APPENDIX M

Terrestrial Ecology Assessment



REPORT

Terrestrial Ecology Impact Assessment for the **Turfvlakte Project**

Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Location of Flora and Fauna Sampling Points

APPENDIX B

List of Flora Species Recorded in the Study Area during the Field Programme (Table 1)

and

The BODATSA Flora List for the 2327DA QDC (Table 2)

APPENDIX C

Mammals Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area

APPENDIX D

<u>Birds</u> Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area (Master list based on SABAP2 records for the 2327DA QDC)

APPENDIX E

Herpetofauna Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area

APPENDIX F

Document Limitations

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd (Golder) was appointed by Exxaro Coal (Pty) Ltd to conduct a terrestrial ecological assessment of sites associated with the proposed Turfvlakte Project, at Grootegeluk Coal Mine, near the town of Lephalale in the Limpopo Province, South Africa. The terrestrial ecological assessment forms part of the larger Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process, which is aimed at obtaining the necessary rights and authorisations to undertake a proposed mining project.

This report provides a baseline ecological characterisation of the affected portion of the farm Turfvlakte 463 and other sites associated with proposed mine infrastructure.

1.1 Location and Delimits of the Study Area

The farm Turfvlakte 463 is located approximately 16 km west of the town of Lephalale in the Limpopo Province (Figure 1). The entire farm is 965 ha in extent and is positioned at the centre of a development triangle formed by the neighbouring Grootegeluk Coal Mine, Eskom's Matimba and Medupi Power Stations, and various facilities associated with these operations.

The majority of proposed mine infrastructure will be located on a 427 ha portion of the Turfvlakte 463 farm, with remaining infrastructure sited on immediately adjacent land (comprising approx. 188 ha). The total extent of the study area for the terrestrial ecological assessment thus totals 615 ha and is shown in Figure 2.

All affected land forms part of the Exxaro-owned Manketti Game Reserve and is characterised by unmodified natural habitat, currently used for game farming and conservation.



Figure 1: Regional location of the Turfvlakte farm and Grootegeluk Coal Mine





Figure 2: Aerial image of the study area used for the terrestrial ecology study



1.2 Terms of Reference

The principal aim of the study was to develop a baseline ecological characterisation of the study area, with which to inform a later impact assessment process. In line with this, specific objectives of the study include:

- Present a baseline description of the study area's terrestrial ecology (i.e. floral and faunal communities);
- Identify species (Red List and protected species) and sites of conservation importance occurring in the study area;
- Identify key ecological processes that occur in the study area and surrounding landscape; and
- Identify potential ecological impacts that should be considered during the environmental impact assessment process.

2.0 LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The following national and provincial legislation were consulted during the study:

- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998);
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) (Act No. 10 of 2004);
- Environment Conservation Act (ECA) (Act No. 73 of 1989);
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA) (Act No. 43 of 1983);
- National Forests Act (NFA) (Act No. 84 of 1998); and
- Limpopo Environmental Management Act (LEMA) (Act No. 7 of 2003).

3.0 STUDY METHODOLOGY

The terrestrial ecological assessment included a literature review and a field programme. The tasks associated with these components are discussed below:

3.1 Literature Review

3.1.1 Vegetation Types and Floral Species

- A general habitat description relevant to the study area was obtained from Scholes and Walker (1993) and Mucina and Rutherford (2006);
- The formal conservation context of the region at a national and provincial level was established based on the National List of Threatened Ecosystems (ref. NEMBA Threatened Ecosystems, 2011) and the Limpopo Conservation Plan V2 (2013);
- A list of potential floral species likely to occur in the study area was compiled based primarily on data obtained from the South African National Biodiversity Institute's (SANBI) online Botanical Database of Southern Africa¹ (ref. BODATSA, 2016) for the 2327DA quarter degree square;
- Existing specialist floral studies relevant to the study area were also reviewed as additional data sources.
 These included Golder (2011, 2012 & 2015) and NSS (2011); and
- A recent draft wetland study of the Turfvlakte farm property was also consulted (ref. GroundTruth, 2018).

¹ Successor of SANBI's POSA Database



3.1.2 Faunal Characterisation

3.1.2.1 Mammals

- A list of expected mammal species was compiled by consulting Stuart and Stuart (2007) and MammalMAP (ref. ADU - Virtual Museum, 2015); and
- Additional literature sources consulted for mammal data included Golder (2011, 2012 & 2015) and NSS (2011).

3.1.2.2 Birds

- A list of bird species expected for the study area was based on the South African Bird Atlas Project 2 (ADU SABAP2, 2011) records for the pentads 2335_2730, 2340_2730 and 2340_2735. Additional literature sources consulted for bird data included Golder (2011, 2012 & 2015) and NSS (2011); and
- Marnewick *et al.* (2015) was consulted for a description of the nearby Waterberg System Important Bird Area (IBA).

3.1.2.3 Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

- Expected reptile and amphibian species lists were based on the distribution maps presented in Branch (1998), Alexander and Marais (2010) and Bates *et al.* (2014) for reptiles, and Minter *et al.* (2004) and du Preez and Carruthers, (2009) for amphibian species; and
- Additional data were also sourced from the ReptileMAP and FrogMAP (ref. ADU Virtual Museum, 2015) and from Golder (2011, 2012 & 2015) and NSS (2011).

3.1.2.4 Arthropods

Data on arthropods of conservation importance potentially occuring in the study area were obtained from Henning *et al.* (2009) and the records of the ADU - Virtual Museum's (2015) SpiderMAP and ScorpionMAP. Exxaro (2014) was also reviewed with regard to the probable presence of baboon spiders in the study area.

3.2 Field Programme

The field programme included two field surveys; a wet-season field survey was undertaken from the 29th January to 2nd February 2018, and the dry-season survey from the 11th to 15th June 2018. The programme included both flora and fauna sampling.

Sampling methodologies are discussed in sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2.

3.2.1 Flora Surveys

- Belt transects were used to sample vegetation in the local study area (Tainton, 1999). Transects were approximately 100 X 6 m in dimension and were located in representative habitat/vegetation communities (see APPENDIX A for flora sampling locations);
- Vegetation communities were also traversed on foot and any unusual or unrecorded plant species were documented; and
- Several reference works were used to identify floral species including, *inter alia*; Van Wyk & Van Wyk (1997), Van Wyk & Malan (1998), Smit (1999), Van Oudtshoorn (1999), Coates Palgrave (2002), Schmidt *et al.*, (2007), and Van Der Walt (2009). Flora nomenclature is in line with Germishuizen *et al.*, (2006), although more recent name changes were used where applicable.

3.2.2 Fauna Surveys

3.2.2.1 Mammals

The mammal survey comprised both active and passive sampling:

- Active sampling included the use of Sherman traps and motion-triggered camera traps. Traps were baited and placed at selected fauna sampling sites in representative vegetation communities (Hoffman *et al.,* 2010) (see APPENDIX A for fauna sampling locations); and
- Passive sampling included the recording of opportunistic observations/encounters of mammals, the identification of mammal tracks, faeces, burrows and feedings signs.

As required, Skinner & Smithers (1990), Stuart & Stuart (2007) and Stuart & Stuart (2013) were used for identification purposes.

3.2.2.2 Birds

- Birds were surveyed based on visual and call identification. Birds were searched for by walking slowly through vegetation and recording all species seen or heard. Care was taken to remain at any point of bird activity and record all the species present, particularly mixed species flocks; and
- Incidental observations were also recorded throughout the field survey. Where necessary, identifications were verified using Sinclair *et al.*, (2011) and the Roberts Multimedia Birds of SA Android App. for bird calls.

3.2.2.3 Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

Sampling for reptiles and amphibians included both active and passive sampling, and followed the protocols outlined by Eekhout (2010). Sampling methods included:

- <u>Pitfall traps</u> with drift fences 5 10 litre buckets were dug into the ground and linked with plastic drift fences, creating a trapping array – see Figure 3. Trapping arrays were located at fauna sampling sites;
- <u>Funnel trapping</u> funnel traps were used in conjunction with pitfall traps and drift fences;
- <u>Acoustic identification</u> night-time acoustic identification was used to survey for amphibians during the wet season field survey; and
- <u>Opportunistic observations/encounters</u> reptiles and amphibians encountered in the study area during the field programme.

Branch (1998) and Alexander and Marais (2010) were used for reptile identification. du Preez and Carruthers (2009) was used to identify amphibians.

3.2.2.4 Arthropods

- Arthropod sampling included the placement of pitfall traps at the fauna survey sites and the recording of species encountered during opportunistic observations;
- Focus groups included ants, ground living beetles, termites, leafhoppers, and scorpions:
 - Special emphasis was placed on determining the presence/possible presence of Baboon spiders (Family Theraphosidae) – as these taxa are of conservation value and are known to occur in the area. This was done through live-catches (in pitfall traps) and by searching for silk-lined burrows; and
- Reference works used to identify arthropods included Leeming (2003), Picker *et al.*, (2004) and Dippenaar-Schoeman (2014). Identification was done to the lowest possible taxonomic level.





3.3 Assessment of Biodiversity Value

3.3.1 Vegetation Community Sensitivity Analysis

Based on data collected during the field programme, vegetation communities were described according to their structure and composition. Edwards (1983) was used to guide the structural classification. Vegetation communities were also mapped.

Habitat sensitivity was then determined by subjectively assessing the ecological integrity and conservation importance of identified vegetation communities. The habitat sensitivity criteria presented in Table 1 were developed by Golder Africa and were used to guide the habitat sensitivity analysis.

Score	Ecological Integrity	Conservation Importance
HIGH	 Habitats of high ecological integrity have compositional, structural and functional characteristics that are close to the natural/sustainable state (i.e. reference conditions). As such, they have a combination of the following attributes: Key floral and faunal indictors are present or highly likely to be present; Large habitat patch that is mostly unfragmented and has a high level of connectivity to adjacent natural habitat patches; 	 Habitats of high conservation importance or irreplaceability have one or a combination of the following attributes: Pristine or relatively undisturbed habitat displaying high species richness; Areas playing an important functional role in ecological processes at a landscape scale (e.g. high levels of connectivity, source patches, water attenuation, etc.); Niche or relatively rare/unique habitat within the landscape that contributes to overall habitat heterogeneity;

Table 1: Criteria for rating of habitat sensitivity

Score	Ecological Integrity	Conservation Importance
	 Has little to no evidence of anthropogenic disturbances (pollution, earth works, etc.); and Little or no alien invasive species establishment. 	 Areas designated by provincial or national authorities as having high conservation importance, sensitivity or irreplaceability; and Areas with confirmed presence or high probability of occurrence of Red List and/or protected species.
MODERATE	 Habitats of moderate ecological integrity have a combination of the following attributes: Moderate levels of anthropogenic disturbance; and Despite disturbances, habitat maintains much of the same functional attributes as areas in a natural/sustainable state. 	 Habitats of moderate conservation importance have a combination of the following attributes: Intermediate levels of species richness; No or low probability of Red List and/or protected species as determined by critical habitat assessments; and Disturbed areas that are situated adjacent to habitat of high ecological integrity and/or conservation importance and therefore may play a role as an ecological support area.
LOW	 Habitats of low ecological integrity have a combination of the following attributes: Severely modified from natural state as a consequence of anthropogenic activities, with poor species richness and all or most key floral and faunal indicators absent; Highly fragmented areas, with little or no connectivity to adjacent natural habitat; High incidence of alien species establishment; and Successful rehabilitation may restore some degree of habitat integrity. 	Habitats of low conservation importance are typically transformed or highly disturbed, with little or no ecological integrity. These areas are species poor and in their current form, play little role in ecological processes and thus cannot contribute toward biodiversity conservation.
Negligible	Completely transformed or developed areas with no natural habitat remaining and limited scope for rehabilitation.	Completely transformed or developed areas with no natural habitat remaining and limited scope for rehabilitation.

3.3.2 Species of Conservation Importance

3.3.2.1 Listing Criteria

The Red List and protected status of floral and faunal species occurring or potential occurring in the study area was based on:

- Regional/National Red List Status, as per the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) assessment criteria - specifically:
 - Red List of South African Plants Version (SANBI, 2017);
 - Red List of Mammals of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (EWT, 2016);
 - Regional Red List for Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (BirdLife South Africa, 2015b);
 - Atlas and Red List of the Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Bates *et al.*, 2014); and
 - Atlas and Red Data Book of the Frogs of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Minter et al., 2004).
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) (Act No. 10 of 2004) Threatened or Protected Species List (Notice 389 of 2013) (NEMBA ToPS List, 2013);
- National Forests Act (Act No. 84 of 1998) List of Protected Tree Species (ref. National Forests Act 1998); and
- Limpopo Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2003), specifically Schedule 2 and 3 concerning Specially Protected and Protected Animals respectively, and Schedule 11 and 12 concerning Specially Protected and Protected Plants respectively (ref. Limpopo Environmental Management Act 2003).

3.3.2.2 Habitat Suitability Assessments

Based on the lists of species of conservation importance potentially occurring in the study area as per the literature review, the '*probability of occurrence*' of species was determined by conducting habitat suitability assessments. The following parameters were used in the assessments:

- Habitat requirements: Most threatened and endemic species have very specific habitat requirements. The presence of these habitats in the study area was evaluated;
- Habitat status: The status or ecological condition of available habitat in the area was assessed. Often a high level of habitat degradation will negate the potential presence of sensitive species; and
- Habitat linkage: Dispersal and movement between natural areas for breeding and feeding are important population-level processes. Habitat connectivity within the study area and to surrounding natural habitat and corridors was evaluated to determine the likely persistence of species of concern in the study area.

Probability of occurrence is presented in three categories, namely:

- Possible: The species may occur on the site, or move through the site (in the case of mobile species), due to potential habitat and/or resources;
- Probable: The species is likely to occur on the site due to suitable habitat and resources being present on the site; or
- **Unlikely**: The species will not likely occur on the site due to lack of suitable habitat and resources.

Species that were observed/documented in the study area during the field programme are listed as recorded.

3.3.3 Alien Invasive Floral Species

Alien invasive plant species were categorised according to the following listings:

- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA) (Act No. 43 of 1983); and/or
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) (Act No. 10 of 2004) 2016 listing.

3.3.4 Medicinal Flora Species

Assessment of the medicinal value and utility of floral species recorded in the study area was based on Van Wyk *et al.* (2009).

4.0 STUDY LIMITATIONS

The following limitations are applicable to this study:

- Little rain had fallen prior to the wet season field visit, and consequently vegetation in the herbaceous layer was mostly dormant/senescent, with negligible new season growth. This prevented an assessment of the composition and abundance of herbaceous species (i.e. grasses, forbs/herbs) during the optimal growing period; and
- The absence or non-recording of a specific floral or faunal species, at a particular time, does not necessarily indicate that 1) the species does not occur there; 2) the species does not utilise resources in that area; or 3) the area does not play an ecological support role in the life-history of that species.

5.0 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISATION OF THE STUDY AREA

5.1 General Biophysical Environment

The study area is located in the Limpopo Sweet Bushveld (ref. SVcb19) vegetation type of the savanna biome (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006) (refer to Figure 4). The attributes of the savanna biome and the Limpopo Sweet Bushveld vegetation type are discussed below:

5.1.1 Savanna Biome

The savanna biome is the largest biome in South Africa, covering approximately 35% of the country's land surface (Scholes and Walker, 1993). Savannas are characterised by a dominant grass layer, over-topped by a discontinuous, yet distinct woody plant component. Primary determinants of savanna composition, structure and functioning are; fire, a distinct seasonal climate, substrate type, and browsing and grazing by large herbivores (Scholes and Walker, 1993).

Compositionally, Africa's savannas are distinguished as either fine-leafed savannas or broad-leafed savannas. The distribution of these forms is based primarily on soil fertility (Scholes and Walker, 1993); fine-leafed savannas occur on nutrient rich soils and are dominated by microphyllous woody species of the *Mimosaceae* family (most commonly *Acacias*²). These savannas have a productive and diverse herbaceous layer that is dominated by grasses, and can support large populations of mammalian herbivores (Scholes and Walker, 1993).

Conversely, broad-leafed savannas usually occur on nutrient poor soils and are dominated by macrophyllous woody species from the *Combretaceae* family (common genera: *Combretum & Terminalia*). Compared to fine-leafed savannas, broad-leafed savannas are less productive and support a lower herbivore biomass (Scholes and Walker, 1993).

5.1.2 Limpopo Sweet Bushveld

Limpopo Sweet Bushveld extends northwards from the lower reaches of the Crocodile and Marico Rivers to the Limpopo Valley and into Botswana. This vegetation type is dominated by elements of Low & Robelo's (1996) Sweet Bushveld and Acocks (1953) Arid Sweet Bushveld (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006).

² Members of the African Acacia genus have been parsed into the genera Vachellia and Senegalia (Kull and Rangan, 2012). The use of the Acacia name however, has been retained by many scholars as a colloquial and collective term for Africa's iconic thorn trees.



Vegetation and Landscape features

Limpopo Sweet Bushveld is characterised by undulating or irregular plains dominated by open woodland. A number of tributaries of the Limpopo River traverse this vegetation type (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006).

Important Plant Taxa

Based on Mucina & Rutherford's (2006) vegetation classification, important plant taxa are those species that have a high abundance, a frequent occurrence (not being particularly abundant) or are prominent in the landscape within a particular vegetation type. They note the following species as important taxa in the Limpopo Sweet Bushveld vegetation type:

- Trees: Senegalia burkei, S. mellifera subsp. detinens, Vachellia robusta, V. erioloba, V. nilotica, V. tortilis subsp. heteracantha, V. fleckii, Albizia anthelmintica, Boscia albitrunca, Combretum apiculatum, C. hereroense, Commiphora pyracanthoides, C. africana, Dichrostachys cinerea, Peltophorum africanum and Terminalia sericea;
- Shrubs: Ehretia rigida, Catophractes alexandri, Euclea undulata, Rhigozum obovatum, Cadaba aphylla, Grewia flava, Leucosphaera bainesii and Diospyros lycioides subsp. lycioides;
- Graminoids: Digitaria eriantha, Enneapogon cenchroides, Eragrostis lehmanniana, E. pallens, E. rigidior, Panicum maximum, P. coloratum, Schmidtia pappophoroides, Aristida congesta, Cymbopogon verticillata, Ischaemum afrum, Stipagrostis uniplumis and Urochloa mossambicensis;
- Herbs: Acanthosicyos naudinianus, Commelina benghalensis, Harpagophytum procumbens subsp. transvaalense, Hemizygia elliotii and Hermbstaedtia odorata; and
- **Endemic Taxon**: The succulent herb *Piaranthus atrosanguineus* is endemic to this region.

5.2 Formal Conservation Considerations

5.2.1 Limpopo Conservation Plan

The total extent of Limpopo Sweet Bushveld is approximately 1 200 513 ha, of which, about 6.9% has been transformed and 0.6% is protected (Limpopo Conservation Plan V2, 2013). Despite the poor level of formal protection, Limpopo Sweet Bushveld is considered Least Threatened by both the national and provincial biodiversity assessments (Limpopo Conservation Plan V2, 2013).

According to the Limpopo Conservation Plan's mapping of critical biodiversity areas (CBA), the study area is located on land designated as 'Ecological Support Area 1' (see Figure 5). This designation characterises both natural and degraded land that supports CBAs by maintain ecological processes (Limpopo Conservation Plan V2, 2013). The advocated management objective of such land is to limit biodiversity loss by maintaining ecosystem functioning and connectivity, and listed incompatible land uses include, *inter alia*, mining and industry (Limpopo Conservation Plan V2, 2013).

5.2.2 Protected Areas

Nature Reserves and Conservation Areas

A number of statutorily declared nature reserves, as well as informal conservation areas are present in the broader region surrounding the study area. These include Marakele National Park, D'Nyala Nature Reserve, Welgevonden Private Nature Reserve, Hans Strijdom Nature Reserve and the neighbouring Tierkop Private Nature Reserve. Refer to Figure 1 for a map showing the location of some of the recognised protected areas in region.

Important Bird Areas

The Waterberg System IBA is approximately 1 321 450 ha in extent (Marnewick *et al.*, 2015), comprising the whole Waterberg plateau and dominates the region to the south-east of the study area. The IBA supports populations of several globally and regionally threatened species, including *inter alia*, a significantly large colony of between 800 - 850 pairs of Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*) (Marnewick *et al.*, 2015).

Waterberg Biosphere Reserve

The Waterberg Biosphere Reserve occupies much (approx. 650 000 ha) of the Waterberg district to the south of the study area. The concept of biosphere reserves is fairly recent and has been recognised by UNESCO as a means to promote the conservation and sustainable use of land within a particular area. The Waterberg Biosphere Reserve is recognised by UNESCO.





Figure 4: Turfvlakte farm in relation to Mucina & Rutherford's (2006) regional vegetation types





Figure 5: The Limpopo Conservation Plan (2013) and the Turfvlakte farm boundary



5.3 General Characteristics of the Study Area and Surrounding Landscape

The study area comprises natural bushveld habitat, typical of vegetation in the region (Figure 6). Disturbances are minimal, and mostly limited to a network of game viewing vehicle tracks and larger gravel roads. Several exploration drill pads that have been cleared of vegetation were also noted throughout the study area. The topography, like much of the surrounding landscape, is generally flat, with only slight changes in elevation.

The study area forms part of the larger Manketti Game Reserve, which is approximately 22 000 ha in extent and envelopes much of Grootegeluk Coal Mine. The reserve is surrounded by a standard game fence (height: 2.25 - 2.4 m), with smaller (approx. height 1 m) internal fences partitioning the reserve from various mine facilities. A conveyor from Grootegeluk Mine to Medupi Power Station marks the western boundary of the Turfvlakte farm. Unlike the surrounding game fence, the security fence enclosing the conveyor corridor is a square-mesh fence that is topped with barbed wire and is impermeable to the movement of large fauna (see Figure 7). A broad vehicle bridge that has been constructed over the conveyor for future mining purposes and connects the Turfvlakte farm to the remainder of Manketti Game Reserve and currently provides a passage for fauna to move between the two areas.

Several shallow depressions or pans and three artificial waterholes/dams are present in the study area. The artificial waterholes/dams receive supplementary water (shown in Figure 8), and are the only reliable, year-round source of drinking water for wildlife in the study area. The natural depressions/pans were dry at the time of both the wet- and dry-season field surveys (Figure 9). It is expected they hold water only temporarily after sufficient rain, whereupon they will also be used for drinking and wallowing by wildlife. For a brief summary of the pans and water holes in the study area refer to section 5.4.2.

Beyond completely transformed and developed sites associated with Grootegeluk Coal Mine, the adjacent power station, as well as various ancillary facilities and residential settlements, most of the broader landscape surrounding the study area consists of undeveloped natural habitat – refer to Figure 10 for land cover imagery. Although this land is partially fragmented by numerous farm fences and various vehicle tracks and gravel roads, it constitutes viable and functional habitat due to its natural condition. Ecological processes prevalent in the study area therefore form part of, and contribute toward, broader landscape-scale ecological integrity and functioning.



Figure 6: View across the study area from the conveyor bridge



Figure 8: Artificial waterhole in the study area that receives supplementary water and is used by wildlife as a source of drinking water



Figure 7: Conveyor and square-mesh fence that separates Turfvlakte farm from the remainder of Manketti Game Reserve



Figure 9: One of several dry natural depression/pans in the study area



Figure 10: GeoTerra Imagery land cover classification of the Turfvlakte farm and surrounding landscape

5.4 Flora Assessment

5.4.1 Vegetation Communities

In many African savannas, soil properties at a landscape scale vary between 'upland' and 'bottomland' areas, with clay content generally increasing downslope. This influences soil moisture availability and soil fertility, which in turn, affect vegetation patterns that typically manifest as a predictable topographically-linked soil-vegetation sequence, known as a catena (Du Toit *et al.*, 2003; Scholes and Walker, 1993).

Although the topography of the study area is generally flat, a slight gradient along a north-west to south-east axis is present. The north-west is an 'upland area' (approx. 890 masl) and is characterised by deep sandy soils with low (<5%) clay content, and a dominance of broad-leafed vegetation. Conversely, the south-east is a 'low-land' area (approx. 878 masl), characterised by more clayey soils (>5%) and a prevalence of fine-leafed woody species.

Five vegetation communities were identified in the study area. These were recognised based primarily on diagnostic woody species and overall vegetation structure, with the structural classification broadly in line with Edwards (1983).

Identified vegetation communities are:

- Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld;
- Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld;
- Open Combretum apiculatum Terminalia sericea Bushveld;
- Spirostachys africana Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland; and
- Euclea undulata Thicket.

Identified vegetation communities are described in section 5.4.1.1 through to section 5.4.1.5, along with representative photographs. A map showing the spatial distribution of vegetation communities across the study area is provided in Figure 11.



Figure 11: Vegetation map for the study area



5.4.1.1 Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld

This community is the largest (approx. 254 ha) and dominates much of the southern and south-eastern portion of the study area (refer to vegetation map in Figure 11). It is characterised by open short (<3 m) savanna, with a moderately well-developed herbaceous layer (Figure 12 and Figure 13). The soils underlying areas of Short Open *Vachellia tortilis* Bushveld are deep red, apedal sands.

Woody species composition comprises a mixture of broad- and fine-leafed species. Small to medium-sized *Vachellia tortilis*³ trees dominate the upper woody component, with several other shorter taxa also frequently recorded including *Commiphora pyracanthoides, Dichrostachys cinerea* and various *Grewia* species. Scattered tall trees are present in this community, mostly comprising *Combretum imberbe, Senegalia nigrescens* and *Vachellia erioloba*.

The dwarf shrub *Melhania acuminata* var. *acuminata* is common in the herbaceous layer, along with the grasses *Eragrostis rigidior, Schmidtia pappophoroides* and various *Aristida* species. Other taxa common in the herbaceous layer include *inter alia*; *Kyphocarpa angustifolia, Solanum tettense* var. *renschii* and *Waltheria indica*. Refer to APPENDIX B for a list of flora recorded in this community.

Sensitivity Aspects

This large vegetation community remains in good ecological condition. Outside of a network of vehicle gameviewing tracks there is little evidence of anthropogenic disturbances or the establishment of alien invasive plant species. Accordingly, its ecological integrity is rated <u>high</u>.

Areas of Short Open *Vachellia tortilis* Bushveld provide important foraging habitat for fauna, particularly browsing and grazing ungulates. Three protected trees were recorded in this community during the field survey, namely *Boscia albitrunca, Combretum imberbe* and *Vachellia erioloba.* Considering these factors, the conservation importance of this vegetation community is therefore also considered <u>high</u>.



Figure 12: Typical example of Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld in the study area

³ Formerly Acacia tortilis



Figure 13: Schematic structural representation of typical Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld

5.4.1.2 Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld

Tall Senegalia nigrescens⁴ Bushveld is the second largest community (approx. 109 ha) and is found in a ushaped band in the centre of the study area (Figure 11). The structure of this community is characterised by an open to partially-closed tall upper woody canopy, with a lower tree and shrub component and a moderate to well- developed herbaceous layer. Soils are consistent with those underlying the Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld, i.e. deep red, apedal sands.

In terms of composition, this community shares many of the same species as Short Open *Vachellia tortilis* Bushveld, however there are noticeable physiognomic (structural) difference between the two. Although not necessarily dominant, the presence of numerous tall *Senegalia nigrescens* trees is diagnostic of this community. These trees can occur fairly sparsely (Figure 14) or fairly close together, creating pockets of partially-closed woodland as shown in Figure 15 (also see Figure 16).

Other woody taxa that were frequently recorded growing as small trees and shrubs in the lower woody strata include *Dichrostachys cinerea, Euclea undulata,* various *Grewia spp.* and *Vachellia tortilis. Melhania acuminata* var. *acuminata* is common in the herbaceous layer. Recorded grasses include *inter alia; Aristida adscensionis, Aristida stipata, Cenchrus ciliaris, Digitaria eriantha, Enneapogon cenchroides, Melinis repens, Panicum maximum* and *Schmidtia pappophoroides*.

Listed alien invasive flora recorded in this community include *Datura strumarium*, *Opuntia ficus-indica*, *Opuntia cf humifusa* and *Ricinus communis*. These species were not abundant and were only recorded at localised disturbed sites.

Refer to APPENDIX B for a list of flora recorded in this community.

⁴ Formerly Acacia nigrescens



Sensitivity Aspects

Protected trees recorded in Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld include Boscia albitrunca, Combretum imberbe and Vachellia erioloba.

Although not recorded in the study area, the small succulents *Stapelia gigantea* and *Aloe* cf *zebrina* have been recorded in this vegetation community, but at a location within the main Grootegeluk Mine complex. These two taxa are listed as protected under Schedule 12 of the Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003). It is possible that both species are present in the Tall *Senegalia nigrescens* Bushveld vegetation community within the study area itself.

At discrete low-lying or depressed sites in this community, several pans are present (Figure 9) (note: soil survey indicated that the pans are not located on areas of measurably elevated clay soils). These pans fill with water after sufficient rain and provide valuable wallowing and drinking sites for wildlife (e.g. Warthog). They may also be aestivating sites for the Giant Bullfrog (*Pyxicephalus adspersus*) – a species of conservation importance, that has been previously documented to the north of Manketti (pers. comm. F. Swanepoel) (refer to section 5.5.3). Pans are thus considered sensitive features within the landscape. Refer to section 5.4.2 for a brief summary of pans in the study area, and the study done by GroundTruth (2018) for more detail.

The Tall *Senegalia nigrescens* Bushveld vegetation community remains relatively undisturbed and has a <u>high</u> ecological integrity. The conservation importance of this vegetation community is considered <u>high</u>.



Figure 14: Open area of Tall *Senegalia nigrescens* Bushveld



Figure 15: Partially closed area of Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld



Figure 16: Schematic structural representation of typical Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld

5.4.1.3 Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld

Open *Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea* Bushveld is restricted to a band along northern boundary of the study area (Figure 11). This is an 'upland' area of about 101 ha that is characterised by very deep, reddish-brown fine sandy soils, with a low clay content (<5%) relative to soils in the other vegetation communities.

Structurally, it is defined as short open savanna (Figure 17 and Figure 18). A variety of broad-leaf species dominate the woody component, which is parsed into a defined lower and upper strata. Both grasses and forbs are present in the herbaceous layer, and coverage was moderate.

In terms of composition, taller woody species that are dominant in this vegetation community, and that largely define its classification, are *Combretum apiculatum* and *Terminalia sericea*, while shorter woody species that are particularly common in the lower strata include *Dichrostachys cinerea*, *Grewia flavescens* and *Grewia bicolor*. Other woody species that are characteristic of, although not necessarily abundant in, this vegetation community include *inter alia; Burkea africana, Combretum hereroense, Combretum zeyheri* and *Gardenia volkensii*. Dominant grasses recorded in the community include *Aristida stipata, Eragrostis pallens, Perotis patens* and *Stipagrostis uniplumis*. The dwarf shrubs *Blepharis subvolubilis* subsp. *subvolubilis* and *Heliotropium lineare* were common herbaceous species. Refer to APPENDIX B for a list of flora recorded in this community.

Sensitivity Aspects

Four protected trees recorded in Open *Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea* Bushveld include *Sclerocarya birrea* subsp. *caffra, Securidaca longepedunculata, Vachellia erioloba* and *Spirostachys africana*. The former three species are protected according to the provisions of the National Forests Act, 1998), while *Spirostachys africana* is protected under the Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003). The community remains in good condition, and both ecological integrity and conservation importance are rated <u>high</u>.



Figure 17: Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld



Figure 18: Schematic structural representation of typical Combretum apiculatum - Terminalia sericea Bushveld

5.4.1.4 Spirostachys africana – Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland

The *Spirostachys africana* - *Vachellia grandicornuta* Woodland vegetation community occurs in a prominent patch of about 68 ha that is readily discerned on aerial imagery in the east of the study area (Figure 11). Soils are fine loamy sands.

This community essentially comprises two physiognomic units. The first is a tall closed woodland, where the broad-leafed *Spirostachys africana* and the fine-leafed *Vachellia grandicornuta* are generally co-dominants of the upper canopy, although the former frequently occurs in almost monospecific stands. The lower canopy is confined to a few scattered shorter trees and shrubs, while the herbaceous layer is very poorly developed – ostensibly a consequence of high shade levels caused by the dense tree canopy, or potentially, allelopathic effects of *Spirostachys africana* (see Figure 19 and Figure 20). Common woody species in the lower canopy include *Dichrostachys cinerea*, *Boscia foetida* subsp. *rehmanniana*, *Euclea undulata*, *Grewia bicolor* and *Grewia flava*.

The second unit occurs in small pockets, in amongst the taller woodland. These pockets are characterised by an open, sparse upper-canopy (comprising mostly scattered *Vachellia grandicornuta* and *Boscia foetida* subsp. *rehmanniana* trees), and an open- to closed lower canopy. *Euclea undulata* is the dominant lower canopy species and often forms dense thickets that approximate the *Euclea undulata* thicket community discussed in section 5.4.1.5.

Refer to APPENDIX B for a list of flora recorded in this community.

Sensitivity Aspects

Areas of *Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta* Woodland are relatively undisturbed and are rated as having a <u>high</u> ecological integrity.

A number of small natural pans/depressions are present in areas of *Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta* Woodland and like those in the Tall *Senegalia nigrescens* Bushveld community, these pans should be considered sensitive ecological features.

Protected trees recorded in this community include *Elaeodendron transvaalense, Spirostachys africana* and *Vachellia erioloba.* The conservation importance of this vegetation community is rated high.

Figure 19: Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland. This patch is characterised by almost monospecific stands of Spirostachys africana (tamboti) trees and a negligible herbaceous layer



Figure 20: Schematic structural representation of typical *Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta* Woodland

5.4.1.5 Euclea undulata Thicket

This is a variable vegetation community that is located mostly in the west of the study area (approx. area 76 ha) (Figure 11). It ranges from fairly short thicket (between 2.5 to 3 m) to a taller form (>5 m) that is characterised by large trees overtopping dense scrub below. Soils are reddish to grey coloured fine loamy sand.

The short shrub *Euclea undulata* is dominant to common in many areas, and several other woody species are also locally either co-dominant or abundant. These include *Dichrostachys cinerea, Diospyros lycioides* subsp. *lycioides, Grewia flava* and *Vachellia tortilis*.

Frequently recorded taller trees in areas mapped as *Euclea undulata* thicket include *Combretum imberbe* and a number of *Acacias* such as *Senegalia nigrescens, Vachellia erioloba* and *Vachellia robusta*. In open areas, *Melhania acuminata* var. *acuminata* is very common in the herbaceous layer, but in densely vegetated areas the herbaceous layer is very sparse to non-existent as a result of high shade levels (see Figure 21 to Figure 23). Grasses recorded include *Enneapogon cenchroides, Eragrostis* species and *Panicum maximum*.

The listed alien invasive species *Cereus jamacaru* (CARA Category 1 and NEMBA Category 1b) and *Melia azedarach* (CARA Category 3 and NEMBA Category 1b) were recorded at single locations in this community. Refer to APPENDIX B for a list of flora recorded in this community.

Sensitivity Aspects

Localised areas of this community have been disturbed, mostly by earth works associated with mining activities. This notwithstanding, the general ecological integrity of *Euclea undulata* Thicket is rated <u>high</u>.

In the context of the study area, this vegetation community provides an important form of densely wooded thicket that increases the heterogeneity of the study area, and provides important refuge habitat for fauna, particularly habitat specialists. Two protected trees were recorded in areas of *Euclea undulata* Thicket, namely *Combretum imberbe* and *Vachellia erioloba* (National Forests Act, 1998). Accordingly, the conservation importance of this vegetation community is rated <u>high</u>.



Figure 21: Closed area of Euclea undulata thicket



Figure 22: Euclea undulata thicket





5.4.2 Depressions/Pans and Borrow Pits

This section provides a brief summary of the natural pans and other wetland-type features in the study area, and is based on the GroundTruth (2018) draft report, which contains more detail. The location of pans and artificial water holes / borrow pits within the study area are shown in Figure 24 (pans not in the study area for the terrestrial ecology assessment are not shown):

- Natural pans in the study area are rainfall dependent, yet most are connected via a dendritic drainage network (i.e. preferential flow paths, not actual streams) (GroundTruth, 2018);
- Most pans are bare mud dominated features, and did not support wetland vegetation. Seasonal vegetation, however, was recorded in the wetter areas of the large pans (GroundTruth, 2018);
- The pans were rated as being in 'good condition' (B Category) (GroundTruth, 2018);
- Vegetated pans were observed to be favoured foraging sites for herbivores during the dry season field visit (Pers. Obs); and
- The features numbered 12 and 13 in Figure 24 are former borrow pits that hold water. It is understood that no. 13 is licensed under Section 21 of the mine's WUL.


Figure 24: Pans/waterholes in the study area (No's. 7, 11, 12 & 13 are artificial and/or receive supplementary water)



5.4.3 Floral Species of Conservation Importance

5.4.3.1 Red List and Protected Flora

Nine floral species of conservation importance were recorded in the study area during the field programme – refer to Table 2, last column. These comprise mostly protected trees, with *Combretum imberbe* (Figure 25) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Figure 26) particularly abundant throughout the study area, and *Spirostachys africana* (also shown in Figure 25) dominant in the *Spirostachys africana* - *Vachellia grandicornuta* Woodland community.

Schinziophyton rautanenii (Manketti trees) are known to occur in the bushveld surrounding Grootegeluk Coal Mine (see NSS, 2011). This species was not recorded in the study area during the field visit, and although it is not listed as threatened or protected, its South African range is small and restricted to the Lephalale region of Limpopo Province. It should thus be considered a sensitive species and managed accordingly.

Boscia foetida trees were also noted to be common in the study area. These however, were determined to be *Boscia foetida* subsp. *rehmanniana*, not *Boscia foetida* subsp. *minima*. The latter subspecies, which is listed as a protected species in Limpopo Province, is a shrublet attaining a maximum height of only 30 cm (Coates Palgrave 2002). The specimens recorded in the study area are larger, growing to the size of small trees.

Species (Scientific Name)	Red List Status Regional Status (SANBI 2017)	Protected Tree Species (National Forest Act 1998)	Limpopo Province - Protected Species (2003)	Observations- 2018 Field Programme
Acalypha caperonioides var. caperonioides	Data Deficient – Taxonomic Problems	-	-	-
Adansonia digitata	-	Protected	Protected	-
Adenium oleifolium	-	-	Protected	-
Aloe cf zebrina	-	-	Protected	-
Boscia albitrunca	-	Protected	-	Recorded
Combretum imberbe	-	Protected	-	Recorded
Corchorus psammophilus	Vulnerable	-	-	-
Elaeodendron transvaalense	Near Threatened	Protected		Recorded
Eulalia aurea	Near Threatened	-	-	-
Euphorbia waterbergensis	Rare	-	-	-
Schinziophyton rautanenii	-	-	-	-
Sclerocarya birrea subsp. caffra	-	Protected	-	Recorded

Table 2: Elera of c	onconvotion imp	ortanco recorded	or potentially	occurring	in the less	Letudy area
Table 2. Flora of C	onservation imp	portance recorded	or potentially	occurring	i in the ioca	i Sluuy area

Species (Scientific Name)	Red List Status Regional Status (SANBI 2017)	Protected Tree Species (National Forest Act 1998)	Limpopo Province - Protected Species (2003)	Observations- 2018 Field Programme
Securidaca longepedunculata (Figure 27)	-	Protected	-	Recorded
Spirostachys africana	-	-	Protected	Recorded
Stapelia gigantea	-	-	Protected	-
Vachellia erioloba	-	Protected	-	Recorded



Figure 25: *Combretum imberbe* (Leadwood) (left) and *Spirostachys africana* (Tamboti) (right)



Figure 26: Vachellia erioloba (Camelthorn)



Figure 27: Securidaca longepedunculata (Violet-tree) in flower

5.4.3.2 Medicinal Flora

Thirteen floral species recorded in the study area have medicinal/traditional value. These are listed, along with a brief description of their medicinal and traditional utility, in Table 3.

Table 3: Medicinal floral species recorded in the study area

Floral Species	Traditional Uses			
Asparagus laricinus	Rhizomes and fleshy roots are used for a variety of ailments including tuberculosis, kidney complaints and rheumatism.			
Datura strumarium	Commonly used to relive asthma and reduce pain. Infusions area also used as an aphrodisiac.			
Dichrostachys cinerea	Various parts of this plant are used to treat body pain, elephantiasis, syphilis and leprosy, amongst others.			
Elaeodendron transvaalense	Bark infusion is taken to clean the stomach and to treat intestinal cramps and diarrhoea.			
Elephantorrhiza burkei	Underground rhizomes used to treat diarrhoea, dysentery other stomach disorders and haemorrhoids.			
Euclea undulata	Root infusions used as a remedy for heart diseases and headache and toothache.			
Gomphocarpus fruticosus	Crushed leaves used to treat headaches, while roots are reported to relive stomach cramps and general body ache.			
Ricinus communis	Leaf infusions are used as a purgative medicine.			
Sansevieria aethiopica	Used to treat ear infection, earache and toothache. Also used as a remedy to treat diarrhoea.			
Sclerocarya birrea	Various stomach and digestive ailments are treated with bark. The fruit of this tree is also widely eaten and used to produce beverages.			
Securidaca longepedunculata	Chewed roots relieve toothache, while decoctions can be used to alleviate chest issues.			
Terminalia sericea	Root decoctions are used as a remedy for stomach complaints, diarrhoea and pneumonia, as well as applied as an eye lotion.			
Ziziphus mucronata	Bark and leaves are used as an expectorant in coughs and chest ailments, while roots extracts are used to treat diarrhoea and dysentery.			
Source: Uses as described by Van Wyk <i>et al.</i> (2009).				

5.4.4 Listed Alien Invasive Flora

Seven CARA and NEMBA listed alien invasive species were recorded in the study area during the wet-season field visit (Table 4). These were not abundant and were mainly confined to scattered individual plants growing at localised sites where disturbance had occurred.

Scientific Name	Common Names (English/Afrikaans)	CARA (1983)	NEMBA (2004)
Cereus jamacaru (Figure 28)	Queen of the night/nagblom	1	1b
Datura stramonium	Common Thorn-apple/Olieboom	1	1b
<i>Flaveria bidentis</i> (Figure 29)	Smelter's Bush	-	1b
Melia azedarach	Syringa/Sering	3	1b
Opuntia ficus-indica	Sweet Prickly Pear	1	1b
Opuntia cf. humifusa	Large-flowered Prickly Pear	1	1b
Ricinus communis	Castor-oil Plant/Kasterolieboom	2	1b

Table 4: CARA and NEMBA listed alien invasive species recorded in the study area



Figure 28: Cereus jamacaru (Queen of the night)



Figure 29: Flaveria bidentis (Smelters bush)

5.5 Fauna Assessment

5.5.1 Mammals

In total, 25 mammal species comprising ten managed species and 16 free-roaming species were recorded in the study area during the 2018 field programme (25 and 18 taxa recorded during the wet and dry season field surveys, respectively - refer to Table 5).

Managed species refers to those taxa that form part of actively bred and managed 'game' populations in the study area, and include, *inter alia*; Sable Antelope (*Hippotragus niger*), Impala (*Aepyceros melampus*), Gemsbok (*Oryx gazelle*), Waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*), Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) and Burchell's Zebra (*Equus quagga*).

Free-roaming mammals are those that form part of self-sustaining, natural populations. These species are generally not restricted by farm boundaries and are able move across the landscape in accordance with their life-cycle requirements. In the study area such taxa comprise small ungulates like the Steenbok (*Raphicerus campestris*) and Warthog (*Phacochoerus africanus*), but also the large Greater Kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*), as well as many smaller mammals such as, *inter alia*, Tree Squirrel (*Paraxerus capapi*), Scrub Hare (*Lepus saxatilis*), Vervet Monkey (*Ceropithecus pygerythrus*) and Banded Mongoose (*Mungos mungo*) - see Figure 30 to Figure 35 for images of mammals photographed in the study area during the field visit.

In a previous assessment of the greater Manketti Game Reserve (area of approx. 22 000 ha) a total of 48 mammal species were documented (see NSS, 2011), while the historical distribution maps in Monadjem *et al.* (2001) and Stuart and Stuart (2007) indicate that up to 85 mammal species potentially occur in the study area (APPENDIX C), with the majority of these being small taxa (e.g. rodents). Based on these sources, and an appreciation of the extent and condition of available natural habitat in the study area, the expected mammal species richness for the study area is considered to be higher than the 25 recorded during the field programme.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	2018 Field Programme	
			Wet Season Survey	Dry Season Survey
Bovidae	Hippotragus niger	Sable Antelope	х	х
	Kobus ellipsiprymnus	Waterbuck	х	х
	Aepyceros melampus	Impala	х	х
	Tragelaphus strepsiceros	Greater Kudu	х	х
	Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	х	
	Tragelaphus scriptus	Bushbuck	х	х
	Oryx gazella	Gemsbok	х	х
	Sylvicapra grimmia	Grey Duiker	x	x
	Tragelaphus angasii	Nyala	x	x

Table 5: Mammals recorded in the stud	y area during th	e field programme
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Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	2018 Field Programme	
			Wet Season Survey	Dry Season Survey
Canidae	Canis mesomelas	Black-back Jackal	х	х
Cercopithecidae	Cercopithecus pygerythrus	Vervet Monkey	х	х
	Papio cynocephalus urisinus	Chacma Baboon	x	x
Equidae	Equus quagga	Plains Zebra	х	
Felidae	Felis silvestris lybica	African Wild Cat	х	
Galagidae	Galago moholi	Southern Lesser Galago	х	
Giraffidae	Giraffa camelopardalis	Giraffe	х	х
Herpestidae	Mungos mungo	Banded Mongoose	х	х
	Galerella sanguinea	Slender Mongoose	х	
	Atilax paludinosus	Water Mongoose	х	
Hystricidae	Hystrix africeaustralis	Porcupine	х	х
Leporidae	Lepus saxatilis	Scrub Hare	х	х
Muridae	Tatera brantsii	Highveld gerbil	х	х
Rhinocerotidae	Ceratotherium simum	White Rhino	х	
Sciuridae	Xerus inauris	Tree Squirrel	x	x
Suidae	Phocochoerus africanus	Warthog	x	x



Figure 30: Black-back Jackal (Canis mesomalas)



Figure 32: Giraffe (Giraffa camelopardalis)



Figure 31: Porcupine (Hystrix africeaustralis)



Figure 33: Sable Antelope (Hippotragus niger)



Figure 34: Steenbok (Raphicerus campestris)



Figure 35: Greater Kudu (Tragelaphus strepsiceros)

Mammals of Conservation Importance

Despite being abundant across its range, the Steenbok (*Raphicerus campestris*) is listed as protected under the Limpopo Environmental Management Act, (2003). This species was observed on several occasions in the study area.

A White Rhino (*Ceratotherium simum*) midden and tracks were also recorded close to the proposed haul road location, to the west of the conveyor corridor during the wet season field visit. This species is listed as Near Threatened on the national Red List, and protected and specially protected on the NEMBA ToPS List (2013) and Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003), respectively.

An additional 20 species of conservation importance potential occur in the study area based on previous studies and known distribution records. These are listed in Table 6, along with their national and provincial conservation statuses. A probability of occurrence for species that were not recorded during the 2018 wet-season field survey is also provided.

Family	Scientific Com	Common	Conservation	Status	Probability	
	Name Name		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	of Occurrence
Bovidae	Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	-	-	Protected	Recorded
Canidae	Lycaon pictus	African Wild Dog	Endangered	Endangered	-	Unlikely
	Otocyo megalotis	Bat-eared Fox	-	Protected	Protected	Possible
Erinaceidae	Atelerixs frontalis	South African Hedgehog	Near Threatened	-	Protected	Possible
Felidae	Acinonyx jubatus	Cheetah	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Protected	Unlikely
	Leptailurus serval	Serval	Near Threatened	Protected	Protected	Possible
	Panthera pardus	Leopard	Vulnerable	Protected	Protected	Possible
Hyaenidae	Hyaena brunnea	Brown Hyaena	Near Threatened	Protected	Protected	Probable
	Proteles cristatus	Aardwolf	-	-	Protected	Possible

Table 6: Mammals of conservation importance recorded or potentially occurring in the study area

Family	Scientific Com	Common	Conservation	Status	Probability	
Name Name	Name	Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	of Occurrence	
Leporidae	Pronolagus randensis	Jameson's Red Rock Rabbit	-	-	Protected	Unlikely
Manidae	Manis temminckii	Pangolin	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Specially protected	Possible
Muridae	Dasymys incomtus	Water Rat	Near Threatened	-	-	Unlikely
Mustelidae	Mellivora capensis	Honey Badger	-	-	Protected	Probable
	Poecilogale albinucha	African Striped Weasel	Near Threatened			Unlikely
Orycteropodidae	Orycteropus afer	Aardvark	-	Protected	Specially protected	Probable
Rhinocerotidae	Ceratotherium simum	White Rhino	Near Threatened	Protected	Specially protected	Recorded
Rhinolophidae	Rhinolophus clivosus	Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-	Possible
	Rhinolophus darlingi	Darling's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-	Possible
	Rhinolophus hildebrandtii	Hildebrandt's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-	Possible
Vespertilionidae	Miniopterus natalensis	Schreiber's Long-fingered Bat	-	-	-	Probable
Viverridae	Civettictis civetta	African Civet	-	-	Protected	Probable
Source: Distribution al. (2001)	s based on range	and habitat prefer	ences presented i	in Stuart and St	tuart (2007) an	d Monadjem <i>et</i>

5.5.2 Birds

Owing to the abundance and diversity of natural habitat, northern Limpopo Province has a rich bird assemblage. This is reflected in the designation of the entire Waterberg plateau as an Important Bird Area (IBA) (*sensu*. BirdLife South Africa, 2015).

A total of 89 bird species were documented in the study area during the 2018 field programme. During the wet season survey 79 species were recorded, while 53 species were observed during the dry season.

This represents a small proportion of the 275 species that have previously been documented in the pentads encompassing and surrounding the study area (albeit the pentad area is larger and more heterogeneous) by the ADU - SABAP2 (2011) (list is presented in APPENDIX D).

Recorded birds include many common bushveld species, such as Crested Francolin (*Dendroperdix sephaena*), Natal Spurfowl (*Pternistis natalensis*), Cape Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia campicola*), Common Ostrich (Struthio camelus) (Figure 36), Southern Red-billed Hornbill (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*) (Figure 37), Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (*Tockus leucomelas*), Rattling Cisticola (*Cisticola chiniana*), Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*) and Black-backed Puffback (*Dryoscopus alba*), amongst others. The absence of natural on-site water bodies is reflected in a few aquatic bird being observed, and surprisingly, very few raptors were recorded, despite them being well represented in the SABAP2 data.

White-backed Vulture (*Gyps africanus*) were observed flying over the study area. This species is of conservation importance, and although no vulture nests were observed in the study area, its presence highlights the importance of natural habitat across the broader regional landscape for the conservation of White-backed Vulture and several other species.

Birds of Conservation Importance

Records of the ADU - SABAP2 (2011) indicate that 14 bird species of conservation importance potentially occur in the study area - Table 7. The presence of a number of these may be transitory and dependent on factors such as stochastic resource availability (e.g. mammal carcasses for vultures).

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	e Conservation Status			Probability
			Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	of Occurrence
Accipitridae	Polemaetus bellicosus	Martial Eagle	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected	Possible
	Aquila verreauxii	Verreaux's Eagle	Vulnerable	-	Protected	Possible
	Aquila rapax	Tawny Eagle	Endangered	Vulnerable	Protected	Probable
	Gyps africanus	White-backed Vulture	Critically Endangered	Protected	Protected	Recorded (wet season)
	Gyps coprotheres	Cape Vulture	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected	Probable

Table 7: Birds of conservation importance recorded and potentially occurring in the study area

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			Probability
			Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	of Occurrence
	Terathopius ecaudatus	Bateleur	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected	Probable
	Torgos tracheliotus	Lappet-faced Vulture	Endangered	Vulnerable	Protected	Probable
Ciconiidae	Ciconia abdimii	Abdim's Stork	Near Threatened	-	Protected	Unlikely
	Ciconia nigra	Black Stork	Vulnerable	-	Protected	Unlikely
	Leptoptilos crumeniferus	Marabou Stork	Near Threatened	-	Protected	Possible
	Mycteria ibis	Yellow-billed Stork	Endangered	-	Protected	Possible
Coraciidae	Coracias garrulus	European Roller	Near Threatened	-	Protected	Probable
Otididae	Ardeotis kori	Kori Bustard	Near Threatened	Protected	Specially protected	Probable
Sagittariidae	Sagittarius serpentarius	Secretarybird	Vulnerable	-	Protected	Probable



Figure 36: Common Ostrich (Struthio camelus)



Figure 37: Southern Red-billed Hornbill (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*)

5.5.3 Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

In total, six reptiles and four amphibian species were observed in the study area during the 2018 field programme:

- Five reptiles were recorded during the wet season field visit, while only one additional taxon (Southern African Python *Python natalensis*) was recorded during the dry season field visit; and
- Four amphibian species were recorded during the wet season field visit, with only the Eastern Olive Toad (*Amietophrynus garmani*) subsequently re-recorded for the dry season field visit.

Recorded reptiles include Southern African Python (*Python natalensis*)⁵, Southern Tree Agama (*Acanthocercus atricollis atricollis*), Common Rough-scaled Lizard (*Meroles squamulosa*), Southern Rock monitor (*Varanus albigularis albigularis*), Leopard Tortoise (*Stigmochelys pardalis*) (Figure 38), and the Marsh Terrapin (*Pelomedusa subrufa*) (Figure 39), while the recorded amphibians are Eastern Olive Toad (*Amietophrynus garmani*), Red Toad (*Schismaderma carens*) (Figure 40), Sand Frog (*Tomopterna cf. tandyi*) (Figure 41) and Foam Nest Frog (*Chiromantis xerampelina*).

A combination of relatively high summer rainfall, coupled with warm temperatures and high humidity promote a high degree of reptile and amphibian diversity in southern Africa's savannas (Alexander and Marais, 2010; du Preez and Carruthers, 2009). The distribution maps presented in Bates *et al.* (2014) and ReptileMAP indicate that approximately 81 reptile species have been recorded in the Lephalale region, while a review of du Preez and Carruthers (2009) and Minter *et al.* (2004) suggests that up to 25 amphibians are potentially present – these are listed in APPENDIX E.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	2018 Field Programme	
			Wet Season Survey	Dry Season Survey
Reptiles				
Agamidae	Acanthocercus atricollis atricollis	Southern Tree Agama	x	
Lacertidae	Meroles squamulosa	Common Rough-scaled Lizard	x	
Pelomedusidae	Pelomedusa subrufa	Marsh Terrapin	х	
Pythonidae	Python natalensis	Southern African Python		X ⁵
Testudinidae	Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	х	
Varanidae	Varanus albigularis albigularis	Rock Monitor	x	

Table 8: Herpetofauna recorded in the study area during the 2018 field programme

⁵ Anecdotal report of a Python at Manketti Lodge during field visit.



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	2018 Field Programme	
			Wet Season Survey	Dry Season Survey
Amphibians				
Bufonidae	Amietophrynus garmani	Eastern Olive Toad	х	х
	Schisaderma carens	Red Toad	х	
Pyxicephalidae	Tomopterna cf tandyi	Tandy's Sand Frog	x	
Rhacophoridae	Chiromantis xerampelina	Foam Nest Frog	х	

Herpetofauna of Conservation Importance

Seven reptile species potentially occurring in the study area are of conservation importance - one is Red Listed, two are protected under the NEMBA ToPS List (2013), while the others are endemic or near endemic (refer to Table 9).

Of amphibians potentially occurring in the study area, the Giant Bullfrog (*Pyxicephalus adspersus*) is of conservation importance. This species is listed as Protected according to the Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003).

Giant Bullfrogs remain buried for much of the year in grassland and savanna areas, and emerge briefly after rain to breed in shallow temporary streams and pans (du Preez and Carruthers, 2009; Minter *et al.*, 2004). This species has previously been recorded in the 2327DA QDS according to the ADU - Virtual Museum (2015) and NSS, (2011) recorded it in their scan of the Manketti Game Reserve. It is therefore probable that it is present in the shallow depressions/pans that are scattered throughout the study area.

Family	Scientific	Common	Conservation Status Probal			Probability	
	Name	Name Red Lis (2014) Region Status	Red List (2014) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status	of Occurrence
Cordylidae	Platysaurus guttatus	Dwarf Flat Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic	Unlikely
	Platysaurus minor	Waterberg Flat Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic	Unlikely
	Smaug breyeri	Waterberg Dragon Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic	Possible

Table 9: Reptiles of conservation importance potentially occurring in the study area

Family	Scientific	Common	Conservation Status				Probability	
	Name N	Name	Red List (2014) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status	of Occurrence	
	Smaug vandami	Van Dam's Dragon Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic	Possible	
Crocodylidae	Crocodylus niloticus	Nile Crocodile	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Specially Protected	-	Unlikely	
Gekkonidae	Pachydactylus affinis	Transvaal Gecko	-	-	Protected	Endemic	Probable	
Pythonidae	Python natalensis	Southern African Python	-	Protected	Protected	-	Recorded	

Note: All reptiles, except *Varanus* spp., and non-listed snakes, are considered protected under the Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003).



Figure 38: Leopard Tortoise (Stigmochelys pardalis)



Figure 39: Marsh Terrapin (Pelomedusa subrufa)



Figure 40: Red Toad (Schismaderma carens)



Figure 41: Sand Frog (Tomopterna cf tandyi)

5.5.4 Arthropods

Arthropods recorded in the study area as a result of targeted sampling are listed in Table 10. One recorded species is of conservation importance, namely the South African Horned Baboon Spider (*Ceratogyrus darlingi*) (see Figure 42). Only a single silk-lined burrow (Figure 43) was observed during the field survey; however considering the suitability of habitat, it is expected that this species, as well as Golden-brown Baboon Spider (*Augacephalus junodi*) (previously recorded at Grootegeluk Coal Mine - see Exxaro, 2014), are probably fairly abundant in the study area.

Based on available literature, six other taxa from the Families Theraphosidae and Scorpionidae may potentially occur in the study area (listed in Table 11). These should also be considered of conservation value.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Theraphosidae	Ceratogyrus darlingi	South African Horned Baboon Spider
Carabidae	Thermophilium homoplatum	Two-spotted Ground Beetle
Heteronemiidae	Marensis rufolineatus	Grass Stick Insect
Scarabaeidae	Pachylomerus femoralis	Flattened Giant Dung Beetle
Scarabaeidae	Anachalos convexus	Plum Dung Beetle
Formicidae	Pachycondyla tarsata	African Stink Ant
Formicidae	Anoplolepis custodeins	Pugnacious Ant
Bothuridae	Parabuthus transvaalicus	Transvaal Fat-tailed Scorpion
Solifugae (order)	-	Red Roman/Sun Spider
Salticidae	Brancus muticus	Jumping spider sp.
Termitidae	Odontotermes badius	Fungus-growing Termite

Table 10:	Targeted	arthropod	taxa	recorded	in	the study	area
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Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Tenebrionidae	Gonocephalum tibialis	Armoured Darkling Beetle
Reduviidae	-	Assassin Bug

Table 11: Arthropods of conservation value recorded and potentially occurring in the study area

Class: Arachnida	Scientific Name	Common Name	
Infra Order: Mygalomorphae	Augacephalus breyeri	Hectorspruit Golden Brown Baboon Spider	
Family: Theraphosidae (Baboon Spiders)	<i>Augacephalus junodi</i> (recorded Exxaro, 2014)	Golden-brown Baboon Spider	
	Brachionopus pretoriae	Baboon Spider species	
	<i>Ceratogyrus darling</i> (Recorded 2018 wet-season survey)	South African Horned Baboon Spider	
	Idiothele nigrofulva	Baboon Spider species	
Order: Scorpionides Family: Scorpionidae (Burrowing Scorpions)	Opistophthalmus glabrinfrons	Yellow-legged Creeping Scorpion	
	Opistophthalmus carinatus	Robust Burrowing Scorpion	
	Opistophthalmus wahlbergii	Wahlberg's Burrowing Scorpion	
Source: Leeming (2003) a	nd Dippenaar-Schoeman (2014).		



Figure 42: South African Horned Baboon Spider (*Ceratogyrus darlingi*) photographed during the field survey



Figure 43: Silk-lined Baboon spider burrow recorded in the study area



Figure 44: Solifuge (Order Solifugae) caught in a pitfall trap



Figure 45: Two-spotted Ground Beetle (*Thermophilium homoplatum*) caught in a pitfall trap

5.6 Key Ecological Processes

5.6.1 Linkages and Corridors

At a local scale, the landscape surrounding the study area is fragmented, and dominated by large areas of transformation and numerous linear developments (e.g. power lines, railway lines, roads, conveyors). Beyond this however, the broader landscape is characterised by extensive areas of untransformed natural habitat. These areas are partitioned by numerous fences and gravel roads, yet the movement and dispersal of unmanaged free-roaming wildlife populations across the landscape is probably only moderately restricted. Overall habitat connectivity for free-roaming fauna is therefore considered to be relatively high.

5.6.2 **Processes and Drivers of Change**

5.6.2.1 Overgrazing

Overgrazing is a common cause of dryland degradation, leading to one or several recognised syndromes (*sensu* Scholes, 2009). It occurs when grazing herbivores (both wildlife and domestic) are kept at excessive stocking rates and/or are able to concentrate their grazing to a limited foraging area without suitable rest periods. A common syndrome that can be linked to overgrazing, at least in part, is a change in plant species composition, that manifests as a combination of bush encroachment, a reduction in palatable grasses, and a reduction in grass pruductivity (Scholes, 2009). It is likely that historic overgrazing has affected the composition of vegetation in the study area.

5.6.2.2 Fire

We note that fire is probably not a regular occurrence in the study area, and therefore not a prominent driver of change. However, fire is a key determinant of savanna ecosystem dynamics in general - driving spatial and temporal heterogeneity across the landscape (Du Toit *et al.*, 2003). We therefore briefly discussed this here.

Fire is considered a natural, albeit often human initiated, disturbance agent in both savanna and grassland ecosystems across Africa. Through the large-scale and periodic removal of plant material, fire influences treegrass ratios and plant species mixes (fire tolerant vs fire intolerant species) and therefore plays a key role determining vegetation structure, composition and function (Du Toit *et al.*, 2003).

5.6.2.3 Water Availability

Water availability, as a function of the interaction between soil condition/type and rainfall, affects plant primary productivity and nutrient mineralisation, and thus influences vegetation dynamics (Scholes and Walker, 1993).

The artificial provision of supplementary drinking water for wildlife can also influence the distribution and foraging patterns of grazing and browsing herbivores. Differing levels of herbivory can lead to local and radiating changes in soil properties and vegetation composition and structure (refer tosection 5.6.2.1). In severe cases of intense and concentrated herbivory, considerable habitat degradation can occur around water points. This phenomenon in known as the 'piosphere effect' (*sensu*. Andrews, 1998).

6.0 ECOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Impact Assessment Methodology

The significance of each identified impact was determined using the approach outlined below (terminology from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Guideline document on EIA Regulations, April 1998). This approach incorporates two aspects for assessing the potential significance of impacts, namely occurrence and severity, which are further sub-divided as follows:

Occurrence		Severity		
Probability of occurrence	Duration of occurrence	Scale/extent of impact	Magnitude (severity) of	
			impact	

To assess the significance of different impacts the following four ranking scales were used for each factor:

Magnitude	Duration
10- Very high/unknown	5- Permanent (>10 years)
8- High	4- Long term (7 - 10 years, impact ceases after site closure has been obtained)

Magnitude	Duration
6- Moderate	3- Medium-term (3 months - 7 years, impact ceases after the operational life of the activity)
4- Low	2- Short-term (0 - 3 months, impact ceases after the construction phase)
2- Minor	1- Immediate
Scale	Probability
5- International	5- Definite/Unknown
4- National	4- Highly Probable
3- Regional	3- Medium Probability
2- Local	2- Low Probability
1- Site Only	1- Improbable
0- None	0- None

The significance of the impact was determined using the following formula:

SP (significance points) = (magnitude + duration + scale) x probability

The maximum value is 100 significance points (SP). The impact significance was then rated as follows:

Points	Significance	Description
SP>60	High environmental significance	An impact which could influence the decision about whether or not to proceed with the project regardless of any possible mitigation.
SP 30 - 60	Moderate environmental significance	An impact or benefit which is sufficiently important to requiremanagement and which could have an influence on the decision unless it is mitigated.
SP<30	Low environmental significance	Impacts with little real effect and which will not have an influence on or require modification of the project design.
+	Positive impact	An impact that is likely to result in positive consequences/effects.

For the methodology outlined above, the following definitions were used:

Magnitude is a measure of the degree of change in a measurement or analysis (e.g., the area of pasture, or the concentration of a metal in water compared to the water quality guideline value for the metal), and is classified as none/negligible, low, moderate or high.

The categorization of the impact magnitude may be based on a set of criteria (e.g. health risk levels, ecological concepts and/or professional judgment) pertinent to each of the discipline areas and key questions analysed. The specialist study must attempt to quantify the magnitude and outline the rationale used. Appropriate, widely-recognised standards are to be used as a measure of the level of impact;

- Scale/Geographic extent refers to the area that could be affected by the impact and is classified as site, local, regional, national, or international;
- Duration refers to the length of time over which an environmental impact may occur: i.e. immediate/transient, short-term (0 to 7 years), medium term (8 to 15 years), long-term (greater than 15 years with impact ceasing after closure of the project), or permanent; and
- Probability of occurrence is a description of the probability of the impact actually occurring as improbable (less than 5% chance), low probability (5% to 40% chance), medium probability (40% to 60% chance), highly probable (most likely, 60% to 90% chance) or definite (impact will definitely occur).

6.2 Development of Mitigation Measures

A common approach to developing mitigation measures for critical impacts is to specify a range of targets with a predetermined acceptable range and an associated monitoring and evaluation plan. To ensure successful implementation, mitigation measures should be unambiguous statements of actions and requirements that are practical to execute. The following summarise the different approaches that may be used in prescribing and designing mitigation measures:

- Avoidance: mitigation by not carrying out the proposed action on the specific site, but rather on a more suitable site;
- Minimization: mitigation by scaling down the magnitude of a development, reorienting the layout of the project or employing technology to limit the undesirable environmental impact. It also includes taking ongoing maintenance steps during the course of the action;
- Rehabilitation: mitigation through the rehabilitation/restoration of environments affected by the action; and
- Compensation: mitigation through the creation, enhancement or acquisition of similar environments to those affected by the action.

6.3 Identification of Potential Impacts

Several potential negative impacts on terrestrial ecology have been identified for the proposed project. These are:

- Habitat loss and degradation;
- Habitat fragmentation;
- Establishment and spread of alien invasive species;
- Mortality and disturbance of fauna;
- Loss and disturbance of *fauna* of conservation importance; and
- Loss and disturbance of *flora* of conservation importance.

6.4 Characterisation and Rating of Impact Significance

Based on the ecology of the study area and surrounding landscape, the character and significance of each identified impact was assessed for the construction, operational and closure phases. The results of the assessment are described in sections 6.4.1 to 6.4.6, with the rating calculations presented in Table 13.

6.4.1 Habitat Loss and Degradation

Impact Character

Habitat loss refers to the direct removal of natural habitat. In terrestrial ecosystems, this occurs primarily through the clearing of indigenous vegetation coupled with earth works. The immediate impact is the destruction of individual plants and some faunal species within the development footprint. If remaining habitat is insufficient in size and heterogeneity to sustain ecological processes, a breakdown or impairment of ecosystem integrity and functioning at broader ecological scales can occur, leading to further losses of biodiversity – also see section 6.4.2: Habitat Fragmentation.

Habitat loss can also refer to habitat degradation. In this instance, although habitat is present, it has been disturbed to the extent that compositionally and structurally it is markedly dissimilar from reference conditions. In extreme cases of habitat degradation, the mix of functional species-types is altered and ecosystem functioning is impaired as a result (*sensu* Scholes, 2009).

Impact in Relation to Proposed Project

Direct habitat loss constitutes the foremost impact of the proposed project, with approximately 265 ha of natural vegetation likely to be completely transformed (refer to Figure 46). This will occur as a result of construction phase vegetation clearing for, *inter alia*, haul roads, open pits, stockpiles and other associated facilities.

Table 12 provides a projected breakdown of the approximate area (ha) of each habitat community that will be cleared during the proposed project. We also anticipate that the small patches of vegetation that remain between or adjacent to transformation footprints will be subjected to edge-effect disturbances, such as alien invasive species establishment. The ecological integrity and conservation importance of all five identified vegetation communities is high. Accordingly, the significance of habitat loss is rated high before mitigation.

Due to the nature of the proposed mining activities, habitat loss is difficult to avoid or significantly mitigate during the construction and operational phases. Moreover, even with successful rehabilitation during the closure phase, the resulting habitat will be secondary and markedly disimiliar from reference conditions. Moreover, the residual impacts of facilities such as the open pits and dumps/stockpiles will remain high. This impact is therefore also rated of **high** significance after mitigation.

Table 12: Approximate	clearing extent for	each vegetation community
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Vegetation Community	Total Area (ha)	Approx. loss (ha)	Proportion (%) of Community Lost
Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld	254	150	59
Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	109	44	40
Open <i>Combretum apiculatum –</i> <i>Terminalia sericea</i> Bushveld	101	18	18

Vegetation Community	Total Area (ha)	Approx. loss (ha)	Proportion (%) of Community Lost
Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	68	41	60
Euclea undulata Thicket	76	12	15
Transformed land	6	0	0
Total	615	265	43



Figure 46: Overlay of proposed project infrastructure and vegetation communities



6.4.2 Habitat Fragmentation

Impact Character

Habitat fragmentation is caused when vegetation loss/disturbance results in the partitioning of habitat into smaller, discontinuous patches. This leads to altered habitat configuration that typically manifests as an increase in patch number and isolation, yet a decrease in overall patch size (Fahrig, 2003). These alterations change the ecological properties of remaining patches and can affect various ecological processes, such as flora propagule dispersal and fauna movement and migration (Fahrig, 2003).

Impact in relation to proposed project

The study area constitutes an area of natural habitat surrounded by large, transformed sites (Grootegeluk Coal Mine, and the Matimba and Medupi Power Stations). It thus plays a role in maintaining local-scale habitat connectivity on an east-west axis. Habitat fragmentation caused by infrastructure development is thus likely to impede local fauna movement and affect other local-scale ecological processes. This impact is therefore rated an impact of high significance before mitigation.

Successful rehabilitation during the closure phase can, however, create areas of secondary and supporting (corridor) habitat that may restore some landscape connectivity and function that was lost due to fragmentation. This impact is therefore rated **moderate** after mitigation.

6.4.3 Establishment and Spread of Alien Invasive Species

Impact Character

Disturbances caused by vegetation clearing and earth works can create conditions conducive to the establishment and rapid colonisation of alien invasive species. If left uncontrolled, alien species can spread exponentially, suppressing or replacing indigenous vegetation. This may lead to a breakdown in ecosystem functioning and a loss of biodiversity.

Impact in Relation to Proposed Project

Seven alien invasive plant species were recorded in the study area during the field programme. Disturbance to natural vegetation may facilitate the spread of these, as well as several other invasive species that are known to occur in the area. This impact will be present throughout the life of the project but can be successfully mitigated through all phases by proactive management and rehabilitation.

The establishment and spread of alien invasive species is rated as having moderate impact prior to mitigation but can be reduced to **low** significance after mitigation.

6.4.4 Mortality and Disturbance of Fauna

Impact Character

Large-scale development projects in wildlife-rich savanna areas may negatively affected fauna, as follows:

- Most large or mobile fauna will move-off to avoid disturbances caused by construction activities. However, smaller and less mobile species may be trapped, injured and killed during vegetation clearing and earth works. Fauna that are of particular concern in this regard include:
 - Fossorial⁶ mammals (e.g. moles, rodents);
 - Nesting birds; ground and tree nests; and
 - Reptiles and amphibians.

Other common causes of fauna injury, death or disturbance during all project phases include:

- Vehicle-wildlife collisions along haul and access roads;
- Hunting, snaring and poisoning of larger fauna by mine workers and contractors;
- Fauna becoming trapped/caught in mine infrastructure, such as fences, excavations and storage dams;
- Blasting, vibrations and noise (sensory disturbances) can negatively affect fauna, particularly nesting and roosting birds; and
- Artificial lights can disrupt nocturnal species, such as bats, which can cause changes in community characteristics.

Impact in Relation to Proposed Project

The study area has a rich faunal assemblage, and it is anticipated that vegetation clearing and earth works during construction may cause injury or death to several less mobile taxa (e.g. tortoises, nesting birds). Moreover, fauna may also be killed or injured during the operation phase through, *inter alia*, vehicle collisions.

A number of operational activities may also cause disturbances, including blasting, noise and artificial lighting. We note however, that the the current levels of such disturbances in the immediate vicinity is high on account of the operations of Grootegeluk Mine, Matimba and Medupi.

This impact is rated moderate prior to mitigation but can be reduced to a **low** significance with proactive long term management.

6.4.5 Loss and Disturbance of *Fauna* of Conservation Importance

Impact Character

During all phases of the proposed project, but particularly during the construction phase, fauna of conservation importance may be killed or disturbed, either through the loss of viable habitat or through direct impacts, as discussed in section 6.4.4.

⁶ Organism adapted to digging and life underground.



Impact in Relation to Proposed Project

Aestivating and burrowing taxa such as Giant Bullfrog (*Pyxicephalus adspersus*) and Baboon spiders (Family Theraphosidae) are particularly vulnerable to construction activities. This impact is rated moderate before mitigation but can be reduced to **low** significance with mitigation.

6.4.6 Loss and Disturbance of *Flora* of Conservation Importance

Impact Character

During vegetation clearing and earth works, flora of conservation importance may be cleared/removed or damaged.

Impact in Relation to Proposed Project

Nine floral species of conservation importance were recorded during the field programme. Of these, three protected tree species are particularly abundant throughout the study area, *viz*.:

- Vachellia erioloba is abundant in all vegetation communities, except the Spirostachys africana Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland;
- Combretum imberbe is abundant in the Short Open Vachellia tortilis Bushveld and Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld communities; and
- Spirostachys africana is a co-dominant species in Spirostachys africana Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland, but rarely occurred outside this vegetation community.

All plants of conservation importance occurring within proposed development footprints will be cleared during the construction phase. This impact is rated high before mitigation. The application of mitigation reduces the rating score of this impact, however it remains of **moderate** significance.

Table 13: Rating of impact significance

IMPACTS ON THE TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS							
Risk	Management	Magnitude	Duration	Scale	Probability	Significance Point	Environmental Significance
CONSTRUCTION PHASE							
Habitat loss and degradation	Before Mitigation	8	5	2	5	75	HIGH
	After Mitigation	8	4	1	5	65	HIGH
Habitat fragmentation	Before Mitigation	8	5	2	5	75	HIGH
	After Mitigation	6	4	1	5	55	MODERATE
Establishment and spread of alien invasive species	Before Mitigation	8	5	2	4	60	MODERATE
	After Mitigation	4	3	1	2	16	LOW
Mortality and disturbance of fauna, incl. <i>fauna</i> of conservation importance	Before Mitigation	8	2	2	4	48	MODERATE
	After Mitigation	4	2	1	2	14	LOW
Loss and disturbance of <i>flora</i> of conservation importance	Before Mitigation	10	2	1	5	65	HIGH
	After Mitigation	6	2	1	5	45	MODERATE



IMPACTS ON THE TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS							
OPERATIONAL PHASE							
Establishment and spread of alien invasive species	Before Mitigation	8	5	2	4	60	MODERATE
	After Mitigation	4	3	1	2	16	LOW
Mortality and disturbance of fauna, incl. <i>fauna</i> of conservation importance	Before Mitigation	8	2	2	4	48	MODERATE
	After Mitigation	4	2	1	2	14	LOW
CLOSURE PHASE							
Establishment and spread of alien invasive species	Before Mitigation	8	5	2	4	60	MODERATE
	After Mitigation	4	3	1	2	16	LOW



6.5 Cumulative Impacts

Natural habitat in the study area forms part of a larger savanna habitat network that stretches across northern Limpopo Province. This habitat network is of regional conservation value, particularly with regard to large predator and raptor communities. The EWT (2014), for instance, indicated that 7% of Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) comprising the Waterberg Cluster are free-roaming animals, while a significant proportion of Limpopo Province's Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*) population is also free-roaming. The continued persistence of these populations is dependent on animals being able to move and access resources at landscape- and even regional-scales. Maintaining broad-scale, as well as local-scale ecosystem integrity and connectivity is therefore critically important.

Hansen and DeFries (2007) note that because the spatial domains of many ecological processes operate at broad-scales, land use changes in a portion of an ecosystem can cause a rescaling of the ecosystem as a whole and result in changes in overall functioning and biodiversity. Accordingly, development projects that cause habitat transformation and degradation may have negative ecological impacts that extend well beyond the envisaged project boundary.

The Waterberg District Environmental Management Framework (ref. Environomics *et al.*, 2010) forecasts increasing development throughout the Ellisras Coalfield area. The potential cumulative impact of this proposed project, coupled with existing developments and envisaged future mining- and non-mining related developments in the region, may have negative consequences on regional-scale habitat integrity, functioning and connectivity. This has the potential to negatively impact the population dynamics and conservation of threatened wildlife, such as free-roaming wild dog and cheetah, as well as vultures.

7.0 RECOMMENDED ECOLOGICAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Proposed mitigation measures for reducing the significance of potential ecological impacts are detailed inTable 14. It is recommended that these are included in the proposed project's environmental management programme (EMP).

Potential Impacts	Mitigation Measures
Habitat loss and degradation.	 Minimisation Vegetation clearing should be restricted to the proposed development footprints <u>only</u>, with no clearing permitted outside of these areas; and Areas to be cleared should be clearly demarcated to prevent unnecesary clearing outside of these sites. Rehabilitation Removed topsoil should be stockpiled and used to rehabilitate disturbed areas; and A suitable rehabilitation programme should be developed and implemented in all disturbed areas. The programme should include: Concurrent rehabilitation, if possible; Stabilisation and active revegetation of all disturbed areas using locally-occurring indigenous grass and tree species; and Protected tree species should be included in the mix of revegetation species.

Table 14: Recommended ecological mitigation measures

Potential Impacts	Mitigation Measures
Habitat fragmentation.	See proposed mitigation measures for 'Habitat loss and degradation.'
Establishment and spread of alien invasive species.	 Minimisation An alien invasive species control programme must be developed and implemented on-site during all phases of the proposed project. It is recommended that the programme include: A combined approach using both chemical and mechanical control methods; Periodic follow-up treatments, informed by regular monitoring; and Monitoring should take place in disturbed areas, as well as adjacent undisturbed areas. Rehabilitation Rehabilitate all sites that are disturbed by construction phase activities, as per the rehabilitation programme; and Rehabilitate all disturbed footprints during the closure and rehabilitation phases, as per the rehabilitation programme.
Mortality and disturbance of fauna.	 Avoidance and Minimisation Death/injury during vegetation clearing and earth works Prior to construction: Large mammals (e.g. antelope, zebra and giraffe) should be actively relocated to unaffected portions of the Manketti Nature Reserve or elsewhere; and Temporary corridors should be created by strategically removing fence portions to allow smaller mammals to disperse from Turfvlakte to the adjacent Manketti Game Reserve during construction. An ECO should be on-site during vegetation clearing to monitor and manage any wildlife-human interactions. The ECO should be trained in <i>inter alia</i>, snake handling; and As appropriate, fences should be erected to prevent fauna gaining access to construction and operational areas, such as open trenches and voids. <u>Vehicle-wildlife collisions</u> A low speed limit (recommended 20 - 40 km/h) should be enforced on site to reduce wildlife-collisions. Hunting, snaring and poisoning The handling, poisoning and killing of on-site fauna by mine workers and contractors must be strictly prohibited; and Employees and contractors should be made aware of the presence of, and rules regarding, fauna through suitable induction training and on-site signage. Noise, vibrations and lights General noise abatement equipment should be fitted to machinery and vehicles;

Potential Impacts	Mitigation Measures
	 Noise shields, including earth berms, should be constructed around sites of noise origin; Dust suppression using water bowsers should be undertaken on all mine's roads and other sites where dust entrainment occurs; and Plan the lighting requirements of facilities to ensure that lighting meets the need to keep the site secure and safe, without resulting in excessive illumination. Possible options include: Zoning of areas of high and low lighting requirements; Using motion-activated lights as opposed to permanent lights; and Reducing height and angle of lights.
Loss and disturbance of <i>fauna</i> of conservation importance	 Avoidance See proposed mitigation measures for 'Mortality and disturbance of fauna'; The ECO should be present during any disturbance (earth works) of pans/ depressions to monitor for the presence of Giant Bullfrog. If this species is detected, construction activities should cease until an appropriate and approved management plan is developed; Prior to construction, a grid survey for Baboon spider nests should be conducted, and any taxa encountered should be relocated to adjacent undeveloped, natural areas; and Suitably qualified/trained experts should be appointed to undertake the necessary rescue and relocation operations.
Loss and disturbance of <i>flora</i> of conservation importance	 Minimisation Prior to construction, all areas designated for vegetation clearing should be clearly marked and surveyed for flora of conservation importance by a trained botanist; Based on the results of the survey, rescue/destruction permits must be obtained from the relevant authority before vegetation clearing commences: A permit to clear <i>Boscia albitrunca, Combretum imberbe, Elaeodendron transvaalense, Sclerocarya birrea</i> subsp. <i>caffra, Securidaca longepedunculata</i> and <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> should be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF); A permit to clear <i>Spirostachys africana</i> should be obtained from the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET); As far as possible and practical, smaller herbaceous plants of conservation concern should be rescued and relocated to adjacent undisturbed areas. Relocation permits for herbaceous plants will need to be obtained from the LEDET; and

Potential Impacts	Mitigation Measures
	 As far as possible, cleared protected trees should be used rather than allowed to stand and decompose. The following potential uses are listed as examples: The wood of <i>Spirostachys africana</i> (Tamboti) is highly noxious and not suitable for use as a fuel (i.e. firewood). However, the timber is highly sought after by furniture makers. Exxaro should investigate supplying cleared Tamboti trees to a timber merchant as an alternative to disposal; and The wood of <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn) is hard and is a valuable source of fuel (firewood and charcoal). Exxaro should investigate supplying cleared Camel Thorn trees to local communities as an alternative energy source.
	Rehabilitation
	Protected trees should be included in the mix of revegetation species used during rehabilitation:
	 Exxaro should investigate developing an on-site nursery to manage the propogation and growing of protected trees;
	 Where possible, it is recommended that seeds should be collected from protected trees, growing on local Exxaro owned properties, such as in Manketti Game Reserve; and Propogation should be optimally timed to ensure that trees are the correct size and maturity to survive outplanting during rehabilitation.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The Turfvlakte study area forms part of the larger Manketti Nature Reserve, which surrounds Grootegeluk Coal Mine, and is managed as a conservation area. It comprises natural bushveld habitat typical of the region and is inhabited by numerous wildlife species.

Five vegetation communities were identified in the study area. All have been minimally disturbed and are considered to have high ecological integrity and associated conservation importance. The study area provides important habitat for a variety of faunal taxa, including both free-roaming and managed wildlife populations. Several floral species of conservation importance were recorded on-site, including protected tree species that are both widespread and abundant. The study area thus has important biodiversity features and moreover, contributes to landscape-scale ecological processes and functioning.

It is anticipated that the proposed Turfvlakte mining activities will have significant negative impacts on the terrestrial ecology of the planned disturbance footprints. Most potential impacts relate directly or indirectly to vegetation clearing and earth works during the construction phase. The residual impacts of habitat loss and the concomitant destruction of protected trees are rated of high- and moderate significance, respectively.

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APPENDIX A

Location of Flora and Fauna Sampling Points





APPENDIX B

List of Flora Species Recorded in the Study Area during the Field Programme (Table 1)

and

The BODATSA Flora List for the 2327DA QDC (Table 2)

Table 1: Plants recorded in the stue	ly area during t	he field programme
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Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Acanthaceae	<i>Barleria</i> sp. 1		x				
Acanthaceae	Blepharis subvolubilis subsp. subvolubilis		x	x			
Amaranthaceae	Alternanthera pungens*	x	x				x
Amaranthaceae	Hermbstaedtia odorata var. albi-rosea		x				
Amaranthaceae	Kyphocarpa angustifolia	x	x				
Amaranthaceae	Pupalia lappacea	x	x			x	
Anacardiaceae	Sclerocarya birrea subsp. caffra			x			x
Anacardiaceae	Searsia lancea					x	x
Anacardiaceae	Searsia leptodictya					x	
Anacardiaceae	Searsia tenuinervis					x	
Apocynaceae	Carissa bispinosa				x		
Apocynaceae	Gomphocarpus fruticosus	x					
Apocynaceae	Stapelia gigantea	x					
Asparagaceae	Asparagus laricinus	x		x	x		x

Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Asphodelaceae	Aloe cf zebrina	x					
Asteraceae	Flaveria bidentis*	x					x
Asteraceae	Helichrysum argyrosphaerum		x				
Asteraceae	Laggera decurrens		x				
Asteraceae	Verbesina encelioides var. encelioides*	x					x
Asteraceae	Vernonia fastigiata			x			
Bignoniaceae	Rhigozum brevispinosum		x			x	x
Boraginaceae	Ehretia rigida					x	
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium lineare	x	x	x			
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium ovalifolium		x			x	
Burseraceae	Commiphora africana			x			
Burseraceae	Commiphora pyracanthoides	x	x				
Burseraceae	Commiphora schimperi				x		
Byttneriaceae	Waltheria indica	x	x	x			x
Cactaceae	Cereus jamacaru*					x	



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Cactaceae	Opuntia ficus indica*				x		
Cactaceae	Opuntia cf humifusa*	x					
Capparaceae	Boscia albitrunca	x	x				
Capparaceae	Boscia foetida subsp. rehmanniana	x	x	x	x	x	
Celastraceae	Elaeodendron transvaalensis				x		
Combretaceae	Combretum apiculatum		x	x			
Combretaceae	Combretum hereroense			x	x	x	x
Combretaceae	Combretum imberbe	x	x			x	x
Combretaceae	Combretum zeyheri			x			
Combretaceae	Terminalia sericea		x	x			x
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea cf magnusiana		x				
Crassulaceae	Kalanchoe brachyloba	x			x	x	
Crassulaceae	Kalanchoe rotundifolia				x		
Dracaenaceae	Sansevieria aethiopica	x			x		
Ebenaceae	Diospyros lycioides subsp. lycioides					x	



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Ebenaceae	Euclea undulata	x		x	x	x	x
Euphorbiaceae	Ricinus communis*						x
Euphorbiaceae	Spirostachys africana			x	x	x	
Fabaceae	Bolusanthus speciosa	x					
Fabaceae	Burkea africana			x			
Fabaceae	Dichrostachys cinerea	x	x	x	x	x	x
Fabaceae	Elephantorrhiza burkei			x			
Fabaceae	Indigofera cf heterotricha		x				x
Fabaceae	Peltophorum africanum	x	x	x		x	x
Fabaceae	Schotia brachypetala				x		
Fabaceae	Senegalia burkei					x	
Fabaceae	Senegalia erubescens	x	x	x			x
Fabaceae	Senegalia fleckii		x	x			
Fabaceae	Senegalia mellifera				x	x	x
Fabaceae	Senegalia nigrescens	x	x	x	x		

Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Fabaceae	Vachellia erioloba	x	x	x	x	x	x
Fabaceae	Vachellia grandicornuta	x	x		x		
Fabaceae	Vachellia karroo		x			x	
Fabaceae	Vachellia nilotica				x	x	x
Fabaceae	Vachellia robusta	x	x			x	x
Fabaceae	Vachellia tortilis	x	x			x	x
Fabaceae	Vachellia xanthophloea						x
Hyacinthaceae	Ledebouria marginata	x	x				
Lamiaceae	Ocimum americanum var. americanum						x
Loganiaceae	Strychnos madagascariensis			x			
Loganiaceae	Strychnos spinosa			x			
Malvaceae	Cienfuegosia digitata	x	x				
Malvaceae	Gossypium herbaceum subsp. africanum	x					x
Malvaceae	Grewia bicolor	x	x	x	x	x	x
Malvaceae	Grewia cf retinervis			xx		x	



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Malvaceae	Grewia flava	x	x	x	x	x	x
Malvaceae	Grewia flavescens	x	x	x	x	x	x
Malvaceae	Grewia monticola	x	x	x			
Malvaceae	Grewia sp.						
Malvaceae	Melhania acuminata var. acuminata	x	x			x	x
Malvaceae	Melhania rehmannii	x	x				
Malvaceae	Sida cordifolia			x			
Malvaceae	Sida ovata	x	x				x
Meliaceae	Melia azedarach*					x	
Ochnaceae	Ochna natalitia			x			
Olacaceae	Ximenia americana	x			x	x	
Olacaceae	Ximenia caffra			x			
Papilionoidae	Philenoptera violacea						x
Phyllanthaceae	Flueggea virosa		x			x	
Poaceae	Aristida adscensionis	x	x	x			x



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Poaceae	Aristida congesta subsp. barbicollis	x	x				
Poaceae	Aristida congesta subsp. congesta	x	x	x			x
Poaceae	Aristida sp.		x	x			
Poaceae	Aristida stipata			x			
Poaceae	Bothriochloa radicans		x				
Poaceae	Cenchrus ciliaris	x	x				x
Poaceae	Chloris pycnothrix		x				x
Poaceae	Cynodon dactylon				x	x	x
Poaceae	Dichanthium annulatum	x	x		x		x
Poaceae	Digitaria eriantha	x		x			
Poaceae	Echinochloa colona		x				
Poaceae	Enneapogon cenchroides	x	x			x	x
Poaceae	Eragrostis cf biflora				x		
Poaceae	Eragrostis lehmanniana		x	x			
Poaceae	Eragrostis pallens			x			



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Poaceae	Eragrostis rigidior		x				
Poaceae	<i>Eragrostis</i> sp.		x			x	
Poaceae	Eragrostis superba		x				
Poaceae	Melinis repens	x	x				x
Poaceae	Panicum coloratum	x					
Poaceae	Panicum maximum	x				x	
Poaceae	Panicum sp.		x				
Poaceae	Perotis patens			x			
Poaceae	Pogonarthria squarrosa		x				
Poaceae	Schmidtia pappophoroides	x	x	x			
Poaceae	Sporobolus nitens				x		
Poaceae	Stipagrostis uniplumis	x	x	x			x
Poaceae	Tragus berteronianus				x		x
Poaceae	Tricholaena monachne		x				
Poaceae	Triraphis andropogonoides			x			



Family	Species Name	Tall Senegalia nigrescens Bushveld	Short Open <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> Bushveld	Open Combretum apiculatum – Terminalia sericea Bushveld	Spirostachys africana - Vachellia grandicornuta Woodland	<i>Euclea undulata</i> Thicket	Transformed / Disturbed Mining Area
Poaceae	Urochloa mossambicensis		x				
Polygalaceae	Securidaca longipedunculata			x			
Rhamnaceae	Ziziphus mucronata	x		x		x	x
Rubiaceae	Gardenia volkensii			x			x
Solanaceae	Datura stramonium*	x					
Solanaceae	Solanum catombelense	x				x	
Solanaceae	Solanum elaeagnifolium			x			x
Solanaceae	Solanum lichtensteinii	x		x			x
Solanaceae	Solanum panduriforme	x	x			x	
Solanaceae	Solanum tettense var. renschii	x	x				
Viscaceae	Viscum rotundifolium		x				

Table 2: BODATSA (2016) flora species records

Family	Species Name
Acanthaceae	Asystasia mysorensis
Acanthaceae	Barleria affinis
Acanthaceae	Barleria galpinii
Acanthaceae	Barleria mackenii
Acanthaceae	<i>Barleria</i> sp.
Acanthaceae	Barleria coriacea
Acanthaceae	Blepharis maderaspatensis
Acanthaceae	Blepharis breyeri
Acanthaceae	Blepharis diversispina
Acanthaceae	Chorisochora transvaalensis
Acanthaceae	Dicliptera minor subsp. minor
Acanthaceae	Dyschoriste fischeri
Acanthaceae	Dyschoriste rogersii
Acanthaceae	Justicia exigua
Acanthaceae	Justicia divaricata
Acanthaceae	Justicia flava
Acanthaceae	Ruellia patula
Agavaceae	Chlorophytum recurvifolium
Amaranthaceae	Hermbstaedtia odorata var. albi-rosea
Amaranthaceae	Hermbstaedtia odorata var. odorata
Amaranthaceae	Hermbstaedtia odorata var. aurantiaca
Amaranthaceae	Kyphocarpa angustifolia
Amaranthaceae	Sericorema remotiflora
Amaryllidaceae	Nerine laticoma
Anacardiaceae	Ozoroa paniculosa var. paniculosa
Anacardiaceae	Searsia rigida var. margaretae

Family	Species Name
Apocynaceae	Ceropegia conrathii
Apocynaceae	Cryptolepis oblongifolia
Apocynaceae	Cynanchum viminale subsp. viminale
Apocynaceae	Diplorhynchus condylocarpon
Apocynaceae	Gomphocarpus tomentosus subsp. tomentosus
Apocynaceae	Huernia stapelioides
Apocynaceae	Huernia transvaalensis
Apocynaceae	Marsdenia sylvestris
Apocynaceae	Pergularia daemia subsp. daemia
Apocynaceae	Secamone parvifolia
Aponogetonaceae	Aponogeton junceus
Araceae	Stylochaeton natalensis
Asparagaceae	Asparagus exuvialis forma exuvialis
Asparagaceae	Asparagus nelsii
Asparagaceae	Asparagus aggregatus
Asparagaceae	Asparagus cooperi
Asteraceae	Ambrosia artemisiifolia
Asteraceae	Athrixia elata
Asteraceae	Cotula microglossa
Asteraceae	Cotula anthemoides
Asteraceae	Denekia capensis
Asteraceae	Dicoma tomentosa
Asteraceae	Felicia mossamedensis
Asteraceae	Geigeria filifolia
Asteraceae	Geigeria burkei subsp. burkei
Asteraceae	Helichrysum zeyheri
Asteraceae	Helichrysum nudifolium var. oxyphyllum

Family	Species Name
Asteraceae	Hilliardiella oligocephala
Asteraceae	Hilliardiella sutherlandii
Asteraceae	Hirpicium bechuanense
Asteraceae	Nidorella resedifolia subsp. resedifolia
Asteraceae	Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum
Asteraceae	Tarchonanthus camphoratus
Asteraceae	Verbesina encelioides var. encelioides
Bignoniaceae	Rhigozum brevispinosum
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium ciliatum
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium zeylanicum
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium ovalifolium
Brassicaceae	Erucastrum griquense
Burseraceae	Commiphora mollis
Burseraceae	Commiphora pyracanthoides
Burseraceae	Commiphora neglecta
Campanulaceae	Wahlenbergia undulata
Capparaceae	Boscia albitrunca
Capparaceae	Boscia foetida subsp. rehmanniana
Capparaceae	Cadaba termitaria
Capparaceae	Maerua angolensis subsp. angolensis
Caryophyllaceae	Corrigiola litoralis subsp. litoralis
Ceratophyllaceae	Ceratophyllum demersum var. demersum
Cleomaceae	Cleome angustifolia subsp. petersiana
Cleomaceae	Cleome hirta
Cleomaceae	Cleome rubella
Combretaceae	Combretum apiculatum subsp. apiculatum
Combretaceae	Combretum hereroense

Family	Species Name
Combretaceae	Terminalia sericea
Commelinaceae	Commelina livingstonii
Commelinaceae	Commelina benghalensis
Commelinaceae	Commelina erecta
Commelinaceae	Cyanotis speciosa
Convolvulaceae	Evolvulus alsinoides
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea magnusiana
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea obscura var. obscura
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea coptica
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea hackeliana
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea robertsiana
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea adenioides var. adenioides
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea crassipes var. crassipes
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea gracilisepala
Convolvulaceae	Merremia verecunda
Convolvulaceae	Xenostegia tridentata subsp. angustifolia
Crassulaceae	Crassula capitella subsp. sessilicymula
Cucurbitaceae	Acanthosicyos naudinianus
Cucurbitaceae	Coccinia sessilifolia
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumis myriocarpus subsp. myriocarpus
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumis africanus
Cucurbitaceae	Kedrostis foetidissima
Cucurbitaceae	Momordica repens
Cucurbitaceae	Pilogyne marlothii
Cucurbitaceae	Trochomeria macrocarpa subsp. macrocarpa
Cyperaceae	Bulbostylis hispidula subsp. pyriformis
Cyperaceae	Bulbostylis humilis

Family	Species Name
Cyperaceae	Cyperus chersinus
Cyperaceae	Eleocharis limosa
Cyperaceae	Kyllinga alba
Cyperaceae	Pycreus polystachyos var. polystachyos
Cyperaceae	Pycreus pelophilus
Dichapetalaceae	Dichapetalum cymosum
Ebenaceae	Diospyros lycioides subsp. lycioides
Ebenaceae	Diospyros lycioides subsp. nitens
Ebenaceae	Euclea undulata
Entodontaceae	Entodon cymbifolius
Eriocaulaceae	Eriocaulon abyssinicum
Euphorbiaceae	Acalypha caperonioides var. caperonioides
Euphorbiaceae	Acalypha indica var. indica
Euphorbiaceae	Clutia pulchella var. pulchella
Euphorbiaceae	Dalechampia capensis
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia neopolycnemoides
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia waterbergensis
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia tirucalli
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia rhombifolia
Euphorbiaceae	Schinziophyton rautanenii
Euphorbiaceae	Spirostachys africana
Euphorbiaceae	Tragia dioica
Fabaceae	Abrus laevigatus
Fabaceae	Aeschynomene indica
Fabaceae	Albizia harveyi
Fabaceae	Alistilus bechuanicus
Fabaceae	Bauhinia petersiana subsp. macrantha

Family	Species Name
Fabaceae	Chamaecrista absus
Fabaceae	Chamaecrista biensis
Fabaceae	Crotalaria podocarpa
Fabaceae	Crotalaria distans subsp. distans
Fabaceae	Crotalaria orientalis subsp. orientalis
Fabaceae	Crotalaria monophylla
Fabaceae	Dichrostachys cinerea subsp. africana
Fabaceae	Indigofera sordida
Fabaceae	Indigofera ingrata
Fabaceae	Indigofera flavicans
Fabaceae	Indigofera nebrowniana
Fabaceae	Indigofera daleoides var. daleoides
Fabaceae	Indigofera bainesii
Fabaceae	Indigofera filipes
Fabaceae	Lablab purpureus subsp. uncinatus
Fabaceae	Neorautanenia mitis
Fabaceae	Neorautanenia ficifolia
Fabaceae	Nesphostylis junodii
Fabaceae	Otoptera burchellii
Fabaceae	Pomaria burchellii subsp. burchellii
Fabaceae	Ptycholobium contortum
Fabaceae	Requienia pseudosphaerosperma
Fabaceae	Rhynchosia spectabilis
Fabaceae	Rhynchosia sp.
Fabaceae	Rhynchosia totta var. venulosa
Fabaceae	Senegalia galpinii
Fabaceae	Senegalia caffra

Family	Species Name
Fabaceae	Senegalia senegal var. rostrata
Fabaceae	Senegalia mellifera subsp. detinens
Fabaceae	Tephrosia purpurea subsp. leptostachya
Fabaceae	Tephrosia purpurea subsp. leptostachya
Fabaceae	Tephrosia zoutpansbergensis
Fabaceae	Tylosema esculentum
Fabaceae	Vachellia tortilis subsp. heteracantha
Fabaceae	Vachellia erioloba
Fabaceae	Vigna frutescens subsp. frutescens
Fabaceae	Vigna unguiculata subsp. protracta
Fabaceae	Vigna unguiculata subsp. dekindtiana
Fabaceae	Xanthocercis zambesiaca
Fabaceae	Zornia linearis
Fabroniaceae	Fabronia pilifera
Gentianaceae	Chironia purpurascens subsp. humilis
Gentianaceae	Sebaea leiostyla
Geraniaceae	Monsonia angustifolia
Geraniaceae	Monsonia glauca
Gisekiaceae	Gisekia africana var. decagyna
Gisekiaceae	Gisekia pharnacioides var. pharnacioides
Hyacinthaceae	Albuca glauca
Hyacinthaceae	Albuca virens subsp. virens
Hyacinthaceae	Albuca virens subsp. arida
Hyacinthaceae	Albuca seineri
Hyacinthaceae	Albuca setosa
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi papillatum
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi glaucum

Family	Species Name
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi platyphyllum
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi sp.
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi gracillimum
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi marlothii
Hyacinthaceae	Dipcadi viride
Hyacinthaceae	Drimia angustifolia
Hypericaceae	Hypericum lalandii
Iridaceae	Psilosiphon sandersonii subsp. sandersonii
Kirkiaceae	Kirkia wilmsii
Kirkiaceae	Kirkia acuminata
Lamiaceae	Clerodendrum ternatum
Lamiaceae	Leonotis pentadentata
Lamiaceae	Vitex rehmannii
Leskeaceae	Lindbergia pseudoleskeoides
Leskeaceae	Pseudoleskea sp.
Leskeaceae	Pseudoleskea leskeoides
Limeaceae	Limeum fenestratum var. fenestratum
Lobeliaceae	Lobelia sonderiana
Lythraceae	Nesaea rigidula
Malpighiaceae	Sphedamnocarpus pruriens subsp. pruriens
Malvaceae	Abutilon pycnodon
Malvaceae	Abutilon austro-africanum
Malvaceae	Corchorus asplenifolius
Malvaceae	Corchorus psammophilus
Malvaceae	Gossypium herbaceum subsp. africanum
Malvaceae	Grewia flavescens
Malvaceae	Grewia flava

Family	Species Name
Malvaceae	Grewia occidentalis var. occidentalis
Malvaceae	Grewia avellana
Malvaceae	Grewia subspathulata
Malvaceae	Grewia retinervis
Malvaceae	Hermannia boraginiflora
Malvaceae	Hermannia tomentosa
Malvaceae	Hermannia stellulata
Malvaceae	Hermannia grisea
Malvaceae	Hermannia modesta
Malvaceae	Hibiscus sidiformis
Malvaceae	Hibiscus nigricaulis
Malvaceae	Hibiscus schinzii
Malvaceae	Hibiscus vitifolius subsp. vulgaris
Malvaceae	Hibiscus calyphyllus
Malvaceae	Hibiscus praeteritus
Malvaceae	Hibiscus physaloides
Malvaceae	Hibiscus pusillus
Malvaceae	Hibiscus syriaca
Malvaceae	Hibiscus platycalyx
Malvaceae	Hibiscus micranthus var. micranthus
Malvaceae	Melhania acuminata var. acuminata
Malvaceae	Melhania forbesii
Malvaceae	Pavonia transvaalensis
Malvaceae	Pavonia clathrata
Malvaceae	Sida ovata
Malvaceae	Sida chrysantha
Malvaceae	Triumfetta pilosa var. effusa

Family	Species Name
Malvaceae	Waltheria indica
Meliaceae	Turraea obtusifolia
Molluginaceae	Glinus bainesii
Moraceae	Ficus glumosa
Myrtaceae	Syzygium cordatum subsp. cordatum
Nyctaginaceae	Phaeoptilum spinosum
Nymphaeaceae	Nymphaea nouchali var. caerulea
Olacaceae	Ximenia americana var. microphylla
Onagraceae	Ludwigia adscendens subsp. diffusa
Orobanchaceae	Alectra orobanchoides
Orobanchaceae	Striga bilabiata subsp. bilabiata
Orobanchaceae	Striga gesnerioides
Pedaliaceae	Ceratotheca triloba
Pedaliaceae	Dicerocaryum senecioides
Pedaliaceae	Harpagophytum procumbens subsp. transvaalense
Pedaliaceae	Pterodiscus ngamicus
Phyllanthaceae	Phyllanthus loandensis
Plantaginaceae	Bacopa floribunda
Poaceae	Acroceras macrum
Poaceae	Andropogon schirensis
Poaceae	Anthephora pubescens
Poaceae	Aristida spectabilis
Poaceae	Aristida stipitata subsp. stipitata
Poaceae	Aristida canescens subsp. canescens
Poaceae	Aristida sp.
Poaceae	Aristida congesta subsp. congesta
Poaceae	Aristida stipitata subsp. graciliflora

Family	Species Name
Poaceae	Aristida adscensionis
Poaceae	Arundinella nepalensis
Poaceae	Bothriochloa bladhii
Poaceae	Brachiaria nigropedata
Poaceae	Cenchrus ciliaris
Poaceae	Cymbopogon pospischilii
Poaceae	Dactyloctenium giganteum
Poaceae	Digitaria debilis
Poaceae	Digitaria eriantha
Poaceae	Echinochloa holubii
Poaceae	Eleusine coracana subsp. africana
Poaceae	Eragrostis sp.
Poaceae	Eragrostis sarmentosa
Poaceae	Eragrostis barbinodis
Poaceae	Eragrostis aspera
Poaceae	Eragrostis lehmanniana var. lehmanniana
Poaceae	Eragrostis pallens
Poaceae	Eragrostis hierniana
Poaceae	Eragrostis biflora
Poaceae	Eragrostis superba
Poaceae	Eragrostis lehmanniana var. chaunantha
Poaceae	Eulalia aurea
Poaceae	Heteropogon contortus
Poaceae	Loudetia flavida
Poaceae	Megaloprotachne albescens
Poaceae	Melinis repens subsp. grandiflora
Poaceae	Monocymbium ceresiiforme

Family	Species Name
Poaceae	Panicum maximum
Poaceae	Panicum schinzii
Poaceae	Panicum repens
Poaceae	Perotis patens
Poaceae	Pogonarthria squarrosa
Poaceae	Schmidtia pappophoroides
Poaceae	Stipagrostis uniplumis var. uniplumis
Poaceae	Tragus berteronianus
Poaceae	Triraphis schinzii
Poaceae	Urochloa brachyura
Polygonaceae	Oxygonum dregeanum subsp. canescens
Polygonaceae	Oxygonum sinuatum
Polygonaceae	Persicaria limbata
Polygonaceae	Persicaria attenuata subsp. africana
Polygonaceae	Polygonum plebeium
Portulacaceae	Talinum arnotii
Rhamnaceae	Ziziphus mucronata subsp. mucronata
Rubiaceae	Agathisanthemum bojeri subsp. bojeri
Rubiaceae	Gardenia volkensii subsp. spatulifolia
Rubiaceae	Kohautia virgata
Rubiaceae	Kohautia caespitosa subsp. brachyloba
Rubiaceae	Kohautia cynanchica
Rubiaceae	Pavetta harborii
Rubiaceae	Pentanisia angustifolia
Rubiaceae	Rubia horrida
Rubiaceae	Vangueria infausta subsp. infausta
Ruscaceae	Eriospermum porphyrovalve

Family	Species Name
Ruscaceae	Eriospermum flagelliforme
Ruscaceae	Sansevieria aethiopica
Santalaceae	Osyris lanceolata
Santalaceae	Viscum tuberculatum
Sapotaceae	Mimusops zeyheri
Scrophulariaceae	Melanospermum foliosum
Scrophulariaceae	Selago lacunosa
Scrophulariaceae	Selago welwitschii var. australis
Solanaceae	Solanum tomentosum var. coccineum
Solanaceae	Solanum tettense var. renschii
Solanaceae	Solanum tettense
Solanaceae	Solanum lichtensteinii
Solanaceae	Solanum tomentosum var. tomentosum
Solanaceae	Solanum campylacanthum subsp. panduriforme
Turneraceae	Afroqueta capensis
Urticaceae	Pouzolzia mixta var. mixta
Vahliaceae	Vahlia capensis subsp. vulgaris
Verbenaceae	Chascanum pinnatifidum var. pinnatifidum
Verbenaceae	Chascanum hederaceum var. hederaceum
Verbenaceae	Chascanum incisum
Verbenaceae	Lippia wilmsii
Verbenaceae	Phyla nodiflora var. nodiflora
Verbenaceae	Priva africana
Verbenaceae	Verbena officinalis
Xyridaceae	Xyris capensis
Zygophyllaceae	Tribulus zeyheri subsp. zeyheri
Zygophyllaceae	Tribulus terrestris

Family	Species Name
Source: BODATSA (2016)	flora species records for the 2327DA quarter degree square

APPENDIX C

<u>Mammals</u> Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status		
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)
Bathyergidae	Cryptomys hottentotus	Common Mole-rat			
Bovidae	Tragelaphus oryx	Eland	-	-	-
	Alcelaphus buselaphus	Red Hartebeest	-	-	-
	Connochaetes taurinus	Blue Wildebeest	-	-	-
	Oryx gazelle	Gemsbok	-	-	-
	Kobus ellipsiprymnus	Waterbuck	-	-	-
	Hippotragus niger	Sable Antelope	-	-	-
	Syncerus caffer	Buffalo	-	-	-
	Aepyceros melampus	Impala	-	-	-
	Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	-	-	Protected
	Sylvicapra grimmia	Common Duiker	-	-	-
	Tragelaphus scriptus	Bushbuck	-	-	-
	Tregelaphus strepsiceros	Kudu	-	-	-
Canidae	Canis mesomelas	Black-backed Jackal	-	-	-
	Lycaon pictus	African Wild Dog	Endangered	Endangered	-
	Otocyo megalotis	Bat-eared Fox	-	Protected	Protected

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status		
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)
Cercopithecidae	Ceropithecus aethiops	Vervet Monkey	-	-	-
	Papio urisinus	Chacma Baboon	-	-	-
Felidae	Felis silvestris lybica	African Wild Cat	-	-	-
	Panther pardus	Leopard	Vulnerable	-	-
	Acinonyx jubatus	Cheetah	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Protected
	Caracal caracal	Caracal	-	-	-
	Leptailurus serval	Serval	Near Threatened	Protected	Protected
Galagidae	Galago moholi	Southern Lesser Bushbaby			
Giraffidae	Giraffa camelopardalis	Giraffe	-	-	-
Equidae	Equus quagga	Burchell's Zebra	-	-	-
Erinaceidae	Atelerixs frontalis	South African Hedgehog	Near Threatened	-	Protected
Hyaenidae	Parahyaena brunnea	Brown Hyaena	Near Threatened	-	-
	Proteles cristatus	Aardwolf	-	-	-
Hystricidae	Hystrix africaeaustralis	Porcupine	-	-	-
Hipposideridae	Cloeotis percivali	Short-eared Trident Bat	Endangered	-	-
Leporidae	Pronolagus randensis	Jameson's Red Rock Rabbit	-	-	Protected



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	
	Lepus saxatilis	Scrub Hare	-	-	-	
Manidae	Manis temminckii	Pangolin	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Specially protected	
Macroscedlidea	Elephantulus intufi	Bushveld Sengi	-	-	-	
	Elephantulus brachyrhynchus	Short-snouted Sengi	-	-	-	
	Elephantulus myurus	Eastern Rock Sengi	-	-	-	
Muridae	Dasymys incomtus	Water Rat	Near Threatened	-	-	
	Mus minutoides	Pygmy Mouse	-	-	-	
	Gerbilliscus leucogaster	Bushveld Gerbil	-	-	-	
	Desmodillus auricularis	Cape Short-tailed Gerbil	-	-	-	
	Dendromus melanotis	Grey Climbing Mouse	-	-	-	
	Aethomys chrysophilus	Red Veld Rat	-	-	-	
	Acomys spinosissumus	Spiny Mouse	-	-	-	
	Saccostomus campestris	Pouched Mouse	-	-	-	
	Steatomys pratensis	Fat Mouse	-	-	-	
	Gerbillurus paeba	Hairy-footed Gerbil	-	-	-	
	Tatera brantsii	Highveld Gerbil	-	-	-	

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status		
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)
	Mastomys sp.	Multimammate Mouse	-	-	-
	Micaelamys namaquensis	Namaqua Rock Mouse	-	-	-
	Rhabdomys pumilio	Four-striped Grass Mouse	-	-	-
	Lemniscomys rosalia	Single-striped Grass Mouse	-	-	-
	Mus indutus	Desert Pygmy Mouse	-	-	-
	Thallomys paedulcus	Acacia Rat	-	-	-
	Otomys angoniensis	Angoni Vlei Rat	-	-	-
Mustelidae	Mellivora capensis	Honey Badger	-	-	Protected
	Poecilogale albinucha	African Striped Weasel	Near Threatened	-	-
	Ictonyx striatus	Striped Polecat	-	-	-
Myoxidae	Graphiurus murinus	Woodland Dormouse	-	-	-
	Graphiurus platyops	Rock Dormouse	-	-	-
Orycteropodidae	Orycteropus afer	Aardvark	-	Protected	Specially protected
Pedetidae	Pedetes capensis	Springhare	-	-	-
Rhinolophidae	Rhinolophus blasii	Peak-saddle Horseshoe bat	Near Threatened	-	-
	Rhinolophus clivosus	Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status		
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)
	Rhinolophus darlingi	Darling's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-
	Rhinolophus hildebrandtii	Hildebrandt's Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	-	-
Sciuridae	Xerus inauris	Ground Squirrel	-	-	-
	Paraxenus cepapi	Tree Squirrel	-	-	-
Scoricidae	Crocidura hirta	Lesser Red Musk Shrew	-	-	-
	Crocidura fuscomurina Tiny Musk Shrew		-	-	-
Suidae	Potamocherus larvatus	Bushpig	-	-	-
	Phacochoerus aethiopicus	Warthog	-	-	-
Thryonomyidae	Thryonomys swinderianus	Greater Cane-rat	-	-	-
Vespertilionidae	Miniopterus natalensis	Natal Long-fingered Bat	-	-	-
	Myotis tricolor	Temminck's Hairy Bat	-	-	-
	Myotis welwitschii	Welwitsch's Hairy Bat	-	-	-
	Neromicia capensis	Cape Serotine Bat	-	-	-
	Pipistrellus rusticus	Rusty Pipistrelle	-	-	-
	Scotophilus dinganii	African Yellow Bat	-	-	-
Viverridae	Civettictis civetta	African Civet	-	-	Protected



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			
			Red List (2016) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	
	Genetta genetta	Small-spotted Genet	-	-	-	
	Genetta maculata	Large-spotted Genet	-	-	-	
Herpestidae	Galerella sanguinea	Slender Mongoose	-	-	-	
	Mungos mungo	Banded Mongoose	-	-	-	
	Helogale parvula	Dwarf Mongoose	-	-	-	
Source: Based on the distribution maps in Stuart and Stuart (2007).						

APPENDIX D

<u>Birds</u> Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area (Master list based on SABAP2 records for the 2327DA QDC)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Apalis, Bar-throated	Apalis thoracica	-	-	Protected			
Babbler, Arrow-marked	Turdoides jardineii	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Babbler, Southern Pied	Turdoides bicolor	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Barbet, Acacia Pied	Tricholaema leucomelas	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Barbet, Black-collared	Lybius torquatus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Barbet, Crested	Trachyphonus vaillantii	-	-	Protected	x		
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected			
Batis, Chinspot	Batis molitor	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Bee-eater, Blue-cheeked	Merops persicus	-	-	Protected	x		
Bee-eater, European	Merops apiaster	-	-	Protected	x		
Bee-eater, Little	Merops pusillus	-	-	Protected			
Bee-eater, Southern Carmine	Merops nubicoides	-	-	Protected	x		
Bee-eater, Swallow-tailed	Merops hirundineus	-	-	Protected	x		
Bee-eater, White-fronted	Merops bullockoides	-	-	Protected			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
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		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Bishop, Southern Red	Euplectes orix	-	-	Protected			
Boubou, Southern	Laniarius ferrugineus	-	-	Protected		x	
Brubru, Brubru	Nilaus afer	-	-	Protected	x		
Buffalo-weaver, Red-billed	Bubalornis niger	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Bulbul, African Red-eyed	Pycnonotus nigricans	-	-	Protected	x		
Bulbul, Dark-capped	Pycnonotus tricolor	-	-	-	x	x	
Bunting, Cinnamon-breasted	Emberiza tahapisi	-	-	Protected			
Bunting, Golden-breasted	Emberiza flaviventris	-	-	Protected			
Bunting, Lark-like	Emberiza impetuani	-	-	Protected			
Bush-shrike, Grey-headed	Malaconotus blanchoti	-	-	Protected			
Bush-shrike, Orange-breasted	Telophorus sulfureopectus	-	-	Protected	x		
Bustard, Kori	Ardeotis kori	Near Threatened	Protected	Specially Protected			
Buzzard, Lizard	Kaupifalco monogrammicus	-	-	Protected			
Buzzard, Steppe	Buteo vulpinus	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Camaroptera, Grey-backed	Camaroptera brevicaudata	-	-	Protected	x		
Canary, Black-throated	Crithagra atrogularis	-	-	Protected			
Canary, Yellow-fronted	Crithagra mozambicus	-	-	Protected	x		
Chat, Anteating	Myrmecocichla formicivora	-	-	Protected			
Chat, Familiar	Cercomela familiaris	-	-	Protected			
Cisticola, Desert	Cisticola aridulus	-	-	Protected			
Cisticola, Levaillant's	Cisticola tinniens	-	-	Protected			
Cisticola, Rattling	Cisticola chiniana	-	-	Protected	x		
Cisticola, Tinkling	Cisticola rufilatus	-	-	Protected			
Cisticola, Zitting	Cisticola juncidis	-	-	Protected			
Coot, Red-knobbed	Fulica cristata	-	-	Protected			
Cormorant, Reed	Phalacrocorax africanus	-	-	Protected			
Cormorant, White-breasted	Phalacrocorax carbo	-	-	Protected			
Coucal, Burchell's	Centropus burchellii	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Courser, Bronze-winged	Rhinoptilus chalcopterus	-	-	Protected			
Courser, Temminck's	Cursorius temminckii			Protected	x		
Crake, Black	Amaurornis flavirostris	-	-	Protected			
Crombec, Long-billed	Sylvietta rufescens	-	-	Protected			
Crow, Pied	Corvus albus	-	-	-			
Cuckoo, African	Cuculus gularis	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Black	Cuculus clamosus	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Diderick	Chrysococcyx caprius	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Jacobin	Clamator jacobinus	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Klaas's	Chrysococcyx klaas	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Levaillant's	Clamator levaillantii	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo, Red-chested	Cuculus solitarius	-	-	Protected			
Cuckoo-shrike, Black	Campephaga flava	-	-	Protected			
Darter, African	Anhinga rufa	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Dove, Laughing	Streptopelia senegalensis	-	-	-	x	x	
Dove, Namaqua	Oena capensis	-	-	Protected		x	
Dove, Red-eyed	Streptopelia semitorquata	-	-	-	x	x	
Dove, Rock	Columba livia	-	-	Protected			
Drongo, Fork-tailed	Dicrurus adsimilis	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Duck, Comb	Sarkidiornis melanotos	-	-	Protected			
Duck, White-faced	Dendrocygna viduata	-	-	-			
Duck, Yellow-billed	Anas undulata	-	-	Protected			
Eagle, Martial	Polemaetus bellicosus	Endangered	Vulnerable	Protected			
Eagle, Tawny	Aquila rapax	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected			
Eagle, Verreaux's	Aquila verreauxii	Vulnerable	-	Protected			
Eagle, Wahlberg's	Aquila wahlbergi	-	-	Protected			
Eagle-owl, Verreaux's	Bubo lacteus	-	-	Protected			
Eagle-owl, Spotted	Bubo africanus	-	-	Protected	x		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Egret, Cattle	Bubulcus ibis	-	-	Protected			
Egret, Great	Egretta alba	-	-	Protected			
Egret, Little	Egretta garzetta	-	-	Protected			
Egret, Yellow-billed	Egretta intermedia	-	-	Protected			
Eremomela, Burnt-necked	Eremomela usticollis	-	-	Protected			
Eremomela, Yellow-bellied	Eremomela icteropygialis	-	-	Protected			
Falcon, Amur	Falco amurensis	-	-	Protected			
Finch, Cut-throat	Amadina fasciata	-	-	Protected			
Finch, Red-headed	Amadina erythrocephala	-	-	Protected			
Finch, Scaly-feathered	Sporopipes squamifrons	-	-	Protected		x	
Firefinch, Jameson's	Lagonosticta rhodopareia	-	-	Protected			
Firefinch, Red-billed	Lagonosticta senegala	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Fiscal, Common (Southern)	Lanius collaris	-	-	Protected			
Fish-eagle, African	Haliaeetus vocifer	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Flycatcher, Fiscal	Sigelus silens	-	-	Protected			
Flycatcher, Marico	Bradornis mariquensis	-	-	Protected			
Flycatcher, Pale	Bradornis pallidus	-	-	Protected			
Flycatcher, Southern Black	Melaenornis pammelaina	-	-	Protected			
Flycatcher, Spotted	Muscicapa striata	-	-	Protected	x		
Francolin, Crested	Dendroperdix sephaena	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Go-away-bird, Grey	Corythaixoides concolor	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Goose, Egyptian	Alopochen aegyptiacus	-	-	Protected	x		
Goose, Spur-winged	Plectropterus gambensis	-	-	Protected	x		
Goshawk, Gabar	Melierax gabar	-	-	Protected			
Goshawk, Southern Pale Chanting	Melierax canorus	-	-	Protected			
Grebe, Little	Tachybaptus ruficollis	-	-	Protected	x		
Greenbul, Yellow-bellied	Chlorocichla flaviventris	-	-	Protected			
Green-pigeon, African	Treron calvus	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Greenshank, Common	Tringa nebularia	-	-	Protected			
Guineafowl, Helmeted	Numida meleagris	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta	-	-	Protected	x		
Harrier-Hawk, African	Polyboroides typus	-	-	Protected			
Hawk-eagle, African	Aquila spilogaster	-	-	Protected			
Helmet-shrike, White-crested	Prionops plumatus	-	-	Protected			
Heron, Black	Egretta ardesiaca	-	-	Protected			
Heron, Black-headed	Ardea melanocephala	-	-	Protected			
Heron, Grey	Ardea cinerea	-	-	Protected			
Heron, Purple	Ardea purpurea	-	-	Protected			
Heron, Squacco	Ardeola ralloides	-	-	Protected			
Honeyguide, Greater	Indicator indicator	-	-	Protected			
Honeyguide, Lesser	Indicator minor	-	-	Protected			
Hoopoe, African	Upupa africana	-	-	Protected	x	x	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Hornbill, African Grey	Tockus nasutus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Hornbill, Red-billed	Tockus erythrorhynchus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Hornbill, Southern Yellow-billed	Tockus leucomelas	-	-	Protected	x	x	
House-martin, Common	Delichon urbicum	-	-	Protected			
Ibis, African Sacred	Threskiornis aethiopicus	-	-	Protected			
Ibis, Hadeda	Bostrychia hagedash	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Indigobird, Village	Vidua chalybeata	-	-	Protected			
Jacana, African	Actophilornis africanus	-	-	Protected			
Kingfisher, Brown-hooded	Halcyon albiventris	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Kingfisher, Giant	Megaceryle maximus	-	-	Protected			
Kingfisher, Malachite	Alcedo cristata	-	-	Protected			
Kingfisher, Pied	Ceryle rudis	-	-	Protected			
Kingfisher, Striped	Halcyon chelicuti	-	-	Protected			
Kingfisher, Woodland	Halcyon senegalensis	-	-	Protected	x		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Kite, Black-shouldered	Elanus caeruleus	-	-	Protected		x	
Kite, Yellow-billed	Milvus aegyptius	-	-	Protected	x		
Korhaan, Northern Black	Afrotis afraoides	-	-	Protected			
Korhaan, Red-crested	Lophotis ruficrista	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Lapwing, African Wattled	Vanellus senegallus	-	-	Protected			
Lapwing, Blacksmith	Vanellus armatus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Lapwing, Crowned	Vanellus coronatus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Lark, Fawn-coloured	Calendulauda africanoides	-	-	Protected			
Lark, Rufous-naped	Mirafra africana	-	-	Protected			
Lark, Sabota	Calendulauda sabota	-	-	Protected			
Mannikin, Bronze	Spermestes cucullatus	-	-	Protected			
Martin, Brown-throated	Riparia paludicola	-	-	Protected			
Martin, Rock	Hirundo fuligula	-	-	Protected			
Martin, Sand	Riparia riparia	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Masked-weaver, Lesser	Ploceus intermedius	-	-	Protected			
Masked-weaver, Southern	Ploceus velatus	-	-	Protected	x		
Moorhen, Common	Gallinula chloropus	-	-	Protected			
Mousebird, Red-faced	Urocolius indicus	-	-	-	x	x	
Mousebird, Speckled	Colius striatus	-	-	-			
Myna, Common	Acridotheres tristis	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Neddicky, Neddicky	Cisticola fulvicapilla	-	-	Protected			
Nightjar, Fiery-necked	Caprimulgus pectoralis	-	-	Protected			
Nightjar, Freckled	Caprimulgus tristigma	-	-	Protected			
Oriole, Black-headed	Oriolus larvatus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Osprey, Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	-	-	Protected			
Ostrich, Common	Struthio camelus	-	-	-	x	x	
Owl, Barn	Tyto alba	-	-	Protected		x	
Owlet, Pearl-spotted	Glaucidium perlatum	-	-	Protected		x	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Oxpecker, Red-billed	Buphagus erythrorhynchus	-	-	Protected			
Palm-swift, African	Cypsiurus parvus	-	-	Protected			
Paradise-flycatcher, African	Terpsiphone viridis	-	-	Protected			
Paradise-whydah, Long-tailed	Vidua paradisaea	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Petronia, Yellow-throated	Petronia superciliaris	-	-	Protected			
Pigeon, Speckled	Columba guinea	-	-	Protected			
Pipit, African	Anthus cinnamomeus	-	-	Protected			
Pipit, Bushveld	Anthus caffer	-	-	Protected		x	
Plover, Three-banded	Charadrius tricollaris	-	-	Protected	x		
Prinia, Black-chested	Prinia flavicans	-	-	Protected			
Prinia, Tawny-flanked	Prinia subflava	-	-	Protected			
Puffback, Black-backed	Dryoscopus cubla	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Pygmy-Kingfisher, African	Ispidina picta	-	-	Protected			
Pytilia, Green-winged	Pytilia melba	-	-	Protected	x		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records		
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Quail, Harlequin	Coturnix delegorguei	-	-	Protected			
Quailfinch, African	Ortygospiza atricollis	-	-	Protected			
Quelea, Red-billed	Quelea quelea	-	-	-	x	x	
Reed-warbler, African	Acrocephalus baeticatus	-	-	Protected			
Reed-warbler, Great	Acrocephalus arundinaceus	-	-	Protected			
Robin-chat, White-throated	Cossypha humeralis	-	-	Protected			
Roller, European	Coracias garrulus	Near Threatened	-	Protected			
Roller, Lilac-breasted	Coracias caudatus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Roller, Purple	Coracias naevius	-	-	Protected			
Ruff	Philomachus pugnax	-	-	Protected			
Sandgrouse, Burchell's	Pterocles burchelli	-	-	Protected			
Sandgrouse, Double-banded	Pterocles bicinctus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Sandpiper, Common	Actitis hypoleucos	-	-	Protected			
Sandpiper, Curlew	Calidris ferruginea	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)
Sandpiper, Marsh	Tringa stagnatilis	-	-	Protected		
Sandpiper, Wood	Tringa glareola	-	-	Protected		
Scimitarbill, Common	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas	-	-	Protected	x	
Scops-owl, African	Otus senegalensis	-	-	Protected		
Scrub-robin, Kalahari	Cercotrichas paena	-	-	Protected		
Scrub-robin, White-browed	Cercotrichas leucophrys	-	-	Protected		x
Secretarybird	Sagittarius serpentarius	Vulnerable		Protected		
Shikra	Accipiter badius	-	-	Protected		
Shrike, Crimson-breasted	Laniarius atrococcineus	-	-	Protected	x	
Shrike, Lesser Grey	Lanius minor	-	-	Protected		
Shrike, Magpie	Corvinella melanoleuca	-	-	Protected	x	x
Shrike, Red-backed	Lanius collurio	-	-	Protected	x	
Shrike, Southern White-crowned	Eurocephalus anguitimens	-	-	Protected	x	x
Snake-eagle, Black-chested	Circaetus pectoralis	-	-	Protected		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programm	Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Snake-eagle, Brown	Circaetus cinereus	-	-	Protected			
Sparrow, Cape	Passer melanurus	-	-	-	x		
Sparrow, Great	Passer motitensis	-	-	Protected			
Sparrow, House	Passer domesticus	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Sparrow, Southern Grey-headed	Passer diffusus	-	-	Protected			
Sparrowhawk, Little	Accipiter minullus	-	-	Protected			
Sparrowlark, Chestnut-backed	Eremopterix leucotis	-	-	Protected			
Sparrow-weaver, White-browed	Plocepasser mahali	-	-	Protected			
Spoonbill, African	Platalea alba	-	-	Protected			
Spurfowl, Natal	Pternistis natalensis	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Spurfowl, Swainson's	Pternistis swainsonii	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Starling, Burchell's	Lamprotornis australis	-	-	Protected		x	
Starling, Cape Glossy	Lamprotornis nitens	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Starling, Greater Blue-eared	Lamprotornis chalybaeus	-	-	Protected	x		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)
Starling, Red-winged	Onychognathus morio	-	-	-		
Starling, Violet-backed	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster	-	-	Protected		
Starling, Wattled	Creatophora cinerea	-	-	Protected		
Stilt, Black-winged	Himantopus himantopus	-	-	Protected		
Stint, Little	Calidris minuta	-	-	Protected		
Stonechat, African	Saxicola torquatus	-	-	Protected		
Stork, Abdim's	Ciconia abdimii	Near Threatened	-	Protected		
Stork, Black	Ciconia nigra	Vulnerable	-	Protected		
Stork, Marabou	Leptoptilos crumeniferus	Near Threatened	-	Protected		
Stork, White	Ciconia ciconia	-	-	Protected		
Stork, Yellow-billed	Mycteria ibis	Endangered	-	Protected		
Sunbird, Amethyst	Chalcomitra amethystina	-	-	Protected		
Sunbird, Marico	Cinnyris mariquensis	-	-	Protected		
Sunbird, White-bellied	Cinnyris talatala	-	-	Protected	x	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)
Swallow, Barn	Hirundo rustica	-	-	Protected	x	
Swallow, Greater Striped	Hirundo cucullata	-	-	Protected		
Swallow, Lesser Striped	Hirundo abyssinica	-	-	Protected	x	
Swallow, Pearl-breasted	Hirundo dimidiata	-	-	Protected		
Swallow, Red-breasted	Hirundo semirufa	-	-	Protected		
Swallow, White-throated	Hirundo albigularis	-	-	Protected		
Swallow, Wire-tailed	Hirundo smithii	-	-	Protected		
Swamp-warbler, Lesser	Acrocephalus gracilirostris	-	-	Protected		
Swift, African Black	Apus barbatus	-	-	Protected		
Swift, Common	Apus apus	-	-	Protected		
Swift, Little	Apus affinis	-	-	Protected		
Swift, White-rumped	Apus caffer	-	-	Protected		
Tchagra, Black-crowned	Tchagra senegalus	-	-	Protected		
Tchagra, Brown-crowned	Tchagra australis	-	-	Protected		

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)
Teal, Red-billed	Anas erythrorhyncha	-	-	Protected		
Thick-knee, Spotted	Burhinus capensis	-	-	Protected		
Thick-knee, Water	Burhinus vermiculatus	-	-	Protected		
Thrush, Groundscraper	Psophocichla litsipsirupa	-	-	Protected	x	
Thrush, Karoo	Turdus smithi	-	-	Protected		
Thrush, Kurrichane	Turdus libonyanus	-	-	Protected	x	
Tinkerbird, Yellow-fronted	Pogoniulus chrysoconus	-	-	Protected		
Tit, Ashy	Parus cinerascens	-	-	Protected		
Tit, Southern Black	Parus niger	-	-	Protected		
Tit-babbler, Chestnut-vented	Parisoma subcaeruleum	-	-	Protected		
Tit-flycatcher, Grey	Myioparus plumbeus	-	-	Protected		
Turtle-dove, Cape	Streptopelia capicola	-	-	Protected	x	x
Vulture, Cape	Gyps coprotheres	Endangered	Vulnerable	Specially Protected		
Vulture, White-backed	Gyps africanus	Critically Endangered	Protected	Protected	x	



Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programm	Field Programme Records	
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)	
Vulture, Lappet-faced	Torgos tracheliotus	Endangered	Vulnerable	Protected			
Wagtail, African Pied	Motacilla aguimp	-	-	Protected			
Wagtail, Cape	Motacilla capensis	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Warbler, Icterine	Hippolais icterina	-	-	Protected			
Warbler, Marsh	Acrocephalus palustris	-	-	Protected			
Warbler, Willow	Phylloscopus trochilus	-	-	Protected			
Waxbill, Black-faced	Estrilda erythronotos	-	-	Protected			
Waxbill, Blue	Uraeginthus angolensis	-	-	Protected	x	x	
Waxbill, Common	Estrilda astrild	-	-	Protected		x	
Waxbill, Orange-breasted	Amandava subflava	-	-	Protected			
Waxbill, Violet-eared	Granatina granatina	-	-	Protected			
Weaver, Red-headed	Anaplectes rubriceps	-	-	Protected			
Weaver, Village	Ploceus cucullatus	-	-	Protected			
Wheatear, Capped	Oenanthe pileata	-	-	Protected			

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status			Field Programm	e Records
		Red List (2016) Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003) [#]	Wet Season Survey (Jan/Feb 2018)	Dry Season Survey (June 2018)
White-eye, Cape	Zosterops virens	-	-	Protected		
Whydah, Pin-tailed	Vidua macroura	-	-	Protected		
Whydah, Shaft-tailed	Vidua regia	-	-	Protected		
Widowbird, White-winged	Euplectes albonotatus	-	-	Protected		
Wood-dove, Emerald-spotted	Turtur chalcospilos	-	-	Protected	x	
Wood-hoopoe, Green	Phoeniculus purpureus	-	-	Protected	x	x
Woodpecker, Bearded	Dendropicos namaquus	-	-	Protected	x	x
Woodpecker, Bennett's	Campethera bennettii	-	-	Protected		
Woodpecker, Cardinal	Dendropicos fuscescens	-	-	Protected		
Woodpecker, Golden-tailed	Campethera abingoni	-	-	Protected	x	
Wren-warbler, Barred	Calamonastes fasciolatus	-	-	Protected		
#All bird species, except those listed as Specia	ally Protected or common/game species, are protected	d according to the Li	mpopo Environmenta	Management Act (2003)		

Source: SABAP2 and 2018 Field Programme



APPENDIX E

Herpetofauna Recorded and Potentially Occurring in the Study Area

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Table 1: Reptiles recorded and potentially of	occurring in the study	y area based on literature
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Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
Agamidae	Acanthocercus atricollis atricollis	Southern Tree Agama	-	-	Protected	-
	Agama aculeata	Ground Agama	-	-	Protected	-
	Agama aculeata distanti	Eastern Ground Agama	-	-	Protected	Endemic
Aphisbaenidae	Monopeltis capensis	Cape Worm Lizard	-	-	Protected	Near Endemic
	Zygaspis quadrifrons	Kalahari Dwarf Worm Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Zygaspis vandami	Van Dam's Dwarf Worm Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
Chamaeleonidae	Chamaeleo dilepis	Flap-neck Chameleon	-	-	Protected	-
Colubridae	Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Snake	-	-	-	-
	Dasypeltis scabra	Rhombic Egg-eater	-	-	-	-
	Dispholidus typus	Boomslang	-	-	-	-
	Philothamnus natalensis occidentalis	Western Natal Green Snake	-	-	-	Endemic
	Philothamnus semivariegatus	Spotted Bush Snake	-	-	-	-
	Telescopus semiannulatus semiannulatus	Eastern Tiger Snake	-	-	-	-

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name		Conserva	tion Status	
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
	Thelotornis capensis capensis	Southern Twig Snake	-	-	-	-
Cordylidae	Cordylus jonesii	Jone's Girdled Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Platysaurus guttatus	Dwarf Flat Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Platysaurus lebomboensis	Lebombo Flat Lizard	-	-	Protected	Near Endemic
	Platysaurus minor	Waterberg Flat Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Smaug breyi	Waterberg Dragon Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic
	Smaug vandami	Van Dam's Dragon Lizard	-	-	Protected	Endemic
Crocodylidae	Crocodylus niloticus	Nile Crocodile	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Specially Protected	-
Elapidae	Aspidelaps scutatus scutatus	Common Shield Cobra	-	-	-	-
	Dendroaspis polylepis	Black Mamba	-	-	-	-
	Elapsoidea sundevallii	Sundevall's Garter Snake	-	-	-	-
	Naja annulifera	Snouted Cobra	-	-	-	-
	Naja mossambica	Mozambique Spitting Cobra	-	-	-	-
Gekkonidae	Chondrodactylus turneri	Turner's Gecko	-	-	Protected	-



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name		Conserva	tion Status	
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
	Hemidactylus mabouia	Common Tropical House Gecko	-	-	Protected	-
	Homopholis wahbergii	Wahlberg's Velvet Gecko	-	-	Protected	-
	Lygodactylus bradfieldi	Bradfield's Dwarf Gecko	-	-	Protected	-
	Lygodactylus capensis capensis	Common Dwarf Gecko	-	-	Protected	-
	Pachydactylus affinis	Transvaal Gecko	-	Protected	Protected	Endemic
	Pachydactylus capensis	Cape Gecko	-	Protected	Protected	-
	Pachydactylus punctatus	Speckled Gecko	-	Protected	Protected	-
	Ptenopus garrulus garrulus	Spotted Barking Gecko	-	-	Protected	-
Gerrhosauridae	Gerrhosaurus auritus	Kalahari Plated Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Gerrhosaurus flavigulari	Yellow-throated Plated Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Matobosaurus validus	Common Giant Plated Lizard	-	-	Protected	
Lacertidae	Heliobolus lugubris	Bushveld Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Ichnotropis capensis	Ornate Rough-scaled Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Meroles squamulosus	Savanna Lizard	-	-	Protected	-



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name		Conserva	tion Status	
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
	Nucras holubi	Holub's Sandveld	-	-	Protected	-
	Nucras intertexta	Spotted Sandveld Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Nucras ornata	Ornate Sandveld Lizard	-	-	Protected	-
	Pedioplanis lineoocellata lineoocellata	Spotted Sand Snake	-	-	-	-
Lamprophiidae	Amblyodipas polylepis polylepis	Common Purple-glossed Snake	-	-	-	-
	Aparallactus capensis	Cape centipede-eater	-	-	-	-
	Atractaspis bibronii	Bibron's Stiletto Snake	-	-	-	-
	Boaedon capensis	Common House Snake	-	-	-	-
	Lycodonomorphus inornatus	Live Ground Snake	-	-	-	Endemic
	Lycophidion capense	Cape Wolf Snake	-	-	-	-
	Prosymna bivittata	Two-stripped Shovel-Snout	-	-	-	-
	Psammophis brevirostris	Short-snouted Grass Snake	-	-	-	-
	Psammophis subtaeniatus	Western Yellow-bellied Sand Snake	-		-	
	Pseudaspis cana	Mole Snake	-	-	-	-

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
	Xenocalamus bicolor australis	Waterberg Quill-snouted Snake	-	-	-	-
Leptotyphlopidae	Leptotyphlops incognitus	Incognito Thread Snake	-	-	-	-
	Leptotyphlops scutifrons	Peter's Thread Snake	-	-	-	-
Pelomedusidae	Pelomedusa subrufa	Marsh Terrapin	-	-	Protected	-
	Pelusois sinuatus	Serrated Hinged Terrapin	-	-	Protected	-
Pythonidae	Python natalensis	South African Python	-	Protected	Protected	-
Scincidae	Acontias occidentalis	Savanna Legless Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Acontias plumbeus	Giant Legless Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Afroablepharus maculicollis	Spotted-neck Snake-eyed Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Afroablepharus wahlbergii	Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Mochlus sundevallii sundevallii	Sundevall's Writhing Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Trachylepis capensis capensis	Cape Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Trachylepis margaritifer	Rainbow Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Trachylepis punctulata	Speckled Sand Skink	-	-	Protected	-



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status			
			Red List (2014) – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003)	Endemic Status
	Trachylepis striata	Striped Skink	-	-	Protected	-
	Trachylepis varia	Variable Skink	-	-	Protected	-
Testudinidae	Kinixys lobatsiana	Lobatse Hinged-back Tortoise	-	-	Protected	Near Endemic
	Kinixys spekii	Speke's Hinged-back Tortoise	-	-	Protected	-
	Psammobates oculifer	Serrated tent Tortoise			Protected	-
	Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	-	-	Protected	-
Typhlopidae	Afrotyphlops bibronii	Bibron's Blind Snake	-	-	-	Near Endemic
Varanidae	Varanus albigularis albigularis	Rock Monitor	-	-	-	-
	Varanus niloticus	Water Monitor	-	-	-	-
Viperidae	Bitis arietans arietans	Puff Adder	-	-	-	-
	Bitis caudalis	Horned Adder	-	Protected	-	-
	Causus defilippii	Snouted Night Adder	-	-	-	-
Source: Distribution = Bates et al. (2014) and ADU - Virtual Museum (2015). Conservation Status = Bates et al. (2014), NEMBA ToPS List (2013) and Limpopo Environmental Management Act (2003).						

Family	Scientific name	Common name	Conservation Status			
			Red List – Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	
Breviceptidae	Breviceps adspersus	Bushveld Rain Frog	-	-	-	
Bufonidae	Amietophrynus garmani	Eastern Olive Toad	-	-	-	
	Amietophrynus gutturalis	Guttural Toad	-	-	-	
	Amietophrynus maculatus	Flat-Backed Toad	-	-	-	
	Amietophrynus rangeri	Raucous Toad	-	-	-	
	Poyntonophrynus fenoulheti	Northern Pygmy Toad	-	-	-	
	Schisaderma carens	Red Toad	-	-	-	
Hemisotidae	Hemisus marmoratus	Mottled Shovel-nosed Frog	-	-	-	
Hyperoliidae	Kassina senegalensis	Bubbling Kassina	-	-	-	
Phrynobatrachidae	Phrynobatrachus natalensis	Snoring Puddle Frog	-	-	-	
	Phrynomantis bifasciatus	Banded Rubber Frog	-	-	-	
Pipidae	Xenopus laevis	Common Platanna	-	-	-	
Ptychadenidae	Ptychadena anchietae	Plain Grass Frog	-	-	-	
	Ptychadena mossambica	Broad-Banded Grass Frog	-	-	-	
Pyxicephalidae	Amieta angolensis	Common River Frog	-	-	-	

Table 2 Amphibians recorded and potentially occurring in the study area based on literature

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Family	Scientific name	Common name	Conservation Status			
			Red List <i>–</i> Regional Status	NEMBA TOPS List (2013)	Limpopo Protected Species (2003)	
	Cacosternum boettgeri	Common Caco	-	-	-	
	Pyxicephalus adspersus	Giant Bullfrog	-	-	Protected	
	Pyxicephalus edulis	African Bullfrog	-	-	-	
	Strongylopus fasciatus	Striped Stream Frog	-	-	-	
	Tomopterna cryptotis	Tremolo Sand Frog	-	-	-	
	Tomopterna krugerensis	Knocking Sand Frog	-	-	-	
	Tomopterna marmorata	Russet-backed Sand Frog	-	-	-	
	Tomopterna natalensis	Natal Sand Frog	-	-	-	
	Tomopterna tandyi	Tandy's Sand Frog	-	-	-	
Rhacophoridae	Chiromantis xerampelina	Foam Nest Frog	-	-	-	
Source: Du Preez & Carruthers (2009) and ADU's AmphibianMAP						



APPENDIX F

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SPECIALIST DECLARATION

As required under Appendix 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I, **Andrew Zinn**, declare that:

- I act as an 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 Acts, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with all applicable Acts and Regulations in compiling this report;
- I have not, 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 declaration are true and correct.

Signature of the specialist:

Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd

Name of company (if applicable):

3 August 2019

Date:



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