MAREETSANE BATHO-BATHO SOLAR PV FACILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

SEF Reference No. 504744

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
ICAS	Informal Conservation Areas System
NBA	National Biodiversity Assessment
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEMBA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004)
NFEPA	National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Areas
NPAES	National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy
NWA	National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)
POSA	Plants of Southern Africa
QDGC	Quarter Degree Grid Cell
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANParks	South African National Parks
SAFAP	South African Frog Atlas Project
SARCA	South African Reptile Conservation Assessment
S&EIR	Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting
TOPS	Threatened or Protected Species
WESSA	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa
WULA	Water Use License Application

1. INTRODUCTION

Strategic Environmental Focus (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Kgatelopele Private Equity and Venture Capital (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Feasibility Study for the proposed 30MW Mareetsane Batho-Batho Solar PV Facility.

This report highlights the ecological sensitivity and biodiversity risks within a 16km buffer around the proposed development site (i.e. the study area). A larger study area was selected in order to include areas that may be impacted on by associated infrastructure, such as powerlines connecting the proposed PV Facility to the nearest Eskom Substation.

Historically, planning of developments did not include the natural environment, which consequently led to the wasteful exploitation and destruction of sensitive habitats, all of which could have been avoided or mitigated through responsible environmental management measures. In recent years, the South African legislation has enforced strict environmental controls, and now requires that an environmental process (e.g. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)) and evaluation be undertaken prior to the approval of developments. This ensures that future developments are planned in a way that optimises the use of natural resources, and avoids environmentally sensitive areas.

This Environmental Feasibility Study specifically aims to highlight those areas deemed to be sensitive from an environmental and/or heritage point of view. Feasibility studies are largely desktop studies mapping existing environmental data, however this study also included a brief site scan to confirm desktop information and (at a glance) identify additional sensitive environments that are not revealed through the desktop analysis. The study culminates in a composite sensitivity map that highlights those areas within the study area and proposed site as being potentially sensitive to development. This study cannot provide definitive boundaries to potentially environmentally sensitive areas or the extent of the development footprint, as detailed fieldwork was not conducted – however, it does provide an overall impression of the sensitivities that may constrain development. These potential development constraints must then be taken into account when decisions are made in terms of whether or not to continue with development and/or the detailed studies and EIA process.

2. METHODOLOGY

The methodology employed involved two phases. The first phase included a desktop survey of available data, and the second phase included a quick field scan/ site visit to supplement the GIS data.

2.1. Phase 1: Desktop Survey

Relevant literature and Geographical Information System (GIS) layers were reviewed to determine the following concerning the study area and proposed site:

2.1.1. Locality and Land Use

The locality and current land use determines whether the vegetation on the study site is in a largely natural or transformed state. In addition, sites in close proximity to development nodes or towns will result in a concentration of impacts instead of fragmenting natural landscapes. From an ecological point of view, it is therefore likely that sites close to towns and within already, transformed areas will be less sensitive – depending on the occurrence of threatened vegetation, water bodies and ridges.

Reviewed datasets include:

- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (2001).
- Satellite Application Centre (2000).

2.1.2. Regional Vegetation

The regional vegetation gives an indication of the vegetation that is expected to occur within the site, in the absence of severe transformation e.g. cultivation. Each vegetation type is different with regards to plant species composition, soil, topography and the climatic conditions in which it occurs. Due to increased human pressure on the natural environment, many vegetation types are being disturbed or replaced by food crops, mines or urban settlements. The vegetation types occurring in the study area and at the proposed site were identified and described.

Reviewed datasets include:

Mucina and Rutherford (2006).

2.1.3. Listed Ecosystems

The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) [NEMBA] provides for the listing of threatened or protected ecosystems. These ecosystems are based on the vegetation types described in Mucina and Rutherford (2006) and are grouped into Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and Protected Ecosystems. The purpose of listing ecosystems is primarily to reduce the rate of ecosystem and species extinction, including the prevention of further degradation and loss of structure, function and composition of threatened ecosystems. Therefore, it aims to conserve a representative sample of all components of biodiversity. Listed ecosystems have development implications and must be included as sensitive areas in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). However, it is important to note that while the original extent of the listed ecosystems have been mapped, a Basic Assessment Report in term of the EIA regulations is only required when development falls within the remaining *natural* habitat of each ecosystem and not in portions where the natural habitat has been irreversibly lost (i.e. cannot be successfully rehabilitated).

Reviewed datasets include:

- Mucina and Rutherford (2006).
- Department of Environmental Affairs (2011).

2.1.4. Protected Areas

Protected Areas (PAs) are defined as areas of land or sea that are formally protected by national law and managed mainly for biodiversity conservation. It does not include:

- Informal conservation areas (e.g. conservancies); and
- Non-natural areas within Protected Environments.

It is important to differentiate PAs from conservation areas (informal). Conservation areas are areas of land not formally protected by law but informally protected by the current owners and users and managed at least partly for biodiversity conservation. These different forms of statutory protection or conservation tenure may arguably meet the global definition of PAs, but do not meet the limited national definition, i.e. they are not formally proclaimed in terms of national PA legislation. These are termed 'Conservation Areas' (CAs) in the draft strategy document of South Africa's National Protected Area Expansion Strategy. The Informal Conservation Areas System (ICAS) is an important complementary mechanism for achieving national conservation objectives. It also provides for the physical linkage with formal PAs to achieve landscape conservation objectives. In some large-scale landscape conservation initiatives (e.g. Trans-Frontier Conservation Areas, Mega-Reserves, Biosphere Reserves), the formal PAs (e.g. National Parks, Provincial Nature Reserves) usually form the 'core' of these informal CAs.

South Africa's PA network currently falls far short of sustaining biodiversity and ecological processes. The goal of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) is to achieve cost effective protected area expansion for ecological sustainability and increased resilience to climate change. The NPAES sets targets for PA expansion, provides maps of the most important areas for PA expansion, and makes recommendations on mechanisms for PA expansion. The NPAES uses two factors, importance and urgency, to identify priority areas for PA expansion in the terrestrial environment. Although not currently protected, these areas should be considered as being of high development constraint for development projects and/or infrastructure proposed to be located within or in close proximity to these areas.

Databases reviewed for protected areas, including national parks, formal and informal protected areas and focus areas for the future:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (2009).

2.1.5. Biodiversity Corridors and Biodiversity Nodes

The North-West Province Biodiversity Conservation Assessment Technical Report (North-West Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Rural Development 2009) outlines a provincial-level biodiversity corridor network with an aim to retain the connectivity between all geographic areas with minimal financial cost and maximum biodiversity preservation. These corridors are interconnected areas through the landscape that were identified as important for conservation through a series of systematic biodiversity assessments. Biodiversity Nodes were also identified through a systematic process to coincide with areas where important or intact biodiversity remains, however, unlike Biodiversity Corridors, these nodes are isolated from each other. These areas were

often identified as the last remaining areas for the proclamation of reserves and may contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation goals.

Reviewed datasets include:

• North-West Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Rural Development (2009).

2.1.6. Watercourses

In a South African legal context, the term *watercourse* is often used rather than the terms *wetland*, or *river*. The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) [NWA] includes *wetland*s and *rivers* into the definition of the term *watercourse* in the following definition.

Watercourse means:

- a) A river or spring;
- b) A natural channel in which water flows regularly or intermittently;
- c) A wetland, lake or dam into which, or from which, water flows, and
- d) Any collection of water which the Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, declare to be a watercourse, and a reference to a watercourse includes, where relevant, its bed and banks.

The NWA further defines a wetland as "land which is transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is periodically covered with shallow water, and which land in normal circumstances supports or would support vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil."

Local government policies require that protective river and wetland buffer zones are calculated from the outer edge of the riparian and temporary zone of a wetland.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry have further identified areas where groundwater recharge is high, with rainfall and geological permeability being the two main factors on which recharge is dependant. Groundwater is essential for sustaining river flows during dry seasons. An area where recharge is high is considered to be a recharge hotspot and the disturbance of natural vegetation in these areas could have an influence on the healthy functioning of groundwater dependant ecosystems which are in the immediate vicinity or several kilometres away from the recharge area (DWAF, 2005).

Reviewed datasets include:

Department of Rural Development & Land Reform (2009).

2.1.7. National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas

Freshwater ecosystems provide a valuable natural resource, with economic, aesthetic, spiritual, cultural and recreational value. Yet the integrity of freshwater ecosystems in South Africa is declining. This

crisis is largely a consequence of a variety of challenges that are practical (managing vast areas of land to maintain connectivity between freshwater ecosystems), socio-economic (competition between stakeholders for utilisation) and institutional (building appropriate governance and co-management mechanisms).

The National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) project responds to the reported degradation of freshwater ecosystem condition and associated biodiversity, both globally and in South Africa. NFEPA should form part of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development of South Africa's scarce water resources. In this regard, the applications developed are directly applicable to the NWA, and will support integrated catchment management and Water Resource Classification. The project is also directly relevant to the NEMBA, informing both the listing of threatened river ecosystems and the process of bioregional planning required under this Act.

The NFEPA project represents a multi-partner project between the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Water Research Commission (WRC), Department of Water Affairs (DWA), Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), South African Institute of Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) and South African National Parks (SANParks). More specifically, the NFEPA project aims to:

- Identify Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (hereafter referred to as 'FEPAs') to meet national biodiversity goals for freshwater systems; and
- Develop a basis for enabling effective implementation of measures to protect FEPAs, including free-flowing rivers.

The project further aims to maximize synergies and alignment with other national level initiatives such as the National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA) and the Cross-Sector Policy Objectives for Inland Water Conservation.

For the purpose of the present biodiversity assessment, the status and proximity of the site to areas identified in the NFEPA project is briefly discussed in terms of NFEPA.

Databases reviewed to determine the presence and nature of freshwater systems include:

Nel et al. (2011).

2.1.8. Critically Important Areas and Hyperdiversity

Hyperdiversity is a measure of the areas of overlap in which the highest diversity of fauna occurs in the province. Critically Important Areas are areas where threatened ecosystems which are vulnerable to transformation and should be prioritised for conservation.

Reviewed datasets include:

 North-West Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Rural Development (2009).

2.1.9. Important Heritage Resources

Heritage Resources are protected under the National Heritage Resource Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999). This Act protects heritage resources as defined in the Act, which have cultural significance or special value for the present community or for future generations and includes places, building, equipment, historical settlements, landscapes and natural features and disturbance of any of such resources requires a permit.

Reviewed datasets include:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (2001).

2.1.10. Faunal and Floral Species Occurrence

Lists of species that may occur in the study area and/or the proposed site were obtained from various GIS layers as well as from online sources. The scale at which data was available is indicated in brackets:

- Flora http://posa.sanbi.org/searchspp.php (QDGC);
- Mammals GIS Mammals Layer (Site specific);
- Frogs http://vmus.adu.org.za/ (QDGC);
- Butterflies- http://vmus.adu.org.za/ (QDGC);
- Reptiles http://vmus.adu.org.za/ (QDGC); and
- Birds http://sabap2.adu.org.za/ (Pentad).

2.1.11. Plants and animals of Conservation Concern (Red Listed Plants and Animals)

Plants of conservation concern (previously termed Red Data Plants) are those plants that are important for South Africa's conservation decision making processes as they have been assessed using a prescribed scientific method and are considered to be at risk of extinction and include all plants that are Threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable), Extinct in the wild, Data deficient, Near Threatened, Critically Rare, Rare and Declining.

The conservation status of faunal and floral species was obtained from the following resources:

- Flora: The South African National Red List online (www.sanbi.redlist.org);
- Butterflies: Virtual Museum, South African Butterfly Conservation Assessment (http://vmus.adu.org.za);
- Avifauna: Barnes (2000);
- Reptiles and Amphibians: The International Union for Conservation of Nature online (http://www.iucn.org); and
- Mammals: Friedmann and Daly (2004).

2.1.12. Species Protected by Legislation (Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS) and Provincially Protected species)

Species Listed on the NEMBA: Publication of lists of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and Protected Species (Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 2007) are all nationally protected by legislation and hunting, killing, collecting, plucking, picking of parts, chopping, damaging, importing, exporting, destroying or any other prescribed activity of any specimen of a listed threatened or protected plant or animal species is governed by this Act and requires a permit from the Department of Environmental Affairs. Certain species are also specifically protected within each province.

The gazetted national and provincial conservation status of species were obtained from the following sources:

- NEMBA: Publication of lists of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and Protected Species (Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 2007); and
- Bophuthatswana Nature Conservation Act, 1973 (Act No. 3 of 1973).

2.1.13. Nationally Protected Trees

The National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998) enforces the protection of a number of indigenous trees. The removal, thinning or relocation of protected trees will require a permit from the relevant authority.

Reviewed datasets include:

• The National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998).

2.2. Phase 2: Field Scan/ Site Visit

The purpose of the field scan is to supplement information obtained from the Phase 1: Desktop Survey. Only those areas highlighted as sensitive (e.g. potential wetlands, etc.) or disturbed within the proposed site boundary were explored in order to more accurately discuss on-site conditions. The field scan was conducted over two days, 21 - 22 January 2013.

3. LIMITATIONS

In order to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of vegetation communities, animal populations and the status of endemic, rare or threatened species in an area, on-site ecological studies should be undertaken and replicated over several seasons and over a number of years, where possible. However, as the present study was conducted at a desktop level together with a quick field scan (no detailed field surveys were conducted) it does not address detailed information pertaining to the study site in terms of species lists and habitat condition. However, sensitive sections are highlighted and it should be stressed that these areas must be sufficiently ground-truthed in order to determine the present ecological state of each area. Consequently, the following limitations apply:

No plant studies or field surveys were conducted;

- No faunal studies were conducted; and
- No wetland delineations or riparian delineations and assessments were conducted.

Although the datasets used in this assessment were from the most recently released information, many of these datasets are outdated by a few years. Furthermore, many of the species lists generated are at a coarse scale and may be an over or underestimate of species occurring in the study area. The exact impact of the proposed Solar Facility can only be assessed during the EIA phase and once the specifications of the infrastructure as well as the construction methodology is known.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Phase 1: Desktop Survey

4.1.1. Locality and Land Use

The larger study area overlaps QDGC 2625AA, 2625AB, 2625AC, 2526AD, 2625BA and 2625BC. This area has soils with poor suitability for agriculture; nevertheless, land use includes cultivated land, subsistence farming, residential, forestry, as well as patches of natural land.

The proposed solar site is situated approximately 10km south west of the Batho- Batho Village in the Ngaka Modiri Molema Municipality in the North-West Province and falls within the Quarter Degree Grid Cell 2625AB (Figure 1). Two large drainage areas traverse the study area diagonally from east to west. The extent of the proposed site is approximately 140ha.

Two high voltage Eskom substations and associated high and medium voltage powerlines are located in the northern half of the study area, while the southern half is largely void of any electrical network. The substations are approximately 10-12km from the proposed site. The local community of Batho-Batho (proposed to benefit from this development) is located approximately 10km to the north-east. A railway line traverses through the centre of the study area, along the south-eastern boundary of the proposed development site.

Aerial images indicate that the vegetation is largely natural but overgrazed and land use data indicates poor soil potential for intensive agriculture since these are sandy, eutrophic red soils (thus, a Geotechnical Study would be required to discuss foundation requirements for any development on these types of soils). The predominant land use is that of grazing.

4.1.2. Vegetation Types and Ecosystem Status

The following three vegetation types are located in the study area:

- Klerksdorp Thornveld (Not Threatened);
- Western Highveld Sandy Grassland (Critically Endangered); and
- Mafikeng Bushveld (Vulnerable).

The proposed site is located within the Western Highveld Sandy Grassland vegetation type (Figure 2). This vegetation type has flat to gently undulating plains and comprises of short, dry grassland with some woody species occurring in bush clumps. It is classified as Critically Endangered (DEA, 2011) (Figure 3) with only a small portion statutorily conserved with less than 22% of the natural area remaining (SANBI & DEAT, 2009). A description of each vegetation type can be found in Appendix A.

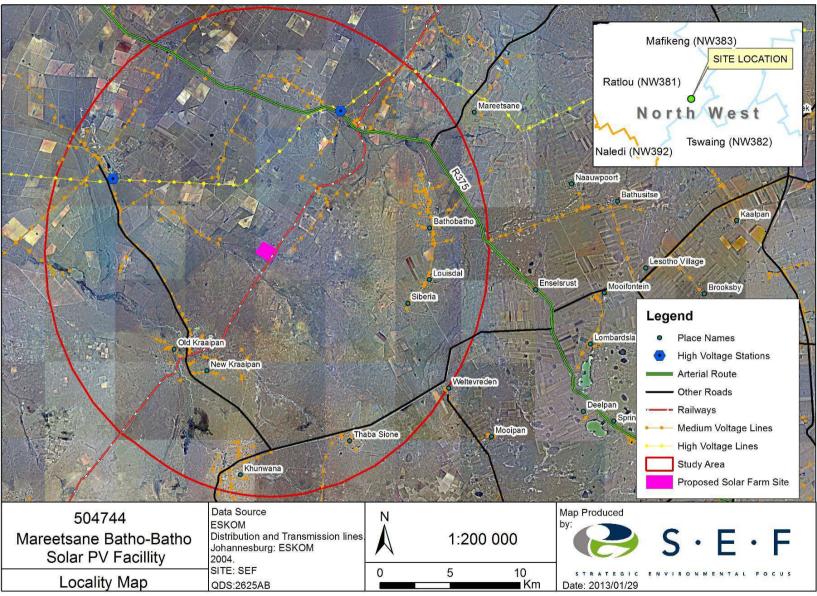


Figure 1: Locality Map of the study area and proposed site.

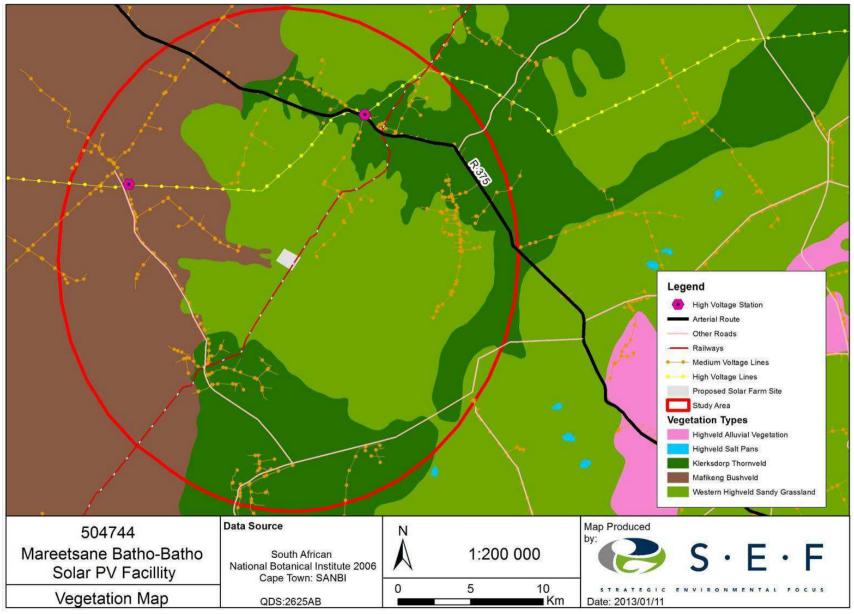


Figure 2: Vegetation types within the study area (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006).

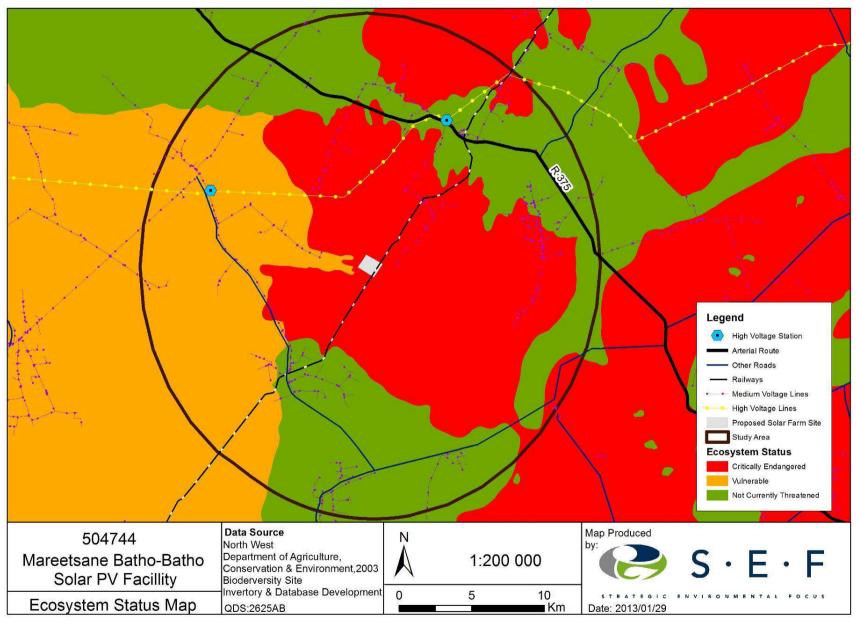


Figure 3: Map showing the Ecosystem Status of vegetation types within the study area (DEA, 2011).

4.1.3. Hydrological Features

Watercourses and Wetlands

The study area and proposed site are located within Quaternary Catchment D41B within the Lower Vaal Water Management Area (WMA) and Molopo sub-management area (Figure 4). The main rivers of this WMA are the Molopo, Harts and Vaal.

All rivers associated with the study area are classified as non-perennial. The Mareetsane River flows through the north of the study area, while the Morokwa River flows through the central region. To the south, several small rivers flow into the study area including; the Mosime, Thakajeng, Makgelejane, Mosime, Thalatau, Sepane and Sebengi Rivers. Only the Mareetsane and Morokwa Rivers are listed on the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (Nel *et al.*, 2004) and a summary of their ecological and conservation status is listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Ecological and conservation status of the Mareetsane and Morokwa Rivers according to the NSBA (Nel et al., 2004).

River name	Signature	Ecological Status	Conservation Status
Mareetsane	Kalahari Basin	Class B: Largely natural	Not threatened
Morokwa	Kalahari Basin	Class B: Largely natural	Not threatened

Only the Morokwa River flows through the proposed site. The non-perennial Morokwa River is situated just to the south of the site and has associated wetland areas that are classified as channelled valley-bottom wetlands. Several depression wetlands (depressions in the landscape that allows for the accumulation of surface water) are associated with the larger site.

National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) Project

Several NFEPA wetlands are located within the study area, and two wetland clusters (groups of wetlands embedded in a relatively natural landscape) are located to the south of the Tlhakajeng River (Figure 4) and on the south-east edge of the larger study area boundary; however, none occur within the proposed site. Wetland clusters allow for the ecological processes such as frog and invertebrate migrations between wetlands. No NFEPA wetlands or FEPA Fish Support Areas were identified within the proposed site.

The study area and proposed site fall within the boundaries of an Upstream Management Area (Nel *et al.*, 2011). These areas are defined as those requiring management to ensure that human activities do not degrade downstream FEPAs, Fish Sanctuaries and Fish Migration Corridors. It may be acceptable for certain rivers or streams in an Upstream Management Area to be impacted on, but only where these practices do not deteriorate the condition of the downstream FEPA (Driver *et al.*, 2011).

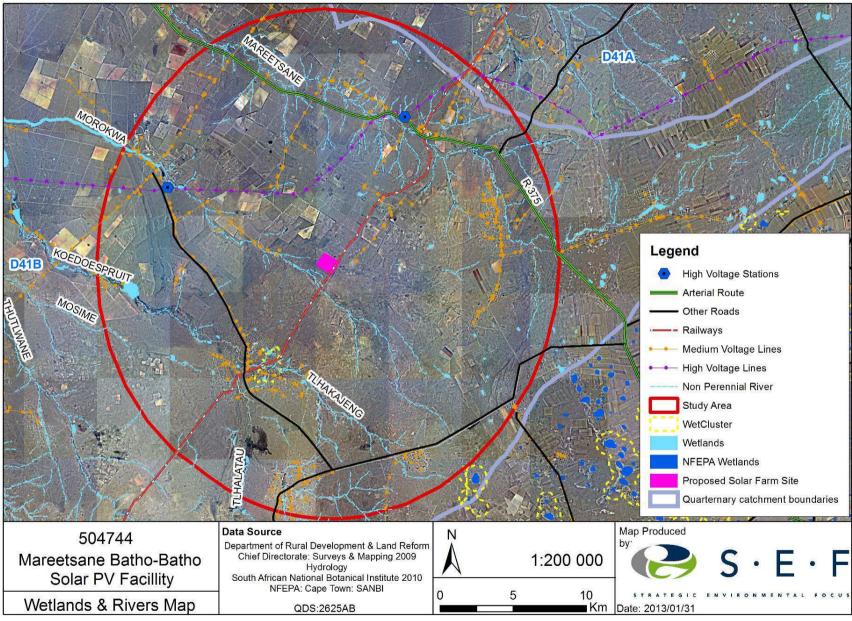


Figure 4: Rivers and wetlands within the study area.

4.1.4. Protected Areas

No formally or informally, Protected Areas were recorded within the study area or the proposed site. The study area and proposed site did not fall within the boundaries of any National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy focus areas for protected area expansion.

4.1.5. Heritage Resources

Two important cultural areas occur within the larger study area namely the Kraaipan Battlefield and Maritzani (Figure 5). The first battle of the Second Boer War was fought at Kraaipan when the Orange Free State declared War on the British in 1899, while Maritzani used to be a farming store area in the 1900's (http://www.wikipedia.org/). No important heritage areas appear to occur within the proposed site itself.

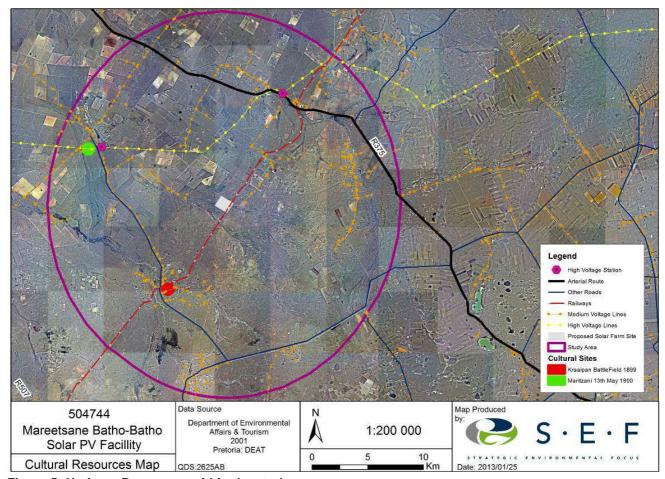


Figure 5: Heritage Resources within the study area.

4.1.6. Biodiversity Features

Biodiversity Corridors and Nodes

The southern portions of both the study area and proposed site fall within a Biodiversity Node (Figure 6). These areas have been identified as areas that are still intact and contain one of the last remaining areas of Western Highveld Sandy Grassland. Core Biodiversity Corridors traverse the larger study area and the buffer zone around these corridors covers a large proportion of this region (Figure 7). The proposed site falls within the Core Biodiversity Corridor's immediate buffer and 3000m buffer.

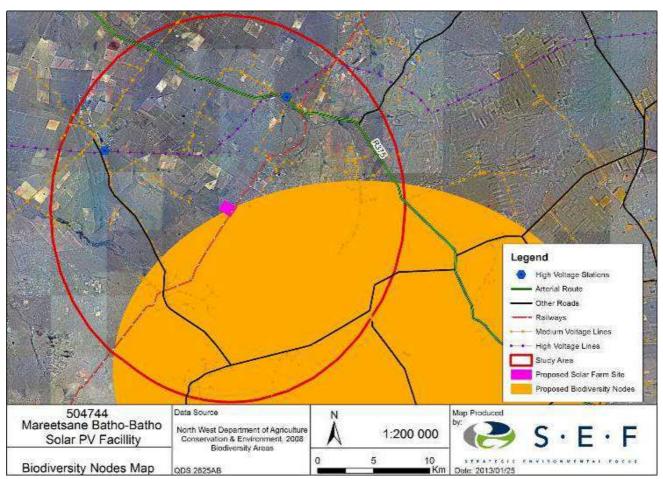


Figure 6: Biodiversity Nodes overlapping the study area and proposed site.

Critically Important / Hyperdiversity Areas

Several patches of Critically Important Areas, which are highly sensitive hyperdiversity areas, occur within the larger study area, many of which appear to be associated with riverine and wetland areas. The majority of the study area appears to have medium hyperdiversity sensitivity (Figure 8). No areas of high or medium-high hyperdiversity hot spots seem to occur within the proposed site itself.

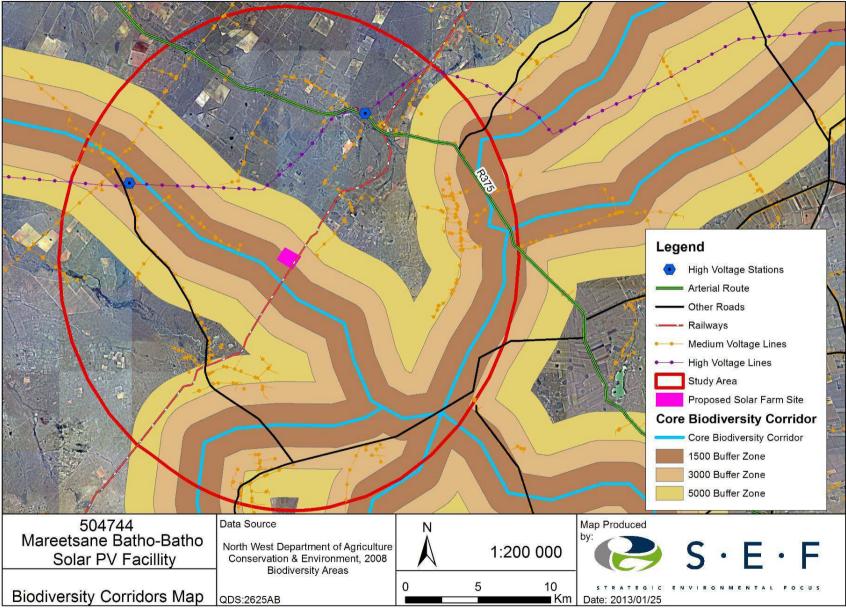


Figure 7: Core Biodiversity Corridors together with their buffer areas (North-West DACE, 2009).

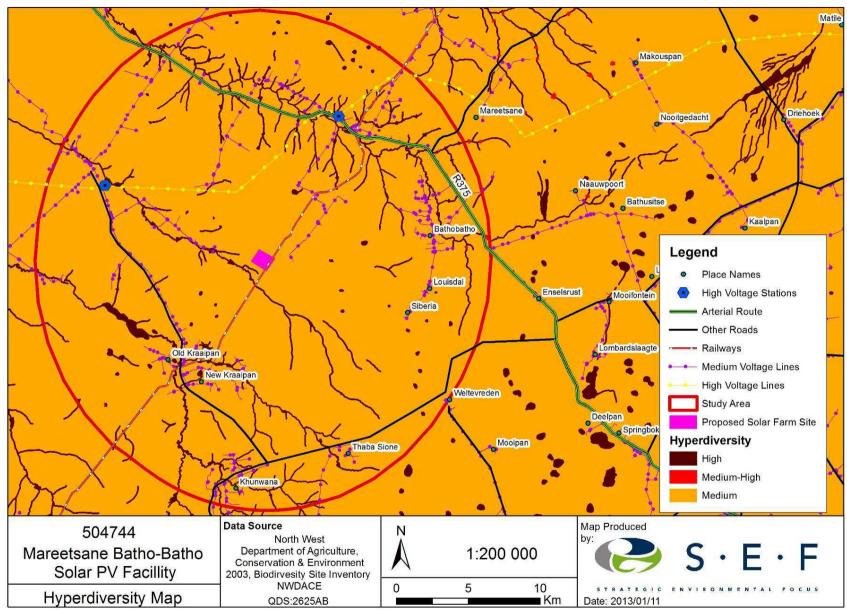


Figure 8: Areas of significant Hyperdiversity within the study area (North-West DACE, 2009).

Species Diversity, Lists and Conservation Status

The North-West DACE Biodiversity data highlights the following for the study area:

- Flora Medium diversity;
- Mammals, amphibians and reptiles Low-medium diversity; and
- Avifauna and Lepidoptera Low diversity.

Results obtained from species list queries are summarised in Table 2 and discussed in the sections to follow.

Table 2: Summary of the number or presence of Ecosystem level features and species of conservation concern within the study area and proposed site

Surveyed Feature	Study Area	Proposed Solar Site
Intersect Biodiversity Corridors	Yes	Yes
Intersect Biodiversity Nodes	Yes	Yes
Threatened plant species	1	1
Threatened mammal species	12	12
Threatened frog species	None	None
Threatened bird species	19	1
Threatened reptile species	None	None
Provincially protected plant species	3	2
Provincially protected mammal species	8	8
Provincially protected amphibian species	None	None
Provincially protected bird species	153	17
Provincially protected reptile species	None	None
Nationally protected plant species (TOPS)	None	None
Nationally protected tree species	None	None
Nationally protected mammal species (TOPS)	7	7
Nationally protected amphibian species (TOPS)	1	None
Nationally protected bird species (TOPS)	7	1
Nationally protected reptile species (TOPS)	None	None

Plants of Conservation Concern, Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS) and Provincially Protected Species

According to Plants of Southern Africa (POSA), only one plant species, endemic to South Africa and listed on the South African National Red List, Critically Endangered *Brachystelma canum*, may be found within the study area and proposed site. This species is also Provincially Protected along with *Babiana bainesii* (a short herbaceous plant with a strong sweet spicy smell and attractive flowers is endemic to South Africa) which has only been recorded from the larger study area. *Brachystelma*

canum population decline is thought to be largely due to severe overgrazing in the areas in which it was last seen (www.redlist.sanbi.co.za).

A full list of species obtained from POSA is included in Appendix B.

Nationally Protected Trees

None of the woody species recorded on the POSA checklist for the QDGC in which the study area and proposed site occur are listed in terms of the National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998).

Fauna of Conservation Concern (Red Listed Animals), Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS) and Provincially Protected Species

Twelve mammal species of conservation concern have been recorded from the larger study area and proposed site (Appendix C). However, only eight of these species are likely to occur. These included:

- Atelerix frontalis frontalis (South African Hedgehog)- Near Threatened;
- Felis nigripes (Black footed Cat)- Vulnerable;
- Lemniscomys rosalia (Single-striped Grass Hare)- Data Deficient;
- Mystromys albicaudatus (White-tailed Mouse)- Endangered;
- Poecilogale albinucha (African Side-stripe Weasel)- Data Deficient;
- Rhinolophus clivosus (Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat)- Near Threatened;
- Rhinolophus darlingi (Darling's Horseshoe Bat)- Near Threatened;
- Rhinolophus denti (Dent's Horseshoe Bat)- Near Threatened; and
- Suncus varilla (Lesser Dwarf Shrew)- Data Deficient.

No Provincially Protected or Red Listed amphibians, butterflies or reptiles have been recorded from both areas (Appendix D, E and G); however, one amphibian species *Pyxicephalus adspersus* (Giant Bullfrog) is listed on TOPS.

153 Provincially Protected bird species were recorded in the study area of which 17 have been confirmed in the proposed site (Appendix F); these include *Afrotis afroides* (Northern Black Korhaan), *Bubo lacteus* (Verreaux's Eagle-Owl) and *Cercotrichas paean* (Kalahari Scrub-Robin). 20 Red Listed bird species have been recorded from the larger region including 7 Vulnerable and 12 Near Threatened species (Appendix F). The Vulnerable *Gyps africanus* (White-backed Vulture) was the only Red Listed bird recorded within the pentad of the proposed site and the only bird listed on TOPS.

4.1.7. Composite Ecological Sensitivity of the Study Area

The majority of the land within the study area was classified as highly sensitive (Figure 10) due to the presence of the Biodiversity Node, Biodiversity Corridors, Critically Important / Hyperdiversity Areas, important heritage resources, NFEPAs, wetlands, and wetland clusters. Areas of low diversity are centred on built up areas (e.g. residential areas), while areas of medium diversity occurred to the west and north of the study area.

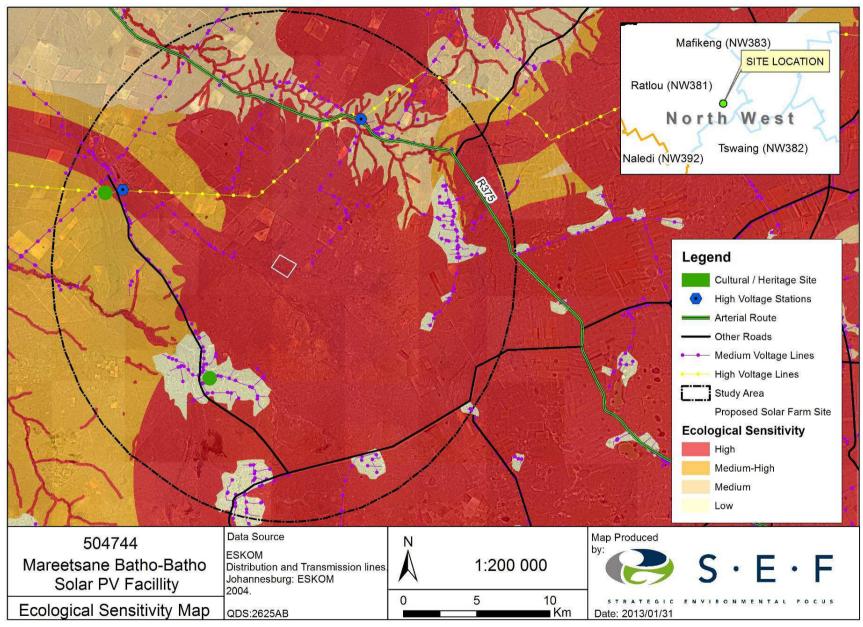


Figure 9: Combined Ecological Sensitivity of the study area.

4.2. Phase 2: Field Scan

The field scan only involved a scan of the proposed site and the observations discussed below are strictly to supplement the findings of the desktop study (discussed above) and does NOT represent a detailed specialist assessment of the site. Figure 9 graphically illustrates where various sensitive species/ areas that were confirmed on site.

4.2.1. Biodiversity and ecosystem status of the proposed site

Vegetation

Vegetation and geology appeared to resemble certain characteristics of the Western Highveld Sandy Grassland, as described in Mucina and Rutherford (2006), with flat topography, sandy soils and Clovelly and Hutton soils. The landscape was composed of plains of overgrazed grassland (Photograph 1) with woody species such as *Acacia hebeclada* and *Terminalia sericea* forming dense thickets in the west and southern corners of the proposed site (Figure 10). A few isolated patches of exotic species, such as *Opuntia* sp. and *Agave* sp. were observed.



Photograph 1: Overgrazed grassland (left) and dense tree and shrub clumps (right).

Land Use

Cattle were seen grazing (Photograph 2) throughout the proposed site and indications of wood harvesting was noted.

Watercourses and NFEPAs

Although the proposed site was dry at the time of the field scan, evidence of wetlands and streams were visible (Photograph 3). Many of these wetland areas appeared to be degraded by cattle.



Photograph 2: Grazing cattle (left) and wood harvesting (right) was noted.



Photograph 3: Drainage channels (left) and degraded wetlands (right) were found throughout the proposed site.

Heritage Resources

Although no heritage areas were found during the desktop survey, a graveyard with 4 visible graves was observed just 20m outside of the northern boundary of the proposed site (Figure 10). The oldest of these graves was dated "1961" (Photograph 4) while the youngest was dated "2006". A broken fence surrounded the graveyard.



Photograph 4: A graveyard (left) with the oldest grave dated "1961" faintly visible on the gravestone (right).

4.2.2. Species and their Conservation Concern

Observed flora

The following plant species (Table 3) were confirmed on site. Several of these species were not accounted for in the desktop survey, such as the Protected Tree *Acacia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) and Declining *Boophone disticha* (Poison Bulb) (Figure 10). *Boophone disticha* was recorded predominantly within the short, overgrazed grassland sections of the proposed site in the east, while *Acacia erioloba* was found in the dense bushveld section in the western half of the proposed site. This highlights the fact that the data available for flora is grossly underestimated, that many more species of conservation concern may occur within the proposed site boundaries. Indigenous species, not reflected in the desktop data (Appendix B), are highlighted in green in Table 3.

Table 3: Floral species observed during the field scan.

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Acacia erioloba	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	Protected
Acacia hebeclada	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	
Agave sp.	Exotic	Not listed	Not listed	
Boophone disticha	Declining	Not listed	Not listed	
Bulbine sp.		Genus Not listed	Not listed	
Commelina africana	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	
Ledebouria sp.		Genus Not listed	Not listed	
Hibiscus pusillus	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	
Hypoxis sp.		Genus Not listed		
Opuntia sp.	Exotic	Not listed	Not listed	
Osteospermum muricatum	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	
Terminalia sericea	Least Concern	Not listed	Not listed	

Observed fauna

An abundance of butterflies and locusts were observed at the time of the site scan. Several birds and signs of mammal species were also seen and these species are listed in Table 4. The Provincially Protected *Afrotis afroides* (Northern Black Korhaan) was confirmed on site.

Table 4: Faunal species observed during the field scan.

Fauna	Scientific Name	Common name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS
Avifauna	Afrotis afraoides	Northern Black Korhaan	LC	Protected	Not listed
Mammal	Cynictis penicillata	Yellow Mongoose	LC		Not listed
Mammal	Xerus sp.	Ground Squirrel			Not listed

4.2.3. Ecologically Sensitive areas identified within the proposed solar site

During the field scan, numerous areas were identified to be ecologically sensitive for one reason or the other. The proposed solar site is effectively cut-in-half by the Biodiversity Corridor Buffers (1 500m and 3 000m buffers) associated with the main vein of the corridor passing to the south of the site. The more sensitive core/ immediate buffer traverses the south-western extent of the proposed site and seems to be associated with dense bushveld (Figure 10). On viewing the proposed site (on Google Earth) in context of the immediate surrounding landscape on Google Earth, there is a clearly visible band of vegetation (dense bushveld - significantly different to that of the north-eastern half of the site) linked to the downstream non-perennial river to the west of the proposed site (Figure 11). Due to the presence of small (possibly) isolated wetlands identified along the south-western corner boundary of the site (Figure 10), this further supports the likelihood that the south-western half of the site is, most likely, hydrologically connected to the non-perennial river to the west. Patches of isolated wetlands were also identified throughout the sensitive core buffer area (1 500m buffer), with a few less within the wider 3 000m buffer zone (or north-eastern half of the proposed site.

In addition to the south-western half of the proposed site potentially being hydrologically linked to the non-perennial stream to the west, numerous individual trees of the Protected Tree, *Acacia erioloba*, were identified within the dense bushveld area. Isolated, but thriving populations of the Provincially Protected *Boophone disticha* (Poison Bulb) were also identified – however, these populations are located within the northern half of the site along the north-western and eastern boundaries of the site (Figure 10), a small patch was identified in the centre of the northern half of the site.

The Provincially Protected endemic bird, *Afrotis afroides* (Northern Black Korhaan), was confirmed on site within the overgrazed portions of the proposed site (i.e. the northern half of the proposed site). The Northern Black Korhaan favours overgrazed grassland (Hockey *et al.*, 2005) and this may be because overgrazing may make insects more visible. Males are known to be very territorial, with territories ranging between 200-300m² (*Hockey et al.*, 2005). *A. afraoides* breed year round, however, they lay 1-3 eggs directly on the ground between grass tufts and shrubs instead of building nests. A decrease in the population has been recorded due to habitat loss in cultivated areas and incidents of trading for falconry have also been recorded (*Hockey et al.*, 2005).

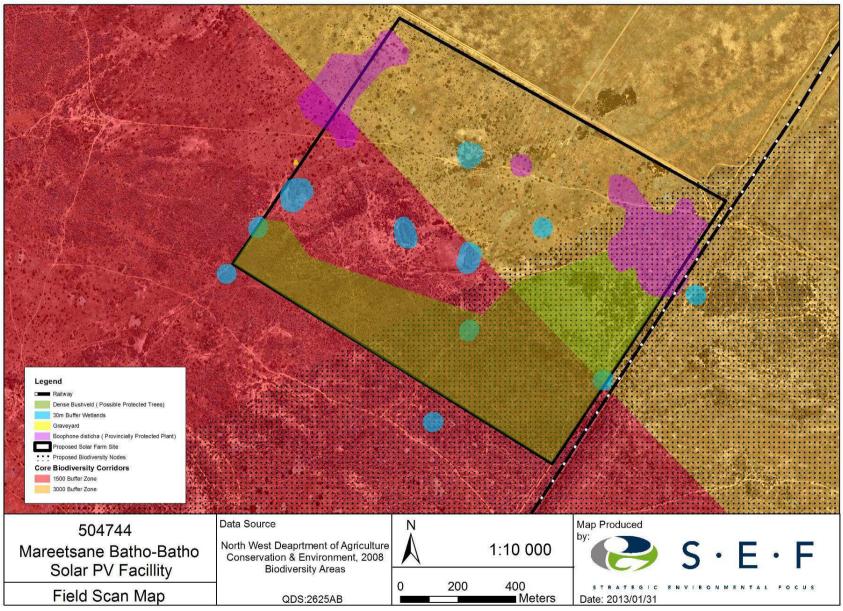


Figure 10: Locations of potentially sensitive areas identified during the field scan.

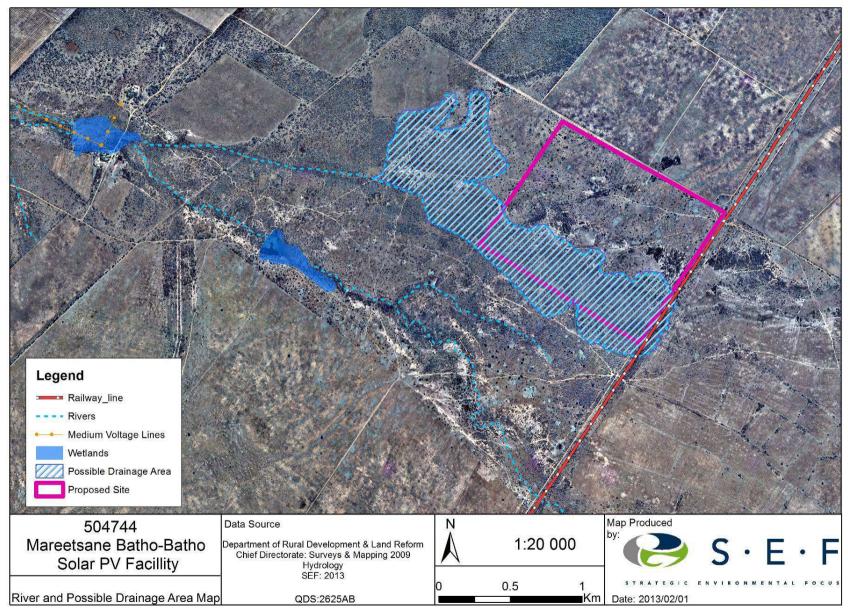


Figure 11: Potential hydrological link (catchment area) for the non-perennial river to the west of the proposed solar site.

5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The study area and proposed solar farm site coincide with areas that are known or expected to contain Threatened Ecosystems, protected watercourses (including wetlands) and Threatened (Provincially and Nationally Protected) floral and faunal species. Only the larger study area encompasses Critically Important / Hyperdiversity Areas, known FEPA wetlands and wetland clusters as well as important heritage/ cultural resource areas. A Biodiversity Node and associated Biodiversity Corridors traverse the majority of the study area and the proposed site falls within these Corridor buffer zones.

The overhead powerlines required to connect the proposed solar farm to the existing Eskom substations will traverse areas of high environmental sensitivity according to the available data (Figure 9), thus it is recommended that these powerline corridors are located within or immediately adjacent to the existing medium volt powerlines within the study area. However, given the desktop sensitivity of the environment, specialist studies will have to be conducted to identify any environmentally sensitive "hot spots" within new and/or existing powerline corridors. To this end, the following specialist studies will have to include an investigation of the powerline corridor and/or any alternative corridors in order to assess the impact of the proposed powerline on the natural, historical, visual and agricultural environments:

- Ecological Assessment;
- Wetland Delineation and Functional Assessment;
- Phase 1: Heritage Impact Assessment;
- Visual Impact Assessment; and
- Agricultural Impact Assessment.

5.1. Implications for the development of the proposed PV Solar Farm

Based on the proposed development footprint exceeding 20ha, the proposed development of a 30M PV Solar Farm on the identified site will require Environmental Authorisation, by way of a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

Additional to a NEMA Environmental Authorisation and depending on the exact location and extent of the proposed development relative to the sensitive areas and plants identified on site, the following authorisations will also be required:

- Biodiversity Permit in terms of NEMBA for the Provincially Protected Plant Boophone disticha;
- Protected Trees Permit in terms of National Forest Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998);
- A Permit for disturbing the Provincially Protected Bird (Afrotis afroides (Northern Black Korhaan)) should be obtained, as it is highly likely that numerous males may have established territories and are breeding on site; and
- Water Use License for development within 500m of a wetland and/or possible destruction of a wetland.

Based on the ecological sensitive areas identified and given that no site alternatives exist for the proposed 30MW Solar Farm, SEF recommends the following:

- The development footprint of the proposed Solar Farm should be restricted to the northern half
 of the site (estimated at roughly 70-80ha) the exact size and boundaries of the developable
 portion of land will have to be determined through the following detailed specialist assessments:
 - Detailed Ecological Assessment (Flora, Fauna including Avifauna) this study must also comment on the removal and transplanting of protected plants as well as the *in-situ* conservation of the Northern Black Korhaan:
 - Detailed Wetland Delineation and Functional Assessment this assessment must comment on the possible need for a Geohydrological Assessment in order to determine the significance of the site in terms of groundwater flows and linkages to other catchment/ drainage areas.
 - Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment there may be additional heritage resources on site that may or may not be linked to the nearby graveyard;
- Additional specialist assessments required to support Environmental Authorisation for proposed solar farm developments include:
 - o Visual Impact Assessment; and
 - o Agricultural Impact Assessment.
- A Permit must be obtained for the removal and destruction of any Protected Tree individuals found within the development footprint; and
- A Permit for the removal and relocation of any additional Provincially Protected Plants identified
 on site. These plants should then be removed to an area of similar vegetation type and
 condition that will not be developed in future.

5.2. Proposed Way Forward in terms of the Applications for Environmental Authorisations

Should it be deemed feasibility to continue with the proposed development – given that the development footprint may be significantly reduced compared to the original extent of the site, the following are recommended:

- Commission the detailed Ecological (Flora, Fauna including Avifauna); and
- Wetland Delineation & Functional Assessments.

The above mentioned studies must be conducted as soon as possible. Best practice dictates that ecological studies take place during the summer season, beginning November to end April. The findings of these studies will more accurately inform the development proposal and footprint extent. If the project is then deemed feasible, the Application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of NEMA can then commence. This Application process takes approximately 10 months provided no delays are experienced – refer to the process flow diagram in Appendix H.

The Water Use License Application (WULA) can run concurrently with the S&EIR process – when the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is compiled, the relevant WULA documentation will also be compiled and both reports submitted to Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for review

and comment. On completion of this review period the Final EIR will then be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will the Final WULA will be submitted to the relevant Regional Office of the Department of Water Affairs (DWA).

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7. APPENDICES

Appendix A Description of Vegetation types

Appendix B Floral species lists generated during the desktop survey

Appendix C Mammal species lists generated during the desktop survey

Appendix D Amphibian species lists generated during the desktop survey

Appendix E Reptile species lists generated during the desktop survey

Appendix F Avifaunal species lists generated during the desktop survey

Appendix G Butterfly species lists generated during the desktop survey

APPENDIX A: VEGETATION TYPES

Area	Vegetation Type (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006)	Vegetation Description (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006)	Conservation Status (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006)
Proposed Site & Study Area	Western Highveld Sandy Grassland	Flat to gently undulating plains and comprises of short, dry grassland with some woody species occurring in bush clumps.	Critically Endangered. Only 22% of the natural area remains.
Study Area	The Highveld Alluvial Vegetation	Flat area with riparian thickets that is dominated by <i>Acacia karoo</i> . Grasslands are seasonally flooded and are often invaded by alien plants.	Least Threatened. Almost 10% is conserved in Barberspan Nature Reserve.
Study Area	Highveld Salt Pans	These are depressions in the landscape that are seasonally wet with either surface floating vegetation or terrestrial vegetation in dry pans which form a characteristic zonation pattern.	Least Threatened. A small portion is conserved in several reserves, 4% have been transformed so far.
Study Area	Klerksdorp Thornveld	Plains or slightly undulating plains with <i>Acacia karoo</i> in dense to open clumps in dry grassland.	Least Threatened. Only 2.5% is conserved in 3 reserves in the area, threatened by grazing and subsequent invasion by <i>A. karoo</i> into grassland.
Study Area	Mafikeng Bushveld	Well developed tree, shrub and grass layers occurring in an area with very dry winters on flat sandy plains.	Vulnerable. 0% conserved and 25% is already transformed for cultivation and urbanisation.

APPENDIX B

Floral species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered

Plant species list generated from POSA showing the species that may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. This list was generated at the QDGC scale. Protected species are highlighted in **RED**.

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Acacia hereroensis	LC			
Aristida canescens subsp. canescens	LC			
Aristida congesta subsp. congesta	LC			
Aristida mollissima subsp. mollissima	LC			
Aristida stipitata subsp. graciliflora	LC			
Asparagus laricinus	LC			
Babiana bainesii (Endemic)	LC	Protected		
Bewsia biflora	LC			
Boscia foetida subsp. minima	LC			
Brachiaria marlothii	LC			
Brachiaria nigropedata	LC			
Brachystelma canum (Endemic)	CR	Protected		
Bulbine abyssinica	LC			
Bulbostylis burchellii	LC			
Cenchrus ciliaris	LC			
Chaenostoma patrioticum	LC			
Chamaecrista biensis	LC			
Chascanum hederaceum var. hederaceum	LC			
Cheilanthes hirta var. brevipilosa				
Chenopodium glaucum	NE			
Chlorophytum angulicaule	LC			

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Crotalaria spartioides	LC			
Cymbopogon pospischilii	NE			
Cymbopogon prolixus	LC			
Cynodon dactylon	LC			
Cyperus decurvatus				
Cyperus margaritaceus var. margaritaceus	LC			
Cyperus usitatus	LC			
Datura inoxia	NE			
Dicerocaryum senecioides	LC			
Digitaria argyrograpta	LC			
Digitaria eriantha	LC			
Elionurus muticus	LC			
Enneapogon scoparius	LC			
Eragrostis biflora	LC			
Eragrostis chloromelas	LC			
Eragrostis lehmanniana var. lehmanniana	LC			
Eragrostis obtusa	LC			
Eragrostis pallens	LC			
Eragrostis rigidior	LC			
Eragrostis superba	LC			
Eragrostis trichophora	LC			
Eragrostis x pseud-obtusa	NE			
Euphorbia duseimata	LC			
Eustachys paspaloides	LC			
Evolvulus alsinoides	LC			
Fockea angustifolia	LC			
Gomphrena celosioides	NE			

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Grewia flava	LC			
Gymnosporia tenuispina	LC			
Helichrysum dregeanum	LC			
Hermannia quartiniana	LC			
Hermannia stellulata	LC			
Heteropogon contortus	LC			
Hyparrhenia hirta	LC			
Ipomoea bolusiana	LC			
Ipomoea oblongata	LC			
Ipomoea oenotherae var. oenotherae	LC			
Lapeirousia sandersonii	LC	Protected		
Lippia scaberrima	LC			
Lotononis crumanina	LC			
Malva pusilla	NE			
Melhania prostrata	LC			
Melinis nerviglumis	LC			
Melinis repens subsp. repens	LC			
Melolobium candicans	LC			
Melolobium microphyllum	LC			
Mundulea sericea subsp. sericea	LC			
Ochna pretoriensis	LC			
Ozoroa paniculosa var. paniculosa	LC			
Panicum coloratum var. coloratum	LC			
Panicum maximum	LC			
Pavetta zeyheri subsp. zeyheri	LC			
Pavonia burchellii	LC			
Pentarrhinum insipidum	LC			

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Perotis patens	LC			
Plectranthus neochilus	LC			
Plumbago zeylanica	NE			
Pogonarthria squarrosa	LC			
Pollichia campestris	LC			
Polygala leptophylla var. leptophylla	LC			
Polygonum plebeium	LC			
Pomaria burchellii subsp. burchellii	LC			
Prosopis velutina	NE			
Ranunculus multifidus	NE			
Raphionacme velutina	LC			
Rhynchosia totta	LC			
Rhynchosia venulosa	LC			
Rotheca uncinata	LC			
Salvia disermas	LC			
Schizachyrium sanguineum	LC			
Schmidtia pappophoroides	LC			
Searsia leptodictya forma leptodictya	NE			
Searsia magalismontana subsp. magalismontana	LC			
Searsia pyroides var. pyroides	LC			
Searsia tenuinervis	LC			
Senna italica subsp. arachoides	LC			
Sericorema remotiflora	LC			
Setaria nigrirostris	LC			
Setaria sphacelata var. sphacelata	LC			
Spergularia media	NE			
Sporobolus fimbriatus	LC			

Scientific name	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS	Nationally Protected Trees
Sporobolus nitens	LC			
Sporobolus stapfianus	LC			
Stipagrostis uniplumis var. neesii	LC			
Syntrichia laevipila				
Tarchonanthus camphoratus	LC			
Teucrium trifidum	LC			
Themeda triandra	LC			
Tortella xanthocarpa				
Trachyandra laxa var. rigida	LC			
Tragus berteronianus	LC			
Tragus koelerioides	LC			
Trichoneura grandiglumis	LC			
Trifolium campestre var. campestre	NE			
Tripteris aghillana var. aghillana	LC			
Triraphis andropogonoides	LC			
Urelytrum agropyroides	LC			
Urochloa brachyura	LC			
Vangueria infausta subsp. infausta	LC			
Vangueria parvifolia				
Viscum rotundifolium	LC			
Waltheria indica	LC			
Withania somnifera	LC			
Zannichellia palustris	LC			
Ziziphus zeyheriana	LC			

APPENDIX C

Mammal species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered

Mammal species list generated through the desktop survey indicating the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. Protected species are highlighted in **RED**.

Scientific Name	Common name	IUCN Red List Status	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS
Aethomys ineptus	Tete Veld Aethomys	LC	LC		
Aethomys namaquensis	Namaqua Rock Rat	LC	LC		
Alcelaphus buselaphus caama	Red Hartebeest	LC	LC	Protected	
Antidorcas marsupialis	Springbok	LC	LC		
Aonyx capensis	African Clawless Otter	LC	LC		
Atelerix frontalis frontalis	Southern African Hedgehog	LC	NT		
Atilax paludinosus	Marsh Mongoose	LC	LC		
Canis mesomelas mesomelas	Black-backed Jackal	LC	LC		
Caracal caracal	Caracal	LC	LC		
Ceratotherium simum simum	Southern White Rhino	NT	LC		Protected
Connochaetes gnou	Black Wildebeest	LC	LC	Protected	Protected
Connochaetes taurinus taurinus	Common Wildebeest	LC	LC		
Crocidura cyanea	Reddish-gray Musk Shrew	LC	DD		
Crocuta crocuta	Spotted Hyaena	LC	NT		Protected
Cynictis penicillata	Yellow Mongoose	LC	LC		
Desmodillus auricularis	Cape Short-eared Gerbil	LC	LC		
Diceros bicornis minor	Southern-central Black rhino	CR	VU		Protected
Elephantulus myurus	Eastern Rock Elephant Shrew	LC	LC		
Eptesicus hottentotus	Long-tailed House Bat	LC	LC		
Equus quagga	Plains Zebra	LC		·	

Scientific Name	Common name	IUCN Red List Status	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS
Felis nigripes	Black-footed Cat	VU	LC		Protected
Felis silvestris	Wild Cat	LC	LC		
Genetta genetta	Common Genet	LC	LC		
Gerbilliscus brantsii	Highveld Gerbil	LC			
Gerbilliscus leucogaster	Bushveld Gerbil	LC			
Gerbillurus paeba	Hairy-footed Gerbil	LC	LC		
Giraffa camelopardalis giraffa	Giraffe	LC	LC	Protected	
Graphiurus microtis	Small-eared Dormouse	LC			
Herpestes sanguineus	Slender Mongoose	LC			
Hyaena brunnea	Brown Hyaena	NT	NT		
Hystrix africaeaustralis	Cape Porcupine	LC	LC		
Ictonyx striatus	Zorilla, Striped Polecat	LC	LC		
Lemniscomys rosalia	Single-striped Grass Hare	LC	DD		
Lepus capensis	Cape Hare	LC	LC		
Lepus microtis	African Savanna Hare	LC			
Lepus saxatilis	Scrub Hare	LC	LC		
Malacothrix typica	Gerbil Mouse	LC	LC		
Mastomys coucha	Southern African Mastomys	LC	LC		
Mellivora capensis	Honey Badger	LC	NT		Protected
Mus indutus	Desert Pygmy Mouse	LC	LC		
Mus musculus	House Mouse	LC			
Mystromys albicaudatus	White-tailed Mouse	EN	EN		
Orycteropus afer	Aardvark, Antbear	LC	LC	Protected	
Oryx gazella	Gemsbok	LC	LC	Protected	
Otocyon megalotis megalotis	Bat-eared Fox	LC	LC		
Papio ursinus ursinus	Southern Chacma Baboon	LC	LC		

Scientific Name	Common name	IUCN Red List Status	SA Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS
Pedetes capensis	Springhaas, Springhare	LC	LC		
Pipistrellus capensis	Cape Serotine Bat	LC	LC		
Poecilogale albinucha	African Striped Weasel	LC	DD		
Proteles cristata cristatus	Aardwolf	LC	LC	Protected	
Raphicerus campestris campestris	Steenbok	LC	LC	Protected	
Rhabdomys pumilio	Four-striped Grass Mouse	LC	LC		
Rhinolophus clivosus	Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat	LC	NT		
Rhinolophus darlingi	Darling's Horseshoe Bat	LC	NT		
Rhinolophus denti	Dent's Horseshoe Bat	LC	NT		
Saccostomus campestris	Pouched Mouse	LC	LC		
Sauromys petrophilus	Roberts's Flat-headed Bat	LC	LC		
Smutsia temminckii	Cape Pangolin	LC			
Steatomys krebsii	Kreb's Fat Mouse	LC	LC		
Suncus varilla	Lesser Dwarf Shrew	LC	DD		
Suricata suricatta	Meerkat	LC	LC		
Sylvicapra grimmia	Common Duiker	LC	LC		
Syncerus caffer caffer	African Buffalo	LC	LC	Protected	
Tadarida aegyptiaca	Egyptian Free-tailed Bat	LC			
Thallomys paedulcus	Acacia Rat	LC	LC		
Tragelaphus oryx	Common Eland, Eland	LC	LC		
Vulpes chama	Cape Fox, Silver Fox	LC	LC		Protected
Xerus inauris	South African Ground Squirrel	LC	LC		

APPENDIX D

Amphibian species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold** the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. This list was generated at the QDGC scale. Protected species are highlighted in RED.

Scientific name	Common name	IUCN Red List Status	Provincially Protected	TOPS
Bufo garmani		LC	Not Listed	
Breviceps adspersus	Common Rain Frog	LC	Not Listed	
Pyxicephalus adspersus	African Bullfrog	LC	Not Listed	Protected
Phrynomantis bifasciatus	Banded Rubber Frog	LC	Not Listed	
Cacosternum boettgeri	Boettger's Dainty Frog	LC	Not Listed	
Schismaderma carens	African Split-skin Toad	LC	Not Listed	
Tomopterna cryptotis	Common Sand Frog	LC	Not Listed	
Amietophrynus garmani		LC	Not Listed	
Kassina senegalensis		LC	Not Listed	

^{*} Lists were generated at the QDS level.

APPENDIX E

Reptile species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered

Reptile species list generated from the Virtual Museum online checklist showing the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. This list was generated at the QDGC scale. Protected species are highlighted in RED.

Scientific name	Common name	Red List Status	Provincial Protection	TOPS
Afroablepharus wahlbergii	Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Afroablepharus wahlbergii	Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Afroablepharus wahlbergii	Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Agama aculeata aculeata	Common Ground Agama	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Aparallactus capensis	Black-headed Centipede-eater	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Aparallactus capensis	Black-headed Centipede-eater	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Boaedon capensis	Brown House Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Dasypeltis scabra	Rhombic Egg-eater	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Dasypeltis scabra	Rhombic Egg-eater	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Ichnotropis squamulosa	Common Rough-scaled Lizard	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Ichnotropis squamulosa	Common Rough-scaled Lizard	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Lycophidion capense capense	Cape Wolf Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Lycophidion capense capense	Cape Wolf Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Lycophidion capense capense	Cape Wolf Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Nucras holubi	Holub's Sandveld Lizard	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Pachydactylus capensis	Cape Gecko	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Psammobates oculifer	Serrated Tent Tortoise	Not Evaluated	Not listed	

Psammophis trinasalis	Fork-marked Sand Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Psammophylax tritaeniatus	Striped Grass Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Psammophylax tritaeniatus	Striped Grass Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Pseudaspis cana	Mole Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Rhinotyphlops lalandei	Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Telescopus semiannulatus semiannulatus	Eastern Tiger Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Telescopus semiannulatus semiannulatus	Eastern Tiger Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Trachylepis capensis	Cape Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Trachylepis capensis	Cape Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Trachylepis punctatissima	Speckled Rock Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	
Trachylepis sp. (Transvaal varia)	Skink sp. 1	Not listed	Not listed	
Trachylepis varia	Variable Skink	Not Evaluated	Not listed	ì
Xenocalamus bicolor bicolor	Bicoloured Quill-snouted Snake	Not Evaluated	Not listed	

APPENDIX F

Avifaunal species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered

Avifaunal species list generated from the South African Bird Atlas Project online checklist showing the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. This list was generated at the scale of a pentad (9km X 8km grid cells). Protected species are highlighted in RED

Scientific name	Common name	SA Red List Status	Provincial Protection	TOPS
Acridotheres tristis	Common Myna	LC		
Acrocephalus baeticatus	African Reed-Warbler	LC		
Acrocephalus gracilirostris	Lesser Swamp-Warbler	LC		
Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper	LC	Protected	
Afrotis afra	Southern Black Korhaan	LC	Protected	
Afrotis afraoides	Northern Black Korhaan	LC	Protected	
Alcedo cristata	Malachite Kingfisher	LC	Protected	
Alopochen aegyptiacus	Egyptian Goose	LC		
Amadina erythrocephala	Red-headed Finch	LC		
Amadina fasciata	Cut-throat Finch	LC		
Anas capensis	Cape Teal	LC	Protected	
Anas erythrorhyncha	Red-billed Teal	LC	Protected	
Anas smithii	Cape Shoveler	LC		
Anas undulata	Yellow-billed Duck	LC		
Anhinga rufa	African Darter	LC		
Anthoscopus minutus	Cape Penduline-Tit	LC		
Anthus cinnamomeus	African Pipit	LC		
Anthus leucophrys	Plain-backed Pipit	LC		
Anthus vaalensis	Buffy Pipit	LC		
Apalis thoracica	Bar-throated Apalis	LC		

Apus affinis	Little Swift	LC	Protected	
Apus caffer	White-rumped Swift	LC	Protected	
Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	LC	Protected	
Ardea goliath	Goliath Heron	LC	Protected	
Ardea melanocephala	Black-headed Heron	LC	Protected	
Ardeola ralloides	Squacco Heron	LC	Protected	
Ardeotis kori	Kori Bustard	VU		Protected
Asio capensis	Marsh Owl	LC	Protected	
Batis pririt	Pririt Batis	LC		
Bostrychia hagedash	Hadeda Ibis	LC	Protected	
Bradornis infuscatus	Chat Flycatcher	LC	Protected	
Bradornis mariquensis	Marico Flycatcher	LC	Protected	
Bubalornis niger	Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver	LC		
Bubo africanus	Spotted Eagle-Owl	LC	Protected	
Bubo lacteus	Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	LC	Protected	
Bubulcus ibis	Cattle Egret	LC	Protected	
Buphagus erythrorhynchus	Red-billed Oxpecker	NT	Protected	
Burhinus capensis	Spotted Thick-knee	LC		
Buteo vulpinus	Steppe Buzzard	LC	Protected	
Calamonastes fasciolatus	Barred Wren-Warbler	LC		
Calandrella cinerea	Red-capped Lark	LC		
Calendulauda africanoides	Fawn-coloured Lark	LC		
Calendulauda sabota	Sabota Lark	LC		
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper	LC	Protected	
Calidris minuta	Little Stint	LC		
Camaroptera brevicaudata	Grey-backed Camaroptera	LC		
Campethera abingoni	Golden-tailed Woodpecker	LC	Protected	
Caprimulgus pectoralis	Fiery-necked Nightjar	LC	Protected	

Caprimulgus rufigena	Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	LC	Protected	
Centropus burchellii	Burchell's Coucal	LC	Protected	
Cercomela familiaris	Familiar Chat	LC	Protected	
Cercotrichas leucophrys	White-browed Scrub-Robin	LC	Protected	
Cercotrichas paena	Kalahari Scrub-Robin	LC	Protected	
Certhilauda chuana	Short-clawed Lark	NT		
Ceryle rudis	Pied Kingfisher	LC	Protected	
Chalcomitra amethystina	Amethyst Sunbird	LC		
Charadrius hiaticula	Common Ringed Plover	LC	Protected	
Charadrius leschenaultii	Greater Sand Plover	LC	Protected	
Charadrius pecuarius	Kittlitz's Plover	LC	Protected	
Charadrius tricollaris	Three-banded Plover	LC	Protected	
Chersomanes albofasciata	Spike-heeled Lark	LC		
Chlidonias hybrida	Whiskered Tern	LC		
Chlidonias leucopterus	White-winged Tern	LC		
Chrysococcyx caprius	Diderick Cuckoo	LC	Protected	
Ciconia abdimii	Abdim's Stork	LC	Protected	
Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	LC	Protected	
Ciconia nigra	Black Stork	NT	Protected	Protected
Cinnyris mariquensis	Marico Sunbird	LC		
Cinnyris talatala	White-bellied Sunbird	LC		
Circaetus cinereus	Brown Snake-Eagle	LC	Protected	
Circaetus pectoralis	Black-chested Snake-Eagle	LC	Protected	
Circus pygargus	Montagu's Harrier	LC		
Cisticola aridulus	Desert Cisticola	LC		
Cisticola chiniana	Rattling Cisticola	LC		
Cisticola fulvicapilla	Neddicky Neddicky	LC		
Cisticola juncidis	Zitting Cisticola	LC		

Cisticola rufilatus	Tinkling Cisticola	LC		
Cisticola textrix	Cloud Cisticola	LC		
Cisticola tinniens	Levaillant's Cisticola	LC		
Clamator glandarius	Great Spotted Cuckoo	LC	Protected	
Clamator jacobinus	Jacobin Cuckoo	LC	Protected	
Clamator levaillantii	Levaillant's Cuckoo	LC	Protected	
Colius colius	White-backed Mousebird	LC		
Colius striatus	Speckled Mousebird	LC		
Columba guinea	Speckled Pigeon	LC	Protected	
Columba livia	Rock Dove	LC		
Coracias caudatus	Lilac-breasted Roller	LC	Protected	
Coracias garrulus	European Roller	LC	Protected	
Coracias naevius	Purple Roller	LC	Protected	
Corvinella melanoleuca	Magpie Shrike	LC	Protected	
Corvus albus	Pied Crow	LC		
Corvus capensis	Cape Crow	LC		
Corythaixoides concolor	Grey Go-away-bird	LC		
Cossypha caffra	Cape Robin-Chat	LC	Protected	
Cossypha humeralis	White-throated Robin-Chat	LC	Protected	
Coturnix coturnix	Common Quail	LC	Protected	
Creatophora cinerea	Wattled Starling	LC		
Crithagra atrogularis	Black-throated Canary	LC		
Crithagra flaviventris	Yellow Canary	LC		
Crithagra mozambicus	Yellow-fronted Canary	LC		
Cuculus gularis	African Cuckoo	LC	Protected	
Cursorius temminckii	Temminck's Courser	LC	Protected	
Cypsiurus parvus	African Palm-Swift	LC	Protected	
Delichon urbicum	Common House-Martin	LC	Protected	

Dendrocygna viduata	White-faced Duck	LC	Protected	
Dendroperdix sephaena	Crested Francolin	LC		
Dendropicos fuscescens	Cardinal Woodpecker	LC	Protected	
Dicrurus adsimilis	Fork-tailed Drongo	LC		
Dryoscopus cubla	Black-backed Puffback	LC		
Egretta ardesiaca	Black Heron	LC	Protected	
Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	LC	Protected	
Elanus caeruleus	Black-shouldered Kite	LC	Protected	
Emberiza flaviventris	Golden-breasted Bunting	LC		
Emberiza tahapisi	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	LC		
Eremomela icteropygialis	Yellow-bellied Eremomela	LC		
Eremomela usticollis	Burnt-necked Eremomela	LC		
Eremopterix leucotis	Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark	LC		
Eremopterix verticalis	Grey-backed Sparrowlark	LC		
Estrilda astrild	Common Waxbill	LC		
Estrilda erythronotos	Black-faced Waxbill	LC		
Euplectes afer	Yellow-crowned Bishop	LC		
Euplectes albonotatus	White-winged Widowbird	LC		
Euplectes orix	Southern Red Bishop	LC		
Euplectes progne	Long-tailed Widowbird	LC		
Eurocephalus anguitimens	Southern White-crowned Shrike	LC	Protected	
Falco amurensis	Amur Falcon	LC	Protected	
Falco biarmicus	Lanner Falcon	NT	Protected	
Falco naumanni	Lesser Kestrel	VU	Protected	Protected
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	NT	Protected	
Falco rupicoloides	Greater Kestrel	LC	Protected	
Falco rupicolus	Rock Kestrel	LC	Protected	
Falco vespertinus	Red-footed Falcon	LC	Protected	

Fulica cristata	Red-knobbed Coot	LC		
Gallinula chloropus	Common Moorhen	LC	Protected	
Glareola nordmanni	Black-winged Pratincole	NT		
Glaucidium perlatum	Pearl-spotted Owlet	LC	Protected	
Granatina granatina	Violet-eared Waxbill	LC		
Gyps africanus	White-backed Vulture	VU	Protected	Protected
Gyps coprotheres	Cape Vulture	VU	Protected	
Halcyon albiventris	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	LC	Protected	
Halcyon chelicuti	Striped Kingfisher	LC	Protected	
Halcyon senegalensis	Woodland Kingfisher	LC	Protected	
Haliaeetus vocifer	African Fish-Eagle	LC	Protected	
Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt	LC	Protected	
Hippolais icterina	Icterine Warbler	LC		
Hirundo abyssinica	Lesser Striped Swallow	LC	Protected	
Hirundo albigularis	White-throated Swallow	LC		
Hirundo cucullata	Greater Striped Swallow	LC	Protected	
Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow	LC		
Hirundo semirufa	Red-breasted Swallow	LC	Protected	
Hirundo spilodera	South African Cliff-Swallow	LC	Protected	
Indicator minor	Lesser Honeyguide	LC	Protected	
Lagonosticta rhodopareia	Jameson's Firefinch	LC		
Lagonosticta senegala	Red-billed Firefinch	LC		
Lamprotornis australis	Burchell's Starling	LC		
Lamprotornis nitens	Cape Glossy Starling	LC		
Laniarius atrococcineus	Crimson-breasted Shrike	LC	Protected	
Lanius collaris	Common Fiscal Shrike	LC		
Lanius collurio	Red-backed Shrike	LC	Protected	
Lanius minor	Lesser Grey Shrike	LC	Protected	

Larus cirrocephalus	Grey-headed Gull	LC	Protected
Leptoptilos crumeniferus	Marabou Stork	NT	Protected
Lophotis ruficrista	Red-crested Korhaan	LC	Protected
Lybius torquatus	Black-collared Barbet	LC	Protected
Macronyx capensis	Cape Longclaw	LC	
Malcorus pectoralis	Rufous-eared Warbler	LC	
Melierax canorus	Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk	LC	Protected
Melierax gabar	Gabar Goshawk	LC	Protected
Merops apiaster	European Bee-eater	LC	Protected
Merops bullockoides	White-fronted Bee-eater	LC	Protected
Merops hirundineus	Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	LC	Protected
Merops persicus	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	LC	Protected
Merops pusillus	Little Bee-eater	LC	Protected
Milvus aegyptius	Yellow-billed Kite	LC	Protected
Mirafra africana	Rufous-naped Lark	LC	
Mirafra apiata	Cape Clapper Lark	LC	
Mirafra fasciolata	Eastern Clapper Lark	LC	
Monticola brevipes	Short-toed Rock-Thrush	LC	Protected
Motacilla capensis	Cape Wagtail	LC	Protected
Muscicapa striata	Spotted Flycatcher	LC	Protected
Mycteria ibis	Yellow-billed Stork	NT	Protected
Myrmecocichla formicivora	Anteating Chat	LC	Protected
Netta erythrophthalma	Southern Pochard	LC	
Nilaus afer	Brubru Brubru	LC	
Numida meleagris	Helmeted Guineafowl	LC	
Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned Night-Heron	LC	Protected
Oena capensis	Namaqua Dove	LC	Protected
Oenanthe monticola	Mountain Wheatear	LC	

Oenanthe pileata	Capped Wheatear	LC		
Ortygospiza atricollis	African Quailfinch	LC		
Oxyura maccoa	Maccoa Duck	LC	Protected	
Parisoma subcaeruleum	Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler	LC	Protected	
Parus cinerascens	Ashy Tit	LC		
Passer diffusus	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	LC		
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	LC		
Passer melanurus	Cape Sparrow	LC		
Passer melanurus	Cape Sparrow	LC		
Pelecanus onocrotalus	Great White Pelican	NT	Protected	
Pelecanus rufescens	Pink-backed Pelican	VU	Protected	Protected
Peliperdix coqui	Coqui Francolin	LC		
Petronia superciliaris	Yellow-throated Petronia	LC		
Phalacrocorax africanus	Reed Cormorant	LC		
Phalacrocorax carbo	White-breasted Cormorant	LC		
Philetairus socius	Sociable Weaver	LC		
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff Ruff	LC	Protected	
Phoenicopterus minor	Lesser Flamingo	NT	Protected	
Phoenicopterus ruber	Greater Flamingo	NT	Protected	
Phoeniculus purpureus	Green Wood-Hoopoe	LC	Protected	
Platalea alba	African Spoonbill	LC	Protected	
Plectropterus gambensis	Spur-winged Goose	LC		
Plegadis falcinellus	Glossy Ibis	LC	Protected	
Plocepasser mahali	White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	LC		
Ploceus velatus	Southern Masked-Weaver	LC		
Podiceps cristatus	Great Crested Grebe	LC	Protected	
Polemaetus bellicosus	Martial Eagle	VU	Protected	Protected
Polihierax semitorquatus	Pygmy Falcon	LC	Protected	

Porphyrio madagascariensis	African Purple Swamphen	LC		
Prinia flavicans	Black-chested Prinia	LC		
Prinia subflava	Tawny-flanked Prinia	LC		
Psophocichla litsipsirupa	Groundscraper Thrush	LC	Protected	
Pternistis adspersus	Red-billed Spurfowl	LC		
Pternistis swainsonii	Swainson's Spurfowl	LC		
Pterocles burchelli	Burchell's Sandgrouse	LC		
Pterocles namaqua	Namaqua Sandgrouse	LC		
Ptilopsus granti	Southern White-faced Scops-Owl	LC	Protected	
Pycnonotus nigricans	African Red-eyed Bulbul	LC		
Pycnonotus tricolor	Dark-capped Bulbul	LC		
Pytilia melba	Green-winged Pytilia	LC		
Quelea quelea	Red-billed Quelea	LC		
Recurvirostra avosetta	Pied Avocet	LC	Protected	Protected
Rhinopomastus cyanomelas	Common Scimitarbill	LC		
Rhinoptilus africanus	Double-banded Courser	LC	Protected	
Riparia cincta	Banded Martin	LC	Protected	
Riparia paludicola	Brown-throated Martin	LC	Protected	
Riparia riparia	Sand Martin	LC	Protected	
Sagittarius serpentarius	Secretarybird Secretarybird	NT	Protected	
Sarkidiornis melanotos	Comb Duck	LC	Protected	
Saxicola torquatus	African Stonechat	LC	Protected	
Scleroptila levaillantoides	Orange River Francolin	LC		
Scopus umbretta	Hamerkop Hamerkop	LC	Protected	
Sigelus silens	Fiscal Flycatcher	LC	Protected	
Spizocorys conirostris	Pink-billed Lark	LC		
Sporopipes squamifrons	Scaly-feathered Finch	LC		
Stenostira scita	Fairy Flycatcher	LC	Protected	

Streptopelia capicola	Cape Turtle-Dove	LC		
Streptopelia semitorquata	Red-eyed Dove	LC	Protected	
Streptopelia senegalensis	Laughing Dove	LC		
Struthio camelus	Common Ostrich	LC		
Sylvietta rufescens	Long-billed Crombec	LC		
Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe	LC	Protected	
Tadorna cana	South African Shelduck	LC	Protected	
Tchagra australis	Brown-crowned Tchagra	LC		
Tchagra senegalus	Black-crowned Tchagra	LC		
Telophorus zeylonus	Bokmakierie Bokmakierie	LC	Protected	
Terpsiphone viridis	African Paradise-Flycatcher	LC	Protected	
Threskiornis aethiopicus	African Sacred Ibis	LC	Protected	
Tockus erythrorhynchus	Red-billed Hornbill	LC	Protected	
Tockus leucomelas	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	LC	Protected	
Tockus nasutus	African Grey Hornbill	LC	Protected	
Torgos tracheliotus	Lappet-faced Vulture	VU	Protected	Protecte
Trachyphonus vaillantii	Crested Barbet	LC	Protected	
Tricholaema leucomelas	Acacia Pied Barbet	LC	Protected	
Tringa glareola	Wood Sandpiper	LC	Protected	
Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank	LC	Protected	
Tringa stagnatilis	Marsh Sandpiper	LC	Protected	
Turdoides bicolor	Southern Pied Babbler	LC	Protected	
Turdoides jardineii	Arrow-marked Babbler	LC	Protected	
Turdus libonyanus	Kurrichane Thrush	LC	Protected	
Turdus smithi	Karoo Thrush	LC	Protected	
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	LC	Protected	
Upupa africana	African Hoopoe	LC	Protected	
Uraeginthus angolensis	Blue Waxbill	LC		

Urocolius indicus	Red-faced Mousebird	LC		
Vanellus armatus	Blacksmith Lapwing	LC	Protected	
Vanellus coronatus	Crowned Lapwing	LC	Protected	
Vidua chalybeata	Village Indigobird	LC		
Vidua macroura	Pin-tailed Whydah	LC		
Vidua paradisaea	Long-tailed Paradise-Whydah	LC		
Vidua regia	Shaft-tailed Whydah	LC		
Zosterops pallidus	Orange River White-eye	LC		
Zosterops virens	Cape White-eye	LC		

APPENDIX G

Butterfly species lists generated during the desktop survey

CR= Critically Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near-threatened; EN = Endangered

Butterfly species list generated from the South African Butterfly Conservation Assessment online checklist showing the species which may occur in the study area and proposed site. Species that may occur at both the proposed site and study area are highlighted in **bold**. This list was generated at the scale of a QDGC. Protected species are highlighted in RED

Scientific name	Common name	SA Red List Status	Provincial Protection	TOPS	
Eretis umbra umbra	Small marbled elf	Least Concern (endemic)	Not Listed	Not Listed	
Acraea anemosa	Broad-bordered acraea	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed	
Acraea horta	Garden acraea	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed	
Acraea natalica	Natal acraea	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed	
Acraea neobule neobule	Wandering donkey acraea	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Alaena amazoula ochroma	Yellow zulu	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Aloeides damarensis damarensis	Damara copper	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Aloeides molomo molomo	Molomo copper	Least Concern (endemic)	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Aloeides taikosama	Dusky copper	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Aloeides trimeni trimeni	Trimen's copper	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Anthene definita definita	Common hairtail	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Axiocerses tjoane tjoane	Eastern scarlet	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Belenois aurota	Brown-veined white	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Byblia ilithyia	Spotted joker	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Catopsilia florella	African migrant	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Charaxes candiope	Green-veined charaxes	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Charaxes jahlusa rex	Pearl-spotted charaxes	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Chilades trochylus	Grass jewel	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Cigaritis natalensis	Natal bar	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	
Cnodontes penningtoni	Pennington's buff	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste	

Colias electo electo	African clouded yellow	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Colotis annae annae	Scarlet tip	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Colotis evagore antigone	Small orange tip	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Colotis evenina evenina	Orange tip	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Colotis lais	Kalahari orange tip	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Danaus chrysippus orientis	African monarch, Plain tiger	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Eurema brigitta brigitta	Broad-bordered grass yellow	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Gegenes niso niso	Common hottentot	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Gegenes pumilio gambica	Dark hottentot	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Hamanumida daedalus	Guinea-fowl butterfly	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Heteropsis perspicua perspicua	Eyed bush brown	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Junonia oenone oenone	Blue pansy	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Lampides boeticus	Pea blue	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Lepidochrysops patricia	Patricia blue	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Leucochitonea levubu	White-cloaked skipper	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Metisella willemi	Netted sylph	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Mylothris rueppellii haemus	Twin dotted border	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Neptis saclava marpessa	Spotted sailer	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Papilio demodocus demodocus	Citrus swallowtail	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Parosmodes morantii morantii	Morant's orange	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Pelopidas mathias	Black-banded swift	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Phalanta phalantha aethiopica	African leopard	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Platylesches neba	Flower-girl hopper	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Spialia delagoae	Delagoa sandman	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Spialia diomus ferax	Common sandman	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Spialia mafa mafa	Mafa sandman	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Spialia spio	Mountain sandman	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Liste
Stugeta bowkeri henningi	Bowker's marbled sapphire	Least Concern (endemic)	Not Listed	Not Liste

Telchinia serena	Dancing acraea	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Teracolus agoye bowkeri	Speckled sulphur tip	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Teracolus subfasciatus	Lemon traveller	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Zintha hintza hintza	Hintza pierrot	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Zizeeria knysna knysna	African grass blue	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed
Zizula hylax	Tiny grass blue	Least Concern	Not Listed	Not Listed

APPENDIX H: SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

• See attached PDF document.