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**TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL SPECIES SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT  
FOR THE PROPOSED  
PLETTENBERG BAY LAGOON RESIDENTIAL ESTATE**

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Prepared for:

*Cape EA Prac*



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## Authors

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### **Amber Jackson (Faunal Specialist and Report Author) (Cand. Nat. Sci Reg. No. 100125/12)**

Amber has over ten years' experience in environmental consulting and has managed projects across various sectors including mining, agriculture, forestry, renewable energy, housing, coastal and wetland recreational infrastructure. Most of these projects required lender finance and therefore met both in-country, lender, and sector specific requirements.

Amber completed the IFC lead and Swiss funded programme in Environmental and Social Risk Management course in 2018. The purpose of the course was to upskill Sub-Saharan African environmental consultants to increase the uptake of E&S standards by Financial Institutions.

Amber specialises in terrestrial vertebrate faunal assessments. She has conducted large scale faunal impact assessments that are to international lender's standards in Mozambique, Tanzania, Lesotho and Malawi. In South Africa her faunal impact assessments comply with the protocols for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for environmental impacts on terrestrial biodiversity and follows the SANBI Species Environmental Assessment Guideline. Her specialist input goes beyond impact assessments and includes faunal opportunities and constraints assessments, Critical Habitat Assessments, Biodiversity related Management Plans and Biodiversity Monitoring Programmes.

Amber holds a BSc (Zoology and Ecology, Environment & Conservation) and BSc (Hons) in Ecology, Environment & Conservation from WITS University and an MPhil in Environmental Management from University of Cape Town. She was awarded the Denzil and Dorethy Carr Prize for her plant collection in 2006. Amber's honours focused on the landscape effects on Herpetofauna in Kruger National Park and her Master's thesis focused on the management of social and natural aspects of environmental systems with a dissertation in food security that investigated the complex food system of informal and formal distribution markets.

### **Tarryn Martin (Botanical Specialist and Report Review) (Pri. Sci. Nat 008745)**

Tarryn has over ten years of experience working as a botanist, nine of which are in the environmental sector. She has worked as a specialist and project manager on projects within South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zambia, Tanzania, Cameroon, Swaziland and Malawi. The majority of these projects required lender finance and consequently met both in-country and lender requirements.

Tarryn has extensive experience writing botanical impact assessments, critical habitat assessments, biodiversity management plans, biodiversity monitoring plans and Environmental Impact Assessments to International Standards, especially to those of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Her experience includes working on large mining projects such as the Kenmare Heavy Minerals Mine, where she monitored forest health, undertook botanical impact assessments for their expansion projects and designed biodiversity management and monitoring plans. She has also project managed Environmental Impact Assessments for graphite mines in northern Mozambique and has a good understanding of the Mozambique Environmental legislation and processes.

Tarryn holds a BSc (Botany and Zoology), a BSc (Hons) in African Vertebrate Biodiversity and an MSc with distinction in Botany from Rhodes University. Tarryn's Master's thesis examined the impact of fire on the recovery of C3 and C4 Panicoid and non-Panicoid grasses within the context of climate change for which she won the Junior Captain Scott-Medal (Plant Science) for producing the top MSc of 2010 from the South African Academy of Science and Art as well as an Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Range and Forage Science from the Grassland Society of Southern Africa. Tarryn is a professional member of the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals (since 2014).

**Nicole Dealtry (née Wienand) (Report updates) (Pri. Sci. Nat. 130289)**

Nicole is a Botanical Specialist with over 5 years' experience in South Africa and other African countries. Nicole obtained her BSc Honours in Botany (Environmental Management) from Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in December 2018. She also holds a BSc Degree in Environmental Management (Cum Laude) from NMU. Nicole has undertaken numerous Ecological Impact Assessments for a range of developments, including Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs), mines, powerlines, housing developments, roads, amongst others, ensuring that these specialist assessments are undertaken and prepared in accordance with the Protocols for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity (GN R. 320), Plant Species and Animal Species (GN R. 1150) whilst working closely with developers to ensure a development which is environmentally sustainable as well as financially and technically feasible.

## Declaration of Independence

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### **Amber Jackson (Faunal Specialist and Report Author)**

- I, Amber Jackson, declare that, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Amended Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017;
- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- All the particulars furnished by me in this report are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

### **Nicole Dealtry (Report update based on fence layout change)**

- I, Nicole Dealtry, declare that, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Amended Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017;
- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- All the particulars furnished by me in this report are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

## Specialist Check List

The contents of this Terrestrial Animal Species Specialist Assessment Report complies with the legislated requirements as described in Section 3 of the Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Animal Species (GN R. 1150 of 2020).

SPECIALIST REPORT REQUIREMENTS ACCORDING TO GN R. 1150		SECTION OF REPORT
3.1	In terms of Section 3 of the Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Animal Species, a specialist report must contain, as a minimum, the following information:	
3.1.1	Contact details and relevant experience as well as the SACNASP registration number of the specialist preparing the assessment including a curriculum vitae;	Page 2 & 3; Appendix 1 & 2
3.1.2	A signed statement of independence by the specialist;	Page 4
3.1.3	A statement on the duration, date and season of the site inspection and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment;	Section 1.3 and 2.3
3.1.4	A description of the methodology used to undertake the site sensitivity verification, impact assessment and site inspection, including equipment and modelling used where relevant;	Chapter 2
3.1.5	A description of the mean density of observations/number of sample sites per unit area and the site inspection observations;	Section 2.3
3.1.6	A description of the assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge or data;	Section 1.3
3.1.7	Details of all SCC found or suspected to occur on site, ensuring sensitive species are appropriately reported	Section 4.3
3.1.8	The online database name, hyperlink and record accession numbers for disseminated evidence of SCC found within the study area;	Section 2.3
3.1.9	The location of areas not suitable for development and to be avoided during construction where relevant;	Chapter 5
3.1.10	A discussion on the cumulative impacts;	Chapter 6
3.1.11	Impact management actions and impact management outcomes proposed by the specialist for inclusion in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr);	Chapter 6
3.1.12	A reasoned opinion, based on the findings of the specialist assessment, regarding the acceptability or not of the development and if the development should receive approval or not, related to the specific theme being considered, and any conditions to which the opinion is subjected if relevant; and	Chapter 7
3.1.13	A motivation must be provided if there were any development footprints identified as per paragraph 2.2.12 above that were identified as having “low” or “medium” terrestrial animal species sensitivity and were not considered appropriate.	N/A
3.2	<b>A signed copy of the assessment must be appended to the Basic Assessment Report or Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</b>	

## Table of Contents

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1. Introduction .....	9
1.1. Project Description .....	9
1.2. Objectives of this Faunal Assessment .....	9
1.3. Limitations and Assumptions .....	10
2. Methodology.....	14
2.1. DFFE Screening Report .....	14
2.2. Desktop Assessment.....	14
2.3. Field Survey.....	15
2.4. Site Sensitivity Assessment.....	16
2.5. Description of impact analysis methodology .....	16
3. Biophysical Description .....	21
3.1. Climate, Geology, Soil and Landform .....	21
3.2. Habitat .....	21
4. Faunal Species of the Project area.....	26
4.1. Fauna species distribution in relation to the project area .....	26
4.2. Fauna recorded during the field survey .....	27
4.3. Faunal species of conservation concern.....	27
5. Overall Site Ecological importance .....	31
6. Impact Assessment .....	33
6.1. Identification of Potential Impacts .....	33
7. Conclusions and Recommendations .....	42
8. References .....	45
Appendix 1: Proof of SACNASP registration and highest qualification.....	47
Appendix 2: CV.....	53

## List of Figures

---

Figure 1.1: Locality map of the project area (indicated in red). .....	11
Figure 1.2: Layout of the proposed development on Erf 6503.....	12
Figure 1.3: Map indicating fence line alternatives for the proposed project.....	13
Figure 2.1: Map showing sample sites and tracks in relation to the project area.....	15
Figure 3.1: Map illustrating the extent of near-intact habitat within the project area and its connectivity to other smaller portions of intact/near-intact habitat along the banks of the Keurboomsriver Estuary. ....	22
Figure 3.2: Habitats of the project area.....	23
Figure 3.3: The Secondary Grassy Fynbos of the project area. ....	24
Figure 3.4: The Goukamma Dune Thicket of the project area.....	24
Figure 3.5: Cape Seashore Vegetation bordering the southeastern boundary of the project area. ....	24
Figure 3.6: Wetland habitat within the project area. ....	25
Figure 3.7: Faunal habitats available within the project area. ....	25
Figure 4.1: QDS 3423AB (yellow) and pentad 3400_2320 (orange) in relation to the project area (red).....	26
Figure 5.1: SEI of the project area to faunal species of conservation concern. ....	32

## List of Tables

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Table 2.1: Summary of DFFE screening report theme relevant to this study.....	14
Table 2.2: Criteria for establishing Site Ecological Importance and description of criteria.....	16
Table 2.3: Evaluation Criteria.....	17
Table 2.4: Description of Overall Significance Rating .....	18
Table 2.5: Post-mitigation Evaluation Criteria .....	19
Table 6.1: Assessment of impacts associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed project.....	34
Table 7.1: Summary of direct impacts associated with the proposed project. ....	43

## Acronyms

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<b>AOO</b>	Area of Occupancy
<b>ASL</b>	Above sea level
<b>BI</b>	Biodiversity Importance
<b>CI</b>	Conservation Importance
<b>CR</b>	Critically Endangered
<b>EAP</b>	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
<b>EN</b>	Endangered
<b>EOO</b>	Extent of Occupancy
<b>FI</b>	Functional Integrity
<b>ha</b>	Hectare
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>km</b>	kilometre
<b>LC</b>	Least Concern
<b>m</b>	meter
<b>NT</b>	Near-Threatened
<b>QDS</b>	Quarter Degree Square
<b>RR</b>	Receptor Resilience
<b>SA</b>	South Africa
<b>SANBI</b>	South African National Biodiversity Institute
<b>SCC</b>	Species of Conservation Concern
<b>SEI</b>	Site Ecological Importance
<b>TOPS</b>	Threatened and Protected Species
<b>VU</b>	Vulnerable
<b>WC</b>	Western Cape



# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1. Project Description

Biodiversity Africa has been appointed by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), CapeEAPrac, to undertake a Terrestrial Animal Species Specialist Assessment for the proposed Plettenberg Bay Lagoon Residential Estate located on Erf 6503 within the Bitou Local Municipality, Western Cape Province (Figure 1.1).

The total area of Erf 6503 is approximately 18.5 ha in extent which has been divided into two portions: the western portion, which is characterised by disturbed vegetation that was historically used for grazing, and the eastern portion, which is characterised by dense intact thicket vegetation that abuts the Keurbooms Lagoon. The proposed residential development will be confined to the western portion of Erf 6503 (i.e. the previously disturbed area). The thicket vegetation and riparian area in the eastern half of the property will be conserved and utilised as recreational open space. The existing pathways will provide residents access to the estuary from the proposed residential development.

Due to concerns regarding safety, a security fence has been proposed. To minimise the impact on vegetation, this will be constructed along an existing gravel road which runs along the eastern boundary of the property (adjacent to the estuary). Two (2) alternatives have been assessed for the proposed fence line:

- Alternative 1: Runs along an existing jeep track along the eastern boundary of the project area (indicated by white line which joined by the dark blue/purple line in Figure 1.3).
- Alternative 2: Also runs along an existing jeep track but the southern half of the fence line deviates to the southwest, bisecting the southeastern portion of the project area (indicated by the white line in its entirety in Figure 1.3).

Figure 1.2 illustrates the layout of the proposed development and Figure 3.1 illustrates the alternative layouts for the proposed security fence.

*For a more detailed project description please refer to the Basic Assessment Report compiled for this project.*

## 1.2. Objectives of this Faunal Assessment

The objectives of this Terrestrial Animal Species Specialist Assessment are as follows:

- Undertake a desktop assessment of the site to determine its sensitivity and terrestrial animal species (birds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals) of Conservation Concern (SCC) that could be present within the site.
- Assess the sensitivity of the site using the sensitivity analysis approach outlined in the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (2020).
- For areas of moderate and high sensitivity, assess the impact that the construction of the infrastructure will have on terrestrial animal species.

- Where necessary, provide mitigation measures to reduce the impact of the infrastructure on the terrestrial animal species.
- Provide a specialist statement/opinion

### **1.3. Limitations and Assumptions**

This report is based on current available information and, as a result, the following limitations and assumptions are implicit:

- Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) are difficult to find and may be difficult to identify, thus species described in this report do not comprise an exhaustive list. It is almost certain that additional SCCs are present.
- This report is based on the project description received from the client and assumes that the proposed residential development (with the exception of the proposed security fence) will be restricted to the previously disturbed western portion of the project area.
- This assessment does not include invertebrates (insects) that form part of the animal sensitivity theme in the DFFE Screening Report.
- Sampling could only be carried out at one stage in the annual or seasonal cycle. The survey was conducted in June 2023 (Winter). Despite the timing of the site visit, the information gathered was sufficient to determine the Site Ecological Importance (SEI) of the project area.

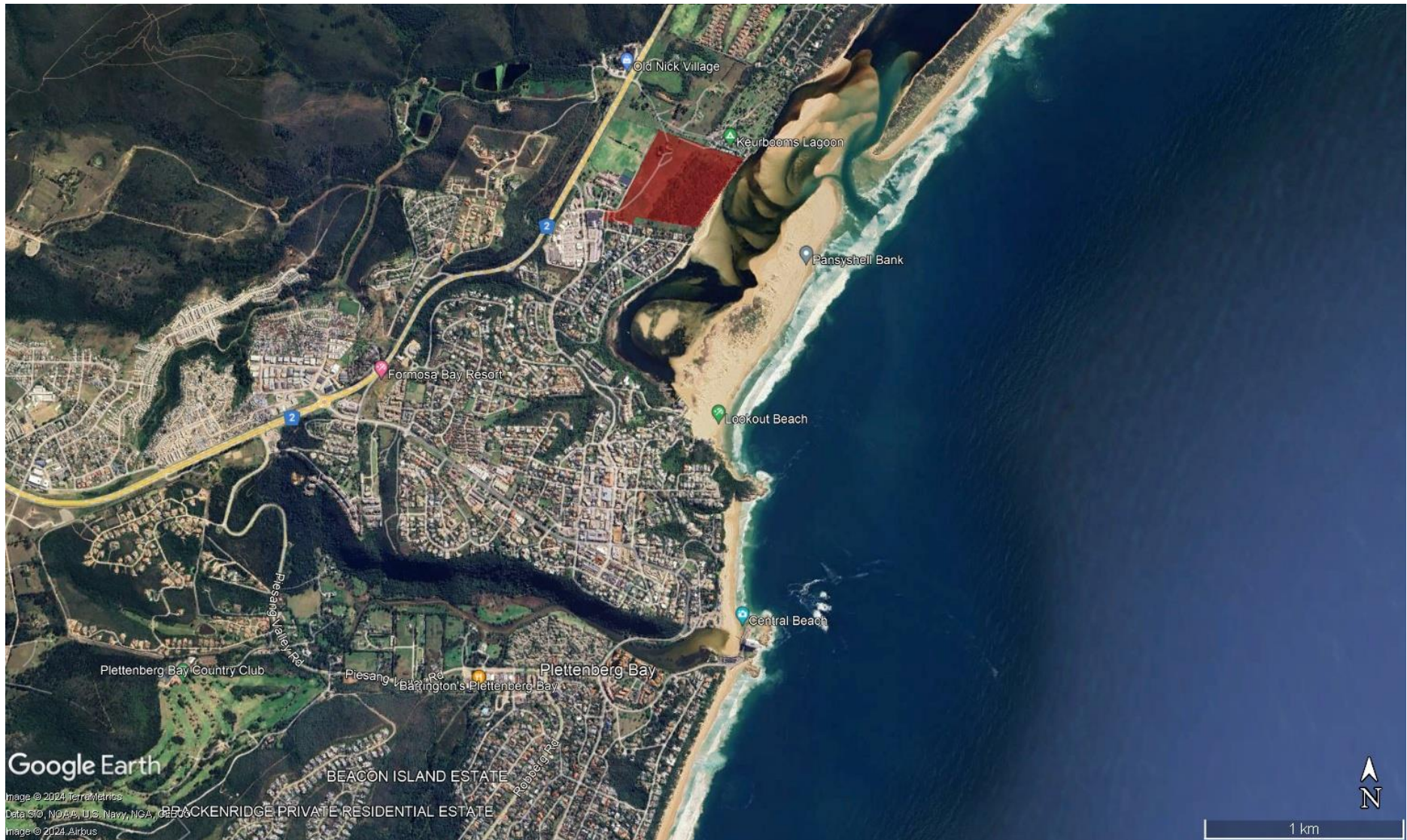


Figure 1.1: Locality map of the project area (indicated in red).

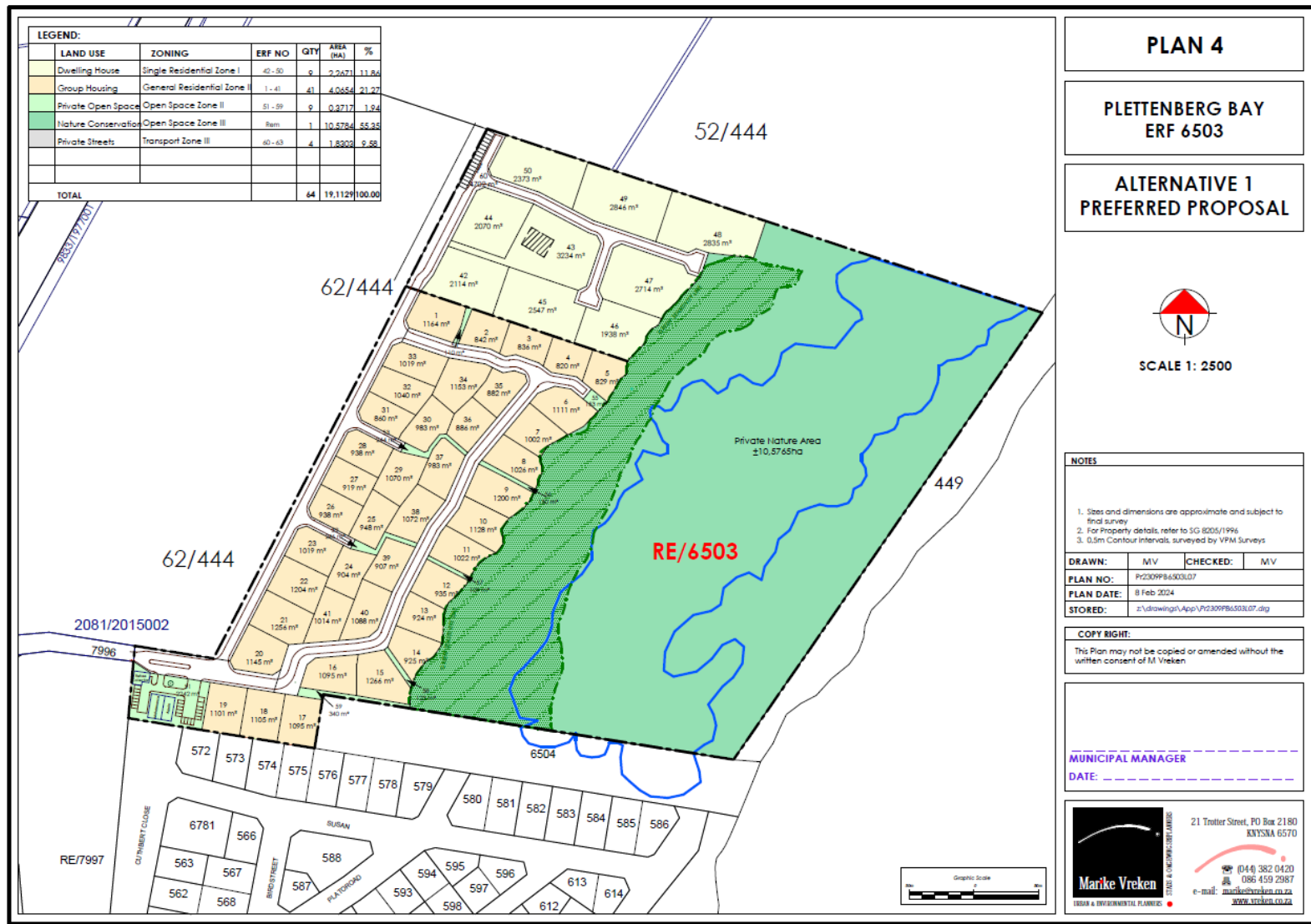


Figure 1.2: Layout of the proposed development on Erf 6503.



**Figure 1.3: Map indicating fence line alternatives for the proposed project.**

## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1. DFFE Screening Report

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment (DFFE) Screening Report generated for the proposed project area identified seven bird species, one amphibian species and two mammal species that may utilise the project area (Table 2.1).

**Table 2.1: Summary of DFFE screening report theme relevant to this study.**

DFFE Sensitivity	Taxon	Feature(s)	Common Name	Threat Status
High	Aves	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	Marsh Harrier	EN
High	Aves	<i>Circus maurus</i>	Black Harrier	EN
High	Aves	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	Crowned Eagle	VU
High	Aves	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	VU
High	Aves	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	Denham's Bustard	VU
High	Aves	<i>Bradypterus sylvaticus</i>	Knysna Warbler	VU
High	Aves	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	Martial Eagle	EN
Medium	Amphibia	<i>Afrixalus knysnae</i>	Knysna Spiny Frog	EN
Medium	Mammalia	<i>Chlorotalpa duthieae</i>	Duthie's Golden Mole	VU
Medium	Sensitive species 8	<i>Sensitive species 8</i>	Sensitive species 8	VU

### 2.2. Desktop Assessment

The known diversity of terrestrial vertebrate fauna in the project area was determined by a literature review. Species known from the region, or from adjacent regions whose preferred habitat(s) were known to occur within the study area, were also included. Literature sources included:

- Birds – SABAP2 (2023), Chittenden (2009);
- Amphibians –Du Preez & Carruthers (2017), FrogMap (FitzPatrick, 2023);
- Reptiles – Branch (1998), ReptileMap (FitzPatrick, 2023);
- Mammals – Stuart & Stuart (2015), MammalMap (FitzPatrick, 2023);
- iNaturalist (2023); and
- Western Cape Province State of Biodiversity (CapeNature, 2017).

To establish which of those species identified in the literature review are Species of Conservation Concern (SCC), the following sources were consulted:

- Atlas and Red List of Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Bates *et al.*, 2014)
- Atlas and Red List of Frogs of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Minter *et al.*, 2004)
- Red List of Mammals of South Africa, Swaziland and Lesotho (Child, *et al.*, 2016)
- Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Taylor, *et al.*, 2015)
- IUCN (2022)
- Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000
- NEM:BA (10 OF 2004) and TOPS
- CITES Appendix I and II

A species list was compiled for the site and the likelihood of occurrence assessed for SCC.

## 2.3. Field Survey

The purpose of the field survey was to verify the findings of the DFFE Screening Report and desktop assessment and to establish what habitats are available to fauna in the project area and if any faunal SCC occur. The field survey was undertaken in winter from the 21-23 June 2023. Figure 2.1 indicates the sample sites and tracks recorded during the field survey. During the field survey, the project area was walked, and faunal habitats established. Active searching was then conducted in various habitats present within the project area. Active searching for amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds includes direct and indirect observation.

Direct observations were done by walking through the project area and recording species seen. In addition, refuge sites were targeted to search for specific species:

- Reptiles and terrestrial amphibians were targeted in microhabitats by lifting logs, peeling away bark and scraping through leaf litter.
- Amphibians were targeted at the water bodies where individuals were searched for along banks, within fringe vegetation and in the water itself.
- Binoculars were used to view bird's species from a distance without disturbing them. While walking the site, birds and mammals are often flushed from hiding and were recorded.

Indirect observation is the searching for evidence of faunal presence and includes spoor, skat, roadkill, skulls, quills, dens, burrows, hairs, scrapings and diggings. Evidence of SCC was uploaded onto iNaturalist (the hyperlink has not been pasted here due to the sensitivity of the species).

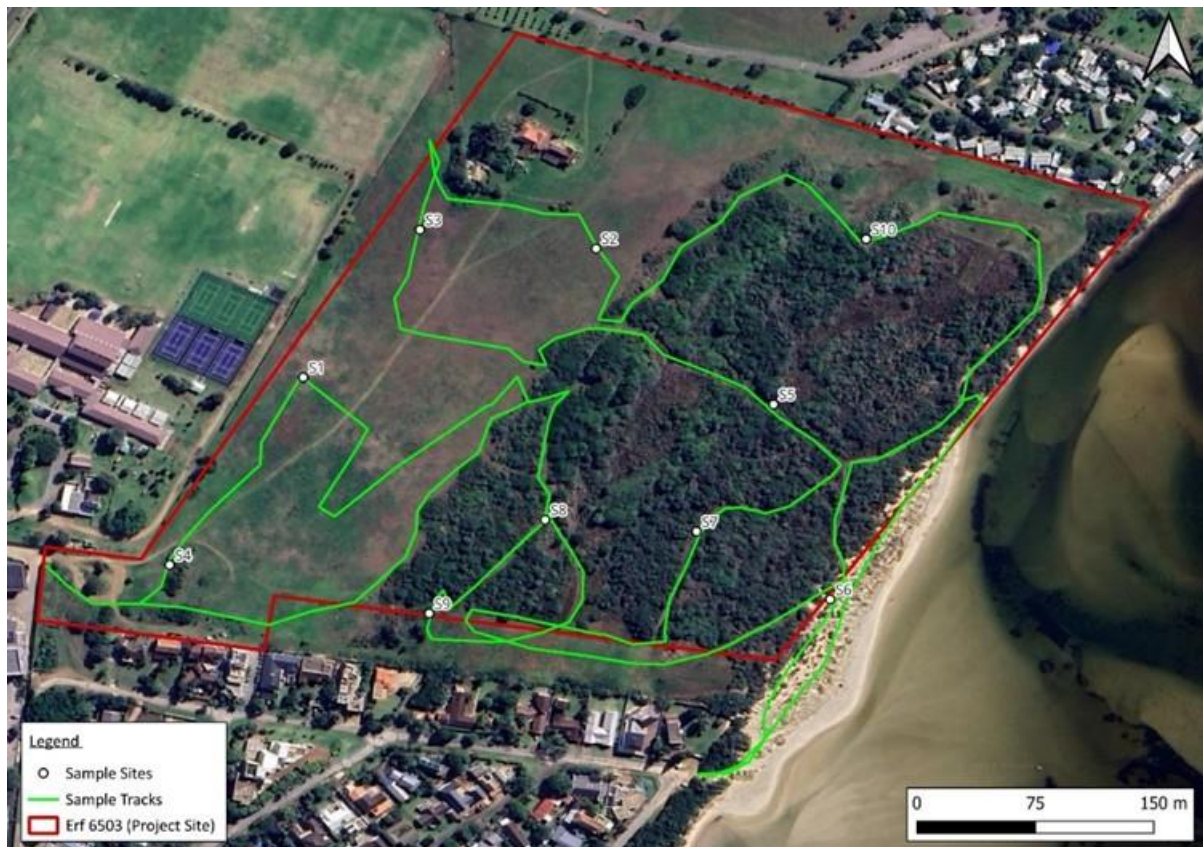


Figure 2.1: Map showing sample sites and tracks in relation to the project area.

## 2.4. Site Sensitivity Assessment

The Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2020) was applied to assess the Site Ecological Importance (SEI) of the project area. The habitats and the Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) in the project area were assessed based on their conservation importance, functional integrity, and receptor resilience (Table 2.2). The combination of these resulted in a rating of SEI and interpretation of mitigation requirements based on the ratings.

The sensitivity map was developed using available spatial planning tools as well as by applying the SEI sensitivity based on the field survey.

**Table 2.2: Criteria for establishing Site Ecological Importance and description of criteria.**

Criteria	Description
Conservation Importance (CI)	<i>The importance of a site for supporting biodiversity features of conservation concern present e.g. populations of Threatened and Near-Threatened species (CR, EN, VU &amp; NT), Rare, range-restricted species, globally significant populations of congregatory species, and areas of threatened ecosystem types, through predominantly natural processes.</i>
Functional Integrity (FI)	<i>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.</i>
Biodiversity Importance (BI) is a function of Conservation Importance (CI) and the Functional Integrity (FI) of a receptor.	
Receptor Resilience (RR)	<i>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.</i>
Site Ecological Importance (SEI) is a function of Biodiversity Importance (BI) and Receptor Resilience (RR)	

## 2.5. Description of impact analysis methodology

The rating scale developed by Coastal and Environmental Services, in accordance with the requirements outlined in Appendix 1 of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014 and subsequent 2017 & 2021 amendments), was applied to ensure a balanced and objective approach to the assessment of potential impacts associated with the proposed development. The criteria used to assess the potential impacts is outlined below.

### **Impact significance pre-mitigation**

This rating scale adopts six key factors to determine the overall significance of the impact prior to mitigation:

1. **Nature of impact:** Defines whether the impact has a negative or positive effect on the receiving environment.
2. **Type of impact:** Defines whether the impact has a direct, indirect or cumulative effect on the environment.



3. **Duration:** Defines the relationship of the impact to temporal scales. The temporal scale defines the significance of the impact at various time scales as an indication of the duration of the impact. This may extend from the short-term (less than 5 years, equivalent to the construction phase) to permanent. Generally, the longer the impact occurs the greater the significance of any given impact.
4. **Extent:** Describes the relationship of the impact to spatial scales i.e. the physical extent of the impact. This may extend from the local area to an impact that crosses international boundaries. The wider the spatial scale the impact extends, the more significant the impact is considered to be.
5. **Probability:** Refers to the likelihood (risk or chance) of the impact occurring. While many impacts generally do occur, there is considerable uncertainty in terms of others. The scale varies from unlikely to definite, with the overall impact significance increasing as the likelihood increases.
6. **Severity or benefits:** The severity/beneficial scale is used in order to scientifically evaluate how severe negative impacts would be, or how beneficial positive impacts would be on the receiving environment. The severity of an impact can be evaluated prior and post mitigation to demonstrate the seriousness of the impact if it is not mitigated, as well as the effectiveness of the mitigation measures. The word 'mitigation' does not only refer to 'compensation', but also includes concepts of containment and remedy. For beneficial impacts, optimization refers to any measure that can enhance the benefits. Mitigation or optimisation should be practical, technically feasible and economically viable.

For each impact, the duration, extent and probability are ranked and assigned a score. These scores are combined and used to determine the overall impact significance prior to mitigation. They must then be considered against the severity rating to determine the overall significance of an activity. This is because the severity of the impact is far more important than the other three criteria. The overall significance is either negative or positive (Criterion 1) and direct, indirect or cumulative (Criterion 2).

**Table 2.3: Evaluation Criteria.**

<b>Duration (Temporal Scale)</b>	
<i>Short term</i>	<i>Less than 5 years</i>
<i>Medium term</i>	<i>Between 5-20 years</i>
<i>Long term</i>	<i>Between 20 and 40 years (a generation) and from a human perspective also permanent</i>
<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Over 40 years and resulting in a permanent and lasting change that will always be there</i>
<b>Extent (Spatial Scale)</b>	
<i>Localised</i>	<i>At localised scale and a few hectares in extent</i>
<i>Study Area</i>	<i>The proposed site and its immediate environs</i>
<i>Regional</i>	<i>District and Provincial level</i>
<i>National</i>	<i>Country</i>
<i>International</i>	<i>Internationally</i>
<b>Probability (Likelihood)</b>	
<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>The likelihood of these impacts occurring is slight</i>
<i>May Occur</i>	<i>The likelihood of these impacts occurring is possible</i>
<i>Probable</i>	<i>The likelihood of these impacts occurring is probable</i>

<i>Definite</i>	<i>The likelihood is that this impact will definitely occur</i>	
<b>Severity Scale</b>	<b>Severity</b>	<b>Benefit</b>
<i>Very Severe/ Beneficial</i>	An irreversible and permanent change to the affected system(s) or party(ies) which cannot be mitigated.	A permanent and very substantial benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies), with no real alternative to achieving this benefit.
<i>Severe/ Beneficial</i>	Long term impacts on the affected system(s) or party(ies) that could be mitigated. However, this mitigation would be difficult, expensive or time consuming, or some combination of these.	A long-term impact and substantial benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies). Alternative ways of achieving this benefit would be difficult, expensive or time consuming, or some combination of these.
<i>Moderately severe/Beneficial</i>	Medium to long term impacts on the affected system(s) or party (ies), which could be mitigated.	A medium to long term impact of real benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies). Other ways of optimising the beneficial effects are equally difficult, expensive and time consuming (or some combination of these), as achieving them in this way.
<i>Slight</i>	Medium- or short-term impacts on the affected system(s) or party(ies). Mitigation is very easy, cheap, less time consuming or not necessary.	A short to medium term impact and negligible benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies). Other ways of optimising the beneficial effects are easier, cheaper and quicker, or some combination of these.
<i>No effect/don't or can't know</i>	The system(s) or party(ies) is not affected by the proposed development.	In certain cases, it may not be possible to determine the severity of an impact.

*\* In certain cases, it may not be possible to determine the severity of an impact thus it may be determined: Don't know/Can't know.*

**Table 2.4: Description of Overall Significance Rating**

<b>Significance Rate</b>		<b>Description</b>
<b>Don't Know</b>		<i>In certain cases, it may not be possible to determine the significance of an impact. For example, the primary or secondary impacts on the social or natural environment given the available information.</i>
<b>NO SIGNIFICANCE</b>		<i>There are no primary or secondary effects at all that are important to scientists or the public.</i>
<b>LOW NEGATIVE</b>	<b>LOW POSITIVE</b>	<i>Impacts of low significance are typically acceptable impacts for which mitigation is desirable but not essential. The impact by itself is insufficient, even in combination with other low impacts, to prevent the development being approved. These impacts will result in negative medium to short term effects on the natural environment or on social systems.</i>

<b>MODERATE NEGATIVE</b>	<b>MODERATE POSITIVE</b>	<i>Impacts of moderate significance are impacts that require mitigation. The impact is insufficient by itself to prevent the implementation of the project but in conjunction with other impacts may prevent its implementation. These impacts will usually result in a negative medium to long-term effect on the natural environment or on social systems.</i>
<b>HIGH NEGATIVE</b>	<b>HIGH POSITIVE</b>	<i>Impacts that are rated as being high are serious impacts and may prevent the implementation of the project if no mitigation measures are implemented, or the impact is very difficult to mitigate. These impacts would be considered by society as constituting a major and usually long-term change to the environment or social systems and result in severe effects.</i>
<b>VERY HIGH NEGATIVE</b>	<b>VERY HIGH POSITIVE</b>	<i>Impacts that are rated as very high are very serious impact which may be sufficient by itself to prevent the implementation of the project. The impact may result in permanent change. Very often these impacts are unmitigable and usually result in very severe effects or very beneficial effects.</i>

#### **Impact significance post-mitigation**

Once mitigation measures are proposed, the following three factors are then considered to determine the overall significance of the impact after mitigation.

1. **Reversibility Scale:** This scale defines the degree to which an environment can be returned to its original/partially original state.
2. **Irreplaceable loss Scale:** This scale defines the degree of loss which an impact may cause.
3. **Mitigation potential Scale:** This scale defines the degree of difficulty of reversing and/or mitigating the various impacts ranges from very difficult to easily achievable. Both the practical feasibility of the measure, the potential cost and the potential effectiveness is taken into consideration when determining the appropriate degree of difficulty.

**Table 2.5: Post-mitigation Evaluation Criteria**

<b>Reversibility</b>	
<i>Reversible</i>	<i>The activity will lead to an impact that can be reversed provided appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.</i>
<i>Irreversible</i>	<i>The activity will lead to an impact that is permanent regardless of the implementation of mitigation measures.</i>
<b>Irreplaceable loss</b>	
<i>Resource will not be lost</i>	<i>The resource will not be lost/destroyed provided mitigation measures are implemented.</i>
<i>Resource will be partly lost</i>	<i>The resource will be partially destroyed even though mitigation measures are implemented.</i>
<i>Resource will be lost</i>	<i>The resource will be lost despite the implementation of mitigation measures.</i>
<b>Mitigation potential</b>	
<i>Easily achievable</i>	<i>The impact can be easily, effectively and cost effectively mitigated/reversed.</i>
<i>Achievable</i>	<i>The impact can be effectively mitigated/reversed without much difficulty or</i>

	<i>cost.</i>
<i>Difficult</i>	<i>The impact could be mitigated/reversed but there will be some difficulty in ensuring effectiveness and/or implementation, and significant costs.</i>
<i>Very Difficult</i>	<i>The impact could be mitigated/reversed but it would be very difficult to ensure effectiveness, technically very challenging and financially very costly.</i>

The following assumptions and limitations are inherent in the rating methodology:

- Value Judgements: Although this scale attempts to provide a balance and rigor to assessing the significance of impacts, the evaluation relies heavily on the values of the person making the judgment.
- Cumulative Impacts: These affect the significance ranking of an impact because it considers the impact in terms of both on-site and off-site sources. This is particularly problematic in terms of impacts beyond the scope of the proposed development. For this reason, it is important to consider impacts in terms of their cumulative nature.

Seasonality: Certain impacts will vary in significance based on seasonal change. Thus, it is difficult to provide a static assessment. Seasonality will need to be implicit in the temporal scale, with management measures being imposed accordingly (e.g. dust suppression measures being implemented during the dry season).

## 3. BIOPHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

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### 3.1. Climate, Geology, Soil and Landform

Climate, geology, soil, and landform have a major influence on the habitat type and structure of a particular area.

The project area occurs along the south coast of South Africa within the Fynbos and Albany Thicket Biomes. This region is characterized by a warm and temperate climate with rainfall occurring throughout the year. The Mean Annual Rainfall (MAR) for Plettenberg Bay is 663 mm and the average temperature is 16.9°C (Climate-data.org).

The elevation from the western portion of the project area to the east is relatively flat for the first 150m sloping gently towards the east until the elevation decreases more considerably forming slacks until it flattens out upon reaching the lagoon. This change in elevation corresponds remarkably to the change in vegetation of the project area. The Secondary Grassy Fynbos is confined to the flatter, higher lying hilltop while the dense dune thicket is confined to the lower lying dune slacks. Wetland features are also present within the dune slacks. Cape Seashore vegetation has established along the foredune which is exposed to salt spray.

Fynbos typically occurs in shallow, nutrient poor, well-drained soils while thicket tends to occur in deeper soils with higher nutrient content. The soils within the project area consist of recently deposited aeolian (windblown) sands which are typically nutrient poor and shallow (Rebelo *et al.*, 2006).

### 3.2. Habitat

The project area is one of the last large remaining near-intact portions of thicket and natural vegetation along the banks of the Keurbooms Estuary in Plettenberg Bay (Figure 3.1). This habitat provides refuge and connectivity, via narrow corridors of vegetation along the banks of the estuary, to other smaller portions of remaining intact/near-intact habitat for a range of small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds.

Evidence of faunal corridors (in the form of spoor, skat, and compressed leaf litter) was observed along the eastern boundary of the site, suggesting faunal movement from and to the banks of the estuary and the thicket vegetation of the project area.



**Figure 3.1: Map illustrating the extent of near-intact habitat within the project area and its connectivity to other smaller portions of intact/near-intact habitat along the banks of the Keurboomsriver Estuary.**

Within the project area, four habitats were identified (Figure 3.2- 3.7), namely:

- Secondary Grassy Fynbos,
- Goukamma Dune Thicket
- Dunes with Cape Seashore Vegetation
- Wetland features

The map includes two patches of transformed areas homestead (NW corner) and gravel driveway and turning circle (SW corner).



**Figure 3.2: Habitats of the project area.**

**Secondary Grassy Fynbos** is characterised by an abundance of grass species and fast growing, pioneer plant species (Figure 3.3).



**Figure 3.3: The Secondary Grassy Fynbos of the project area.**

**Goukamma Dune Thicket** in the project area is characterised by dense, low to tall (2-5 m) thicket dominated by woody trees and an abundance of climbers (Figure 3.4). Alien invasive plant species, particularly of the Genus *Acacia*, were scattered throughout the project area but abundant in portions of the thicket vegetation.



**Figure 3.4: The Goukamma Dune Thicket of the project area.**

**Cape Seashore Vegetation (LC)** bordered the southeastern boundary of the project area along the coastal dunes (Figure 3.5).



**Figure 3.5: Cape Seashore Vegetation bordering the southeastern boundary of the project area.**



## Wetland

The wetland occurs within the low-lying areas (<2m asl) of the dune slacks in between the Goukamma Dune Thicket (Figure 3.6). The wetland is large and is considered diverse and mostly intact (Confluent Environmental, 2023). Frogs were heard calling from this habitat and birds nest on and amongst the emergent vegetation.



Figure 3.6: Wetland habitat within the project area.



Figure 3.7: Faunal habitats available within the project area.

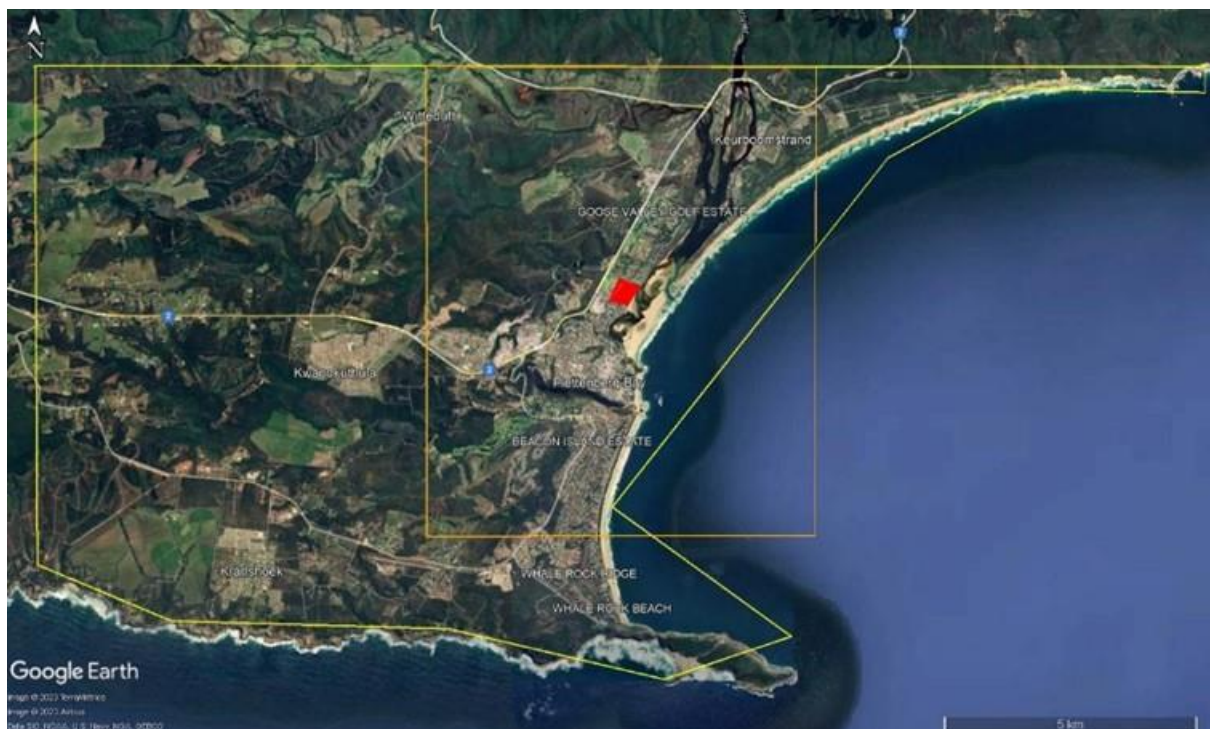
## 4. FAUNAL SPECIES OF THE PROJECT AREA

### 4.1. Fauna species distribution in relation to the project area

The Western Cape hosts approximately 62 amphibian species, 155 reptile species, 172 mammal species and 608 bird species (Birss, 2017; Shaw & Waller, 2017; Turner & Villiers, 2017). The project area is within or partly within the distribution range of approximately 19 amphibian species, 63 reptile species, 112 mammal species and 349 bird species (IUCN, 2022).

Of these, 10 amphibian species, 25 reptile species and 35 mammal species have been recorded within the same quarter degree square (QDS 3423AB) as the site and 298 bird species have been recorded with the same pentad (3400\_2320) as the site (Figure 4.1) (FitzPatrick, 2023; iNaturalist 2023).

It is important to note that although an area may be within a species distribution the species may no longer inhabit the area or may not inhabit it permanently for example, the African Bush Elephant has a distribution which includes the project area, but these animals no longer occur outside of reserves and private game farms. Both the QDS<sup>1</sup> (16,331ha) and pentad<sup>2</sup> (7,083ha) may include habitat features that are not present within the project area or within the PAOI, therefore, a species may occur in the broader area where habitat is available but since its preferred habitat is not present in the project area it is unlikely to occur.



**Figure 4.1: QDS 3423AB (yellow) and pentad 3400\_2320 (orange) in relation to the project area (red).**

<sup>1</sup> A spatial reference mapping system that divides longitude latitude square cells into smaller squares (quarters) for ease of locational reference, effectively, forming a system of geocodes.

<sup>2</sup> A spatial reference mapping system that creates a coordinate grid of 5-minute x 5-minute.

## 4.2. Fauna recorded during the field survey

The field survey recorded three amphibian species calls including the Bronze Caco (*Cacosternum nanum*), Cape Sand Frog (*Tomopterna delalandii*) and Clicking Stream Frog (*Strongylopus grayii*).

Three reptile species were recorded during the field survey including a Leopard Tortoise (*Stigmochelys pardalis*) shell from the Secondary Grassy Fynbos habitat, the Western Three-striped Skink (*Trachylepis occidentalis*) was recorded from the Goukamma Dune Thicket and a Common Dwarf Gecko (*Lygodactylus capensis*) was recorded from an isolated tree in a portion of wetland to the southwest.

Evidence of four mammal species were recorded during the field survey including the scat of a Mongoose species which was recorded from the road in the Thicket habitat and spoor of a Mongoose species and Genet species was recorded from the banks of the lagoon on the border of the thicket habitat. Two Rodent species skeletons were recorded from the western section of the thicket. Spoor of Sensitive Species 8 was recorded from a road in the Thicket and on the boarder of the Thicket to the Grassy Secondary Fynbos.

During the field survey 40 bird species were recorded. Only the Zitting Cisticola was recorded from the Secondary Grassy Fynbos and Common Waxbills from the Cape Seashore habitat. The majority of bird species were recorded from the Thicket Habitat, including, inter alia, African Dusky Fly Catcher, Fiscal Flycatcher, African Hoopoe, Bar-throated Apalis, Cape Batis, Cape Bulbul, Cape Canary, Cape Weaver, Greater Double-collared Sunbird, Red-faced Mousebird, Speckled Mousebird, Sombre Greenbul and White-browed Robin-chat. The Black Sparrowhawk was seen flying overhead and landed in the Thicket vegetation. Other birds seen flying overhead include the Hadedda Ibis, Sacred Ibis, Kelp Gull, Black Saw-wing, Laughing Dove, Red-eyed Dove, Cape Turtle Dove and Red-winged Starling. The Lagoon although not in the project area hosted African Black Oystercatcher, African Spoonbill, Giant Kingfisher, Great Egret, Egyptian Geese, White-breasted Cormorant and African Darter.

## 4.3. Faunal species of conservation concern

Faunal Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) are those listed as threatened (Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU)), near-threatened and/or are endemic or range restricted. The DFFE Screening Report identified seven bird SCC, one amphibian species and two mammal species (Table 2.1). The likelihood of occurrence is assessed in Table 4.1 below.

The Knysna Leaf Folding Frog (*Afrixalus knysnae*), which is listed as endangered (EN) and endemic to the Western Cape, has a moderate likelihood of occurring in the project area.

The two vulnerable mammal SCC, Sensitive Species 8 has a high likelihood of occurrence within the Dune Thicket habitat and Duthie's Golden Mole (*Chloroalkane duthieae*) has a high likelihood of occurrence within both the Dune Thicket and Grassy Fynbos.

The endangered Black Harrier (*Circus maurus*) and Marsh Harrier (*Circus ranivorus*) as well as the vulnerable Knysna Warbler (*Bradypterus sylvaticus*) have a high likelihood of occurrence within the Dune Thicket habitat. The Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) has a low likelihood of occurrence within both the Grassy Fynbos and the Goukamma Dune Thicket but a high likelihood of occurrence within the Cape Seashore Vegetation. The Martial Eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*), Crowned Eagle

(*Stephanoaetus coronatus*), and Denham's Bustard (*Neotis denhami*) have a low likelihood of occurrence in the project area.

**Table 4.1: Faunal SCC with a distribution that includes the project area and the likelihood of occurrence within the project area.**

\*The Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2020) specifies the likelihood of occurrence as Low, Moderate and High. For the purpose of this assessment Low=Unlikely to occur, Moderate=Possible occurrence and High = Probable occurrence.

Species	Threat Status (Child et al., 2016)	Distribution includes or partly includes the project area	Preferred habitat available in project area	Species records SABAP2/ FrogMAP/ MammalMAP	Likelihood of Occurrence in project area*	Justification
Black Harrier <i>Circus maurus</i>	EN	✓	✓	✓	High	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species, suitable, preferred habitat (Thicket) is present and there are records of this species within the broader project area. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is high.
Marsh Harrier <i>Circus ranivorus</i>	EN	✓	✓	✓	High	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species, suitable, preferred habitat (Thicket) is present and there are records of this species within the broader project area. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is high.
Knysna Warbler <i>Bradypterus sylvaticus</i>	VU	✓	✓	✓	High	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species, suitable, preferred habitat (Thicket) is present and there are records of this species within the broader project area. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is high.
Duthie's Golden Mole <i>Chloroalkane duthieae</i>	VU	✓	✓	✓	High	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species, and it has been recorded within the broader project area. its preferred habitat type, Forest, is not present in the project area and no shallow subsurface tunnels were observed in the project area, only Mole-rat mounds. This species is tolerant of transformed areas and due to the cryptic nature of this species which makes it difficult to find it has a high likelihood of occurrence within the project.
Sensitive species 8	VU	✓	✓	✓	High	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species, its preferred habitat type is present and this species has been recorded within broader project area. Spoor was observed in the thicket habitat. The likelihood of occurrence within the project area is high.

Caspian Tern <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	VU	✓	X	✓	<b>Low</b>	Although the project area falls within the known distribution this species and it has been recorded within the broader project area, the project area does not contain the preferred habitat of this species. As such, the likelihood of occurrence in the project area is low, however, it may utilise the Keurboom River adjacent to the project area.
Knysna Spiny Frog <i>Afrixalus knysnae</i>	EN	✓	✓	X	<b>Moderate</b>	The project area falls within the known distribution range of this species and its preferred habitat type is present. However, this species is only known from four locations and was not observed in the project area during the field survey. The likelihood of occurrence within the project area cannot be ruled out and is considered moderate.
Crowned Eagle <i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	VU	✓	X	✓	<b>Low</b>	Although the project area falls within the known distribution this species and it has been recorded within the broader project area, the project area DOES NOT contain the preferred habitat for this species to breed. If present, this species may use the project area for foraging. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is low.
Denham's Bustard <i>Neotis denhami</i>	VU	✓	✓	X	<b>Low</b>	Although the project area falls within the known distribution this species and the project area contains its preferred habitat, this species has not been recorded within the broader project area. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is low.
Martial Eagle <i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	EN	✓	X	✓	<b>Low</b>	Although the project area falls within the known distribution this species and it has been recorded within the broader project area, the project area DOES NOT contain the preferred habitat for this species to breed. If present, this species may use the project area for foraging. As such, the likelihood of occurrence is low.

## 5. OVERALL SITE ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

The SEI of the project area Goukamma Dune Thicket, Wetland and Cape Seashore habitat to faunal SCC was determined to be HIGH. The overall SEI of the project area Secondary Grassy Fynbos to faunal SCC was determined to be MEDIUM (Table 5.1 & Figure 5.1).

**Table 5.1: SEI of the project area to faunal SCC with a high likelihood of occurrence.**

Habitat / Species	Conservation Importance (CI)	Functional Integrity (FI)	Biodiversity importance	Receptor Resilience	SEI
Thicket	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
	High likelihood of occurrence of four vulnerable species the Species 8, Duthie's Golden Mole, Knysna Warbler And Black Harrier.	Medium (9ha) intact patch of remaining thicket surrounded by residential developments only offering narrow corridors.		Species has a low likelihood of remaining on site during the disturbance and impact and has a low likelihood of returning to site once the disturbance has been removed.	
Secondary Grassy Fynbos	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>
	High likelihood of the Duthie's Golden Mole ( <i>Chlorotalpa duthieae</i> ) listed as VU occurring in the project area.	Grassy Fynbos (7.9 ha) has been disturbed and has little habitat connectivity.		Species has a low likelihood of remaining on site during the disturbance and impact and has a medium likelihood of returning to site once the disturbance has been removed.	
Wetland	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
	High likelihood of occurrence of one endangered species occurring in the project area, the Marsh Harrier.	Medium sized Wetland is well vegetated in the lower lying areas providing habitat with minor current negative ecological impacts.		Species has a medium likelihood of remaining on site during the disturbance and impact and has a low likelihood of returning to site once the disturbance has been removed.	
Cape Seashore habitat and Estuary	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
	High likelihood of the Caspian Tern listed as VU occurring in the project area.	Small area (<2 ha) of intact Cape Seashore Vegetation (LC). Narrow corridors of good habitat connectivity. Minor current negative ecological impacts.		Species has a medium likelihood of remaining on site during the disturbance and impact and has a medium likelihood of returning to site once the disturbance has been removed.	



Figure 5.1: SEI of the project area to faunal species of conservation concern.

In terms of the guidelines for interpreting SEI in the context of the proposed development activities (SANBI, 2020), the following applies for areas of high and medium SEI:

Table 5.2: Outcome of the SEI of the project area to faunal SCC on the proposed project.

SEI	Guideline	Proposed project
<b>HIGH</b>	<i>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</i>	The residential development must not be located within the Goukamma Dune Thicket, Cape Seashore and Wetland Habitat.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	<i>Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities</i>	Development within the Secondary Grassy Fynbos is permissible.



## 6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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### 6.1. Identification of Potential Impacts

The clearing of vegetation and earthworks for the construction and operational aspects of the proposed project could result in the following impacts:

- The direct and permanent loss of faunal habitat.
- The direct loss of faunal SCC.
- Faunal mortality due to roadkill and persecution.
- Disturbance to faunal species due to construction and operation activities that generate noise, dust, vibrations and lighting. This disturbance may cause faunal species to leave the area or disrupt foraging and/or breeding behaviour of those that remain.

The operation of the proposed security fence could result in the following impacts:

- Fragmentation of faunal habitat and disruption of faunal movement.
- Faunal mortality due to collision or electrocution.

These are presented in detail in Table 6.1 below.

Table 6.1: Assessment of impacts associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed project

POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
<b>CONSTRUCTION PHASE</b>														
<b>Impact 1: Loss of Faunal Habitat associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development</b>	Preferred Alternative (construction of the proposed residential development in the western half of the property)	The construction of the proposed residential development will result in the permanent loss of Secondary Grassy Fynbos which is likely habitat for the Duthies Golden Mole. The vegetation and soil provides habitat to faunal species that depend on it for shelter, breeding and foraging. The significance of this loss will be moderate to those faunal species.	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Localised	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Goukamma Dune Thicket, Cape Seashore and Wetland Habitat must be declared a No-go.</li> <li>Construction vehicles and machinery must not encroach into adjacent habitat and must remain within the footprint of the project.</li> <li>A stormwater management plan must be compiled and implemented and ensure that the wetland downslope is not impacted on. This plan must include measures to prevent erosion.</li> </ul>	MODERATE-
	Cumulative	There has already been a loss of faunal habitat as a result of the urban expansion of Plettenberg Bay. The construction of the proposed residential development will therefore contribute to the cumulative loss of faunal habitat.	Negative	Cumulative	Moderate	Study Area	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	MODERATE -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo will remain unchanged and there will be no loss of faunal habitat as a result of the construction of the proposed residential development. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.	N/A					N/A		N/A		Negligible	N/A	
<b>Impact 2: Loss of Faunal Species of Conservation Concern associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development</b>	Preferred Alternative (construction of the proposed residential development in the western half of the property)	<p>The SEI of the Secondary Grassy Fynbos to Duthie's Golden Mole (VU) is considered medium should it occur. If the species is present, it will likely move into adjacent habitat e.g., gardens and Thicket once earthworks commence. The impact will be of moderate significance.</p> <p>The Sensitive Species 8, Duthie's Golden Mole, Knysna Warbler, Marsh Harrier and Black Harrier have a high likelihood of occurrence in the Goukamma Dune Thicket and Wetland Habitat. The proposed project avoids this habitat.</p>	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Study Area	Short Term	May Occur	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	MODERATE -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clause must be included in contracts for ALL personnel working on site stating that: <i>"no wild animals will be hunted, killed, poisoned or captured. No wild animals will be imported into, exported from or transported in or through the province. No wild animals will be sold, bought, donated and no person associated with the development will be in possession of any live wild animal, carcass or anything manufactured from the carcass."</i> A clause relating to fines, possible dismissal and legal prosecution must be included should any of the above transgressions occur for SCC.</li> <li>The Goukamma Dune Thicket and Wetland Habitat must be declared a No-go area.</li> </ul>	MODERATE-

POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
	Cumulative	Faunal SCC have likely already been lost within the broader area due to the continued urban expansion of Plettenberg bay, road kill, persecution due to perceived danger, etc. As such, should the proposed residential development result in the additional loss of individuals of SCC, the cumulative impact is considered moderate. Considering the scale of the proposed development, it is unlikely that the additional loss of individual SCC will result in a change of the threat status of these species.	Negative	Cumulative	Moderate	Study Area	Short Term	May Occur	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	MODERATE -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	MODERATE -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo will remain unchanged and there will be no loss of faunal SCC as a result of the construction of the proposed residential development. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.	N/A									Negligible	N/A	
<b>Impact 3: Disturbance to faunal species associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development</b>	Preferred Alternative (construction of the proposed residential development in the western half of the property)	<p>Faunal species may be disturbed during construction due to increased noise levels and vibrations from construction machinery. Night lighting disrupts nocturnal faunal species activities and may attract them to the construction site.</p> <p>Faunal Species that vacate the immediate area, may return following completion of construction or new individuals or species may inhabit the area.</p>	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Localised	Short Term	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slow moving species, such as tortoises that may be in harms way during construction, must be moved and placed out of harm's way in habitat immediately adjacent to the project area within the reserve.</li> <li>All night lighting must be minimised and if required, only down lighting must be used and placed as low as practical and low light emitting bulbs (LED's).</li> <li>Vehicles and machinery must meet best practice standards as this will minimise noise and vibrations.</li> <li>Staff and contractors' vehicles must comply with speed limits of maximum of 40km/hr.</li> <li>Project must start and be completed within the minimum timeframe. i.e. may not be started and left incomplete.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	Cumulative	The project area is situated within the town of Plettenberg Bay. As such, there is already a level of noise and disturbance typically associated with the urban areas. The cumulative impact is therefore classified as low.	Negative	Cumulative	Low	Study Area	Short Term	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	LOW-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo will remain unchanged and there will be no disturbance to faunal species as a result of the construction of the proposed residential development. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.	N/A									Negligible	N/A	

POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
<b>Impact 4: Mortality of faunal species associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development</b>	Preferred Alternative (construction of the proposed residential development in the western half of the property)	<p>Faunal species and individuals susceptible to mortality during the clearing of vegetation and soil compacting are those that will not move away during the initial disturbance, this includes slow moving species (tortoises), hibernating species (depending on the time of year) and immobile individuals such as infant birds and rodents.</p> <p>The increase in vehicles entering and exiting the area increases the chance of roadkill, especially at night.</p> <p>Persecution of faunal species perceived as dangerous are often killed out of fear e.g., snakes.</p>	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Localised	Permanent	May Occur	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECO (or relevant person) to walk ahead of clearing construction machinery and move slow moving species, e.g. tortoises, out of harms way and into suitable neighbouring habitat.</li> <li>A snake handler should be on call to provide removal and relocation service should any snakes be found on site or entering neighbouring homes.</li> <li>Speed restrictions of 40km/hr must be adhered to for all vehicles to reduce the impact of killed fauna on the project roads.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	Cumulative	Faunal species have likely already been lost within the broader area due to the continued urban expansion of Plettenberg bay, roadkill, persecution due to perceived danger, etc. As such, should the proposed residential development result in the additional loss of faunal individuals, the cumulative impact is considered moderate.	Negative	Cumulative	Moderate	Study Area	Permanent	May Occur	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo will remain unchanged and there will be no loss of faunal species as a result of the construction of the proposed residential development. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.					N/A						Negligible	N/A
<b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>														
<b>Impact 5: Disturbance to faunal species caused by the operation of the proposed residential development</b>	Preferred Alternative (construction of the proposed residential development in the western half of the property)	Faunal species will be disturbed during operation. The use of the housing estate will create increased noise levels and vibrations. Any night lighting may disrupt nocturnal faunal species activities and even attract them to the site.	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Localised	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No lights must be placed on the exterior wall facing the thicket habitat. Should general lighting inside the estate be used, only down lighting must be used and placed as low as practical and low light emitting bulbs (LED's).</li> <li>Vehicles and machinery must meet best practice standards as this will minimise noise and vibrations.</li> <li>Staff and contractors' vehicles must comply with speed limits of maximum of 40km/hr</li> </ul>	LOW-

POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
	Cumulative	The project area is situated within the town of Plettenberg Bay. As such, there is already a level of noise and disturbance typically associated with the urban areas. The cumulative impact is therefore classified as low.	Negative	Cumulative	Low	Study Area	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be replaced	Difficult	LOW-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo will remain unchanged and there will be no disturbance to faunal species as a result of the proposed residential development. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.	N/A									Negligible	N/A	

<p><b>Impact 6: Fragmentation of faunal habitat and disruption of faunal movement.</b></p>	<p>Fence line Alternative 1 &amp; 2</p>	<p>The project area is one of the last large remaining near-intact portions of thicket and natural vegetation along the banks of the Keurbooms Estuary in Plettenberg Bay. This habitat provides refuge and connectivity, via narrow corridors of vegetation along the banks of the estuary, to other smaller portions of remaining intact/near-intact habitat for a range of small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds including SCC (particularly Sensitive Species 8). Evidence of faunal corridors (in the form of spoor, skat, and compressed leaf litter) was observed along the eastern boundary of the site, suggesting faunal movement to and from the banks of the estuary and the thicket vegetation of the project area. The erection of a fence along the eastern boundary of the project area will result in the further fragmentation of faunal habitat and corridors. Depending on the design, the proposed fence could prevent the movement of faunal species to and from the project area, ultimately resulting in the loss of habitat available to these species.</p>	<p>Negative</p>	<p>Direct</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Study Area</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Definite</p>	<p>Reversible</p>	<p>Resource could be partially lost</p>	<p>Achievable</p>	<p>HIGH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed fence should be designed and constructed in line with the Policy on Fencing and Enclosure of Game, Predators and Dangerous Animals in the Western Cape Province (CapeNature, 2014), particularly in terms of the following minimum requirements:</li> <li>The fence should be permeable to allow for movement of small, naturally occurring wild animals. Considering the faunal species likely to utilise the project area (particularly Sensitive Species 8), the proposed fence should be constructed using palisade fencing with a 110 mm gap between pales to allow movement of fauna to and from the project area and the estuary. Larger breaks in the fence approximately 40 cm high (measured from the ground surface) and 21 cm wide, should be created at regular intervals along the length of the palisade fence to allow for faunal movement to and from the site. A faunal specialist should be appointed to establish the faunal corridors linking the project area and the estuary. The location of faunal corridors must inform the placement of the breaks in the fencing (i.e. breaks must intercept faunal corridors to allow the continued movement of faunal species). However, a maximum spacing of 75 m between gaps in the fencing is permitted.</li> <li>Pales between straining posts should be in a perfectly straight line.</li> <li>The straining, concern and gateposts should be sturdy and be set vertically into the ground.</li> <li>All fence posts should stand erect and maintain the same height above ground level. In this way the undulations of the ground are followed.</li> <li>The fence must be correctly maintained and gaps in the fencing should be inspected once a month. These gaps must be kept free of obstructions, including plant growth and debris.</li> <li>Straining posts should not be too far apart. The closer they are together, the sturdier the fence.</li> <li>The fence must be visible to animals to prevent unnecessary collisions with the fence.</li> <li>The fence cannot be erected with inferior material.</li> <li>The landowner/body corporate must make provision for damage to the fence or enclosure as a result of fires, floods, or other emergencies or disasters.</li> <li>The proposed fence should follow the existing jeep track and additional clearing of thicket vegetation is not permitted.</li> <li>Electric fencing, barbed and razor wire should be avoided as this could pose a collision threat to birds and result in the electrocution and death of faunal species moving through the fence. If electric fencing is used, this must be placed on top of the fence but should not exceed the height of the surrounding thicket vegetation. No strands should be within 1m of the ground as this can result in the electrocution and death of faunal species. Markers must be placed on electric fencing so that it is visible to birds. Although the fence will be erected along an existing jeep track, vegetation must not be allowed to touch the electric</li> </ul>	<p>LOW -</p>
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POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
													fencing. Where necessary, shrubs must be pruned and a gap between vegetation and electric fencing must be maintained [NB: vegetation clearance/strip clearing is not permitted, only pruning. If the pruning of any protected trees is required, the necessary permit must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)].	
	Cumulative Impact	Faunal habitat along the banks of the Keurbooms River Estuary has already been fragmented, resulting in the loss of faunal habitat and disruption of faunal movement. The erection of an additional fence line for security of the residents of the proposed development could result in the isolation of faunal species and populations. Species and population isolation could result in inbreeding, erosion of genetic diversity, reduced viability and limiting adaptive potential (Latch <i>et al.</i> , 2021). Fragmentation and reduction in faunal habitat could also result in increased competition for limited resources which could affect the breeding success and persistence of some faunal species (particularly Sensitive Species 8).	Negative	Cumulative	High	Study Area	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact.</li> </ul>	LOW -

POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
	No-go alternative	Faunal habitat along the banks of the Keurbooms River Estuary has already been fragmented, resulting in the disruption of faunal movement. The no-go alternative assumes no erection of a fence line along the banks of the estuary (only along the boundary of the residential development located in the western half of the property). The no-go alternative therefore assumes the status quo would remain and there would be no fragmentation of faunal habitat or disruption of faunal movement. As such, the no-go alternative is classified as negligible.					N/A					Negligible	N/A	
<b>Impact 7: Faunal mortality due to collision or electrocution.</b>	Fence line Alternative 1 & 2	The erection of a fence could result in the mortality of faunal species due to collisions and electrocution.	Negative	Direct	High	Study Area	Permane	Definite	Reversibl	Resource could be	Achievab	HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See mitigation measures listed for impact 6 above.</li> <li>Fencing should be black and not blend into the surrounding vegetation so that it is visible to faunal species, particularly birds.</li> </ul>	LOW -
	Cumulative	Plettenberg Bay is surrounded by developments enclosed by electric fences, barb or razor wire which likely results in the death of faunal individuals due to collision and/or electrocution. The erection of a security fence along the eastern boundary of the property could contribute to the cumulative loss/death of faunal individuals due to collision or electrocution.	Negative	Cumulative	High	Study Area	Permanent	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Achievable	HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact</li> </ul>	LOW -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes no security fence will be erected. As such, the status quo would remain unchanged and there would be no faunal mortality due to collision or electrocution. The no-go alternative is therefore classified as negligible.					N/A					Negligible	N/A	
<b>DECOMMISSIONING PHASE</b>														
<b>Impact 8: Disturbance to faunal species</b>	All alternatives	As with the construction phase, the decommissioning phase will also require heavy machinery and the disruption of faunal habitat. Impacts will therefore be similar to that of the construction phase.	Negative	Direct	Moderate	Localised	Short Term	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be partially lost	Difficult	MODERATE-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All night lighting must be minimised and if required, only down lighting must be used and placed as low as practical and low light emitting bulbs (LED's).</li> <li>Vehicles and machinery must meet best practice standards as this will minimise noise and vibrations.</li> <li>Staff and contractors' vehicles must comply with speed limits of maximum of 40km/hr</li> <li>Decommissioning must start and be completed within the minimum timeframe. i.e. may not be started and left incomplete.</li> </ul>	LOW -



POTENTIAL ISSUES	ALTERNATIVE	SOURCE OF ISSUE	NATURE	TYPE	CONSEQUENCE OF IMPACT	EXTENT OF IMPACT	DURATION OF IMPACT	PROBABILITY OF IMPACT	REVERSIBILITY	IRREPLACEABLE LOSS	MITIGATION POTENTIAL	SIGNIFICANCE WITHOUT MITIGATION	MITIGATION MEASURES	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
	Cumulative	The project area is situated within the town of Plettenberg Bay. As such, there is already a level of noise and disturbance typically associated with the urban areas. The cumulative impact is therefore classified as low.	Negative	Cumulative	Low	Localised	Short Term	Definite	Reversible	Resource could be replaced	Difficult	LOW -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant can only mitigate the impact associated with the proposed project. As such, it is important that the mitigation measures listed above are implemented reduce the overall significance of the cumulative impact</li> </ul>	LOW -
	No-go	The no-go alternative assumes the status quo would remain unchanged and there would be no additional disturbance to faunal species as a result of the decommissioning phase. The no-go alternative is therefore classified as negligible.	N/A									Negligible	N/A	

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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The proposed project area is located along the Keurboom River and is surrounded by urban development. The western portion of the project area offers Secondary Grassy Fynbos to faunal species while the eastern portion offers wetland habitat and contains one of the last large remaining near-intact portions of thicket and natural vegetation along the banks of the Keurbooms Estuary in Plettenberg Bay (Figure 3.1). This habitat provides refuge and connectivity, via narrow corridors of vegetation along the banks of the estuary, to other smaller portions of remaining intact/near-intact habitat for a range of small mammals, including Sensitive Species 8, amphibians, reptiles, and birds.

Evidence of faunal corridors (in the form of spoor, skat, and compressed leaf litter) was observed along the eastern boundary of the site, suggesting faunal movement from and to the banks of the estuary and the thicket vegetation of the project area.

The DFFE Screening Report identified seven bird SCC, one amphibian species and two mammal species.

- Sensitive Species 8 (VU), Duthie's Golden Mole (*Chloroalkane duthieae*) (VU), Black Harrier (*Circus maurus*) (EN) and Knysna Warbler (*Bradypterus sylvaticus*) (VU) have a high likelihood of occurrence within the Dune Thicket habitat of the project area.
- Duthie's Golden Mole (*Chloroalkane duthieae*) (VU), has a high likelihood of occurrence within the Secondary Grassy Fynbos habitat of the project area.
- Marsh Harrier (*Circus ranivorus*) (EN) and Knysna Leaf Folding Frog (*Afrixalus knysnae*) (EN) have a high and medium likelihood of occurrence, respectively, within the Wetland habitat of the project area.
- The Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) has a high likelihood of occurrence within the Cape Seashore habitat.
- The Martial Eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*), Crowned Eagle (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*), and Denham's Bustard (*Neotis denhami*) have a low likelihood of occurrence in the project area.

The Site Ecological Importance (SEI) of the Goukamma Dune Thicket, Cape Seashore and Wetland Habitat to faunal Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) was found to be HIGH, while the Secondary Grassy Fynbos was found to be MEDIUM.

In terms of the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2020), the following guidelines apply:

- For areas with HIGH SEI: 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.
- For areas with MEDIUM SEI: Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities.

The residential development has been designed to avoid the Goukamma Dune Thicket and Wetland Habitat and has only been placed in the Secondary Grassy Fynbos. However, due to concerns regarding safety, a security fence is proposed to be constructed along an existing gravel road which runs along

the eastern boundary of the property (adjacent to the estuary). Two (2) alternatives have been assessed for the proposed fence line:

- Alternative 1: Runs along an existing jeep track along the eastern boundary of the project area (indicated by white line which joined by the dark blue/purple line in Figure 1.2).
- Alternative 2: Also runs along an existing jeep track but the southern half of the fence line deviates to the southwest, bisecting the southeastern portion of the project area (indicated by the white line in its entirety in Figure 1.2).

Eight (8) impacts were identified for the project including the direct and permanent loss of faunal habitat, potential loss of faunal SCC, faunal mortality due to roadkill and persecution, disturbance to faunal species due to construction and operation activities, fragmentation of faunal habitat and disruption of faunal movement, and faunal mortality due to collision or electrocution with the fence line. Two (2) impacts are rated as HIGH, and six impacts are rated as Moderate significance prior to the implementation of mitigation measures. If the mitigation measures specified in this report are implemented and adhered to, the significance of six (6) of those impacts can be reduced to low. Two impacts will remain moderate (Table 7.1).

**Table 7.1: Summary of direct impacts associated with the proposed project.**

Impact	Significance prior to mitigation	Significance post mitigation
<b>Construction phase</b>		
Impact 1: Loss of Faunal Habitat associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development	MODERATE -	MODERATE -
Impact 2: Loss of Faunal Species of Conservation Concern associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development	MODERATE -	MODERATE -
Impact 3: Disturbance to faunal species associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development	MODERATE -	LOW -
Impact 4: Mortality of faunal species associated with the construction of the proposed Residential Development	MODERATE -	LOW -
<b>Operational Phase</b>		
Impact 5: Disturbance to faunal species caused by the operation of the proposed residential development	MODERATE -	LOW -
Impact 6: Fragmentation of faunal habitat and disruption of faunal movement.	HIGH -	LOW -
Impact 7: Faunal mortality due to collision or electrocution.	HIGH -	LOW -
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>		
Impact 8: Disturbance to faunal species	MODERATE -	LOW -

Fences pose a number of threats to wildlife, including fragmentation of habitat, increased population isolation, decreased genetic diversity, and mortality due to collision and electrocution. Considering the project area contains one of the last large remaining near-intact portions of thicket and natural vegetation along the banks of the Keurbooms Estuary in Plettenberg Bay, the impacts associated with the erection of a fence are considered high (impact 6 and 7) unless the recommendations and mitigation measures specified in this report are implemented and adhered to. The design of the proposed fence is of particular importance, and it is paramount that the following recommendations are implemented should the proposed fence be authorised:

- The proposed fence should be designed and constructed in line with the Policy on Fencing and Enclosure of Game, Predators and Dangerous Animals in the Western Cape Province (CapeNature, 2014), particularly in terms of the following minimum requirements:
- The fence should be permeable to allow for movement of small, naturally occurring wild animals. Considering the faunal species likely to utilise the project area (particularly Sensitive Species 8), the proposed fence should be constructed using palisade fencing with a 110 mm gap between pales to allow movement of fauna to and from the project area and the estuary. Larger breaks in the fence approximately 40 cm high (measured from the ground surface) and 21 cm wide, should be created at regular intervals along the length of the palisade fence to allow for faunal movement to and from the site. A faunal specialist should be appointed to establish the faunal corridors linking the project area and the estuary. The location of faunal corridors must inform the placement of the breaks in the fencing (i.e. breaks must intercept faunal corridors to allow the continued movement of faunal species). However, a maximum spacing of 75 m between gaps in the fencing is permitted.
- *Carissa bispinosa* can be planted along the length of the fence to deter people from entering the site but still allow for the movement of faunal species. If this species is planted, it is imperative that it is maintained so that faunal species can still penetrate through the gaps i.e. this species may need to be pruned regularly to ensure it doesn't become too thick.
- Pales between straining posts should be in a perfectly straight line.
- The straining, corner and gateposts should be sturdy and be set vertically into the ground.
- All fence posts should stand erect and maintain the same height above ground level. In this way the undulations of the ground are followed.
- The fence must be correctly maintained and gaps in the fencing should be inspected once a month. These gaps must be kept free of obstructions, including plant growth and debris.
- Straining posts should not be too far apart. The closer they are together, the sturdier the fence.
- The fence must be visible to animals to prevent unnecessary collisions with the fence.
- The fence cannot be erected with inferior material.
- The landowner/body corporate must make provision for damage to the fence or enclosure as a result of fires, floods, or other emergencies or disasters.
- The proposed fence should follow the existing jeep track and additional clearing of thicket vegetation is not permitted.
- Electric fencing barbed and razor wire should be avoided as this could pose a collision threat to birds and result in the electrocution and death of faunal species moving through the fence. If electric fencing is used, this must be placed on top of the fence but should not exceed the height of the surrounding thicket vegetation. No strands should be within 1m of the ground as this can result in the electrocution and death of faunal species. Markers must be placed on electric fencing so that it is visible to birds. Although the fence will be erected along an existing jeep track, vegetation must not be allowed to touch the electric fencing. Where necessary, shrubs must be pruned and a gap between vegetation and electric fencing must be maintained [NB: vegetation clearance/strip clearing is not permitted, only pruning. If the pruning of any protected trees is required, the necessary permit must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)].

If the proposed recommendations listed above are implemented, the significance of the impacts associated with the proposed security fence can be reduced to LOW. In terms of the guidelines for interpreting SEI in the context of proposed development activities, activities of low impact are acceptable in areas classified as HIGH SEI.

While both fence line alternatives are considered acceptable, fence line alternative 2 is preferred as it provides a portion of unfenced thicket habitat (~1 ha in extent) adjacent to the estuary.

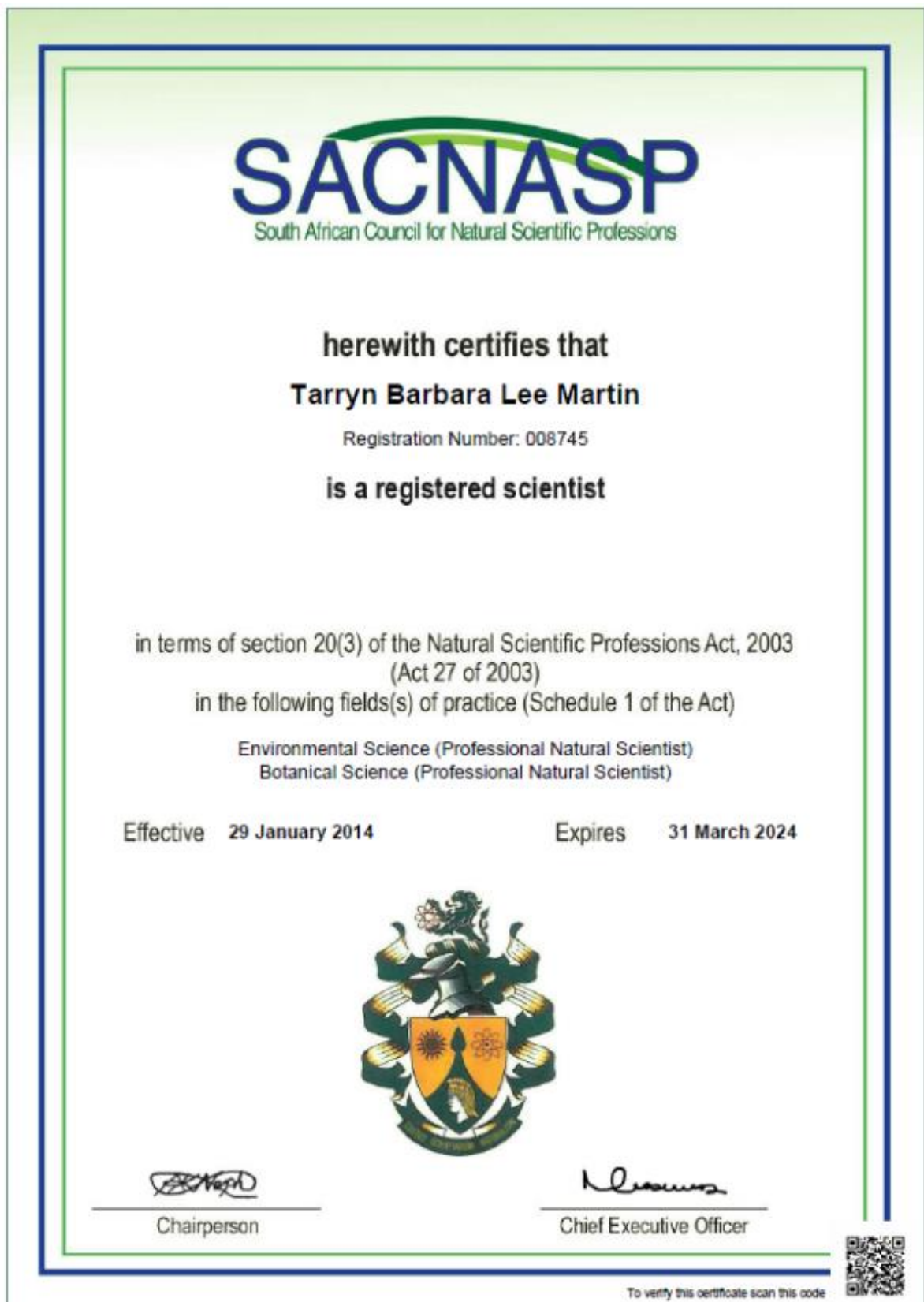
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# APPENDIX 1: PROOF OF SACNASP REGISTRATION AND HIGHEST QUALIFICATION





# RHODES UNIVERSITY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

TARRYN BARBARA LEE MARTIN

WAS THIS DAY AT A CONGREGATION OF THE UNIVERSITY  
ADMITTED TO THE DEGREE OF


**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

IN

**BOTANY**

**WITH DISTINCTION**

GRAHAMSTOWN  
10 APRIL 2010



*M. S. Hat*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
VICE CHANCELLOR

*R. Bennett*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE

*Stephen L. ...*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
REGISTRAR



# SACNASP

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions

herewith certifies that

**Amber Leah Jackson**  
Registration number: 100125/12

is registered as a

**Candidate Natural Scientist**

in terms of section 20(3) of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003  
(Act 27 of 2003)  
in the following field(s) of practice (Schedule I of the Act)

Environmental Science

15 August 2012



15 August 2012

Pretoria

  
President

  
Executive Director



*we certify that*

*Amber Leah Jackson*

*was admitted to the degree of*

*Master of Philosophy  
in Environmental Management*

*on 9 June 2011*

Handwritten signature of Alan Price in black ink.

Vice-Chancellor



Handwritten signature of Hugh Amoore in black ink.

Registrar



**herewith certifies that**  
**Nicole Nadine Wienand**  
Registration Number: 130289  
**is a registered scientist**

in terms of section 20(3) of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003  
(Act 27 of 2003)  
in the following field(s) of practice (Schedule 1 of the Act)

Environmental Science (Certificated Natural Scientist)  
Botanical Science (Professional Natural Scientist)

Effective 3 March 2021

Expires 31 March 2025



Chairperson

Chief Executive Officer



To verify this certificate scan this code

**NELSON MANDELA**  
UNIVERSITY

This is to certify that, all the requirements  
having been met, the degree

**Bachelor of Science Honours in  
Botany**


with all the associated rights and privileges,  
was conferred upon

**Nicole Nadine Wienand**

ID no.: 9501170150088

at a congregation of the Nelson Mandela University on  
13 December 2018

Certificate no.: 20185249



Vice-Chancellor



Registrar



00008632

## APPENDIX 2: CV

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### CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Tarryn Martin</b>
<b>Name of Company</b>	<b>Biodiversity Africa</b>
<b>Designation</b>	Director
<b>Profession</b>	Botanical Specialist and Environmental Manager
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:tarryn@biodiversityafrica.com">tarryn@biodiversityafrica.com</a>
<b>Office number</b>	+27 (0)71 332 3994
<b>Education</b>	2010: Master of Science with distinction (Botany) 2004: Bachelor of Science (Hons) in African Terrestrial Vertebrate Biodiversity 2003: Bachelor of Science
<b>Nationality</b>	<b>South African</b>
<b>Professional Body</b>	<b>SACNASP:</b> South African Council for Natural Scientific Profession: Professional Natural Scientist (400018/14) <b>SAAB:</b> Member of the South African Association of Botanists <b>IAIASa:</b> Member of the International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa Member of Golden Key International Honour Society
<b>Key areas of expertise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biodiversity Surveys and Impact Assessments</li><li>• Environmental Impact Assessments</li><li>• Critical Habitat Assessments</li><li>• Biodiversity Management and Monitoring Plans</li></ul>

### PROFILE

Tarryn has over ten years of experience working as a botanist, nine of which are in the environmental sector. She has worked as a specialist and project manager on projects within South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zambia, Tanzania, Cameroon and Malawi.

She has extensive experience writing botanical impact assessments, critical habitat assessments, biodiversity management plans, biodiversity monitoring plans and Environmental Impact Assessments to International Standards, especially to those of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Her experience includes working on large mining projects such as the Kenmare Heavy Minerals Mine, where she monitored forest health, undertook botanical impact assessments for their expansion projects and designed biodiversity management and monitoring plans. She has also project managed Environmental Impact Assessments for graphite mines in northern Mozambique and has a good understanding of the Mozambique Environmental legislation and processes.

Tarryn holds a BSc (Botany and Zoology), a BSc (Hons) in African Vertebrate Biodiversity and an MSc with distinction in Botany from Rhodes University. Tarryn's Master's thesis examined the impact of fire on the recovery of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> Panicoid and non-Panicoid grasses within the context of climate change for which she won the Junior Captain Scott-Medal (Plant Science) for producing the top MSc of 2010 from the South African Academy of Science and Art as well as an Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Range and Forage Science from the Grassland Society of Southern Africa. Tarryn is a professional member of the South African

**EMPLOYMENT  
EXPERIENCE**

**Director and Botanical Specialist, Biodiversity Africa**

*July 2021 - present*

- Botanical and ecological assessments for local and international EIAs in Southern Africa
- Identifying and mapping vegetation communities and sensitive areas
- Designing and implementing biodiversity management and monitoring plans
- Designing rehabilitation plans
- Designing alien management plans
- Critical Habitat Assessments
- Large ESIA studies
- Managing budgets

**Principal Environmental Consultant, Branch Manager and Botanical Specialist,  
Coastal and Environmental Services**

*May 2012-June 2021*

- Botanical and ecological assessments for local and international EIAs in Southern Africa
- Identifying and mapping vegetation communities and sensitive areas
- Designing and implementing biodiversity management and monitoring plans
- Designing rehabilitation and biodiversity offset plans
- Designing alien management plans
- Critical Habitat Assessments
- Large ESIA studies
- Managing budgets
- Cape Town branch manager
- Coordinating specialists and site visits

**Accounts Manager, Green Route DMC**

*October 2011- January 2012*

- Project and staff co-ordination
- Managing large budgets for incentive and conference groups travelling to southern Africa
- Creating tailor-made programs for clients
- Negotiating rates with vendors and assisting with the ground management of inbound groups to ensure client satisfaction.

**Camp Administrator and Project Co-ordinator, Windsor Mountain International  
Summer Camp, USA**

*April 2011 - September 2012*

- Co-ordinated staff and camper travel arrangements, main camp events and assisted with marketing the camp to prospective families.

**Freelance Project Manager, Green Route DMC**

*November 2010 - April 2011*

- Project and staff co-ordination
- Managing large budgets for incentive and conference groups travelling to southern Africa
- Creating tailor-made programs for clients
- Negotiating rates with vendors and assisting with the ground management of inbound groups to ensure client satisfaction.

**Camp Counselor, Windsor Mountain Summer Camp, USA**

*June 2010 - October 2010*

**NERC Research Assistant**, Botany Department, Rhodes University, Grahamstown in collaboration with Sheffield University, Sheffield, England

*April 2009 - May 2010*

- Set up and maintained experiments within a common garden plot experiment
- collected, collated and entered data
- Assisted with the analysis of the data and writing of journal articles

**Head Demonstrator**, Botany Department, Rhodes University

*March 2007 - October 2008*

**Operations Assistant**, Green Route DMC

*September 2005 - February 2007*

- Project and staff co-ordination
- Managing large budgets for incentive and conference groups travelling to southern Africa
- Creating tailor-made programs for clients
- Negotiating rates with vendors and assisting with the ground management of inbound groups to ensure client satisfaction

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Ripley, B.; Visser, V.; Christin, P.A.; Archibald, S.; Martin, T and Osborne, C. Fire ecology of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> grasses depends on evolutionary history and frequency of burning but not photosynthetic type. *Ecology*. 96 (10): 2679-2691. 2015
- Taylor, S.; Ripley, B.S.; Martin, T.; De Wet, L-A.; Woodward, F.I.; Osborne, C.P. Physiological advantages of C<sub>4</sub> grasses in the field: a comparative experiment demonstrating the importance of drought. *Global Change Biology*. 20 (6): 1992-2003. 2014
- Ripley, B; Donald, G; Osborne, C; Abraham, T and Martin, T. Experimental investigation of fire ecology in the C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> subspecies of *Alloteropsis semialata*. *Journal of Ecology*. 98 (5): 1196 - 1203. 2010
- South African Association of Botanists (SAAB) conference, Grahamstown. Title: Responses of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> Panicoid and non-Panicoid grasses to fire. January 2010
- South African Association of Botanists (SAAB) conference, Drakensberg. Title: Photosynthetic and Evolutionary determinants of the response of selected C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> (NADP-ME) grasses to fire. January 2008

#### COURSES

- Rhodes University and CES, Grahamstown
- EIA Short Course 2012
- Fynbos identification course, Kirstenbosch, 2015.
- Photography Short Course, Cape Town School of Photography, 2015.
- Using Organized Reasoning to Improve Environmental Impact Assessment, 2018, International IAIA conference, Durban

#### CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

##### International Projects

- 2020 – 2021: Project manager for the 2Africa subsea cable ESIA in Mozambique.
- 2020 – 2021: Project manager for the Category B EIA for the Wihinana Graphite Mine, Cabo delgado, Mozambique
- 2020 – 2021: Project manager for the category B exploration ESIA for Sofala Heavy Minerals Mine, Inhambane, Mozambique
- 2020: Critical Habitat Assessment for a graphite mine in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. This assessment was to IFC standards.

- 2020: Analysed the botanical dataset for Lurio Green Resources and provided comment on the findings and gaps.
- 2020: Biodiversity Management Plan and Monitoring Plan for mine at Piliwilli in Nampula Province, Mozambique. This assessment was to IFC standards.
- 2019: Botanical Assessment for a cocoa plantation, Tanzania. This assessment was to IFC standards.
- 2019: Critical Habitat Assessment, Biodiversity Management Plan and Ecosystem Services Assessment for JCM Solar Farm in Cameroon. This assessment was to IFC standards.
- 2019: Undertook the Kenmare Road and Infrastructure Botanical Baseline Survey and Impact Assessment for an infrastructure corridor that will link the existing mine at Moma to the new proposed mine at Piliwilli in Nampula Province, Mozambique. This assessment was to IFC standards.
- 2012 – Present: Kenmare Terrestrial Monitoring Program Project Manager and Specialist Survey, Nampula Province, Mozambique.
- 2018: Conducted a field survey and wrote a botanical report to IFC standards for the proposed Balama Graphite Mine Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.
- 2018: Co-authored the critical habitat assessment chapter for the proposed Kenmare Piliwilli Heavy Minerals Mine.
- 2018: Authored the Conservation Efforts chapter for the Kenmare Piliwilli Heavy Minerals Mine.
- 2017-2018: Co-authored and analysed data for the Kenmare Bioregional Survey of *Icuria dunensis* (species trigger for critical habitat) in Nampula Province, Mozambique. This was for a mining project that needed to be IFC compliant.
- 2017: Conducted a field survey and wrote a botanical report to IFC standards for the proposed Ancuabe Graphite Mine Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.
- 2017-2018: Managed the Suni Resources Montepuez Graphite Mine Environmental Impact Assessment. This included the management of ten specialists, the co-ordination of their field surveys, regular client liaison and the writing of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which summarised the specialists findings, assessed the impacts of the proposed mine on the environment and provided mitigation measures to reduce the impact. I was also the lead botanist for this baseline survey and impact assessment and undertook the required field work and analysed the data and wrote the report.
- 2017: Undertook the botanical baseline survey and impact assessment for the proposed Kenmare Piliwilli Heavy Mineral Mine in Nampula Province, Mozambique. This was to IFC Standards.
- 2017: Ecological Survey for the Megaruma Mining Limitada Ruby Mine Exploration License, Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.
- 2016: Undertook the botanical baseline survey and impact assessment, wrote an alien invasive management plan and co-authored the biodeiversity monitoring plan for this farm. The project was located in Zambezia Province, Mozambique.
- 2015-2016: Conducted the Triton Minerals Nicanda Hills Graphite Mine Botanical Survey and Impact Assessment. Was also the project manager and specialist co-ordinator for this project. The project was located in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.
- 2015: Was part of the team that undertook a Critical Habitat Assessment for the Nhangonzo Coastal Stream site at Inhassora in Mozambique that Sasol intend to establish drill pads at. This project needed to meet the IFC standards.
- 2014: Lurio Green Resources Wood Chip Mill and Medium Density Fibre-board Plant, Project Manager and Ecological Specialist, Nampula Province, Mozambique. 2014-2015.
- 2013-2014: LHDA Botanical Survey, Baseline and Impact assessment, Lesotho.
- 2014: Biotherm Solar Voltaic Ecological Assessment, Zambia.
- 2013-2014: Lurio Green Resources Plantation Botanical Assessment, Vegetation and Sensitivity Mapping, Specialist Co-ordination, Nampula Province, Mozambique.



- 2013: Syrah Resources Botanical Baseline Survey and Ecological Assessment., Cabo Delgado Mozambique.
- 2013-2014: Baobab Mining Ecological Baseline Survey and Impact Assessment, Tete, Mozambique.

#### **South African Projects**

- 2021 - Present: Project Manager for the Sturdee Energy Solar PV facility, Western Cape
- 2021: Ecological Assessment for the Sturdee Energy Solar PV facility, Western Cape
- 2021: Rehabilitation plan for a housing development (Hope Village)
- 2020: Ecological Assessment for the Eskom Juno-Gromis Powerline deviation, Western Cape
- 2020: Project Manager for the Basic Assessment for SANSA development at Matjiesfontein (Western Cape). Project received authorization in 2021.
- 2020: Ecological Assessment for construction of satellite antennae, Matjiesfontein, Western Cape
- 2019: Ecological Assessment for a wind farm EIA, Kleinzee, Northern Cape
- 2019: Ecological Assessment for two housing developments in Zeerust, North West Province
- 2019: Botanical Assessment in Retreat, Cape Town for the DRDLR land claim.
- 2019: Cape Agulhas Municipality Botanical Assessment for the expansion of industrial zone, Western Cape, South Africa, 2019.
- 2018: Ecological Assessment for the construction of a farm dam in Greyton, Western Cape.
- 2018: Conducted the Ecological Survey for a housing development in Noordhoek, Cape Town
- 2018: Conducted the field survey and developed an alien invasive management plan for the Swartland Municipality, Western Cape.
- 2017: Undertook the field survey and co-authored a coastal dune study that assesses the impacts associated with the proposed rezoning and subdivision of Farm Bookram No. 30 to develop a resort.
- 2017: Project managed and co-authored a risk assessment for the use of Marram Grass to stabilise dunes in the City of Cape Town.
- 2015-2016: iGas Saldanha to Ankerlig Biodiversity Assessment Project Manager, Saldanha.
- 2015: Innowind Ukomoleza Wind Energy Facility Alien Invasive Management Plan, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa.
- 2015: Savannah Nxuba Wind Energy Facility Powerline Ecological Assessment, ground truthing and permit applications, Eastern Cape South Africa.
- 2014: Cob Bay botanical groundtruthing assessment, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2013-2016: Dassiesridge Wind Energy Facility Project Manager, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2013: Harvestvale botanical groundtruthing assessment, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Tsitsikamma Wind Energy Facility Community Power Line Ecological Assessment, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Golden Valley Wind Energy Facility Power Line Ecological Assessment, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Middleton Wind Energy Facility Ecological Assessment and Project Management, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Mossel Bay Power Line Ecological Assessment, Western Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Groundtruthing the turbine sites for the Waainek Wind Energy Facility, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- 2012: Toliara Mineral Sands Rehabilitation and Offset Strategy Report, Madagascar.

## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Amber Jackson</b>
<b>Name of Company</b>	<b>Biodiversity Africa</b>
<b>Designation</b>	Director
<b>Profession</b>	Faunal Specialist and Environmental Manager
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:amber@biodiversityafrica.com">amber@biodiversityafrica.com</a>
<b>Office number</b>	+27 (0)78 340 6295
<b>Education</b>	2011 M. Phil Environmental Management (University of Cape Town) 2008 BSc (Hons) Ecology, Environment and Conservation (University of the Witwatersrand) 2007 BSc 'Ecology, Environment and Conservation' and Zoology (WITS)
<b>Nationality</b>	<b>South African</b>
<b>Professional Body</b>	<b>SACNASP:</b> South African Council for Natural Scientific Profession (100125/12) <b>ZSSA:</b> Zoological Society of Southern Africa <b>HAA:</b> Herpetological Association of Southern Africa <b>IAIASa:</b> Member of the International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa
<b>Key areas of expertise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biodiversity Surveys and Impact Assessments</li><li>• Environmental Impact Assessments</li><li>• Critical Habitat Assessments</li><li>• Biodiversity Management and Monitoring Plans</li></ul>

## PROFILE

Amber has over ten years' experience in environmental consulting and has managed projects across various sectors including mining, agriculture, forestry, renewable energy, housing, coastal and wetland recreational infrastructure. Most of these projects required lender finance and therefore met both in-country, lender and sector specific requirements.

Amber completed the IFC lead and Swiss funded programme in Environmental and Social Risk Management course in 2018. The purpose of the course was to upskill Sub-Saharan African environmental consultants to increase the uptake of E&S standards by Financial Institutions.

Amber specialises in terrestrial vertebrate faunal assessments. She has conducted large scale faunal impact assessments that are to international lender's standards in Mozambique, Tanzania, Lesotho and Malawi. In South Africa her faunal impact assessments comply with the protocols for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for environmental impacts on terrestrial biodiversity and follows the SANBI Species Environmental Assessment Guideline. Her specialist input goes beyond impact assessments and includes faunal opportunities and constraints assessments, Critical Habitat Assessments, Biodiversity related Management Plans and Biodiversity Monitoring Programmes.

Amber holds a BSc (Zoology and Ecology, Environment & Conservation) and BSc (Hons) in Ecology, Environment & Conservation from WITS University and an MPhil in Environmental Management from University of Cape Town. Amber's honours focused on the landscape effects on Herpetofauna in Kruger National Park and her Master's thesis focused on the management of social and natural aspects of environmental systems with a dissertation in food security that investigated the complex food system of informal and formal distribution markets

### **EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE**

#### **Director and Faunal Specialist, Biodiversity Africa**

*July 2021 - present*

- Faunal assessments for local and international EIAs in Southern Africa
- Identifying and mapping habitats and sensitive areas
- Designing and implementing biodiversity management and monitoring plans
- Critical Habitat Assessments
- Large ESIA studies

- Managing budgets

**Principal Environmental Consultant and Faunal,**

Coastal and Environmental Services

*September 2011-June 2021*

- Faunal and ecological assessments for local and international EIAs in Southern Africa
- Identifying and mapping habitat and sensitive areas
- Designing and implementing biodiversity management and monitoring plans
- Critical Habitat Assessments
- Large ESIA studies
- Coordinating specialists and site visits
- Faunal Impact Assessment
- Project Management, including budgets, deliverables and timelines.
- Environmental Impact Assessments and Basic Assessments project
- Environmental Control Officer
- Public/client/authority liaison
- Mentoring and training of junior staff

**COURSES**

- **Herpetological Association of Southern Africa Conference- Cape St Frances** September 2019
- **International Finance Corporation Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) Program** January – November 2018
- **IAIA WC EMP Implementation Workshop** 27 February 2018
- **IAIAsa National Annual Conference** August 2017  
Goudini Spa, Rawsonville.
- **Biodiversity & Business Indaba, NBBN** April 2017  
Theme: Moving Forward Together (Partnerships & Collaborations)
- **Snake Awareness, Identification and Handling course, Cape Reptile Institute (CRI)** November 2016
- **Coaching Skills programme, Kim Coach** November 2016
- **Western Cape Biodiversity Information Event, IAIAAsa** May 2016  
Theme: Biodiversity offsets & the launch of a Biodiversity Information Tool
- **Photography Short Course** 2015.  
Cape Town School of Photography,
- **Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Business: WHAT, WHY, WHEN and HOW** June 2014 Hosted by Dr Marie Parramon Gurney on behalf of the NBBN at the Rhodes Business School
- **IAIAAsa National Annual Conference** September 2013  
Thaba'Nchu Sun, Bloemfontein
- **St Johns Life first aid course** July 2012

**CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

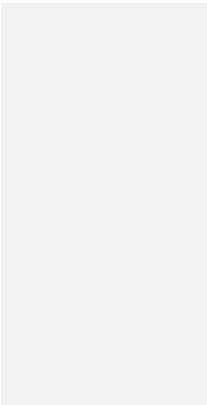
**International Projects**

- 2018-Crooks Brothers Post EIA Work- Environmental and Social EMPr, Policies, E&S Management Plans and Monitoring Programmes
- 2018-Triton Ancuabe Graphite Mine (ESHIA), Mozambique. IFC Standards.
- 2016-Bankable Feasibility Study of Simandou Infrastructure Project – Port and Railway Summary of critical habitat, biodiversity offset plan and monitoring and evaluation plan.
- 2016-Lurio Green Resources Forestry Projects ESIA project upgrade to Lender standards including IFC, EIB, FSC and AfDB.
- 2014-Green Resources Woodchip and MDF plant (EPDA).

- 2014-Niassa Green Resources Forestry Projects ESIA to Lender standards including IFC, EIB, FSC and AfDB.
- 2020-Kenmare Faunal Biodiversity Management Plan, Mozambique.
- 2020-Kenmare Faunal Monitoring Programme (year 1)- Baseline, Mozambique.
- 2019-Kenmare addendum ESIA Faunal Impact Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2019-Kenmare infrastructure corridor ESIA Faunal Impact Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2019/20-Olam Cocoa Plantation Faunal Impact Assessment, Tanzania.
- 2019-JCM Solar Voltaic project Faunal desktop critical habitat assessment, Cameroon.
- 2018-Suni Resources Balama Graphite Mine Project Faunal Impact Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2017/18-Battery Minerals Montepuez Graphite Mine Project Faunal Impact Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2017-Triton Minerals Nicanda Hills Graphite Mine Project Faunal Impact Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2017-Sasol Biodiversity Assessment, Mozambique.
- 2014-Lesotho Highlands Water Project Faunal Impact Assessment, Lesotho.
- 2012-Malawi Monazite mine Projects (ESIA) EMP ecological management contribution
- Liberia Palm bay & Butow (ESIA)
- PGS Seismic Project (ESIA), Mozambique.

#### **South African Projects**

- 2018-Port St Johns Second Beach Coastal Infrastructure Project - E&S Risk Assessment
- 2015-Blouberg Development Initiative- E&S Risk Assessment
- 2019-Boulders Powerline BA Faunal desktop impact assessment, WC, SA.
- 2019-Ramotshere housing development BA Faunal desktop impact assessment, NW, SA.
- 2019-Cape Agulhas Municipality Industrial development faunal impact assessment, WC, SA.
- 2019-SANSA Solar PV BA Faunal desktop impact assessment, WC, SA.
- 2019-Wisson Coal to Urea Faunal desktop assessment, Mpumalanga.
- 2019-Assessment Boschendal Estate Faunal Opportunities and Constraints, WC, SA.
- 2019-Ganspan-Pan Wetland Reserve Recreational and Tourist Development Avifaunal Impact Assessment, NC, SA.
- 2018-City of Johannesburg Municipal Reserve Proclamation for Linksfield Ridge and Northcliff Hill Faunal Assessment, South Africa.
- 2017-Augrabies falls hydro-electric project Hydro-SA Faunal Impact Assessment.
- Port St Johns Second Beach Coastal Infrastructure Project (EIA), South Africa.
- Woodbridge Island Revetment checklist.
- Belmont Valley Golf Course and Makana Residential Estate (EIA)
- Belton Farm Eco Estate (BA).
- Ramotshere housing development (BA).
- G7 Brandvalley Wind Energy Project (EIA)
- G7 Rietkloof Wind Energy Project (EIA)
- G7 Brandvalley Powerlines (BA)
- G7 Rietkloof Powerlines (BA)
- Boschendal wine estate Hydro-electric schemes (BA, 24G and WULA)
- Mossel Bay Wind Energy Project (EIA)
- Mossel Bay Powerline (BA) 132kV interconnection
- Inyanda Farm Wind Energy (EIA)
- Middleton Wind Energy (EIA)
- Peddie Wind Energy (EIA)
- Cookhouse Wind Energy Project (EIA)

- 
- Haverfontein Wind Energy Project (EIA)
  - Plan 8 Wind Energy Project (EIA)
  - Brakkefontein Wind Energy Project (EIA)
  - Grassridge Wind Energy Project (EIA) (Coega)
  - St Lucia Wind Energy Project (EIA)
  - ACSA ECO CT (Lead ECO)
  - Enel Paleisheuwel Solar farm (Lead ECO)
  - NRA Caledon road upgrade ECO
  - Solar Capital DeAar Solar farm annual audits
  - Eskom Pinotage substation WUL offset compliance

## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Nicole Dealtry (née Wienand)</b>
<b>Name of Company</b>	Biodiversity Africa
<b>Designation</b>	Senior Botanist
<b>Professional Affiliations</b>	SACNASP Pri. Sci. Nat. Botany Reg No. 130289 IAIAsa Membership No. 6176 SAAB: Member of the South African Association of Botanists
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:nicole@biodiversityafrica.com">nicole@biodiversityafrica.com</a>
<b>Contact Number</b>	+27 (0)81 044 1925
<b>Education</b>	April 2018: Bachelor of Science (BSc) Botany and Geology December 2018: Bachelor of Science (BSc) Honours (Hons) Botany
<b>Nationality</b>	South African
<b>Key areas of expertise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Ecological Impact Assessments</li><li>➤ Botanical Micro-siting</li><li>➤ GIS Mapping</li></ul>

## PROFILE

Nicole (SACNASP Pri. Sci. Nat. Botany Reg No. 130289) is a Botanical Specialist with over 4 years' experience. Nicole obtained her BSc Honours in Botany (Environmental Management) from Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in December 2018. She also holds a BSc Degree in Environmental Management (Cum Laude) from NMU. Nicole has undertaken numerous Ecological Impact Assessments for a range of developments, including Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs), mines, powerlines, housing developments, roads, amongst others, ensuring that these specialist assessments are undertaken and prepared in accordance with the Protocols for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity (GN R. 320), Plant Species and Animal Species (GN R. 1150) whilst working closely with developers to ensure a development which is environmentally sustainable as well as financially and technically feasible. Nicole also has experience with conducting specialist assessments in other African countries, including Sierra Leone and Mozambique.

**EMPLOYMENT  
EXPERIENCE**

**Botanical Specialist, Biodiversity Africa**

*March 2023 – present*

- Botanical and Ecological Impact Assessments
- Alien Management Plans
- GIS Mapping

**Environmental Consultant and Botanical Specialist, Coastal and Environmental Services (CES)**

*07 January 2019 – February 2023*

- Ecological Impact Assessments
- Botanical Micro-siting
- GIS Mapping
- Basic Assessments
- Public Participation
- Environmental Auditing/Compliance Monitoring
- Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr)

**ACADEMIC  
QUALIFICATIONS**

**Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth**

BSc Honours Botany (Environmental Management)  
2018

**Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth**

BSc Environmental Sciences  
2015-2017

**CONSULTING  
EXPERIENCE**

***Basic Assessments***

- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed Duyker Island Prospecting Right, North West Province (Role: Assistant Report Writer).
- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed Fairview Sand Mine near Port Alfred, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Report Writer).
- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed Kareekrans Boerdery Agricultural Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Report Writer).
- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed Sitrusrand Dwarsleegte Farm Citrus Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Report Writer).
- Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the Proposed Private Jetty in Bushman's Estuary near Kenton-On-Sea, within the Eastern Cape Province (Role: Report Writer).

***Ecological Impact Assessments and Related Work***

- ZMY Steel Traders (Pty) Ltd., Steel Recycling Plant, Zone 5 of the Coega SEZ, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Ecological Specialist and Ecological Chapter Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Kareekrans Boerdery Agricultural Development near Kirkwood Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Sitrusrand Dwarsleegte Farm Citrus Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province – Ecological Impact Assessment and Report Writing (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Uitsig Boerdery Trust Citrus Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).

- Ground Truthing Survey for Aloe bowiea on Portion 2 of Farm 683 for the proposed Uitsig Boerdery Trust Citrus Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Mosselbankfontein Coastal Dune and Ecological Impact Assessment near Witsand, Western Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Mangrove Forest Survey for the Kenmare Biodiversity Management Plan, Topuito, Mozambique (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Refele Village Sports Facility, Mount Fletcher, Elundini Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa (Role: Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Hamburg Quarry Expansion, R72, Ngqushwa Local Municipality (Role: Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Opinion and Site Sensitivity Report for the proposed Woodlands Dairy 22kV Overhead Line near Humansdorp, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment Report for the proposed Edendale Quarry, R56, Matatiele Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed TWFT Piggery near Tsitsikamma, Koukama Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Oudtshoorn Cemetery Expansion, Oudtshoorn Local Municipality, Western Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Tyolomnqa River Estuary Situation Assessment (Role: Assistant Report Writer).
- Ecological Opinion Letter for the Proposed Umsobomvu Infrastructure Development, Eastern and Northern Cape Provinces (DEFF Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2040) (Role: Report Writer).
- Ecological Opinion Letter for the Proposed Coleskop Infrastructure Development, Eastern and Northern Cape Provinces (DEFF Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2039) (Role: Report Writer).
- Quinera Estuary Draft Situation Assessment Report (Role: Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Umoyilanga 132 kV Overhead Line in the Sundays River Valley Local Municipality and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Umoyilanga Ancillary Infrastructure near Uitenhage, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment Report for the proposed Marine Servitude Project, Zone 10, Coega SEZ, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Micro-siting Report for the proposed Umoyilanga 132 kV Overhead Line in the Sundays River Valley Local Municipality and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Micrositing Report for the Proposed Dassiesridge (Umoyilanga) Wind Energy Facility near Uitenhage, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and Sundays River Valley Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Screening Report for the Proposed Hlaziya 400-132 kV Powerline Project (the MTS Integration Project) from close to Jeffrey's Bay to Grassridge, near the Coega Sez, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Umsobomvu Substation, Concrete Tower Manufacturing Facilities and Temporary Laydown Area, situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province) (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).



- Botanical Micro-siting Report for the Eskom Infrastructure MTS situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Micro-siting Report for the Proposed Coleskop Wind Energy Facility situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province) (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Micro-siting Report for the Proposed Umsobomvu Wind Energy Facility situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province) (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Ganspan Pering 132 kV Overhead Line near Pampierstand, North West and Northern Cape Provinces (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Micro-Siting Investigation for the R342 Road Upgrade Between Paterson And Addo, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement for the proposed Stedin College, Walmer, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment Report for a proposed Hippo Enclosure on Glen Boyd Farm, Makana Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Senqu Rural Water Supply Scheme, Joe Gqabi District Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Environmental Management Site Specification for the Rehabilitation of Land within the Coastal Dune System Impacted by the Zone 10 Services Project, Coega SEZ, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Site Visit and Assistant Report Writer).
- Botanical Assessment Report for the proposed Agricultural Development on the Remainder of Erf 60845, Zone 1, East London Industrial Development Zone, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Botanical Impact Assessment for the proposed FG Gold Limited Baomahun Gold Project, Sierra Leone (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Biodiversity Management Plan for the proposed FG Gold Limited Baomahun Gold Project, Sierra Leone (Role: Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Baseline Assessment for the proposed Jeffreys Bay Eco-Estate, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Co-Author).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Mulilo Newcastle Wind Energy Facility, KwaZulu-Natal Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Assistant Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Ngxwabangu Wind Energy Facility and Grid Connection near Cofimvaba, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Umoyilanga Buffer Yard, Site Camp and Site Camp Access Road near Uitenhage, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality and Sundays River Valley Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province (Role: Botanical Specialist and Lead Report Writer).
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement for the proposed Reverse Osmosis Plant for the Matla Power Station near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province (Role: Lead Report Writer).
- Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Great Kei Ancillary Infrastructure located near Komga, Eastern Cape Province.

#### ***Environmental Auditing***

- Khayamnandi Extension on Erven 114, 609, 590 and 24337, Bethelsdorp, within the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality;

- Aberdeen Bulk Water Supply Phase 2, Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa;
- The Milkwoods Integrated Residential Development, Remainder Erf 1953, Victoria Drive, Walmer, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province;
- Fishwater Flats Wastewater Treatment Works Refurbishment, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province;
- The Refurbishment of the Kwanobuhle Wastewater Treatment Plant, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa; and
- Driftsands Sewer Collector Augmentation (Phase II), Within the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province.

#### ***Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Mapping***

- ZMY Steel Traders – Basic Assessment Report and Biophysical Mapping.
- Duyker Island – Prospecting Area Mapping & Biophysical Mapping.
- Fairview Sand Mine near Port Alfred, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- St Francis Coastal Protection Scheme – Kromme Estuary Functional Zone Mapping; Biophysical Mapping; and Sand Source Area Mapping.
- Kareekrans Boerdery Agricultural Development – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Sitrusrand Dwarsleegte Farm Citrus Development – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Marine Intake and Outfall Infrastructure Servitude Project, Zone 10, Coega SEZ, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Proposed Private Jetty in Bushman’s Estuary near Kenton-On-Sea, within the Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Proposed Woodlands Dairy 22kV Overhead Line near Humandsdorp, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Tyolomnqa River Estuary Situation Assessment – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Hamburg Quarry Expansion, R72, Ngqushwa Local Municipality – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Refele Village Sports Facility, Mount Fletcher, Elundini Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The proposed Woodlands Dairy 22kV Overhead Line near Humandsdorp, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Ecological Impact Assessment Report for the proposed Edendale Quarry, R56, Matatiele Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The proposed TWFT Piggery near Tsitsikamma, Koukama Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Tyolomnqa River Estuary Situation Assessment – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Quinera Estuary Draft Situation Assessment Report – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The Proposed Umoyilanga 132 kV Overhead Line in the Sundays River Valley Local Municipality and the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The Proposed Umoyilanga Ancillary Infrastructure near Uitenhage, Eastern Cape Province – Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Proposed Hlaziya 400-132 kV Powerline Project (the MTS Integration Project) from close to Jeffrey’s Bay to Grassridge, near the Coega Sez, Eastern Cape Province - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Proposed Umsobomvu Substation, Concrete Tower Manufacturing Facilities and Temporary Laydown Area, situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province) - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.

- Eskom Infrastructure MTS situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Botanical Micro-siting Investigation for the Proposed Umsobomvu Wind Energy Facility situated in the Umsobomvu Local Municipality (Northern Cape Province) and the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (Eastern Cape Province) - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- Proposed Ganspan Pering 132 kV Overhead Line near Pampierstand, North West and Northern Cape Provinces - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The proposed Agricultural Development on the Remainder of Erf 60845, Zone 1, East London Industrial Development Zone, Eastern Cape Province - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.
- The proposed Reverse Osmosis Plant for the Matla Power Station near Kriel, Mpumalanga Province - Biophysical and Layout Mapping.

***Public Participation process***

- Duyker Island Prospecting Right, North West Province St Francis Coastal Protection Scheme.
- Fairview Sand Mine near Port Alfred, Eastern Cape Province.
- Kareekrans Boerdery Agricultural Development near Kirkwood Eastern Cape Province,
- Proposed Coastal Protection Scheme, St Francis Bay, Kouga Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province; and
- Sitrusrand Dwarsleegte Farm Citrus Development near Kirkwood, Eastern Cape Province.
- Marine Intake and Outfall Infrastructure Servitude Project, Zone 10, Coega SEZ, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa.
- Proposed Hlaziya 400-132 kV Powerline Project (the MTS Integration Project) from close to Jeffrey's Bay to Grassridge, near the Coega Sez, Eastern Cape Province.

***Social Auditing***

- Malawi Millennium Development Trust – Resettlement Action Plan Implementation Auditing.