



KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

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TITLE:	SITE SELECTION AND ASSESSMENT METHDOLOGY			
TYPE:	Mobile Tented Safari Facilities			
Implementation Date			Revision Status	1
Date Generated	26-Feb-19			
Relevant Procedure:				
	Review	Annually	Resp.	J Greyvensteyn
Introduction and Background				
<p>SANParks, as part of its Strategic Plan for Commercialisation, identified the tourism PPP opportunity for seasonal Mobile Tented Safari Facilities in the Kruger National Park. The product is to be operated over the winter period, from May to September for a period of 7 years. The size of the facilities will be a maximum of 60 guest beds, with the maximum number of beds including staff limited to <80 beds. Potential sites for the product were identified in the Central and Northern Regions of the Kruger National Park. Using the site selection criteria listed below, a team identified and assessed potential sights suitable for the facilities.</p> <p>The successful bidder for the product will be required to obtain environmental authorisation for the site, and compile an Environmental Management Plan for the duration of the product. During this process, an audit checklist must be compiled to ensure environmental compliance. An audit will take place during set-up, twice during operation and after removal of the facilities on an annual basis.</p>				
Site Selection Criteria				
<p>The Table below indicates the criteria to be used during site selection as well as a description and relevant significance rating for each criterion. Each criterion is assigned various "scores" from 1 to 4 with 4 being the most sensitive. <u>The lower the score the more suitable the site is for the proposed campsite.</u> Criteria were grouped into 3 categories: General, Tourism, and Bio-physical criteria. The score for each criterion is multiplied by a weighting factor (1-5) of importance to give the rating. Each category is sub-totalled, and the scoresheet totalled. The maximum total score obtainable is 440. A site is considered unacceptable should any criterion be scored a NO GO, or if the total score for a site exceeds 330 (i.e., the site scores <75%).</p>				
Description of assessment criteria	Score (Sensitivity)			
	1 – Low	2 - Medium	3 - High	4 – Extremely / NO GO
No-Go and/or Limiting Criteria				
Surface Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crowding at waterhole • Site not dependant on the successful operation of a waterhole 	Dry area.	Drainage problems.	Within 1:50 floodline or within 100m.	Site dependant on artificial water source. Excessive crowding of activities at a waterhole.
Visual Aspects: Tourists are entitled to a "rustic" experience, and a view of any other human infrastructure or lights will spoil such an experience.	No visible lights, facilities or infrastructure.	Light pollution only at night, and at a distance from the camp site.	Visible infrastructure, facilities or lights from elevated positions around campsite and at night.	Vehicles, infrastructure Lights or facilities visible from the campsite.

Noise: Noise will spoil the tourism experience	Low level noise events on site	Occasional low level noise events	Infrequent level of noise per night	Infrequent low level of noise per night
Water availability and quality: Availability of good quality of water sources	Water will be carried from the reliable source	This is a No-Go criteria, no variable sensitivity is demarcated. If these criteria is not met the site is considered to be not suitable.		
Provision of water to the site: Distance water needs to be transported	< 5 km	5 km – 10 km	10 km – 20 km	> 20 km
Proximity to facilities: No campsite is permitted too close to existing facilities nor new developments are allowed.	Campsite will be located at least more than 5km from existing facilities to avoid impacts from existing facilities	This is a No-Go criteria, no variable sensitivity is demarcated. If these criteria are not met the site is considered to be not suitable. Camp site to be located within a distance of >5km from the existing facilities.		
Proximity from existing access roads:	Campsite will be located less than 2km from existing roads	Campsite will be located less than 2-5km from existing roads	Campsite will be located less than 5-10km from existing roads	Campsite will be located further than 10km from existing roads
Access to the site:	Easy access on stable soils.	Rough terrain but stable or not sensitive soils.	Deep sands and some unstable soils.	River crossings and sensitive soils such as clay soils predominate.
Existing access to site:				
Zoning Plan: All campsites are to be located within the Primitive, LiL or HiL zones	Campsite located in the primitive, LiL or HiL zone	This is a No-Go criteria, no variable sensitivity is demarcated. If this criteria is not met the site is considered to be not suitable.		
Tourism criteria (Adapted from Robford Tourism's Tourist Product Site Assessment Model)				
Sense of place: "Sense of place" describes the overall impact that the site has on all your senses on arrival and includes such aspects as the remoteness and wilderness qualities View from site and presence of Natural Features	Is a WOW site, fantastic sense of place with more than 5 good natural features and a wow view.	OK sense of place, good views and some wilderness and remote features on site	Limited views and average features that complements the wilderness and remote qualities and sense of place.	No sense of place.
Shade and Shadows – Winter: Sites located in shade and shadows take a long time to warm during winter, resulting in visitor discomfort and potential maintenance problems.	Site will not be affected negatively by winter shadows from natural features or trees	Site will be cold from winter shadows during the worse part of winter	Site will be cold for most of the winter.	Site will be extremely cold for most parts of the winter.
Wind – Strong winds: Strong winds are unpleasant, particularly over long periods of time.	Site is sheltered from all unpleasant prevailing winds from all directions	Site is generally sheltered but may be buffeted by occasional strong winds during storms	Site is not sheltered and considered windy	Site is completely exposed to all strong winds.

Wind - Cooling breezes: Gentle breezes provide a pleasant cooling effect in hot and humid environments.	Cooling breezes throughout hot and humid periods	Some breezes throughout most of the hot and humid periods	Some cooling breezes on the odd occasion	Completely sheltered from cooling breezes.
Lightning susceptibility: How susceptible is the site to lightning strikes.	No risk	Little risk	Prone to strikes	Very high risk of strikes
External night lights External effect of man made lights that negatively affect the wilderness experience.	None	Infrequent vehicle lights only	Limited night lights visible from remote camps or villages	Moderate night light impacts
Walking ability from the site:	Free walking into wilderness areas in all directions.	Walking into 3 directions only. Some area needs access by vehicle	Walking in 2 directions only. Half the walking areas needs vehicle access	Walking in 1 directions only. Most of the walking areas needs vehicle access
Bad Odour: Bad odours will negatively affect the tourism experience and should be avoided.	None	Once per year	More than once per year	Bad odour all the time.
Seasonal Accessibility	Accessible throughout period for tented camp	Not accessible for one day throughout period for tented camp	Not accessible for 2 days throughout period for tented camp	Not accessible for more than 2 days throughout period for tented camp
Bio-Physical Criteria				
Geology: Site geology will affect such aspects as erosion. Attention must be given to geology in areas known to have sensitive geologies and soils.	Granite/Basalt	Riolite	Gabbro	Ecce-shales
Soils: Incorrect site selection will result in soil erosion. Sites in areas of known sensitive soils should be placed with care.	Deep, well weathered soils, good drainage.	Sandy and rocky soils.	Eroded soils.	Clay soils, riverbank soils, and Sodic soils Bad drainage.
Hydrology: Sites may not be placed in areas of known sensitive wetland vegetation, or too close to rivers and streams.	> 50m	50m – 30m	30m –10m	< 10m or within the 1:50 year floodline.
Vegetation characteristics Degree of manipulation	No manipulation	Slight manipulation	Manipulated	Extensively manipulated
Topography: Camp sites may be a visual pollution if located on areas of local topographic highs. Sites located in Valleys may also be susceptible to flooding or affecting sensitive soils.	Flat area	Slopes exceeding 15°.	Slopes exceeding 30°.	Crest / watershed and Valleys
Animal utilization: Degree of animal utilization required for development or activity to be stipulated	Concentration of animals, without any sensitive habitats or other human activity nearby.	High level of grazing.	Migration routes.	Breeding site / roost, game paths.
Rare species:				Rare and localised on site.

<p>A red data scan should be undertaken to ensure that the site does not impact on known rare or endangered species.</p>	<p>Low numbers but widely spread.</p>	<p>Localised but not confined to the site.</p>	<p>Only occurring on limited numbers of sites.</p>	
<p>Heritage:</p> <p>As impacts to archaeological and cultural historical sites are usually permanent, care must be taken to confirm that none of the aforementioned are present on site.</p>	<p>No Archaeological or Cultural Historical Sites present on site, or known to occur with 5km of the site.</p>	<p>Archaeological and Cultural Historical Sites known to occur within a 5km radius of the site, no evidence found at the site.</p>	<p>Archaeological or cultural historical sites located within 1km of the site.</p> <p>Sites that are visited by locals within a 1km radius.</p>	<p>Sites greater than 50 years old, that have Ritual or Social value found within 500m of the site.</p>
<p>Compatibility with existing activities:</p> <p>The product needs to be compatible with existing activities such as day walks and concessions. Each campsite needs a 100km² area to be utilised for day walks.</p>	<p>Ability to walk into existing wilderness walking areas</p>	<p>Ability to walk into existing wilderness walking areas nearby</p>	<p>Limited ability to walk into existing wilderness walking areas</p>	<p>No ability to walk into existing wilderness walking areas unless driving into it.</p>