

Appendix E

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Appendix E1

EAP DECLARATION AND EXPERTISE



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER, DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH

File Reference Number:
NEAS Reference Number:
Date Received:

(For official use only)

DEA/EIA/

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

PROJECT TITLE

Working for Wetlands Programme

Kindly note the following:

1. This form must always be used for applications that must be subjected to Basic Assessment or Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting where this Department is the Competent Authority.
2. This form is current as of 01 September 2018. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the Competent Authority. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
3. A copy of this form containing original signatures must be appended to all Draft and Final Reports submitted to the department for consideration.
4. All documentation delivered to the physical address contained in this form must be delivered during the official Departmental Officer Hours which is visible on the Departmental gate.
5. All EIA related documents (includes application forms, reports or any EIA related submissions) that are faxed; emailed; delivered to Security or placed in the Departmental Tender Box will not be accepted, only hardcopy submissions are accepted.

Departmental Details

Postal address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:
Email: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za

1. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP) INFORMATION

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| EAP Company Name: | Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd | | |
| B-BBEE | Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant) | 1 | Percentage Procurement recognition |
| EAP name: | Claire Blanche | | |
| EAP Qualifications: | Master in Environment and Development | | |
| Professional affiliation/registration: | IAIAsa | | |
| Physical address: | Aurecon, 1 Century City Drive, Century City, 7441 | | |
| Postal address: | As above | | |
| Postal code: | 7441 | Cell: | 082 445 5438 |
| Telephone: | 021 526 6937 | Fax: | |
| E-mail: | Claire.blanche@aurecongroup.com | | |

The appointed EAP must meet the requirements of Regulation 13 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended.

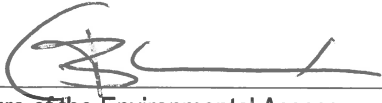
2. DECLARATION BY THE EAP

I, Claire Blanche, declare that –

- I act as the independent environmental assessment practitioner in this application;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in Regulation 13 of the Regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the Competent Authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the Competent Authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the Competent Authority, unless access to that information is protected by law, in which case it will be indicated that such information exists and will be provided to the Competent Authority;
- I will perform all obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations; and
- I am aware of what constitutes an offence in terms of Regulation 48 and that a person convicted of an offence in terms of Regulation 48(1) is liable to the penalties as contemplated in Section 49B of the Act.

Disclosure of Vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)

- I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Regulations;



Signature of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner

AURECON SOUTH AFRICA PTY. LTD

Name of Company:

7 FEBRUARY 2019

Date

3. UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH/ AFFIRMATION

I, CLAIRE BLANCHE, swear under oath / affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this application is true and correct.



Signature of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner

AURECON SOUTH AFRICA PTY LTD

Name of Company

7 FEBRUARY 2019

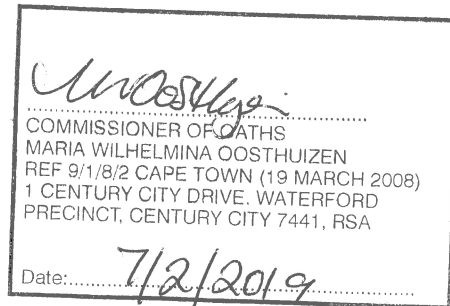
Date



Signature of the Commissioner of Oaths

7/2/2019

Date



Claire Blanché

Senior Environmental Specialist

Claire is currently employed as a senior environmental scientist in Aurecon's Cape Town office where she has worked on South African projects within the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. She has a good understanding of the South African laws and regulations associated with these procedures.

In her capacity as a lead environmental scientist, Claire has led teams of consultants, specialists and scientists, focusing specifically on large-scale linear-type developments. She has gained skills in the execution of plant rescue and rehabilitation in linear projects and has contributed towards research and State of Environment Reporting, specifically in the fields of air quality and climate change.

She studied at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa and obtained a Master's degree in 2001 in the field of Environment and Development, including integrated environmental management (IEM) procedures, project management and planning, environmental auditing, environmental law, and rural land and community development), with specialisations in water resources and catchment management.

Between 2009 and 2011 Claire was an elected member of the national executive committee as well as a vice-chair KwaZulu-Natal committee member for the International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa (IAIASa). She is currently also a lifetime inaugural member of the Golden Key International Honour Society (GKIHS) as well as an interim inaugural member of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA).



Qualification

MSc Environment and Development

BSc (Hons) Applied Environmental Science: Physical and Human Geography

BSc

Specialisation

Senior Environmental Scientist

Working for Wetlands Programme, Regional, South Africa, South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), 08/2011 - 09/2013, Co-Team Leader (Environmental Component)

Working for Wetlands (WfWetlands) is a government programme managed by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), and is a joint initiative of the Departments of Environmental Affairs, Water Affairs and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The programme is mandated to rehabilitate damaged wetlands and to protect pristine wetlands throughout South Africa, with an emphasis on complying with the principles of the Expanded Public Works Programme which 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. This project involved the basic assessment process to apply for environmental authorisation to work in many wetland projects throughout South Africa. It also involved the coordination of wetland ecologists, engineers and environmental scientists to deliver detailed rehabilitation plans for each wetland project, as well as the public participation processes associated with the rehabilitation proposals.

Piketberg stormwater infrastructure upgrade project, Western Cape Province, South Africa, UDS Africa, 05/2012 - 04/2013, Project Leader

This project involved the basic assessment process and environmental management plan

Professional membership

Lifetime Inaugural Member, Golden Key International Honour Society (GKIHS)

Elected Member of the National Executive Committee, International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa (IAIASA)

Interim Inaugural Member, Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA)

KwaZulu-Natal Committee Member: Vice-Chair, International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa (IAIASA)

Member, International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)

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(EMP) for the proposed upgrade of the stormwater infrastructure in the town of Piketberg. Responsible as project leader.

Borrow pits for the Department of Transport and Public Works, Western Cape Province, South Africa, Western Cape Government Department of Transport and Public Works, 11/2012 - Date, Team Leader (NEMA Component)

This project involves basic assessment processes and environmental management plans (EMP's) for approximately 50 borrow pits which will be used as material sources for road re-gravelling and maintenance programmes within the Overberg, Eden and Central Karoo Districts of the Western Cape. The broader project includes the identification of suitable material sources, and the legalisation of preferred borrow pits in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998, the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No. 28 of 2002, the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999, the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 and the Land Use Planning Ordinance, No. 15 of 1985. The project therefore required the coordination of these processes and detailed liaison with the relevant Organs of State.

Horizontal dust flux monitoring for the Port of Saldanha terminal, Western Cape Province, South Africa, Transnet Ports Terminal (TPT), 10/2011 - 04/2012, Project Leader

This project involved the servicing of 24 horizontal dust flux monitoring stations for Transnet at their port terminal in Saldanha, and the monthly reporting on dust derived from the iron ore handling facilities. The project also included two annual audits.

Jack Muller Park Core Conservation Zone (CCZ), Belville, Western Cape Province, South Africa, 04/2011 - 08/2011, Project Leader

This project involved the compilation of a specific Environmental Management Strategy and Plan (EMS and EMP) for the operation of the Core Conservation Zone (CCZ) within the greater Jack Muller Park. The CCZ comprises the threatened Cape Flat Sand Fynbos ecosystem, and required detailed aims and objectives for fire management, recreational activity management, invasive plant control, educational opportunities, and general park maintenance activities.

Extension to Parys Cemetery, Paarl, Western Cape Province, South Africa, 02/2011 - 07/2011, Project Leader

This project involved the Basic Assessment (BA) process and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed extension of the Parys cemetery in Paarl. The property proposed for development was considered of biodiversity significance, and careful layout design to avoid sensitive portions was required. The extension would also impact on the unmarked graves that historically formed part of the cemetery activities.

Hillside 2 stormwater detention ponds and pipelines, Beaufort West, Western Cape Province, South Africa, 02/2011 - 07/2011, Project Leader

This project involved the Basic Assessment (BA) process and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for two stormwater detention facilities (dams) and associated pipelines and culverts. The development alleviates flood risk to residential properties, as well as improves stormwater infrastructure for the town of Beaufort West.

Air Quality Management (AQM) training and air emissions licensing training, Western Cape Province, South Africa, Cape Winelands District Municipality, 03/2011 - 06/2011, Project Leader

The aim of the project was to empower the Cape Winelands District Municipality in Air Quality Management (AQM) and emissions licensing in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (NEMAQA), enabling them to fulfil their responsibilities as air quality authorities across five local municipalities in the Cape Winelands District.

Rehabilitation of the Western Aqueduct, Phase 1, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, eThekweni Water and Sanitation, 01/2009 - 12/2010, Project Leader

The Western Aqueduct project is a bulk water supply project. Responsible for managing the design and compilation of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), rehabilitation strategy, rehabilitation specification and Bill of Quantities (BoQ) for the rescuing of indigenous plant materials from the proposed footprint of the 73 km bulk water pipeline, and the rehabilitation of the 30m-wide corridor following construction. This project was awarded the International Association for Impact Assessment South Africa's (IAIAsa) 2011 Special Recognition Certificate for excellence in project execution.

Demolition of Athlone Cooling Towers, Western Cape Province, South Africa, City of Cape Town, 03/2010 - 08/2010, Project Leader

This project involved the expedient demolition of two benign cooling towers due to structural instability. Responsible for undertaking the development

of an appropriate Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the planning, demolition and clean-up of the towers. The project required the coordination of specialist teams for noise, dust and vibration mitigation, as well as the relocation of Peregrine Falcon nesting boxes, and the general Public Participation Process (PPP). This project won the Consulting Engineers South Africa's (CESA) Aon 2011 Commendation Award for projects under R50 million.

Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the Western Aqueduct, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, eThekweni Water and Sanitation, 01/2006 - 12/2008, Project Leader

Responsible for undertaking the Public Participation Process (PPP), and the scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) processes associated with the 73 km bulk water pipeline, with a diameter of 1.6m. Duties included the design of an appropriate methodology to deal with the variety of biophysical and socio-economic environments along the route; the coordination of four renowned specialist teams; the public consultation with all Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP), including government departments, stakeholders and interest groups; the liaison between the engineering design team, the client and the specialist teams; and the compilation of the relevant reports, documents and correspondence.

Umgeni Water pipeline specialist studies, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, Umgeni Water, 2007 - 2008, Project Leader

The project involved the potential development of an eco-estate, nature reserve and a conservation area characterised by the presence of endangered mistbelt species, including the near-extinct *Gerbera aurantiaca* (Hilton Daisy).

The social aspects of the project required a holistic approach to client, authority and general public communications. Responsible for managing the biodiversity specialist study and the Public Participation Process (PPP), which formed part of the Basic Assessment (BA) process, for a water pipeline project.

Bulk water pipeline, reticulation network and abstraction/treatment plant, Macambini, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2007 - 2008, Project Leader

The project provides potable water to agricultural and rural communities in Northern KwaZulu-Natal, and required the construction of an abstraction and treatment facility. Responsible for managing the Public Participation Process (PPP) for 170 km of bulk water pipelines and reticulation networks aimed at providing treated water to previously neglected areas (in terms of infrastructure provision).

School access road upgrade project, Umzumbe, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2007, Project Leader

Responsible for supervising the Basic Assessment (BA) process and associated Public Participation Process (PPP) for an access road linking rural schools with local communities.

Upgrading of Main Road P100, Ndwedwe, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2006, Project Leader

This project was an African Renaissance Road Upgrading Programme (ARRUP) initiative promoting development within a rural community. Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigations and Public Participation Process (PPP), and developing the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the construction and upgrade of the P100 Main Road in Ndwedwe, KwaZulu-Natal. Also responsible

for managing the associated specialist investigations and compiled the environmental reports.

Upgrading of Florida Road, Somtseu Road, and Florence Nightingale Drive in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2006, Project Leader

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigations and Public Participation Processes (PPPs) for three road upgrade projects in the Durban area, aimed at improving safety and relieving congestion/parking inadequacies.

Five projects on intersection and pedestrian safety improvements in the Greater Durban Area, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2006, Project Leader

Responsible for supervising the environmental investigations associated with the exemption applications for five separate road projects aimed at improving intersection and pedestrian safety.

Tyburn Boulevard water pipeline, Westville, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2006, Project Leader

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigations and Public Participation Process (PPP) for a new section of water pipeline linking the Dawncliff Reservoir water supply to the West End Office Park in Westville, KwaZulu-Natal. Also responsible for managing the associated specialist investigations for the environmental work.

Valley of a Thousand Hills reservoir, Botha's Hill, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2006, Project Leader

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigations and Public

Participation Process (PPP) for the construction of a water reservoir to supplement existing bulk water infrastructure.

Westriding Aqueduct, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2005, Project Leader

Responsible for undertaking the environmental scoping investigations, social study and Public Participation Process (PPP) for the construction and upgrading of a water supply system (pipeline and reservoirs) in the Hillcrest area.

Arlington Sawmill, Nottingham Road, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2005, Environmental Scientist

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigation and Public Participation Process (PPP) for the relocation and upgrading of the Arlington Sawmill, including a scheduled process in terms of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (APPA). Also responsible for undertaking the specialist studies regarding air quality and noise level monitoring.

Cathedral Peak Hotel, Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2005, Environmental Scientist

Responsible for assisting with the compilation of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the hotel and infrastructure, including recreational and mountain activities, the golf course, the sewerage works, a trout farm, a piggery and chicken farm, and surrounding wilderness management; all stakeholder engagement, client/authority liaisons, and report design and compilation.

Daimler-Chrysler Franchise and Industrial Park, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2005, Project Leader

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigations and Public Participation Processes (PPPs) for projects requiring a change in landuse from agriculture to light industrial type.

Victoria Country Club Estate, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2004, Environmental Scientist

The project entailed the merger of the Queen Elizabeth Park, headquarters of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, and the Victoria Country Club; and the addition of a five-village residential and office park estate to create an exclusive wildlife, recreational, commercial and residential development. Responsible for undertaking the design and compilation for the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the construction and operation of the golf and wilderness estate.

Skozani aluminium recycling facility, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2004, Environmental Scientist

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigation and Public Participation Process (PPP) for the proposed aluminium recycling facility, including a scheduled process in terms of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (APPA). Also responsible for undertaking the specialist studies regarding air quality and noise level monitoring.

Mabhobhane access road, Maphumulo, Tugela Valley, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2004, Project Leader

Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental

scoping investigation and Public Participation Process (PPP), and developing the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the construction and upgrading of 13km of gravel road to provide a community access route to areas previously only reachable by four-wheel drive vehicles.

Magabeni Community Project, Mnini, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa, 2003, Environmental Scientist

The project's aim was to provide community skills development, food security, and income sustainability for 30 households. Responsible for managing and undertaking the environmental scoping investigation and Public Participation Process (PPP), and developed the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed change in landuse from grazing land to irrigated agriculture, utilising treated effluent from the Magabeni Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW).

Responsible for assisting with the environmental scoping investigation and Public Participation Process (PPP) for the 700 000 cubic metre farm dam; all stakeholder consultation, research, and report design and compilation.

Appendix E2

SPECIALIST DECLARATION AND EXPERTISE



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DETAILS OF SPECIALIST AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| File Reference Number: | (For official use only) 12/12/20/ or 12/9/11/L |
| NEAS Reference Number: | DEA/EIA |
| Date Received: | |

Application for integrated environmental authorisation and waste management licence in terms of the-

- (1) National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014; and
- (2) National Environmental Management Act: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) and Government Notice 921, 2013

PROJECT TITLE

Working for Wetlands Rehabilitation Programme: KwaZulu – Natal

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| Specialist: | Craig Cowden | | |
| Contact person: | Craig Cowden | | |
| Postal address: | 9 Quarry Road, Hilton | | |
| Postal code: | 3245 | Cell: | 082 748 8522 |
| Telephone: | 033 343 2229 | Fax: | 036 599 2300 |
| E-mail: | craig@grandtruth.co.za | | |
| Professional affiliation(s) (if any) | South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions Registration No. 400197/05 | | |
| Project Consultant: | Aurecon South Africa Pty (Ltd) | | |
| Contact person: | Claire Blanché | | |
| Postal address: | PO Box 494 | | |
| Postal code: | 8000 | Cell: | 082 445 5438 |
| Telephone: | 021 526 6937 | Fax: | 021 526 9500 |
| E-mail: | Claire.Blanche@aurecongroup.com | | |

4.2 The specialist appointed in terms of the Regulations_

I, Craig Cowden, declare that --

General declaration:

I act as the independent specialist in this application;

I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;

I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;

I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;

I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;

I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;

I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;

all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and

I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.



Signature of the specialist:

Ground Truth

Name of company (if applicable):

23/01/2019

Date:

Curriculum Vitae – Craig Cowden

Personal Details:

Name: Craig Cowden
Profession: Wetland Ecologist
Date of Birth: 14 March 1978
Nationality: South African



Key Qualifications:

Seventeen years' experience in ecosystem functioning and management, specializing in wetland ecosystems. Involvement in a variety of studies to determine practical and applied ecological solutions. Specialist input into various studies, focusing on:

- Mapping and infield delineation of wetland habitat within various regions of Southern Africa, including South African provinces of KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Free State, Eastern Cape and Gauteng, and Lesotho for inventory and management purposes.
- Assessment of various wetland ecosystems to highlight potential impacts, within current and proposed landscape settings, and recommend appropriate mitigation and offsets based on assessing wetland ecosystem service delivery (functioning) and ecological health/integrity.
- Assessment of various wetland ecosystems to plan appropriate wetland rehabilitation activities and performance evaluation and monitoring of wetland rehabilitation projects.
- Literature reviews and research relating to impacts, best management practices, promoting biodiversity, monitoring and evaluating rehabilitation within wetland ecosystems.

Education and Training:

- 2017 MSc (Environmental Science) Rhodes University, Grahamstown. MSc has been accepted pending corrections.
- 2017 Wetland Delineation Course - Wetland Training Institute, Convington (Louisiana), USA.
- 2017 Natural Processes for the Restoration of Drastically Disturbed Sites. VII World Conference on Ecological Restoration, Foz do Iguassu, Brazil, August 26, 2017.
- 2015 A Methodology for Determining Buffer Zones for Rivers, Wetlands and Estuaries. National Training and Development Workshop, Pretoria, Gauteng, November 24-25, 2017.
- 2005 Wetland Assessments to Inform Wetland Rehabilitation Planning - University of KwaZulu-Natal.
- 2001 Forest Certification Course - SGS Qualifor.
- 2001 Wetland Rehabilitation Planning and Implementation - Mondi Wetlands Project.
- 1999 B.Sc. (Agriculture) University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg – Four-year Degree (Honours equivalent), majoring in Wildlife Science & Zoology.

Professional Memberships:

- Professional Natural Scientist (Pr.Sci.Nat) in Ecological Science - The South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (Reg. No. 400197/05)
- Founding Member - South African Wetland Society
- Member -Society of Wetland Scientists (International)
- Member -Society of Ecological Restoration (International)

Professional Awards:

- National Wetland Award under the "Stewardship" category awarded in 2013 in recognition of the wetland rehabilitation associated with the Greater Edendale Mall development.
- Mondi Wetlands Programme acknowledgment of "Contributions towards wetland conservation" awarded in 2012.

Experience Record:

2009 to Present: GroundTruth (GT) - Management of the wetland division within GT.

2001 to 2009: Land Resources International (LRI) - Management of the environmental division within LRI.

Examples of Projects:

- Implementation of wetland rehabilitation planning in various provinces, including KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Gauteng, Free State and Western Cape for the Working for Wetlands Programme from 2005-2012, 2016-2018.
- Wetland specialist input and support to Burundi Nature Action and Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda on behalf of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature – Netherlands Committee.
- Assessments of impacted wetland systems and rehabilitation planning to inform the offset requirements for proposed development at the Cascades Mall in Pietermaritzburg.
- Assessments of impacted wetland systems and rehabilitation planning to inform the offset requirements for Exxaro coal mining operations.
- Assessment of wetland systems potentially affected by the proposed expansion of Lumwana Mine near Solwezi, Zambia on behalf of SRK Consultants.
- Water Research Commission research project on developing a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess wetland rehabilitation in South Africa.

Publications

- **Cowden C**, Kotze DC, Ellery WN & Sieben EJJ. 2014. *Assessment of the long-term response to rehabilitation of two wetlands in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*. African Journal of Aquatic Science, Vol. 39, No. 3.
- Rivers-Moore NA, **Cowden C**. 2012. *Regional prediction of wetland degradation in South Africa*. *Wetlands Ecology and Management*, DOI 10.1007/s11273-012-9271-5.
- Macfarlane DM, Walters D & **Cowden C**, 2011. A wetland health assessment of KZN's priority wetlands. Draft Unpublished Report prepared for Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Pietermaritzburg.
- **Cowden C** & Kotze DC, 2009. WET-RehabEvaluate: Guidelines for the monitoring and evaluation of wetland rehabilitation projects. WRC Report No. TT 342/08, Water Research Commission, Pretoria.
- Kotze DC, **Cowden C**. 2009. KZN Biodiversity Stewardship Programme: Guidelines for the *in situ* Management of Ecosystems in KwaZulu-Natal, according to Biodiversity Conservation Principles – Wetlands. Unpublished Report prepared for Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife by Land Resources International, Pietermaritzburg.
- **Cowden C**, Ellery W, Kotze D, Grenfell M, McCulloch D, Woods D, Grenfell S, Bambus O. 2009. *Performance evaluation of the wetland rehabilitation undertaken at Killarney Wetland in Ntsikeni Nature Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal Province* **In** Kotze DC, Ellery WN. 2009. *WET-OutcomeEvaluate: An Evaluation of the rehabilitation outcomes at six wetland sites in South Africa*. WRC Report No. TT 343/09. Water Research Commission, Pretoria.

Conference Presentations:

- **Cowden C**, Kotze D, Walters D, Browne B. Monitoring and evaluation framework for wetland restoration in South Africa, using an urban wetland case study. *Presented during VII World Conference on Ecological Restoration*. Foz do Iguassu, Brazil, August 28 - September 1, 2017.
- **Cowden C**. Wetland specialist input into the Working for Wetlands rehabilitation planning cycle. 21st National Wetlands Indaba, Hoedspruit, Mpumalanga, October 25-28, 2016.
- **Madikizela B**, Cowden C, Kotze D, Ellery W. *Documenting lessons and refining the wetland restoration field of practice in South Africa: The response of two wetlands to Working for Wetlands Restoration*, *Presented during V World Conference on Ecological Restoration*. Wisconsin, USA, September 6-11, 2013.
- **Cowden C**, Kotze D, Ellery W. *Assessment of the long-term response of specific wetlands to rehabilitation interventions by Working for Wetlands*, 17th National Wetlands Indaba. Klein Kariba, Limpopo, October 23-26, 2012.
- **Cowden C**. *Urban Wetland Rehabilitation: A KwaZulu-Natal Case Study*, 16th National Wetlands Indaba. Didima, KwaZulu-Natal, October 18-21, 2011.

Appendix E3

WETLAND FORUM MEETING MINUTES



KZN WETLAND FORUM MEETING: MINUTES

Date: 28 January 2019

Venue: Shop 6, Greater Edendale Mall, PMB

Time: 09:00 – 12h00

1 Welcome

Chair

The chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2 Present and apologies

Chair

Present:

- Skhumbuzo Kubheka (SK)
- Mlu Ntuli (MN)
- Lesley Bay (LB)
- Steven Ellery (SE)
- Tarryn Frankland (TF)
- Siphu Ngqasa (SN)
- Nozipho Mahlanze (NM)
- Sifiso Maphumulo (SM)
- Pearl Gola (PG)
- Mbali Goge (MG)
- Cherise Acker-Cooper (CA)
- Lulu van Rooyen (LvR)
- Nomalungelo Radebe (NR)
- Susan Janse van Resnburg (SvR)
- Hlelo Mbense (HM)

Apologies received from:

- Craig Mulqueeny
- Jacolette Adam
- Siyabonga Buthelezi
- Jeanne Tarrant
- Jiba Magwaza
- Penny Gumede
- Craig Cowden
- Njabulo Tshabalala
- Tembelihle Ndlela
- Ian Bredin
- Kurt Barchievy

3 Approval of previous minutes

Chair

- (MN) proposed minutes, (SK) seconded (no corrections noted)

4 Confirmation of agenda/ additional agenda items

Chair

- IAIASA student partnership

5 Matters Arising

5.1 Actions from previous meetings

5.1.1. Need for Wetlands Database

As per previous minutes funding is needed to appoint an intern to assist in putting this database together of which the main purpose would be to support EKZNW in monitoring developments. Ian Bredin suggested that seed funding be secured through the forum to support this process, and Matthew Dickey volunteered to source students. Another option is to fund an intern through the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIASA), where the intern will then sit with an IAIASA registered company, but work on the database as part of his/her responsibilities. Also see section 8.

Action 1: SK to follow up with Ian Bredin and Christine Cuenod to ascertain funding available for this (as per previous minutes).

5.1.2. Balamhlanga Case

SK asked to be released from his responsibility to follow up on the Balamhlanga case, since he is affiliated with EKZNW. The latest understanding is that there were departmental issues with directives to rehabilitate, and dissatisfaction from DWS about how the directive was responded to. There has also been a turnover of governmental officials, and therefore uncertainty about who is responsible for what.

It is suggested that the KZNWF form a 'task team' as a KZNWF portfolio to establish the status quo, produce a summary of current existing documents and actions, and create a platform for stakeholders to coordinate. The aim is to be a neutral, solution-focused task team which can objectively understand the issues and play a bigger role in resolving this case, and report back to various stakeholders (not only the KZNWF). The suggestions for this task team/portfolio are Susan Janse van Rensburg, Mbali Goge, Skhumbuzo Kubheka, Lulu v Rooyen and potentially Kurt Barchiev. Any other KZNWF member interested in partaking in this portfolio is welcome to contact the Chairperson Skhumbuzo Kubheka. Also see Section 6.1.

Action 2: SvR, MG, SK, LvR, KB to convene a meeting to plan actions for this task team

Action 3: IB to follow up with Carte Blanche (previous minutes)

5.1.3. Wetland classification

The new wetland classification was meant to be delivered by the end of 2018 from national. SK will follow up with Namhla Mbona from SANBI about this. As per previous minutes the provincial classification should still be obtained from Boyd Escott and distributed.

Action 4: SK to follow up with Namhla about Version 5 of the next wetland classification

Action 5: SK to obtain provincial classification from Boyd Escott

5.1.4. National wetland indaba finances

The status of KZNWF finances is still unclear at this stage, due to the transfer to the new committee. SK will work with Ian Bredin to have access to funding and status of books. There exist also now the opportunity for the South African Wetland Society (SAWS) to host Forum funds. Two provincial forums are already in the process of moving funds to SAWS.

Action 6: SK to discuss KZNWF funds and bookkeeping with IB

5.2 Information/data management and feedback

5.2.1. PRESENTATION: ICLEI project – EGS Quality Scoring Toolkit

CA presented on the 'Ecological goods and services quality assessment toolkit' developed by EWT. The aim of this toolkit is to equip people (researchers, students, environmental monitors, community members, etc.) to collect baseline- and monitoring data. It can also be used to develop environmental citizenship in communities. As part of the presentation CA also demonstrated the use of the geospatial data collection app.

6 General Matters

6.1 Portfolios for 2018

It was suggested that portfolios are created with assigned KZNWF members to drive these. The suggested portfolios are:

1) 'Training, skills development and student support' portfolio:

This portfolio will identify training and skills development opportunities hosted by the KZNWF for 2019, as well as focus on student participation in the forum. The latter is to happen by collaborating with institutions such as IAISA (International Association for Impact Assessments South Africa), EWT, SAEON and UKZN. The members responsible for this portfolio are Cherise Acker-Cooper, Sue Janse van Rensburg, and Tarryn Frankland. Erwin Sieben can be approached for his assistance herewith.

Within this portfolio there is a need for the KZNWF to support and facilitate more students to attend KZNWF meetings and NWI. The SAWS is developing a similar portfolio to help Forums to work with students, so this portfolio should collaborate with SAWS.

2) 'Response' portfolio

This is the 'watchdog portfolio', and currently the Balamhanga wetland case is to be focused on, although not limited to. As per Section 5.1.2 the following members have volunteered to drive this portfolio: Susan Janse van Rensburg, Mbali Goge, Skhumbuzo Kubheka, Lulu v Rooyen and potentially Kurt Barchievy. A response policy will have to be developed for this portfolio.

It is the responsibility of the various portfolio task teams to set up meetings within themselves and come up with a set of objectives and action plan for next meeting.

Action 7: Set up task team meetings - Training portfolio: Cherise Acker-Cooper, Sue Janse van Rensburg, and Tarryn Frankland; Response portfolio: Susan Janse van Rensburg, Mbali Goge, Skhumbuzo Kubheka, Lulu v Rooyen

Planning for activities (i.e. presentations, training, etc.)

The following activities have been put forward:

1) Mini Wetland Indaba for students, aligning with Mlu Ntuli's similar initiative.

Action 8: LvR, MN, and CA to collaborate with the Training Portfolio members to organize this

2) Jacolette Adam will be asked to present her Master's degree work at the next KZNWF meeting. Doug McFarlane is to be asked if he can give training as part of Quarter 4's KZNWF meeting.

Action 9: LvR to ask Jacolette Adam.

Action 10: SK to approach DM.

3) There will be a workshop on Wetland Ecoservices and Wet Health training in May hosted by Groundtruth.

Action 11: Steven Ellery to forward leaflet/invitation to LvR.

- 4) Cedara College is hosting their annual soil classification and land capability course 7-9 May. LvR will distribute invitation

Action 12: LvR to distribute invitation.

5) Other potential opportunities:

- ICLEI presentations on wetland management guidelines for municipalities, and action ICLEI on training component
- Delineation training with new soil classification book
- Training for wetland buffer tool
- Doug to complete list of all known tools and resources that can be shared and discussed

Action 13: MN to report on event

Action 14: CA to report on EWT event

7 General matters

7.1 NWI attendance

MN reported back that various KZN students presented and was motivated to present this year as well. LibertyNPO won the skills development wetland award.

7.2 Wetlands day events 2019

- 1) Greater Edendale event to be celebrated again on the 1st February 2019, supported by various institutions. They will showcase documentaries and have sessions on wetland theory and marketing material inside, and practical events outside. MN requested support from KZN Wetland Forum members. There is a plan to shift WWD to March next year to give more time for planning and other projects.
- 2) EWT will host a Wetlands Day Celebration in Adams Mission on 8 February 2019. There will be exhibition tables and an outdoor cinema hosted by NEWF Nature Environment, Wildlife Filmmakers Congress. CA will disseminate details.
- 3) SvR is hosting a closed WWD event on the 5th and 6th of March in Maputaland on the Mabaso tribal Council's request
- 4) The rehabilitation of Mphophomeni is finally taking place – a positive story of collaboration. The teams will also have a WWD celebration at the end of February. MG also suggested that the third quarter forum meeting is in Mphophomeni and have a site visit attached to it.

7.3 Planned meetings for the year:

The following meeting dates are to be diarised:

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| April 26 | Durban (Venue to be confirmed) | Jacquette Adam to present (TBC) |
| July 26 | Mphophomeni | Mphophomeni Rehabilitation site visit |
| 11Oct | Durban (Venue to be confirmed) | Doug McFarlane to give training (TBC) |

Action 15: SB to ask Siyabonga Buthelezi for a Durban venue; or TF to ask for a Durban IAIASA venue

8 Additional Items

8.1 Student Mentorship Programme

IAIASA can act as link between various employees registered with IAIASA and their organisations, and students to disseminate job opportunities and host networking events, career days, etc. One of their responsibilities is to assimilate information and distribute it. They're looking for opportunities to collaborate with the KZNWF, especially on the student facilitation aspect. As per Section 5.1.1 IAIASA can raise funds to sponsor an intern in an IAIASA registered company to can work on wetland issues such as the wetland database.

Action 16: LvR to approach IAIASA registered consultant about the opportunity and work with Tarryn to solicit funding from IAIASA.

Meeting closed 12h00