

**SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS
REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE
ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY**

EIA Reference number: TBC

Project name: Diepwalle Tented Camps

Project title: Diepwalle Tented Camps

Date screening report generated: 01/06/2022 10:03:00

Applicant: CHIEFS TENTED CAMPS

Compiler: CAPE EAPrac

Compiler signature:
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Application Category: Transformation of land | Indigenous vegetation

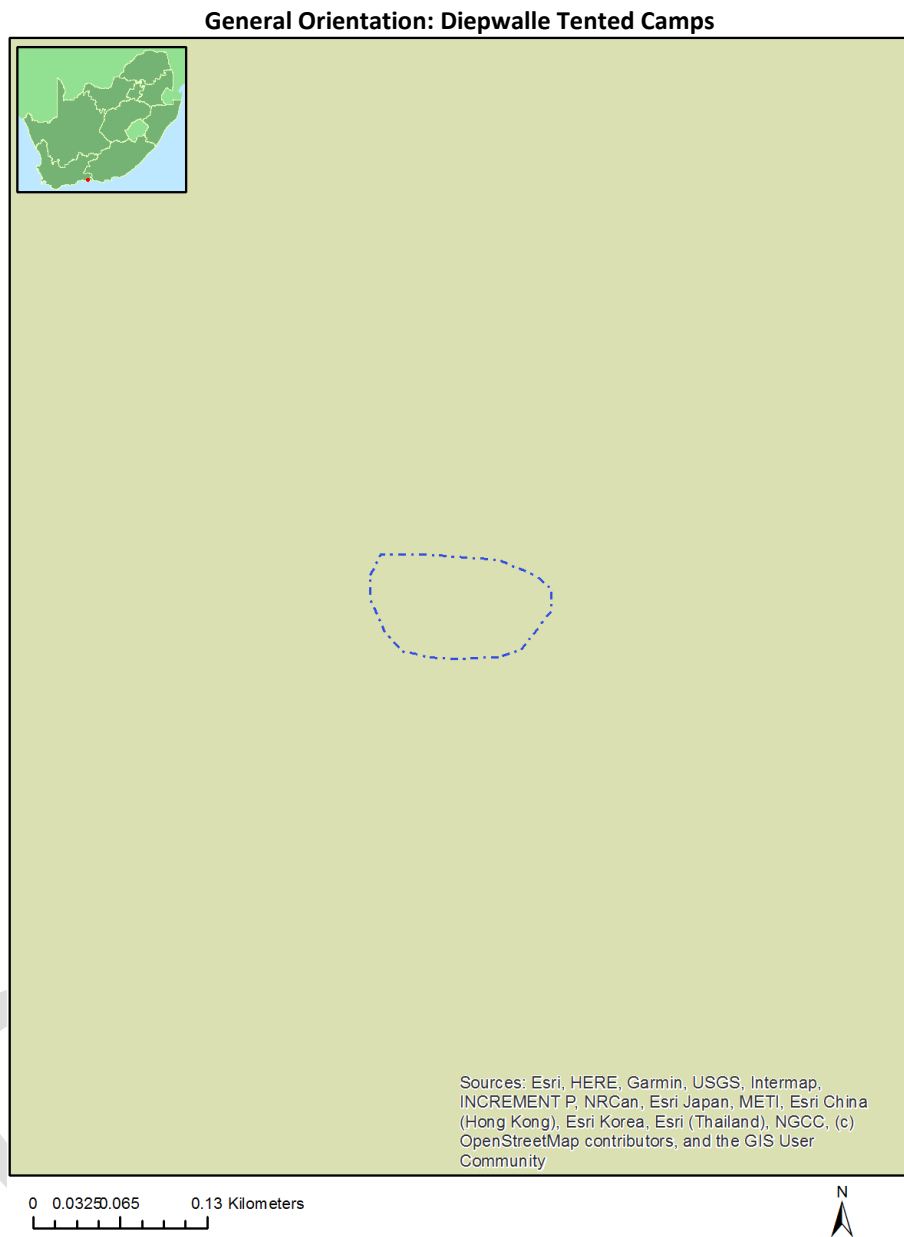


Table of Contents

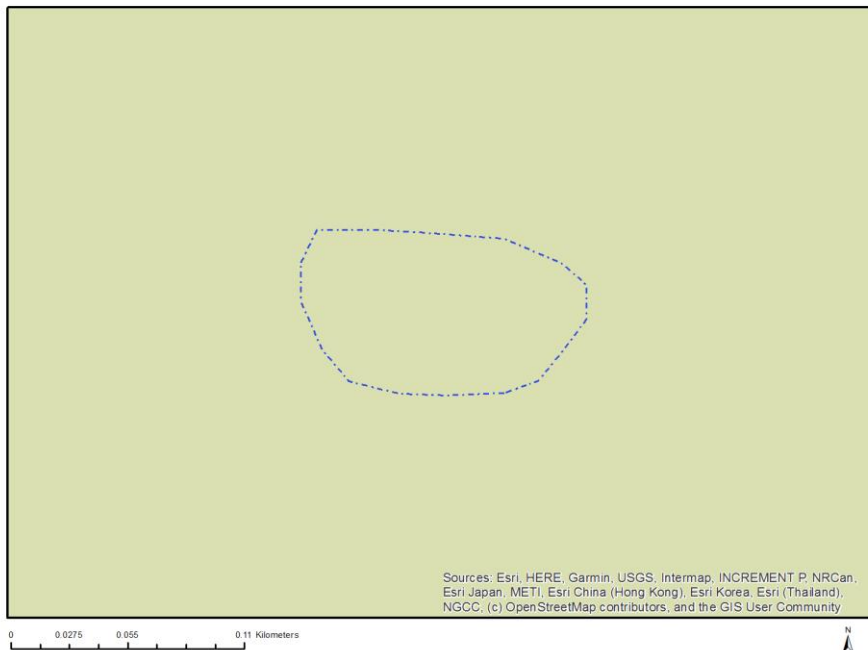
- Proposed Project Location 3
 - Orientation map 1: General location 3
- Map of proposed site and relevant area(s) 4
 - Cadastral details of the proposed site 4
 - Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area 4
 - Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application 4
- Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes 5
 - Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions 5
- Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones 6
 - Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity 6
 - Specialist assessments identified 7
- Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area 9
 - MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY 9
 - MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY 10
 - MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY 11
 - MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY 12
 - MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY 13
 - MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY 14
 - MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY 15
 - MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY 16
 - MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY 17

Proposed Project Location

Orientation map 1: General location



Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



Cadastral details of the proposed site

Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1		218	0	33°57'22.2S	23°9'48.35E	Farm
2		218	0	33°57'16.37S	23°9'47.87E	Farm Portion

Development footprint¹ vertices:
No development footprint(s) specified.

Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No nearby wind or solar developments found.

Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application

No intersections with EMF areas found.

¹ "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and includes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is:

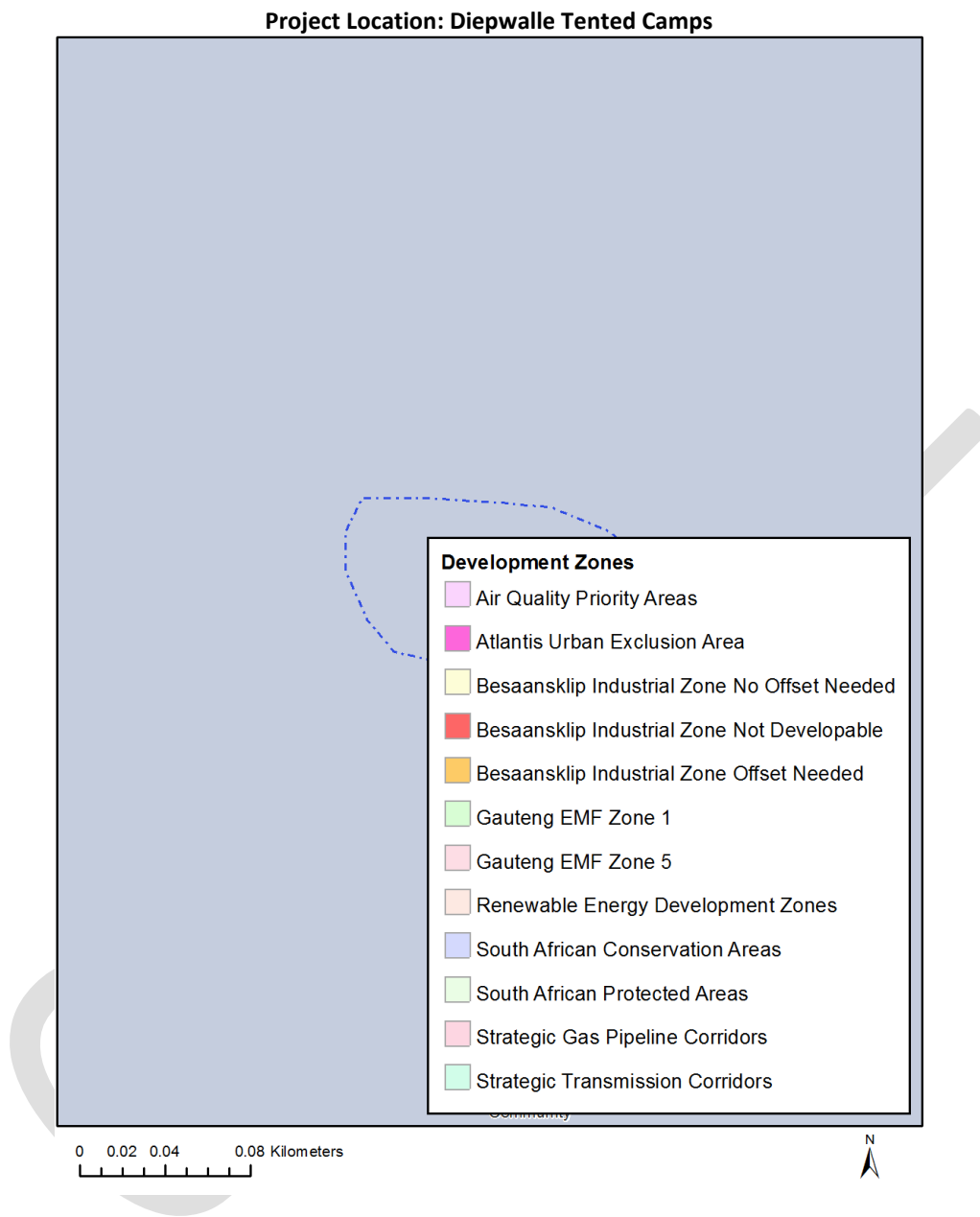
Transformation of land | Indigenous vegetation.

Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incentive, restriction or prohibition	Implication
South African Protected Areas	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/SAPAD_OR_2021_Q4_Metadata.pdf
South African Conservation Areas	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/SACAD_OR_2021_Q4_Metadata.pdf

Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones



Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme			X	
Animal Species Theme		X		

Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme				X
Defence Theme				X
Paleontology Theme				X
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the environmental sensitivities of the proposed development footprint, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

N o	Specialist assessment	Assessment Protocol
1	Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
2	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
3	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
4	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Terrestrial_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
5	Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Aquatic_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
6	Socio-Economic Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
7	Plant Species	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf

	Assessment	/Gazetted Plant Species Assessment Protocols.pdf
8	Animal Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protocols.pdf

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Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY

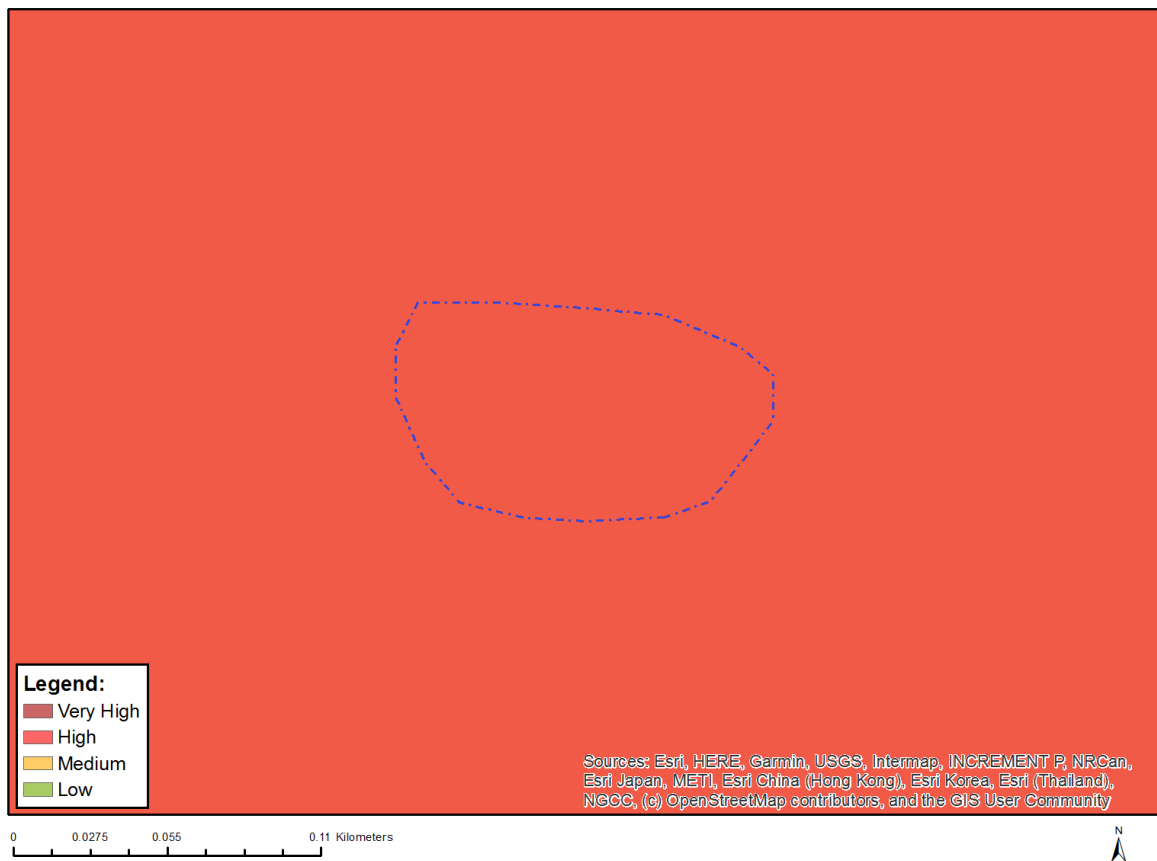


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Land capability;01. Very low/02. Very low/03. Low-Very low/04. Low-Very low/05. Low
Medium	Land capability;06. Low-Moderate/07. Low-Moderate/08. Moderate

MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



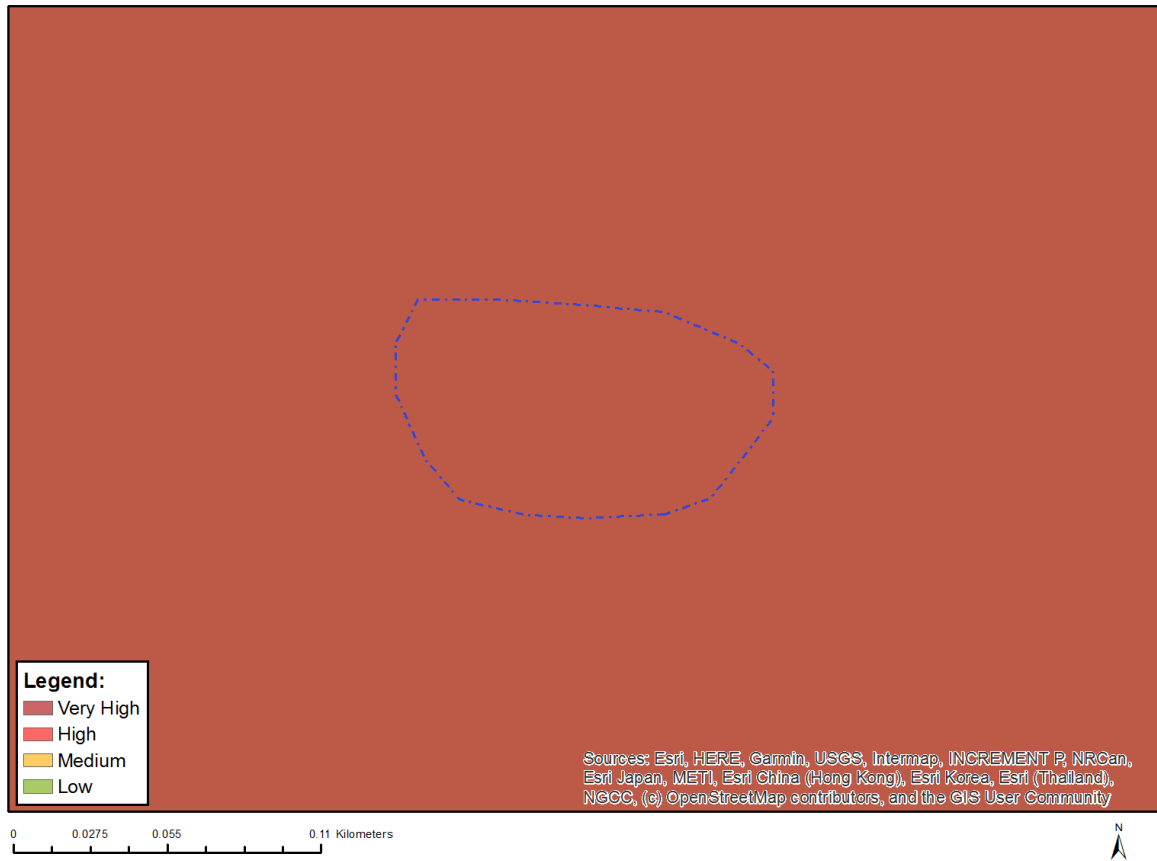
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
	X		

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Aves-Bradypterus sylvaticus
Medium	Amphibia-Afrixalus knysnae
Medium	Aves-Circus maurus
Medium	Aves-Stephanoaetus coronatus
Medium	Mammalia-Chlorotalpa duthieae
Medium	Sensitive species 8
Medium	Invertebrate-Forest invertebrate
Medium	Invertebrate-Aneuryphymus montanus

MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY

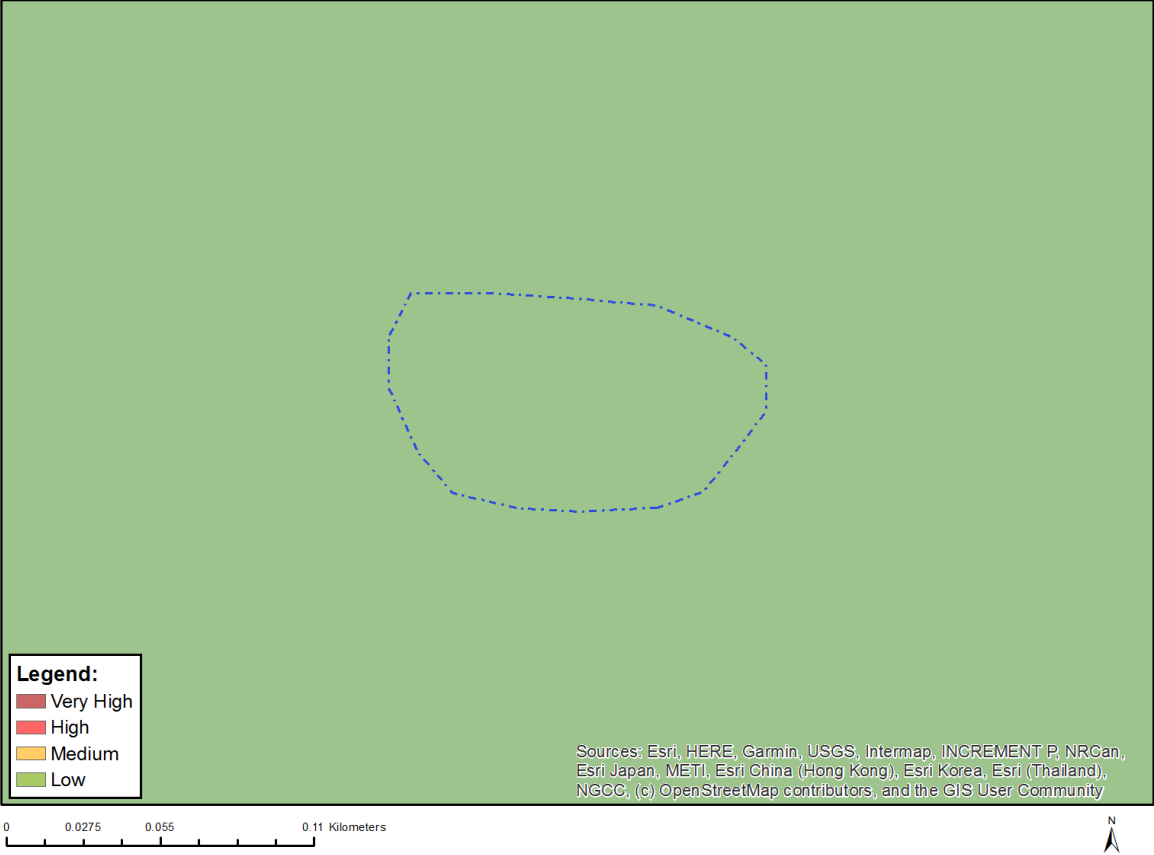


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Strategic water source area
Very High	Freshwater ecosystem priority area quinary catchments

MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY

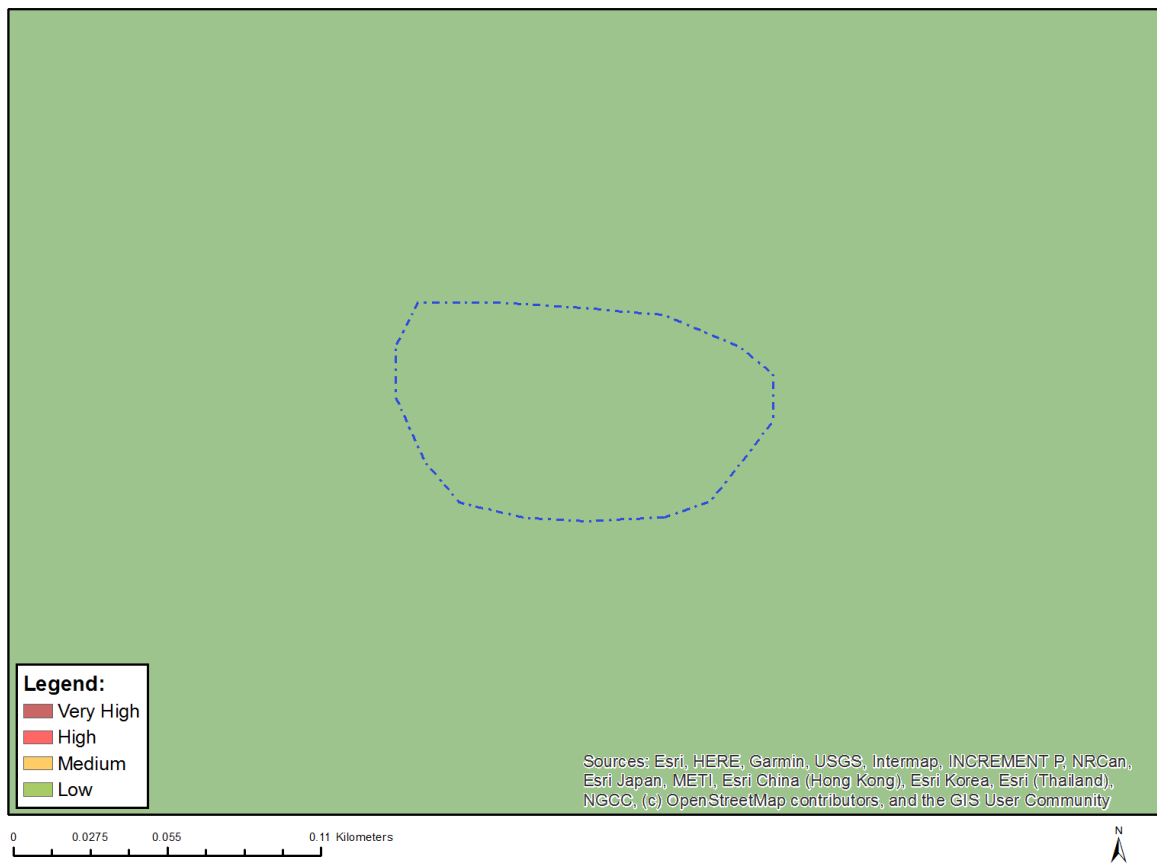


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY

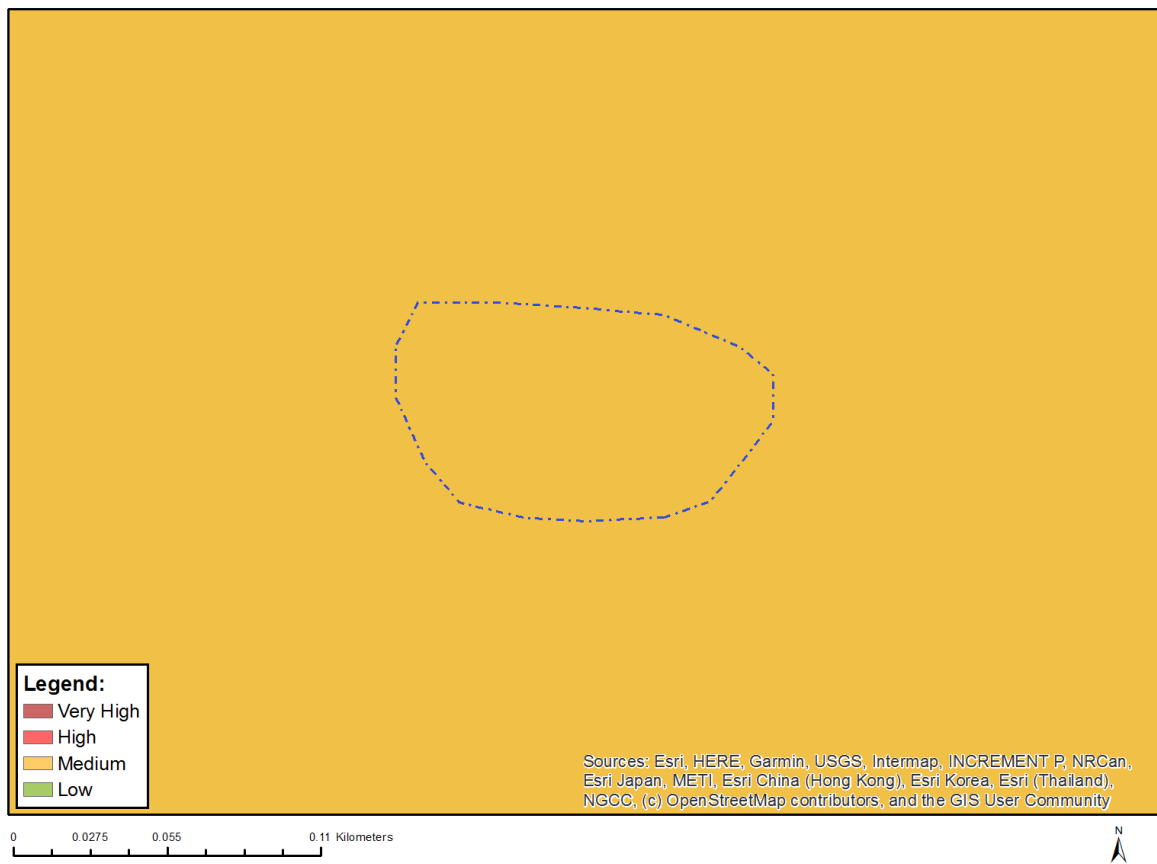


Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			X

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Features with a Low paleontological sensitivity

MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



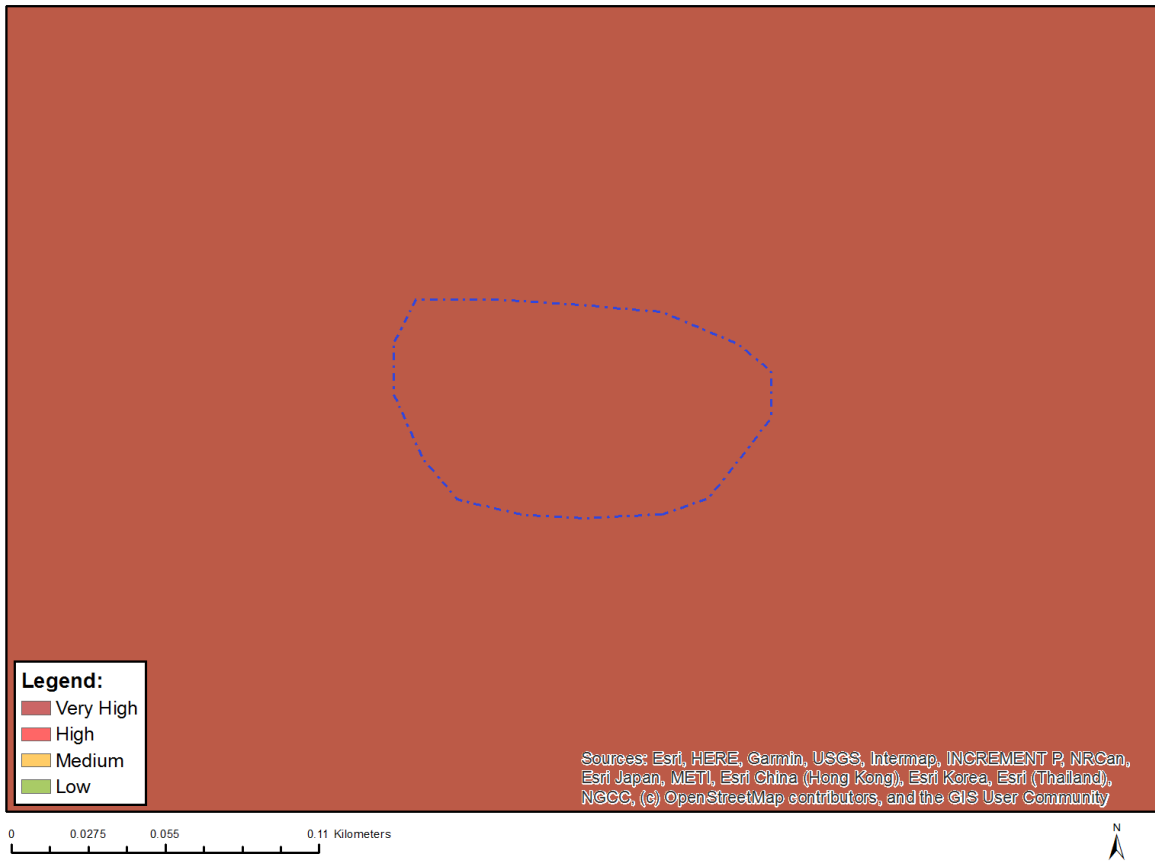
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		X	

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Faurea macnaughtonii
Medium	Ocotea bullata
Medium	Amauropelta knysnaensis
Medium	Psyrax capensis
Medium	Sensitive species 763

MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity Features:

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	FEPA Subcatchments
Very High	National Forestry Inventory
Very High	Strategic Water Source Areas
Very High	Garden Route National Park



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31 August 2023

Our Ref: KNY650/03

DFFE Ref: 2023-01-0024 (Pre-Application)

RE: SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION REPORT FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR DIEPWALLE TENTED CAMP, IN RE/218 FARM DIEP WALL, KNYSNA, GARDEN ROUTE NATIONAL PARK

On 20 March 2020 the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environmental published the general requirements for undertaking site sensitivity verification for environmental themes for activities requiring environmental authorisation (Government Gazette No. 43110). In terms of these requirements, prior to commencing with a specialist assessment, the current land use and environmental sensitivity of the site under consideration by the screening tool must be confirmed by undertaking a site sensitivity verification.

The report uses national datasets to identify site sensitivities and potential specialist studies that may be required for any particular development. Since the datasets are not necessarily ground-truthed, there may be instances where the required specialist study is in actual fact not necessary.

Prior to commencing with a specialist assessment, the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity of the site under consideration identified by the screening tool must be confirmed by the undertaking a **site sensitivity verification**. According to the Assessment Protocol for specialist involvement, if any part of the proposed development falls within an area of "high" or "very high" sensitivity, the requirements prescribed for such sensitivity must be followed.

According to the Screening Tool Report generated on **01 June 2022**, the following summary of the development environmental sensitivities was identified. The environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

BACKGROUND & PROPOSAL:

The Basic Assessment Environmental Application process to be undertaken for the development proposal seeks to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the proposed facility activity and a layout within the assessed activity 'envelope' of approximately 1 hectare in size. The preferred layout will be guided by the findings of the various specialist assessments and logistical / operational requirements of the activity.

EXISTING SITE CONDITION / STATUS:

A site visits were conducted on 31 May 2021, 31 August 2022 & again on 28 August 2023, in the company of SANParks and other parties.



Fig.1: View south-east across existing clearing.



Fig.2: View south-west across clearing.

Note *Helichrysum sp.*, Bramble and ferns in clearing, within scattered trees & Forest along periphery.



Fig.3: View west along existing access track to site.



Fig.4: View SW in centre of site clearing.



Fig.5 & 6: Artificial pond located on western extent of site with Forest – to be avoided.



Fig.7: Existing slip-path through Forest.



Fig.8: View south at proposed entrance & Communal Deck site.

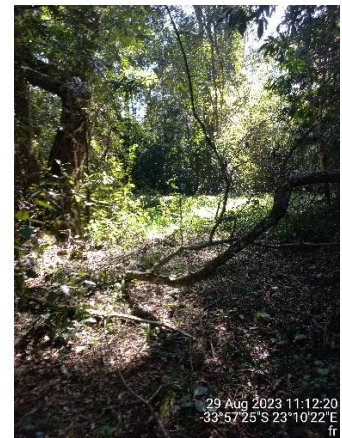


Fig.9, 10 & 11: Existing ‘openings’ in Forest trees – proposed sites for guest tent platforms.

SCREENING TOOL & APLICABILITY OF SPECIALIST STUDIES

According to the Screening Tool, the following themes were identified as sensitive: **Animal Species, Aquatic Biodiversity and Terrestrial Biodiversity.**

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme			X	
Animal Species Theme		X		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme				X
Defence Theme				X
Paleontology Theme				X
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

Below is confirmation of site sensitivity in relation to the sensitivity themes identified above.

The necessity for the following specialist studies is **refuted** and thus they will not be undertaken:

- 1. Agriculture – Medium sensitivity** due to land capacity Low to Moderate. The property is zoned for Conservation Use as part a registered Protected Area / National Park, outside the Urban Edge of Knysna. This conservation environment is not available for / consistent with agricultural activities i.e. Act 70 of 70 does not apply to this application, nor is there potential / capacity for agricultural activities within this protected area context. There are no reasonable grounds for

undertaking of an agricultural specialist study to affirm the status quo. The EAP submits that this theme is not applicable to this application. The Department of Agriculture will however be approached for confirmation.

The land capability layer as used in the Screening Tool does has to take into account **high value agricultural land** that can be preserved for **continued agricultural production** thus ensuring long term national food security. As this does not take into account the fact that this site is in a proclaimed protected area, where agricultural activities are not undertaken, this property does not qualify in this respect.

Layer Information

Title

Land Capability (DAFF 2016)

Description

The Land Capability (2016) represents the distribution of the land capability evaluation values in the country, used as one of the input data layers to determine and demarcate all high value agricultural land for ensuring that these areas, pending availability, are preserved for continued agricultural production, thereby ensuring long-term national food security. The data layer is a seamless data layer and does not exclude permanently transformed areas (built up; waterbodies; mining etc.)

Land capability is defined as the most intensive long-term use of land for purposes of rainfed farming determined by the interaction of climate, soil and terrain. Land capability should not be seen as a substitute for the interpretation designed to show land suitability or agricultural potential.

The approach to the refinement of the 2016 Land capability data layer was based on a spatial modelling exercise and verified through actual in-field verification processes and local level soil assessment data.

The Land capability evaluation 2016 data layer is a refined and updated spatial modelled data layer depicting the land capability evaluation values for the country. The main contributing factors towards land capability in a “natural or unimproved “rainfed (dryland) scenario, were the soil, climate and terrain capabilities with a weighted reference of:

Soil capability = 30%; Climate capability = (40%) and Terrain capability = (30%).

Source

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)

Type

Raster Layer

2. Civil Aviation – *Low sensitivity*

The proposed development is to be positioned at ground-level and on low wooden decks below the existing Forest canopy and will not exceed any of the Civil Aviation Regulations in terms of height **and does not pose any obstacle collision / potential hazard threat to air traffic** as set out by the CAA, i.e:

- Buildings or other objects which will constitute an obstruction or potential hazard to aircraft moving in the navigable air space in the vicinity of an aerodrome, or navigation aid, or which will adversely affect the performance of the radio navigation or instrument lading systems,
- There are no buildings or objects higher than 45 metres above the mean level of the landing area;
- No building, structure or object which projects above a slope of 1 in 20 and which is within 3000 metres measured from the nearest point on the boundary of an aerodrome;
- No building, structure or other object which will project above the approach, transitional or horizontal surfaces of an aerodrome.

The EAP submits that this theme is not applicable to this application.

3. Defence – *Low sensitivity*.

The development will pose no threat to military or defence forces of South Africa. The site is not situated near any military facilities. There are no reasonable grounds to conduct any specialists studies to affirm this and further consultation with Department of Defence is not necessary. The EAP submits that this theme is not applicable to this application.

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

Given the ecological sensitivity of the site within a protected area, the following specialist input will be sought.

- **Heritage Applicability / NID** – Although the screening tool identified the Archaeological, Cultural Heritage & Palaeontological themes as ***Low sensitivity***, the site is located within a national protected area and has history of use dating back to the 1800s. Therefore a Heritage NID will be undertaken considering including Archaeological, Palaeontological & Cultural Heritage aspects.
- **Aquatic Impact Assessment** – Given screening tool has identified this theme as ***very high***, there is an existing 'pond' / water feature to the west of site, and the site is within a Strategic Water Source Area & Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area.

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Strategic water source area
Very High	Freshwater ecosystem priority area quinary catchments

- **Botanical Impact Assessment** - Given screening tool has identified the Terrestrial Biodiversity theme as ***very high*** and Plant Species theme as ***Medium sensitivity***, and the site is located within Protected Area, with a number of protected & vulnerable plant species noted.

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Faurea macnaughtonii
Medium	Ocotea bullata
Medium	Amauropelta knysnaensis
Medium	Psydrax capensis
Medium	Sensitive species 763

- **Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment** - Given screening tool has identified the Terrestrial Biodiversity theme as ***Very high sensitivity*** and the site is located within Protected Area, Strategic Water Source Area, National Forestry area & NFEPA.

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	FEPA Subcatchments
Very High	National Forestry Inventory
Very High	Strategic Water Source Areas
Very High	Garden Route National Park

- **Fauna Impact Assessment** - Given screening tool has identified the Animal Species theme as ***High sensitivity*** and the site is located within Protected Area, with a number of vulnerable animal species noted.

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Aves-Bradypterus sylvaticus
Medium	Amphibia-Afrixalus knysnae
Medium	Aves-Circus maurus
Medium	Aves-Stephanoaetus coronatus
Medium	Mammalia-Chlorotalpa duthieae
Medium	Sensitive species 8
Medium	Invertebrate-Forest invertebrate
Medium	Invertebrate-Aneuryphymus montanus

Please feel free to contact this office should you require any further information.

Kind regards,

Louise-Mari van Zyl



For Cape EAPrac

044 874 0365