Union of Conservation of Nature
NAEMP	National Aquatic Ecological Monitoring Program
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998).
NFEPA	National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Atlas (Nel et al., 2011).
NWA	National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998)
NWCS	National Wetland Classification System
PES	Present Ecological State
RTU	Recognisable Taxonomic Unit
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SCC	Species of Special Concern
SQ	Subquaternary Catchment
ToR	Terms of Reference
WRC	Water Research Commission
WUA	Water Use Authorisation
WUL	Water Use License

Water Use License Application WULA

SPECIALIST REPORT DETAILS

This report has been prepared as per the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), any subsequent amendments and any relevant National and / or Provincial Policies related to biodiversity assessments. This also includes the minimum requirements as stipulated in the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998), as amended in Water Use Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017 Government Notice R267 in Government Gazette 40713 dated 24 March 2017, which includes the minimum requirements for a Wetland Delineation/ Aquatic Report.

Report prepared by: Dr. Brian Colloty Pr.Sci.Nat. (Ecology) / Member SAEIES and Wetland Society of South Africa.

Expertise / Field of Study: BSc (Hons) Zoology, MSc Botany (Rivers), Ph.D Botany Conservation Importance rating, and has worked as an independent consulting specialist from 1996 to present. I, **Dr. Brian Michael Colloty** declare that this report has been prepared independently of any influence or prejudice as may be specified by the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment and or Department of Water and Sanitation

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1 Introduction

Engineering and Advices Services (Pty) Ltd appointed EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd to conduct an biodiversity impact assessment for the proposed residential housing development on Erf 324 Theescombe within Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM), in the Eastern Cape Province.

The PROTOCOL FOR SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT AND MINIMUM REPORT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY (Government Gazette 43110, 20 March 2020 as amended), superseding the Appendix 6 NEMA requirements, was also adhered to. This report thus meets the criteria to fulfil a Specialist Assessment Report as the proposed site is located within an area rated as *Very High* sensitivity by the DFFE Screening Tool (See Screening Verification Statement – Appendix 2), related to the Aquatic theme that was rated Very High due to the presence of an Aquatic Ecological Support Area (Type 1) and Strategic Water Resource Area. The Animal theme was rated High due to several bird species and Medium for two mammal species and two invertebrates. The Plant theme was rated as Medium and the Terrestrial Environment, rated as Very High due to the potential presence of the Critically Endangered Algoa Sandstone Fynbos as the previously mentioned Strategic Water Resource Area (Surface Water – Tsitsikamma).

The northern portion of the site is situated within the Algoa Sandstone Fynbos (FFs29) vegetation unit, and is Critically Endangered (NSBA, 2018) and thus listed as a Threatened Ecosystem. While the southern portion is located within Sardinia Forest Thicket (AT48) and listed as Vulnerable.

Further the site is **not** located within a Wetland Cluster, National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPAs) or listed Internal Bird Areas. However according to the available SWSA spatial information, the study area is <u>not</u> located within any Strategic Water Resource Areas (Surface or Ground Water), as no surface water features, wetlands or subsurface drainage was observed within the site.

The findings of this report were supported by baseline data collected in a three site-specifics visit in October 2023 and January 2024. The third visit was conducted on the September 2024 to confirm the condition of the habitats in relation to the revised layout shown in this assessment.

Several important national and provincial scale conservation plans were also considered, with the results of those studies where relevant being included in this report. Most conservation plans are produced at a high level, so it is important to verify or ground truth the actual status of the study area. Groundtruthing of terrestrial and aquatic resources in the project area was also important as the information was critical for the identification and mapping of important habitat where protected or endangered species are known to occur within the region.



Figure 1: The proposed site in relation to the surrounding environment

1.1 Aims and objectives

The aim of this report is to provide a summary of the terrestrial (plant and animal) baseline information and identify any No-Go areas for the proposed development. The report also makes recommendations for further management and mitigation, to further reduce, avoid or mitigate the potential negative impacts and enhance positive impacts where possible. The implementation of these management actions and mitigation measures will ensure the responsible and sustainable use of South Africa's natural resources.

Reference is also made to a brief assessment of any aquatic resources, although none occur, but comment is required due to the various Very High Sensitivity ratings shown in the DFFE Screening Tool results. The screening tool results for the aquatic environment are thus are refuted in this assessment (See Appendix 2).

1.2 Assumptions and Limitations

To obtain a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of both the flora and fauna of communities within a study site, as well as the status of endemic, rare or threatened species in any area, assessments should always consider investigations at different time scales (across seasons/years) and through replication. However, due to time constraints these long-term studies are not feasible and are thus mostly based on instantaneous sampling. This limitation is common to many impact assessment type studies, but the findings are deemed adequate for the purposes of decision-making support regarding project acceptability, unless otherwise stated.

Therefore, due to the scope of the work presented in this report, a longer-term investigation of the proposed site was possible and a concerted effort was made to assess as much of the potential site, as well as make use of any supporting literature, species distribution data and aerial photography.

It should be emphasised that information, as presented in this document, only has reference to the study area as indicated on the accompanying maps. Therefore, this information cannot be applied to any other area without detailed investigation.

2 Terms of Reference

The methodology used in this assessment was developed in mind of the minimum requirements stipulated by DFFE and the DWS and included the following aspects:

- Desktop analysis
- Site investigation
- Compilation of one draft and one final report for the project which adheres to the following (this list is not exhaustive):
 - The Initial Site Sensitivity Verification reporting requirements for environmental themes set out in Government Gazette No. 43110 which was promulgated on 20 March 2020 in terms of section 24(5)(a) and (h) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).
 - Identification and mapping of any discrepancies with the environmental sensitivity as identified on the national web based environmental screening tool.
 - Identification of sensitive areas to be avoided (including corresponding spatial data) and the determination of the respective buffers (if applicable) for the site.
 - Initial recommendations for the layout and allowable development footprint from a biodiversity perspective (including corresponding spatial data).
 - Recommendations regarding the areas to be utilised within the project site from a biodiversity perspective (including corresponding spatial data)
 - Assess the proposed development layout against the receiving environment in the form of an impact assessment
 - o Provide any additional development guidelines and mitigations were relevant

3 Relevant legislation, policy and permit requirements

The following is pertinent to this study:

- Section 24 of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa;
- Agenda 21 Action plan for sustainable development of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) 1998;
- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) inclusive of all amendments, as well as the NEM: Biodiversity Act;
- National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998);
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983);
- Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002);
- National Forest Act (No. 84 of 1998); and
- National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999) could apply if cultural use or heritage is linked to any aquatic resources
- NEMA and the CARA identify and categorise invasive plants together with associated obligations on the landowner. Several Category 1 & 2 invasive plants were observed in covering extensive areas of the site under investigation, but were limited to the following species, which would be destroyed during the construction process.
 - Pinus spp (Pine trees)
 - *Eucalyptus spp* (Blue / Red Gums)
 - Agave sisalana (Sisal plant / Agave)
 - Acacia mearnsii (Black Wattle)
 - Acacia cyclops (Rooikrans)
 - Acacia longifolia (Longleaf wattle)
 - Foeniculum vulgare (Fennel)
 - Cyperus rotundus subsp rotundus (Nut grass)

- *Pennisetum clandestinum (Kikuyu)*
- Solanum maurtianum (Bugweed)
 Argemone Mexicana (Mexican
- poppy)
- Cestrum laevigatum (Inkberry)
- Opuntia ficus-indica (Prickly-pear)
- Tropaeolum majus (Nasturtium)
 Ricinus communis (Castor-oil
- plant)
- o Melia azedarach (Syringa)

3.1 Wetland and riverine buffer policy

Currently there are no formalised riverine or wetland buffer distances provided by the provincial authorities and as such the buffer model as described Macfarlane & Bredin (2017) for wetlands, rivers and estuaries was used.

These buffer models are based on the condition of the waterbody, the state of the remainder of the site, coupled to the type of development, as wells as the proposed alteration of hydrological flows. Based then on the information known for the site the buffer model provided the following:

Minor Drainage Lines and or watercourses None observed within 100m of the proposed development

Wetlands

None observed within 500m of the proposed development

4 Methodology

4.1 Terrestrial fauna and flora

A desktop and literature review of the study area under investigation was conducted to collate as much information as possible prior to detailed fieldwork. The purpose of the desktop assessment was to rank relevant areas according to their ecological sensitivity and to identify areas of ecological risk prior to the site visit.

Other relevant literature, for example from the South African Biodiversity Information Facility, South African Herpetological Atlas Projects, relevant Red Data books, ordinances and all systematic bioregional / conservation plans) was also reviewed.

Fieldwork was limited to visual sightings by means of transect walks and plot-based sampling. Particular attention was paid to the occurrence of Red Data species or protected species as follows:

<u>Vegetation units</u> were sampled by means of the following techniques at each of the proposed development sites:

- Data collection was plot-based and in the form of vegetation samples within selected reference areas to categorise the various vegetation units.
- Results from the data analysis provided a description of the dominant and typical species occurring on the site(s), and includes:
 - Threatened, endemic or rare species, with an indication of the relative functionality and conservation importance of the specific community in the area under investigation (i.e. study area);
 - o Invasive or exotic species present and localities in the area; and the
 - Functional and conservation importance of all vegetation communities in the investigation area.

Mammals& Birds were sampled by means of the following techniques:

- Fieldwork included visual sightings by means of transect walks to evaluate the presence of mammal taxa. During the site visit, specific attention was given to signs (droppings, burrows, vocalisations, etc.) of taxa and the presence of suitable habitat;
- A full list of species observed and expected to occur was made; and
- Specific reference was made to the occurrence of Red Data species.

Herpetofauna (reptiles and amphibians) were sampled by means of the following techniques:

- Visual observations;
- Active searching techniques; and
- Vocalisations (for amphibians).

Invertebrates were sampled by means of the following techniques:

- All taxa observed, were identified to species level if appropriate taxonomic literature is available (as is the case for butterflies), otherwise the concept known as Recognisable Taxonomic Units (RTUs) or morphospecies will be applied;
- The presence of conservation important taxa was verified by intensive searching of likely habitat types or burrows.

Additional information on faunal communities residing within the area of investigation was sourced from distributional data/records (both recent and historical), relevant literature, the private sector and other atlas projects.

Habitat areas (based on the species compositions of the vegetation analysis, topography and soils) were ranked into High / No-Go, Medium or Low classes in terms of their significance based on the Ecological Sensitivity and Conservation Importance. A sensitivity and habitat map (including buffer zones if applicable) was produced based on the above information. This combined with the aquatic sensitivity map will be utilised by the project proponent to finalise the development layout.

4.2 Aquatic Assessment

This study followed the approaches of several national guidelines with regards to wetland assessment. These have been modified by the author, to provide a relevant mechanism of assessing the present state of the study area aquatic systems, applicable to the specific environment and, in a clear and objective manner, identify and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed development site based on information collected within study area, noting that no features were observed, but this process as shown below was still followed to allow for verifiable assessment of the site and the DFFE Screening Tool Results.

Current water resource classification systems make use of the Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) approach, and for this reason, the National Wetland Classification System (NWCS) approach will be used in this study. It is also important to understand the legal definition of a wetland, the means of assessing wetland conservation and importance and the relevant legislation aimed at protecting wetlands. These aspects will be discussed in greater depth in this section of the report, as they form the basis of the study approach to assessing wetland impacts.

For reference the following definitions are as follows:

- **Drainage line**: A drainage line is a lower category or order of watercourse that does not have a clearly defined bed or bank. It carries water only during or immediately after periods of heavy rainfall i.e. non-perennial, and riparian vegetation may not be present.
- **Perennial and non-perennial:** Perennial systems contain flow or standing water for all or a large proportion of any given year, while non-perennial systems are episodic or ephemeral and thus contains flows for short periods, such as a few hours or days in the case of drainage lines.
- **Riparian**: The area of land adjacent to a stream or river that is influenced by stream-induced or related processes. Riparian areas which are saturated or flooded for prolonged periods would be considered wetlands and could be described as riparian wetlands. However, some riparian areas are not wetlands (e.g. an area where alluvium is periodically deposited by a stream during floods but which is well drained).

- Wetland: Land which is transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface, or the land is periodically covered with shallow water, and which under normal circumstances supports or would support vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil (Water Act 36 of 1998); land where an excess of water is the dominant factor determining the nature of the soil development and the types of plants and animals living at the soil surface (Cowardin *et al.*, 1979).
- Water course: As per the National Water Act means -

(a) a river or spring;

(b) a natural channel in which water flows regularly or intermittently;

(c) a wetland, lake or dam into which, or from which, water flows; and

(d) any collection of water which the Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, declare to be a watercourse, and a reference to a watercourse includes, where relevant, its bed and banks

4.2.1 Waterbody classification systems

Since the late 1960's, wetland classification systems have undergone a series of international and national revisions. These revisions allowed for the inclusion of additional wetland types, ecological and conservation rating metrics, together with a need for a system that would allude to the functional requirements of any given wetland (Ewart-Smith *et al.*, 2006). Wetland function is a consequence of biotic and abiotic factors, and wetland classification should strive to capture these aspects. **Coupled to this was the inclusion of other criteria within the classification systems to differentiate between river, riparian and wetland systems, as well as natural versus artificial waterbodies.**

The South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) in collaboration with several specialists and stakeholders developed the newly revised and now accepted National Wetland Classification Systems (NWCS) (Ollis *et al.*, 2013). This system comprises a hierarchical classification process of defining a wetland based on the principles of the hydrogeomorphic (HGM) approach at higher levels, with including structural features at the finer or lower levels of classification (Ollis *et al.*, 2013).

Wetlands develop in a response to elevated water tables, linked either to rivers, groundwater flows or seepage from aquifers (Parsons, 2004). These water levels or flows then interact with localised geology and soil forms, which then determines the form and function of the respective wetlands. Water is thus the common driving force, in the formation of wetlands (DWAF, 2005). It is significant that the HGM approach has now been included in the wetland classifications as the HGM approach has been adopted throughout the water resources management realm with regards to the determination of the Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) and WET-Health assessments for aquatic environments. All these systems are then easily integrated using the HGM approach in line with the Eco-classification process of river and wetland reserve determinations used by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). The Ecological Reserve of a wetland or river is used by DWS to assess the water resource allocations when assessing WULAs The NWCS process is provided in more detail in the methods section of the report, but some of the terms and definitions used in this document are present below:

Definition Box

Present Ecological State is a term for the current ecological condition of the resource. This is assessed relative to the deviation from the Reference State. Reference State/Condition is the natural or pre-impacted condition of the system. The reference state is not a static condition, but refers to the natural dynamics (range and rates of change or flux) prior to development. The PES is determined per component - for rivers and wetlands this would be for the drivers: flow, water quality and geomorphology; and the biotic response indicators: fish, macroinvertebrates, riparian vegetation and diatoms. PES categories for every component would be integrated into an overall PES for the river reach or wetland being investigated. This integrated PES is called the EcoStatus of the reach or wetland.

EcoStatus is the overall PES or current state of the resource. It represents the totality of the features and characteristics of a river and its riparian areas or wetland that bear upon its ability to support an appropriate natural flora and fauna and its capacity to provide a variety of goods and services. The EcoStatus value is an integrated ecological state made up of a combination of various PES findings from component EcoStatus assessments (such as for invertebrates, fish, riparian vegetation, geomorphology, hydrology, and water quality).

Reserve: The quantity and quality of water needed to sustain basic *human needs* and *ecosystems* (e.g. estuaries, rivers, lakes, groundwater and wetlands) to ensure ecologically sustainable development and utilisation of a water resource. The *Ecological Reserve* pertains specifically to aquatic ecosystems.

Reserve requirements: The quality, quantity and reliability of water needed to satisfy the requirements of basic human needs and the Ecological Reserve (inclusive of instream requirements).

Ecological Reserve determination study: The study undertaken to determine Ecological Reserve requirements.

Licensing applications: Water users are required (by legislation) to apply for licenses prior to extracting water resources from a water catchment or any other activity that qualifies as a water use.

Ecological Water Requirements: This is the quality and quantity of water flowing through a natural stream course that is needed to sustain instream functions and ecosystem integrity at an acceptable level as determined during an EWR study. These then form part of the conditions for managing achievable water quantity and quality conditions as stipulated in the **Reserve Template Water allocation process (compulsory licensing):** This is a process where all existing and new water users are requested to reapply for their licenses, particularly in stressed catchments where there is an over-allocation of water or an inequitable distribution of entitlements.

Ecoregions are geographic regions that have been delineated in a top-down manner on the basis of physical/abiotic factors. • NOTE: For purposes of the classification system, the 'Level I Ecoregions' for South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Kleynhans *et al.* 2005), which have been specifically developed by the Department of Water Affairs & Forestry (DWAF) for rivers but are used for the management of inland aquatic ecosystems more generally, are applied at Level 2A of the classification system. These Ecoregions are based on physiography, climate, geology, soils and potential natural vegetation.

Wetland definition

Although the National Wetland Classification System (NWCS) (Ollis *et al.*, 2013) is used to classify wetland types it is still necessary to understand the definition of a wetland. Terminology currently strives to characterise a wetland not only on its structure (visible form), but also to relate this to the function and value of any given wetland.

The Ramsar Convention definition of a wetland is widely accepted as "areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres" (Davis 1994). South Africa is a signatory to the Ramsar Convention and therefore its extremely broad definition of wetlands has been adopted for the proposed NWCS, with a few modifications.

Whereas the Ramsar Convention included marine water to a depth of six metres, the definition used for the NWCS extends to a depth of ten metres at low tide, as this is recognised as the seaward boundary of the shallow photic zone (Lombard et al., 2005). An additional minor adaptation of the definition is the removal of the term 'fen' as fens are considered a type of peatland. The adapted definition for the NWCS is, therefore, as follows (Ollis *et al.*, 2013): *WETLAND: an area of marsh, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed ten metres.*

This definition encompasses all ecosystems characterised by the permanent or periodic presence of water other than marine waters deeper than ten metres. The only legislated definition of wetlands in South Africa, however, is contained within the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA), where wetlands are defined as "land which is transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems, where the water table is usually at, or near the surface, or the land is periodically covered with shallow water and which land in normal circumstances supports, or would support, vegetation adapted to life in saturated soil." This definition is consistent with more precise working definitions of wetlands and therefore includes only a subset of ecosystems encapsulated in the Ramsar definition. It should be noted that the NWA definition is not concerned with marine systems and clearly distinguishes wetlands from estuaries, classifying the latter as a watercourse (Ollis *et al.,* 2013). Table 1 below provides a comparison of the various wetlands included within the main sources of wetland definitions used in South Africa.

Although a subset of Ramsar-defined wetlands was used as a starting point for the compilation of the first version of the National Wetland Inventory (i.e. "wetlands", as defined by the NWA, together with open waterbodies), it is understood that subsequent versions of the Inventory include the full suite of Ramsar-defined wetlands in order to ensure that South Africa meets its wetland inventory obligations as a signatory to the Convention (Ollis *et al.*, 2013). Wetlands must therefore have one or more of the following attributes to meet the above definition (DWAF, 2005):

- A high-water table that results in the saturation at or near the surface, leading to anaerobic conditions developing in the top 50 cm of the soil.
- Wetland or hydromorphic soils that display characteristics resulting from prolonged saturation, i.e. mottling or grey soils
- The presence of, at least occasionally, hydrophilic plants, i.e. hydrophytes (water loving plants).

It should be noted that riparian systems that are not permanently or periodically inundated are not considered true wetlands, i.e. those associated with the drainage lines and rivers.

Table 1: Comparison of ecosystems considered to be 'wetlands' as defined by the proposed NWCS, the NWA and ecosystems included in DWAF's (2005) delineation manual.

Ecosystem	NWCS "wetland"	National Water Act wetland	DWAF (2005) delineation manual
Marine	YES	NO	NO
Estuarine	YES	NO	NO
Waterbodies deeper than 2 m (i.e. limnetic habitats often described as lakes or dams)	YES	NO	NO
Rivers, channels and canals	YES	NO ¹	NO
Inland aquatic ecosystems that are not river channels and are less than 2 m deep Riparian ² areas that are	YES	YES	YES YES ³
permanently / periodically inundated or saturated with water within 50 cm of the surface			
Riparian ³ areas that are not permanently / periodically inundated or saturated with water within 50 cm of the surface	NO	NO	YES ³

¹ Although river channels and canals would generally not be regarded as wetlands in terms of the National Water Act, they are included as a 'watercourse' in terms of the Act

² According to the National Water Act and Ramsar, riparian areas are those areas that are saturated or flooded for prolonged periods and would be considered riparian wetlands, as opposed to non –wetland riparian areas that are only periodically inundated and the riparian vegetation persists due to having deep root systems drawing on water many meters below the surface.

³ The delineation of 'riparian areas' (including both wetland and non-wetland components) is treated separately to the delineation of wetlands in DWAF's (2005) delineation manual.

4.2.2 National Wetland Classification System method

Due to the nature of the wetlands and watercourses observed, it was determined that the newly accepted NWCS should be adopted. This classification approach has integrated aspects of the HGM approach used in the WET-Health system as well as the widely accepted eco-classification approach used for rivers.

The NWCS (Ollis *et al.*, 2013) as stated previously, uses hydrological and geomorphological traits to distinguish the primary wetland units, i.e. direct factors that influence wetland function. Other wetland assessment techniques, such as the DWAF (2005) delineation method, only infer wetland function based on abiotic and biotic descriptors (size, soils & vegetation) stemming from the Cowardin approach (Ollis *et al.*, 2013).

The classification system used in this study is thus based on Ollis *et al.* (2013) and is summarised below:

The NWCS has a six-tiered hierarchical structure, with four spatially nested primary levels of classification (Figure 2). The hierarchical system firstly distinguishes between Marine, Estuarine and Inland ecosystems (**Level 1**), based on the degree of connectivity the particular system has with the open ocean (greater than 10 m in depth). Level 2 then categorises the regional wetland setting using a combination of biophysical attributes at the landscape level, which operate at a broad bioregional scale.

This is opposed to specific attributes such as soils and vegetation. Level 2 has adopted the following systems:

- Inshore bioregions (marine)
- Biogeographic zones (estuaries)
- Ecoregions (Inland)

Level 3 of the NWCS assess the topographical position of inland wetlands as this factor broadly defines certain hydrological characteristics of the inland systems. Four landscape units based on topographical position are used in distinguishing between Inland systems at this level. No subsystems are recognised for Marine systems, but estuaries are grouped according to their periodicity of connection with the marine environment, as this would affect the biotic characteristics of the estuary.

Level 4 classifies the hydrogeomorphic (HGM) units discussed earlier. The HGM units are defined as follows:

- Landform shape and localised setting of wetland
- Hydrological characteristics nature of water movement into, through and out of the wetland
- Hydrodynamics the direction and strength of flow through the wetland

These factors characterise the geomorphological processes within the wetland, such as erosion and deposition, as well as the biogeochemical processes.

Level 5 of the assessment pertains to the classification of the tidal regime within the marine and estuarine environments, while the hydrological and inundation depth classes are determined for inland wetlands. Classes are based on frequency and depth of inundation, which are used to determine the functional unit of the wetlands and are considered secondary discriminators within the NWCS.

Level 6 uses six descriptors to characterise the wetland types based on biophysical features. As with Level 5, these are non-hierarchal in relation to each other and are applied in any order, dependent on the availability of information. The descriptors include:

- Geology;
- Natural vs. Artificial;
- Vegetation cover type;
- Substratum;
- Salinity; and
- Acidity or Alkalinity

It should be noted that where sub-categories exist within the above descriptors, hierarchical systems are employed, and these are thus nested in relation to each other.

The HGM unit (Level 4) is the focal point of the NWCS, with the upper levels (Figure 3 Figure – Inland systems only) providing means to classify the broad bio-geographical context for grouping functional wetland units at the HGM level, while the lower levels provide more descriptive detail on the particular wetland type characteristics of a particular HGM unit. Therefore Level 1 – 5 deals with functional aspects, while Level 6 classifies wetlands on structural aspects.

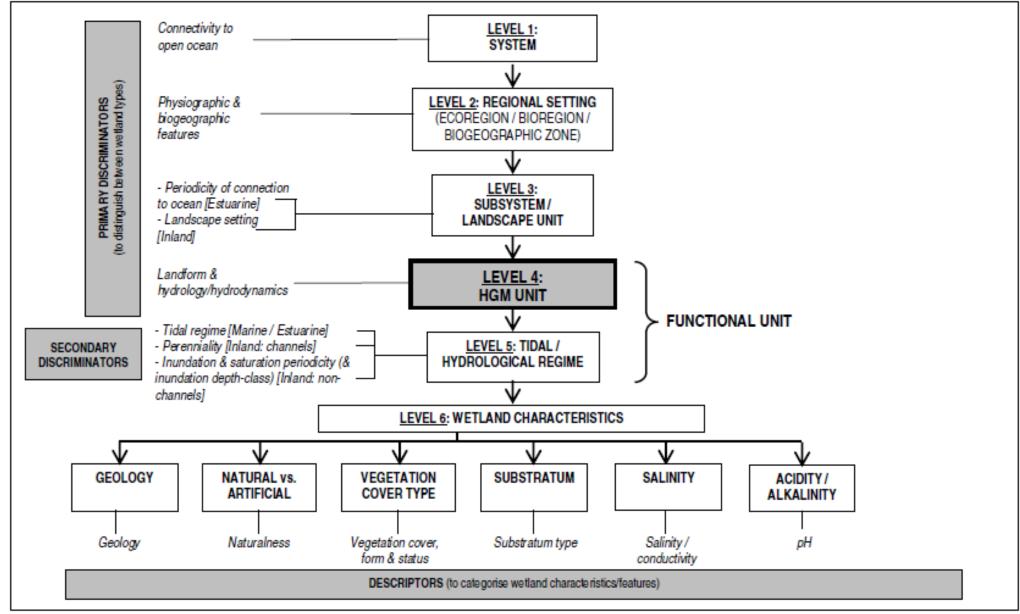


Figure 2: Basic structure of the NWCS, showing how 'primary discriminators' are applied up to Level 4 to classify Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) Units, with 'secondary discriminators' applied at Level 5 to classify the tidal/hydrological regime, and 'descriptors' applied

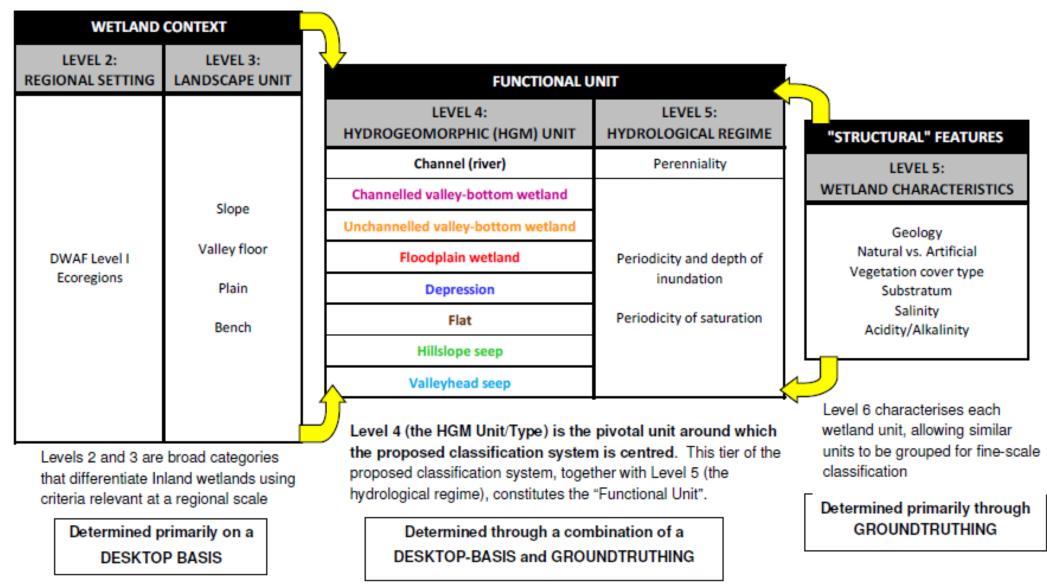


Figure 3: Illustration of the conceptual relationship of HGM Units (at Level 4) with higher and lower levels (relative sizes of the boxes show the increasing spatial resolution and level of detail from the higher to the lower levels) for Inland Systems (from Ollis *et al.*, 2013)

4.2.3 Waterbody condition

To assess the PES or condition of the observed wetlands, a modified Wetland Index of Habitat Integrity (DWAF, 2007) was used. The Wetland Index of Habitat Integrity (WETLAND-IHI) is a tool developed for use in the National Aquatic Ecosystem Health Monitoring Programme (NAEHMP), formerly known as the River Health Programme (RHP). The output scores from the WETLAND-IHI model are presented in the standard DWAF A-F ecological categories (Table 2) and provide a score of the PES of the habitat integrity of the wetland system being examined. The author has included additional criteria into the model-based system to include additional wetland types. This system is preferred when compared to systems such as WET-Health – wetland management series (WRC 2009), as WET-Health (Level 1) was developed with wetland rehabilitation in mind and is not always suitable for impact assessments. This coupled with the degraded state of the wetlands in the study area, indicated that a complex study approach was not warranted, i.e. conduct a Wet-Health Level 2 and WET-Ecosystems Services study required for an impact assessment.

ECOLOGICAL CATEGORY	ECOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION	MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE	
A	Unmodified, natural.	Protected systems; relatively untouched by human hands; no discharges or impoundments allowed	
В	Largely natural with few modifications. A small change in natural habitats and biota may have taken place but the ecosystem functions are essentially unchanged.	Some human-related disturbance, but mostly of low impact potential	
с	Moderately modified. Loss and change of natural habitat and biota have occurred, but the basic ecosystem functions are still predominantly unchanged.	Multiple disturbances associated with need for socio-economic development, e.g. impoundment, habitat modification and water quality degradation	
D	Largely modified. A large loss of natural habitat, biota and basic ecosystem functions has occurred.		
E	Seriously modified. The loss of natural habitat, biota and basic ecosystem functions is extensive.	Often characterized by high human densities or	
F	Critically / Extremely modified. Modifications have reached a critical level and the system has been modified completely with an almost complete loss of natural habitat and biota. In the worst instances the basic ecosystem functions have been destroyed and the changes are irreversible.	extensive resource exploitation. Management intervention is needed to improve health, e.g. to restore flow patterns, river habitats or water quality	

Table 2: Description of A – F ecological categories based on Kleynhans et al., (2005)

The WETLAND-IHI model is composed of four modules. The "Hydrology", "Geomorphology" and "Water Quality" modules all assess the contemporary driving processes behind wetland formation and maintenance. The last module, "Vegetation Alteration", provides an indication of the intensity of human land use activities

on the wetland surface itself and how these may have modified the condition of the wetland. The integration of the scores from these 4 modules provides an overall PES score for the wetland system being examined. The WETLAND-IHI model is an MS Excel-based model, and the data required for the assessment are generated during a site visit.

Additional data may be obtained from remotely sensed imagery (aerial photos; maps and/or satellite imagery) to assist with the assessment. The interface of the WETLAND-IHI has been developed in a format which is similar to DWA's River EcoStatus models which are currently used for the assessment of PES in riverine environments.

4.2.4 Aquatic ecosystem importance and function

South Africa is a Contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, and has thus committed itself to this intergovernmental treaty, which provides the framework for the national protection of wetlands and the resources they could provide. Wetland conservation is now driven by the South African National Biodiversity Institute, a requirement under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No 10 of 2004).

Wetlands are among the most valuable and productive ecosystems on earth, providing important opportunities for sustainable development (Davies and Day, 1998). However, wetlands in South Africa are still rapidly being lost or degraded through direct human induced pressures (Nel *et al.*, 2004).

The most common attributes or goods and services provided by wetlands include:

- Improve water quality;
- Impede flow and reduce the occurrence of floods;
- Reeds and sedges used in construction and traditional crafts;
- Bulbs and tubers, a source of food and natural medicine;
- Store water and maintain base flow of rivers;
- Trap sediments; and
- Reduce the number of water-borne diseases.

In terms of this study, the wetlands provide ecological (environmental) value to the area acting as refugia for various wetland associated plants, butterflies and birds.

In the past wetland conservation has focused on biodiversity as a means of substantiating the protection of wetland habitat. However not all wetlands provide such motivation for their protection, thus wetland managers and conservationists began assessing the importance of wetland function within an ecosystem.

Table 3 below summarises the importance of wetland function when related to ecosystem services or ecoservices (Kotze *et al.,* 2008). One such example is emergent reed bed wetlands that function as transformers converting inorganic nutrients into organic compounds (Mitsch and Gosselink, 2000).

Table 3: Summary of direct and indirect ecoservices provided by wetlands from Kotze et al., 2008

		fits	Flood attenu	ation
<u>s</u>	Indirect benefits	Hydro-geochemical benefits	Stream flow regulation	
and			Water quality enhancement benefits	Sediment trapping
vetl				Phosphate assimilation
^ ^o				Nitrate assimilation
ed I				Toxicant assimilation
supplied by wetlands				Erosion control
			Carbon storage	
ices		Biodiversi	ty maintenanc	e
ervi	Direct benefits	Provision	of water for hu	iman use
a s		Provision of harvestable resources ²		
/ste		Provision of cultivated foods		
Ecosystem services		Cultural significance		
ŭ		Tourism and recreation		
		Education	and research	

Conservation importance of the individual wetlands was based on the following criteria:

- Habitat uniqueness;
- Species of conservation concern;
- Habitat fragmentation or rather, continuity or intactness with regards to ecological corridors; and
- Ecosystem service (social and ecological).

The presence of any or a combination of the above criteria would result in a HIGH conservation rating if the wetland was found in a near natural state (high PES). Should any of the habitats be found modified the conservation importance would rate as MEDIUM, unless a Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) was observed, in which case it would receive a HIGH rating. Any system that was highly modified (low PES) or had none of the above criteria, received a LOW conservation importance rating. Wetlands with HIGH and MEDIUM ratings should thus be excluded from development with incorporation into a suitable open space system, with the maximum possible buffer being applied. Natural wetlands or Wetlands that resemble some form of the past landscape but receive a LOW conservation importance rating could be included into stormwater management features and should not be developed to retain the function of any ecological corridors.

5 Description of the affected environment

5.1 Climate

The site is located within the bimodal rainfall region of South Africa, with a Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) for the coastal region at ca. 670 – 731 mm per annum. Annual average temperatures range between 8 and 25°C, with frost a rare occurrence of no more than 3 days per year (Mucina & Rutherford, 2007).

5.2 Geology and soils

The site is underlain by unconsolidated calcareous sand (vegetated coastal dunes) and minor palaeosols of the Schelmhoek formation.

5.3 Slope and aspect

The region is characterised by undulating dunes that have become stable / vegetated over time and range between 140 to 125 mASL (m Above Sea Level).

5.4 Terrestrial environment

The study area spans two vegetation types defined by Mucina and Rutherford (2007), as amended in the National Vegetation Map 2012 and 2017/18 spatial information (Figure 4). This vegetation unit, known as Algoa Sandstone Fynbos (FFs 29), a form of Algoa Grassy Fynbos, is listed as Critically Endangered and is therefore considered a Threatened Ecosystem (Figure 3), as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act.

Typically thee species associated with Algoa Sandstone Fynbos are dominated by a variety of grasses, Ericas and Proteas, and is only located within a narrow coastal belt between the Van Stadens River in the West and Summerstrand in the East, within NMBM.

A potential species checklist is included in Appendix 3, however as disturbance had taken place within the site in the past, evidenced by the high number of invasive plants species (Plate 1) listed above, illegal waste / building rubble disposal (Plate 2) and presence of old building foundations or concrete slabs (Plate 3). None of the dominant Protea or Erica species were observed typical of Algoa Sandstone Fynbos were observed.

The species observed are however more related to dune pioneer and early successional state species (Plate 4), such as *Passerina rigida, Osteospermum moniliferum, Metalasia muricata, Elegia macrocarpa, Phylica littoralis, Setaria sphacelate torta, Imperata cylindrica* and *Helichrysum aureum*. Several areas of invasive grass species in areas that were mapped incorrectly as wetlands in the National Spatial databases were also observed (Plate 5), and these included areas of *Stenotaphrum secundatum* (Buffalo grass) and *Cenchrus clandestinus* (Kikuyu).

Thus in summary no evidence of this Fynbos vegetation unit remains, and the site is thus either transformed due to the activities mentioned above or due to past clearing of the site based on previous development approvals that then lapsed. The site is this mostly covered by the dune and or alien vegetation above and the second habitat / vegetation unit identified within the site, namely, Sardinia Forest Thicket (Figure 4 & 5). This vegetation unit was previously considered Algoa Dune Strandveld and or Southern Coastal Forest, but recent work by Grobler *et al.*, (2018) has seen the revision of the vegetation unit and have it aligned with the NMBM Vegetation Map (Figure 5).

Sardinia Forest Thicket only occurs in a narrow coastal band no more than 5km from the coastline, between Seaview and Walmer Heights, within the NMBM. This unit thus dominates the undulating dunes, that are wind and fire protected, that contain dense thickets of trees between 3 - 5m in height.

In mature / undisturbed forest thicket patches, found mostly south of the proposed site, species observed included the following: *Azima tetracantha, Olea exasperata, Euclea racemosa, Searsia glauca, Searsia crenata, Carissa bispinosa, Cassine peragua, Cussonia thyrsiflora, Grewia occidentalis, Gymnosporia buxifolia, Gymnosporia capitata, Maytenus procumbens, Mystroxylon aethiopicum, Robsonodendron maritimum (e), Putterlickia pyracantha, Searsia pterota, Roepera morgsana.*

Species observed within the development site included the following which included several dune forest pioneer species, which is expected near previously disturbed areas,

Tecoma stans	Agathosma stenopetala
Vachellia karroo	Euclea racemosa racemosa
Grewia occidentalis	Adenocline acuta
Rhamnus prinoides	Zanthoxylum capense
Pittosporum viridiflorum	Sideroxylon inerme inerme
Scadoxus puniceus	Allophylus decipiens
Ficus burkei	Searsia crenata
Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus	Searsia glauca
Euclea racemosa	Searsia laevigata laevigata
Mystroxylon aethiopicum aethiopicum	Searsia lucida scoparia
Vepris lanceolata	Scutia myrtina
Loxostylis alata	Rapanea gilliana
Crassula multicava multicava	Putterlickia pyracantha
Clausena anisata	Carissa bispinosa bispinosa
Canthium inerme	Azima tetracantha
Crotalaria capensis	Colpoon compressum
Abutilon sonneratianum	Rhoicissus tridentata tridentata
Silene undulata undulata	Phylica litoralis
Rhoiacarpos capensis	Setaria sphacelata torta
Lamium amplexicaule	Imperata cylindrica
Olea exasperata	Tarchonanthus littoralis

Of importance was the presence of several Southern Milkwood tree (*Sideroxylon inerme*) and *Rapanea gilliana* (Dwarf Cape Beech), which are considered **Endangered B1ab(ii,iii,iv,v)**. Therefore it became important to map any of these forest thicket patches, even if they still contain alien trees, and present these areas as No-Go habitats.

Figure 5, indicates vegetation mapping related to the bioregional assessment conducted by SRK (2014) for NMBM. The associated mapping detail indicates that the site could contain Sardinia Forest Thicket in the southern half and Thornhill Forest and Thornveld in the northern half. This was possible due to the higher prevalence of *Vachellia karroo* (Sweet Thorn), however this portion of the site was mostly dominated by alien thickets, or previous disturbance / early forest successional areas. However as any intact areas could be associated with a forest / thicket complex regardless of its derivation, these areas were also excluded from the development footprint.

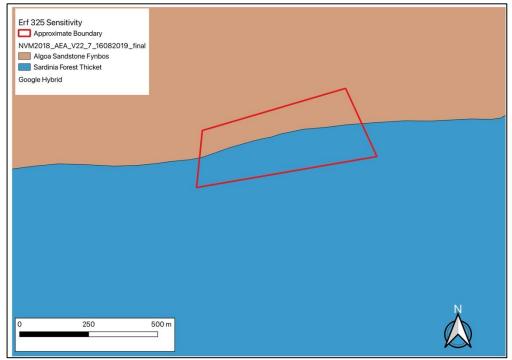


Figure 4: Vegetation South Africa VegMap as per Mucina & Rutherford (2007) revised 2024



Figure 5: NMBM Vegetation map (SRK, 2014)



Plate 1: A view of the central western portion (left), and central eastern (right) portion of the site dominated by invader / encroaching grass and alien species (Australian gums, Acacias and Opuntia)



Plate 2: A regular garden waste disposal area



Plate 3: A view of one of several areas that contain quarry / concrete waste from past activities



Plate 4: A view of successional dune vegetation, bordering on more intact forest thicket in the background, the latter excluded from the development area. Note some alien clearing took place in 2023/2024, conducted by a braai wood seller, with felled unusable brush in the foreground.



Plate 5: A view of monospecific invader/encroaching grass area, incorrectly shown as wetland areas in National Spatial Databases due their colouration as seen in aerial photographs, i.e. not ground truthed

Table 4, includes species highlighted by the DFFE Screening tool, that are rated as having a Medium Sensitivity within the site. These species were actively searched for, with none of the species highlighted (Table 4) being observed with the exception of the one tree *Rapanea gilliana*, located in the forested areas.

Table 4: Sensitive plant species (Medium Sensitivity) that have the potential to occur within the site according to the DFFE Screening Tool Results.

Screening Tool Plant Species*	Conservation importance	Habitat	Observed Y/N
Agathosma gonaquensis	Critically Endangered	Several known locations along the	No
		Baakens River	
Agathosma stenopetala	Vulnerable B1ab(iii)	Tertiary sands	No
Argyrolobium crassifolium	Endangered A2c; B1ab	Grassland below 300mASL	No
Aspalathus recurvispina	Critically Endangered	All six locations known through	No
	B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii); C2a(ii)	historical records are in areas now	
		transformed to suburbs of Port	
		Elizabeth, and it was thought extinct until a small subpopulation of ± 200	
		plants was found in a 1.5 ha roadside	
		fragment of natural vegetation in	
		Humewood. This subpopulation is	
		likely to continue declining due to	
		the effects of fragmentation and	
		degradation of the habitat, as well	
Constinues and a second		as alien plant invasion.	Ne
Caputia scaposa var. addoensis Centella tridentata var.	Endangered B1ab(iii)	Known in the Baakens River Valley	No
Centella triaentata var. hermanniifolia	Rare	This species has been recorded from only five sites, most of which are	
nermannigona		mountain slopes that are not	
		threatened. It is therefore listed	
		under the IUCN 3.1 Criteria, globally,	
		as Least Concern but is nationally	
		categorised as Rare.	
Corpuscularia lehmannii	Critically Endangered	Two remaining subpopulations are	No
	B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	severely fragmented and continue	
		to decline due to ongoing habitat	
		loss. At one of the remaining locations near Coega >60% of this	
		species' habitat has been lost to	
		mining in the past five years	
Erica chloroloma	Vulnerable	Coastal dune fynbos	No
	B1ab(ii,iii,iv,v)+2ab(ii,iii,iv,v)		
Erica zeyheriana	Vulnerable A4bc; B1ab+2ab	Remnant lowland grassy fynbos on	No
<u> </u>		sand.	
Erica glumiflora	Vulnerable B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	Remnant lowland grassy fynbos on sand.	No
Gymnosporia elliptica	Vulnerable B1ab	Coastal plains, with specimens	No
Gynnospona emptica	Vullerable brab	recorded along the Baakens River in	110
		the past	
Holothrix longicornu	Critically Endangered	Lower sandstone slopes thought to	No
		be extinct	
Rapanea gilliana	Endangered B1ab	Coastal sand dunes	Yes on forest margins
Selago rotundifolia	Vulnerable B1ab	Forest margins or grassy flats	No
	-		
Sensitive species 1252	Vulnerable A2cd	Thickets and forest areas	No
Sensitive species 991	Endangered B2ab	Coastal sands	No
Sensitive species 236	Vulnerable B1ab	Coastal forelands	No
Sensitive species 448	Vulnerable B1ab	Sandy loam, clay or moderately fertile soils derived forms the	No
		Witteberg slopes, mostly confined	
		to the coastal plain	
Sensitive species 588	Vulnerable B1ab(ii,iii,v)	Between low scrub and sand dunes	
·		on lowland flats in areas with an	
		annual rainfall of 400-800 mm.	
Sensitive species 654	Vulnerable C2a(i)	Sandy fynbos associated on flat	No
		plains	
Sensitive species 657	Endangered B2ab(iii,v)	Sandy flats, within open grassy areas	Possible

Sensitive species 670	Vulnerable B1ab(ii,iii,iv,v)	Algoa Sandstone Fynbos and Possible, been observed south
		Sardinia Forest Thicket associated of the site within the forest
		areas

*Due to the sensitivity of some of the species, the names of which are not allowed to be shown

Table 5, includes the faunal species observed during this assessment, most of which are considered sensitive or conservation needy and for this reason are protected. These records were also compared to anecdotal sitings reported by residents, as well as those recorded in iNaturalist (<u>https://www.inaturalist.org/search 15</u> <u>September 2024</u> – Appendix 3). Bird, invertebrate and arachnid species dominated the various observations, as well as several mammal records confirmed in this assessment (scat, spoor and previous sitings).

With regards Species 8. (Mammal), *Chlorotalpa duthieae* (Mammal) listed by the DFFE Screening Tool, are thus likely to occur within the site, but would disperse to the remainder of the site once construction starts. The invertebrate, *Aneuryphymus montanus* occurrence is unknown due to past and present disturbance within the site, but is a high mobile species and could also disperse easily as it is typically migratory.

Similarly any of the birds listed as having high sensitivity, could frequent the site, with the DFFE screening tool having listed these species; *Circus ranivorus, Bradypterus sylvaticus, Stephanoaetus coronatus, Neotis denhami.* Both the raptors are regular visitors (African Marsh Harrier & Crown Eagle), while the Warbler (*Bradypterus sylvaticus*) may occur although highly mobile, while the Denham's Bustards is unlikely to occur due to the lack of available habitat / high level of disturbance and human movement in the area.

Notably no amphibia were observed or heard calling within the site , but several Bronze cacos (*Cacosternum namum*) were heard calling in the artificial pond just beyond the site on Blumberg Rd (Plate 6).

Table 5: Faunal species observed within the site

Taxon	Common Name	Conservation status and habitat	Site observation				
Invertebrates							
Phymateus viridipes Green milkweed locust Least Concern Reptiles							
		-puies					
Hemidactylus mabouia	Common Tropical House Gecko	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Observed in building rubble near Chopin Rd				
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	1 specimen near the Blumberg Rd Entrance				
Chersina angulata	Angulate Tortoise	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	2 in the central areas of the site				
Bradypodion ventrale	Eastern Cape Dwarf Chameleon	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Forest areas				
Scelotes anguinus	Algoa Dwarf Burrowing Skink	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Sandy dune areas (Plate 7)				
Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Herald	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Several road kill observations over the past years while traveling around the site				
Dispholidus typus	Boomslang	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Roadkill on Blumberg Rd boundary (2022) (Plate 8)				
Lycodonomorphus inornatus	Olive Snake	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Observed crossing Michael Angelo Rd entrance areas				
Duberria lutrix	Common Slug-eater	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Commonly found in the area (Plate 9)				
Philothamnus occidentalis	Western Natal Green Snake	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Commonly found in the area				
Lygodactylus capensis	Common Dwarf Gecko	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Budling rubble an				
Psammophis crucifer	Cross-marked Sand Snake	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Disturbed grassland area				
Bitis arietans	Puffadder	Least Concern (ARRSA, 2023) Widespread	Several seen and one near Brahams Rd entrance (Plate 10)				
	E	Birds					
Euplectes capensis	Bishop, Yellow	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Flyover				
Corvus albus	Crow, Pied	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Flyover				
Streptopelia senegalensis	Dove, Laughing	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Bostrychia hagedash	Ibis, Hadeda	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Passer melanurus	Sparrow, Cape	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Pycnonotus capensis	Cape Bulbul	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Alopochen aegyptiacus	Egyptian Goose	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Flyover				
Motacilla capensis	Cape Wagtail	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Tauraco corythaix	Knysna Loerie / Tauraco	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				
Bubo africanus africanus	African Spotted Eagle-owl	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site				

Dicrurus adsimilis adsimilis	Coastal Forktail Drongo	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Colius striatus striatus	Cape Speckled Mousebird	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Melaenornis silens	Fiscal Flycatcher	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Batis capensis capensis	Forest Cape Batis	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Dendropicos griseocephalus griseocephalus	Southern Olive Woodpecker	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Apalis thoracica thoracica	Albany Barthroat Apalis	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Andropadus importunus importunus	Southern Sombre Greenbul	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Passer diffusus	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Telophorus olivaceus	Olive Bushshrike	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Turdus olivaceus olivaceus	Cape Olive Thrush	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Zosterops virens virens	Green Cape White-eye	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Columba arquatrix	African Olive Pigeon	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Laniarius ferrugineus natalensis	Eastern Boubou	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Phyllastrephus terrestris	Terrestrial Brownbul	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Accipiter minullus	Little Sparrowhawk	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Pternistis afer castaneiventer	Cape Red-necked Spurfowl	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Cuculus solitarius	Red-chested Cuckoo	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Sarothrura elegans	Buff-spotted Flufftail	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
Numida meleagris	Helmeted Guinea-fowl	RDB, 2015 Least Concern	Feeding within site
	N	lammals	
Myosorex varius	Forest Shrew	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
Tragelaphus sylvaticus sylvaticus	Cape Bushbuck	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
Sylvicapra grimmia	Common Duiker	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
	Course Coursel	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
Caracal caracal caracal	Cape Caracal	Regional RD List (2010), Least Concern	Observed
Caracal caracal caracal Graphiurus murinus	Woodland Dormouse	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
Graphiurus murinus	Woodland Dormouse	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed
Graphiurus murinus Mus musculus Hystrix africaeaustralis	Woodland Dormouse House Mouse	Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern Regional RD List (2016), Least Concern	Observed Observed



Plate 6: A artificial pond used as a watering hole and habitat for birds and frogs along Blumberg Rd, but outside the development boundary



Plate 7: Algoa Dwarf Burrowing Skink (*Scelotes anguineus*) found in leaf detritus in the southern forested section of the site



Plate 8: A Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*) frequently observed in the study area, and mostly high up in trees or as road kill victim



Plate 9: Several Common Slugeaters (*Duberria lutrix*) were observed within the site, and are often spotted moving in the Sardinia Bay / Mount Pleasant forest thicket areas below leaf litter



Plate 10: Another common resident snake (Puffadder – *Bitis arietans*) in the greater study area, this young individual was observed moving along Brahams Rd towards the entrance of the site



Plate 11: Forest shrew (*Myosorex varius*), observed near the north western boundary of the site, found eating a slug, a typical food source

5.5 Aquatic Environment

The proposed project site is located in within the upper catchment areas of the Baakens River (M20A) (Figure 6), but due to the nature of the portion of catchment (coastal dunes), no direction connection with any watercourses, wetlands or aquatic bodies are known to occur.

Further the study site is excluded from any National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Atlas areas (NFEPA - Nel *et al.,* 2011, Strategic Water Resources Areas and Wetland Clusters (Figure 7). The site is however considered part of an Ecological Support Areas identified in the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan (2019) (Figure 7), but no Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Areas would be affected. The watercourse shown in Figure 7 does not exist and a contour modelling artefact.

Further none of the potential wetlands as shown in the Wetland Inventory were observed (Figure 6) The remaining features near the site are man-made stormwater features such as the detention pond (Plate 12) and the watering hole (see Plate 5), but none of these although well outside the site would trigger any water use license requirements and or impacts.

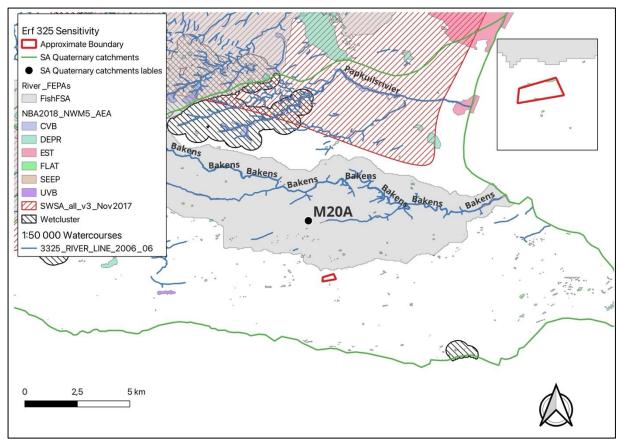


Figure 6: Watercourses and mainstem rivers known within the greater catchments as well as any known NFEPAs, SWSA and wetlands within the subquaternary catchment M20A

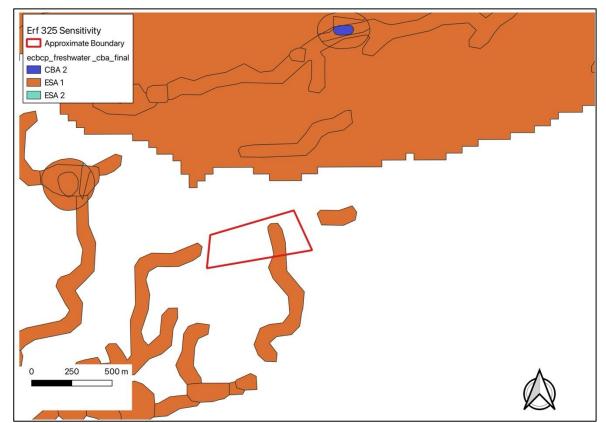


Figure 7: Results of the ECBCP 2019, for the Aquatic Environment



Plate 12: The stormwater detention pond on Blumberg Rd and north of the proposed developments boundary

6 Site Sensitivity

Using the baseline description and the field data collected, while considering the current disturbances and site characteristics, were identified, then categorised into one of number pre-determined sensitivity categories to provide protection and/or guide the development of the layout.

In summary the various habitats or land cover areas have been rated based on the following:

Very High = No Go	"No go" areas or setbacks and areas or features that are considered of such significance that impacting them may be regarded as fatal flaw or strongly influence the project impact significance profile Therefore areas or features that are considered to have a high sensitivity or where project infrastructure would be highly constrained and should be avoided as far as possible. Infrastructure located in these areas are likely to drive up impact significance ratings and mitigations
Medium	Buffer areas and or areas that are deemed to be of medium sensitivity but should still be avoid as this would minimise impacts and or the need for additional Water Use Authorisation
Low	Areas of low sensitivity or constraints, such as artificial systems with little to no biological value or would not result in any future licensing requirements e.g. dry earth wall farm dams
Neutral	Unconstrained areas (left blank in mapping)

Based then on the criteria above and the observed habitats. Several sensitive habitats were thus found within the study area and the site sensitivity ranged from Low to Very High (No-Go)(Figure 8). Noting that in so doing, most of Terrestrial Critical Biodiversity Areas, that are associated with the intact habitats will thus be protected (Figure 9). To reiterate, no habitat that would resemble the Critically Endangered Algoa Sandstone Fynbos was found intact within the site due to past activities and the high density of alien vegetation, however the Sardinia Forest Thicket was.

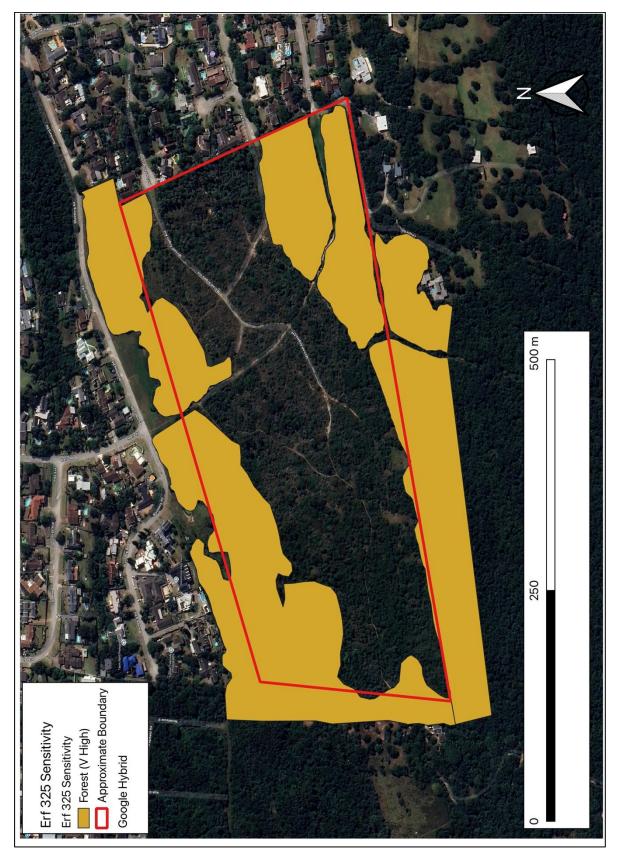


Figure 8: Site sensitivity rating where Very High / No-Go areas are shown while the remainder of the site would be considered LOW

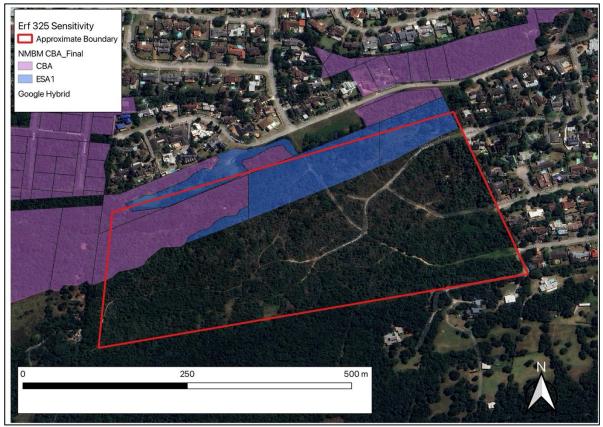


Figure 9: NMBM, 2014 Critical Biodiversity Areas (Terrestrial)

7 Impact Assessment

During this investigation it was found that the greatest number of impacts would occur within the terrestrial environment and none would be related to any natural aquatic systems / watercourses.

With regard to the decommissioning phase, this would be the same as the construction phase, with a degree of impact reversal with rehabilitation of the natural veld conditions.

7.1 No-Go Option

With regard the No-Go option it is assumed that the site would continue to remain unchanged and remain in its current natural condition, which would see a steady increase in the alien tree cover, and or rubble being dumped. This would continue into the long-term with a Low to Moderate intensity that would impact on the local scale and no mitigations are thus proposed other than consistent alien clearing should the site remain vacant.

7.2 Alternative Assessment

No technical alternatives were assessed in this report due to the design constraints, however the sensitivity information contained in this assessment led to the development of 2 alternative layouts (Figures 10 & 11) with the final layout seeing a reduction in overall number of units and an increase in open space areas and space around the respective units. This is in addition to the Private Open Spaces earmarked by the No-Go areas, i.e. approximately 44% of the total development will remain under natural vegetation.



Figure 11: Original layout incorporating the no-go areas

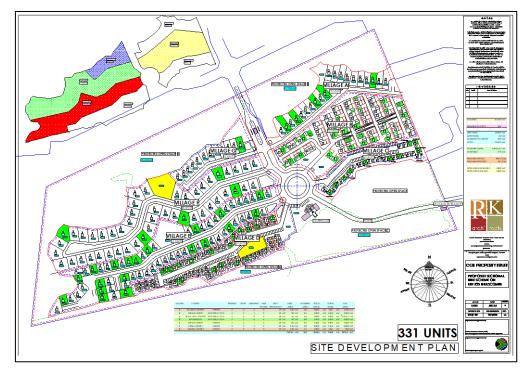


Figure 12: Final layout assessed in this impact section – Preferred option

7.3 Terrestrial Impacts

7.3.1 Impact 1: Loss of vegetation and in particular species / habitats that are unique listed as threatened or contain higher numbers of listed / protected species (plant & or animal)

Impact 1		ould contain particular species / itats
	The destruction of habitats that are that are unique or contain higher numbers of listed / protected species. While the site vegetation units has been classified as Critically Endangered (Algoa Sandstone Fynbos) & Vulnerable (Sardinia Forest Thicket), fine scale mapping of these units was employed to indicate important areas that should not be developed, to protect viable habitat units that could contain important plant species or are habitats / corridors for animal species Description of Impact development will be required. However the proposed site will only impact	
areas that are currently disturbed, previou proposed layout thus makes use of the area	s, which have seen a great deal of dist	turbance in the past.
Type of Impact		irect
Nature of Impact	-	ative
Phases	Construction	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
Intensity	High	Medium
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term
Extent	Regional	Local
Consequence	Very High	Low
Probability	Probable	Possible
Significance	Very High -	Very Low -
Degree to which impact can be reversed	Medium	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Medium	
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -	
Mitigation actions		
The following measures are recommended:	 It is recommended that the development option discussed in this assessment, the Preferred option, be selected that will avoid any residual impacts on sensitive habitats. All temporary works areas (laydowns and camps) can only be placed in previously disturbed areas within the site, and this includes any temporary access roads or storage areas. Alien vegetation management must be initiated at the beginning of the construction period and must extend into any remaining areas into the operation phase. It is recommended as best practice to conduct a search and rescue programme for any listed or protected plants species, although this consideration was not used to reduce the 	

	relocated into areas that w	ny plants removed could easily be vill need rehabilitation post o nearby conservation areas.
Monitoring		
The following monitoring is recommended:	previously degraded areas project, with the involvem revegetation specification • Regeneration of alien vege	etation must be monitored once all forming part of a long-term alien
Cumulative impacts		
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
	Low -	Low -

7.3.2 Impact 2: Loss of habitat containing protected species or Species of Special Concern

Impact 2 Loss of habitat containing protected species or Species of Special Concern

Issue	Based on the observations made, it and listed species do occur and the	was evident that several protected se can be avoided.
	Description of Impact	
During construction, vegetation clearing for any sensitive habitats, as indicated in this as		ver the layout was revised to avoid
Type of Impact	Indi	rect
Nature of Impact	Negative	
Phases	Construction	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
Intensity	Very Low	Medium
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term
Extent	Local	Local
Consequence	Low	Low
Probability	Probable	Possible
Significance	Low -	Very Low -
Degree to which impact can be reversed	High	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Low	
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -	
Mitigation actions		

 It is recommended that the development option discuss this assessment, the Preferred option, be selected that avoid any residual impacts on sensitive habitats. All temporary works areas (laydowns and camps) can or placed in previously disturbed areas within the site, and includes any temporary access roads or storage areas. Alien vegetation management must be initiated at the beginning of the construction period and must extend ir remaining areas into the operation phase on the Tankat Farm. It is recommended as best practice to conduct a search rescue programme for any listed or protected plants spe although this consideration was not used to reduce the potential impact ratings. Any plants removed could eas relocated into areas that will need rehabilitation post construction. 		rred option, be selected that will on sensitive habitats. (laydowns and camps) can only be bed areas within the site, and this cess roads or storage areas. Thent must be initiated at the ion period and must extend into any peration phase on the Tankatara c practice to conduct a search and r listed or protected plants species, n was not used to reduce the Any plants removed could easily be
Monitoring The following monitoring is recommended:	 The revegetation of any temporary sites as well as any previously degraded areas must begin from the onset of the project, with the involvement of a botanist to assist with the revegetation specifications. Regeneration of alien vegetation must be monitored once all areas have been cleared, forming part of a long-term alien vegetation management plan 	
Cumulative impacts		
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
	Low -	Low -

7.3.3 Impact 3: Loss of any critical corridors and connected habitats that are linked to any future conservation plans or protected areas expansion or form part of existing animal movement corridors

Impact 3	Loss of any critical corridors and connected habitats that are linked to any conservation plans or critical biodiversity spatial plans
Issue	The preferred layout was developed to provide a mechanism to retain important forest habitat in particular. This was provided by considering the No-Go areas, that also included a small margin around some areas that would represent the more intact dune vegetation. This then allows for a mosaic that would cater for both plant and

animal species observed. Further, the preferred layout also then caters for allowing for a corridor between other local Ecological Support Areas (corridors) that surround the site. This would then support the small to

	medium sized mammals that freque move throughout the Sardinia Bay	
	Description of Impact	
During construction, some flora and more important fauna will be disturbed, while the operational phase fences could pose as an obstruction to the movement of the small to medium mammals in particular. Birds, insects and reptiles are impacted to a lesser degree due to being mobile (birds & insects) or in the case of reptiles have small ranges.		
Although the proposed layout will avoid any mobile species observed, any significant bou sized mammals.		
Type of Impact	Ind	irect
Nature of Impact	Neg	ative
Phases	Const	ruction
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
Intensity	Very Low	Medium
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term
Extent	Local	Local
Consequence	Low	Low
Probability	Probable	Possible
Significance	Low -	Very Low -
Degree to which impact can be reversed	High	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Low	
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High	
Mitigation actions		
The following measures are recommended:	 this assessment, the Prefe avoid any residual impacts All temporary works areas placed in previously distur- includes any temporary ac Alien vegetation manager beginning of the construct remaining areas into the o Farm. It is recommended as best rescue programme for any although this consideratio potential impact ratings. A relocated into areas that w construction. During construction any m machinery will result in the mammals, but due conside buck and or reptiles for ex fencing is thus not advocar not be feasible. It howeve of movement must be allo 	e development option discussed in rred option, be selected that will on sensitive habitats. (laydowns and camps) can only be bed areas within the site, and this cess roads or storage areas. Thent must be initiated at the ion period and must extend into any peration phase on the Tankatara practice to conduct a search and r listed or protected plants species, in was not used to reduce the Any plants removed could easily be will need rehabilitation post to vement of personnel and plant / e displacement of the larger eration must be given to the small ample. Solid fencing or steel mesh ted, but due to safety concerns may rr recommended, that the provision wed. This could be allowed for de fencing (1.0 x 0.5m) within the

Monitoring The following monitoring is recommended:	 mesh fencing, even if just small areas and 50 – 100m intervals for these areas. These areas could then be monitored using security cameras should safety remain a concern. All roadways must allow for "mountable kerbing" to allow for the movement of reptiles, insects and the small mammals Appropriate signage must be installed during the construction and operational phases, to remind traffic of the presence of wildlife. No construction should be allowed at night. The revegetation of any temporary sites as well as any previously degraded areas must begin from the onset of the project, with the involvement of a botanist to assist with the revegetation specifications. Regeneration of alien vegetation must be monitored once all areas have been cleared, forming part of a long-term alien 	
Cumulative impacts	vegetation management p	
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
	Low-	Low -

7.3.4 Impact 4: The potential spread of alien vegetation

Impact 4 The potential spread of alien vegetation

Issue	Several Alien Invasive Species were	found present on the site
	Description of Impact	
During construction, vegetation clearing for development will be required. This disturbance then allows for the alien species to colonise the soils, if left unmanaged.		
Type of Impact	Indi	irect
Nature of Impact	Negative	
Phases	Construction	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
Intensity	High	Medium
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term
Extent	Regional	Local
Consequence	Very High	Low
Probability	Probable	Possible

Significance	Very High -	Very Low -
Degree to which impact can be reversed	Medium	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Medium	
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -	
Mitigation actions		
The following measures are recommended:	placed in previously disturincludes any temporary acAlien vegetation managem	(laydowns and camps) can only be bed areas within the site, and this cess roads or storage areas. hent must be initiated at the ion period and must extend into any peration phase
Monitoring		
The following monitoring is recommended:	 The revegetation of any temporary sites as well as any previously degraded areas must begin from the onset of the project, with the involvement of a botanist to assist with the revegetation specifications. Regeneration of alien vegetation must be monitored once all areas have been cleared, forming part of a long-term alien vegetation management plan 	
Cumulative impacts		
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
	High -	Low -

7.4 Aquatic Ecosystems

The proposed layout has is not located within the regulated areas of wetland or riverine areas on adjoining properties. However stormwater will be generated by the site and will need to be managed to avoid the following additional impacts

7.4.1	Impact 5: Changes to the hydrological regime and increased potential for erosion within the catchment
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Impact 5	Changes to the hydrological regime and increased potential for erosion
Issue	As the proposed development will result in large hard engineered surfaces, this poses the potential for increase runoff volumes, concentrated in areas.
	Description of Impact

Increase runoff volumes, especially with high the regional hydrology, i.e. flows are redirec drainage features so this probability of this i as rain capture systems for water use must b	ted. However this site has not direct mpact is low, but the cognisance of p	connection with water courses or
Type of Impact	Ind	rect
Nature of Impact	Neg	ative
Phases	Const	ruction
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
Intensity	Very Low	Medium
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term
Extent	Local	Local
Consequence	Low	Low
Probability	Probable	Possible
Significance	Low -	Very Low -
Degree to which impact can be reversed	Medium	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Medium	
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -	
Mitigation actions		
The following measures are recommended: Monitoring	 The preferred option is recommended as all aquatic systems have been avoided. A construction and operational stormwater management plan must be developed post EA, detailing the structures and actions that must be installed to prevent the increase of surface water flows directly into any natural systems. Effective stormwater management must include measures to slow, spread and deplete the energy of concentrated flows thorough effective stabilisation (gabions and Reno mattresses) and the re-vegetation of any disturbed areas Rain harvesting is also advocated. 	
The following monitoring is recommended:	 Stormwater systems must be inspected on an annual basis to ensure these are functional. Any concentrated runoff and or erosion where observed must be rectified with the appropriate stormwater management measures, e.g. gabions, reno mattresses or energy dissipators 	
Cumulative impacts		
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components, however proper management of any stormwater must take place, and in relation to the current allowable capacity of the surrounding areas.	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation With Mitigation	
Rating of cumulative impacts	without willigation	With Mitigation

7.4.2 Impact 6: Changes to water quality

Impact 6	Changes to the	e water quality	
Issue	Potential impact on localised surface water quality (construction materials and fuel storage facilities) during the construction and or decommissioning of the development, although not directly as there is no connection with the site and any natural systems downstream, but will require stormwater management that will need to be discharged off site		
	Description of Impact		
During both preconstruction, construction and the operational activities, chemical pollutants (hydrocarbons from equipment and vehicles, cleaning fluids, cement powder, wet cement, shutter-oil, etc.) associated with site-clear machinery and construction activities, as well as maintenance activities, could be washed downslope. It is also proposed that aircraft refilling will take place, so spills during these operations or from the storage facility could a take place. However this is improbable due to the lack of any surface water connectivity related to the impact of important downstream areas.			
Type of Impact	Indi	rect	
Nature of Impact	Nega	ative	
Phases	Constr	ruction	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
Intensity	Very Low	Medium	
Duration	Long-term	Medium-Term	
Extent	Local	Local	
Consequence	Low	Low	
Probability	Probable	Possible	
Significance	Low -	Very Low -	
Degree to which impact can be reversed	Medium		
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Medium		
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -		
Mitigation actions			
The following measures are recommended:	 All construction/operational materials including fuels and oil should be stored in demarcated areas that are contained within berms / bunds to avoid spread of any contamination. Washing and cleaning of equipment should also be conducted in berms or bunds, in order to trap any cement and prevent excessive soil erosion. Mechanical plant and bowsers must not be refuelled or serviced within or directly adjacent to any channel. Chemical storage containers must be regularly inspected so that any leaks are detected early; Littering and contamination of water sources during construction must be prevented by effective construction camp management; 		

	 Emergency plans must be in place in case of spillages onto road surfaces in both the construction and operational phases; No stockpiling should take place within a water course, wetland or buffers and all stockpiles must be protected from erosion, stored on flat areas where run-off will be minimised, and be surrounded by bunds; 	
Monitoring		
The following monitoring is recommended:	 The revegetation of any temporary sites as well as any previously degraded areas must begin from the onset of the project, with the involvement of a botanist to assist with the revegetation specifications Stormwater systems must be inspected on an annual basis to ensure these are functional. Any concentrated runoff and or erosion where observed must be rectified with the appropriate stormwater management measures, e.g. gabions, reno mattresses or energy dissipators 	
Cumulative impacts		
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components, however proper management of any stormwater must take place, and in relation to the current allowable capacity of the surrounding areas.	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation
	High - Low -	

7.5 Cumulative impacts

Impact 7	Cumulati	ve Impacts	
Issue	The creation of any additional deve likely due to the housing needs of t overall character of the area could	he municipality, therefore the	
	Description of Impact		
Type of Impact	Ind	lirect	
Nature of Impact	Neg	gative	
Phases	Construction	n & Operation	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
Intensity	Very Low	Very Low	
Duration	Medium-Term	Medium-Term	
Extent	Local	Local	
Consequence	Low	Low	
Probability	Possible	Possible	
Significance	Very Low -	Very Low -	
Degree to which impact can be reversed	Medium	•	
Degree to which impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources	Low		
Degree to which impact can be mitigated	High -		
Mitigation actions			
The following measures are recommended:	 Alien vegetation management must be initiated at the beginning of the construction period and must extend into any remaining areas into the operation phase 		
Monitoring			
The following monitoring is recommended:	 Regeneration of alien vegetation must be monitored once all areas have been cleared, forming part of a long-term alien vegetation management plan Stormwater systems must be inspected on an annual basis to ensure these are functional. 		
Cumulative impacts			
Nature of cumulative impacts	Additional loss of sensitive vegetation / habitats related to other projects, most of which have or could result in additional clearing of thicket / forest mosaics, is unlikely due to the nature of the project site i.e. surrounding site are already well establish residential areas or form part of a conservancy that projects additional development of the forest thicket components, however proper management of any stormwater must take place, and in relation to the current allowable capacity of the surrounding areas.		
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
	High -	Low -	

8 Conclusion and Recommendations

In summary the preferred layout shown in this assessment was developed to provide a mechanism to retain important forest habitat in particular. This was allowed for by considering the No-Go areas, that also included a small margin around some areas that would represent the more intact dune vegetation. This then allows for a mosaic that would cater for both plant and animal species observed, allowing for protection of these habitats (approximately 44% of the site)

Further, the preferred layout also then caters for allowing for a corridor between other local Ecological Support Areas (corridors) that surround the site. This would then support the small to medium sized mammals that frequent the site, but are also known to move throughout the Sardinia Bay forest thickets. However, this will only occur if solid fencing or steel mesh fencing is not installed, but due to safety concerns may not be feasible. Therefore it is recommended, that the provision of movement must be allowed for and should include small areas of palisade fencing within the mesh fencing $(1.0 \times 0.5m)$, even if just small areas at 50 - 100m intervals. These areas could then be monitored using security cameras to alleviate any safety concerns.

From an impact rating standpoint, the destruction of habitats that are that are unique or contain higher numbers of listed / protected species would be rated as Very High. Especially as the site vegetation units have been classified as Critically Endangered (Algoa Sandstone Fynbos) & Vulnerable (Sardinia Forest Thicket). To alleviate this, fine scale mapping of these units was employed to indicate important areas that should not be developed, to protect viable habitat units that could contain important plant species or are habitats / corridors for animal species. Should this then be implemented with the mitigations listed in this report, then the impacts could be reduced to Low and Very Low for the respective impacts assessed.

The specialist thus has not objection to the approval of the project, with the assumption that the final fence designs are reviewed, to assess if these would be adequate.

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10 Appendix 1 – Copy of Specialist CV

CURRICULUM VITAE Dr Brian Michael Colloty 7212215031083

Profession: Ecologist (Pr. Sci. Nat. 400268/07)

Specialisation: Ecology and conservation importance rating of inland habitats, wetlands, rivers & estuaries Years experience: 28 years

SKILLS BASE AND CORE COMPETENCIES

- 28 years experience in environmental sensitivity and conservation assessment of aquatic and terrestrial systems
 inclusive of Index of Habitat Integrity (IHI), WET Tools, Riparian Vegetation Response Assessment Index (VEGRAI) for
 Reserve Determinations, estuarine and wetland delineation throughout Africa. Experience also includes biodiversity
 and ecological assessments with regard sensitive fauna and flora, within the marine, coastal and inland environments.
 Countries include Mozambique, Kenya, Namibia, Central African Republic, Zambia, Eritrea, Mauritius, Madagascar,
 Angola, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone. Current projects also span all nine provinces in South Africa.
- 15 years experience in the coordination and management of multi-disciplinary teams, such as specialist teams for small to large scale EIAs and environmental monitoring programmes, throughout Africa and inclusive of marine, coastal and inland systems. This includes project and budget management, specialist team management, client and stakeholder engagement and project reporting.
- GIS mapping and sensitivity analysis

TERTIARY EDUCATION

- 1994: B Sc Degree (Botany & Zoology) NMU
- 1995: B Sc Hon (Zoology) NMU
- 1996: M Sc (Botany Rivers) NMU
- 2000: Ph D (Botany Estuaries & Mangroves) NMU

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 1996 2000 Researcher at Nelson Mandela University SAB institute for Coastal Research & Management. Funded by the WRC to develop estuarine importance rating methods for South African Estuaries
- 2001 January 2003 Training development officer AVK SA (reason for leaving sought work back in the environmental field rather than engineering sector)
- February 2003- June 2005 Project manager & Ecologist for Strategic Environmental Focus (Pretoria) (reason for leaving sought work related more to experience in the coastal environment)
- July 2005 June 2009 Principal Environmental Consultant Coastal & Environmental Services (reason for leaving company restructuring)
- June 2009 August 2018 Owner / Ecologist of Scherman Colloty & Associates cc
- August 2018 Owner / Ecologist EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd

SELECTED RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

World Bank IFC Standards

- Kenmare Mining Pilivilli, Mozambique wetland (mangroves, peatlands and estuarine) assessment and biodiversity offset analysis current
- Botswana South Africa 400kv transmission line (400km) biodiversity assessment on behalf of Aurecon current
- Farim phosphate mine and port development, Guinea Bissau biodiversity and estuarine assessment on behalf of Knight Piesold Canada 2016.
- Tema LNG offshore pipeline EIA marine and estuarine assessment for Quantum Power (2015).
- Colluli Potash South Boulder, Eritrea, SEIA marine baseline and hydrodynamic surveys co-ordinator and coastal vegetation specialist (coastal lagoon and marine) (on-going).
- Wetland, estuarine and riverine assessment for Addax Biofeuls Sierra Leone, Makeni for Coastal & Environmental Services: 2009
- ESHIA Project manager and long-term marine monitoring phase coordinator with regards the dredge works required in Luanda bay, Angola. Monitoring included water quality and biological changes in the bay and at the offshore disposal outfall site, 2005-2011

South African

- Plant and animal search and rescue for the Karusa, Soetwater, Nxuba, Oyster Bay, Impofu East, Impofu North, Impofu West, Witteberg, Brand Valley, Rietkloof, Kareebosch, Dassiessridge and Garob Wind Farms, 2018 current
- Plant and Animal Search and Rescue for the Port of Ngqura, Transnet Landside infrastructure Project, with development and management of on site nursery, Current
- Plant and Animal Search and Rescue for the Port of Ngqura, OTGC Tank Farm Project (2019)
- Plant search and rescue, for NMBM (Driftsands sewer, Glen Hurd Drive), Department of Social Development (Military veterans housing, Despatch) 2019
- Wetland specialist appointed to update the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan, for the Province on behalf of EOH CES appointment by SANBI 2019. This includes updating the National Wetland Inventory for the province, submitting the new data to CSIR/SANBI.
- CDC IDZ Alien eradication plans for three renewable projects Coega Wind Farm, Sonop Wind Farm and Coega PV, on behalf of JG Afrika (2016 2017).
- Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Baakens River Integrated Wetland Assessment (Inclusive of Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plans) for CEN IEM Unit Current
- Rangers Biomass Gasification Project (Uitenhage), biodiversity and wetland assessment and wetland rehabilitation / monitoring plans for CEM IEM Unit – 2017
- Gibson Bay Wind Farm implementation of the wetland management plan during the construction and operation of the wind farm (includes surface / groundwater as well wetland rehabilitation & monitoring plan) on behalf of Enel Green Power 2018
- Gibson Bay Wind Farm 133kV Transmission Line wetland management plan during the construction of the transmission line (includes wetland rehabilitation & monitoring plan) on behalf of Eskom 2016.
- Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm implementation of the wetland management plan during the construction of the wind farm (includes surface / biomonitoring, as well wetland rehabilitation & monitoring plan) on behalf of Cennergi completed May 2016.
- Alicedale bulk sewer pipeline for Cacadu District, wetland and water quality assessment, 2016
- Mogalakwena 33kv transmission line in the Limpopo Province, on behlaf of Aurecon, 2016
- Cape St Francis WWTW expansion wetland and passive treatment system for the Kouga Municipality, 2015
- Macindane bulk water and sewer pipelines wetland and wetland rehabilitation plan 2015
- Eskom Prieska to Copperton 132kV transmission line aquatic assessment, Northern Cape on behalf of Savannah Environmental 2015.
- Joe Slovo sewer pipeline upgrade wetland assessment for Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality 2014
- Cape Recife Waste Water Treatment Works expansion and pipeline aquatic assessment for Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality 2013
- Pola park bulk sewer line upgrade aquatic assessment for Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality 2013
- Transnet Freight Rail Swazi Rail Link (2017t) wetland and ecological assessment on behalf of Aurecon for the proposed rail upgrade from Ermelo to Richards Bay
- Eskom Transmission wetland and ecological assessment for the proposed transmission line between Pietermaritzburg and Richards Bay on behalf of Aurecon (2012).
- Port Durnford Exarro Sands biodiversity assessment for the proposed mineral sands mine on behalf of Exxaro (2009)
- Fairbreeze Mine Exxaro (Mtunzini) wetland assessment on behalf of Strategic Environmental Services (2007).
- Wetland assessment for Richards Bay Minerals (2013) Zulti North haul road on behalf of RBM.
- Biodiversity and aquatic assessments for 185 renewable projects in the past 12 years in the Western, Eastern, Northern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Free State provinces. Clients included RES-SA, Red Cap, ACED Renewables, Mainstream Renewable, GDF Suez, Globeleq, ENEL, Abengoa amongst others. Particular aquatic sensitivity assessment and Water Use License Applications on behalf of Mainstream Renewable Energy, Cennergi / Exxaro, WKN Wind current, ACED and Windlab were also conducted. Several of these projects also required the assessment of the proposed transmission lines and switching stations, which were conducted on behalf of Eskom.
- Vegetation assessments on the Great Brak rivers for Department of Water and Sanitation, 2006 and the Gouritz Water Management Area (2014)
- Proposed FibreCo fibre optic cable vegetation assessment along the PE to George, George to Graaf Reinet, PE to Colesburg, and East London to Bloemfontein on behalf of SRK (2013-2015).

11 Appendix 2: Site verification report, as per the DFFE Screening Tool guideline

Site verification report

Government Notice No. 645, dated 10 May 2019, includes the requirement that an Initial Site Sensitivity Verification Report must be produced for a development footprint. As per Part 1, Section 2.3, the outcome of the Initial Site Verification must be recorded in the form of a report that-

- (a) Confirms or disputes the current use of the land and environmental sensitivity as identified by the national web based environmental screening tool;
- (b) Contains a motivation and evidence of either the verified or different use of the land and environmental sensitivity;
- (c) Is submitted together with the relevant reports prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

This report has been produced specifically to consider the aquatic and terrestrial ecology theme and addresses the content requirements of (a) and (b) above. The report will be appended to the respective specialist study included in the Scoping and EIA Reports produced for the projects.

Site sensitivity based on the biodiversity theme included in the Screening Tool and specialist assessment Based on the DFFE Screening Tool, the site contains areas of very high and medium sensitivity due to the presence of the following (Figures 1-4).

- Animal theme was rated High due to several bird species and Medium for two mammal species and two invertebrates),
- Aquatic theme that was rated Very High due to the presence of an Aquatic Ecological Support Area (Type 1), Strategic Water Resource Area (Surface water) and Depression wetland types.
- Plant theme was rated as Medium due to the potential presence of several Vulnerable plant species
- Terrestrial Environment rated as Very High due to the potential presence of the Critically Endangered Algoa Sandstone Fynbos and the Strategic Water Resource Area



Figure 1: DFFE screening tool results for animals



Figure 2. DFFE Screening Tool outcome for the aquatic biodiversity theme



Figure 3. DFFE Screening Tool outcome for the Plant biodiversity theme



Figure 4. DFFE Screening Tool outcome for the Terrestrial biodiversity theme

Based on the above outcomes, the specialist agrees with some of the environmental sensitivities identified for this site. The findings have been informed by site visits undertaken by Dr Brian Colloty in 2023/2024 spanning several days and or seasons.

Motivation of the outcomes of the sensitivity map and key conclusions

In conclusion, the DFFE Screening Tool identified several sensitivity ratings within the study area, namely, Very High, Medium and Low. Based then of the site investigations, the specialist was in agreement with these ratings, and habitats with a Very High sensitivity were then delineated at a finer scale.

Therefore, environmental sensitivity input received from the ecology specialist will be taken forward and considered within the EA process, with the proposed layout is deemed acceptable by the ecologist as the footprint is within a LOW sensitivity area.

12 Appendix 3: Species Checklists

Colubridae

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	otected species kno			
PLANT GROWTH FORM	FAMILY		ΤΑΧΟ	N
Tall Shrubs	PROTEACEAE		nia (Salisb. ex Knight) Fourc.	
Tall Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Protea ner	•	
Tall Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Protea rep		
Low Shrubs	RUTACEAE	-	a hirta (Lam.) Bartl. & H.L.Wendl.	
₋ow Shrubs	RUTACEAE	-	a ovata (Thunb.) Pillans	
Low Shrubs	ERICACEAE	· · · · ·	eriana (Klotzsch) E.G.H.Oliv.	
Low Shrubs	ASTERACEAE		icifolius (Bél.) B.Nord.	
Low Shrubs	ASTERACEAE		m appendiculatum (L.f.) Less.	
Low Shrubs	ASTERACEAE	,	m teretifolium (L.) D.Don	
Low Shrubs	PROTEACEAE		ron salignum P.J.Bergius	
Low Shrubs	PROTEACEAE		ron xanthoconus (Kuntze) K.Schum	
Low Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Leucadend I.Williams	ron spissifolium (Salisb. ex Knight)	I.Williams ssp. phillipsii (Hutch.)
Low Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Leucosperr	num cuneiforme (Burm.f.) Rourke	
₋ow Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Protea cyn	aroides (L.) L.	
Low Shrubs	PROTEACEAE	Protea foli	osa Rourke	
Low Shrubs	FABACEAE	Tephrosia	capensis (Jacq.) Pers. var. acutifolio	a E.Mey.
ow Shrubs	FABACEAE		capensis (Jacq.) Pers. var. hirsuta H	
Low Shrubs	FABACEAE	Tephrosia	capensis (Jacq.) Pers. var. capensis	
ow Shrubs	FABACEAE		capensis (Jacq.) Pers. var. angustifo	
ow Shrubs	FABACEAE		capensis (Jacq.) Pers. var. longipeti	-
Succulent Herb	CRASSULACEAE		ellucida L. ssp. marginalis (Dryand.	
Graminoids	POACEAE	Andropogo	on eucomus Nees	
Graminoids	POACEAE	Brachiaria	serrata (Thunb.) Stapf	
Graminoids	POACEAE	1	on pospischilii (K.Schum.) C.E.Hubb).
Graminoids	POACEAE	Cynodon d	actylon (L.) Pers.	
Graminoids	POACEAE	,	riantha Steud.	
Graminoids	POACEAE		calycina Sm.	
Graminoids	POACEAE		, paspaloides (Vahl) Lanza & Mattei	
Graminoids	RESTIONACEAE	, ,	ensis (L.) H.P.Linder & C.R.Hardy	
Graminoids	POACEAE		s heptameris (Nees) Steud.	
Graminoids	POACEAE		tis pallida (Thunb.) H.P.Linder	
Graminoids	RESTIONACEAE		ortus cinereus H.P.Linder	
Graminoids	POACEAE	-	triandra Forssk.	
Graminoids	POACEAE		a leucothrix Trin. ex Nees	
ow Shrubs	RUTACEAE	/	a gonaquensis Eckl. & Zeyh.	
Low Shrubs	FABACEAE		ubescens Eckl. & Zeyh.	
Low Shrubs	ERICACEAE	Erica ethel		
Geophytic Herb	ORCHIDACEAE		ongicornu G.J.Lewis	
ource SANBI ADU <u>h</u>			php?database Accessed	10 June 2024
AMPHIBIANS				
Hyperoliidae	Hyperolius marmoratus		Painted Reed Frog	Least Concern (IUCN ver 3.1, 2013)
Pipidae	Xenopus laevis		Cape Clawed Toad	Least Concern
' Pyxicephalidae	Amietia delalandii		Delalande's River Frog	Least Concern (2017)
Pyxicephalidae	Amietia fuscigula		Cape River Frog	Least Concern (2017)
Pyxicephalidae	Cacosternum boettgeri		Common Caco	Least Concern (2013)
Pyxicephalidae	Cacosternum nanum		Bronze Caco	Least Concern (2013)
Pyxicephalidae	Strongylopus fasciatus		Striped Stream Frog	Least Concern
y Pyxicephalidae	Strongylopus grayii		Clicking Stream Frog	Least Concern
REPTILES				
Agamidae	Agama aculeata aculea	ta	Common Ground Agama	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Agamidae	-		Southern Rock Agama	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Salliude	Agama atra		Southern Rock Agailla	LEAST CONCERN (SARCA 2014)

Important and or protected species known to occur in the region

Boomslang

Least Concern (SARCA 2014)

Dispholidus typus typus

Cordylidae	Pseudocordylus microlepidotus microlepidotus	Cape Crag Lizard	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Elapidae	Naja nivea	Cape Cobra	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Gekkonidae	Afroedura nov sp. 1 (Kouga)		
Lacertidae	Pedioplanis burchelli	Burchell's Sand Lizard	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Lacertidae	Tropidosaura gularis	Cape Mountain Lizard	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Lamprophiidae	Lycodonomorphus rufulus	Brown Water Snake	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Lamprophiidae	Psammophylax rhombeatus	Spotted Grass Snake	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Scincidae	Acontias orientalis	Eastern Legless Skink	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Testudinidae	Chersina angulata	Angulate Tortoise	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Viperidae	Bitis arietans arietans	Puff Adder	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
LEPIDOPTERA			
HESPERIIDAE	Spialia sataspes	Boland sandman	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Aloeides aranda	Aranda copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Aloeides damarensis damarensis	Damara copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Aloeides depicta	Depicta copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Aloeides juana	Juana copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Aloeides pallida liversidgei	Giant copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Cacyreus marshalli	Common geranium bronze	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Capys alpheus alpheus	Orange banded protea	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Chrysoritis beulah	Beulah's opal	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Chrysoritis chrysaor	Burnished opal	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Chrysoritis zeuxo cottrelli	Cottrell's daisy copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lachnocnema durbani	D'Urban's woolly legs	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lampides boeticus	Pea blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops sp.		
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi	Ketsi blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops patricia	Patricia blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops poseidon	Baviaanskloof blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops robertsoni	Robertson's blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops variabilis	Variable blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Leptomyrina lara	Cape black-eye	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Tarucus thespis	Vivid dotted blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Thestor murrayi	Murray's skolly	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Trimenia argyroplaga argyroplaga	Large silver-spotted copper	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Acraea neobule neobule	Wandering donkey acraea	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Aeropetes tulbaghia	Table mountain beauty	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Charaxes pelias	Protea charaxes	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Danaus chrysippus orientis	African monarch, Plain tiger	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Hypolimnas misippus	Common diadem	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Junonia hierta cebrene	Yellow pansy	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Pardopsis punctatissima	Polka dot	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Precis archesia archesia	Garden commodore	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Precis octavia sesamus	Gaudy Commodore	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Pseudonympha magus	, Silver-bottom brown	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Pseudonympha trimenii ruthae	Trimen's brown	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Stygionympha vigilans	Western hillside brown	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Stygionympha wichgrafi williami	Wichgraf's hillside brown	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
NYMPHALIDAE	Vanessa cardui	Painted lady	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)

PAPILIONIDAE	Papilio demodocus demodocus	Citrus swallowtail	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
PIERIDAE	Belenois aurota	Brown-veined white	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
PIERIDAE	Pontia helice helice	Common meadow white	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
PIERIDAE	Teracolus eris eris	Banded gold tip	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
AVES (BIRDS)			
Common_group	Common_species	Genus	Species
Apalis	Bar-throated	Apalis	thoracica
Apalis	Yellow-breasted	Apalis	flavida
Barbet	Acacia Pied	Tricholaema	leucomelas
Barbet	Black-collared	Lybius	torquatus
Batis	Саре	Batis	capensis
Bishop	Southern Red	Euplectes	orix
Bokmakierie	Bokmakierie	Telophorus	zeylonus
Boubou	Southern	Laniarius	ferrugineus
Brownbul	Terrestrial	Phyllastrephus	terrestris
Bulbul	Саре	Pycnonotus	capensis
Bunting	Cinnamon-breasted	Emberiza	tahapisi
Bunting	Golden-breasted	Emberiza	flaviventris
Bush-shrike	Olive	Telophorus	olivaceus
Buzzard	Jackal	Buteo	rufofuscus
Buzzard	Steppe	Buteo	vulpinus
Camaroptera	Green-backed	Camaroptera	brachyura
Canary	Brimstone	Crithagra	sulphuratus
Canary	Саре	Serinus	canicollis
Canary	Forest	Crithagra	scotops
Canary	Yellow-fronted	Crithagra	mozambicus
Chat	Anteating	Myrmecocichla	formicivora
Chat	Familiar	Cercomela	familiaris
Cisticola	Grey-backed	Cisticola	subruficapilla
Cisticola	Lazy	Cisticola	aberrans
Cisticola	Levaillant's	Cisticola	tinniens
Cisticola	Zitting	Cisticola	juncidis
Coot	Red-knobbed	Fulica	cristata
Cormorant	Reed	Phalacrocorax	africanus
Cormorant	White-breasted	Phalacrocorax	carbo
Coucal	Burchell's	Centropus	burchellii
Crane	Blue	Anthropoides	paradiseus
Crested-flycatcher	Blue-mantled	Trochocercus	cyanomelas
Crow	Саре	Corvus	capensis
Crow	Pied	Corvus	albus
Cuckoo	Black	Cuculus	clamosus
Cuckoo	Klaas's	Chrysococcyx	klaas
Cuckoo	Red-chested	Cuculus	solitarius
Cuckoo-shrike	Black	Campephaga	flava
Cuckoo-shrike	Grey	Coracina	caesia
Dove	Laughing	Streptopelia	senegalensis
Dove	Lemon	Aplopelia	larvata
Dove	Red-eyed	Streptopelia	semitorquata
Dove	Tambourine	Turtur	tympanistria

Drongo	Fork-tailed	Dicrurus	adsimilis
Duck	African Black	Anas	sparsa
Duck	Yellow-billed	Anas	undulata
Eagle	African Crowned	Stephanoaetus	coronatus
Eagle	Martial	Polemaetus	bellicosus
Eagle	Verreaux's	Aquila	verreauxii
Eagle-owl	Spotted	Bubo	africanus
Egret	Cattle	Bubulcus	ibis
Firefinch	African	Lagonosticta	rubricata
Fiscal	Common (Southern)	Lanius	collaris
Fish-eagle	African	Haliaeetus	vocifer
Flycatcher	African Dusky	Muscicapa	adusta
Flycatcher	Fiscal	Sigelus	silens
Flycatcher	Spotted	Muscicapa	striata
Goose	Egyptian	Alopochen	aegyptiacus
Goose	Spur-winged	Plectropterus	gambensis
Goshawk	African	Accipiter	tachiro
Goshawk	Southern Pale Chanting	Melierax	canorus
Grassbird	Саре	Sphenoeacus	afer
Grebe	Little	Tachybaptus	ruficollis
Greenbul	Sombre	Andropadus	importunus
Guineafowl	Helmeted	Numida	meleagris
Gull	Kelp	Larus	dominicanus
Harrier	Black	Circus	maurus
Harrier-Hawk	African	Polyboroides	typus
Heron	Black-headed	Ardea	melanocephala
Heron	Grey	Ardea	cinerea
Honeyguide	Greater	Indicator	indicator
Honeyguide	Lesser	Indicator	minor
Honeyguide	Scaly-throated	Indicator	variegatus
Ноорое	African	Upupa	africana
Hornbill	Crowned	Tockus	alboterminatus
Ibis	African Sacred	Threskiornis	aethiopicus
Ibis	Hadeda	Bostrychia	hagedash
Indigobird	Dusky	Vidua	funerea
Kestrel	Rock	Falco	rupicolus
Kingfisher	Brown-hooded	Halcyon	albiventris
Kingfisher	Half-collared	Alcedo	semitorquata
Kingfisher	Malachite	Alcedo	cristata
Kingfisher	Pied	Ceryle	rudis
Kite	Black-shouldered	Elanus	caeruleus
Kite	Yellow-billed	Milvus	aegyptius
Lapwing	Blacksmith	Vanellus	armatus
Lapwing	Crowned	Vanellus	coronatus
Lark	Red-capped	Calandrella	cinerea
Longclaw	Саре	Macronyx	capensis
Marsh-harrier	African	Circus	ranivorus
Martin	Brown-throated	Riparia	paludicola
Martin	Rock	Hirundo	fuligula

Masked-weaver	Southern	Ploceus	velatus
Moorhen	Common	Gallinula	chloropus
Mousebird	Red-faced	Urocolius	indicus
Mousebird	Speckled	Colius	striatus
Neddicky	Neddicky	Cisticola	fulvicapilla
Olive-pigeon	African	Columba	arquatrix
Oriole	Black-headed	Oriolus	larvatus
Palm-swift	African	Cypsiurus	parvus
Paradise-flycatcher	African	Terpsiphone	viridis
Pigeon	Speckled	Columba	guinea
Plover	Three-banded	Charadrius	tricollaris
Prinia	Karoo	Prinia	maculosa
Puffback	Black-backed	Dryoscopus	cubla
Quelea	Red-billed	Quelea	quelea
Raven	White-necked	Corvus	albicollis
Robin-chat	Саре	Cossypha	caffra
Rock-thrush	Саре	Monticola	rupestris
Rush-warbler	Little	Bradypterus	baboecala
Saw-wing	Black (Southern race)	Psalidoprocne	holomelaena
Scrub-robin	Brown	Cercotrichas	signata
Scrub-robin	White-browed	Cercotrichas	leucophrys
Seedeater	Streaky-headed	Crithagra	gularis
Sparrow	Саре	Passer	melanurus
Sparrow	House	Passer	domesticus
Sparrow	Southern Grey-headed	Passer	diffusus
Sparrowhawk	Black	Accipiter	melanoleucus
Sparrowhawk	Little	Accipiter	minullus
Spoonbill	African	Platalea	alba
Spurfowl	Red-necked	Pternistis	afer
Starling	Black-bellied	Lamprotornis	corruscus
Starling	Cape Glossy	Lamprotornis	nitens
Starling	Common	Sturnus	vulgaris
Starling	Pied	Spreo	bicolor
Starling	Red-winged	Onychognathus	morio
Stilt	Black-winged	Himantopus	himantopus
Stonechat	African	Saxicola	torquatus
Stork	White	Ciconia	ciconia
Sugarbird	Саре	Promerops	cafer
Sunbird	Amethyst	Chalcomitra	amethystina
Sunbird	Collared	Hedydipna	collaris
Sunbird	Greater Double-collared	Cinnyris	afer
Sunbird	Grey	Cyanomitra	veroxii
Sunbird	Malachite	Nectarinia	famosa
Sunbird	Orange-breasted	Anthobaphes	violacea
Sunbird	Southern Double-collared	Cinnyris	chalybeus
Swallow	Barn	Hirundo	rustica
Swallow	Greater Striped	Hirundo	cucullata
Swallow	Lesser Striped	Hirundo	abyssinica
Swallow	White-throated	Hirundo	
SWdIIUW	white-throated	HIIUIIUU	albigularis

Swamp-warbler	Lesser	Acrocephalus	gracilirostris
Swift	Alpine	Tachymarptis	melba
Swift	Horus	Apus	horus
Swift	Little	Apus	affinis
Swift	White-rumped	Apus	caffer
Tchagra	Southern	Tchagra	tchagra
Teal	Саре	Anas	capensis
Thrush	Olive	Turdus	olivaceus
Tinkerbird	Red-fronted	Pogoniulus	pusillus
Tit-babbler	Chestnut-vented	Parisoma	subcaeruleum
Trogon	Narina	Apaloderma	narina
Turaco	Knysna	Tauraco	corythaix
Turtle-dove	Саре	Streptopelia	capicola
Wagtail	Саре	Motacilla	capensis
Warbler	Knysna	Bradypterus	sylvaticus
Warbler	Victorin's	Cryptillas	victorini
Waxbill	Common	Estrilda	astrild
Waxbill	Swee	Соссорудіа	melanotis
Weaver	Саре	Ploceus	capensis
Weaver	Dark-backed	Ploceus	bicolor
Weaver	Spectacled	Ploceus	ocularis
Weaver	Thick-billed	Amblyospiza	albifrons
Weaver	Village	Ploceus	cucullatus
White-eye	Саре	Zosterops	virens
Whydah	Pin-tailed	Vidua	macroura
Wood-dove	Emerald-spotted	Turtur	chalcospilos
Wood-hoopoe	Green	Phoeniculus	purpureus
Woodland-warbler	Yellow-throated	Phylloscopus	ruficapilla
Woodpecker	Cardinal	Dendropicos	fuscescens
Woodpecker	Knysna	Campethera	notata
Woodpecker	Olive	Dendropicos	griseocephalus

iNaturalist records for the study area including a 1km buffer

Taxon Amphibia Amphibia Amphibia Amphibia Amphibia Animalia Animalia Animalia Animalia Animalia Animalia Animalia Arachnida Arachnida

Arachnida

Scientific Name / Family Sclerophrys capensis Hyperolius marmoratus verrucosus Strongylopus grayii Sclerophrys pardalis Cacosternum nanum Cormocephalus Scolopendromorpha Sphaerotherium Scolopendrinae Scolopendra Juliformia Philosciidae Chrysillini Selenopidae Palystes superciliosus Lvcosidae Uroplectes formosus Triaenonychidae Pseudoscorpiones Theridion Araneae Leucauge festiva Thyene natalii Hyllus argyrotoxus Oxyopes Baryphas ahenus Euprosthenopsis Thomisus Hypsosinga Evarcha Heliophanus Hyllus brevitarsis Leucauge Ideocaira transversa Neoscona Caerostris **Xysticus** Steatoda Myrmarachne Clubiona Vicirionessa mustela Natta Oxytate Ideocaira Asemonea Cyrtophora citricola Ansiea tuckeri Parabomis Caerostris sexcuspidata Araneus apricus Nilus Harpactirinae Harpactira tigrina Phalangiinae Palystes Isoxya Salticidae Thyenula juvenca Phanotea Chiasmopes Baryphas Hyllus

Rhipicephalus

Common Name

Raucous Toad Spotted Painted Reedfrog Clicking Stream Frog Eastern Leopard Toad Bronze Caco Gewone Honderdpote Typical Centipedes Southern Giant Pill Millipedes

Giant Centipedes Ring Millipedes Philosciid Woodlice

Flatties Common Rain Spider Wolf Spiders Painted Lesser-Thicktail Scorpion Triaenonychid Harvestmen Pseudoscorpions Typical Cobweb Spiders Spiders Masked Vlei Spider Goldband Thyene Jumping Spider

Grass lynx spiders Baryphas Jumping Spider Sheetweb Spiders Common Crab Spiders

Sun Jumping Spiders Brown Hyllus Jumping Spider Silver Vlei Spiders

Hairy Field Spiders Bark Spiders Ground Crab Spiders False Widow Spiders Ant-mimic Spiders Leafcurling Sac Spiders

Green Grass Crab Spiders Triangle Orb-web Spiders Tailed Jumping Spiders Tropical Tent-web Spider Tucker's Crab Spider

Common Bark Spider Green Pea Spider Fisheating Spiders Southern Baboon Spiders Golden Baboon Spider

Rain Spiders Boxkites Salties

Pepper Ticks

Arachnida Aves Aves

Aves

Aves

Insecta

Oxyopes longispinosus Oxyopes flavipalpis Pisauridae Leucauge levanderi Gasteracantha Synema Cheiracanthiidae Cyphalonotus Prasonica Uloborus Araneinae Argiope australis Thomisidae Platyoides Menneus Trichonephila fenestrata fenestrata Menneus camelus Olios auricomis Tauraco corythaix Bubo africanus africanus Dicrurus adsimilis adsimilis Cyanomitra veroxii veroxii Chalcomitra amethystina amethystina Strix woodfordii Aplopelia larvata larvata Turtur tympanistria Zosterops virens capensis Colius striatus striatus Motacilla capensis capensis Ploceus bicolor Melaenornis silens Batis capensis capensis Dendropicos griseocephalus griseocephalus Apalis thoracica thoracica Streptopelia semitorquata Andropadus importunus importunus Passer diffusus Telophorus olivaceus Turdus olivaceus olivaceus Muscicapa adusta adusta Crithagra scotops scotops Pogonocichla stellata stellata Tauraco corythaix corythaix Dryoscopus cubla cubla Apalis flavida florisuga Phyllastrephus terrestris terrestris Hedydipna collaris collaris Ploceus bicolor bicolor Zosterops virens virens Columba arquatrix Laniarius ferrugineus natalensis Icthyophaga vocifer Telophorus olivaceus olivaceus Accipiter tachiro Pogoniulus pusillus Coccopygia melanotis Polyboroides typus typus Buteo buteo vulpinus Turdus olivaceus Accipiter melanoleucus melanoleucus Phyllastrephus terrestris Accipiter minullus Pternistis afer castaneiventer Batis capensis Cuculus solitarius Sarothrura elegans

Velvet Lynx Spider Nursery Web Spiders

Kitespiders

Long-legged Sac Spiders Twig Orb-web Spiders African Cucumber Spiders Feather-legged Spiders Typical Orbweavers Common Garden Orbweb Spider Crab Spiders Southern African Scorpion Spiders Hump-back Spiders Southern Blackleg Orbweaver Camel-back Spider

Knysna Loerie African Spotted Eagle-owl Coastal Forktail Drongo

Southern Amethyst Sunbird African Wood-Owl Southern Lemon Dove **Tambourine Dove** Grey Cape White-Eye Cape Speckled Mousebird Common Cape Wagtail Forest Weaver **Fiscal Flycatcher** Forest Cape Batis Southern Olive Woodpecker Albany Barthroat Apalis Red-eyed Dove Southern Sombre Greenbul Southern Grey-headed Sparrow Olive Bushshrike Cape Olive Thrush Southern African Dusky Flycatcher **Coastal Forest Canary**

Southern Knysna Tauraco

Southern Terrestrial Brownbul Southern Collared Sunbird

Green Cape White-eye African Olive Pigeon Eastern Boubou African Fish-Eagle

African Goshawk Red-fronted Tinkerbird Swee Waxbill Gymnogene Steppe Buzzard Olive Thrush Southern Black Sparrowhawk Terrestrial Brownbul Little Sparrowhawk Cape Red-necked Spurfowl Cape Batis Red-chested Cuckoo Buff-spotted Flufftail

Paramantina

Insecta Insecta

Insecta

Insecta

Proctarrelabis capensis Cyligramma latona Acanthacris ruficornis Cyrtacanthacridinae Desmeocraera Polistes Coccinellidae Psilodera Papilio dardanus cenea Papilio demodocus demodocus Tenthredinoidea Phalces brevis Orgyiini Chiasmia brongusaria Laelia Icerya purchasi Cheilomenes lunata Epilachnini Oenopia divergens Chilocorini Harmonia axyridis Exochomus Cheilomenes propinqua Metisella metis paris Lampides boeticus Sapromyza guttulata Tachinidae Sarcophagidae Lioadalia flavomaculata Ceratitis Trirhithrum nigerrimum Cassida dorsovittata Homoneura Eagris nottoana knysna Acrididae Crocothemis erythraea Bruchinae Enithares Oxythyrea marginalis Quintilia Aspidimorpha quadriremis Tettigoniidae Gerris swakopensis Fainia Cestrotus Pentatominae Porthetinae Lithosiina Laccoptera ruginosa Cicadellidae Aspidimorpha confinis Podalonia Belonogaster Allodape Ichneumonidae Phasiinae Sciaridae Pterophorinae Gymnosomatini Camponotus niveosetosus Geometrinae Anaphalantus longicornis Allobaccha Seladonia Gryllotalpa Asarkina

Cape Owlfly Creamstriped Owl Garden Locust Bird Grasshoppers

Umbrella Paper Wasps Lady Beetles

Flying Handkerchief Christmas Butterfly Typical Sawflies Cape Stick Insect

Variable Peacock

Cottony cushion scale Lunate Lady Beetle Plant-eating Lady Beetles Smileyface Lady Beetle

Harlequin Lady Beetle

Striped Lady Beetle Eastern Goldspotted Sylph Pea Blue

Tachinid Flies Flesh Flies and Satellite Flies

Southern Rufous-winged Flat Short-horned Grasshoppers Broad Scarlet Seed Beetles

Common Dotted Fruit Chafer Karoo Cicadas South African Fool's Gold Beetle Katydids

Rocksitter Flies

Typical Leafhoppers

Cutworm Wasps Needle-waisted Paper Wasps

Ichneumonid Wasps

Dark-winged Fungus Gnats

Hairy Sugar Ant Emerald Moths

Blackring Lady Beetle

Oenopia cuneata

Insecta Insecta

Insecta

Insecta

Ichneumonoidea Vanessa hippomene hippomene Dixeia charina charina Dacini Aphididae Eronia cleodora Conopidae Rhinaulax analis Cantharidae Pseudapis Gasteruption Amarygmini Hermya ditissima Plecia ruficollis Orthetrum julia capicola Psychidae Cophogryllus Cheilomenes sulphurea Tipulomorpha Phymateus leprosus Tenuopus Suillia picta Eburneoclerus Zosterius laetus Scathophaga Sosiopsila rotunda Agaonidae Penthimiola bella Cyana capensis Lobosceliana Nototettigometra patruelis Allodapula Rhyparochromini Ceratitis capitata Alticini Monolepta melanogaster Aulacophorina Staphylinidae Arctiini Arsina Oestroidea Popa spurca Episyrphus trisectus Melvris Nephoneura Bombylella elegans Myzininae Acherontia atropos Cassionympha cassius Achroia grisella Hopliini Lithosiini Eristalinus quinquelineatus Prosopocera maculosa Rhipidocephala Lycus Stripsipher longipes Megaleruca Nephrotoma Rhopalizodes callichromoides Lepisiota Parentia Chrysobothris Scarabaeidae Afreumenes Stenopogonini

Hermetia illucens

Ichneumonid and Braconid Wasps Tricorne Admiral African Small White [Charina]

Aphids Vine-leaf Vagrant Thick-headed Flies

Soldier Beetles

September Fly Cape Julia Skimmer Bagworm Moths Mute Crickets Sulfurous Lady Beetle Crane Flies Leprous Milkweed Locust

Blackwing Rottingfly

Fig wasps

Hilda Hopper

Common Fruit Fly Flea Beetles Blackbelly Leafbeetle

Rove Beetles Tiger Moths

Bot Flies, Blow Flies, and Allies African Stick Mantis

Groovewing Flower Beetles

Elegant Bee Fly

Death's Head Hawkmoth Rainforest Brown Lesser Wax Moth Monkey Beetles Lichen Moths

Original Kittybeetles Longleg Wood Chafer Stinkwood Leaf Beetles Tiger Crane Flies

Scarabs

Black Soldier Fly

Insecta Insecta

Insecta

Tenebrionidae Cleridae Curculio Xystrocera erosa Zamium bimaculatum Stenochiini Nothylaeus Chalybion spinolae Pseudoclanis postica Parapoderus nigripennis Chrysopidae Meinertellidae Blaberoidea Scaritinae Hoplistomerus nobilis Praeugenini Rhadinomerus illicitus Brachycerus Eutricha capensis Litopus latipes Baetidae Ruspolia Merodonoides Macrotarsipodes tricinctus Euproctis haemodetes Gryllidea Arytropteridini Exoprosopa nemesis Cacosceles oedipus Pyrgotidae Tenomerga leucophaea Ichneumoninae Kalotermitidae Ceroplesis orientalis Bombyliidae Alcimus Entiminae Oecanthus Gryllacridinae Acridinae Stratiomyini Gryllotalpa africana Odontomvia Xylocopa flavorufa Syngenes longicornis Lasiocampidae Sternuchopsis glanvillei Paragus haemorrhous Ophioninae Serrodes korana Eretmocera Anomalipus Promeces longipes Polyspilota aeruginosa Eutricharaea Acanthesthes amycteroides Lentulidae Imatismus Acrida Trienopa Camponotus Caenophthalmus Papilio nireus lyaeus Pantala flavescens Eumeninae Afronycha Miomantis

Tenebs Checkered Beetles Nut and Acorn Weevils

False Mud-dauber Wasp Mulberry Hawkmoth

Golden Eyes Rock Bristletails Giant and Wood Cockroaches Pedunculate Ground Beetles Golden Robber Fly

Lesser Aloe Weevil Lily Weevils Cape Lappet

Small Minnow Mayflies Coneheads

Crickets

African Shieldback Katydids Phantom Beefly Oedipus Longhorn Beetle Fruit-beetle Parasite Flies African Reticulate Beetle

Dry-wood Termites

Bee Flies

Broad-nosed Weevils Tree Cricket Wood Crickets Donkeyface Grasshoppers

African Molecricket

Giant Carpenter

Lappet Moths Beach Weevil Common Grass Skimmer Short-tailed Ichneumonid Wasps

Large Armoured Darkling Beetles Common Metallic Longhorn Beetle Flag Mantis

Wingless Grasshoppers Tapering Darkling Beetles Slantface Grasshoppers

Carpenter Ants, Typical Sugar Ants and Allies

Greenband Swallowtail Pantala Potter and Mason Wasps

Insecta Insecta

Insecta

Insecta

Eristalinus taeniops Emesinae Phaneropterinae Bronchus Nephele vau Carabidae Eurycorypha Machiloides Gryllidae Pegesimallus Hippotion eson Dalapax postica Afrosphenella capensis Asilinae Zabalius ophthalmicus Belenois gidica abyssinica Elateridae Stereodermini Nephele accentifera Basicryptus costalis Achaea lienardi Cymothales Papilio dardanus Amata kuhlweinii Lamarckiana Dira clytus eurina Psilodera valida Betasyrphus Liris bembesianus Cophosomorpha Procirrina Zamarada Sternuchopsis Elasmopoda Clogmia albipunctata Dolichurus Gerridae Hydrillodes uliginosalis Depressariinae Platydracus Adelidae Spodoptera Phyllalia patens Brachvcera Sphingomorpha chlorea Tagiades flesus Amegilla Bicyclus safitza safitza Coranus carbonarius Epirinus flagellatus Metisella metis Leptotes pirithous Afrogegenes Miridae Sameodes cancellalis Drepanogynis determinata Africallagma glaucum Palpopleura lucia Urasomus Actizera lucida Aferos Tetraponera natalensis Phaon iridipennis Xylocopa Megachile Pandasyopthalmus Horisme minuata

Stripe-eyed Lagoon Fly Thread-legged Bugs Leaf Katydids Donkeyface Weevils V Nephele Ground Beetles Ant-mimicking Bushcrickets

True Crickets

Common Striped Hawkmoth

Blue-legged Sylvan Katydid African Veined White Click Beetles

Accented Nephele

Lienard's Achaea Treehole Antlions Mocker Swallowtail Cool Maiden ReV'nsprinkane Eastern Cape Autumn Widow

Bathroom Moth Fly

Water Striders

Longhorn Micromoths Armyworm Moths Clay Monkey Brachyceran Flies Sundowner moth Clouded Flat Banded Digger Bees Bush Brown

Goldspotted Sylph Common Blue Complex Dodgers Capsids Banded Pearl Variable Robust Elegant Swamp Bluet Lucia Widow

Rayed Blue

Natalensis-group Slender Ants Glistening Demoiselle Large Carpenter Bees Leafcutter, Mortar, and Resin Bees Insecta Insecta

Insecta

Insecta

Lampyridae Pompilidae Guanchia rugosula Dixeia charina Chrysomelidae Syritta Aphis nerii Allograpta Pseudatelus Athalia Megastigmus Chrysomya chloropyga Calliphoridae Anthomyia Stomorhina Reduviidae Acanthocoris Phrissoma reichei Hybotidae Bagrada hilaris Dasyproctus Pachycerina Ropalidia amabala Ropalidia distigma Lauxaniidae Tantaliana tantalus Coridius Sicyodes cambogiaria Apioninae Braconidae Sarcophaga Xylocopa caffra Achaea Calyptratae Muscidae Oxycarenus Coccus Deropeltis erythrocephala Chrysomya Catantops Diplognatha gagates silicea Empidoidea Schizonycha Arctiinae Tettigoniinae Cacyreus marshalli Vanessa cardui Tragocephala formosa Adoretus ictericus Phytomia Rhodogastria Lymantriinae Theretra capensis Tanaemyrmex Cletus Antipus rufus Agonoscelis versicoloratus Pterophoridae Archibracon Euproctis Stomoxys Molurina Deropeltis Scopula Friceia Horvathiolus Pachnoda sinuata

Fireflies & Glowworms Spider Wasps

African Small White Leaf Beetles

Milkweed Aphid Streaktails

Tigress Sawflies

Copper-tailed Blowfly Blowflies

Assassin Bugs

Hybotid Dance Flies Twee-twee-luisie

Lauxaniid Flies King Monkey

Gamboge Thorn Pear-shaped Weevils Braconid Wasps Common Flesh Flies Doubleband Carpenter

Calyptrate Flies House Flies and Allies

Redhead Roach

Spur-throated Grasshoppers Black Mirror Chafer Dance Flies, Long-legged Flies, and Allies Longleg Chafers Tiger Moths and Allies Shieldback Katydids Common Geranium-bronze Painted Lady

Tricolour Tiger Moths Tussock Moths Cape Hawk

Sunflower Seed Bug Plume Moths

Toktokkies Hunchback Cockroaches Insecta Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia Mammalia

Insecta

Colotis euippe omphale Zosteraeschna minuscula Rhyparochrominae Phryneta spinator Scoliinae Aegostheta Gomalia elma elma Melanostoma Udea ferrugalis Agrotis denticulosa Hypena Calleida Lagria Attagenus Acanthocorini Hypeninae Afronycha bivittata Dolosis illacerata Toxorhynchites Mydidae Sympetrum fonscolombii Geocnethus plagiatus Erioderus Charaxes varanes Geometridae Naarda Boerias Plectroctena mandibularis Chrysis lincea Psocodea Nezara capicola Hamartia Pterophorus Erebidae Antigastra morysalis Bembicini Megopis Acrididea Galtara pulverata Neptis saclava marpessa Ceratina Gryllus bimaculatus Delta Grylloidea Oraesia Phoridae Drosophila melanogaster Noctuidae Phlaeothripidae Chrysomya megacephala Xylocopa flavicollis Diaphone eumela Chiasmia Tortricidae Plinachtus Chironomidae Teloglabrus Phloeobius Larentiinae Tragelaphus sylvaticus sylvaticus Sylvicapra grimmia Caracal caracal caracal Graphiurus murinus Mus musculus Chrysochloridae Tadarida aegyptiaca

Epomophorus wahlbergi

Southern Round-winged Orange Tip Friendly hawker

Figtree Longhorn

Green-marbled Skipper

Rusty Dot Pearl Feathered Cutworm

Black Carpet Beetles

Hypenine Snout Moths

Elephant Mosquitoes Mydas Flies Nomad

Pearl Charaxes Geometer Moths

Ringbum Millipede Muncher Ant

Barklice, Booklice, and Parasitic Lice

Underwing, Tiger, Tussock, and Allied Moths

Sand Wasps

Grasshoppers

African Spotted Sailer Small Carpenter Bees Common Garden Cricket

True Crickets and Allies

Humpbacked Flies

Owlet Moths Tube-tailed Thrips Oriental Latrine Fly Yellow-collared Carpenter Cherry Spot

Tortricid Leafroller Moths

Nonbiting Midges

Carpet Moths Cape Bushbuck Common Duiker Cape Caracal Woodland Dormouse House Mouse Golden Moles Egyptian Free-tailed Bat Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat Mammalia Mollusca Mollusca Mollusca Mollusca Mollusca Plantae Plantae

Hystrix africaeaustralis africaeaustralis Chlorocebus pygerythrus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Grammomys dolichurus Atilax paludinosus paludinosus Suncus infinitesimus chriseos Herpestes pulverulentus Suncus infinitesimus Rhinolophus Mus minutoides Suncus Muroidea Soricidae Tropidophora Cochlitoma zebra Laevicaulis natalensis Gastropoda Natalina Erica glumiflora Nymphaea Nymphaea nouchali caerulea Chasmanthe aethiopica Ricinus communis Tecoma stans Vachellia karroo Acacia cyclops Jasminum angulare Grewia occidentalis Rhamnus prinoides Pittosporum viridiflorum Scadoxus puniceus Ficus burkei Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus Kedrostis nana Euclea racemosa Albuca cooperi Mystroxylon aethiopicum aethiopicum Clematis brachiata Coccinia quinqueloba Canthium ciliatum Rapanea Vepris lanceolata Loxostvlis alata Crassula multicava multicava Clausena anisata Canthium inerme Crotalaria capensis Hypoxis Zantedeschia aethiopica Pelargonium peltatum Hypoestes forskaolii Moraea britteniae Nemesia fruticans Moraea australis Solanum linnaeanum Aizoon rigidum Abutilon sonneratianum Silene undulata undulata Urtica urens Fumaria muralis Silene gallica Vicia sativa Bulbine Pelargonium alchemilloides Papaver aculeatum Rhynchosia caribaea

Southern Porcupine Southern Vervet Duthie's Golden Mole Woodland Thicket Rat Southern Marsh Mongoose

Cape Grey Mongoose Least Dwarf Shrew Horseshoe Bats Tiny Pygmy Mouse

Muroids Shrews Shufflers Zebra Agate Snail **Brown Leatherback Slug** Gastropods Large Cannibal Snails **Gloomy Heath** waterlilies Blue Water Lily Cobra Lily castor bean yellow bells Sweetthorn **Rooikrans Wattle** Angular Jasmine **Common Crossbery** Shiny-leaf Kersuurboom Paintbrush lily Common Wild Fig Candlewood Porcupine Potato Dune Guarri **Dainty Tamarak** Cape Koobooberry **Travellers** Joy Fivelobe Bushpumpkin Hairy Turkeyberry Cape Beeches white-ironwood Tierhout samandua

Turkeyberry Cape Rattlepod Stargrasses Common Arum ivy storksbill White Ribbon Flower

Grassveld Lionface Southern Glasstulp Yellow Bitter-apple Hard Baconfig Butter and cheese Common Cape Catchfly Dwarf Nettle Wall Fume Small Catchfly Common Vetch Kopievas Mantle Storksbill Bristle Poppy Common Snoutbean Glass Tulps

Gynandriris

Plantae Plantae

Cyrtanthus loddigesianus Empodium plicatum Moraea Hypochaeris albiflora Pelargonium capitatum Oenothera Rhoiacarpos capensis Lamium amplexicaule Mesembryanthemum aitonis Myosotis Oxalis Osteospermum moniliferum Asparagus setaceus Delairea odorata Jasminum mesnyi Solanum africanum Felicia Leonotis ocymifolia Lupinus cosentinii Tecomaria capensis Veronica persica Malva parviflora Salvia scabra Olea exasperata Agathosma stenopetala Muraltia Leonotis nepetifolia Euclea racemosa racemosa Adenocline acuta Zanthoxylum capense Cysticapnos cracca Moraea algoensis Sideroxylon inerme inerme Allophylus decipiens Anthospermum aethiopicum Indigofera verrucosa Searsia crenata Senecio Searsia alauca Hebenstretia integrifolia Metalasia muricata Felicia erigeroides Senecio macroglossus Cvnanchum ellipticum Restio eleocharis Searsia laevigata laevigata Rhodobryum Searsia lucida scoparia Scutia myrtina Erica chloroloma Rapanea gilliana Muraltia squarrosa Morella quercifolia Helichrysum teretifolium Coleonema pulchellum Felicia echinata Agathosma apiculata Passerina Selago canescens Helichrysum aureum aureum Senecio elegans Putterlickia pyracantha Carissa bispinosa bispinosa Azima tetracantha Helichrysum versicolor Cynanchum obtusifolium

Droquetia iners

Grassveld Firelily **Plough Star** Tulps white flatweed **Common Storksbill** evening primroses, sundrops, and beeblossoms Albany Sumach henbit deadnettle **Coast Solfig** Forget-me-nots Sorrels Bietou Common Asparagus Fern Cape-ivy Primrose jasmine drunken berry Felicias Rock Lionspaw Sandplain lupine Cape Honeysuckle bird's-eye speedwell cheeseweed mallow **Coastal Blue Sage** Dune olive Beach Lemon Buchu Purplegorses Lions Ears Sea Guarri Manhungwana Cape Fumaria Algoa Clockflower Southern White Milkwood **Bastard** Currant Tall Flowerseed Warty Indigo Dune crow-berry Ragworts Blue Kunirhus Summer Slugwort Strandveld Blombush Michaelmas Felicia Ivy Ragwort Monkeyrope Buckhorn **Beach Pegreed** Common Dune Currantrhus

cat-thorn Greensepal Heath Dwarf Cape Beech Hornless Purplegorse Oak Waxberry Needle Everlasting Sweet Capemay Dune Felicia Garlic Buchu Gonnas Skinny Bitterbush

Red-purple Ragwort Bastard Spikethorn Forest Num-num Needle Bush Eastern Gold Cudweed Roundleaf Buckhorn Stingless Nettle Plantae Reptilia Reptilia

Capparis sepiaria citrifolia Lauridia tetragona Asparagus asparagoides Colpoon compressum Ficinia bulbosa Heliophila subulata subulata Cotula discolor Stipa dregeana Knowltonia vesicatoria humilis Morella cordifolia Rhoicissus tridentata tridentata Phylica litoralis Setaria sphacelata torta Imperata cylindrica Tarchonanthus littoralis Diospyros simii Senecio erubescens Thesium commutatum Senecio ilicifolius Dichondra micrantha Pelargonium grossularioides Asparagus aethiopicus Ehrharta erecta Senecio deltoideus Magnoliopsida Zehneria scabra Sonchus oleraceus Trifolium repens Stigmochelys pardalis Chersina angulata Bradypodion ventrale Hemidactylus mabouia Scelotes anguinus Dasypeltis scabra scabra Gekkonidae Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia Dispholidus typus Lycodonomorphus inornatus Acontias lineicauda Dasypeltis scabra Trachylepis homalocephala Duberria lutrix Acontias orientalis Philothamnus occidentalis Lygodactylus capensis Psammophis crucifer Lycodonomorphus rufulus Dispholidus typus typus Bitis arietans

Cape Capers Climbing Saffron Bridal Asparagus Cape Sumach Bulbous Sedge

Beach Buttons

Dwarf Eastern Burnleaf Dune Waxberry Bitter Grape Beach Hardleaf Small Creeping Foxtail Cogon Grass **Coastal Camphorbush Climbing Star-Apple Blushing Ragwort Dense Rootthug** Kowanna Ragwort Wonderlawn **Coconut Storksbill Hookthorn Asparagus** panic veldtgrass **Climbing Ragwort** dicots Cape Zehn Common Sow-thistle white clover Leopard Tortoise Angulate Tortoise Eastern Cape Dwarf Chameleon **Tropical House Gecko** Algoa Dwarf Burrowing Skink Eggeater **Typical Geckos Red-lipped Herald** Boomslang Olive Snake Algoa Legless Skink Egg-eating Snake **Red-sided Skink** Common Slug-eater Linnaeus' Legless Skink Western Natal Green Snake Common Dwarf Gecko Cross-marked Sand Snake Common Brown Water Snake **Common Boomslang** Puffadder