

Appendix B

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Appendix B1: DEA Meeting Minutes

Appendix B2: Landowner Agreements

Appendix B3: Written Notification

Appendix B4: Proof of Mailing

Appendix B5: Comments and Responses

Working for Wetlands: Limpopo Province Public Participation Report



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1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed interventions for wetland rehabilitation require the Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) Programme to apply for environmental authorisation in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (Government Notice (GN) Regulation (R) 982) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended. To ensure that the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) can make an informed decision, based on a transparent and meaningful process, this Basic Assessment (BA) process must undergo a Public Participation Process (PPP).

This PPP must be undertaken in accordance with regulations 39-44 of the EIA Regulations. Additional guidance has also been incorporated from the Western Cape¹ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) Guideline Document on Public Participation (March 2013).

This Public Participation Report (PPR) has therefore been compiled to collectively represent the consultation process that has been undertaken through the PPP. The following sections include:

- Section 2 A database of interested and affected parties (I&APs) has been created and updated over the last 13 planning years. This database will be updated and maintained throughout the BA process.
- Section 3 The consultation that was undertaken during the pre-application phase of the project is described in this section. Proof of advertisements, site notices and deliveries is available in Appendix B4.
- Section 4 Describes the consultation process that was undertaken during the BA phase. Proof of notification is available in Appendix B4
- Section 5 Comments received during the PPP and responses provided have been summarised into a table in this section. The second will be updated with all comments received during the second 30-day public comment period for submission to DEA in the Final BAR. All original comments and responses will be included in Appendix B5.
- Section 6 This section explains the way forward once the public participation process has been completed

2 I&AP DATABASE

A register of I&APs has been recorded for WfWetlands over the previous planning years undertaken by Aurecon. The existing national and provincial database has been updated with information from new I&APs responding to the advertisements and site notices throughout the application process. Proactive identification of I&APs, municipal representatives, organs of state, competent authorities and surrounding landowners was also undertaken to update the database specific to the new planning year.

Table 1 on the following page provides a summary of the I&AP database for the Limpopo Province. Please note that contact details have been omitted for privacy reasons.

¹ These guidelines have been considered as best practice even though the project may be located outside of the province.

Table 1: I&AP Database

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
National Stakeholders	Mr Mark Anderson	Birdlife South Africa
	Ms Mpume Ntlokwana	Department of Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries
	Ms Serah Muobeleni	Department of Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries: Land Use and Soil Management
	Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni	Department of Environmental Affairs: Biodiversity Conservation
	Mr Danie Smit	Department of Environmental Affairs: Sensitive Environments
	Ms Naomi Fourie	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Dr Paul Meulenbeld	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Ms Jackie Jay	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Ms Barbara Weston	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Kelvin Legge	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Bongani Madikizela	Water Research Commission
	Ms Olga Jacobs	SANParks: Biodiversity and Social Projects
	Mr Steven Segang	Endangered Wildlife Trust
	Mr Ahmend Khan	Department of Environmental Affairs
	Mr Louwrens Ferreira	Department of Environmental Affairs
	Mr Wemer Roux	Department of Environmental Affairs
	Ms Kerry Morrison	Endangered Wildlife Trust
	Ms Tanya Smith	Endangered Wildlife Trust
	Morgan Griffiths	WESSA
	Mr Dumisani Mabona	Department of Environmental Affairs: Sensitive Environments
	Mr Umesh Bahadur	Department of Environmental Affairs: Working for Wetlands
	Mr Farai Tererai	DEA: Working for Wetlands: Manager: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
	Dr Piet-Louis Grundling	Department of Environmental Affairs: Working for Wetlands
	Mr Seoka Lekota	DEA: Biodiversity Conservation
	Khosa Tsunduka	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Malaudzi Nkumbudzeni	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Lumka Kuse	Department of Water and Sanitation

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
	Xolani Hadebe	Department of Water and Sanitation
Provincial Stakeholders: State Authorities	Mr Thingahangwi Malotsha	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Chris S Ngehenabo	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Vincent Egan	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Meshack Masindi	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Donald Lithole	Limpopo Heritage Resource Authority
	Mr Nimrod Mathivha	Department of Agriculture
	Mr David Nethengwe	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Foletgi Mahlakoane	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
	Mr Sam Makhubele	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Solly Kgopong	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Mr Vusi E Makhubele	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
	Ms Magdeline Msimanga	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Love Hlekane	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Anton Van Wetten	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
		Limpopo Department of Transport
	Department of Mineral Resources	
	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	
Landowner	Mr Nditsheni Seth Nethengwe	Thengwe Tribal Authority
	Mr Reuben Mabunda	Mahumani Tribal Authority
	Hosi Mahumani	Mahumani Tribal Authority
	Mr Madi Simon	Thulamela Local Municipality

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
Municipal Stakeholders	Mr C Mapholi	Vhembe District Municipality
	Mr Godfrey Mawela	Vhembe District Municipality
	HE Maluleke	Thulamela Local Municipality
	Mrs J Selapyane	Bela-Bela Local Municipality
	Cllr Thoma Taaani	Thulamela Local Municipality
	Cllr TS Pandelane	Thulamela Local Municipality
	Mr Ombali Phineas Sebola	Modimolle/Mookgophong Local Municipality
	Ms Marlene Van Staden	Modimolle/Mookgophong Local Municipality
	Mr Robert Mokalabone	Limpopo Tribunal
	Cllr M.J Aphiri	Limpopo Executive Council
	Cllr R.R Molapo	Limpopo Executive Council
	Mr Republic Monakedi	Mopani District Municipality
	Mr Dumisani Shitlhangu	Mopani District Municipality
	Ms Faith Maboya	Mopani District Municipality
Cllr Nkakareng Rakgoale	Mopani District Municipality	
General I&APs	Maxwell Chauke	Greater Giyani Local Municipality
	Mrs Kelly Abram	Waterberg Biosphere
	Mr Mick Angliss	LEDET
	J.A Bierman	Marievale Farms
	Mr Michael Breetzke	Southern Mapping
	Ms Terry Calmeyer	ILISO Consulting Environmental
	Mr Mahlomola Ernest Daemane	SANParks
	Mr Samuel Davidson-Phillips	Welgevonden Game Reserve
	Mr C.S Deetlefs	Smithvlei
	Ms Natasha Du Plessis	Nylsvley Nature Reserve
	Ms Marion Dunkeld-Mengell	Friends of Nylsvley
	Ms Helette Dunne	SANParks: BSP
	Martin Engelbrecht	Mapungubwe Conservation manager
	Prof Paul Fauche	University of Venda

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
	Ms Navashni Govender	SANParks
	Ms Cathy Greaver	SANParks
	Mr Zebulon Hlungwane	SANParks
	Steven Khoza	Private I&AP
	Ernest Lesoalo	University of Limpopo
	Ntombi Majazi	Private I&AP
	Mr Jerome Mandoma	Zwisimane
	Manoko Masilo	LEDET
	Ms Doris Maumela	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Mr Stephen Midzi	SANParks
	Mr Zebulon Modikwe	Lepelle Northen Water Board
	Tumelo Mokgotho	Marakele Project Manager
	Mr Kesentseeng Mosotho	Limpopo Department of Agriculture
	Nketso Mphake	SANParks
	M.S. Mugivhi	LEDET
	Mr Daniel Mundalamo	Mutale Community Representative
	Mr Hector Muvhenzhe	SANParks: Field Assistant
	Anathi Nabi	Private I&AP
	Mr David Neguyuni	Mutale Community Representative
	Mphadeni Nthangeni	Marakele National Park
	Mr Kenny Phasha	Tsogang Water and Sanitation
	Ms Winnie Phuluwa	Department of Water and Sanitation
	Abel Ramavhale	Private I&AP
	Mr Marius Renke	SANParks
	Mr B Schroder	Welgevonden Game Reserve
	Mr Richard Selemela	Department of Agriculture
	CJ Smith	Roosvlei
	Mr Marius Snyders	Ripzone

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
	Mr Peter Tsheola	LEDET
	M.S Tshikundamalema	Tshikundamalema
	Kennedy Tshivase	Senior Traditional Leader
	Mr Eddie Ubisi	SANParks
	Mrs C West	Elangeni DooranDraai
	Nick Zambatis	Biodiversity Conservation
	Moses Ratshivhadelo	Tswelopele Ya Rena Tra. Co.
	Lorraine Maloma	Tswelopele Ya Rena Tra. Co.
	Sello Ledwaba	Department of Environmental Affairs
	Pamole Motshana	Private I&AP
	Thuso Maphuthu	Private I&AP
	Mr John Wesson	WESSA
	Thomas Tshivhandekano	Private I&AP

3 PRE-APPLICATION PHASE CONSULTATION

Prior to the circulation of the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and submission of the application form to DEA, the following measures were undertaken to ensure that the legislated 30-day public comment period will reach the relevant parties.

Pre-application meeting with DEA

Confirmation was received on 18 January 2018 from the Department of Environmental Affairs' EIA Admin unit that pre-application meetings are not a compulsory requirement for the National Department. Considering this response, and the Working for Wetlands Programme's multiple submissions since 2006 to the Department, it was decided not to request a pre-application meeting. Please refer to Appendix B1 for a copy of the correspondence received from DEA on this matter.

Landowner consultation

Landowner consultation is a vital component of the Working for Wetlands Programme Standard Operating Procedures. Landowners were consulted with during the planned Phase 1 and Phase 2 site visits, and Landowner Agreements must be signed prior to any construction commencing. Although it can be difficult to access landowner agreements for the full wetland system (some wetlands have more than 30 properties intersecting the wetland), landowner agreements have been obtained for work where targeted rehabilitation interventions are planned for the following implementation cycles. Landowner Agreements are included in Appendix B2.

3.3 Advertisements

Advertisements were placed in the national newspapers the *Sunday Times* (in English) and *Die Rapport* (in Afrikaans) to allow the public the opportunity to register their interest in the project. The advertisement in *Die Rapport* and *Sunday Times* were published on 3 February 2019.

The English text has been included below in Figure 1 to ensure the text is legible. A copy of the page on which the advertisement appeared in *Die Rapport* is included in Figure 2 and of the advertisement in the *Sunday Times* in Figure 3. Please note that the original page size is A2, and the advertisement is therefore clearly legible.

Site notices

Site notices were fixed at the property boundaries of the affected wetland systems and at public areas such as libraries or municipal buildings. The text of the site notice in English is included in Figure 4 and is followed by proof of placement of the site notices in the sub-section thereafter. The site notice was of a size and content required by the relevant guidelines.

Please note that the proof of placement is included in Section 3.4.1 in this PPR.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: WORKING FOR WETLANDS PROGRAMME

Proposal: The Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) Programme intends to rehabilitate a number of degraded wetlands within South Africa. The proposed wetland rehabilitation activities may require the construction of hard interventions, for instance gabion and concrete structures, as well as soft options such as re-vegetation and/ or alien plant removal. The number, type, scale and location of each of these interventions vary according to the nature and magnitude of the problem and the state of the wetland (i.e. the receiving environment).

Legal Framework: Authorisation is required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), as amended, as described below:

A. National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended: The rehabilitation proposals trigger a suite of activities which require Environmental Authorisation by means of a Basic Assessment (BA) process in terms of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (Government Notice Regulation (GN R) 982, as amended) pursuant to NEMA. Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Aurecon) has been appointed to undertake the BA processes and separate provincial focused applications will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as the competent authority. The Listed Activities that are relevant to each application in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations are GN R 983 (as amended): 12, 19, 27 and 48 (Listing Notice 1), GN 984 (as amended): 24 (Listing Notice 2) and GN R 985 (as amended): 12, 14 and 23 (Listing Notice 3).

B. National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA): In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a General authorisation (GA) has been granted for certain activities that are listed under the Act that usually require a Water Use Licence; as long as these activities are undertaken for wetland rehabilitation and the primary purpose of the rehabilitation is for conservation purposes (i.e. GN R 1198 of 18 December 2009).

Opportunity to Participate: Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014) and the NWA (1998). Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register their interest for future correspondence to the people mentioned below and to submit comments on the Draft BA Reports for the six affected provinces during a public comment period of 30 days from **11 February – 14 March 2019** (the project specific rehabilitation plans will be made available for public comment in March 2019). Notification will be sent to all identified and registered I&APs prior to the start date of this comment period. Digital copies of the reports will be available for download from Aurecon's website (<http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>).

Province	Reports		Nearest City / Town(s)
	BAR	Rehabilitation Plan	
Eastern Cape	Yes	Amathole, Kromme and Tsitsikamma	Hogsback, Seymour, Kareedouw and Humansdorp
Free State	Yes	Maluti	Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba
Gauteng	Yes	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	Yes	iSimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Yes	Soutini Baleni and Mutale	Giyani and Thohoyandou
North West	Yes	Madikwe National Park and Molopo	Rustenburg and Mahikeng

I&APs should refer to the relevant province and wetland project, and provide their comments together with their name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the applications to the contact person indicated below.

Contact: Simamkele Ntsengwane / Franci Gresse (of Aurecon) by **14 March 2019**.

E-mail: Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com / franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com

Tel: 021 526 9560, **Fax:** 021 526 9500, or **Post:** P.O. Box 494, Cape Town, 8000



Figure 1: Advertisement for the Working for Wetlands Programme 2017/2018 Planning Cycle



Nuwe beurse druk die JSE

Alternatiewe spelers dwing pryse laer

Om op Lange

Maak van bytensele uitruig op die JSE konsepte – die 200-300-staats-koopprys wat dit doen – is die druk op die JSE se groei te versterk.

Selbes het Trading op die JSE gebruik as voorbeeld by ander groot maatskappye soos Naspers, Comstock, K11, African Rainbow Minerals, Optima en Sotho.

Die AKS het nie 'n markkapitaal van meer as R2 000 miljoen.

Die versamelaars het veranderinge in verhoudings met maatskappye.

Die AKS of sy maatskappye is tot 50% geseëlde deur die 2016 en 2017. Dit is 'n nuwe idee, hoër by kan deurlopende kope met die 200-300 maatskappye.

Keith Brady, uitvoerende hoof van AKS, is aan kop van die maatskappye wat veranderings van aandeelhouers byvoorbeeld die 200-groep van die maatskappye eers. Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye, eerder as 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

"Die AKS moet binne drie maande al ten minste 'n miljoen seëls behaal – wat die 200-groep in die volgende 12 tot 18 maande behaal." Dit is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Besonder is dit die 200-groep van die maatskappye wat die 200-groep van die maatskappye is.

In 2016 is die 200-groep van die maatskappye van die 200-groep van die maatskappye.

In 2017 is die 200-groep van die maatskappye van die 200-groep van die maatskappye.

In 2018 is die 200-groep van die maatskappye van die 200-groep van die maatskappye.

Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Besetters ná 5 maande steeds op wynplaas...

Om te Besoort

Waar is die besetters wat op die Wynplaas is? Dit is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.

Die 200-groep van die maatskappye is 'n belangrike faktor in die besluitneming van die maatskappye.



Sprinter. 'n Aanbod wat besigheidsin maak.

Begin die jaar met 'n groot besparing op 'n Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 311 Panelwa. Nou teen R9 999 p/m met 'n rentekoers van 9,25% (Prima minus 1%).

EXKLUUSIEVE AANBOD BESIGHEID

NOU TEEN: R9 999 1.0%

Prima minus: BETAAL TERME: 0% Daaropvolgende 12 maande. 1.0% per maand.

2016 en 2017: R9 999 p/m met 'n rentekoers van 9,25% (Prima minus 1%).

2018: R9 999 p/m met 'n rentekoers van 9,25% (Prima minus 1%).

2019: R9 999 p/m met 'n rentekoers van 9,25% (Prima minus 1%).

plaaasenaar gemaak is. "Ons moet dus hierdie afsetting in samewerking met verskeie rolspelers koördineer."

Die besetters het intussen 'n aansoek om verlof tot appell teen die bevel gebring, maar Van Staden sê dit beteken nie dat die bevel nie uitgevoer

ture met vyf mense per struktuur op die 60 hektaar opgeslaan. Ooggetules sê egter van die strukture staan leeg.

PROSES VAN OPENBARE DEELNAME: WERK-VIR-VLEILANDEPROGRAM

Waarstel: Die Werk vir Vleilandeprogram beoog om 'n aantal afgetekeide vleilande in Suid-Afrika te rehabiliteer. Die voorgestelde rehabilitasie van vleilande behels die konstruksie van 'n verskeidenheid harde intervensies wat slansmandjies ("gabions") en betonstrukture kan insluit, asook sagter oplossings soos die hervestiging van plante en/of die verwydering van indringerplante. Die aantal, tipe, omvang en ligging van elke van hierdie intervensies in die betrokke vleilande sal verskil na gelang van die aard en omvang van die probleem en die toestand van die vleiland.

Wettlike Vereistes: Goedkeuring word vereis kragtens die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur [Wet 107 van 1998] soos hieronder beskryf:

A. Die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur, Nr. 107 van 1998 (WNOB), soos gewysig: Rehabilitasiewaarloste vereis dat 'n Basiese Invoedepaalingsproes (BIB) uitgevoer moet word volgens die WNOB se 2014 regulasies (Goewermentskennisgewingsregulasie [GK R] 582, soos gewysig) vir Omgewingsinvoedepaalings (OIB). Aurecon Suid-Afrika (Edms.) Bpk. (Aurecon) is aangestel om die BIB-proses te onderneem, en afsonderlike aansoek sal vir elke provinsie by die bevoegde owerheid, naamlik die Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS), ingedien word. Die gelyke aktiwiteite sal volgens die 2014 OIB-regulasies op elke aansoek van toepassing is, is GK R 983 (soos gewysig): 12, 15, 27 en 48 (Kennisgewingslys I) en GK R 985 (soos gewysig): 12, 14 en 23 (Kennisgewingslys 3).

B. Nasionale Waterwet, Nr. 36 van 1998 (NWW): Vervolgens Artikel 39 van die NWW is 'n Algemene Magtiging (AM) toegestaan vir sekere aktiwiteite wat normaalweg 'n Watergebruiksensie vereis kragtens die NWW, op voorwaarde dat die aktiwiteite deel van vleilandrehabilitasie is en bewaring die primêre doel van die rehabilitasie is (s.e. GK R 1196 van 18 Desember 2009).

Gleentheid om deel te neem: Kennisgewing geskied hiermee van die proses van openbare deelname volgens die WNOB se OIB-regulasies (2014) en die NWW (1998). Die Konsep BIB-versie vir die ses geaffekteerde provinsies word vir 'n periode van 30 dae vanaf **11 Februarie – 14 Maart 2019** aan belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye (B&GPe) beskikbaar gestel vir kommentaar (die rehabilitasieplanne vir elke provinsie sal in Maart 2019 beskikbaar wees). Alle geldende B&GPe sal kennisgewings ontvang voordat hierdie kommentaar tydperk begin. Digitaal kopieel van die versie sal beskikbaar wees vanaf Aurecon se webwerf (<http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>).

Provinsie	Verreke	Rehabilitasieplan	Naaste Stad/ Dorp
Oos-Kaap	Ja	Amatole, Kromme en Tstikamma	Hoghsack, Seymour, Karedouw en Humansdorp
Vrystaat	Ja	Maluti	Harrismith en Phuthaditjhaba
Gauteng	Ja	Gauteng Noord	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	Ja	Simangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Ja	Soutini Balesi en Mutale	Giyani en Thohoyandou
Noord-Wes	Ja	Madikwe Nasionale Park en Moloop	Rustenburg en Makeng

B&GPe moet asb / skriftelik verwys na die betrokke provinsie en vleilandprojek waarna u kommentaar verwys. U moet ook asb. u naam en kontakbesonderhede verskaf, sa ook enige direkte of indirekte sake, finansieële, persoonlike of ander belange met betrekking tot die aansoek. Hierdie inligting moet asb. aan die onderstaande persoon/ persone gestuur word.

Kontak: Franci Gresse / Simamkele Ntsengwane (van Aurecon) teen **14 Maart 2019**.
E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com / Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com
Tel: 021 526 9400, faks: 021 52 6 9500, of Pos: Postbus 494, Kaapstad, 8000



PROSES VAN OPENBARE DEELNAME: WERK-VIR-VLEILANDEPROGRAM

Waarstel: Die Werk vir Vleilandeprogram beoog om 'n aantal afgetekeide vleilande in Suid-Afrika te rehabiliteer. Die voorgestelde rehabilitasie van vleilande behels die konstruksie van 'n verskeidenheid harde intervensies wat slansmandjies ("gabions") en betonstrukture kan insluit, asook sagter oplossings soos die hervestiging van plante en/of die verwydering van indringerplante. Die aantal, tipe, omvang en ligging van elke van hierdie intervensies in die betrokke vleilande sal verskil na gelang van die aard en omvang van die probleem en die toestand van die vleiland.

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Gauteng	Ja	Gauteng Noord	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	Ja	Simangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Ja	Soutini Balesi en Mutale	Giyani en Thohoyandou
Noord-Wes	Ja	Madikwe Nasionale Park en Moloop	Rustenburg en Makeng

Kontak: Franci Gresse / Simamkele Ntsengwane (van Aurecon) teen **14 Maart 2019**.
E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com / Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com
Tel: 021 526 9400, faks: 021 52 6 9500, of Pos: Postbus 494, Kaapstad, 8000

Figure 2: Proof of advertisement in Die Rapport (3 February 2019)

Figure 3: Proof of advertisement in the Sunday Times (3 February 2019)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: WORKING FOR WETLANDS PROGRAMME

Proposal: The Working for Wetlands (W/Wetlands) Programme intends to rehabilitate a number of degraded wetlands within South Africa. The proposed wetland rehabilitation activities may require the construction of hard interventions, for instance gabion and concrete structures, as well as soft options such as re-vegetation and/ or alien plant removal. The number, type, scale and location of each of these interventions vary according to the nature and magnitude of the problem and the state of the wetland (i.e. the receiving environment).

Legal Framework: Authorisation is required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), as amended, as described below:

A. National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended: The rehabilitation proposals trigger a suite of activities which require Environmental Authorisation by means of a Basic Assessment (BA) process in terms of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (Government Notice Regulation (GN R) 982, as amended) pursuant to NEMA. Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Aurecon) has been appointed to undertake the BA processes and separate provincial focused applications will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as the competent authority. The Listed Activities that are relevant to each application in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations are GN R 983 (as amended): 12, 19, 27 and 48 (Listing Notice 2); GN 984 (as amended): 24 (Listing Notice 2) and GN R 985 (as amended): 12, 14 and 23 (Listing Notice 3).

B. National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA): In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a General authorisation (GA) has been granted for certain activities that are listed under the Act that usually require a Water Use Licence; as long as these activities are undertaken for wetland rehabilitation and the primary purpose of the rehabilitation is for conservation purposes (i.e. GN R 1195 of 18 December 2009).

Opportunity to Participate: Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014) and the NWA (1998). Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register their interest for future correspondence to the people mentioned below and to submit comments on the Draft BA Reports for the six affected provinces during a public comment period of 30 days from **11 February – 14 March 2019** (the project specific rehabilitation plans will be made available for public comment in March 2019). Notification will be sent to all identified and registered I&APs prior to the start date of this comment period. Digital copies of the reports will be available for download from Aurecon's website (<http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>).

Province	Reports		Nearest City / Town(s)
	BAR	Rehabilitation Plan	
Eastern Cape	Yes	Amathole, Kromme and Tsitsikamma	Hogback, Seymour, Kareedouw and Humansdorp
Free State	Yes	Maletj	Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba
Gauteng	Yes	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	Yes	iSimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Yes	Soutini Baleni and Mutale	Giyani and Thohoyandou
North West	Yes	Madikwe National Park and Molopo	Rustenburg and Mathekong

I&APs should refer to the relevant province and wetland project, and provide their comments together with their name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which they have in the applications to the contact person indicated below.

Contact: Simankelwe Ntsengwane / Franci Grasse (of Aurecon) by 14 March 2019.
E-mail: Simankelwe.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com / franci.grasse@aurecongroup.com
Tel: 021 526 9560, Fax: 021 526 9500, or Post: P.O. Box 494, Cape Town, 8000

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BID DOCUMENT

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CLOSING DAT

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: WORKING FOR WETLANDS PROGRAMME LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Proposal: The Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) Programme intends to rehabilitate a number of degraded wetlands within South Africa. The proposed wetland rehabilitation activities may require the construction of hard interventions, for instance gabion and concrete structures, as well as soft options such as re-vegetation and/ or alien plant removal. The number, type, scale and location of each of these interventions vary according to the nature and magnitude of the problem and the state of the wetland (i.e. the receiving environment).

The following wetland rehabilitation projects are proposed in the **Limpopo** Province for the 2018/2019 planning cycle:

PROJECT	WETLAND SYSTEM	NEAREST TOWN	LATITUDE (DDMMSS)	LONGITUDE (DDMMSS)
Mutale *	Nyahalwe	Thohoyandou	22°45'32.62"S	30°31'43.70"E
Soutini-Baleni	Soutini Baleni 01	Giyani	23°25'14.46"S	30°54'39.82"E
	Soutini Baleni 02		23°25'9.88"S	30°54'43.92"E
	Soutini Baleni 03		23°25'16.12"S	30°54'54.70"E

**This project received Environmental Authorisation during a previous planning year and will not be included in the BA Report. A rehabilitation plan will however be made available to registered interested and affected parties*

Legal Framework: Authorisations are required in terms of the National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended, as described below:

A. National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended: Rehabilitation proposals triggers a suite of activities which require a Basic Assessment (BA) approval in terms of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (Government Notice Regulation (GN R) 982, as amended) pursuant to NEMA. Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Aurecon) has been appointed to undertake the BA processes and separate provincial applications, which will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as the competent authority. The Listed Activities that are relevant to each application in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations are GN R 983 (as amended): 12, 19, 27 and 48 (Listing Notice 1), GN 984 (as amended): 24 (Listing Notice 2) and GN R 985 (as amended): 12, 14 and 23 (Listing Notice 3).

B. National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA): In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a General Authorisation (GA) has been granted for certain activities that are listed under the Act that usually require a Water Use Licence; as long as these activities are undertaken for wetland rehabilitation and the primary purpose of the rehabilitation is for conservation purposes (i.e. GN R1198 of 18 December 2009).

Opportunity to Participate: Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014) and the NWA (1998). Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register their interest for future correspondence to the people mentioned below and to submit comments on the Draft BA Reports for the six affected provinces, and Rehabilitation Plans for each of the associated wetland projects for a public comment period of 30 days from **11 February – 14 March 2019**. Notification will be sent to all identified and registered I&APs prior to the start date of this comment period. Digital copies of the reports will be available for download from Aurecon's website (<http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>). I&APs also have **30 days** to comment on the proposed exemptions from public participation process from the date of this advertisement.

More information can be found in a 'context document' available for download from Aurecon's website (<http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>).

Contact: Simamkele Ntsengwane/ Franci Gresse (of Aurecon) by **14 March 2019**

E-mail: Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com / franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com

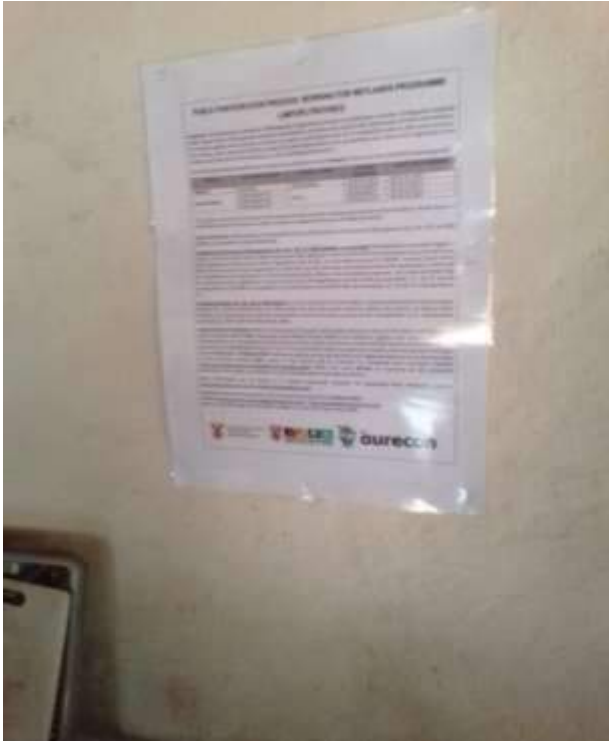
Tel: 021 526 9560, **Fax:** 021 526 9500, or **Post:** P.O. Box 494, Cape Town, 8000



Figure 4: Example of text included in the Limpopo site notice

3.3.1 Proof of placement

Site notices were fixed at the property boundaries of the affected wetland systems and at public areas such as libraries or municipal buildings. The text of the site notice in English is included in Figure 4 and is followed by proof of placement of the site notices in the sub-section thereafter. The site notice was of a size and content required by the relevant guidelines.

Project:	Soutini Baleni	
Wetlands:	Soutini Baleni – Site Notice Erected in Giyani	
Coordinates:	23°23'19.4"S	30°52'33.0"E
		
Project:	Soutini Baleni	
Wetlands:	Soutini Baleni – Site Notice Erected in Giyani	
Coordinates:	23°24'31.7"S	30°46'39.0"E



4 BASIC ASSESSMENT PHASE CONSULTATION

The Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the Limpopo Province was made available for a 30-day public comment period from 11 February to 14 March 2019. Registered I&APs identified in the pre-application phase were notified of this comment period via post or email. The written notification provided to the I&APs is included in Appendix B2.

Hard and electronic copies were made available to selected organs of state and municipalities based on their internal requirements. I&APs are able to access the BAR via Dropbox and on the Aurecon website: <http://www.aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>. The proof of delivery and notification is included in Appendix B3

5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Table 2 will be updated with a summary of the comments received during the public participation process and responses provided by Aurecon, the applicant, or the wetland specialist (where appropriate). The original comments will be included in Appendix B4 of the Final BAR for submission to DEA.

Table 2: I&AP Comments and Responses

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
1	04 February 2019 Email Interested and Affected Party (Thomas Tshivhandekano)	I would like to partake in the process for Working for Wetland Programme Basic Assessment at Mutale under Thoyandou town.	EAP: Thank you for your interest in the Working for Wetlands project. This serves to confirm that you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the abovementioned project and will be kept informed during the process. Notification will be sent to all registered I&APs prior to the start date of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and project specific rehabilitation plan commenting period.
2.	12 February 2019 Email and Telephone Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (Foster Baloyi)	The Department acknowledges receipt of your email received on 11.02.2019 and informs you that as the commenting authority for the proposed project, the Department will only provide comments upon receipt of the reports (hard copies).	EAP: Thank you for your interest in the Working for Wetlands Project. Following our telephonic conversation earlier, this is to confirm that electronic copies (in a CD format) of the Basic Assessment Report have been sent to Mr Meshack Masindi and Mr Vincent Egan of the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET).
3.	4 March 2019 Email (letter) Department of Environmental Affairs – Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation (Thobekile Zungu/ Seoka Lekota)	The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation received and evaluated the DBAR and the Rehabilitation plans for South-Baleni B82G wetland system. The following recommendations must be considered: Mitigation measure proposed in the rehabilitation plan must be implemented and adhered to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation work must be done during low rainfall seasons and soil compaction should be prevented as far as possible; Implement applicable weirs, infillings and berms to stop on-going erosion and drains within wetlands and encourage sediment trapping; 	EAP: The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation's comments is appreciated. The mitigation measures listed by the Directorate is included in the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan, as well as the EMPr.

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A permit must be acquired to disturb or remove all the protected and listed plant species on site from relevant authorities; • Alien invasive plant species in and around wetland areas must be removed in terms National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA) and Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA). Follow up-actions for at least five years need to take place and • All re-vegetation must be done with local indigenous plant species as specified by the Provincial Co-ordinator and/or Wetland Ecologist. <p>The overall biodiversity objective is to minimise loss to biodiversity as possible. In order to achieve this objective the above mentioned recommendations must be adhered to.</p>	
4.	<p>13 March 2019</p> <p>Email (letter)</p> <p>Department of Environmental Affairs (Mmamohale Kabasa)</p>	<p>Comments on the draft Basic Assessment Report for the Working for Wetlands Programme in the Soutini-Baleni wetlands south west of the town of Giyani within the Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province</p> <p>The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated February 2019 and received by the Department on 11 February 2019, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:</p> <p>Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the</p>	<p>EAP: Descriptions of interventions associated with the relevant listed activities have been updated to refer to interventions included in the associated rehabilitation plan(s). Note that the descriptions are slightly generic to allow for variations of the general intervention type in the rehabilitation plans.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.	
		The wetland areas selected for rehabilitation appear to be located in inaccessible areas with no definite access roads. The applicant must determine whether part of the rehabilitation activities will require the construction of access roads and whether this will trigger the applicable listed activities.	EAP: Existing access roads and tracks will be used by vehicles, and where this is not possible, the site will be accessed on foot. There are no current proposals to develop any new access roads, and certainly none that will trigger additional Listed Activities.
		If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms .	EAP: Where the activities applied for in the submitted application form differ from those tabled in the BAR, then an amended application form will be submitted with the Final BAR, and the most recent amended application form template will be used.
		Please note that Table 4 on pages 7-8 titled " <i>Listed activities triggered by the proposed Soutini-Baleni</i> " project includes Activity 24 of Listing Notice 2 (GN R984, as amended). This activity triggers a full scoping and EIA process, and not a Basic Assessment process. The EAP is required to determine the applicability of the activity, and if such activity is triggered, a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be lodged and the Scoping/EIA process be followed for the proposed Soutini-Baleni Wetland Rehabilitation project.	EAP: Listing Notice 2 Activity 24 has been removed from the BAR and will not be part of the application process. The proposed rehabilitation interventions required for the Soutini-Baleni wetland, will not require the removal or extraction of peat or peat soils. The proposed interventions affecting the mires requires the placement of brush on top of the wetlands as protection against grazers. One of the interventions also allows for the establishment of a cattle fence – but again, this will not require any peat or peat soils to be removed or extracted. For more detail on these interventions, please refer to the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan.
		Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final BAR. This includes but is not limited to the Limpopo Province Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, the Department of	EAP: All I&APs listed by the Department is included in the I&AP database (see Chapter 2 of this document).

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the provincial Department of Agriculture, the Department of Transport, the Greater Giyani Local Municipality, the Mopani District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, and the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.</p>	
		<p>Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.</p>	<p>EAP: Section 5 and Appendix B5 of the PPR include all comments received during the public participation process as well as the responses thereto.</p>
		<p>A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final BAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 14 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.</p>	<p>EAP: A C&R is provided in section 5 of this document with all original comments received available in Appendix B5.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended.	EAP: As mentioned in Appendix B-Section 1 of the Public Participation Report, the Public Participation Process has been undertaken in accordance to regulations 39-44 of the EIA Regulations. In addition, however, the Public Participation Report has been rephrased to mention the year of the EIA Regulations, as amended.
		The final BAR must also indicate that this draft BAR has been subjected to a public participation process.	EAP: The final BAR will be updated accordingly.
		The final BAR must indicate clearly the name of the newspaper that the advertisement for the draft BAR has been advertised.	EAP: Chapter 4 of the BAR indicates the name of the newspaper in which the advertisement for the draft BAR was published, together with dates of publication. Also see Section 3.3 of this document.
		<p>The BAR must provide a clear site layout map at an appropriate scale with an indication of all the envisioned areas along the wetland system that will be subject to rehabilitation. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of this map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, roads, guard house and buildings, including accommodation etc; • The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; • Buffer areas; and • All “no-go” areas. 	<p>EAP: A map indicating the wetlands earmarked for rehabilitation is provided in Appendix C of the BAR. The associated rehabilitation plan provides a project description and a locality plan of the proposed interventions, although no supporting infrastructure or accommodation will be required.</p> <p>Please note that the entire site is sensitive since the purpose of the project is to rehabilitate degraded wetlands.</p>
		The paleontological sensitivity map on page 28 (Figure 10) of the draft BAR is not clear. There is no	EAP: The palaeontological sensitivity map in the BAR has been updated to show the location of the site. Note

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>colour distinction to indicate the different sensitivity layers. A revised map must be submitted with the final BAR. The map must show the location of the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System in relation to different sensitivity layers.</p>	<p>that the entire mapped area is grey due to its sensitivity rating.</p> <p>Please refer to Appendix C of the BAR and the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan which shows the proposed intervention in relation to the no-go areas identified by the heritage specialist.</p>
		<p>It is noted that the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System is a formally declared Natural Heritage Site. Page 10 of the draft BAR indicates that a Heritage Impact Assessment conducted by Mr. Stephen Gaigher has been submitted with the draft BAR as Appendix D. Please note that no such specialist report has been appended to the draft BAR received by the Department on 11 February 2019.</p>	<p>EAP: Apologies, it appears that the Heritage Impact Assessment was accidentally not included in the hard copy submission to the Department. Please refer to Appendix D of the revised draft BAR.</p>
		<p>The Applicant must ensure that the Heritage Impact Assessment referred to under point (i) above; is made available to SAHRA for comment. Recommendations from SAHRA must form part of the EMPr and Rehabilitation Plan Documents.</p>	<p>EAP: Please refer to comments 5 and 6 in this table for SAHRA's interim and final comments on the application.</p>
		<p>The following Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are located within 30km radius of the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System: The Wolkberg Forest Belt (IBA SA005) and the Kruger National Park Border (IBA SA002) that is located approximately 15km from the wetland system. The final BAR must include an avifaunal impact statement from a qualified avifaunal specialist on the possible impacts to any important avifaunal species that may utilise the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System.</p>	<p>EAP: The impact of the proposed wetland rehabilitation activities on biota, including avifauna, is considered by the wetland specialist in his assessment of the wetland status and proposed interventions (attached as Appendix A to the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan).</p> <p>Also note that stakeholders such as the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation did not require an avifauna impact assessment and did not object to the proposed wetland rehabilitation activities.</p>
		<p>The Soutini-Baleni Wetland System is located within an important cultural tourism area. The social impact assessment must also include an assessment of</p>	<p>EAP: The potential impact on tourism and recreation is considered to be limited and is assessed in Section 7.1.10 of the BAR. According to the Wet-Health</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>potential impacts on tourism in the area. The report must also include a tourism impact statement.</p>	<p>assessment undertaken by the wetland specialist (see Appendix A of the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan), the tourism and recreation value of the wetland is very low, but can be increased significantly by implementing the proposed rehabilitation interventions.</p>
		<p>The following Activities applied for may trigger Section 19; S21 (c) and (i) of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998: GN R. 983 Activities 12 (i)(ii)(a); 48 (i)(ii)(a); GN R 985 Activities 14 (i)(ii)(a)(c)(e)(i)(ff)(hh), 23 (i)(ii)(a)(c)(e)(i)(ee)(gg). The BAR must include a freshwater specialist study with the following terms of reference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desktop mapping of freshwater ecosystems within the Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS) 500m Water Use Licence trigger area around the wetland system; • Field-based assessments of the potentially impacted systems to determine likely impacts and risks that the proposed rehabilitation measures may have on the wetland system. • Fish management method statement for any fish relocations if any. <p>Identify and recommend measures for mitigating impacts on the receiving environment.</p>	<p>EAP: Please note that this is not a development project but rather a rehabilitation project. The wetland is currently degraded and requires the implementation of rehabilitation interventions proposed by the Working for Wetlands Programme to retain and/or improve wetland function and biodiversity.</p> <p>The wetland specialists appointed to this project consider habitat, aquatic ecology and associated wetland fauna and avifauna species. The wetland specialists provide desktop mapping of the system in question, undertake field-based assessments which inform the subsequent Rehabilitation Plans, and identify and provide measures for these plans for mitigating any negative impacts for the construction of the interventions. The recommendations towards intervention options are aimed at meeting the wetland rehabilitation objectives set by the specialist, and therefore at improving habitat and opportunity for all reliant species, including aquatic species. A separate freshwater specialist study in addition to that provided by the wetland specialists (see Appendix A of the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan) is deemed to be unnecessary in this context.</p> <p>Also note that stakeholders such as the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation did not require a freshwater impact assessment and did not object to the proposed wetland rehabilitation activities.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference (TOR) for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations. • Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed. • Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas. 	<p>With regards to the need for a Water Use Licence, please note that in terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a General Authorisation (GA) has been granted for certain activities that usually require a Water Use License; as long as these activities are undertaken for wetland rehabilitation. These activities include <i>'impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse'</i> and <i>'altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse'</i> where they are specifically undertaken for the purposes of rehabilitating a wetland for conservation purposes. The WWetlands Programme is required to register the 'water use' in terms of the GA (Government Notice No. 1198 of 18 December 2009).</p> <p>EAP: The terms of reference (TOR) for the Wetland Specialist is summarised in Section 3 of the General Methodology of the Rehabilitation Plan. The Wetland Specialist (Retief Grobler) provided a Phase 2: Status Quo Assessment (Appendix A of the BAR) that included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed description of the study's methodology (Section 2); an indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint (Sections 3 and 5), and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations (N/A - this is not a development proposal, interventions are provided in the Intervention Booklet: Appendix C of the Rehabilitation Plans). • A detailed description of all limitations to the study (Section 4). All specialist field work was conducted in the appropriate season. • It is important to note that:

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the specialist definition of 'No-go' area differ from the Departments definition: this must be Clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable. All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures and recommendations, and must not recommend further Studies to be completed post EA. <p>Should specialists recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Specialist's definition of a 'No-Go' area concurs with that of the Departments definition. The specialist was required to indicate any 'No-Go' areas, as well as their buffers, if applicable. The Phase 2: Status Quo Assessment provided is the Final version. Detailed/practical mitigation measures and recommendations are provided in the Rehabilitation Plans (EMP) and specific mitigation per intervention (where required) is provided in the Intervention Booklet (Appendix C of the Rehabilitation Plan). No further studies are required to be completed post EA.
		<p>The EAP must indicate based on the assessment, the specialist assessment conducted and the various engineering methods, which interventions at which locations will be most suited and should be authorised for this project. The mitigation measures and recommendations to be included in EMPr should also be provided by the EAP.</p>	<p>EAP: Please refer to the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan for detailed descriptions on the status of the wetlands, the wetland rehabilitation objects as well as the interventions that were deemed to be most appropriate to achieve the identified rehabilitation objectives. Note that the interventions were identified after detailed discussions among the project team members. Also refer to Appendix C for detail on site specific mitigation measures required for the proposed wetland rehabilitation interventions.</p>
		<p>The BAR, specialist studies and EMPr must ensure compliance to the relevant appendices as outlined in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p>	<p>EAP: Please refer to the checklist titled "NEMA Requirements for Basic Assessment Reports" on pages i-iii of the BAR.</p>
		<p>The final BAR must include a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for Working for Wetlands Programme referred to on page 4 of the draft BAR received on 14 February 2019.</p>	<p>EAP: Please note that the Working for Wetlands Programme was unable to provide a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding. Subsequently, the section has been removed from the BAR.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final BAR.	EAP: The Department will be contacted to arrange a site visit.
		Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 1 (3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.	EAP: Section 8.2 has been updated in the BAR to provide this information, and the checklist titled "NEMA Requirements for Basic Assessment Reports on pages i-iii has been updated accordingly.
		<p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p><i>"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."</i></p>	EAP:
		Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with	EAP: The Department's reminder is appreciated. An extension in terms of Section 19(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, has been obtained. Please refer to Appendix B6 for a copy of the letter that was submitted to DEA in this regard.

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p><i>“the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or Significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days”.</i></p> <p>Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.</p>	
		<p>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>EAP: The Department’s reminder is noted.</p>
5.	<p>18 March 2019</p> <p>Letter</p> <p>SAHRA (Nokukhanya Khumalo)</p>	<p>Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public</p>	<p>EAP: SAHRA was informed that the BAR was made available on SAHRIS for comment with the Heritage Impact Assessment Report.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs).Due to the nature of the project, it is important to note that the very objectives of the WfWetlands Programme are to improve both environmental and social circumstances.</p> <p>Working for Wetlands is proposing to rehabilitate the wetland area within the Baleni nature reserve located in the Greater Giyane Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province. They plan on accomplishing this by constructing weirs/gabions that will create a barrier that will allow for sedimentation build-up to slow the water flow and re-wet the wetland area. There will be 28 intervention areas in the wetland including a 325m cattle fence.</p> <p>Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd is undertaking a Basic Assessment process on behalf of Working for Wetlands, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended.</p> <p>To meet the requirements of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Report by G&A Heritage Management Consultants (Pty) Ltd had been submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting.</p> <p><i>Gaigher, S. December 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Anti-Erosion</i></p>	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p><i>Measures at the Baleni Salt Works Provincial Heritage Site, Limpopo Province.</i></p> <p>The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed wetland area and identified two heritage sites that may be impacted by the proposed intervention areas. The first site, Site 1 in the HIA is the same site that was described in a masters research paper as site BS04; it consists of hut floor remains, ash deposits, and potsherds of which some are diagnostic. This site will be partially impacted by trenching to install intervention measures to curb continued erosion. The author assessed the disturbance as beneficial to the long conservation of other archaeological sites downstream.</p> <p>The second site, Site 2 is a single grave site located outside the proposed rehabilitation intervention areas. Both sites are of high heritage significance. As well as all other sites located within the entire wetland area is the Baleni Salt-works as it is a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS).</p> <p>The author recommends:</p> <p>No assessment of impacts on palaeontological resources because the study area is located in the grey zone in the SAHRA palaeo-map. Site 1 must be mitigated by a qualified archaeologist in the area that will be disturbed by the installation of a gabions at Intervention B82G-01-213-00. In order to carry out the mitigations, a section 35 of the NHRA permit application must be applied for to SAHRA. The cemetery must be protected by a 25 m buffer zone during construction. The Chance Finds procedures provided in the report</p>	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>must be included in the EMPr for all intervention measures as well as the cattle fence construction.</p> <p>Interim Comment</p> <p>SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot comment on the HIA report until the BAR report is submitted to the case for review.</p>	
6.	<p>15 April 2019</p> <p>Letter</p> <p>SAHRA (Nokukhanya Khumalo)</p>	<p>Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). Due to the nature of the project, it is important to note that the very objectives of the WfWetlands Programme are to improve both environmental and social circumstances.</p> <p>Working for Wetlands is proposing to rehabilitate the wetland area within the Baleni nature reserve located in the Greater Giyane Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province. They plan on accomplishing this by constructing weirs/gabions that will create a barrier that will allow for sedimentation build-up to slow the water flow and re-wet the wetland area. There will be 28 intervention areas in the wetland including a 325m cattle fence.</p> <p>Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd is undertaking a Basic Assessment process on behalf of Working for Wetlands, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for</p>	<p>EAP: SAHRA's comments are appreciated and have been included in the Soutini-Baleni Rehabilitation Plan.</p> <p>The Final BAR and DEA's decision on the application will be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.</p>

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>Environmental Authorisation, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended.</p> <p>To meet the requirements of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Report by G&A Heritage Management Consultants (Pty) Ltd had been submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting on 11/02/2019. In an Interim Comment issued on 18/03/2019, SAHRA summarised the HIA report as follows:</p> <p><i>Gaigher, S. December 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Anti-Erosion Measures at the Baleni Salt Works Provincial Heritage Site, Limpopo Province.</i></p> <p><i>The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed wetland area and identified two heritage sites that may be impacted by the proposed intervention areas. The first site, Site 1 in the HIA is the same site that was described in a Masters research paper as site BS04; it consists of hut floor remains, ash deposits, and potsherds of which some are diagnostic. This site will be partially impacted by trenching to install intervention measures to curb continued erosion. The author assessed the disturbance as beneficial to the long conservation of other archaeological sites downstream.</i></p> <p><i>The second site, Site 2 is a single grave site located outside the proposed rehabilitation intervention areas. Both sites are of high heritage significance. As well as all other sites located within the entire wetland area is</i></p>	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p><i>the Baleni Salt-works as it is a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS).</i></p> <p><i>The author recommends:</i></p> <p><i>No assessment of impacts on palaeontological resources because the study area is located in the grey zone in the SAHRA palaeo-map.</i></p> <p><i>Site 1 must be mitigated by a qualified archaeologist in the area that will be disturbed by the installation of a gabions at Intervention B82G-01-213-00. In order to carry out the mitigations, a section 35 of the NHRA permit application must be applied for to SAHRA.</i></p> <p><i>The cemetery must be protected by a 25 m buffer zone during construction.</i></p> <p><i>The Chance Finds procedures provided in the report must be included in the EMPr for all intervention measures as well as the cattle fence construction.</i></p> <p><i>SAHRA could not process the case to its conclusion until the accompanying environmental documents (BAR and appendices) were submitted to the case. The BAR has since been submitted and within section 7.1.4, it states that an archaeological excavation must be undertaken for site at 23°25'13" S 30°54'52" E (under a permit issued by SAHRA). The grave site at 23°25'13" S30°54'52" E will not be directly impacted but it may be impacted indirectly by construction activities. A buffer of 25 m radius must be applied to the grave site as a no-go area.</i></p> <p><i>Final Comment</i></p>	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p><i>The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the recommendations provided in the HIA report however, the buffer zone around the grave must be increased to 30m.</i></p> <p>The following additional recommendations must also be included as part of the EMPr for implementation during construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An archaeologist must be appointed to undertake a weekly monitoring programme of all construction activities and develop a heritage training manual for the induction of the construction crew and ECO. • All access points to the construction site, construction camps, laydown areas and stockpile areas must be assessed by an archaeologist prior to the construction phase. A report of the walk down assessment must be submitted to SAHRA. • Once the design of the weir is finalised the potential extent of flooding must be determined and the potential impacts to the surrounding heritage sites must be assessed. This assessment must be included in the walk-down report. • A CMP must be developed from the findings of this assessment, the CMP must also address any monitoring measures required for the long-term maintenance of the weirs. • In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and 	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		<p>Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer. • If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654). • If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251). <p>The Final BAR and its appendices must be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.</p> <p>Once a decision on the EA application is reached, the record of decision must be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.</p>	

No.	Date of comment, format of comment, name of organisation/ I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/ Applicant/ Specialist
		Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.	

6 WAY FORWARD

Following the 30 day public comment period, the BAR will be updated by incorporating any I&AP comments received on the reports (where relevant). All comments will be recorded and responded to in this PPR which will be circulated to all who have provided comment. The updated BAR will then be submitted to DEA for their decision-making process. Once DEA has made their decision on the proposed project, all registered I&APs will be notified of the outcome of the decision within fourteen (14) calendar days of the decision and the right to appeal projects

7 Appendices

Appendix 1 | DEA Meeting Minutes

Appendix 2 | Landowner Agreement(s)

Appendix 3 | Written Notification

Appendix 4 | Proof of Delivery

Appendix 5 | Comments and Responses

Appendix 6 | Additional Information

Appendix B1

DEA PRE-APPLICATION MEETING MINUTES

Franci Gresse

From: EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2019 11:06 AM
To: Franci Gresse
Cc: Claire Blanché
Subject: RE: 113223 WfWetlands: New Applications

Morning,

Dear Ms Gresse.

Pre-application meetings are not a compulsory requirement at National. If you feel you require one, you may set up one. When we receive your request, it will be allocated to a case officer. Otherwise, go ahead and lodge your application. Purely up to you. Trust this suffices

EIA Admin

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: **(012) 399 8630 / (012) 399 8529**

Email: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za

Please be informed that the Departmental EIA related templates were updated. It can be downloaded from the Departmental web address at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

From: Franci Gresse [mailto:Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com]
Sent: 18 January 2019 09:40 AM
To: EIAAdmin
Cc: Claire Blanché
Subject: 113223 WfWetlands: New Applications

Dear Sir/Madam

A new set of Basic Assessment applications (i.e. six) are being prepared for the Working for Wetlands Programme for public participation in February. Similar to the previous years, one BA report will be prepared per province.

We would appreciate if you could please indicate if a pre-application meeting will be required to discuss the project and procedures. We can confirm that the format of the reports will be the same as previous years and that no concerns/ issues were raised last year by the Case Officers regarding the process and/or the reports.

Kind regards
Franci

Franci Gresse

Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning, Aurecon

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WORKING FOR WETLANDS: CONTEXT DOCUMENT

1. Introduction

Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme managed by the Natural Resource Management Programme (NRMP) of the Department of Environmental Affairs, and is a joint initiative with the Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS), and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). In this way the programme is an expression of the overlapping wetland-related mandates of the three parent departments, and besides giving effect to a range of policy objectives, it also honours South Africa's commitments under several international agreements, especially the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

The programme is mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). The EPWP seeks to draw significant numbers of unemployed people into the productive sector of the economy, gaining skills while they work and increasing their capacity to earn an income.

2. Wetlands and their importance

Once considered valueless wastelands that needed to be drained or converted to more useful land use purposes, wetlands are now seen in an entirely different light. Today wetlands are more commonly perceived as natural assets and natural infrastructure able to provide a range of products, functions and services free of charge.

That which actually constitutes a wetland is often not fully understood. Common misconceptions have been that wetlands must be wet, must have a river running through them, or must always be situated in low-lying areas. The definition of a wetland is much broader and more textured: they are characterised more by soil properties and flora than by an abundance of water.

The National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 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".

The Ramsar Convention defines wetlands as:

"areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed 6m" (Article 1, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. 1971).

Wetlands can therefore be seasonal and may experience regular dry spells (sometimes even staying dry for up to several years), or they can be frequently or permanently wet. Wetlands can occur in a variety of locations across the landscape (**Plate A**), and may even occur at the top of a hill, nowhere near a river. A pan, for example, is a wetland which forms in a depression. Wetlands also come in many sizes; they can be as small as a few square metres (e.g. at a low point along the side of a road) or cover a significant portion of a country (e.g. the Okavango Delta).



Plate A: A large, seasonal wetland identifiable by the characteristic flora. This wetland contained no surface water at the time of the photograph

Wetland ecosystems provide a range of ecological and social services which benefit people, society and the economy at large:

- Improving the ecological health of an ecosystem by performing many functions that include flood control, water purification, sediment and nutrient retention and export, recharge of groundwater, as well as acting as vital habitats for diverse plant and animal species.
- Providing ecological infrastructure replacing the need for municipal infrastructure by providing the same or better benefit at a fraction of the cost, for example:
 - The movement of water in the landscape is slowed down by wetlands, which offers the dual benefit of flood control as well as a means of purification.
 - The slow movement of water allows heavier impurities to settle and phreatic vegetation and micro-bacteria the opportunity to remove pollutants and nutrients.
- Functioning as valuable open spaces and create recreational opportunities for people that include hiking along wetlands, fishing, boating, and bird-watching.
- Having cultural and spiritual significance for the communities living nearby. Commercially, products such as reeds and peat are also harvested from wetlands (**Plate B**).



Plate B: Commercial products made by locals from reeds harvested from wetlands

Wetlands are thus considered to be critically important ecosystems as they provide both direct and indirect benefits to the environment and society.

3. Wetland degradation

It has been estimated that originally over 10% of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) was covered by wetlands. However, this figure decreases significantly every year owing to unsustainable land-use practices. It is estimated that more than 50% of South Africa's wetlands have been destroyed through drainage of wetlands for crops and pastures, poorly managed burning regimes, overgrazing, disturbances to wetland soils, vegetation clearing as well as industrial and urban development (including mining activities).

Although wetlands are high-value ecosystems that make up only a small fraction of the country, they rank among the most threatened ecosystems in South Africa. According to a recent Council of Scientific Research (CSIR) study (Nel and Driver, 2012), South Africa's remaining wetlands were identified as the most threatened of all South Africa's ecosystems, with 48% of wetland ecosystem types being critically endangered, 12% endangered and 5% vulnerable. Only 11% of wetland ecosystem types are well protected, with 71% not protected at all.

The remaining wetland systems suffer from severe erosion and sedimentation, undesirable plant species and aquatic fauna infestations, unsustainable exploitation, artificial drainage and damming, and pollution. The continued degradation of wetlands will impact on biodiversity, ecological function, and the provision of ecosystem services with subsequent impacts on livelihoods and economic activity, as well as health and wellbeing of communities. In the absence of functional wetlands, the carbon cycle, the nutrient cycle and the water cycle would be significantly altered, mostly detrimentally.

Wetland conservation and rehabilitation should be at the heart of water management. It is necessary to prioritise South Africa's remaining wetlands such that those that offer valuable ecosystem services and are least impacted by current pressures or threats are offered immediate attention to avoid further loss, conversion or degradation.

4. The Working for Wetlands Programme

South Africa is a dry country, but is endowed with exceptionally rich biodiversity. The nation has a pressing reason to value the water-related services that wetlands provide. It is estimated that by 2025, South Africa will be one of fourteen African countries classified as "*subject to water scarcity*" (UNESCO, 2000). The conservation of wetlands is fundamental to the sustainable management of water quality and quantity, and wetland rehabilitation is therefore essential to conserving water resources in South Africa.

The guiding principles of the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998, recognise the need to protect water resources. In responding to the challenge of stemming the loss of wetlands and maintaining and enhancing the benefits they provide, government has recognised that, in order to be truly effective, strategies for wetland conservation need to include a combination of proactive measures for maintaining healthy wetlands, together with interventions for rehabilitating those that have been degraded. These objectives are currently being expressed in a coordinated and innovative way through the WfWetlands Programme.

Working for Wetlands pursues its mandate of wetland protection, wise use and rehabilitation in a manner that maximises employment creation, supports small emerging businesses, and transfers skills amongst vulnerable and marginalised groups. In the 13 years since 2004, the WfWetlands Programme has invested just under R1 billion in wetland rehabilitation and has been involved in over 1,300 wetlands, thereby improving or securing the health of over 70 000 hectares of wetland environment. The WfWetlands Programme has a current budget of just over R 130 million, of which approximately 35% is allocated directly to paying wages. Being part of the EPWP, the WfWetlands Programme has created more than 27 000 jobs and over 3 million person-days of paid work. The local teams are made up of a minimum of 55% women, 55% youth and 2% disabled persons.

Wetlands are not easy ecosystems to map at a broad scale as they are numerous, often small and difficult to recognise and delineate on remotely sensed imagery such as satellite photos. The WfWetlands Programme houses the National Wetlands Inventory Project (NWI) which aims to provide clarity on the extent, distribution and condition of South Africa's wetlands. The project clarifies how many and which rivers and wetlands have to be maintained in a natural condition to sustain economic and social development, while still conserving South Africa's freshwater biodiversity.

The National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) has used the NWI data to produce the most comprehensive national wetland map to date, called the NFEPA Atlas. This atlas enables the planning of wetland rehabilitation on a catchment scale.

Other activities that form part of the WfWetlands Programme include:

- Raising awareness of wetlands among workers, landowners and the general public; and
- Providing adult basic education and training, and technical skills transfer (in line with the emphasis of the EPWP on training, the WfWetlands Programme has provided 250,000 days of training in vocation and life skills).

5. Rehabilitation interventions

The successful rehabilitation of a wetland requires that the cause of damage or degradation is addressed, and that the natural flow patterns of the wetland system are re-established (flow is encouraged to disperse rather than to concentrate). Approximately 800 interventions are implemented every year in the WfWetlands Programme. The key purposes of implementing interventions include:

- Restoration of hydrological integrity (e.g. raising the general water table or redistributing the water across the wetland area);
- Recreation of wetland habitat towards the conservation of biodiversity; and
- Job creation and social upliftment.

Typical activities undertaken within the projects include:

- Plugging artificial drainage channels created by development or historical agricultural practices to drain wetland areas for other land use purposes;

- Constructing structures (gabions, berms, weirs) to divert or redistribute water to more natural flow paths, or to prevent erosion by unnatural flow rates that have resulted from unsustainable land use practices or development; and
- Removing invasive alien or undesirable plant species from wetlands and their immediate catchments (in conjunction with the Working for Water initiative).

Methods of wetland rehabilitation may include hard engineering interventions such as:

- Earth berms or gabion systems to block artificial channels that drain water from or divert polluted water to the wetland;
- Concrete and gabion weirs to act as settling ponds, to reduce flow velocity or to re-disperse water across former wetland areas thereby re-establishing natural flow paths;
- Earth or gabion structure plugs to raise channel floors and reduce water velocity;
- Concrete or gabion structures to stabilise head-cut or other erosion and prevent gullies;
- Concrete and/or reno mattress strips as road crossings to address channels and erosion in wetlands from vehicles; and
- Gabion structures (mattresses, blankets or baskets) to provide a platform for the growth of desired wetland vegetation.

Soft engineering interventions also offer successful rehabilitation methods, and the following are often used together with the hard engineering interventions:

- The use of biodegradable or natural soil retention systems such as eco-logs, Macmat-R plant plugs, grass or hay bales, and brush-packing techniques;
- The re-vegetation of stabilised areas with appropriate wetland and riparian plant species;
- Alien invasive plant clearing, which is an important part of wetland rehabilitation (this is supported by the Working for Water Programme).
- The fencing off of sensitive areas within the wetland to keep grazers out and to allow for the re-establishment of vegetation;
- In some instances, the use of appropriate fire management and burning regimes. The removal of undesirable plant and animal species; and
- In some wetlands, it may be possible to involve the community to develop a management plan for wise use within a wetland. This can involve capacity building through educating and training the community members who would monitor the progress. A plan could involve measures such as rotational grazing with long term benefits for rangeland quality.

6. Programme, projects and phases

In order to manage the **WfWetlands Programme**, wetlands have been grouped into “projects”, and each **Wetland Project** encompasses several smaller wetland systems which are each divided into smaller, more manageable and homogenous wetland units. A Wetland Project may be located within one or more quaternary catchments within a Province. The WfWetlands Programme is currently managing 37 Wetland Projects countrywide, and rehabilitation activities range from stabilising degradation to the more ambitious restoration of wetlands to their original conditions.

Each Wetland Project is managed in three phases (as shown in the flow diagram in **Plate C**) over a two-year cycle. The first two phases straddle the first year of the cycle and involve planning, identification, design and authorisation of interventions. The third phase is implementation, which takes place during the second year.

In order to undertake these three phases, a collaborative team has been established as follows. The **Programme Team** currently comprises two subdirectories: a) Implementation and After Care and b) Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. The Assistant Directors for Wetlands Programmes (ASDs)¹ report to the Implementation and After Care Deputy Director and are responsible for the identification and implementation of projects in their regions. The Programme Team is further supported by a small team that fulfil various roles such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and training. Independent Design Engineers and Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) are appointed to undertake the

¹ Previously referred to as Provincial Coordinators (PCs).

planning, design and authorisation components of the project. The project team is assisted by a number of wetland specialists who provide scientific insight into the operation of wetlands and bring expert and often local knowledge to the project teams. They are also assisted by the landowners and implementers who have valuable local knowledge of these wetlands.

The first phase is the identification of suitable wetlands which require intervention. The purpose of Phase 1 and the associated reporting is to identify:

- Priority catchments and associated wetlands/ sites within which rehabilitation work needs to be undertaken; and
- Key stakeholders who will provide meaningful input into the planning phases and wetland selection processes, and who will review and comment on the rehabilitation proposals.

Phase 1 commences with a catchment and wetland prioritisation process for every province. The Wetland Specialist responsible for a particular province undertakes a desktop study to determine the most suitable wetlands for the WfWetlands rehabilitation efforts. The involvement of Provincial Wetland Forums and other key stakeholders is a critical component of the wetland identification processes since these stakeholders are representative of diverse groups with shared interests (e.g. from government institutions to amateur ecological enthusiasts). This phase also involves initial communication with local land-owners and other Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to gauge the social benefits of the work. Aerial surveys of the areas in question may be undertaken, as well as limited fieldwork investigations or site visits to confirm the inclusion of certain wetland projects or units. Once wetlands have been prioritised and agreed on by the various parties, specific rehabilitation objectives are determined for each wetland following a rapid wetland assessment undertaken by the Wetland Specialist.

Phase 2 requires site visits attended by the fieldwork team comprising a Wetland Specialist, a Design Engineer, an EAP, and an ASD. Other interested stakeholders or authorities, landowners and in some instances the Implementing Agents (IAs) may also attend the site visits. This allows for a highly collaborative approach, as options are discussed by experts from different scientific disciplines, as well as local inhabitants with deep anecdotal knowledge. While on site, rehabilitation opportunities are investigated. The details of the proposed interventions are discussed, some survey work is undertaken by the engineers, and Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates and digital photographs are taken for record purposes. Furthermore, appropriate dimensions of the locations are recorded in order to design and calculate quantities for the interventions. At the end of the site visit the rehabilitation objectives together with the location layout of the proposed interventions are agreed upon by the project team.

During Phase 2, monitoring systems are put in place to support the continuous evaluation of the interventions. The systems monitor both the environmental and social benefits of the interventions. As part of the Phase 2 site visit, a maintenance inventory of any existing interventions that are damaged and/or failing and thus requiring maintenance is compiled by the ASD, in consultation with the Design Engineer.

Based on certain criteria and data measurements (water volumes, flow rates, and soil types); the availability of materials such as rock; labour intensive targets; maintenance requirements etc., the interventions are then designed. Bills of quantity are calculated for the designs and cost estimates made. Maintenance requirements for existing interventions in the assessed wetlands are similarly detailed and the costs calculated. The Design Engineer also reviews and, if necessary, adjusts any previously planned interventions that are included into the historical Rehabilitation Plans.

Phase 2 also comprises a reporting component where Rehabilitation Plans are prepared for each Wetland Project. The Rehabilitation Plans include details of each intervention to be implemented, preliminary construction drawings and all necessary documentation required by applicable legislation. The Rehabilitation Plans are reviewed by various government departments, stakeholders and the general public before a specific subset of interventions are selected for implementation.

Landowner consent is an important component of each phase in each Wetland Project. The flow diagram, **Plate C**, demonstrates the point at which various consent forms must be approved via signature from the directly affected landowner. The ASDs are responsible for undertaking the necessary landowner engagement and for ensuring that the requisite landowner consent forms required as part of Phase 1 and 2 of this project are signed.

These include:

- WW(0): Standard operating procedure,
- WW(1): Wetland survey and Inspection consent,
- WW(2): Terms and Conditions for carrying out wetland rehabilitation,
- WW(3): Wetland Rehabilitation Activities Consent,
- WW(4): Property Inspection Prior to Wetland Rehabilitation, and
- WW(5): Notification of Completion of Rehabilitation.

Without these signed consent forms the WfWetlands Programme will not be able to implement rehabilitation interventions on the affected property.

Phase 3 requires that certain Environmental Authorisations are obtained before work can commence in the wetlands (please see subsequent sections of this document for detail on Environmental Authorisations). Upon approval of the wetland Rehabilitation Plans by DEA, the work detailed for the project will be implemented within a year with on-going monitoring being undertaken thereafter. The Rehabilitation Plans are considered to be the primary working document for the implementation of the project via the construction/ undertaking of interventions² listed in the Plan.

It is typically at this point in the process when the final construction drawings are issued to the IAs. IAs are currently employed in the WfWetlands Programme and are responsible for employing contractors and their teams (workers) to construct the interventions detailed in each of the Rehabilitation Plans. For all interventions that are based on engineering designs (typically hard engineered interventions), the Design Engineer is required to visit the site before construction commences to ensure that the original design is still appropriate in the dynamic and ever-changing wetland system. The Design Engineer will assist the IAs in pegging and setting-out interventions. The setting-out activities often coincide with the Phase 1 activities for the next planning cycle. Phase 3 concludes with the construction of the interventions, but there is an on-going monitoring and auditing process that ensures the quality of interventions, the rectification of any problems, and the feedback to the design team regarding lessons learnt.

² This could include soft options such as alien clearing or eco-logs, as well as hard structures for example weirs.



Plate C: The Working for Wetlands planning process (Phase 1 to Phase 3)

Rehabilitation work within floodplain systems

Based on lessons learnt and project team discussions held during the National Prioritisation workshop in November 2010 the WfWetlands Programme took an in-principle decision regarding work within floodplain systems.

Recognising the ecosystem services provided by floodplain wetlands and the extent to which they have been transformed, WfWetlands do not intend to stop undertaking rehabilitation work in floodplains entirely. Instead, WfWetlands propose to adopt an approach to the rehabilitation of floodplain areas that takes into account the following guiding principles:

- a) As a general rule, avoid constructing hard interventions within an active floodplain channel; and rather
- b) Explore rehabilitation opportunities on the floodplain surface using smaller (possibly more) softer engineering options outside of the main channel.

When rehabilitation within a floodplain setting is being contemplated, it will be necessary to allocate additional planning resources, including the necessary specialist expertise towards ensuring an adequate understanding of the system and appropriate design of the interventions.

7. Environmental legislation

One of the core purposes of the WfWetlands Programme is the preservation of South Africa's valuable wetland systems through rehabilitation and restoration.

South Africa has rigorous and comprehensive environmental legislation aimed at preventing degradation of the environment, including damage to wetland systems. The following legislation is of relevance:

- The National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended
- The National Water Act, No.36 of 1998 (NWA)
- The National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA)

Development proposals within or near any wetland system are subject to thorough bio-physical and socio-economic assessment as mandatory processes of related legislation. These processes are required to prevent degradation of the environment and to ensure sustainable and environmentally conscientious development.

The WfWetlands Programme requires that both hard and soft interventions are implemented in the wetland system, and it is the activities associated with the construction of these interventions that triggers requirements for various authorisations, licenses or permits. However, it is important to note that the very objective of the WfWetlands Programme is to improve both environmental and social circumstances. The WfWetlands Programme gives effect to a range of policy objectives of environmental legislation, and also honours South Africa's commitments under several international agreements, especially the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Memorandum of Understanding for Working for Wetlands Programme

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into between DEA, DAFF and DWS for the WfWetlands Programme. Through co-operative governance and partnerships, this MoU aims to streamline the authorisation processes required by the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998), and the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) to facilitate efficient processing of applications for authorisation of wetland rehabilitation activities.

Table A: List of applicable legislation

Title of legislation, policy or guideline	Administering authority	Date
The Constitution of South Africa, Act No.108 of 1996	National Government	1996
National Environmental Management Act, No.107 of 1998	Department of Environmental Affairs	1998
The National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998	Department of Water and Sanitation	1998
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, No. 43 of 1983	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	1983
National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999	National Heritage Resources Agency	1999
World Heritage Conventions Act, No. 49 of 1999	Department of Environmental Affairs	1999
The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, No. 10 of 2004	Department of Environmental Affairs	2004
National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, No. 57 of 2003	Department of Environmental Affairs	2003
The Mountain Catchments Areas Act, No. 63 of 1970	Department of Water and Sanitation	1970
EIA Guideline Series, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline 5 – Companion to the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2010 (DEA, October 2012) Guideline 7 – Public Participation in the EIA process, 2012 (DEA, October 2012) Guideline 9 - Guideline on Need and Desirability, 2010 (DEA, October 2014) DEA&DP. 2013. Guideline on Public Participation (DEA&DP, March 2013). DEA&DP. 2013. Guideline on Alternatives (DEA&DP, March 2013). 	Department of Environmental Affairs	2012 - 2014
International Conventions, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ramsar Convention Convention on Biological Diversity United Nations Conventions to Combat Desertification New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) 	International Conventions	N/A

Of particular relevance in **Table A** is the following legislation and the WfWetlands Programme has put systems in place to achieve compliance:

- The National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended
 - In terms of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations pursuant to the NEMA, certain activities that may have a detrimental impact on the environment (termed Listed Activities) require an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the DEA. The implementation of interventions will trigger NEMA Listing Notices 1 and 3 (G.N. R983 and G.N R985 as amended by R327 and R324 respectively). In order to meet the requirements of these Regulations, it is necessary to undertake a Basic Assessment (BA) Process and apply for an EA. This was previously undertaken on an annual basis per Province for each individual wetland unit. However as of 2014, applications were submitted (per Province) for wetland systems, allowing WfWetlands to undertake planning in subsequent years within these wetlands without having to undertake a BA process. The rehabilitation plans still however require approval from the competent authority (i.e. DEA).
 - **Basic Assessment Reports** (BARs) will be prepared for each Province where work is proposed by the WfWetlands Programme. These BARs will present all Wetland Projects that are proposed in a particular province, together with information regarding the quaternary catchments and the wetlands that have been prioritised for the next few planning cycles (anywhere from one to three planning cycles depending

on the information gained through the Catchment Prioritisation Process). The EA's will be inclusive of all Listed Activities that may be triggered and will essentially authorise any typical wetland rehabilitation activities required during the WfWetlands Programme implementation phase. Note that certain Listed Activities have been excluded from the Basic Assessment as they fall under the ambit of a 'maintenance management plan' in the form of the Rehabilitation Plan for each project and are therefore subject to exclusion. The impacts thereof have however been considered within the respective Rehabilitation Plans.

- A condition of the EAs is that **Rehabilitation Plans** will be prepared every year after sufficient field work has been undertaken in the wetlands that have an EA. These Rehabilitation Plans will be made available to registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) before being submitted to DEA for approval. The Rehabilitation Plans will describe the combination and number of interventions selected to meet the rehabilitation objectives for each Wetland Project, as well as an indication of the approximate location and approximate dimensions (including footprint) of each intervention.
- The National Water Act, No.36 of 1998 (NWA)
 - In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a General authorisation³ (GA) has been granted for certain activities that are listed under the NWA that usually require a Water Use License; as long as these activities are undertaken for wetland rehabilitation. These activities include '*impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse*⁴' and '*altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse*⁵' where they are specifically undertaken for the purposes of rehabilitating⁶ a wetland for conservation purposes. The WfWetlands Programme is required to register the 'water use' in terms of the GA.
- The National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA)
 - In terms of Section 38 of the NHRA; any person who intends to undertake a development as categorised in the NHRA must at the very earliest stages of initiating the development notify the responsible heritage resources authority, namely the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or the relevant provincial heritage agency. These agencies would in turn indicate whether or not a full Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) would need to be undertaken. Should a permit be required for the damaging or removal of specific heritage resources, a separate application will be submitted to SAHRA or the relevant provincial heritage agency for the approval of such an activity. WfWetlands has engaged with SAHRA regarding the wetland planning process and has committed to achieving full compliance with the heritage act over the next few years.

³Government Notice No. 1198, 18 December 2009

⁴Section 21(c) of the NWA, No. 36 of 1998

⁵Section 21(i) of the NWA, No. 36 of 1998

⁶Defined in the NWA as "*the process of reinstating natural ecological driving forces within part of the whole of a degraded watercourse to recover former or desired ecosystem structure, function, biotic composition and associated ecosystem services*".

Appendix B2

LANDOWNER AGREEMENTS



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Working for Wetlands Programme

Wetlands Rehabilitation Activities Consent

Property Details	
Property Type:	Natural Heritage Site
Registration Division:	Registered with South African Heritage Site
Farm Number:	306
Portion Number:	306
Farm Name:	Soutini-Baleni
Surveyor-General Key:	N/A
Province:	Limpopo
Unique Wetland Number:	B81A

Owner Details		
Owner Name: (Full Names/Full Registered Name)	Mahumani Traditional Authority (His Majesty Hosi A K Mahumani)	
Person Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Company <input type="checkbox"/> Close corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural person	
Registration/Identity Number:	5604115254082 Traditional Authority (Where applicable. For a trust, attach a copy of the latest letters of trusteeship issued by the Master of the High Court.)	
Owner's chosen address for delivery of notices and documents:	Postal Address: PO Box 2723 Giyani 0826	Physical Address: Nkomo 22B Village Giyani 0826
	Telephone Number: 0797211313 0794963770	Email Address: amahumani@gmail.com

Alcm /

Project Name:	Soutini Baleni
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I/We hereby consent to the Working for Wetlands Programme and its appointed implementers undertaking the wetland rehabilitation activities listed in annexure "WFW 003A" attached hereto, for the project referred to above, subject to my/our approval of the relative Wetland Rehabilitation Plan, on the property described above of which I am the owner.

Name	Khavhareni Aarone Mahumani	Position	His Majesty Hosi
Signature		Date	08/09/2018

Please fax or post this form to: _____ _____ _____	With a copy to: The Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager Working for Wetlands Programme, Private Bag X101, PRETORIA, 0001 Telefax (012) 8435165
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Wetland rehabilitation activities to be carried out in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended

[Note: To be added to/amended as appropriate]

Please note: The description of the project activities may not all occur, however they do provide some context for the possible interventions that may be implemented on your land.

Listed activity as described in GN 983, 984 & 985

GN 983 (as amended): Activity 12: *the development of-*

- i. *dams or weirs, where the dam weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 m²; or*
- ii. *infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 m² or more;*

where such developments occurs-

- (a) *within a watercourse;*
- (b) *in front of development setback; or*
- (c) *if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;-*

excluding-

- (ee) *where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserve or railway line reserves; or*

GN R983 (as amended): Activity 19: *The infilling or depositing of material of more than 10 m³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 m³ from a watercourse;*

But excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-

- (a) *will occur behind a development setback;*
- (b) *is for maintenances purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;*

GN R983 (as amended): Activity 27: *The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –*

- (ii) *maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.*

GN 983 (as amended): Activity 48: *The expansion of-*

- (i) *infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 m² or more; or*
- (ii) *dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, is expanded by 100 m² or more;*

where such expansion occurs-

- (a) *within a watercourse;*
- (b) *in front of a development setback; or*
- (c) *if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;*

excluding-

- (ee) *where such expansion occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves.*

GN R984 (as amended): Activity 15: *The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for –*

- ii. *maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.*

NEMA

GN R984 (as amended): Activity 24: The extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, including the disturbance of vegetation or soils in anticipation of the extraction or removal of peat or peat soils, but excluding where such extraction or removal is for the rehabilitation of wetlands in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

GN R985 (as amended): Activity 12 (e): The clearance of an area of 300 m² or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

e. Limpopo

- i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;
- ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; or
- iii. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning.

GN 985 (as amended): Activity 14 (e): The development of-

- (i) Dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area exceeds 10 m²; or
- (ii) Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 m² or more;

Where such development occurs-

- (a) Within a watercourse;
- (b) In front of a development setback; or
- (c) If no development setback has been adopted within 32 of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;

excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.

e. Limpopo

i. Outside urban areas:

- (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;
- (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;
- (cc) World Heritage Sites;
- (dd) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;
- (ee) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;
- (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
- (gg) Core areas in biosphere reserves; or
- (hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;

GN R985 (as amended): Activity 23 (e): The expansion of-

- (i) dams or weirs where the dam or weir is expanded by 10 m² or more; or
- (ii) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 10 m² or more;

Alom

where such expansions occurs-

- (a) within a watercourse;
- (b) in front of a development setback adopted in the prescribed manner; or
- (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;

excluding the expansion of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.

e. Limpopo

i. Outside urban areas:

- (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;
- (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;
- (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;
- (dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;
- (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
- (ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves; or
- (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;

Appendix B3

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION



11 February 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

**WORKING FOR WETLANDS REHABILITATION PROJECT
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS:
AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

This letter is available in any of the official languages on written request.

This letter serves to inform you of the Working for Wetlands Programme's (WfWetlands) proposal to rehabilitate a number of wetlands in South Africa. We would also like to notify you of your opportunity to comment on the Basic Assessment Reports (BARs) in terms of the regulations pursuant to the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (as amended) (NEMA).

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WfWetlands is a government programme managed by the Natural Resource Management (NRM) directorate of the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), and is a joint initiative with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The programme is mandated to rehabilitate damaged wetlands and to protect pristine wetlands throughout South Africa. Emphasis is placed on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) which seeks to draw significant numbers of unemployed people into the productive sector of the economy, gaining skills while they work and increase their ability to earn an income.

The Aurecon team comprises Design Engineers and Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) who undertake the planning, design and authorisation components of the project. The Aurecon Team, in partnership with GroundTruth, is assisted by an external team of Wetland Specialists who provide scientific insight into the operation of wetlands and bring expert and often local knowledge of the wetlands. The project team is also complimented by the Assistant Director for Wetlands Programmes (ASDs) who are each responsible for provincial planning and implementation.

2. THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, NO. 107 OF 1998 (AS AMENDED) (NEMA)

2.1 BASIC ASSESSMENT

In terms of the environmental principles of NEMA certain activities that may have a detrimental impact on the environment (termed Listed Activities) require Environmental Authorisation (EA) from DEA. Many of the Activities associated with the rehabilitation of the wetlands are listed Activities in terms of Government Notice Regulation (GN R 983 Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 GN 984 and GN 985 Listing Notice 3 of NEMA:

- Listing Notice 1: Activities 12, 19, 27 and 48
- Listing Notice 2: Activity 24
- Listing Notice 3: Activities 12, 14 and 23

In terms of GN R982, activities identified in Listing Notices 1 and 3 require a Basic Assessment (BA) process to be undertaken during which potential biophysical and socio-economic impacts are identified and assessed. Aurecon has undertaken this process on behalf of WfWetlands, and separate BA applications for each province will be submitted to the DEA for consideration. Please note that a BA process is being undertaken for the following provinces:

Province	Project	Nearest Town(s):
Eastern Cape	Amathole, Kromme and Tsitsikamma	Seymour, Kareedouw and Humansdorp
Free State	Maluti	Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba
Gauteng	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	iSimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Soutini-Baleni	Giyani
North West	Madikwe National Park and Molopo	Zeerust and Mahikeng

Provincial level Basic Assessment Reports (BARs) were compiled for each province and describe the wetland systems that were identified as priorities for this planning cycle, together with the baseline information on the quaternary catchment. Please note that a BA process is being undertaken in six (6) provinces, i.e. Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Limpopo and North West. The rehabilitation plans for these provinces will be made available for public comment in March 2019 to all registered I&APs for a 30-day comment period. Registered I&APs will be informed of the availability of the rehabilitation plans and commencement of the commenting period via email or mail.

Note: A condition of the EAs will be that annual Rehabilitation Plans must be submitted to DEA for approval after sufficient field work has been undertaken for the authorised Wetland Projects. These Rehabilitation Plans include specialist reports prepared by the Wetland Specialist (which provide a site description, detailed baseline information, and the wetland context within the greater catchment). The Rehabilitation Plans also include the proposed interventions, objectives, their design details and specification, and proposed locations.

3. THE NATIONAL WATER ACT, NO.36 OF 1998 (NWA)

Activities associated with the rehabilitation of wetlands may constitute “water use” in terms of the NWA and may therefore require general authorisation or licenses from DWS. In general, a water use must be licensed unless:

- a) It is listed in Schedule one (1) of the NWA,
- b) It is existing lawful use,
- c) It is permissible under a General Authorisation (GA), and
- d) If a responsibility authority waives the need for a license.

In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a GA has been granted for certain activities that are listed that usually require a Water Use License. Such a GA (i.e. GN R1198 of 18 December 2009) exists for wetland rehabilitation as long as the activities are for conservation purposes. As some of the rehabilitation activities entail ‘impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse’ and/ or ‘altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse’, a number of GAs for water uses will be registered with the DWS for structures that would ordinarily require a Water Use License.

4. OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Public Participation procedures are specified as a minimum requirement of the BA Process and must ensure that all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) (including State Departments) have an opportunity to participate. The requisite PPP (in terms of Section 41 of GN R982) has commenced and to date included the publication of national advertisements in *Die Rapport* and *Sunday Times* on **3 February 2019** and the placement of site notices at the relevant wetland site boundaries and Public Areas (such as libraries or Municipal buildings). The BARs will be available for a 30-day comment period from **11 February to 14 March 2019**. The Basic Assessment Reports are also available for download from the Aurecon Website:

- <http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>;

Please be aware that you will be required to register on the website and then again on the project to access the documents from the Aurecon website. Should you have any trouble accessing the documents, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Simamkele Ntsengwane (details below).

I&APs have until **14 March 2019** to submit their comments on the BARs to the EAPs listed below. Please include your name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that you may have in the applications in your submission, as well as the applicable province.

Contact Person:	Mr Simamkele Ntsengwane	Miss Franci Gresse
Tel:	(021) 526 9560	(021) 526 6022
Email:	Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com	Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com
Fax:	(021) 526 9500	
Mail:	PO Box 494, Cape Town, 8000	

5. WAY FORWARD

Following the 30-day public comment period, the BARs will be updated by incorporating any I&AP comments received on the reports (where relevant). All comments will be recorded and responded to in a Comments and Response Report which will be circulated to all who have provided comment. The updated BARs will then be submitted to DEA for their decision. Once DEA has made their decision on the proposed projects, all registered I&APs will be notified of the outcome of the decision within fourteen (14) calendar days of the decision and the right to appeal.

Yours sincerely
AURECON



CLAIRE BLANCHÉ MEnvDev, BSc (Hons)

Manager

Environment and Planning



06 June 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

**WORKING FOR WETLANDS REHABILITATION PROJECT
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS:
EXTENSION OF TIMEFRAMES AND AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS AND
REHABILITATION PLANS FOR COMMENT**

This letter is available in any of the official languages on written request.

Our previous communication of 11 February 2019 regarding the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the above-mentioned project has reference.

On 06 May 2019, Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd submitted a letter to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) to request an extension of timeframes for submission of the Final BAR in terms of Regulation 19(1) (b) of GN R 982 of December 2014, as amended. This provision allows for the competent authority to extend the relevant prescribed timeframes and agree with the applicant on the length of such extension. An extension was granted by DEA on 07 May 2019, to allow for the applicable wetland rehabilitation plans to be made available for public comment with the provincial BARs and will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WfWetlands is a government programme managed by the Natural Resource Management (NRM) directorate of the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), and is a joint initiative with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The programme is mandated to rehabilitate damaged wetlands and to protect pristine wetlands throughout South Africa. Emphasis is placed on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) which seeks to draw significant numbers of unemployed people into the productive sector of the economy, gaining skills while they work and increase their ability to earn an income.

The Aurecon team comprises Design Engineers and Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) who undertake the planning, design and authorisation components of the project. The Aurecon Team, in partnership with GroundTruth, is assisted by an external team of Wetland Specialists who provide scientific insight into the operation of wetlands and bring expert and often local knowledge of the wetlands. The project team is also complimented by the Assistant Director for Wetlands Programmes (ASDs) who are each responsible for provincial planning and implementation.

2. THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, NO. 107 OF 1998 (AS AMENDED) (NEMA)

2.1 Basic Assessment

In terms of the environmental management principles of NEMA certain activities that may have a detrimental impact on the environment (termed Listed Activities) require Environmental Authorisation (EA) from DEA. Many of the activities

associated with the rehabilitation of the wetland are listed Activities in terms of Government Notice Regulation (GN R) 983 Listing Notice 1 and GN R985 Listing Notice 3 of NEMA (as amended):

- **Listing Notice 1:** Activities 12, 19, 27 and 48
- **Listing Notice 3:** Activities 12, 14 and 23

In terms of GN R982 (as amended), activities identified in Listing Notices 1 and 3 require a Basic Assessment (BA) process to be undertaken during which potential biophysical and socio-economic impacts are identified and assessed. Aurecon has undertaken this process on behalf of WfWetlands, and separate BA applications for each of the provinces listed in the table below, has been submitted to the DEA for consideration.

Province	Project	Nearest Town(s):
Eastern Cape ¹	Amathole, Kromme and Tsitsikamma	Seymour, Kareedouw and Humansdorp
Gauteng	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	iSimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Soutini-Baleni and Mutale	Giyani and Thohoyandou

The provincial level Basic Assessment Reports (BARs) provide the findings of the associated investigations and are available for public comment. The BARs describe the wetland systems that were identified as priorities for this planning cycle, together with the baseline information on the quaternary catchment.

2.2 Rehabilitation Plans

The project specific wetland rehabilitation plans include specialist reports prepared by the Wetland Specialist (which provide a site description, detailed baseline information, and the wetland context within the greater catchment). The rehabilitation plans also include the proposed interventions, objectives, their design details and specification, and proposed locations. Project specific rehabilitation plans were compiled for each project and describe the combination and number of interventions selected to meet the rehabilitation objectives for each Wetland Project, as well as an indication of the approximate location and approximate dimensions (including footprint) of each intervention.

3. THE NATIONAL WATER ACT, NO. 36 OF 1998 (NWA)

Activities associated with the rehabilitation of wetlands may constitute “water use” in terms of the NWA and may therefore require general authorisation or licenses from DWS. In general, a water use must be licensed unless:

- a) It is listed in Schedule one (1) of the NWA,
- b) It is existing lawful use,
- c) It is permissible under a General Authorisation (GA), and
- d) If a responsibility authority waives the need for a licence.

In terms of Section 39 of the NWA, a GA has been granted for certain activities that are listed and usually require a Water Use License. Such a GA (i.e. GN R1198 of 18 December 2009) exists for wetland rehabilitation as long as the activities are for conservation purposes.

4. OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Public Participation procedures are specified as a minimum requirement (Section 41 of GN R982) of the BA Process

¹ Please note that the Kromme (14/12/16/3/3/1/1848) and Tsitsikamma (12/12/20/942/1) rehabilitation plans are also included for your consideration. Furthermore, the Kromme Rehabilitation Plan received Environmental Authorisation (EA) in June 2018 and only requires approval from the Department as a condition of the EA. Also, the Tsitsikamma Rehabilitation Plan mainly focus on maintenance work for authorised interventions.

² Please note that the Mutale (14/12/16/3/3/1/1255) rehabilitation plans are also included for your consideration. The Mutale Rehabilitation Plan received Environmental Authorisation (EA) in September 2018 and only requires approval from the Department as a condition of the EA.

and must ensure that all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) (including State Departments) have an opportunity to participate. Accordingly, notice is hereby given of an additional 30-day public participation process (PPP) on the draft Basic Assessment Reports and Rehabilitation Plans. The BARs and Rehabilitation Plans will be made available for a 30-day comment period from **06 June 2019 until 08 July 2019**.

The reports will be available from 06 June 2019 for download from the Aurecon Website: <http://aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>. Please be aware that you will be required to register on the website and then again on the project to access the documents. Should you have any trouble accessing the documents, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Simamkele Ntsengwane (details below).

I&APs have until **8 July 2019** to submit their comments on the BARs and rehabilitation plans to the EAPs below. I&APs should refer to the relevant province and specifically the wetland project (if applicable). Please include your name, contact details and an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that you may have in the applications in your submission.

Contact Person:	Mr Simamkele Ntsengwane	Miss Franci Gresse
Tel:	(021) 526 9560	(021) 526 6022
Email:	Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com	Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com
Fax:	(021) 526 9500	
Mail:	PO Box 494, Cape Town, 8000	

5. WAY FORWARD

Following the 30-day public comment period, the BARs and rehabilitation plans will be updated by incorporating any I&AP comments received on the reports (where relevant). All comments will be recorded and responded to in a Comments and Response Report which will be circulated to all who have provided comment. The updated BARs and/or rehabilitation plans will then be submitted to DEA for their decision. Once DEA has made their decision on the proposed projects, all registered I&APs will be notified of the outcome of the decision within fourteen (14) calendar days of the decision and the right to appeal.

Yours sincerely
AURECON



CLAIRE BLANCHÉ MEnvDev, BSc (Hons)
Principal Environmental Practitioner
Aurecon, Environment and Planning Services

APPENDIX B4
PROOF OF MAILING

Simamkele Ntsengwane

From: Simamkele Ntsengwane
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 2:31 PM
To: Franci Gresse; Claire Blanché
Subject: WORKING FOR WETLANDS: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
Attachments: 2019.02.05 LTR to IAP re Availability of BAR for PPP.PDF

Importance: High

Bcc: advocacy@birdlife.org.za; ceo@birdlife.org.za; mpumen@daff.gov.za; stanleyt@environment.gov.za; wlutsch@environment.gov.za; dsmit@environment.gov.za; FourieN@dwa.gov.za; MeulenbeldP@dws.gov.za; RoetsW@dws.gov.za; jayj@dws.gov.za; LeggeK@dwa.gov.za; bonanim@wrc.org.za; olgaj@sanparks.org; Emaradwa@environment.gov.za; helette.dunne@sanparks.org; stevens@ewt.org.za; AKhan@environment.gov.za; LCFerreira@environment.gov.za; wroux@environment.gov.za; kerrynm@ewt.org.za; tanyas@ewt.org.za; morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za; ubahadur@environment.gov.za; Fterarai@environment.gov.za; PGrundling@environment.gov.za; slekota@environment.gov.za; dmabona@environment.gov.za; KhosaT@dws.gov.za; MulaudziN@dws.gov.za; Kusel@dws.gov.za; HadebeX@dwa.gov.za; MeulenbeldP@dws.gov.za; gerry.pienaar@dedea.gov.za; NomalwandeM@daff.gov.za; dorothyJ@daff.gov.za; mkawa@environment.gov.za; briant.noncembu@dedea.gov.za; melvinc@daff.gov.za; wenie@dws.gov.za; FourieL4@dws.gov.za; Vuyokazi.Rwexu@dedea.gov.za; ZukiswaN@Daff.gov.za; eric.qonya@dedea.gov.za; Tamara.Gqamane@dedea.gov.za; Sinazosongca@dedea.gov.za; gwendolineS@daff.gov.za; MzikayiseD@daff.gov.za; tshayingcamakatiu@gmail.com; MakhanyaP@dws.gov.za; mxolisiMA@daff.gov.za; MalgasMa@daff.gov.za; kagiso.mangwale@ecpta.za; buntu.mzamo@deaet.ecape.gov.za; buntu.mzamo@dedea.gov.za; Phumla.mzazi@deaet.ecape.gov.za; phumla.mzazi@dedea.gov.za; alan.southwood@dedea.gov.za; hennie.swanevelder@dedea.gov.za; skwinana@yahoo.com; Japie Buckle; carina.potgieter@ecpta.co.za; nolutando.bam@dedea.gov.za; dayalan.govender@dedea.gov.za; Sinazo.Mtongana@dedea.gov.za; Zizipho.Siyeka@dedea.gov.za; Philasande.Makhuba@dedea.gov.za; Chwayita.mapekula@dedea.gov.za; Yongama.Mbangezeli@dedea.gov.za; Viwe.Mabongo@dedea.gov.za; Masibulele.Msongelwa@dedea.gov.za; Bongikhaya.Ngcango@dedea.gov.za; Viwe.Banzi@dedea.gov.za; MnyimbaT@amathole.gov.za; NxaweT@amathole.gov.za; mafumbul@amathole.gov.za; mm@raymondmhlaba.gov.za; pmadotyeni@raymondmhlaba.gov.za; nplatjies@raymondmhlaba.gov.za; zmlamla@raymondmhlaba.gov.za; mark@hogsback.com; laura.conde@wessa.co.za; amahlathi.cooper@gmail.com; christinec@ewt.org.za; cpaul@cacadu.co.za; gcobisa.foxi@ecpta.co.za; ulrike.irlich@iclei.org; lehman.lindeque@gmail.com; lehmanl@daff.gov.za; siphomayebwa@drdar.gov.za; rmarivate@csir.co.za; cikizwa.mbolambi@ecpta.co.za; n.mbona@sanbi.org.za; kerry.mclean@wessa.co.za; mkosanak@dws.gov.za; gamtoos@lantic.net; edwill.m@gamtooswater.co.za; thembelihle.mtambo@ecpta.co.za; nmuller@amatolawater.co.za; nkosinathin@ewt.org.za; mphon0812@gmail.com; zukiswan@daff.gov.za; shane.october@ecpta.za; kstroebel@csir.co.za; jeannet@ewt.org.za; loutjie@me.com; athina.vanderbyl@ecpta.co.za; koukamma@lgnet.org.za; nomava.siqoko@koukamma.gov.za; zingisa.xabu@ecpta.co.za; mbulelo.xalu@dedea.gov.za; Janeg@buffalocity.gov.za; Mathongol@buffalocity.gov.za; nomhlophe@inkwenkezeicollege.co.za; zola.bunene@gmail.com; mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za; KefilweD@daff.gov.za; masiteng@agric.fs.gov.za; NtiliT@dws.gov.za; Mthembusi@dws.gov.za;

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Bcc: litholek@sac.limpopo.gov.za; kgopongns@ledet.gov.za; malulekeev@ledet.gov.za; makhubelesh@ledet.gov.za; MsimangaM@dws.gov.za; HlekaneL@dws.gov.za; NethengweM@dws.gov.za; vanwettenaa@ledet.gov.za; moenget@ledet.gov.za; foletgim@daff.gov.za; robert@mokgalabone.co.za; monakedir@mopani.gov.za; tim@mopani.gov.za; shitlhangud@mopani.gov.za; mboyaf@mopani.gov.za; tim@mopani.gov.za; nethengwens@gmail.com; menaltarproperties@gmail.com; amahumani@gmail.com; info@waterbergbiosphere.org; ABeetge@environment.gov.za; michael@southernmapping.com; terry@iliso.com; ernest.daemane@sanparks.org; sam@welgevonden.org; nduplessis9@gmail.com; friendsnylvley@mweb.co.za; helette.dunne@sanparks.org; martin.engelbrecht@sanparks.org; Paulus.Fouche@univen.ac.za; navashni.govender@sanparks.org; cathy.greaver@sanparks.org; ZebulonH@sanparks.org; Steven.Khoza@sanparks.org; Ernest.Letsoalo@ul.ac.za; ntombi.majozi@yahoo.com; jeromema@telkomsa.net; manokoma@ledet.gov.za; maumelad@dwa.gov.za; stephen.midzi@sanparks.org; zebulonm@lepelle.co.za; Tumelo.Mokgotho@sanparks.org; MosothoKW@agric.limpopo.gov.za; nketso.mphake@sanparks.org; MugivhiMS@ledet.gov.za; e.munzhedzi@sanbi.org.za; Hector.Muvhenzhe@sanparks.org; nabianathi@gmail.com; Mphadeni.nthangeni@sanparks.org; tsogang@pixie.co.za; PhuluwaW@dwa.gov.za; abel.ramavhale@sanparks.org; Marius.renke@sanparks.org; selemelam@agric.limpopo.gov.za; CSilima@environment.gov.za; mariussn@vodamail.co.za; TsheolaMP@ledet.gov.za; eddie.ubisi@sanparks.org; nick.zambatis@sanparks.org; sledwaba@environment.gov.za; zeezoratsshivhadelo@gmail.com; lorrainemaloma@yahoo.com; Pamole.Motshana@gmail.com; Maphuthumtg@gmail.com; John.Wesson@wessa.co.za; jwesson@wessanorth.co.za; kabledimashilo@gmail.com; ttshenge@gmail.com; zondhekawilson58@gmail.com; emadamalala@nwptb.co.za; setenanes@dwa.gov.za; hpnel@mweb.co.za; mmohlalisi@nwpg.gov.za; bothar@dwa.gov.za; LydiaB@daff.gov.za; munman@mahikeng.gov.za; info@nmmdm.gov.za; makgobas@nmmdm.gov.za; sec.admin@ramotshere.gov.za; msekgarametso@nwpb.org.za; jkmontshioa@telekomsa.net; terry@iliso.com; koos@overvaal.co.za; iaingilbert@mweb.co.za; lephalef@kaundadistrict.gov.za; malherbewynand@gmail.com; minnaar.paul01@gmail.com; pietminnaar@gmail.com; luckyamotsepe@gmail.com; e.munzhedzi@sanbi.org.za; schalk.raath@nwu.ac.za; munman@mahikeng.gov.za; ralekoaw@dwa.gov.za; dot@monkeypuzzle.co.za; emily@supermail.co.za; belinda@overvaal.co.za; molemanenr@nwptb.co.za; norbert@mrca.co.za; agrinw@lantic.net; zola.bunene@gmail.com; mayor@phumelela.gov.za; speaker@phumelela.gov.za

Dear Sir/Madam

We would like to notify you of the opportunity to comment on the Basic Assessment Reports for proposed wetland rehabilitation activities in terms of Regulations pursuant to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998 (as amended) (NEMA).

Please find herewith attached a cover letter with more details, the letter includes information on a brief background to the proposed project, information on the environmental process, where to access the documents in full and opportunities to participate.

The Basic Assessment Reports for the projects listed in the table below are now available for a 30 day comment period. Electronic copies of these reports are available On Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/53v4o0lvhyvc5ao/AABMT0VY2JaSSOzRik9JTBbKa?dl=0> and Aurecon's website (<http://www.aurecongroup.com/en/public-participation.aspx>).

Province	Project	Nearest Town (s):
Eastern Cape	Amathole	Seymour
Free State	Maluti	Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba

Gauteng	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	Isimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Soutini Baleni	Giyani
North West	Madikwe National Park and Molopo	Zeerust and Mahikeng

Should you wish to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP), please submit your comments on the reports to the contact people below and include the applicable province and wetland system where relevant, before **14 March 2019**. Also include your **name, contact details** and an indication of any **direct business, financial, personal or other interest** that you may have in the applications in your submission.

Simamkele Ntsengwane: Tel: 021 526 9560; Email: Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com; or
 Franci Gresse: Tel: (021) 526 6022; Email: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com; or
 Fax: (021) 526 9500; or Mail: PO Box 494, Cape Town, 8000

Furthermore, should you have received this email but are no longer interested in the project, kindly let one of the above contacts know and you will be removed from the database.

Kind Regards

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 Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning, Aurecon
 T +27 21 526 9560 M +27 76 225 3548

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Memorandum

To	Postnet	From	Simamkele Ntsengwane
Copy		Reference	113223
Date	12 February 2019	Pages (including this page)	
Subject	WFWetlands: Basic Assessment Reports notification		

Dear Sir/Madam

Please would you stamp the attached mailing lists as proof that the parcel (Letter and electronic CD) have entered the official mailing system. This forms part of a legal requirement to notify interested and affected parties about the abovementioned project.

No of Parcels: 76

.....
Post Office (Stamp)

12/02/2019
.....
Date

Should you have any questions please contact Simamkele Ntsengwane at Tel: 021 526 9560 or Email: Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com

Yours Sincerely

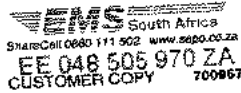
AURECON



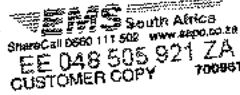
Simamkele Ntsengwane
Senior Environmental Consultant
Environment & Advisory Services



Mr Mark Anderson
BirdLife South Africa
PO Box 515
Randburg
2125



Ms Mpume Ntlokwana
Department of Agriculture, Forestry &
Fisheries
Private Bag X120
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Ms Serah Muobeleni
Department of Agriculture, Forestry &
Fisheries
Private Bag X120
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Ms Wilma Lutsch
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
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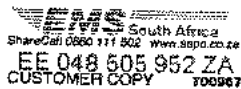
Mr Stanely Tshitwamulomoni
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Mr Danie Smit
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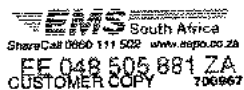
Ms Naomi Fourie
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Mr Christo Marais
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Ms Naomi Fourie
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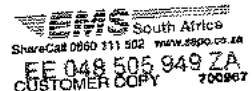
Dr Paul Meulenbeld
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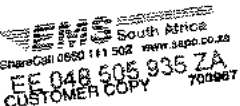
Dr Wietshe Roets
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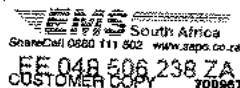
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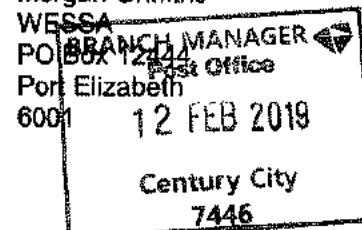
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Mahumani Tribal Authority
PO Box 2723
Giyani
0826

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Roosvlei
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Modimolle
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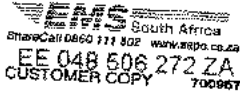
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Mutale Community Representative
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Tshitazha
0984

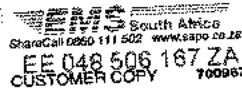
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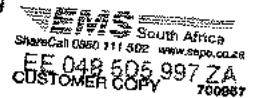
Mr Nkhangweleni Madamalala
North West Parks and Tourism:
Protected Areas
2ND Churchill Street, Golfview
Mafikeng
2735



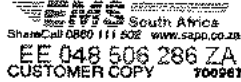
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0305



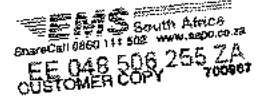
Ms M Mohlali
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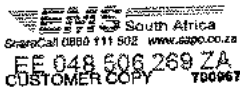
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Department of Water and Sanitation
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Mr Thabo Mokwena
Mahikeng Local Municipality
Private Bag X63
Mahikeng
2745



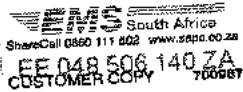
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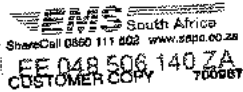
Ms Grace Mkhosana
DEDEAT: Environmental Impact
Management
Private Bag X20801
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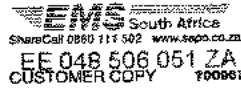
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DAFF: Control Resource Auditor
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Bloemfontein
9325



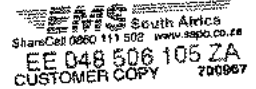
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Department of Water and Sanitation
PO Box 528
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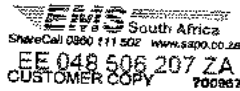
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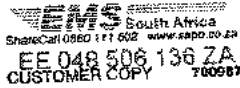
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9870



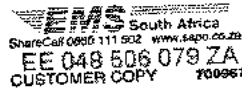
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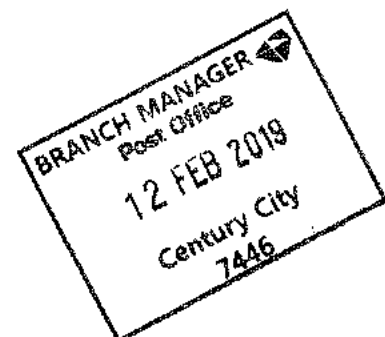
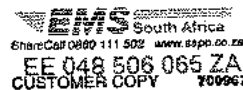
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Heritage Cases Working for Wetlands- Limpopo 2019 has been updated.

Heritage Cases

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Working for Wetlands- Limpopo 2019

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CaseHeader LocationInfo Admin

Status: SUBMITTED

HeritageAuthority(s): SAHRA
LIHRA

Case Type: Section 38 (8) - Statutory Comment Required

Development Type: Environmental Rehabilitation

ProposalDescription:

Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). Due to the nature of the project, it is important to note that the very objectives of the WfWetlands Programme are to improve both environmental and social circumstances.

ApplicationDate: Monday, February 11, 2019 - 13:38

CaseID: 13451

Applicants: Farai Terera

Consultants/Experts: Franci Gresse

OtherReferences:

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Appendix B5

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Any comments received and responses sent during the 30-day public comment period will be included with the Final Basic Assessment Report submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs.

Simamkele Ntsengwane

From: Simamkele Ntsengwane
Sent: Monday, February 4, 2019 10:37 AM
To: Thomas Tshenge Tshivhandekano
Cc: Franci Gresse
Subject: RE: Public Participartion-Working For Wetland Programme -Mutale(Thoyandou town)

Good day Thomas,

Thank you for your interest in the Working for Wetlands project.

This serves to confirm that you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the abovementioned project and will be kept informed during the process. Notification will be sent to all registered I&APs prior to the start date of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and project specific rehabilitation plan commenting period.

Kind Regards

Simamkele Ntsengwane BSc (Hons) Env. Geography
Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning, Aurecon
T +27 21 526 9560 M +27 76 225 3548

www.linkedin.com/in/simamkele-ntsengwane-205689a3/
Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com

Aurecon Centre, 1 Century City Drive, Waterford Precinct, Century City South Africa 7441
PO Box 494, Cape Town 8000 South Africa
aurecongroup.com



DISCLAIMER

From: Thomas Tshenge Tshivhandekano <ttshenge@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 4, 2019 9:42 AM
To: Simamkele Ntsengwane <Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com>
Subject: Public Participartion-Working For Wetland Programme -Mutale(Thoyandou town)

Good day,

I will like to partake in the process for working for wetland programme basic assessment at Mutale under Thohoyandou town.

Kindly regards

Thomas Tshivhandekano

Simamkele Ntsengwane

From: Simamkele Ntsengwane
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 1:53 PM
To: 'Baloyi F K'
Cc: Franci Gresse
Subject: RE: Working for wetlands: public participation process

Good Day Mr Baloyi,

Thank you for your interest in the Working for Wetlands Project.

Following our telephonic conversation earlier, this is to confirm that Electronic copies (in a CD format) of the Basic Assessment Report have been sent to Mr Meshack Masindi and Mr Vincent Egan of the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET).

Kind Regards

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Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning, Aurecon
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PO Box 494, Cape Town 8000 South Africa
aurecongroup.com



DISCLAIMER

From: Baloyi F K <BaloyiFK@ledet.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:11 AM
To: Simamkele Ntsengwane <Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aurecongroup.com>
Cc: Mamabolo SM <MamaboloSM@ledet.gov.za>; Ngoasheng T R <NgoashengTR@ledet.gov.za>
Subject: Working for wetlands: public participation process

Good morning

The Department acknowledges receipt of your email received on 11.02.2019 and informs you that as the commenting authority for the proposed project, the Department will only provide comments upon receipt of the reports (hard copies).

Kind regards,

Foster Baloyi (Mr.)
Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
Environmental Impact Management (EIM)
Evruidiki Towers, Office A3-30

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street
Polokwane
0699
Cell: +27 76 412 5788 (Ext 6026)
Tel: +27 15 293 8540

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Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

Reference: South-Baleni B82G

Enquiries: Thobekile Zungu/Seoka Lekota

Telephone: 012-399 9477 **E-mail:** Slekota@environment.gov.za

Wynand Loftus
Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 494
CAPE TOWN
8000

Telephone Number: +27 (21) 526 9400
Email Address: capetown@aurecongroup.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AND THE REHABILITATION PLAN FOR SOUTH-BALENI, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation received and evaluated the DBAR and the Rehabilitation plans for South-Baleni B82G wetland system. The following recommendations must be considered:

- Mitigation measure proposed in the rehabilitation plan must be implemented and adhered to;
- Rehabilitation work must be done during low rainfall seasons and soil compaction should be prevented as far as possible;
- Implement applicable weirs, infillings and berms to stop on-going erosion and drains within wetlands and encourage sediment trapping;
- A permit must be acquired to disturb or remove all the protected and listed plant species on site from relevant authorities;
- Alien invasive plant species in and around wetland areas must be removed in terms National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA) and Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA). Follow up-actions for at least five years need to take place and
- All re-vegetation must be done with local indigenous plant species as specified by the Provincial Co-ordinator and/or Wetland Ecologist.

The overall biodiversity objective is to minimise loss to biodiversity as possible. In order to achieve this objective the above mentioned recommendations must be adhered to.

Yours faithfully.

Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni
Acting Director: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental Affairs
Date:

Simamkele Ntsengwane

From: Franci Gresse
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 10:18 AM
To: IvanR
Cc: Simamkele Ntsengwane
Subject: RE: Working for Wetlands Rehabilitation Project

Dear Mr Riggs

You can also access the documents on Dropbox by following this link:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/53v4o0lvhyvc5ao/AABMT0VY2JaSSOzRik9JTBbKa?dl=0>

Please note that we have also provided CDs to your following colleagues:

- Ms Mpume Ntlokwana
- Ms Serah Muobeleni

If you continue to have difficulty accessing the documents, please let us know for further assistance.

Kind regards
Franci

Franci Gresse
Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning, Aurecon
T +27 21 5266022 F +27 86 7231750
Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com

DISCLAIMER

From: IvanR <IvanR@daff.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Franci Gresse <Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com>
Subject: Working for Wetlands Rehabilitation Project

Good day

I have registered on your website to view the documents online but cannot access them.

Can you kindly supply the project reference numbers for the those below.

Province	Project	Nearest Town(s):
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Free State	Maluti	Harrismith and Phutha
Gauteng	Gauteng North	Pretoria
KwaZulu-Natal	iSimangaliso	St Lucia
Limpopo	Soutini-Baleni	Giyani
North West	Madikwe National Park and Molopo	Zeerust and Mahikeng

Regards

Ivan Riggs
Regional Manager
Directorate Land Use and Soil Management
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Tel: 012 319 7562
Cell: 082 574 7650
IvanR@daff.gov.za



environmental affairs

Department:
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Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia,· PRETORIA

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1994

Enquiries: Ms Mmamohale Kabasa

Telephone: (012) 399 9420 E-mail: MKabasa@environment.gov.za

Ms F Gresse
Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 494
CAPE TOWN
8000

Telephone Number: (021) 526 6022
Email Address: Franci.Gresse@aurecongroup.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Gresse

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE WORKING FOR WETLANDS PROGRAMME IN THE SOUTINI-BALENI WETLANDS SOUTH WEST OF THE TOWN OF GIYANI WITHIN THE GREATER TZANEEN LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated February 2019 and received by the Department on 11 February 2019, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:

(a) Listed Activities

- (i) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- (ii) The wetland areas selected for rehabilitated appear to be located in inaccessible areas with no definite access roads. The applicant must determine whether part of the rehabilitation activities will require the construction of access roads and whether this will trigger the applicable listed activities.
- (iii) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- (iv) Please note that Table 4 on pages 7-8 titled "*Listed activities triggered by the proposed Soutini-Baleni*" project includes Activity 24 of Listing Notice 2 (GN R984, as amended). This activity triggers a full coping and EIA process, and not a Basic Assessment process. The EAP is required to determine the applicability of the activity, and if such activity is triggered, a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be lodged and the scoping/EIA process be followed for the proposed Soutini-Baleni Wetland Rehabilitation project.

(b) Public participation

- (i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final BAR. This includes but is not limited to the Limpopo Province Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the provincial Department of Agriculture, the Department of Transport, the Greater Giyani Local Municipality, the Mopani District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, and the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iii) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final BAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- (iv) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended.
- (v) The final BAR must also indicate that this draft BAR has been subjected to a public participation process.
- (vi) The final BAR must indicate clearly the name of the newspaper that the advertisement for the draft BAR has been advertised.

(c) Maps

- (i) The BAR must provide a clear site layout map at an appropriate scale with an indication of all the envisioned areas along the wetland system that will be subject to rehabilitation. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of this map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The map must indicate the following:
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, roads, guard house and buildings, including accommodation etc.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- (ii) The palaeontological sensitivity map on page 28 (Figure 10) of the draft BAR is not clear. There is no colour distinction to indicate the different sensitivity layers. A revised map must be submitted with the final BAR. The map must show the location of the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System in relation to different sensitivity layers.

(d) Specialist assessments

- (i) It is noted that the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System is a formally declared Natural Heritage Site. Page 10 of the draft BAR indicates that a Heritage Impact Assessment conducted by Mr. Stephen Gaigher has been submitted with the draft BAR as Appendix D. Please note that no such specialist report has been appended to the draft BAR received by the Department on 11 February 2019.

- (ii) The Applicant must ensure that the Heritage Impact Assessment referred to under point (i) above; is made available to SAHRA for comment. Recommendations from SAHRA must form part of the EMPr and Rehabilitation Plan Documents.
- (iii) The following Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are located within 30km radius of the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System: The Wolkberg Forest Belt (IBA SA005) and the Kruger National Park Border (IBA SA002) that is located approximately 15km from the wetland system. The final BAR must include an avifaunal impact statement from a qualified avifaunal specialist on the possible impacts to any important avifaunal species that may utilise the Soutini-Baleni Wetland System.
- (iv) The Soutini-Baleni Wetland System is located within an important cultural tourism area. The social impact assessment must also include an assessment of potential impacts on tourism in the area. The report must also include a tourism impact statement.
- (v) The following Activities applied for may trigger Section 19; S21 (c) and (i) of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998: GN R. 983 Activities 12 (i)(ii)(a); 48 (i)(ii)(a); GN R 985 Activities 14 (i)(ii)(a)(c)(e)(i)(ff)(hh), 23(i)(ii)(a)(c)(e)(i)(ee)(gg). The BAR must include a freshwater specialist study with the following terms of reference:
 - Desktop mapping of freshwater ecosystems within the Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS) 500m Water Use Licence trigger area around the wetland system;
 - Field-based assessments of the potentially impacted systems to determine likely impacts and risks that the proposed rehabilitation measures may have on the wetland system.
 - Fish management method statement for any fish relocations if any.
 - Identify and recommend measures for mitigating impacts on the receiving environment.
- (vi) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference (TOR) for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:
 - A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
 - Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
 - Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Departments definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.
 - All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
 - Should specialists recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.

(e) General

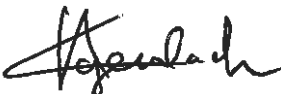
- (i) The EAP must indicate based on the assessment, the specialist assessment conducted and the various engineering methods, which interventions at which locations will be most suited and should be authorised for this project. The mitigation measures and recommendations to be included in EMPr should also be provided by the EAP.
- (ii) The BAR, specialist studies and EMPr must ensure compliance to the relevant appendices as outlined in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- (iii) The final BAR must include a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for Working for Wetlands Programme referred to on page 4 of the draft BAR received on 11 February 2019.
- (iv) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final BAR.
- (v) Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 1 (3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

- (vi) You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that:
"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority -
 (a) *a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."*
- (vii) Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that:
"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach
Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments
Date: 11/03/2019.

cc:	Dr Farai Tererai	Working for Wetlands Programme	Email: Ftererai@environment.gov.za
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Annexure 1

Format for Comments and Response Trail Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/01/2016 Email Department of Environmental Affairs: Strategic Infrastructure Development (John Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted)The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form



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Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 13451

Date: Monday April 15, 2019
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Dr Farai Tererai
Working for Wetlands Programme

Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). Due to the nature of the project, it is important to note that the very objectives of the WfWetlands Programme are to improve both environmental and social circumstances

Working for Wetlands is proposing to rehabilitate the wetland area within the Baleni nature reserve located in the Greater Giyane Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province. They plan on accomplishing this by constructing weirs/gabions that will create a barrier that will allow for sedimentation build-up to slow the water flow and re-wet the wetland area. There will be 28 intervention areas in the wetland including a 325m cattle fence.

Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd is undertaking a Basic Assessment process on behalf of Working for Wetlands, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended.

To meet the requirements of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Report by G&A Heritage Management Consultants (Pty) Ltd had been submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting on 11/02/2019. In an Interim Comment issued on 18/03/2019, SAHRA summarised the HIA report as follows:

Gaigher, S. December 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Anti-Erosion Measures at the Baleni Salt Works Provincial Heritage Site, Limpopo Province.

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed wetland area and identified two heritage sites that may be impacted by the proposed intervention areas. The first site, Site 1 in the HIA is the same site that was described in a Masters research paper as site BS04; it consists of hut floor remains, ash deposits, and



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Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 13451

Date: Monday April 15, 2019
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potsherds of which some are diagnostic. This site will be partially impacted by trenching to install intervention measures to curb continued erosion. The author assessed the disturbance as beneficial to the long conservation of other archaeological sites downstream.

The second site, Site 2 is a single grave site located outside the proposed rehabilitation intervention areas. Both sites are of high heritage significance. As well as all other sites located within the entire wetland area is the Baleni Salt-works as it is a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS).

The author recommends:

No assessment of impacts on palaeontological resources because the study area is located in the grey zone in the SAHRA palaeo-map.

Site 1 must be mitigated by a qualified archaeologist in the area that will be disturbed by the installation of a gabions at Intervention B82G-01-213-00. In order to carry out the mitigations, a section 35 of the NHRA permit application must be applied for to SAHRA.

The cemetery must be protected by a 25 m buffer zone during construction.

The Chance Finds procedures provided in the report must be included in the EMPr for all intervention measures as well as the cattle fence construction.

SAHRA could not process the case to its conclusion until the accompanying environmental documents (BAR and appendices) were submitted to the case. The BAR has since been submitted and within section 7.1.4, it states that an archaeological excavation must be undertaken for site at 23°25'13" S 30°54'52" E (under a permit issued by SAHRA). The grave site at 23°25'13" S 30°54'52" E will not be directly impacted but it may be impacted indirectly by construction activities. A buffer of 25 m radius must be applied to the grave site as a no-go area.

Final Comment

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the recommendations provided in the HIA report however, the buffer zone around the grave must be increased to 30m.



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The following additional recommendations must also be included as part of the EMP for implementation during construction:

- An archaeologist must be appointed to undertake a weekly monitoring programme of all construction activities and develop a heritage training manual for the induction of the construction crew and ECO.
- All access points to the construction site, construction camps, laydown areas and stockpile areas must be assessed by an archaeologist prior to the construction phase. A report of the walk down assessment must be submitted to SAHRA.
- Once the design of the weir is finalised the potential extent of flooding must be determined and the potential impacts to the surrounding heritage sites must be assessed. This assessment must be included in the walk-down report.
- A CMP must be developed from the findings of this assessment, the CMP must also address any monitoring measures required for the long-term maintenance of the weirs.
- In the unlikely event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.
- If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.
- If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).
- If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251).
- The Final BAR and its appendices must be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.
- Once a decision on the EA application is reached, the record of decision must be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted

Our Ref: 13451



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CaseID: 13451

Date: Monday April 15, 2019
Page No: 4

above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/520847>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



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CaseID: 13451

Date: Monday March 18, 2019

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Dr Farai Tererai

Working for Wetlands Programme

Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme mandated to protect pristine wetlands, promote their wise-use and rehabilitate those that are damaged throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and using only local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs). Due to the nature of the project, it is important to note that the very objectives of the WfWetlands Programme are to improve both environmental and social circumstances

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Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd is undertaking a Basic Assessment process on behalf of Working for Wetlands, in respect of listed activities in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, as amended, that require an application for Environmental Authorisation, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended.

To meet the requirements of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Report by G&A Heritage Management Consultants (Pty) Ltd had been submitted to South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for commenting.

Gaigher, S. December 2018. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Anti-Erosion Measures at the Baleni Salt Works Provincial Heritage Site, Limpopo Province.



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Date: Monday March 18, 2019

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The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed wetland area and identified two heritage sites that may be impacted by the proposed intervention areas. The first site, Site 1 in the HIA is the same site that was described in a masters research paper as site BS04; it consists of hut floor remains, ash deposits, and potsherds of which some are diagnostic. This site will be partially impacted by trenching to install intervention measures to curb continued erosion. The author assessed the disturbance as beneficial to the long conservation of other archaeological sites downstream.

The second site, Site 2 is a single grave site located outside the proposed rehabilitation intervention areas. Both sites are of high heritage significance. As well as all other sites located within the entire wetland area is the Baleni Salt-works as it is a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS).

The author recommends:

No assessment of impacts on palaeontological resources because the study area is located in the grey zone in the SAHRA palaeo-map.

Site 1 must be mitigated by a qualified archaeologist in the area that will be disturbed by the installation of a gabions at Intervention B82G-01-213-00. In order to carry out the mitigations, a section 35 of the NHRA permit application must be applied for to SAHRA.

The cemetery must be protected by a 25 m buffer zone during construction.

The Chance Finds procedures provided in the report must be included in the EMPr for all intervention measures as well as the cattle fence construction.

Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit cannot comment on the HIA report until the BAR report is submitted to the case for review.

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SAHRA will comment further once the BAR and its appendices are submitted to the case for review.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/520847>

APPENDIX B6
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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2019-05-06

Ms Mmamohale Kabasa
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Dear Ms Kabasa

**WORKING FOR WETLANDS REHABILITATION PROGRAMME: PROPOSED WETLAND
REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

EXTENSION OF TIMEFRAMES

(DEA REF. NO.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1994)

The Department of Environmental Affairs comments (dated 8 March 2019) on the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed wetland rehabilitation activities in the Limpopo Province has reference.

This letter serves as notification to the Department in term of regulation 19(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice Regulation 982 of 4 December 2014, as amended). The BAR, rehabilitation plans (inclusive of a specialist report) and Environmental Management Programme will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the Department, as significant new information has been added to the BAR and will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Franci Gresse".

FRANCI GRESSE
Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning

Copies: Dr Farai Tererai
Ms Claire Blanché