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Dear Dr Redelstorff,

**Re: Renewal of Permit 2141 (CaseID 8303)**

Since 2016 exploratory excavations with the aim to identifying areas where we could potentially find more marine fauna have been undertaken in the West Coast Fossil Park (WCFP). The progress at the sites being excavated has been slow as outlined in the final report submitted 28 November 2018.

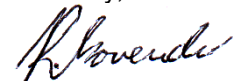
At Site1 we are still in the disturbed surface of the bulldozer trench, although the sediment is loose and easy to work through we still require to pass through this to reach a bonebed. Site1 does hold promise as it has produced a shark tooth from sieved sediment as well as terrestrial fauna. The sedimentary analysis shows this area to be a beach environments and was located on a foreshore of a wave sheltered beach and represented a tidal sand bar.

Site 4, the sediment is very hard to work and it takes a long time to get through. We started with two tests pits in July 2017. These produced a few fragmentary seal fossils and terrestrial fauna as well. Based on that I decided that we should open up more squares in the grid. The progress however has been rather slow with the tests pits being further along they continue to produce seal fossil fragments. Site 4 is from a river mouth or channel at the seaward portion of an estuary and that most of the fossils were found to have been exposed for less than 2 years prior to burial. The remaining two sites currently are too difficult to excavate without further though put into a new approach.

Based on current fossils collected and the potential for marine fauna remains to be collected, I would like to extend my permit for a further three years. This will allow us time to reach potentially fossiliferous deposits in site 1 and site 4. In order to move the excavations forwards significantly I plan on running field schools at the WCFP, if possible for the duration of the permit. This will provide the much needed man power to excavate these sites simultaneously as well as provide an educational platform for learners, university students and potentially the general public to learn about palaeontology, excavating and to learn new skills.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider renewing my permit to excavate at WCFP.

Sincerely,



Romala Govender