

THE BIODIVERSITY AND WETLAND SCOPING ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GRASPAN SOLAR PV DEVELOPMENT

Witput, Northern Cape Province

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CLIENT



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1 Introduction

The Biodiversity Company was appointed to undertake a terrestrial ecology and a wetland delineation and functional scoping assessment for the establishment of a solar photovoltaic (PV) project, namely Graspan Solar PV. The project is found 23 km north east from Witput in the Northern Cape (Figure 2-1).

ENGIE Graspan Solar Project (Pty) Ltd obtained an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Graspan PV Facility and associated infrastructure, located on remaining extent of Farm Graspan (No. 172), situated in the Siyancuma Local Municipality in the Northern Cape province in April 2013 (DFFE Reference No.: 14/12/16/3/3/276). The project has been selected as a Preferred Bidder project under Round 5 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).

The proposed facility will have a contracted capacity of 90MW and will include the following infrastructure:

- PV solar panels/modules (arranged in arrays);
- PV module mountings;
- DC-AC current inverters and transformers;
- An on-site 132kV Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation to facilitate the grid connection.
- Underground cabling/ overhead power lines;
- On-site buildings (including an operational control centre, office, ablutions and a guard house);
- Access roads and internal road network; and
- Ancillary infrastructure.

A developmental footprint of 150 ha in extent is authorised for the facility and associated infrastructure. In order to implement the project, an additional 50 ha is required. This additional area is immediately adjacent to the authorised area.

This assessment was conducted in accordance with the amendments to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. 2014 (GNR 326, 7 April 2017) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). The approach has taken cognisance of the recently published Government Notices (GN) 320 (20 March 2020): "Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation" (Reporting Criteria). The National Web based Environmental Screening Tool has characterised the terrestrial sensitivity of the solar plant as "Very High" and the aquatic sensitivity as "Low" sensitivity.

The purpose of the specialist studies is to provide relevant input into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and provide a report for the proposed activities associated with the project. This report, after taking into consideration the findings and recommendations provided by the specialist herein, should inform and guide the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and regulatory authorities, enabling informed decision making, as to the ecological viability of the proposed project.

2 Key Legislative Requirements

The legislation, policies and guidelines listed below in Table 2-1 are applicable to the current project. The list below, although extensive, may not be complete and other legislation, policies and guidelines may apply in addition to those listed below.

Table 2-1 A list of key legislative requirements relevant to biodiversity and conservation in the Northern Cape Province

Region	Legislation / Guideline		
Internetional	Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1993)		
International	The Convention on Wetlands (RAMSAR Convention, 1971)		





	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC,1994)
	The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES 1973)
	The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention, 1979)
	Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996)
	The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998)
	The National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (Act No. 57 of 2003)
	The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004), Threatened or Protected Species Regulations
	Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, GNR 320 of Government Gazette 43310 (March 2020)
	Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, GNR 1150 of Government Gazette 43855 (October 2020)
	The National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008);
	The Environment Conservation Act (Act No. 73 of 1989)
	National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES)
M.C. I	Natural Scientific Professions Act (Act No. 27 of 2003)
National	National Biodiversity Framework (NBF, 2009)
	National Forest Act (Act No. 84 of 1998)
	National Veld and Forest Fire Act (101 of 1998)
	National Water Act (NWA) (Act No. 36 of 1998)
	National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (NSBA)
	World Heritage Convention Act (Act No. 49 of 1999)
	Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000)
	Alien and Invasive Species Regulations and, Alien and Invasive Species List 20142020, published under NEMBA
	South Africa's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983) (CARA)
	Sustainable Utilisation of Agricultural Resources (Draft Legislation).
	White Paper on Biodiversity
	Northern Cape Nature Conservation act no. 9 of 2009
Provincial	Northern Cape Planning and Development Act no. 7 of 1998
	Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area 2017

2.1 Background

The following specialist reports were reviewed and considered to supplement the project findings:

- Fauna and flora specialist report for the impact assessment for the proposed Graspan Solar Facility (Simon Todd, 2012); and
- Soil and agricultural assessment for the proposed Graspan PV Solar Power Facility (SiVest, 2012).





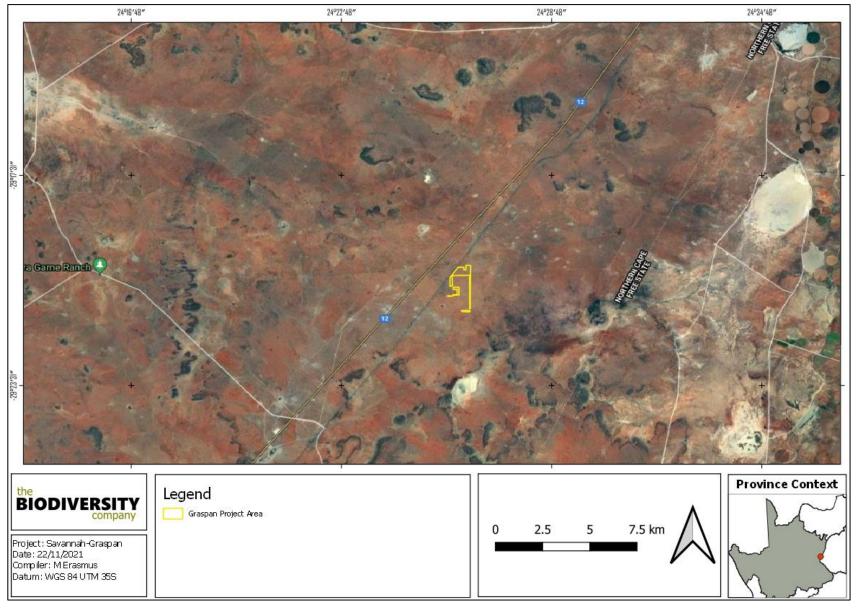


Figure 2-1 Proposed location of the project area





2.2 National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, 1998)

The National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998 – NEMA) and the associated Regulations as amended in April 2017, states that prior to any development taking place within a wetland or riparian area, an environmental authorisation application process needs to be followed. This could follow either the Basic Assessment (BA) process or the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process depending on the scale of the impact.

New regulations were gazetted (43110) on the 20 March 2020 which have replaced the requirements of Appendix 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. These regulations provide the criteria and minimum requirements for specialist's assessments in order to consider the impacts on aquatic biodiversity for activities which require Environmental Authorisation (EA).

2.3 National Water Act (NWA, 1998)

The Department of Human Settlements Water and Sanitation (DHSWS) is the custodian of South Africa's water resources and therefore assumes public trusteeship of water resources, which includes watercourses, surface water, estuaries, or aquifers. The National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998 – NWA) allows for the protection of water resources, which includes:

- The maintenance of the quality of the water resource to the extent that the water resources may be used in an ecologically sustainable way;
- The prevention of the degradation of the water resource; and
- The rehabilitation of the water resource.

A watercourse means;

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

The NWA recognises that the entire ecosystem and not just the water itself, and any given water resource constitutes the resource and as such needs to be conserved. No activity may therefore take place within a watercourse unless it is authorised by the DHSWS. Any area within a wetland or riparian zone is therefore excluded from development unless authorisation is obtained from the DHSWS in terms of Section 21 (c) and (i).

3 Project Area

The project is found 23 km north east from Witput and 38 km south of Modderrivier in the Northern Cape Presently, the project area is adjacent to the N12 road and surrounded by some open natural areas and in close proximity to the Driekopspan (Figure 3-1).





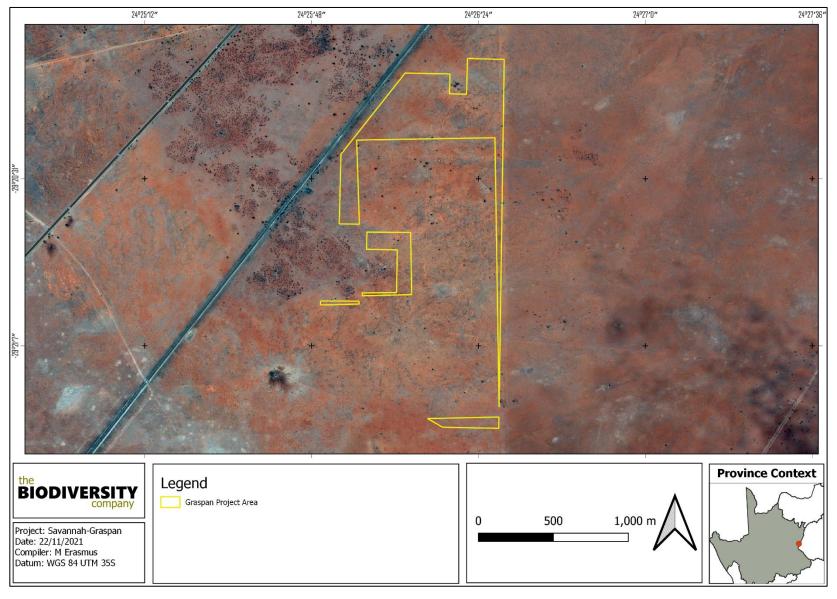


Figure 3-1 Map illustrating the location of the proposed project area





4 Desktop Assessment

The desktop assessment was principally undertaken using a Geographic Information System (GIS) to access the latest available spatial datasets to develop digital cartographs and species lists. These datasets and their date of publishing are provided below.

4.1 Ecologically Important Landscape Features

Existing ecologically relevant data layers were incorporated into a GIS to establish how the proposed project might interact with any ecologically important entities. Emphasis was placed around the following spatial datasets:

- National Biodiversity Assessment 2018 (Skowno et al, 2019) (NBA)- The purpose of the NBA is to assess the state of South Africa's biodiversity based on best available science, with a view to understanding trends over time and informing policy and decision-making across a range of sectors. The NBA deals with all three components of biodiversity: genes, species and ecosystems; and assesses biodiversity and ecosystems across terrestrial, freshwater, estuarine and marine environments. The two headline indicators assessed in the NBA are:
 - Ecosystem Threat Status indicator of an ecosystem's wellbeing, based on the level of change in structure, function or composition. Ecosystem types are categorised as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT) or Least Concern (LC), based on the proportion of the original extent of each ecosystem type that remains in good ecological condition.
 - Ecosystem Protection Level indicator of the extent to which ecosystems are adequately protected or under-protected. Ecosystem types are categorised as Well Protected (WP), Moderately Protected (MP), Poorly Protected (PP), or Not Protected (NP), based on the proportion of the biodiversity target for each ecosystem type that is included within one or more protected areas. NP, PP or MP ecosystem types are collectively referred to as under-protected ecosystems.

Protected areas:

- South Africa Protected Areas Database (SAPAD) (DEA, 2021) The (SAPAD) Database contains spatial data for the conservation of South Africa. It includes spatial and attribute information for both formally protected areas and areas that have less formal protection. SAPAD is updated on a continuous basis and forms the basis for the Register of Protected Areas, which is a legislative requirement under the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, Act 57 of 2003.
- National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES) (SANBI, 2010) The NPAES
 provides spatial information on areas that are suitable for terrestrial ecosystem
 protection. These focus areas are large, intact and unfragmented and therefore, of high
 importance for biodiversity, climate resilience and freshwater protection.
- Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Areas

The Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation has developed the Northern Cape CBA Map which identifies biodiversity priority areas for the province, called Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs). These biodiversity priority areas, together with protected areas, are important for the persistence of a viable representative sample of all ecosystem types and species as well as the long-term ecological functioning of the landscape as a whole.

The identification of Critical Biodiversity Areas for the Northern Cape was undertaken using a Systematic Conservation Planning approach. Available data on biodiversity features (incorporating both pattern and process, and covering terrestrial and inland aquatic realms), their condition, current Protected Areas and Conservation Areas, and opportunities and constraints for effective conservation were collated.





The Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) Map updates, revises and replaces all older systematic biodiversity plans and associated products for the province. These include the:

- Namakwa District Biodiversity Sector Plan;
- Cape Fine-Scale Plan (only the extent of the areas in the Northern Cape i.e. Bokkeveld and Nieuwoudtville); and
- Richtersveld Municipality Biodiversity Assessment.
- Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) (BirdLife South Africa, 2015) IBAs constitute a
 global network of over 13 500 sites, of which 112 sites are found in South Africa. IBAs are sites
 of global significance for bird conservation, identified through multi-stakeholder processes using
 globally standardised, quantitative and scientifically agreed criteria; and
- South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE) (Van Deventer et al., 2018) A
 SAIIAE was established during the NBA of 2018. It is a collection of data layers that represent
 the extent of river and inland wetland ecosystem types and pressures on these systems.

4.2 Desktop Flora Assessment

The Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006) and SANBI (2019) was used to identify the vegetation type that would have occurred under natural or pre-anthropogenically altered conditions. Furthermore, the Plants of Southern Africa (POSA) database was accessed to compile a list of expected flora species within the project area (Figure 4-1). The Red List of South African Plants (Raimondo *et al.*, 2009; SANBI, 2020) was utilized to provide the most current national conservation status of flora species.

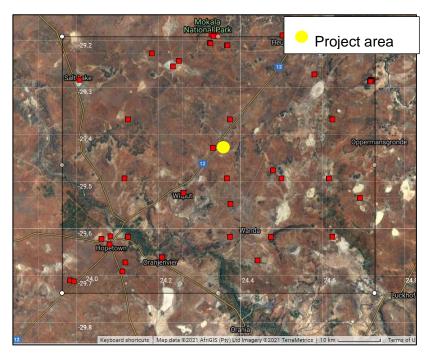


Figure 4-1 Map illustrating extent of area used to obtain the expected flora species list from the Plants of South Africa (POSA) database. Yellow dot indicates approximate location of the project area. The red squares are cluster markers of botanical records as per POSA data.

4.3 Desktop Faunal Assessment

The faunal desktop assessment comprised of the following, compiling an expected:





- Amphibian list, generated from the IUCN spatial dataset (2017) and AmphibianMap database
 (Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, 2021a), using the 2924 quarter degree square;
- Reptile list, generated from the IUCN spatial dataset (2017) and ReptileMap database (Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, 2021b), using the 2924 quarter degree square;
- Avifauna list, generated for the SABAP2 dataset by looking at pentads 2925_2420; 2920_2420;
 2920_2425; and
- Mammal list from the IUCN spatial dataset (2017).

4.4 Desktop Wetland Assessment

The following spatial datasets were utilised:

- Aerial imagery (Google Earth Pro);
- Land Type Data (Land Type Survey Staff, 1972 2006);
- South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (Van Deventer et al., 2019);
- The National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (Nel et al., 2011);
- Contour data (5m);
- NASA Shuttle Radar Topography Mission Global 1 arc second digital elevation data; and
- South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE) (Van Deventer et al., 2018).

4.5 Assumptions and Limitations

The following assumptions and limitations are applicable for this assessment:

The assessment area was based on a desktop component only.

5 Results & Discussion

5.1 Desktop Assessment

5.1.1 Ecologically Important Landscape Features

The GIS analysis pertaining to the relevance of the proposed project to ecologically important landscape features are summarised in Table 5-1.

Table 5-1 Summary of relevance of the proposed project to ecologically important landscape features.

Desktop Information Considered	Relevant/Irrelevant		
Ecosystem Threat Status	Relevant – Overlaps with a Least Concern ecosystem		
Ecosystem Protection Level	Relevant – Overlaps with a Not Protected ecosystem		
Protected Areas	Irrelevant – 17 km from the closest Protected Area		
Renewable Energy Development Zones	Irrelevant - The project area falls 37 km from the closest REDZ		
National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy	Irrelevant – The project area can be found 26 km from the closest NPAES		
Critical Biodiversity Area	Relevant – The project area overlaps with an ONA and an ESA area.		
Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme	Irrelevant -219 km to a mammal SKEP area		
Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas	Irrelevant – Located 51 km from the Platberg Karoo Conservancy IBA		





South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems	Irrelevant - The project area does not overlap with NBA wetlands or rivers
National Freshwater Priority Area	Irrelevant – The project area does not overlap with FEPA wetlands and FEPA river.
Strategic Water Source Areas	Irrelevant- The project area is 293 km from the closest SWSA

5.1.1.1 Ecosystem Threat Status

The Ecosystem Threat Status is an indicator of an ecosystem's wellbeing, based on the level of change in structure, function or composition. Ecosystem types are categorised as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT) or Least Concern (LC), based on the proportion of the original extent of each ecosystem type that remains in good ecological condition. According to the spatial dataset the proposed project overlaps with a LC ecosystem (Figure 5-1).

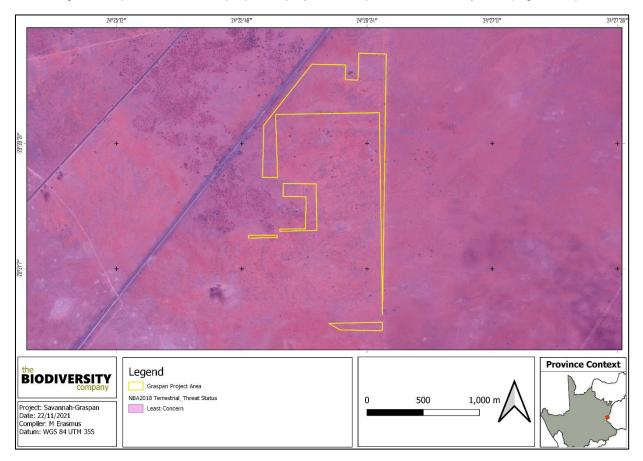


Figure 5-1 Map illustrating the ecosystem threat status associated with the project area

5.1.1.2 Ecosystem Protection Level

This is an indicator of the extent to which ecosystems are adequately protected or under-protected. Ecosystem types are categorised as Well Protected (WP), Moderately Protected (MP), Poorly Protected (PP), or Not Protected (NP), based on the proportion of the biodiversity target for each ecosystem type that is included within one or more protected areas. NP, PP or MP ecosystem types are collectively referred to as under-protected ecosystems. The proposed project overlaps with a NP ecosystem (Figure 5-2).





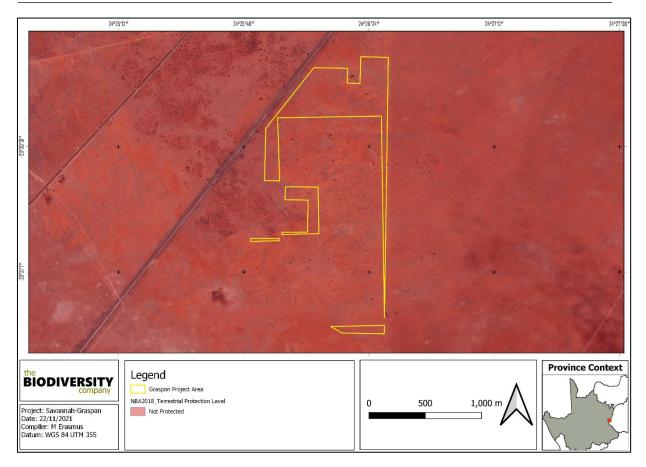


Figure 5-2 Map illustrating the ecosystem protection level associated with the project area

5.1.1.3 Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

In 2018 the Government Notice No. 114 in Government Gazette No. 41445 was published where 8 renewable energy development zones important for the development of large scale wind and solar photovoltaic facilities were identified. In 2021 an additional 3 sites were included. The REDZs were identified through the undertaking of 2 Strategic Environmental Assessments.

More detailed information can be obtained from https://egis.environment.gov.za/redz. Information here includes the Government Notice No. 142, 144 and 145 in Government Gazette No. 44191 that specifies the procedures to be followed when applying for environmental authorisation for electricity transmission or distribution infrastructure or large-scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy facilities in these REDZs. The project area falls 37 km from the closest REDZ.

5.1.1.4 Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas

The Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation has developed the Northern Cape CBA Map which identifies biodiversity priority areas for the province, called Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs). These biodiversity priority areas, together with protected areas, are important for the persistence of a viable representative sample of all ecosystem types and species as well as the long-term ecological functioning of the landscape as a whole.

The identification of Critical Biodiversity Areas for the Northern Cape was undertaken using a Systematic Conservation Planning approach. Available data on biodiversity features (incorporating both pattern and process, and covering terrestrial and inland aquatic realms), their condition, current Protected Areas and Conservation Areas, and opportunities and constraints for effective conservation were collated.

The Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) Map updates, revises and replaces all older systematic biodiversity plans and associated products for the province. These include the:





- Namakwa District Biodiversity Sector Plan;
- Cape Fine-Scale Plan (only the extent of the areas in the Northern Cape i.e. Bokkeveld and Nieuwoudtville); and
- Richtersveld Municipality Biodiversity Assessment.

Figure 5-3 shows the project area superimposed on the Terrestrial CBA map. The project area overlaps with an ONA and an ESA area.

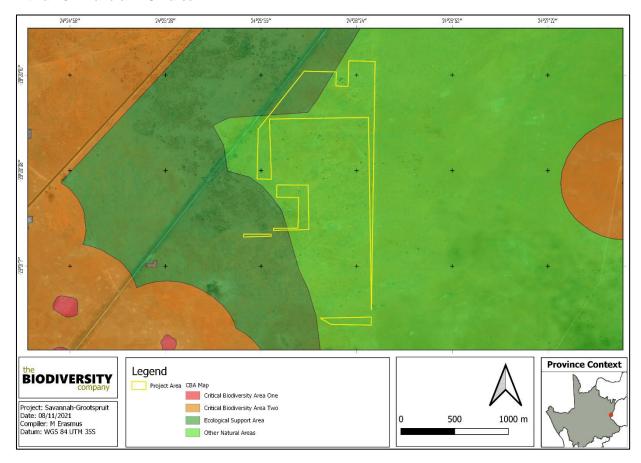


Figure 5-3 Map illustrating the locations of CBAs in relation to the project area

5.1.1.5 National Protected Area Expansion Strategy

National Protected Area Expansion Strategy 2010 (NPAES) were identified through a systematic biodiversity planning process. They present the best opportunities for meeting the ecosystem-specific protected area targets set in the NPAES and were designed with strong emphasis on climate change resilience and requirements for protecting freshwater ecosystems. These areas should not be seen as future boundaries of protected areas, as in many cases only a portion of a particular focus area would be required to meet the protected area targets set in the NPAES. They are also not a replacement for finescale planning which may identify a range of different priority sites based on local requirements, constraints and opportunities (NPAES, 2010). The project area can be found 26 km from the closest NPAES.

5.1.1.6 Hydrological Setting

The South African Inventory of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems (SAIIAE) was released with the NBA 2018. Ecosystem threat status (ETS) of river and wetland ecosystem types are based on the extent to which each river ecosystem type had been altered from its natural condition. Ecosystem types are categorised as CR, EN, VU or LT, with CR, EN and VU ecosystem types collectively referred to as 'threatened' (Van





Deventer et al., 2019; Skowno et al., 2019). The project area does not overlap with NBA rivers or NBA wetlands.

5.1.1.7 National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area Status

In an attempt to better conserve aquatic ecosystems, South Africa has categorised its river systems according to set ecological criteria (i.e., ecosystem representation, water yield, connectivity, unique features, and threatened taxa) to identify Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (FEPAs) (Driver *et al.*, 2011). The FEPAs are intended to be conservation support tools and envisioned to guide the effective implementation of measures to achieve the National Environment Management Biodiversity Act's (NEM:BA) biodiversity goals (Nel *et al.*, 2011). The project area does not overlap with FEPA wetlands or FEPA river.

5.1.1.8 Inland Water Features

A review of river lines and water bodies for quarter degree squared (QDS) 2924 indicated no inland water sources or river lines can be found within the project area and 500m regulatory area (Figure 5-4). Non-perennial pans are located south west of the project area.

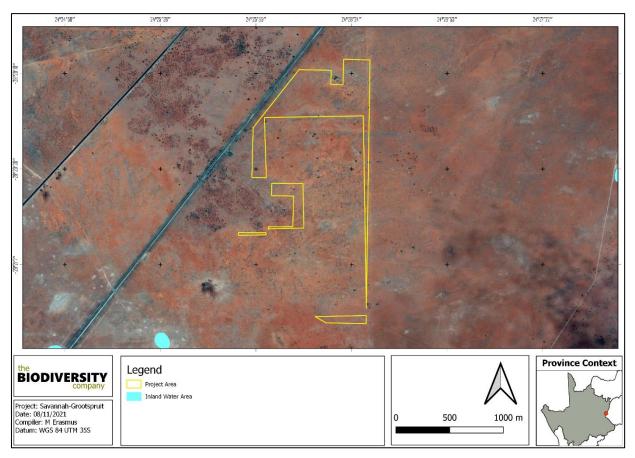


Figure 5-4 The inland water features associated with the project area

5.1.2 Flora Assessment

This section is divided into a description of the vegetation type expected under natural conditions and the expected flora species.

5.1.2.1 Vegetation Type

The project area falls within the Nama Karroo Biome. This biome is found in the central plateau of the western half of South Africa. The geology underlying the biome is varied, as the distribution of this biome is determined primarily by rainfall. The rain falls in summer, and varies between 100 and 520mm per year.





This also determines the predominant soil type - over 80% of the area is covered by a lime-rich, weakly developed soil over rock. Although less than 5% of rain reaches the rivers, the high erodibility of soils poses a major problem where overgrazing occurs (SANBI, 2019).

The dominant vegetation is a grassy, dwarf shrubland. Grasses tend to be more common in depressions and on sandy soils, and less abundant on clayey soils. Grazing rapidly increases the relative abundance of shrubs. Most of the grasses are of the C4 type and, like the shrubs, are deciduous in response to rainfall events (SANBI, 2019).

On a fine-scale vegetation type, the project area overlaps with the Northern Upper Karoo (Figure 5-5).



Figure 5-5 Map illustrating the vegetation type associated with the project area

5.1.2.1.1 Northern Upper Karoo

The Northern Upper Karoo is a shrubland dominated by dwarf karoo shrubs, grasses and *Acacia mellifera* subsp. *detinens* and some other low trees. It is found in the Northern Cape and the Free State Province at an altitude of 1 000- 1 500 m.

Important taxa:

Important plant taxa are those species that have a high abundance, a frequent occurrence or are prominent in the landscape within a particular vegetation type (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006).

The following species are important in the **Northern Upper Karoo** vegetation type (d= dominant species):

Small Trees: Acacia mellifera subsp. detinens, Boscia albitrunca.

Tall Shrubs: Lycium cinereum (d), L. horridum, L. oxycarpum, L. schizocalyx, Rhigozum trichotomum.

Low Shrubs: Chrysocoma ciliata (d), Gnidia polycephala (d), Pentzia calcarea (d), P. globosa (d), P. incana (d), P. spinescens (d), Rosenia humilis (d), Amphiglossa triflora, Aptosimum marlothii, A.





spinescens, Asparagus glaucus, Barleria rigida, Berkheya annectens, Eriocephalus ericoides subsp. ericoides, E. glandulosus, E. spinescens, Euryops asparagoides. Felicia muricata, Helichrysum lucilioides, Hermannia spinosa, Leucas capensis, Limeum aethiopicum, Melolobium candicans, Microloma armatum, Osteospermum leptolobum, O. spinescens, Pegolettia retrofracta, Pentzia lanata, Phyllanthus maderaspatensis, Plinthus karooicus, Pteronia glauca, P. sordida, Selago geniculata, S. saxatilis, Tetragonia arbuscula, Zygophyllum lichtensteinianum.

Succulent Shrubs: Hertia pallens, Salsola calluna, S. glabrescens, S. rabieana, S. tuberculata, Zygophyllum flexuosum.

Semiparasitic Shrub: Thesium hystrix (d), Herbs: Chamaesyce inaequilatera, Convolvulus sagittatus, Dicoma capensis, Gazania krebsiana, Hermannia comosa, Indigofera alternans, Lessertia pauciflora, Radyera urens, Sesamum capense, Sutera pinnatifida, Tribulus terrestris, Vahlia capensis.

Succulent Herb: Psilocaulon coriarium.

Geophytic Herb: Moraea pallida.Graminoids: Aristida adscensionis (d), A. congesta (d), A. diffusa (d), Enneapogon desvauxii (d), Eragrostis lehmanniana (d), E. obtusa (d), E. truncata (d), Sporobolus fimbriatus (d), Stipagrostis obtusa (d), Eragrostis bicolor, E. porosa, Fingerhuthia africana, Heteropogon contortus, Stipagrostis ciliata, Themeda triandra, Tragus berteronianus, T. koelerioides, T. racemosus.

Biogeographically Important Taxa Herb (western distribution limit): *Convolvulus boedeckerianus*. Tall Shrub (southern limit of distribution): *Gymnosporia szyszylowiczii* subsp. *namibiensis*.

Endemic Taxa Succulent Shrubs: *Lithops hookeri*, *Stomatium pluridens*. Low Shrubs: *Atriplex spongiosa*, *Galenia exigua*. Herb: *Manulea deserticola*.

Conservation Status of the Vegetation Type

The national conservation target is 21% and the conservation status of this vegetation community was listed by Mucina and Rutherford (2006) as Least Threatened and is listed by SANBI (2019) as also LC.

5.1.2.2 Expected Flora Species

The POSA database indicates that 315 species of indigenous plants are expected to occur within the project area. Appendix A provides the list of species and their respective conservation status and endemism. One of the species expected is a species of conservation concern (SCC) (Table 5-2).

Table 5-2 Flora SCCs expected in the project area

Family	Taxon	Author	IUCN	Ecology
Aizoaceae	Lithops aucampiae subsp. euniceae	L.Bolus	VU	Indigenous; Endemic

5.1.3 Faunal Assessment

5.1.3.1 Amphibians

Based on the IUCN Red List Spatial Data and AmphibianMap, 16 amphibian species are expected to occur within the area (Appendix B). None of the species are SCCs.

5.1.3.2 Reptiles

Based on the IUCN Red List Spatial Data and the ReptileMAP database, 46 reptile species are expected to occur within the area (Appendix C). One (1) is regarded as threatened (Table 5-3).

Table 5-3 Threatened reptile species that are expected to occur within the project area

Species	Common Name	Likelihood of Occurrence		
	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)	Likeliilood of Occurrence
Psammobates tentorius verroxii	Tent Tortoise	NT	NT	High





Psammobates tentorius veroxii (Tent Tortoise) is categorised as NT both locally and internationally. This species can be found in low densities in the Karoo and semi-desert areas of South Africa and Namibia. It is threatened because of the pet trade and destruction of its habitat. The likelihood of occurrence in the project area is rated as high due to the presence of mesembryanthemums plant, which is suitable food sources for this species.

5.1.3.3 Mammals

The IUCN Red List Spatial Data lists 56 mammal species that could be expected to occur within the area (Appendix D). This list excludes large mammal species that are limited to protected areas. Ten (10) of these expected species are regarded as threatened (Table 5-4), five of these have a low likelihood of occurrence based on the lack of suitable habitat and food sources in the project area.

Table 5-4 Threatened mammal species that are expected to occur within the project area.

	Common Name	Conservation S		
Species		Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)	Likelihood of occurrence
Eidolon helvum	African Straw-colored Fruit Bat	LC	NT	Low
Felis nigripes	Black-footed Cat	VU	VU	High
Hydrictis maculicollis	Spotted-necked Otter	VU	NT	Low
Leptailurus serval	Serval	NT	LC	Moderate
Panthera pardus	Leopard	VU	VU	Moderate
Parahyaena brunnea	Brown Hyaena	NT	NT	Moderate
Parotomys littledalei	Littledale's Whistling Rat	NT	LC	Moderate
Poecilogale albinucha	African Striped Weasel	NT	LC	Low
Redunca fulvorufula	Mountain Reedbuck	EN	LC	Low
Rhinolophus denti	Dent's Horseshoe Bat	NT	LC	Low

Felis nigripes (Black-footed cat) is endemic to the arid regions of southern Africa. This species is naturally rare, has cryptic colouring is small in size and is nocturnal. These factors have contributed to a lack of information on this species. Given that the highest densities of this species have been recorded in the more arid Karoo region of South Africa, the habitat in the project area can be considered to be optimal for the species and the likelihood of occurrence is rated as high.

Leptailurus serval (Serval) occurs widely through sub-Saharan Africa and is commonly recorded from most major national parks and reserves (IUCN, 2017). The Serval's status outside reserves is not certain, but they are inconspicuous and may be common in suitable habitat as they are tolerant of farming practices provided there is cover and food available. In sub-Saharan Africa, they are found in habitat with well-watered savanna long-grass environments and are particularly associated with reedbeds and other riparian vegetation types. Some areas of suitable habitat is present as such a moderate likelihood of occurrence were appointed to this species.

Panthera pardus (Leopard) has a wide distributional range across Africa and Asia, but populations have become reduced and isolated, and they are now extirpated from large portions of their historic range (IUCN, 2017). Impacts that have contributed to the decline in populations of this species include continued persecution by farmers, habitat fragmentation, increased illegal wildlife trade, excessive harvesting for ceremonial use of skins, prey base declines and poorly managed trophy hunting (IUCN, 2017). Although known to occur and persist outside of formally protected areas, the densities in these areas are considered to be low. The likelihood of occurrence in the project area is rated as moderate based on the secluded location and lack of development in the project area.

Parahyaena brunnea (Brown Hyaena) is endemic to southern Africa. This species occurs in dry areas, generally with annual rainfall less than 100 mm, particularly along the coast, semi-desert, open scrub and





open woodland savanna. Given its known ability to persist outside of formally protected areas the likelihood of occurrence of this species in the project area is moderate to good. The presence of moderate to large herbivores on adjacent farms increases the likelihood of occurrence of this species.

Parotomys littledalei (Littledale's Whistling Rat) is listed as NT on a regional scale. This diurnal species occurs in shrubland and is dependent on ground cover. Littledale's Whistling Rat is herbivorous only, feeding on fresh plant material, including annuals, succulent perennials, non-succulent perennials, and grasses. The presence of ground cover increases their likelihood of occurrence in the project area. Suitable but not ideal habitat is found in the project area, therefore the likelihood of occurrence were rated as moderate.

5.1.3.4 Avifauna

The SABAP2 Data lists 77 avifauna species that could be expected to occur within the area (Appendix E). Three of the species were SCCs (Table 5-5).

Table 5-5 Avifauna SCCs expected in the project area

		Conservation St	atus	
Species	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)	Likelihood of Occurrence
Ciconia nigra	Stork, Black	VU	LC	Moderate
Grus paradisea	Crane, Blue	NT	VU	Moderate
Gyps africanus	Vulture, White-backed	CR	CR	High

Ciconia nigra (Black Stork) is native to South Africa, and inhabits old, undisturbed, open forests. They are known to forage in shallow streams, pools, marshes swampy patches, damp meadows, flood-plains, pools in dry riverbeds and occasionally grasslands, especially where there are stands of reeds or long grass (IUCN, 2017). It is unlikely that this species would breed in the project area due to the lack of forested areas, however some suitable foraging habitat remains in the form of the nearby pan therefore this species has a moderate likelihood of occurrence.

Grus paradiseus (Blue Crane) is listed as NT on a regional scale and as VU on a global scale. This species has declined, largely owing to direct poisoning, power-line collisions and loss of its grassland breeding habitat owing to afforestation, mining, agriculture and development (IUCN, 2017). This species breeds in natural grass- and sedge-dominated habitats, preferring secluded grasslands at high elevations where the vegetation is thick and short. Foraging habitat can be found in and around the project area. This species has a moderate likelihood of occurrence.

Gyps africanus (White-backed Vulture) has a large range and only occurs throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Primarily a lowland species of open wooded savanna, particularly areas of *Acacia (Vachellia)*. It requires tall trees for nesting. According to the IUCN (2017) this species faces similar threats to other African vultures, being susceptible to habitat conversion to agro-pastoral systems, loss of wild ungulates leading to a reduced availability of carrion, hunting for trade, persecution and poisoning. The likelihood of occurrence is rated as high as this species has been a breeding program in the nearby Mokala National Park.





5.2 Site Ecological Importance

The biodiversity theme sensitivity, as indicated in the screening report, was derived to be High, mainly due to the project area being with an ESA (Figure 5-6).

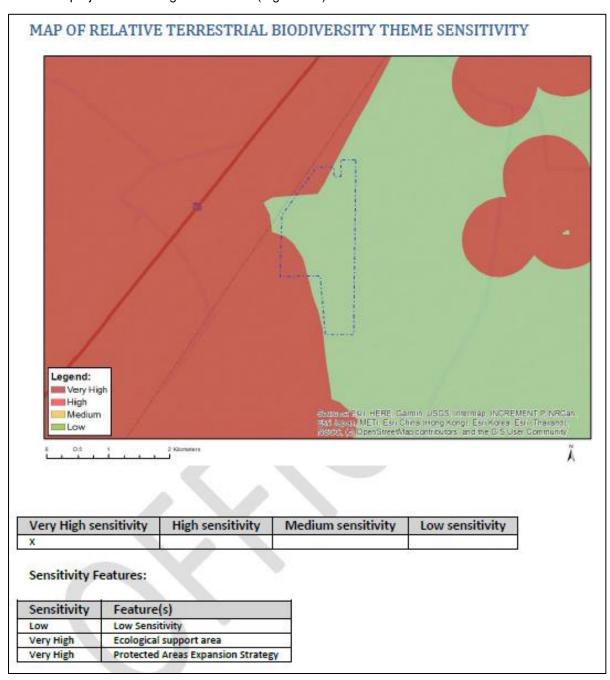


Figure 5-6 Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme Sensitivity, National Web based Environmental Screening Tool





6 Impact Risk Assessment

The section below and associated tables serve to indicate and summarise the significance of perceived impacts on the terrestrial ecology of the project area.

6.1 Biodiversity Risk Assessment

6.1.1 Terrestrial Impact Assessment

Potential impacts were evaluated against the data captured during the desktop assessment to identify relevance to the project area. The relevant impacts associated with the proposed development were then subjected to a prescribed impact assessment methodology which were provided by Savannah Environmental and is available on request. No decommissioning phase was considered based on the nature of the development.

Anthropogenic activities drive habitat destruction causing displacement of fauna and flora and possibly direct mortality. Land clearing destroys local wildlife habitat and can lead to the loss of local breeding grounds, nesting sites and wildlife movement corridors such as rivers, streams and drainage lines, or other locally important features. The removal of natural vegetation may reduce the habitat available for fauna species and may reduce animal populations and species compositions within the area.

6.1.2 Alternatives considered.

No alternatives were provided for the development.

6.1.3 Loss of Irreplaceable Resources

- An ESA and ONA will be lost; and
- SCCs will also be lost.

6.1.4 Anticipated Impacts

The impacts anticipated for the proposed activities are considered in order to predict and quantify these impacts and assess & evaluate the magnitude on the identified terrestrial biodiversity (Table 6-1).

Table 6-1 Anticipated impacts for the proposed activities on terrestrial biodiversity

Main Impact	Project activities that can cause loss/impacts to habitat (especially with regard to the proposed infrastructure areas):	Secondary impacts anticipated		
	Physical removal of vegetation, including protected species.	Displacement/loss of flora & fauna (including possible SCC)		
	Access roads and servitudes	Increased potential for soil erosion		
Destruction, fragmentation and degradation of habitats and	Soil dust precipitation	Habitat fragmentation		
ecosystems	Dumping of waste products	Increased potential for establishment of alien & invasive vegetation		
	Random events such as fire (cooking fires or cigarettes)	Erosion		
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause the spread and/or establishment of alien and/or invasive species	Secondary impacts anticipated		
	Vegetation removal	Habitat loss for native flora & fauna (including SCC)		
2. Spread and/or establishment of alien and/or invasive species	Vehicles potentially spreading seed	Spreading of potentially dangerous diseases due to invasive and pest species		
	Unsanitary conditions surrounding infrastructure promoting the establishment of alien and/or invasive rodents	Alteration of fauna assemblages due to habitat modification		





	Creation of infrastructure suitable for breeding activities of alien and/or invasive birds		
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause direct mortality of fauna	Secondary impacts anticipated	
	Clearing of vegetation	Loss of habitat	
	Cleaning of vegetation	Loss of ecosystem services	
3. Direct mortality of fauna	Roadkill due to vehicle collision		
	Pollution of water resources due to dust effects, chemical spills, etc.	Increase in rodent populations and associated disease risk	
	Intentional killing of fauna for food (hunting)		
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause reduced dispersal/migration of fauna	Secondary impacts anticipated	
	Loss of landscape used as corridor	Reduced dispersal/migration of fauna	
4. Reduced dispersal/migration of	2000 01 18110008 po 1000 100 00111001	Loss of ecosystem services	
fauna	Compacted roads	Reduced plant seed dispersal	
	Removal of vegetation		
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause pollution in watercourses and the surrounding environment	Secondary impacts anticipated	
	Chemical (organic/inorganic) spills	Pollution in watercourses and the surrounding environment	
5. Environmental pollution due to water runoff, spills from vehicles		Faunal mortality (direct and indirectly)	
and erosion	Erosion	Groundwater pollution	
		Loss of ecosystem services	
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause disruption/alteration of ecological life cycles due to sensory disturbance.	Secondary impacts anticipated	
	Operation of machinery (Large earth moving machinery,	Disruption/alteration of ecological life cycles due to noise	
6.Disruption/alteration of ecological life cycles (breeding,	vehicles)	Loss of ecosystem services	
migration, feeding) due to noise, dust and light pollution.	Project activities that can cause disruption/alteration of ecological life cycles due to dust	Secondary impacts associated with disruption/alteration of ecological life cycles due to dust	
	Vehicles	Loss of ecosystem services	
Main Impact	Project activities that can cause staff to interact directly with potentially dangerous fauna	Secondary impacts anticipated	
8. Staff and others interacting directly with fauna (potentially dangerous) or poaching of animals	actly with fauna (potentially All unregulated/supervised activities outdoors Loss of SCCs		

6.1.5 Identification of Additional Potential Impacts

The impacts are expected for the project and will be assessed for the impact phase of the process.

Table 6-2 Scoping evaluation table summarising the impacts identified to biodiversity

Impact					
Issue	Nature of Impact	Extent of Impact	No-Go Areas		
	Direct impacts:				
Loss of vegetation (& habitat) within development footprint	Disturbance / degradation / loss to vegetation Destruction of protected plant species Indirect impacts:	Regional	Very High to High sensitivity areas		
	> Loss of ecosystem services				





»	Introduction of alien species, especially plants	
*	Displacement of faunal community due to habitat loss, direct mortalities and disturbance	

Description of expected significance of impact

The following potential main impacts on the biodiversity were considered for the construction phase of the proposed development. This phase refers to the period during construction when the proposed features are constructed; and is considered to have the largest direct impact on biodiversity. The following potential impacts to terrestrial biodiversity were considered:

- Destruction, further loss and fragmentation of the of habitats, ecosystems and vegetation community;
- >> Introduction of alien species, especially plants;
- >> Destruction of protected plant species; and
- Displacement of faunal community due to habitat loss, direct mortalities and disturbance (road collisions, noise, dust, vibration and poaching).

Gaps in knowledge & recommendations for further study

- This is completed at a desktop level only.
- >> Identification, delineation and characterisation of vegetation communities.
- >> Undertake a sensitivity assessment of systems where applicable.
- >> Determine a suitable buffer width for the resources.

Recommendations with regards to general field surveys

- >> Field surveys to prioritise the development areas, but also consider the Area of Influence.
- » Beneficial to undertake fieldwork during the wet season period.

6.1.5.1 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are assessed in context of the extent of the proposed project area; other developments in the area; and general loss and transformation resulting from other activities in the area. The expected post-mitigation risk significance is expected to be low, and the overall cumulative impact is therefore expected to be medium.

Table 6-3 Cumulative Impacts to biodiversity associated with the proposed project

Impact Nature: Cumulative habitat loss within the region					
The development of the proposed infrastructure will contribute to cumulative habitat loss within ESAs and thereby impact the ecological processes in the region.					
•	Overall impact of the proposed development considered in isolation	Cumulative impact of the project and other projects in the area			
Extent	Low	Moderate			
Duration	Long term	Long term			
Magnitude	Low	Moderate			
Probability	Probable	Highly probable			
Significance	Medium	Medium			
Status (positive or negative)	Negative	Negative			
Reversibility	Moderate	Low			
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	No	No			
Can impacts be mitigated	gated To some degree, but most of the impact results from the presence of the various facilities which cannot be well mitigated.				
Mitigation:	Mitigation:				
• Ensure that a rehabilitation plan and IAP management plan be compiled for each development and are effectively					



implemented.

BIODIVERSITY

6.2 Wetland Risk Assessment

The project area is not located within a 500 m regulated area, based on this a Water Use Authorisation is not likely to be required for the project.

7 Assessment Approach

7.1 Biodiversity Field Assessment

7.1.1 Flora Survey

The fieldwork and sample sites will be placed within targeted areas (i.e., target sites) perceived as ecologically sensitive based on the preliminary interpretation of satellite imagery (Google Corporation) and GIS analysis (which included the latest applicable biodiversity datasets) available prior to the fieldwork. The focus of the fieldwork is therefore to maximise coverage and navigate to each target site in the field, to perform a rapid vegetation and ecological assessment at each sample site. Emphasis will be placed on sensitive habitats, especially those overlapping with the proposed project area.

Homogenous vegetation units will be subjectively identified using satellite imagery and existing land cover maps. The floristic diversity and search for flora SCC will be conducted through timed meanders within representative habitat units delineated during the scoping fieldwork. Emphasis will be placed mostly on sensitive habitats overlapping with the proposed project areas.

The timed random meander method is highly efficient for conducting floristic analysis, specifically in detecting flora SCC and maximising floristic coverage. In addition, the method is time and cost effective and highly suited for compiling flora species lists and therefore gives a rapid indication of flora diversity. The timed meander search will be performed based on the original technique described by Goff *et al.* (1982). Suitable habitat for SCC were identified according to Raimondo *et al.* (2009) and targeted as part of the timed meanders.

At each sample site notes will be made regarding current impacts (e.g., livestock grazing, erosion etc.), subjective recording of dominant vegetation species and any sensitive features (e.g., wetlands, outcrops etc.). In addition, opportunistic observations were made while navigating through the project area.

7.1.2 Fauna Survey

The faunal assessment within this report pertains to herpetofauna (amphibians and reptiles) and mammals. The faunal field survey will comprise of the following techniques:

- Visual and auditory searches This typically comprised of meandering and using binoculars to view species from a distance without them being disturbed; and listening to species calls;
- Active hand-searches are used for species that shelter in or under particular micro-habitats (typically rocks, exfoliating rock outcrops, fallen trees, leaf litter, bark etc.); and
- Utilization of local knowledge.

Relevant field guides and texts consulted for identification purposes include the following:

- Field Guide to Snakes and other Reptiles of Southern Africa (Branch, 1998);
- A Complete Guide to the Snakes of Southern Africa (Marais, 2004);
- Atlas and Red List of the Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Bates et al, 2014);
- A Complete Guide to the Frogs of Southern Africa (du Preez and Carruthers, 2009);
- Smithers' Mammals of Southern Africa (Apps, 2000);
- A Field Guide to the Tracks and Signs of Southern and East African Wildlife (Stuart and Stuart, 2000);





- Book of birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (Taylor et al., 2015); and
- Roberts Birds of Southern Africa (Hockey et al., 2005).

7.2 Terrestrial Site Ecological Importance

The different habitat types within the project area will be delineated and identified based on observations during the field assessment, and available satellite imagery. These habitat types are assigned Ecological Importance (EI) categories based on their ecological integrity, conservation value, the presence of species of conservation concern and their ecosystem processes.

Site Ecological Importance (SEI) is a function of the Biodiversity Importance (BI) of the receptor (e.g., SCC, the vegetation/fauna community or habitat type present on the site) and Receptor Resilience (RR) (its resilience to impacts) as follows.

BI is a function of Conservation Importance (CI) and the Functional Integrity (FI) of the receptor as follows. The criteria for the CI and FI ratings are provided in Table 7-1 and Table 7-2, respectively.

Table 7-1 Summary of Conservation Importance (CI) criteria

Conservation Importance	Fulfilling Criteria
Very High	Confirmed or highly likely occurrence of Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU) or Extremely Rare or CR species that have a global extent of occurrence (EOO) of < 10 km ² . Any area of natural habitat of a CR ecosystem type or large area (> 0.1% of the total ecosystem type extent) of natural habitat of an EN ecosystem type.
High	Globally significant populations of congregatory species (> 10% of global population). Confirmed or highly likely occurrence of CR, EN, VU species that have a global EOO of > 10 km². IUCN threatened species (CR, EN, VU) must be listed under any criterion other than A. If listed as threatened only under Criterion A, include if there are less than 10 locations or < 10 000 mature individuals remaining. Small area (> 0.01% but < 0.1% of the total ecosystem type extent) of natural habitat of EN ecosystem type or large area (> 0.1%) of natural habitat of VU ecosystem type. Presence of Rare species. Globally significant populations of congregatory species (> 1% but < 10% of global population).
Medium	Confirmed or highly likely occurrence of populations of Near Threatened (NT) species, threatened species (CR, EN, VU) listed under Criterion A only and which have more than 10 locations or more than 10 000 mature individuals. Any area of natural habitat of threatened ecosystem type with status of VU. Presence of range-restricted species. > 50% of receptor contains natural habitat with potential to support SCC.
Low	No confirmed or highly likely populations of SCC. No confirmed or highly likely populations of range-restricted species. < 50% of receptor contains natural habitat with limited potential to support SCC.
Very Low	No confirmed and highly unlikely populations of SCC. No confirmed and highly unlikely populations of range-restricted species. No natural habitat remaining.

Table 7-2 Summary of Functional Integrity (FI) criteria

Functional Integrity	Fulfilling Criteria
Very High	Very large (> 100 ha) intact area for any conservation status of ecosystem type or > 5 ha for CR ecosystem types. High habitat connectivity serving as functional ecological corridors, limited road network between intact habitat patches. No or minimal current negative ecological impacts, with no signs of major past disturbance.
High	Large (> 20 ha but < 100 ha) intact area for any conservation status of ecosystem type or > 10 ha for EN ecosystem types. Good habitat connectivity, with potentially functional ecological corridors and a regularly used road network between intact habitat patches. Only minor current negative ecological impacts, with no signs of major past disturbance and good rehabilitation potential.
Medium	Medium (> 5 ha but < 20 ha) semi-intact area for any conservation status of ecosystem type or > 20 ha for VU ecosystem types.







Graspari v	company
	Only narrow corridors of good habitat connectivity or larger areas of poor habitat connectivity and a busy used road network between intact habitat patches. Mostly minor current negative ecological impacts, with some major impacts and a few signs of minor past disturbance. Moderate rehabilitation potential.
Low	Small (> 1 ha but < 5 ha) area. Almost no habitat connectivity but migrations still possible across some modified or degraded natural habitat and a very busy used road network surrounds the area. Low rehabilitation potential. Several minor and major current negative ecological impacts.
Very Low	Very small (< 1 ha) area. No habitat connectivity except for flying species or flora with wind-dispersed seeds. Several major current negative ecological impacts.

BI can be derived from a simple matrix of CI and FI as provided in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3 Matrix used to derive Biodiversity Importance (BI) from Functional Integrity (FI) and Conservation Importance (CI)

Biodiversity Importance (BI)		Conservation Importance (CI)				
		Very high	High	Medium	Low	Very low
<u>‡</u>	Very high	Very high	Very high	High	Medium	Low
Integrity)	High	Very high	High	Medium	Medium	Low
nal Ir (FI)	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Very low
Functional II	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Very low
Ē	Very low	Medium	Low	Very low	Very low	Very low

The fulfilling criteria to evaluate RR are based on the estimated recovery time required to restore an appreciable portion of functionality to the receptor, as summarised in Table 7-4.

Table 7-4 Summary of Resource Resilience (RR) criteria

Resilience	Fulfilling Criteria
Very High	Habitat that can recover rapidly (~ less than 5 years) to restore > 75% of the original species composition and functionality of the receptor functionality, or species that have a very high likelihood of: (i) remaining at a site even when a disturbance or impact is occurring, or (ii) returning to a site once the disturbance or impact has been removed.
High	Habitat that can recover relatively quickly (~ 5–10 years) to restore > 75% of the original species composition and functionality of the receptor functionality, or species that have a high likelihood of: (i) remaining at a site even when a disturbance or impact is occurring, or (ii) returning to a site once the disturbance or impact has been removed.
Medium	Will recover slowly (~ more than 10 years) to restore > 75% of the original species composition and functionality of the receptor functionality, or species that have a moderate likelihood of: (i) remaining at a site even when a disturbance or impact is occurring, or (ii) returning to a site once the disturbance or impact has been removed.
Low	Habitat that is unlikely to be able to recover fully after a relatively long period: > 15 years required to restore ~ less than 50% of the original species composition and functionality of the receptor functionality, or species that have a low likelihood of: (i) remaining at a site even when a disturbance or impact is occurring, or (ii) returning to a site once the disturbance or impact has been removed.
Very Low	Habitat that is unable to recover from major impacts, or species that are unlikely to: (i) remain at a site even when a disturbance or impact is occurring, or (ii) return to a site once the disturbance or impact has been removed.

Subsequent to the determination of the BI and RR, the SEI can be ascertained using the matrix as provided in Table 7-5.

Table 7-5 Matrix used to derive Site Ecological Importance from Receptor Resilience (RR) and Biodiversity Importance (BI)





Site Ecological Importance		Biodiversity Importance (BI)				
		Very high	High	Medium	Low	Very low
9	Very Low	Very high	Very high	High	Medium	Low
Resilience :R)	Low	Very high	Very high	High	Medium	Very low
er Re (RR)	Medium	Very high	High	Medium	Low	Very low
Receptor (R	High	High	Medium	Low	Very low	Very low
Re	Very High	Medium	Low	Very low	Very low	Very low

Interpretation of the SEI in the context of the proposed project is provided in Table 7-6.

Table 7-6 Guidelines for interpreting Site Ecological Importance in the context of the proposed development activities

Site Ecological Importance	Interpretation in relation to proposed development activities
Very High	Avoidance mitigation – no destructive development activities should be considered. Offset mitigation not acceptable/not possible (i.e., last remaining populations of species, last remaining good condition patches of ecosystems/unique species assemblages). Destructive impacts for species/ecosystems where persistence target remains.
High	Avoidance mitigation wherever possible. Minimisation mitigation – changes to project infrastructure design to limit the amount of habitat impacted, limited development activities of low impact acceptable. Offset mitigation may be required for high impact activities.
Medium	Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities.
Low	Minimisation and restoration mitigation – development activities of medium to high impact acceptable followed by appropriate restoration activities.
Very Low	Minimisation mitigation – development activities of medium to high impact acceptable and restoration activities may not be required.

The SEI evaluated for each taxon can be combined into a single multi-taxon evaluation of SEI for the assessment area. Either a combination of the maximum SEI for each receptor should be applied, or the SEI may be evaluated only once per receptor but for all necessary taxa simultaneously. For the latter, justification of the SEI for each receptor is based on the criteria that conforms to the highest CI and FI, and the lowest RR across all taxa.





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9 Appendix Items

9.1 Appendix A – Flora species expected to occur in the project area.

Family	Taxon	Author	IUC N	Ecology
Malvaceae	Abutilon austro-africanum	Hochr.	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Acrotome inflata	Benth.	LC	Indigenous
Cyperaceae	Afroscirpoides dioeca	(Kunth) Garcia-Madr.		Indigenous
Poaceae	Agrostis lachnantha var. lachnantha	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Aizoon canariense	L.	LC	Indigenous
Asphodelace ae	Aloe broomii var. broomii	Schonland	LC	Indigenous
Asphodelace ae	Aloe claviflora	Burch.	LC	Indigenous
Asphodelace ae	Aloe sp.			
Amaranthace ae	Amaranthus schinzianus	Thell.	LC	Indigenous
Apiaceae	Ammi majus var. glaucifolium	L.		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Asteraceae	Amphiglossa triflora	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Anthephora pubescens	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Aptosimum marlothii	(Engl.) Hiern	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Aptosimum spinescens	(Thunb.) Emil Weber	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Aristida adscensionis	L.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Aristida congesta subsp. barbicollis	Roem. & Schult.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Aristida congesta subsp. congesta	Roem. & Schult.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Aristida junciformis subsp. junciformis	Trin. & Rupr.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Aristida vestita	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Asparagacea e	Asparagus cooperi	Baker	LC	Indigenous
Amaranthace ae	Atriplex lindleyi subsp. inflata	Moq.		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Amaranthace ae	Atriplex nummularia subsp. nummularia	Lindl.		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Amaranthace ae	Atriplex semibaccata	R.Br.		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Amaranthace ae	Atriplex vestita var. appendiculata	(Thunb.) Aellen	LC	Indigenous
Iridaceae	Babiana hypogaea	Burch.	LC	Indigenous
Acanthaceae	Barleria irritans	Nees	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Acanthaceae	Barleria lichtensteiniana	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Acanthaceae	Barleria rigida	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Berkheya heterophylla	(Thunb.) O.Hoffm.		Indigenous
Poaceae	Brachiaria marlothii	(Hack.) Stent	LC	Indigenous
Bryaceae	Bryum argenteum	Hedw.		Indigenous
Poaceae	Cenchrus ciliaris	L.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Centropodia glauca	(Nees) Cope	LC	Indigenous





Verbenaceae	Chascanum pinnatifidum var. pinnatifidum	(L.f.) E.Mey.	LC	Indigenous
Pteridaceae	Cheilanthes hirta var. hirta	Sw.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Chloris virgata	Sw.	LC	Indigenous
Apiaceae	Choritaenia capensis	Benth.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Chrysocoma ciliata	L.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Chrysopogon serrulatus	Trin.	LC	Indigenous
Cleomaceae	Cleome angustifolia subsp. diandra	Forssk.	LC	Indigenous
Cleomaceae	Cleome gynandra	L.	LC	Indigenous
Colchicaceae	Colchicum burkei	(Baker) J.C.Manning & Vinn.	LC	Indigenous
Colchicaceae	Colchicum melanthioides subsp. melanthioides	(Willd.) J.C.Manning & Vinn.	LC	Indigenous
Combretacea e	Combretum erythrophyllum	(Burch.) Sond.	LC	Indigenous
Commelinace ae	Commelina africana var. barberae	L.	LC	Indigenous
Commelinace ae	Commelina benghalensis	L.	LC	Indigenous
Convolvulace ae	Convolvulus sagittatus	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Corchorus schimperi	Cufod.	LC	Indigenous
Crassulaceae	Crassula corallina subsp. corallina	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Cullen tomentosum	(Thunb.) J.W.Grimes	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Cymbopogon pospischilii	(K.Schum.) C.E.Hubb.	NE	Indigenous
Apocynaceae	Cynanchum viminale subsp. viminale	(L.) L.		Indigenous
Poaceae	Cynodon dactylon	(L.) Pers.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Cynodon incompletus	Nees	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Cyperaceae	Cyperus atriceps	(Kuk.) C.Archer & Goetgh.	LC	Indigenous
Cyperaceae	Cyperus difformis	L.	LC	Indigenous
Cyperaceae	Cyperus laevigatus	L.	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Datura inoxia	Mill.		Not indigenous; Naturalised
Aizoaceae	Delosperma sp.	L.Bolus		
Asteraceae	Dicoma schinzii	O.Hoffm.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Digitaria sp.			
Ebenaceae	Diospyros lycioides subsp. lycioides	Desf.	LC	Indigenous
Hyacinthacea e	Dipcadi gracillimum	Baker	LC	Indigenous
Hyacinthacea e	Dipcadi marlothii	Engl.	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Drosanthemum hispidum	(L.) Schwantes	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Drosanthemum lique	(N.E.Br.) Schwantes	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Amaranthace ae	Dysphania carinata	(R.Br.) Mosyakin & Clemants		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Boraginaceae	Ehretia alba	Retief & A.E.van Wyk	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Enneapogon cenchroides	(Licht. ex Roem. & Schult.) C.E.Hubb.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Enneapogon desvauxii	P.Beauv.	LC	Indigenous





Poaceae	Enneapogon scaber	Lehm.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Enneapogon scoparius	Stapf	LC	Indigenous
Equisetaceae	Equisetum ramosissimum subsp. ramosissimum	Desf.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis annulata	Rendle ex Scott-Elliot	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis bicolor	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis biflora	Hack. ex Schinz	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis curvula	(Schrad.) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis echinochloidea	Stapf	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis homomalla	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis lehmanniana var. lehmanniana	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis nindensis	Ficalho & Hiern	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis porosa	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis procumbens	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis pseudobtusa	De Winter	NE	Indigenous; Endemic
Poaceae	Eragrostis sp.			
Poaceae	Eragrostis superba	Peyr.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Eragrostis truncata	Hack.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Eriocephalus ericoides subsp. griquensis	(L.f.) Druce	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Eriocephalus glandulosus	M.A.N.Mull.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Eriocephalus merxmuelleri	M.A.N.Mull.	LC	Indigenous
Ebenaceae	Euclea undulata	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Euphorbiacea e	Euphorbia arida	N.E.Br.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Euphorbiacea e	Euphorbia crassipes	Marloth	LC	Indigenous
Euphorbiacea e	Euphorbia davyi	N.E.Br.	LC	Indigenous
Euphorbiacea e	Euphorbia rhombifolia	Boiss.	LC	Indigenous
Euphorbiacea e	Euphorbia spartaria	N.E.Br.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Euryops subcarnosus subsp. vulgaris	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Felicia filifolia subsp. filifolia	(Vent.) Burtt Davy	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Felicia hirsuta	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Felicia muricata subsp. muricata	(Thunb.) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Felicia sp.			
Poaceae	Fingerhuthia africana	Lehm.	LC	Indigenous
Apocynaceae	Fockea sinuata	(E.Mey.) Druce	LC	Indigenous
Iridaceae	Freesia andersoniae	L.Bolus	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Fumariaceae	Fumaria parviflora var. parviflora	Lam.		Not indigenous; Naturalised
Aizoaceae	Galenia glandulifera	Bittrich	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Galenia sarcophylla	Fenzl	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Garuleum schinzii subsp. schinzii	O.Hoffm.	LC	Indigenous



Asteraceae	Gazania krebsiana subsp. serrulata	Less.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Geigeria filifolia	Mattf.	LC	Indigenous
Gisekiaceae	Gisekia pharnaceoides var. pharnaceoides	L.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Gnaphalium confine	Harv.	LC	Indigenous
Funariaceae	Goniomitrium africanum	(Mull.Hal.) Broth.		Indigenous
Pedaliaceae	Harpagophytum procumbens subsp. procumbens	(Burch.) DC. ex Meisn.	NE	Indigenous
Asphodelace ae	Haworthia bolusii var. blackbeardiana	Baker	NE	Indigenous; Endemic
Asphodelace ae	Haworthia herbacea var. herbacea	(Mill.) Stearn	NE	Indigenous; Endemic
Asphodelace ae	Haworthiopsis tessellata var. tessellata	(Haw.) G.D.Rowley		Indigenous
Asteraceae	Helichrysum arenicola	M.D.Hend.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Helichrysum lineare	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Helichrysum lucilioides	Less.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Helichrysum pumilio subsp. pumilio	(O.Hoffm.) Hilliard & B.L.Burtt	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Brassicaceae	Heliophila digitata	L.f.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Boraginaceae	Heliotropium lineare	(A.DC.) Gurke	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia bicolor	Engl. & Dinter	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia burkei	Burtt Davy	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia comosa	Burch. ex DC.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia cuneifolia var. glabrescens	Jacq.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia erodioides	(Burch. ex DC.) Kuntze	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia linearifolia	Harv.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Malvaceae	Hermannia minutiflora	Engl.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia pulchella	L.f.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia sp.			
Malvaceae	Hermannia spinosa	E.Mey. ex Harv.	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hermannia tomentosa	(Turcz.) Schinz ex Engl.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Hertia cluytiifolia	(DC.) Kuntze	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Hertia kraussii	(Sch.Bip.) Fourc.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Hertia pallens	(DC.) Kuntze	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Hibiscus pusillus	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Hirpicium echinus	Less.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Indigastrum niveum	(Willd. ex Spreng.) Schrire & Callm.		Indigenous
Fabaceae	Indigofera alternans var. alternans	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Indigofera damarana	Merxm. & A.Schreib.	LC	Indigenous
Convolvulace ae	Ipomoea oenotheroides	(L.f.) Raf. ex Hallier f.	LC	Indigenous
Cyperaceae	Isolepis setacea	(L.) R.Br.	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia		(I.Verd.) Hilliard		Indigenous; Endemic





Scrophularia ceae	Jamesbrittenia atropurpurea subsp. atropurpurea	(Benth.) Hilliard	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Jamesbrittenia aurantiaca	(Burch.) Hilliard	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Jamesbrittenia sp.			
Acanthaceae	Justicia incana	(Nees) T.Anderson		Indigenous
Acanthaceae	Justicia thymifolia	(Nees) C.B.Clarke	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Crassulaceae	Kalanchoe rotundifolia	(Haw.) Haw.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Kleinia longiflora	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Hyacinthacea e	Lachenalia sp.			
Thymelaeace ae	Lasiosiphon polycephalus	(E.Mey. ex Meisn.) H.Pearson	LC	Indigenous
Hyacinthacea e	Ledebouria undulata	(Jacq.) Jessop ex Willd.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Leobordea platycarpa	(Viv.) BE.van Wyk & Boatwr.	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Leonotis pentadentata	J.C.Manning & Goldblatt	LC	Indigenous
Brassicaceae	Lepidium africanum subsp. divaricatum	(Burm.f.) DC.	LC	Indigenous
Brassicaceae	Lepidium bonariense	L.		Not indigenous; Naturalised
Brassicaceae	Lepidium englerianum	(Muschl.) Al-Shehbaz		Indigenous
Brassicaceae	Lepidium trifurcum	Sond.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Leptochloa fusca	(L.) Kunth	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Lessertia frutescens subsp. frutescens	(L.) Goldblatt & J.C.Manning	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Lessertia pauciflora var. pauciflora	Harv.	LC	Indigenous
Limeaceae	Limeum fenestratum var. fenestratum	(Fenzl) Heimerl	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Lithops aucampiae subsp. euniceae	L.Bolus	VU	Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Lithops hookeri	(A.Berger) Schwantes	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Solanaceae	Lycium arenicola	Miers	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Lycium cinereum	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Lycium horridum	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Lycium pilifolium	C.H.Wright	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Lycium pumilum	Dammer	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Lycium schizocalyx	C.H.Wright	LC	Indigenous
Malvaceae	Malva pusilla	Sm.		Not indigenous; Naturalised
Celastraceae	Maytenus undata	(Thunb.) Blakelock	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Medicago laciniata var. laciniata	(L.) Mill.	NE	Not indigenous; Naturalised
Poaceae	Melinis repens subsp. grandiflora	(Willd.) Zizka	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Melolobium candicans	(E.Mey.) Eckl. & Zeyh.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Melolobium macrocalyx var. macrocalyx	Dummer	LC	Indigenous
Convolvulace ae	Merremia verecunda	Rendle	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum articulatum	Thunb.		Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum coriarium	Burch. ex N.E.Br.		Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum geniculiflorum	L.		Indigenous





Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum guerichianum	Pax	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum splendens subsp. pentagonum	L.		Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Mesembryanthemum stenandrum	(L.Bolus) L.Bolus	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Mestoklema arboriforme	(Burch.) N.E.Br. ex Glen	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Apocynaceae	Microloma armatum var. armatum	(Thunb.) Schltr.	LC	Indigenous
Geraniaceae	Monsonia salmoniflora	(Moffett) F.Albers	LC	Indigenous
Iridaceae	Moraea polystachya	(Thunb.) Ker Gawl.	LC	Indigenous
Amaryllidace ae	Nerine laticoma	(Ker Gawl.) T.Durand & Schinz	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Nidorella resedifolia subsp. resedifolia	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Nolletia chrysocomoides	(Desf.) Cass. ex Less.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Oedera humilis	(Less.) N.G.Bergh		Indigenous
Oleaceae	Olea europaea subsp. cuspidata	L.		Indigenous
Ophioglossac eae	Ophioglossum polyphyllum var. polyphyllum	A.Braun	LC	Indigenous
Apocynaceae	Orbea cooperi	(N.E.Br.) L.C.Leach	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Oropetium capense	Stapf	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Osteospermum leptolobum	(Harv.) Norl.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Osteospermum scariosum var. scariosum	DC.	NE	Indigenous
Santalaceae	Osyris lanceolata	Hochst. & Steud.	LC	Indigenous
Oxalidaceae	Oxalis lawsonii	F.Bolus	LC	Indigenous
Polygonacea e	Oxygonum alatum var. alatum	Burch.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Panicum coloratum	L.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Panicum dregeanum	Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Panicum impeditum	Launert	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Panicum stapfianum	Fourc.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Paspalum distichum	L.	LC	Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Asteraceae	Pegolettia retrofracta	(Thunb.) Kies	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Peliostomum leucorrhizum	E.Mey. ex Benth.	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Peliostomum origanoides	E.Mey. ex Benth.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asteraceae	Pentzia calcarea	Kies	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pentzia calva	S.Moore	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pentzia globosa	Less.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pentzia incana	(Thunb.) Kuntze	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pentzia lanata	Hutch.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pentzia quinquefida	(Thunb.) Less.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Nyctaginacea e	Phaeoptilum spinosum	Radlk.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Phragmites australis	(Cav.) Steud.	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Plinthus karooicus	I.Verd.	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Plinthus sericeus	Pax	LC	Indigenous





Plumbaginac eae	Plumbago zeylanica	L.		Not indigenous; Naturalised
Poaceae	Pogonarthria squarrosa	(Roem. & Schult.) Pilg.	LC	Indigenous
Polygalaceae	Polygala pungens	Burch.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Polygalaceae	Polygala seminuda	Harv.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Polypogon monspeliensis	(L.) Desf.	NE	Not indigenous; Naturalised
Portulacacea e	Portulaca hereroensis	Schinz	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Prosopis glandulosa var. glandulosa	Torr.	NE	Not indigenous; Naturalised
Asteraceae	Pteronia glauca	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pteronia mucronata	DC.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pteronia sordida	N.E.Br.	LC	Indigenous
Asteraceae	Pteronia sp.			
Poaceae	Puccinellia acroxantha	C.A.Sm. & C.E.Hubb.	LC	Indigenous
Bignoniaceae	Rhigozum trichotomum	Burch.	LC	Indigenous
Ricciaceae	Riccia albolimbata	S.W.Arnell		Indigenous
Ricciaceae	Riccia okahandjana	S.W.Arnell		Indigenous
Ricciaceae	Riccia pottsiana	Sim		Indigenous; Endemic
Ricciaceae	Riccia sp.			
Zygophyllace ae	Roepera incrustata	(Sond.) Beier & Thulin		Indigenous
Zygophyllace ae	Roepera lichtensteiniana	(Cham.) Beier & Thulin		Indigenous
Brassicaceae	Rorippa fluviatilis var. caledonica	(E.Mey. ex Sond.) R.A.Dyer	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Rottboellia cochinchinensis	(Lour.) Clayton	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Ruschia calcarea	L.Bolus	DD	Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Ruschia intricata	(N.E.Br.) H.E.K.Hartmann & Stuber	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Aizoaceae	Ruschia sp.			
Salicaceae	Salix mucronata subsp. mucronata	Thunb.	LC	Indigenous
Amaranthace ae	Salsola aphylla	L.f.	LC	Indigenous
Amaranthace ae	Salsola calluna	Drege ex C.H.Wright	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Amaranthace ae	Salsola dealata	Botsch.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Amaranthace ae	Salsola decussata	C.A.Sm. ex Botsch.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Amaranthace ae	Salsola geminiflora	Fenzl ex C.H.Wright	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Amaranthace ae	Salsola glabrescens	Burtt Davy	LC	Indigenous
Amaranthace ae	Salsola kali	L.		Not indigenous; Naturalised Invasive
Amaranthace ae	Salsola rabieana	I.Verd.	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Salvia runcinata	L.f.	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Salvia verbenaca	L.	LC	Not indigenous; Naturalised Invasive
Poaceae	Schmidtia kalahariensis	Stent	LC	Indigenous





Poaceae	Schmidtia pappophoroides	Steud.	LC	Indigenous
Cyperaceae	Schoenoplectus muricinux	(C.B.Clarke) J.Raynal	LC	Indigenous
Anacardiacea	Searsia burchellii	(Sond. ex Engl.) Moffett	LC	Indigenous
e Anacardiacea		, , ,		•
е	Searsia ciliata	(Licht. ex Schult.) A.J.Mill.	LC	Indigenous
Anacardiacea e	Searsia lancea	(L.f.) F.A.Barkley	LC	Indigenous
Anacardiacea e	Searsia pyroides var. pyroides	(Burch.) Moffett	LC	Indigenous
Gentianaceae	Sebaea leiostyla	Gilg	LC	Indigenous
Gentianaceae	Sebaea pentandra var. burchellii	E.Mey.	LC	Indigenous
Scrophularia ceae	Selago acocksii	Hilliard	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Scrophularia ceae	Selago geniculata	L.f.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Scrophularia ceae	Selago mixta	Hilliard	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Scrophularia ceae	Selago sp.			
Asteraceae	Senecio windhoekensis	Merxm.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Senegalia mellifera subsp. detinens	(Vahl) Seigler & Ebinger	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Senna italica subsp. arachoides	Mill.	LC	Indigenous
Loranthaceae	Septulina glauca	(Thunb.) Tiegh.	LC	Indigenous
Solanaceae	Solanum retroflexum	Dunal	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus albicans	(Nees ex Trin.) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus coromandelianus	(Retz.) Kunth	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus fimbriatus	(Trin.) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus ioclados	(Trin.) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus ludwigii	Hochst.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus nervosus	Hochst.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Sporobolus sp.			
Poaceae	Sporobolus tenellus	(Spreng.) Kunth	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Stachys rugosa	Aiton	LC	Indigenous
Lamiaceae	Stachys spathulata	Burch. ex Benth.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Stipagrostis ciliata var. capensis	(Desf.) De Winter	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Stipagrostis namaquensis	(Nees) De Winter	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Stipagrostis obtusa	(Delile) Nees	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Stipagrostis uniplumis var. uniplumis	(Licht.) De Winter	LC	Indigenous
Talinaceae	Talinum portulacifolium	(Forssk.) Asch. ex Schweinf.		Indigenous
Tamaricaceae	Tamarix ramosissima	Ledeb.		Not indigenous; Naturalised; Invasive
Asteraceae	Tarchonanthus camphoratus	L.	LC	Indigenous
Apocynaceae	Tavaresia barklyi	(Dyer) N.E.Br.	LC	Indigenous
Zygophyllace ae	Tetraena microcarpa	(Licht. ex Cham.) Beier & Thulin		Indigenous
Zygophyllace ae	Tetraena simplex	(L.) Beier & Thulin		Indigenous



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Aizoaceae	Tetragonia arbuscula	Fenzl	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Tetragonia fruticosa	L.	LC	Indigenous
Santalaceae	Thesium hystricoides	A.W.Hill	LC	Indigenous
Santalaceae	Thesium hystrix	A.W.Hill	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Titanopsis calcarea	(Marloth) Schwantes	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Asphodelace ae	Trachyandra saltii var. oatesii	(Baker) Oberm.	LC	Indigenous; Endemic
Poaceae	Tragus berteronianus	Schult.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Tragus koelerioides	Asch.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Tragus racemosus	(L.) All.	LC	Indigenous
Zygophyllace ae	Tribulus sp.			
Zygophyllace ae	Tribulus terrestris	L.	LC	Indigenous
Aizoaceae	Trichodiadema pomeridianum	L.Bolus	LC	Indigenous
Pottiaceae	Trichostomum brachydontium	Bruch		Indigenous
Poaceae	Triraphis purpurea	Hack.	LC	Indigenous
Poaceae	Urochloa panicoides	P.Beauv.	LC	Indigenous
Fabaceae	Vachellia haematoxylon	(Willd.) Seigler & Ebinger	LC	Indigenous
Santalaceae	Viscum hoolei	(Wiens) Polhill & Wiens	LC	Indigenous
Santalaceae	Viscum rotundifolium	L.f.	LC	Indigenous
Campanulace ae	Wahlenbergia nodosa	(H.Buek) Lammers	LC	Indigenous; Endemic





9.2 Appendix B – Amphibian species expected to occur in the project area

	,	Conservation Status		
Species	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)	
Kassina senegalensis	Bubbling Kassina	LC	LC	
Poyntonophrynus vertebralis	Southern Pygmy Toad	LC	LC	
Sclerophrys gutturalis	Guttural Toad	LC	LC	
Tomopterna cryptotis	Tremelo Sand Frog	LC	LC	
Tomopterna tandyi	Tandy's Sand Frog	LC	LC	
Sclerophrys capensis	Raucous Toad	LC	LC	
Pyxicephalus adspersus	Giant Bullfrog	LC	LC	
Vandijkophrynus gariepensis	Karoo toad	LC	LC	
Cacosternum boettgeri	Common Caco	LC	LC	
Xenopus laevis	Common Platanna	LC	LC	
Breviceps adspersus	Bushveld Rain Frog	LC	LC	
Sclerophrys poweri	Power's Toad	LC	LC	
Vandijkophrynus gariepensis gariepensis	Karoo Toad	Not listed	Not listed	
Amietia delalandii	Delalande's River Frog	LC	LC	
Amietia fuscigula	Common River Frog	LC	LC	
Amietia poyntoni	Poynton's River Frog	LC	LC	





9.3 Appendix C - Reptile species expected to occur in the project area

	,	Conservation Sta	Conservation Status		
Species	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)		
Acontias gracilicauda	Thin-tailed Legless Skink	LC	LC		
Afroedura nivaria	Drankensberg Flat Gecko	LC	LC		
Agama aculeata aculeata	Western Ground Agama	LC	Unlisted		
Agama aculeata distanti	Eastern Ground Agama	LC	LC		
Agama atra	Southern Rock Agama	LC	LC		
Bitis arietans arietans	Puff Adder	LC	Unlisted		
Boaedon capensis	Brown House Snake	LC	LC		
Chamaeleo dilepis	Common Flap-neck Chameleon	LC	LC		
Chondrodactylus bibronii	Bibron's Gecko	LC	Unlisted		
Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia	Red-lipped Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Dasypeltis scabra	Rhombic Egg-eater	LC	LC		
Dispholidus typus	Boomslang	LC	Unlisted		
Hemachatus haemachatus	Rinkhals	LC	LC		
Homopus femoralis	Greater Dwarf Tortoise	LC	LC		
Karusasaurus polyzonus	Southern Karusa Lizard	LC	LC		
Lamprophis aurora	Aurora House Snake	LC	LC		
Lycodonomorphus rufulus	Brown Water Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Lygodactylus bradfieldi	Bradfield's Dwarf Gecko	LC	Unlisted		
Monopeltis capensis	Cape Worm Lizard	LC	LC		
Monopeltis infuscata	Dusky Worm Lizard	LC	Unlisted		
Naja nivea	Cape Cobra	LC	Unlisted		
Nucras holubi	Holub's Sandveld Lizard	LC	Unlisted		
Pachydactylus capensis	Cape Gecko	LC	Unlisted		
Pachydactylus mariquensis	Common Banded Gecko	LC	LC		
Pedioplanis laticeps	Karoo Sand Lizard	LC	LC		
Pedioplanis lineoocellata lineoocellata	Spotted Sand Lizard	LC	Unlisted		
Pedioplanis namaquensis	Namaqua Sand Lizard	LC	Unlisted		
Pelomedusa galeata	South African Marsh Terrapin	Not evaluated	Unlisted		
Prosymna sundevallii	Sundevall's Shovel-snout	LC	LC		
Psammobates oculifer	Serrated Tent Tortoise	LC	Unlisted		
Psammobates tentorius verroxii	Tent Tortoise	NT	NT		
Psammophis notostictus	Karoo Sand Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Psammophis trinasalis	Fork-marked Sand Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Pseudaspis cana	Mole Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Ptenopus garrulus garrulus	Common Barking Gecko	LC	Unlisted		
Rhinotyphlops lalandei	Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake	LC	Unlisted		
Stigmochelys pardalis	Leopard Tortoise	LC	LC		
Trachylepis capensis	Cape Skink	LC	Unlisted		
Trachylepis occidentalis	Western Three-striped Skink	LC	Unlisted		
Trachylepis punctatissima	Speckled Rock Skink	LC	LC		
Trachylepis spilogaster	Kalahari Tree Skink	LC	Unlisted		
Trachylepis sulcata sulcata	Westren Rock Skink	LC	Unlisted		
Trachylepis variegata	Variegated Skink	LC	Unlisted		

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Varanus albigularis albigularis	Southern Rock Monitor	LC	Unlisted
Varanus niloticus	Water Monitor	LC	Unlisted
Zygaspis quadrifrons	Kalahari Dwarf Worm Lizard	LC	Unlisted





9.4 Appendix D – Mammal species expected to occur within the project area

Onestes	O N	Conservation St	Conservation Status		
Species	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)		
Aethomys ineptus	Tete Veld Rat	LC	LC		
Aethomys namaquensis	Namaqua rock rat	LC	LC		
Atilax paludinosus	Water Mongoose	LC	LC		
Canis mesomelas	Black-backed Jackal	LC	LC		
Caracal caracal	Caracal	LC	LC		
Chlorocebus pygerythrus	Vervet Monkey	LC	LC		
Cynictis penicillata	Yellow Mongoose	LC	LC		
Desmodillus auricularis	Short-tailed Gerbil	LC	LC		
Eidolon helvum	African Straw-colored Fruit Bat	LC	NT		
Elephantulus myurus	Eastern Rock Sengi	LC	LC		
Eptesicus hottentotus	Long-tailed Serotine Bat	LC	LC		
Felis nigripes	Black-footed Cat	VU	VU		
Felis silvestris	African Wildcat	LC	LC		
Genetta genetta	Small-spotted Genet	LC	LC		
Gerbilliscus brantsii	Highveld Gerbil	LC	LC		
Gerbilliscus leucogaster	Bushveld Gerbil	LC	LC		
Gerbillurus paeba	Hairy-footed Gerbil	LC	LC		
Herpestes pulverulentus	Cape Grey Mongoose	LC	LC		
Herpestes sanguineus	Slender Mongoose	LC	LC		
Hydrictis maculicollis	Spotted-necked Otter	VU	NT		
Hystrix africaeaustralis	Cape Porcupine	LC	LC		
Ictonyx striatus	Striped Polecat	LC	LC		
Leptailurus serval	Serval	NT	LC		
Lepus capensis	Cape Hare	LC	LC		
Lepus saxatilis	Scrub Hare	LC	LC		
Malacothrix typica	Gerbil Mouse	LC	LC		
Mastomys coucha	Multimammate Mouse	LC	LC		
Mellivora capensis	Honey Badger	LC	LC		
Mus musculus	House Mouse	Unlisted	LC		
Neoromicia capensis	Cape Serotine Bat	LC	LC		
Orycteropus afer	Aardvark	LC	LC		
Otocyon megalotis	Bat-eared Fox	LC	LC		
Panthera pardus	Leopard	VU	VU		
Papio ursinus	Chacma Baboon	LC	LC		
Parahyaena brunnea	Brown Hyaena	NT	NT		
Parotomys brantsii	Brants' Whistling Rat	LC	LC		





Parotomys littledalei	Littledale's Whistling Rat	NT	LC
Pedetes capensis	Springhare	LC	LC
Poecilogale albinucha	African Striped Weasel	NT	LC
Procavia capensis	Rock Hyrax	LC	LC
Proteles cristata	Aardwolf	LC	LC
Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	LC	LC
Rattus rattus	House Rat	Exotic (Not listed)	LC
Redunca fulvorufula	Mountain Reedbuck	EN	LC
Rhabdomys pumilio	Xeric Four-striped Mouse	LC	LC
Rhinolophus clivosus	Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat	LC	LC
Rhinolophus darlingi	Darling's Horseshoe Bat	LC	LC
Rhinolophus denti	Dent's Horseshoe Bat	NT	LC
Saccostomus campestris	Pouched Mouse	LC	LC
Steatomys krebsii	Krebs's Fat Mouse	LC	LC
Suncus varilla	Lesser Dwarf Shrew	LC	LC
Suricata suricatta	Suricate	LC	LC
Sylvicapra grimmia	Common Duiker	LC	LC
Tadarida aegyptiaca	Egyptian Free-tailed Bat	LC	LC
Vulpes chama	Cape Fox	LC	LC
Xerus inauris	Cape Ground Squirrel	LC	LC





9.5 Appendix E -Avifauna Species expected to occur within the project area

Species	Common Name	Conservation St	Conservation Status		
Species	Common Name	Regional (SANBI, 2016)	IUCN (2021)		
Afrotis afraoides	Korhaan, Northern Black	Unlisted	LC		
Alopochen aegyptiaca	Goose, Egyptian	LC	LC		
Amadina erythrocephala	Finch, Red-headed	Unlisted	LC		
Anthus cinnamomeus	Pipit, African	Unlisted	LC		
Anthus nicholsoni	Nicholson's pipit	Unlisted	Unlisted		
Apus affinis	Swift, Little	Unlisted	LC		
Bostrychia hagedash	Ibis, Hadeda	Unlisted	LC		
Brunhilda erythronotos	Waxbill, Black-faced	Unlisted	LC		
Calendulauda africanoides	Lark, Fawn-coloured	Unlisted	LC		
Cercotrichas coryphoeus	Scrub-robin, Karoo	Unlisted	LC		
Cercotrichas paena	Scrub-robin, Kalahari	Unlisted	LC		
Chersomanes albofasciata	Lark, Spike-heeled	Unlisted	LC		
Ciconia nigra	Stork, Black	VU	LC		
Cinnyris fuscus	Sunbird, Dusky	Unlisted	LC		
Cinnyris talatala	Sunbird, White-bellied	Unlisted	LC		
Circaetus pectoralis	Snake-eagle, Black-chested	Unlisted	LC		
Cisticola aridulus	Cisticola, Desert	Unlisted	LC		
Colius colius	Mousebird, White-backed	Unlisted	LC		
Columba guinea	Pigeon, Speckled	Unlisted	LC		
Corvus albus	Crow, Pied	Unlisted	LC		
Crithagra albogularis	White-throated Canary	LC	LC		
Crithagra atrogularis	Canary, Black-throated	Unlisted	LC		
Crithagra flaviventris	Canary, Yellow	Unlisted	LC		
Curruca subcoerulea	Tit-babbler, Chestnut-vented	Unlisted	Unlisted		
Elanus caeruleus	Kite, Black-shouldered	Unlisted	LC		
Emberiza capensis	Bunting, Cape	Unlisted	LC		
Emberiza impetuani	Bunting, Lark-like	Unlisted	LC		
Eremomela icteropygialis	Eremomela, Yellow-bellied	Unlisted	LC		
Euplectes orix	Bishop, Southern Red	Unlisted	LC		
Falco rupicoloides	Kestrel, Greater	Unlisted	LC		
Grus paradisea	Crane, Blue	NT	VU		
Gyps africanus	Vulture, White-backed	CR	CR		
Himantopus himantopus	Stilt, Black-winged	Unlisted	LC		
Hirundo rustica	Swallow, Barn	Unlisted	LC		
Lamprotornis bicolor	Starling, Pied	Unlisted	LC		
Lamprotornis nitens	Starling, Cape Glossy	Unlisted	LC		





Lanius collaris	Fiscal, Common (Southern)	Unlisted	LC
Malcorus pectoralis	Warbler, Rufous-eared	Unlisted	LC
Melaenornis mariquensis	Flycatcher, Marico	Unlisted	LC
Melaenornis silens	Flycatcher, Fiscal	Unlisted	LC
Melierax canorus	Goshawk, Southern Pale Chanting	Unlisted	LC
Merops bullockoides	Bee-eater, White-fronted	Unlisted	LC
Mirafra fasciolata	Lark, Eastern Clapper	Unlisted	LC
Motacilla capensis	Wagtail, Cape	Unlisted	LC
Muscicapa striata	Flycatcher, Spotted	Unlisted	LC
Myrmecocichla formicivora	Chat, Anteating	Unlisted	LC
Myrmecocichla monticola	Wheatear, Mountain	Unlisted	LC
Numida meleagris	Guineafowl, Helmeted	Unlisted	LC
Oena capensis	Dove, Namaqua	Unlisted	LC
Oenanthe familiaris	Chat, Familiar	Unlisted	LC
Ortygospiza atricollis	Quailfinch, African	Unlisted	LC
Passer diffusus	Sparrow, Southern Grey-headed	Unlisted	LC
Passer domesticus	Sparrow, House	Unlisted	LC
Passer melanurus	Sparrow, Cape	Unlisted	LC
Petrochelidon spilodera	Cliff-swallow, South African	Unlisted	LC
Philetairus socius	Weaver, Sociable	Unlisted	LC
Plocepasser mahali	Sparrow-weaver, White-browed	Unlisted	LC
Ploceus velatus	Masked-weaver, Southern	Unlisted	LC
Polihierax semitorquatus	Falcon, Pygmy	Unlisted	LC
Prinia flavicans	Prinia, Black-chested	Unlisted	LC
Pterocles namaqua	Sandgrouse, Namaqua	Unlisted	LC
Ptyonoprogne fuligula	Martin, Rock	LC	LC
Pycnonotus nigricans	Bulbul, African Red-eyed	Unlisted	LC
Pytilia melba	Pytilia, Green-winged	Unlisted	LC
Spilopelia senegalensis	Dove, Laughing	Unlisted	LC
Sporopipes squamifrons	Finch, Scaly-feathered	Unlisted	LC
Stenostira scita	Flycatcher, Fairy	Unlisted	LC
Streptopelia capicola	Turtle-dove, Cape	Unlisted	LC
Struthio camelus	Ostrich, Common	Unlisted	LC
Tachybaptus ruficollis	Grebe, Little	Unlisted	LC
Tadorna cana	Shelduck, South African	Unlisted	LC
Trachyphonus vaillantii	Barbet, Crested	Unlisted	LC
Tricholaema leucomelas	Barbet, Acacia Pied	Unlisted	LC
Urocolius indicus	Mousebird, Red-faced	Unlisted	LC
Vanellus armatus	Lapwing, Blacksmith	Unlisted	LC



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Vanellus coronatus	Lapwing, Crowned	Unlisted	LC
Zosterops pallidus	White-eye, Orange River	Unlisted	LC

