PROPOSED WATER SUPPLY AUGMENTATION BOREHOLE FOR THE PROPOSED MALABAR SITE WITHIN THE NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

FOR Engineering and Advice Services (Pty) Ltd



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> > **DATE**

20 March 2025

REVISION 1

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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 AuthorisationEIA Environmental Impact AssessmentEIS 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

WULA Water Use License Application

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.

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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

Signed:.... Date:...20 March 2025.......

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1 Introduction

Engineering and Advices Services (Pty) Ltd appointed EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd to conduct an biodiversity screening assessment and then impact assessment for the proposed WATER SUPPLY AUGMENTATION BOREHOLES FOR the proposed Malabar site within the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape. This, located ca. 10 km west of the Gqeberha CBD. This report deals with the assessment of the proposed exploration borehole site including a potential disturbance area of approximately a 10m radius and any access tracks needed to the drilling site. Once the borehole is tested and found suitable, then an assessment will be conducted for the remaining infrastructure that will be required to connect the borehole/s to the municipal reticulation / reservoir network. This will then form part of a separate assessment / authorisation process.

The PROTOCOL FOR SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT AND MINIMUM REPORT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY (Government Gazette 43110, 20 March 2020), superseding the Appendix 6 NEMA requirements, was also adhered to. This report thus meets the criteria to fulfil a Specialist Verification 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 Terrestrial Environment (National Protected Area Expansion Strategy area & Critically Endangered Ecosystem). The Animal theme was rate High & Medium, while the Plant theme was rated as Medium.

Portions of the site are situated within the Algoa Sandstone Fynbos (FFs 29) vegetation unit, considered Vulnerable (NSBA, 2018) and listed also as a Threatened Ecosystems.

The findings of this report were supported by baseline data collected in a one day site-specific visits in December 2024 and March 20025. The surveys were conducted in early and mid-summer, with most of the expected plants flowering, with the exception of several of the autumn bulbs known to occur in the area, but these are referenced in pervious assessments in the area conducted in the region / site and included in this assessment, especially if listed in the screening tool results or are Listed / Protected Species with conservation concern.

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 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 site boundary in relation to the surrounding environment and road infrastructure and the proposed exploration drilling site

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. The report also makes recommendations, regard which Boreholes are thus suitable to reduce, avoid or mitigate the potential negative impacts where possible. This would then also apply identifying any access to these areas should no roads or tracks exist.

Based on the information supplied, coupled with technical constraints, development options will then be selected for further in-depth assessment during the Environmental Authorisation (EA) process, following the required NEMA Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.

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 in this Phase, unless otherwise stated.

Therefore, due to the scope of the work presented in this report, a long-term investigation of the proposed site was not possible and as such not perceived as part of the Terms of Reference. However, 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 included the following aspects:

- Desktop analysis
- Site investigation
- Compilation of one draft and one final site 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).
 - o Identification and mapping of any discrepancies with the environmental sensitivity as identified on the national web based environmental screening tool.
 - o Identification of sensitive areas to be avoided (including corresponding spatial data) and the determination of the respective buffers (if applicable) for the site.
 - o 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.

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, INaturalist, 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 transect 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 for each site(s), and included:
 - 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 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;
- Installation of pitfall traps and two drift fence arrays;
- Active searching techniques; and
- Vocalisations (for amphibians).

<u>Invertebrates</u> were sampled by means of the following techniques:

 Random linear transects using a standard hand nets while focussing on specific indicator groups;

- All taxa caught, 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.

The respective site 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. This was then used to rank the suitability of the proposed drilling sites, along with the potential impacts inclusive of site access, as the creation of tracks would impact on important or sensitive habitats, more so than the drilling site.

5 Project Description

- The Coega Development Corporation (CDC) on behalf of the NMBM (Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality) is seeking to drill exploratory boreholes (Phase 1) as part of its plan to augment the NMBM's water supply.
- Phase 1 is aimed at the exploratory activities only and some of the proposed exploratory boreholes could be located within 100 meters of watercourses within the Aspen Heights site (Figure 1).
- No drilling was however anticipated to be located within watercourses.
- Part of the rationale for drilling within 100 meters of watercourses was due to the high possibility of obtaining viable groundwater resources.
- The positioning of the boreholes was determined using desktop tools and analysis, including the geohydrology of the greater NMBM area.
- The borehole exploration portion of the project is only to ascertain the availability of water and perform water yield and quality tests.
- The outcome of the exploratory phase would then inform the siting, drilling, and equipping
 of production boreholes, which would then only include in the installation of pump houses,
 electrical supply, and access roads etc.
- The CDC and the NMBM will however ensure preventative measures will be in place to
 prevent environmental damage, including but not limited to environmental specifications
 that the contractor would be obligated to comply with, method statements for during
 exploration, an appointed SHE agent for site monitoring in respect to compliance and
 enforcement, and an Environmental Management Programme for this Phase 1 of the
 project.

6 Description of the affected environment

6.1 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. 680 mm per annum. Annual average temperatures range between 7.6 and 25°C, with frost a rare occurrence of no more than 3 days per year (Mucina & Rutherford, 2007).

6.2 Geology and soils

The site is underlain calcareous sandstones of the Table Mountain Group, made of quarzitic sandstones, with areas containing quartzite sands. The proposed drilling site is located on higher lying area with weathered sand, that then dominated the species / habitat composition of the site.

6.3 Slope and aspect

The drilling site is located on an open plateau associated with the catchment divides and 150 mASL (Above Sea Level).

6.4 Terrestrial environment

The vegetation types defined by Mucina and Rutherford (2007), as amended in the National Vegetation Map 2012 and 2017/18 spatial information are shown in Figure 2, as Algoa Sandstone Fynbos (FFs 29), a form of Algoa Grassy Fynbos and is listed as Critically Endangered. Therefore considered a Threatened Ecosystem, as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act.

The typical species associated with the site were then more Algoa Sandstone Fynbos, dominated by a variety of grasses, Ericas and Proteas, and are only located within a narrow coastal belt between the Van Stadens River in the West and Summerstrand in the East, within NMBM are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: List of plant species in Algoa Sandstone Fynbos. (d=dominant, e=South African endemic, et=possibly endemic to a vegetation type)

Growth Form	Species
Shrubs	Tall Shrubs: Protea eximia, P. neriifolia, P. repens. Low Shrubs: Agathosma hirta, A. ovata,
	Erica zeyheriana, Euryops ericifolius, Helichrysum appendiculatum, H. teretifolium,
	Leucadendron salignum, L. spissifolium subsp. phillipsii, Leucospermum cuneiforme, Protea
	cynaroides, P. foliosa, Tephrosia capensis.
Herbs	Succulent Herb: Crassula pellucida subsp. marginalis
Graminoids:	Graminoids: Aristida adscensionis (d), A. congesta (d), Cynodon dactylon (d), C. incompletus (d), Eragrostis obtusa (d), Panicum maximum (d), Tragus berteronianus (d), Cenchrus ciliaris, Cyperus capensis, Digitaria argyrograpta, Ehrharta calycina, Enneapogon scoparius, Eragrostis curvula, Eustachys paspaloides, Heteropogon contortus, Panicum deustum, Sporobolus fimbriatus, Stipa dregeana, Themeda triandra.

The proposed drilling site is located near an existing track, or rather at an intersection of tracks, which traverse varying degrees of intact vegetation (Plate 1 & 2).

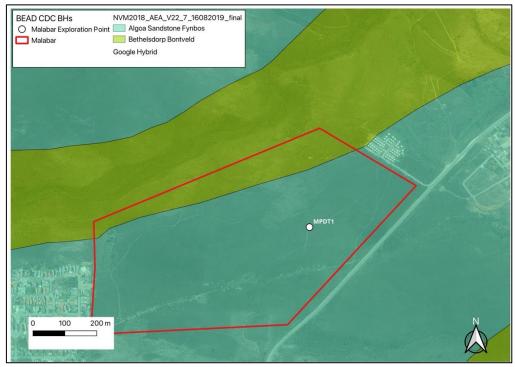


Figure 2: Vegetation South Africa VegMap as per Mucina & Rutherford (2007) revised 2018

Figure 3 indicates finer scale mapping of the site, with regard a vegetation and bioregional assessment conducted by SRK (2014) for NMBM, which indicates that the site is located within Malabar Grassy Fynbos. Species associated with this unit and observed on site included *Themeda triandra*, *Berkheya heterophylla*, *Passerina rigida*, *Leucospermum cuneiform*, *Aspalathus setacea*, *Syncarpa argentea*, *Euryops imbricatus*. Dense stands of *Bobartia orientalis* were also evident within the proposed site. Additional species observed on site included several Erica species listed in Table 3 as identified by the screening tool, as well as several Watsonias. All of which are protected by Provincial law.

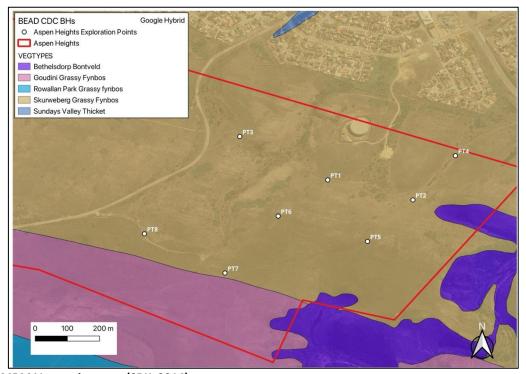


Figure 3: NMBM Vegetation map (SRK, 2014)



Plate 1: A view of the drilling site, dominated by Bobartia and Watsonia spp, with one of the access tracks in view



Plate 2: The access track leading to the west, which is more disturbed thus minimising disturbance to reach the site

Table 2, 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 several being observed.

Table 2: Sensitive plant species (Medium Sensitivity) that have the potential to occur within the site according to the DFFE Screening Tool Results.

Screening Tool Plant	Conservation	Habitat	Observed Y/N Where
Species*	importance		No = Not observed or
			no suitable habitat
Agathosma gonaquensis	Critically Endangered B1ab(ii,iii,iv,v)	Plants grow in coastal grassland with fynbos elements.	Yes
Agathosma recurvvispina	Critically Endangered	Several known locations along the	Similar species observed but
		Baakens River	will need a flowering specimen
			to confirm
Agathosma stenopetala	Vulnerable B1ab(iii)	Tertiary sands	No
Apodolirion macowanii	Vulnerable A3c; B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	Heavy clay soils in renosterveld or valley bushveld.	No
Argyrolobium crassifolium	Endangered A2c; B1ab	Grassland below 300mASL	No
Aristea nana	Rare	Kouga Mountains at high altitude	No
		ŭ ŭ	-
Bobartia macrocarpa	Vulnerable A2c;	Flat open grassy patches	Yes
Caputia scaposa var. addoensis	Endangered B1ab(iii)	Sandstone rocks.	Yes
Corpuscularia lehmannii	Critically Endangered B1ab	Quartzite outcrops	No
Disperis woodii	Vulnerable B2ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	It occurs in damp grassland, usually in	No
		open places with sandy soils, sometimes	
		within grass tussocks, from sea level to 800 m.	
Ellisochloa papposa	Vulnerable B1ab(ii,iii,iv,v)	This species of grass in only known from	No
Ешѕостой рарроѕа	vullerable Blab(II,III,IV,V)	less than 10 locations. Declining due to	NO
		alien plant invasion, in the Baviaanskloof	
		and along the Van Stadens and	
		Swartkops rivers, and quarrying and	
		urban expansion around	
		Uitenhage/Kariega	
Erepsia arista	Endangered B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii)	It is localized to sandstone outcrops	No
·		above perennial stream beds on lower	
		mountain slopes	
Erica chloroloma		Coastal dune fynbos	No
Erica glumiflora	Vulnerable B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	Only known from six coastal localities	Similar species observed but
			will need a flowering specimen
			to confirm
Erica zeyheriana	Vulnerable A4bc; B1ab+2ab	Remnant lowland grassy fynbos on sand.	No
Gymnosporia elliptica	Vulnerable B1ab	Coastal plains, with specimens recorded	Yes, but located just upstream
		along the Baakens River in the past	of the proposed site
Holothrix longicornu	Critically Endangered	Lower sandstone slopes thought to be	No
Lustinia auglicidas subsu	Vide arable B1 ab (; ;; ;; ; ;)	extinct	No
Justicia orchioides subsp. orchioides	Vulnerable B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	It occurs in open sandy areas, often in lime-rich soils	No
Lebeckia gracilis	Endangered	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below	No
Lebeckia graems	Endangered	300 mABSL	110
Lotononis acuminata	Vulnerable B1ab	Disturbed renosterveld and grassy fynbos	Yes
Rapanea gilliana	Endangered B1ab	Coastal sand dunes	No
Selago rotundifolia	Vulnerable B1ab	Forest margins or grassy flats	No
Senecio hirtifolius	Possibuly extinct	Little known on this species	No
Sensitive species 1252	Vulnerable	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below	No
		300 mABSL	
Sensitive species 141	Endangered B2ab	Coastal sands	No
Sensitive species 236	Vulnerable B1ab	Coastal forelands	Similar species observed but
			will need a flowering specimen
			to confirm
Sensitive species 249	Critically Endangered B1ab	Lowland fynbos in marshy drainage lines,	Yes, but located just upstream
	15.1	300 mASL.	of the proposed site
Sensitive species 264	Endangered B1ab	Flats and lower slopes in semi-arid areas	No
•		L Coastal tunbos in doon, sandy soil bolow	No
Sensitive species 448	Rare	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below	NO
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Rare	300 mABSL Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below	NO

Sensitive species 657	Vulnerable	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below 300 mABSL	No
Sensitive species 670	Rare	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below 300 mABSL	No
Sensitive species 991	Near Threatened B1ab	It is localized to open patches on deep, lime-rich sand and clay loams in mesic and xeric succulent thicket, 10-400 m.	No
Syringodea flanaganii	Vulnerable B1ab(i,ii,iii,iv,v)	Stony flats and slopes	Observed to the east of the study area in similar habitats
Marsilea schelpeana	Vulnerable B1ab(ii,iii)+2ab(ii,iii)	Margins of seasonal pools and along water courses from near sea level to about 200 m.	No
Centella tridentata var. hermanniifolia	Rare	Occurs on coastal flats and lower slopes.	Observed 300m from the drilling site
Sensitive species 1268	Vulnerable	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below 300 mABSL	No
Sensitive species 588	Vulnerable	Coastal fynbos in deep, sandy soil below 300 mABSL	No

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

Table 3, includes the faunal species observed during this assessment, none of which are considered sensitive or conservation needy. With regards mammal species, Species 5, listed by the DFFE Screening Tool, is unlikely to occur within the site due to lack of habitat and hunting/disturbance pressure or are avifaunal species and will move from the site once any activities commence.

No other animals were observed within the site, but it can be assumed that Snakes, Mongoose and various mice/rats, would be present.

Table 3: Faunal species observed within the site, previously recorded or likely to occur in the general study area, together with the conservation status. Key =: Y = Observed; U = Unconfirmed, but within the distribution range

Taxon	Common Name	RDB/SSC	Presence
Amphibians			
Amietophrynus pardalis	Eastern Leopard Toad	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Amietophrynus rangeri	Raucous Toad	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Breviceps adspersus	Penther's Rain Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
pentheri			
Cacosternum boettgeri	Common caco	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Cacosternum nanum	Bronze Caco	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Hyperolius marmoratus	Painted Reed Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Kassina senegalensis	Bubbling Kassina	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Semnodactylus wealii	Rattling Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Strongylopus fasciatus	Striped Stream Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Strongylopus grayii	Clicking Stream Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Tomopterna delalandii	Cape Sand Frog	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Vandijkophrynus	Cape sand Toad	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
angusticeps			
Xenopus laevis	Common Platanna	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Reptiles			
Acontias gracilicauda	Thin tailed legless skink	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Acontias lineicauda	Algoa legless skink	PNCO, IUCN NT	U
Acontias meleagris	Eastern legless skink	PNCO, IUCNLC	U
orientalis			
Acontias percivali tasmani	Tasman's legless skink	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Agama atra	Southern rock agama	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Aspidelapse lubricus	Cape coral snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U

Bitis arietans	Puff adder	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Bradypodion ventrale	Southern Dwarf	PNCO, IUCN LC,	U
Bradypodion ventrale	Chameleon	CITIES 2	
Causus rhombeatus	Night adder	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
	Angulate tortoise	PNCO, IUCN LC,	U
Chersina angulata	Aligulate tortoise	CITIES 2	O
Cordylus cordylus	Cape girdled lizard	PNCO, IUCN LC,	U
Cordyids cordyids	cape girarea nzara	CITIES 2	
Cordylus tasmani	Tasman's girdled lizard	CITES 2 ,PNCO, IUCN VU	U
Crotaphopeltis	Herald snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
hotamboeia			
Dasypeltis scabra	Rhombic egg eater	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Hemachatus haemachatus	Rinkhals	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Hemidactylus mabouia	Tropical house gecko	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Lamprophis aurora	Aurora house snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
· ·		PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Lamprophis capensis	Brown house snake	·	
Lamprophis fuscus	Yellow bellied house	PNCO, IUCN NT	U
Lauranana kisissa saa	snake	DNCO ILICALI C	11
Lamprophis inornatus	Olive house snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Lycodonomorphus rufulus	Brown water snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Naja nivea	Cape cobra	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Nucras intertexta	Spotted Sandveld Lizard	PNCO	U
Pelomedusa subrufa	Marsh terrapin	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Philothamnus natalensis	Natal green snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
occidentalus			
Psammophis notostictus	Karroo whip snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Psammophylax	Rhombic skaapsteker	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
rhombeatus			
Pseudaspis cana	Mole snake	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
·	Mole snake Leopard Tortoise	PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Pseudaspis cana Stigmochelys pardalis		PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U
·		PNCO, IUCN LC	_
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U Y U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC	Y U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	V У U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U Y U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2	U V U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC	U V U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Shrew	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Shrew Greater red musk shrew	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U V U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Musk Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U V U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus Cynictis penicillata	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat Yellow mongoose	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus Cynictis penicillata Dendromus melanotis	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Musk Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat Yellow mongoose Grey climbing mouse	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus Cynictis penicillata Dendromus melanotis Dendromus mesomelas	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Musk Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat Yellow mongoose Grey climbing mouse Brant's climbing mouse	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus Cynictis penicillata Dendromus melanotis Dendromus mesomelas Felis cattus	Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Musk Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat Yellow mongoose Grey climbing mouse Brant's climbing mouse Domestic cat	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC Alien	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
Stigmochelys pardalis Trachylepis capensis Trachylepis homalcephala Trachylepis varia varie Varanus albigularis Varanus niloticus Mammals Amblysomus corriae Amblysomus hittentotus Aonyx capensis Atilax paludinosus Caracal caracal Cercopithecus pygerythrus Chlorotalpa duthieae Crocidura cyanea Crocidura flavescens Cryptomys hottentotus Cynictis penicillata Dendromus melanotis Dendromus mesomelas	Leopard Tortoise Cape skink Red sided skink Variable skink Rock Monitor Water Monitor Fynbos golden mole Hottentot Golden Mole African clawless otter Marsh mongoose Caracal Vervet monkey Duthie's golden mole Reddish-Grey Musk Shrew Greater red musk shrew African mole rat Yellow mongoose Grey climbing mouse Brant's climbing mouse	PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN LC CITIES 2 PNCO, IUCN NT PNCO, IUCN DD PNCO, IUCN LC	U Y U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U

Genetta genetta	Small spotted genet	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Genetta tigrina	Large spotted genet	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Georychus capensis	Cape mole rat	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Graphiurus murinus	Woodland dormouse	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Graphiurus ocularis	Spectacled dormouse	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Herpestes ichneumon	Large grey mongoose	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Hystrix africaeaustralis	Cape porcupine	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Ictonyx striatus	Striped pole cat	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Lepus saxatilis	Scrub hare	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Macroscelides	Round eared elephant	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
proboscideus	shrew		
Mastomys natalensis	Natal multimammate	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Wide this is	mouse		
Mellivora capensis	Honey badger	PNCO, IUCN CITES 3 NT	U
Micaelamys namaquensis	Namaqua rock mouse	LC	U
Mus minutoides	Pygmy mouse	LC	U
Mus musculus	House mouse	Alien	U
Myosorex varius	Forest Shrew	PNCO, IUCN DD	U
Neoromicia capensis	Cape serotine bat	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Nycteris thebaica	Egyptian slit faced bat	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Orycteropus afer	Aardvark	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Otocyon megalotis	Bat eared fox	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Otomys irroratus	Vlei rat	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Otomys unisulcatus	Bush vlei rat	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Panthera pardus	Leopard	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Papio cynocephalus	Chacma baboon	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
ursinus			
Species 5		PNCO, IUCN CITES2 VU	U
Poecilogale albinucha	African striped weasel	PNCO, IUCN VU	U
Potamochoerus larvatus	Bush pig	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	PNCO, IUCNLC	U
Raphicerus melanotis	Grysbok	PNCO, IUCNLC	U
Rattus rattus	House rat	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Rhabdomys pumilio	Four striped grass mouse	PNCO, IUCN LC	Υ
Saccostomus campestris	Pouched mouse	PNCO, IUCNLC	U
Suncus infinitesimus	Least dwarf shrew	PNCO, IUCN E	U
Sylvicapra grimmia	Common duiker	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Tragelaphus scriptus	Bush buck	PNCO, IUCN LC	U
Vulpes chama	Cape Fox	PNCO, IUCN LC	U

Where:

ARRSA = Atlas and Red List of the Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. 2014. Edited by Michael F. Bates, William R. Branch, Aaron M. Bauer, Marius Burger, Johan Marais, Graham J. Alexander & Marienne S. de Villiers. SANBI, Pretoria.

RDB, 2015 = Taylor MR, Peacock F, Wanless RM (eds) 2015. The 2015 Eskom Red Data Book of birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg.

SABCA = Mecenero, S., J.B. Ball, D.A. Edge, M.L. Hamer, G.A. Hening, M. Krüger, E.L. Pringle, R.F. Terblanche & M.C. Williams (eds). 2013. Conservation assessment of butterflies of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland: Red List and atlas. Saftronics (Pty) Ltd., Johannesburg and Animal Demography Unit, Cape Town.

7 Site Sensitivity

Based on the findings of this study, the various habitats were ranked in terms of their sensitivity to development. Typically this is carried out using the following criteria, listed in order of importance, i.e., the habitat or vegetation unit:

- Contained Species of Special Concern (SSC)
- Habitat was protected under a form of legislation
- Exhibited a high degree of biodiversity
- Exhibited a limited degree of degradation
- A unique habitat that is not well represented within the region
- Provided an important ecosystem role or support system, e.g., ecological corridor

This approach has been formalised via the Species Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines in support of the Terrestrial Plant and Animal Species protocols (July 2023). The guidelines provide detail for implementing relevant species protocols and in particular a method to determine the Site Ecological Importance or SEI. The SEI protocol used in this assessment provides a species and habitat ranking approach to assessing the importance and thus indirectly the sensitivity of a particular site. This was adapted from SANBI, 2020 Ver 3.1 2022. Table 4 indicates the Sensitivity Ratings definitions, while Table 5 indicates the results for each of the proposed drilling sites.

Note SEI is calculated as follows based on Section 8 of SANBI (2022):

Site Ecological Importance (SEI) is a standardised methodology to spatially identify the importance of a development site for species (SANBI 2020). SEI is considered to be a function of the biodiversity importance (BI) of the receptor (e.g. species of conservation concern, the vegetation/fauna community or habitat type present on the site20) and its resilience to impacts (receptor resilience [RR]) as follows:

SEI = BI + RR

BI in turn is a function of conservation importance (CI) and the functional integrity (FI) of the receptor as follows:

BI = CI + FI

Conservation importance (CI) is evaluated in accordance with recognised established internationally acceptable principles and criteria for the determination of biodiversity-related value, including the IUCN Red List of Species, Red List of Ecosystems and Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA; IUCN [2016]). Conservation importance is defined here as: 'The importance of a site for supporting biodiversity features of conservation concern present, e.g. populations of IUCN threatened and Near Threatened species (CR, EN, VU and NT), Rare species, range-restricted species, globally significant populations of congregatory species, and areas of threatened ecosystem types, through predominantly natural processes.'

Functional integrity (FI) of the receptor (e.g. the vegetation/ fauna community or habitat type) is defined here as the receptors' current ability to maintain the structure and functions that define it, compared to its known or predicted state under ideal conditions. Simply stated, FI is: 'A measure of the ecological condition of the impact receptor as determined by its remaining intact and functional area, its connectivity to other natural areas and the degree of current persistent ecological impacts.'

Receptor resilience (RR) is defined here as: 'The intrinsic capacity of the receptor to resist major damage from disturbance and/or to recover to its original state with limited or no human intervention.'

HOWEVER, DUE TO THE SMALL DRILLING DISTURBANCE FOOTPRINTS, THE RATINGS WERE APPLIED TO THE RESPECTIVE SITE IN TABLE 5 AND THEN THE AFFECT HABITATS WERE ASSESSED AND RATED

Table 4: Species and habitat sensitivity ratings definitions

Sensitivity Rating	Description
Very High	Avoidance mitigation – no destructive development activities should be considered. Offset mitigation not accept- able/not possible (i.e. last remaining populations of species, last remaining good condition patches of ecosystems/ unique species assemblages). Destructive impacts for species/ecosystems where persistence target remains.
High	Avoidance mitigation wherever possible. Minimisation mitigation – changes to project infrastructure design to limit the amount of habitat impacted; limited development activities of low impact acceptable. Offset mitigation may be required for high impact activities.
Medium	Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities.
Low	Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium to high impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities.
Very Low	Minimisation mitigation – development activities of medium to high impact acceptable and restoration activities may not be required.

Table 5: Site Sensitivity rating results, as per SANBI (2020). (BI = Biodiversity Importance, RR = receptor resilience)

DRILING SITE	POTENTIAL ACCESS	HABITAT	CONSERVATION IMPORTANCE	FUNCTIONAL INTEGRITY	RECEPTOR RESILIENCE	SITE ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
MPDT 1	Yes along vehicle track	Algoa Grassy Fynbos which is mostly intact and contains several listed / protected species and the species listed in the DFFE Screening tool, thus should be avoided, if no access or disturbance is present.	High - confirmation of 3 Species	Medium Major threats include AIPs, illegal dumping and too frequent grazing	Medium Likely to recover slowly (more than 10 years), in particular the sensitive succulent species	Medium BI= Medium RR= Medium

An adjacent area, with no SCC was identified, and is located at -33.9246422 S 25.5169408 E, 5m west of the proposed drilling site, which can be accessed via the same track from the Malabar suburb, which is highly disturbed as it is used for solid waste disposal (See Figure 4). Should both the recommendations be adhered to then the SEI could in all likelihood be reduced to LOW.

8 Impact Assessment

During this investigation it was found that the greatest number of impacts could occur as a result of the direct loss of vegetation, vegetation that is considered Vulnerable and or contains high numbers of listed / protected plant species. Due to the nature and scale of the activities, a limited to no impact is anticipated on faunal groups as most are mobile and would disperse. Similarly impacts on habitat fragmentation, Critical Biodiversity Areas or Protected Areas Expansion are also not anticipated in this phase of the project as none occur.

With regard to the decommissioning phase, this was assessed as the impacts would remain the same as that shown in the construction phase. However there is a degree of lack of irreversibility of the impacts due to the nature of the soils, topography and vegetation having moderate long term rehabilitation potential but this was considered in the Receptor Resilience assessment in the Sensitivity rating of the sites.

8.1 No-Go Option

With regard the No-Go option it is assumed that the site would remain functional and were impacts already occur continue to degrade due to the prevalence of grazing, solid waste dumping, and alien encroachment. This would continue into the long-term with a Moderate intensity that would impact on the regional scale due to loss of important habitat. Little in the way of mitigation could be proposed other than controlling access to the area and Alien Invasive Species management.

8.2 Terrestrial Impacts

8.2.1 Impact 1: Loss of vegetation and in particular species / habitats that are listed as Critically Endangered and or Vulnerable

Impact 1	Loss of vegetation and in particular species / habitats that are listed as Critically Endangered and or Vulnerable					
Issue	The destruction of habitats that are or Vulnerable	listed as Critically Endangered and				
	Description of Impact					
	During the drilling activities, vegetation clearing will be required. This could then result, although on small scale in a loss of important habitats / vegetation units. Based on the sensitivity assessment of the drilling site, was found acceptable with mitigation listed below					
Type of Impact	Indirect					
Nature of Impact	Negative					
Phases	Constr	ruction				
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:	plants and trees. All temporary works areas placed in previously disturb includes any temporary acc. All drilling fluids and pump sediment must be contained general area. If this does here removed and be rehabilitated. Alien vegetation management beginning of the construction remaining areas into the operation. Several listed and protect period adjacent the tracks and road should be pegged so that the lit is recommended as best rescue programme for any although this consideration.	(laydowns and camps) can only be bed areas within the site, and this cess roads or storage areas. test water, especially with fines / ed and not allowed to spill into the appen then these soils must be ed. ent must be initiated at the on period and must extend into any peration phase on the Tankatara plant species are still found directly eds that can be used, and these these can be avoided. practice to conduct a search and listed or protected plants species, it was not used to reduce the enty 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 within the study area must be assessed in the EIA phase of the overall project, but any additional loss of important species / habitats would be High.		
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
	High -	Low -	

8.2.2 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 previous on the observations made, it was evident that several protected and listed species do occur and these can be avoided with the inclusion of the proposed no-go areas.

	Description of Impact	
During the drilling activities, vegetation clea	ring will be required. This could then	result, although on small scale in a
loss of listed and protected species. Most of Vulnerable and are endemic to NMBM.	f the listed plant species observed ar	e considered Near Threatened or
Type of Impact	Inc	direct
Nature of Impact	Ne	gative
Phases	Cons	truction
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:	 Drilling should be shifted 5m west to 33.9246422 S 25.5169408 E. This would then avoid loss of listed / protected plants and trees. 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. All drilling fluids and pump test water, especially with fines / sediment must be contained and not allowed to spill into the general area. If this does happen then these soils must be removed and be rehabilitated. Alien vegetation management must be initiated at the beginning of the construction period and must extend into any remaining areas into the operation phase on the Tankatara Farm. Several listed and protect plant species are still found directly adjacent the tracks and roads that can be used, and these should be pegged so that these can be avoided. 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 potential impact ratings. Any plants removed could easily be relocated into areas that will need rehabilitation post 	
Monitoring		
The following monitoring is recommended:	previously degraded area	emporary sites as well as any as must begin from the onset of the ment of a botanist to assist with the ons.

	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 within the study area must be assessed in the EIA phase of the overall project, but any additional loss of important species / habitats would be High.		
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
	High -	Low -	

8.2.3 Impact 3: Loss of any critical corridors and connect habitats that are linked to any future conservation plans or protected areas expansion

Impact 3	•	connect habitats that are linked to sor protected areas expansion	
Issue	The destruction of habitats that are listed form part of any ecological corridors, Critical Biodiversity Areas or National Protected Area Expansion Strategy area (NPAES)		
	Description of Impact		
exploration phase, this impact would seem	Critical Biodiversity Areas and or Ecological Support areas will be affected. Further due to scale of thase, this impact would seem to be negligible and will be assessed in more detail once the project the final boreholes sites have been identified		
Type of Impact	Ind	irect	
Nature of Impact	Neg	ative	
Phases	Consti	ruction	
Criteria	Without Mitigation	With Mitigation	
Intensity	Medium	Medium	
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	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:	 Drilling should be shifted 5m west to 33.9246422 S 25.5169408 E. This would then avoid loss of listed / protected plants and trees. 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. All drilling fluids and pump test water, especially with fines / sediment must be contained and not allowed to spill into the general area. If this does happen then these soils must be removed and be rehabilitated. 		

	beginning of the construction remaining areas into the operation. Several listed and protect produced adjacent the tracks and roas should be pegged so that the programme for any although this consideration.	practice to conduct a search and listed or protected plants species, 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 within the study area must be assessed in the EIA phase of the overall project, but any additional loss of important species / habitats would be High.	
Rating of cumulative impacts	Without Mitigation With Mitigation	
	High -	Low -

8.2.4 Impact 4: The potential spread of alien vegetation

Impact 4	The potential spread	d of alien vegetation	
Issue	Several Alien Invasive Species were found present near the site, and included the following species Acacia mearnsii, Acacia longifolia Acacia cyclops, Eucalyptus spp Agave sisalana These species in particular have the ability to alter vegetation units and drive down habitat complexity and species diversity.		
	Description of Impact	·	
During construction, vegetation clearing fo species to colonise the soils, if left unmanag	ed.		
Type of Impact	Indi	rect	
Nature of Impact	Neg	ative	
Phases	Consti	uction	
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:	 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 on the Tankatara Farm. 		
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 within the study area must be assessed in the EIA phase of the overall project, but any additional loss of important species / habitats would be High.		
Rating of cumulative impacts Without Mitigation With Mitigation			
	High -	Low -	

Conclusion and Recommendations

During this assessment, several sensitive habitats were observed associated described vegetation units known in the region and as anticipated contained most of the listed and or protected species associated with these habitats. Habitat that in themselves is listed or are considered Vulnerable. Although there is a close similarity in the delineation the DFFE rated systems when compared to the actual extent of the observed systems, a finer rating of the drilling site and potential accessed was needed. The current site and several access options are located in areas that would result in the disturbance of near natural areas with a number of listed and protected species.

For this reason the following recommendation is reiterated, that the site be relocated 5m to the west 33.9246422 S 25.5169408 E, and only the following access road should be used due to the high degree of disturbance already exists as shown in Figure 4 below:

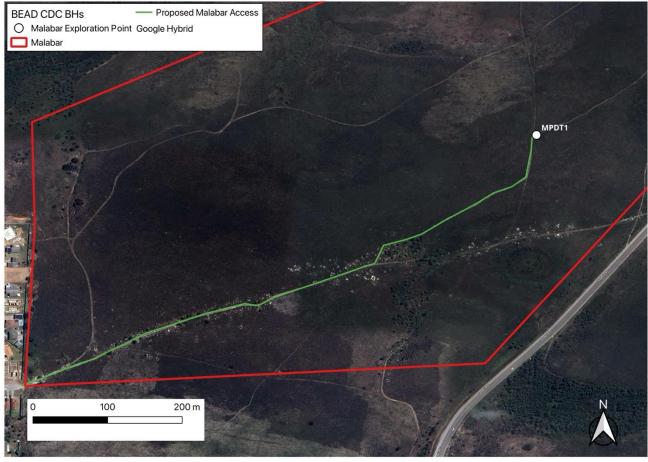


Figure 4: Proposed access route along existing track with a high degree of disturbance (illegal solid waste disposal)

9 References

- Agenda 21 Action plan for sustainable development of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) 1998.
- Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983).
- Driver A., Sink, K.J., Nel, J.N., Holness, S., Van Niekerk, L., Daniels, F., Jonas, Z., Majiedt, P.A., Harris, L. & Maze, K. 2012. National Biodiversity Assessment 2011: An assessment of South Africa's biodiversity and ecosystems. Synthesis Report. South African National Biodiversity Institute and Department of Environmental Affairs, Pretoria.
- Du Preez, L. And Carruthers, V. 2009. A Complete Guide To Frogs Of Southern Africa. Struik Nature, Cape Town
- IUCN (2019). Red List of Threatened Species. IUCN Species Survival Commission, Cambridge Available: http://www.iucnredlist.org/
- Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002), as amended.
- Mucina, L., & Rutherford, M.C., 2006. The Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland, Strelitzia 19, South Africa.
- National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended.
- National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), as amended
- Ramsar Convention, (1971) including the Wetland Conservation Programme (DEAT) and the National Wetland Rehabilitation Initiative (DEAT, 2000).
- South African Bird Atlasing Project 2 (SABAP2). 2017. Animal Demographic Unit. Available online: http://sabap2.adu.org.za/
- Stuart, C and Stuart, T. 2007. A field guide to the mammals of Southern Africa. Struik Nature, Cape Town.

10 Appendix 1 – Copy of Specialist CV

CURRICULUM VITAE Dr Brian Michael Colloty 7212215031083

1 Rossini Rd Pari Park Port Elizabeth, 6070 brianc@envirosci.co.za 083 498 3299

Profession: Ecologist & Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Pr. Sci. Nat. 400268/07)

Member of the South African Wetland Society

Specialisation: Ecology and conservation importance rating of inland habitats, wetlands, rivers & estuaries

Years experience: 29 years

SKILLS BASE AND CORE COMPETENCIES

- 29 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 and Soetwater Wind Farms on behalf of Enel Green Power, Current
- Plant and animal search and rescue for the Nxuba, Oyster Bay and Garob Wind Farms on behalf of Enel Green Power, 2018
- 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) and Nxuba Wind Farm, - current
- Wetland specialist appointed to update the Eastern Cape Biodiversity Conservation Plan, for the Province on behalf of EOH CES appointment by SANBI – current. 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 (Current) 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 118 renewable projects in the past 9 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 (8 wind farms and 3 PV facilities.), Cennergi / Exxaro (2 Wind farms), WKN Wind current (2 wind farms & 2 PV facilities), ACED (6 wind farms) and Windlab (3 Wind farms) 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.

<u>Site sensitivity based on the biodiversity theme included in the Screening Tool and specialist assessment</u>

Based on the DFFE Screening Tool, the site contains areas of very high and high sensitivity due to the presence of the following (Figures 1-4).

- Animals = High due to mostly birds, a mole and small buck and invertebrate species which have the
 potential to occur
- Plants = Medium and Low due to the presence of several plant species with the potential to occur in the remaining fynbos vegetation units
- Terrestrial = Very High because of being located in a listed Threatened Ecosystem

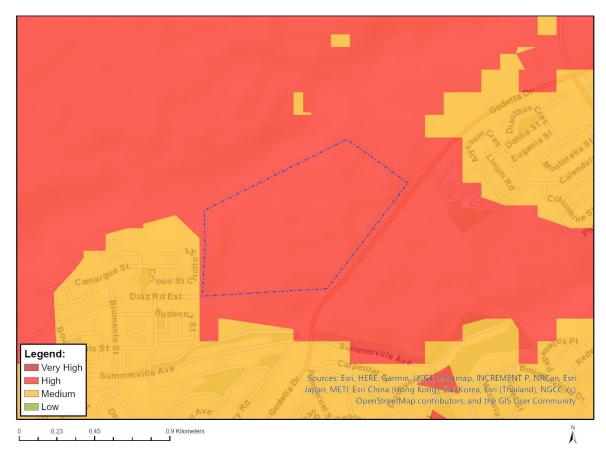


Figure 1: DFFE screening tool results for animals where Red = High and Orange = Medium

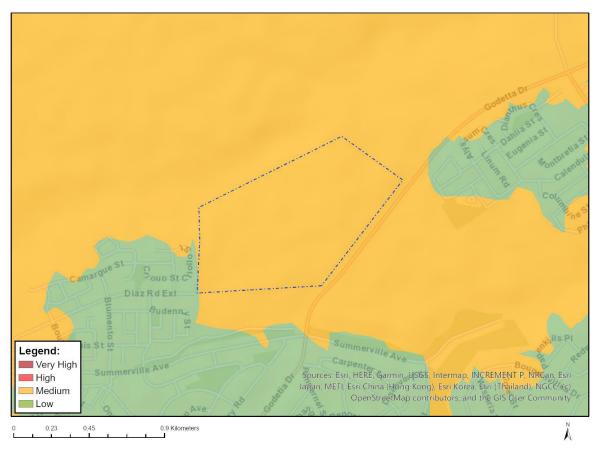


Figure 3. DFFE Screening Tool outcome for the Plant biodiversity theme, Orange = Medium and Green = Low

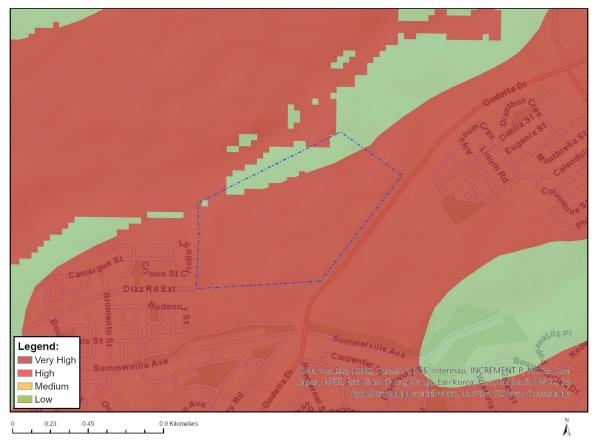


Figure 4. DFFE Screening Tool outcome for the Terrestrial biodiversity theme, Red = Very High & Green = Low

Based on the above outcomes, the specialist agrees with the certain environmental sensitivities identified on site. The findings have been informed by a site visit undertaken by Dr Brian Colloty in 2024/2025.

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, High, Medium and Low. Although there is some overlap with the findings on site and the Screening Tool's outcome, the development footprint will be developed with cognisance of these sensitivities and recommendations regards drilling site selection based on site inspections.

Therefore, environmental sensitivity input received from the ecology specialist will be taken forward and considered within exploration phase. Appropriate layout and development restrictions must implemented within the development footprint to ensure that the impact is deemed acceptable by the ecologist.

Source SANBI ADU http://vmus.adu.org.za/index.php?database Accessed March 2025

	ittp.//viiius.auu.org.za/iiiue.	Accessed	ivial CII 2025
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
Pyxicephalidae	Strongylopus grayii	Clicking Stream Frog	Least Concern
REPTILES			
Agamidae	Agama aculeata aculeata	Common Ground Agama	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Agamidae	Agama atra	Southern Rock Agama	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
Colubridae	Dispholidus typus typus	Boomslang	Least Concern (SARCA 2014)
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		1	<u> </u>
-	Lepidochrysops sp.		
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops sp. Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi	Ketsi blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
	, , , ,	Ketsi blue Patricia blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013) Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi		·
LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi Lepidochrysops patricia	Patricia blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi Lepidochrysops patricia Lepidochrysops poseidon	Patricia blue Baviaanskloof blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013) Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
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LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi Lepidochrysops patricia Lepidochrysops poseidon Lepidochrysops robertsoni Lepidochrysops variabilis	Patricia blue Baviaanskloof blue Robertson's blue Variable blue	Least Concern (SABCA 2013) Least Concern (SABCA 2013) Least Concern (SABCA 2013) Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi Lepidochrysops patricia Lepidochrysops poseidon Lepidochrysops robertsoni Lepidochrysops variabilis Leptomyrina lara	Patricia blue Baviaanskloof blue Robertson's blue Variable blue Cape black-eye	Least Concern (SABCA 2013)
LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE LYCAENIDAE	Lepidochrysops ketsi ketsi Lepidochrysops patricia Lepidochrysops poseidon Lepidochrysops robertsoni Lepidochrysops variabilis Leptomyrina lara Tarucus thespis	Patricia blue Baviaanskloof blue Robertson's blue Variable blue Cape black-eye Vivid dotted blue	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	Cape	Batis	capensis
Bishop	Southern Red	Euplectes	orix
Bokmakierie	Bokmakierie	Telophorus	zeylonus
Boubou	Southern	Laniarius	ferrugineus
Brownbul	Terrestrial	Phyllastrephus	terrestris
Bulbul	Cape	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	Cape	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
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Coucal	Burchell's	Centropus	burchellii
Crane	Blue	Anthropoides	paradiseus
Crested-flycatcher	Blue-mantled	Trochocercus	cyanomelas
Crow	Cape	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	Cape	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		africana
Hornbill	Crowned	Tockus	alboterminatus
Ibis	African Sacred	Threskiornis	aethiopicus
Ibis	Hadeda	Bostrychia	hagedash
Indigobird	Dusky	Vidua	funerea
maigonitu	Dusky	Vidua	Junerea

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	Cape	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	Cape	Cossypha	caffra
Rock-thrush	Cape	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	Cape	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
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Stonechat	African	Saxicola	torquatus
Stork	White	Ciconia	ciconia
Sugarbird	Cape	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	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	Cape	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	Cape	Streptopelia	capicola
Wagtail	Cape	Motacilla	capensis
Warbler	Knysna	Bradypterus	sylvaticus
Warbler	Victorin's	Cryptillas	victorini
Waxbill	Common	Estrilda	astrild
Waxbill	Swee	Соссорудіа	melanotis
Weaver	Cape	Ploceus	capensis
Weaver	Dark-backed	Ploceus	bicolor
Weaver	Spectacled	Ploceus	ocularis
Weaver	Thick-billed	Amblyospiza	albifrons
Weaver	Village	Ploceus	cucullatus
White-eye	Cape	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