Cape EAPrac

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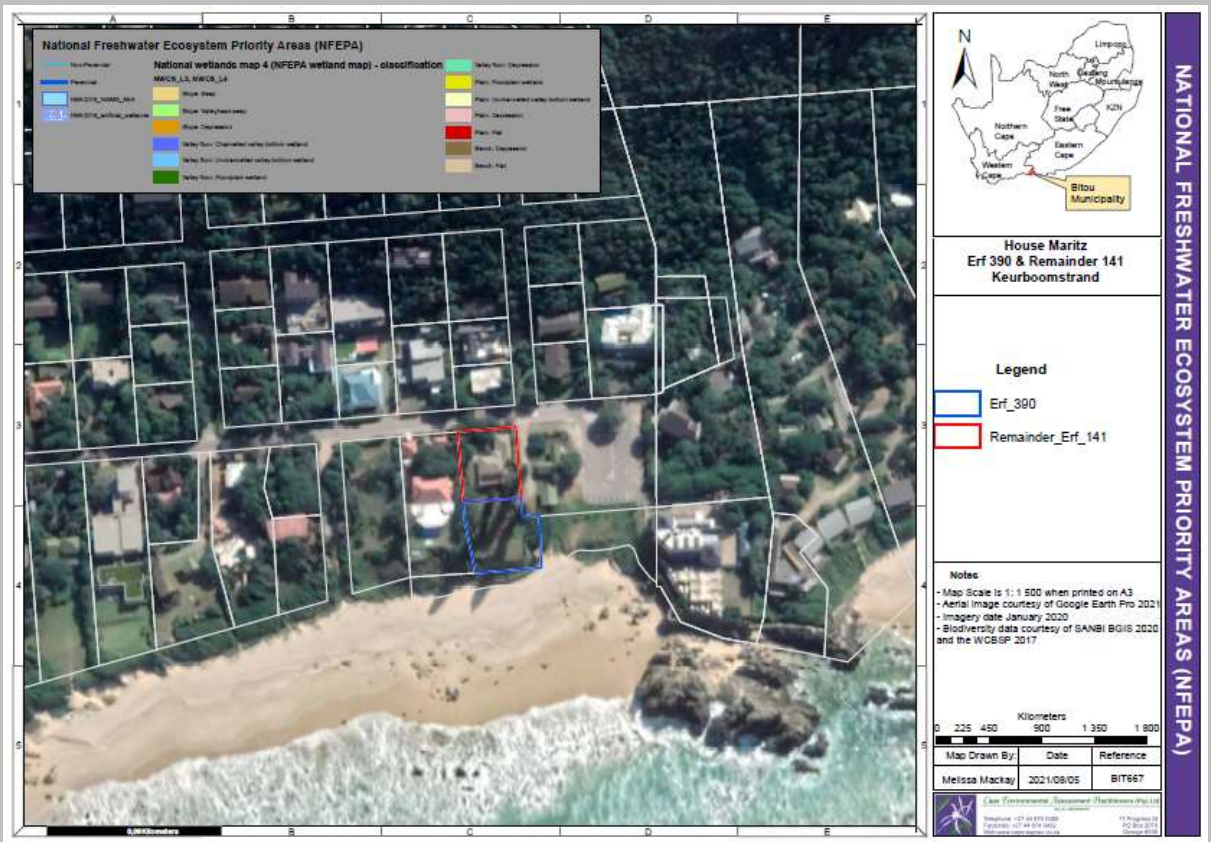
RE: ADDENDUM TO SITE VERIFICATION REPORT FOR ERF 390 & REMAINDER 141 KEURBOOMSTRAND, BITOU MUNICIPALITY

The following information was submitted as part of the Site Verification Report for the above-mentioned application in which the EAP concluded that the site is not sensitive from an aquatic perspective despite the Screening Tool indication showing a LOW sensitivity rating.

Aquatic Biodiversity (Low Sensitivity)

The screening tool identified the aquatic biodiversity theme as "low". There are no watercourses nor wetlands on the property. This was verified on site.



Following the Department's response to the Site Verification Report requesting an Aquatic Compliance Statement, this addendum is submitted to further substantiate and support the EAPs original findings as per the site verification report.

FURTHER MOTIVATION & EVIDENCE:

The site is transformed, consisting of lawn and landscaped gardens that is found throughout the established township area. The following photographs (some also reflected in the Site Verification Report) are submitted as further evidence of the site condition in which it can be seen that there are no aquatic features that may require further specialist investigation or reporting.

The site is mostly fenced by a constructed boundary wall with foundations. The garden consist of lawn and planted beds.

Figure 1: Northern boundary of the garden area between the house and the street, consisting of landscaped plant beds along the verges and lawn on the remainder.

Figure 2: Middle section of the site showing the front of the house and western boundary located behind the trees. The area is transformed with no evidence of any aquatic features.

Figure 3: Middle section of the site facing directly to the west with lawn and landscaped trees. No evidence of any aquatic features on this property.

Figure 4: Site photograph facing to the north-eastern boundary showing the eastern boundary wall on the right side of the photograph. Evidence of landscaped plant beds and lawn with no aquatic features.

Figure 5: Southern view of the lawned area with the ocean in the background. Landscaped slope and lawn. No evidence of freshwater aquatic features.

The NFEPA map, as included in the original Site Verification Report, serves as further evidence confirming that there are no valley head seeps, slope depressions, channeled valley-bottom wetland, flood plain wetland, valley floor depression, plain floodplain wetland, plain unchannelled valley-bottom wetland, plain depression plain flat, bench depressions or bench flats.

The EAP further noted that there are no perennial or non-perennial watercourses or artificial wetlands on, or in proximity to the site as affirmed through further evidence.

The site forms part of an existing township area that has been transformed by urban development with formal stormwater management in place that collects and dissipates all runoff.

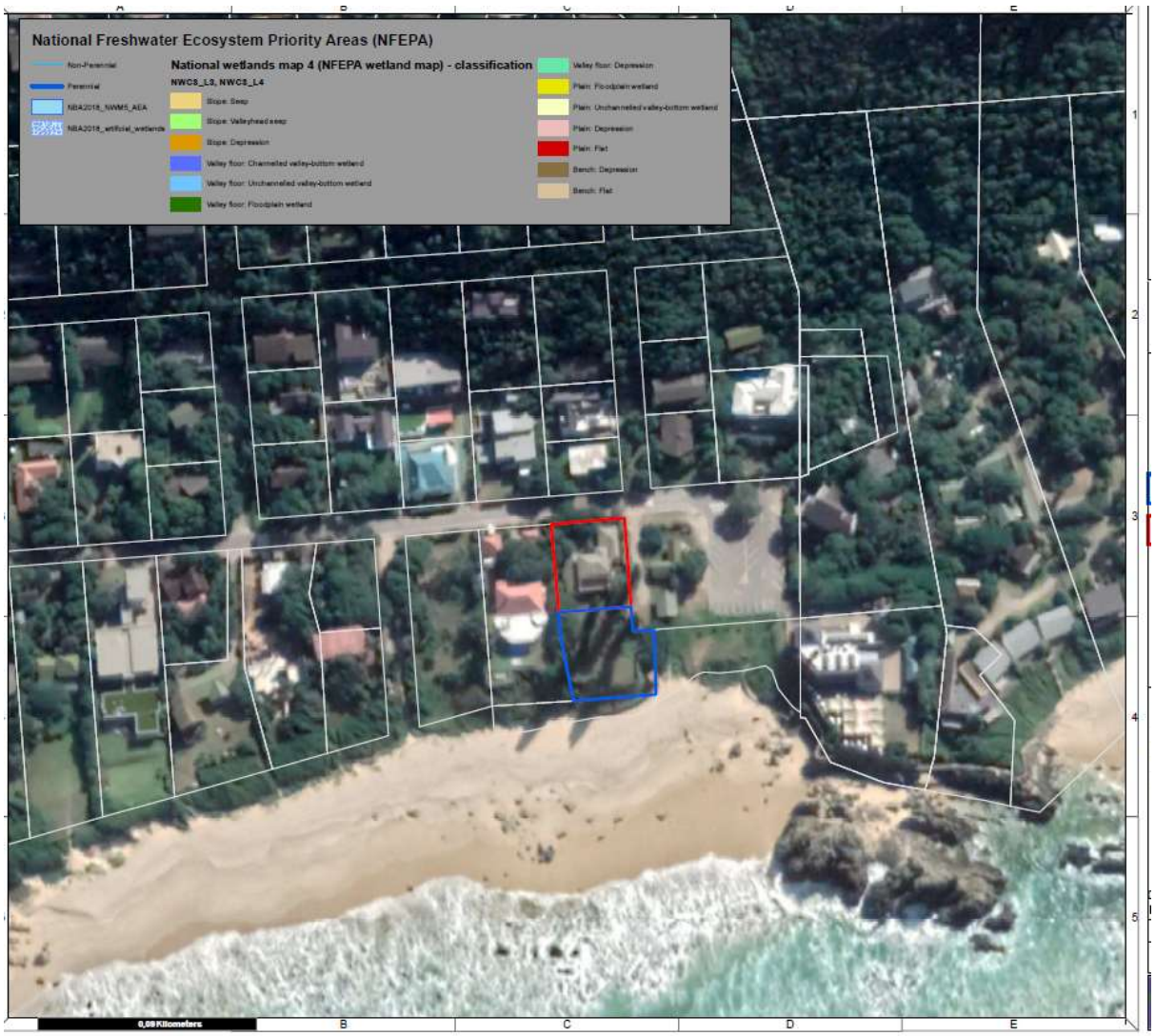


Figure 6: NFEPA image showing site with no indication of any aquatic features on, or within proximity to the site.

Considering the slope of the site being very even, the 5m contour map supports the finding of the EAP with no depressions on, or within the site that could potentially indicate watercourses or areas where surface water may collect.

Figure 7: 5m Contours indicating very even slope with no depressions.

In summary, we hereby submit that the conclusion arrived at by the EAP, in the original Site Verification Report for this application, does not differ from the further evidence supplied with this addendum. Other than the site photographs, the information about the site is accessible via Cape Farm Mapper that is a very helpful and detailed tool to assist with site verifications to both the EAP and the competent authority. The datasets from this source must be considered alongside the findings of the Screening Tool, as the latter is not the (only) determining factor when compiling Site Verification Reports.

We conclude that the Screening Tool already identifies the site as having LOW sensitivity and having inspected the site, Ms MacKay as the EAP, confirmed that there is no aquatic feature on, or in proximity to the site, that would justify the need for further specialist input.