



University Curator of Fossil and Rock Collections

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Dr Julien Benoit
Evolutionary Studies Institute, University of the Witwatersrand
Braamfontein, Johannesburg, 2000

Dear Dr Benoit,

Re: Approval for curation of fossils recovered from Oviston Nature Reserve, Eastern Cape, South Africa

In my capacity as Curator of fossil collections at the Evolutionary Studies Institute, the University of the Witwatersrand, I agree to curate the fossils recovered from the Oviston Nature Reserve (Oviston, Eastern Cape)(GPS coordinates: 30°44'33.2"S 25°44'49.7"E). The aim is to study the Permian Triassic Boundary by mapping and collecting fossils as well as to help develop palaeontourism in the area.

I confirm that the recovered material will be housed at the Evolutionary Studies Institute, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Curation will be carried out in accordance with Evolutionary Studies Institute curatorial policies under the SAHRA rules and conditions of the permit.

In addition, we require you to comply with the following:

- Recovered material must be accessioned/catalogued, and brought to the ESI as soon as possible after excavation for storage in the collections.
- Financial provision must be made for any archival materials that may be required for curation of recovered material.
- Updated electronic catalogues must be sent to the curator (at Wits) at least twice a year. These must include storage location information so that specimens may be located within the collections.
- The curatorial staff must be informed of any deviations from these procedures.
- A moratorium will be placed on unpublished material for three years after discovery plus one year for publication to allow the primary investigators and collaborators to publish. A further three years may be applied for through the curator and the Access Advisory should this be required. After this period the material will be made available for study by other researchers.
- Any additional collaborators, who have been assigned to work on the material at the ESI laboratory, are required to submit a formal access application to the curator at least 30 days prior to the work being carried out.
- The permit will not be renewed after expiry, unless the above are complied with.

Sincerely

Bernhard Zipfel
University Collections Curator

Cc Prof Marion Bamford (Director: Evolutionary Studies Institute)