



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 12059

Date: Thursday February 22, 2018  
Page No: 1

## **Letter**

### **In terms of Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Mrs Elisabeth Hempel  
University of Potsdam  
Potsdam University Evolutionary and Adaptive Genomics  
Institute for Biochemistry and Biology Faculty for Mathematics and Natural Sciences  
Karl-Liebknecht-Str. 24-25, Haus 29, Raum 2.69 D-14476 Potsdam

**We propose to sample fossil tooth and bone to recover ancient DNA from five Late Pleistocene Caprin specimens from Boomplaas Cave in South Africa. The application of ancient DNA sequencing techniques will allow us to better understand the taxonomic identity of a poorly understood extinct species known only from South Africa and to reconstruct its demographic history through time, allowing us to shed light on the potential environmental and human factors that contributed to its extinction in the early Holocene. All specimens are housed at Iziko Museums of South Africa (Curator Dr Wendy Black) in the Western Cape Province. Please see as well the uploaded detailed proposal description.**

Dear Drs. E. Hempel, M. Hofreiter, F. Bibi, J. Brink, J.T. Faith and J. Brink,

Thank you for your application to permanently export five bone or cementum samples (200mg per bone/tooth) of five caprin specimens from Boomplaas Cave, Oudtshoorn District, for DNA sequencing at the University of Potsdam, Germany. As the permit holder must be affiliated with a South African institution, collaborator James Brink (Florisbad Quaternary Research Department) is the permit holder and the permit is issued to the remaining collaborators. Conditions by Iziko and Heritage Western Cape must be adhered to.

SAHRA has reviewed the application and has decided to approve it.

We wish you every success with this project.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

**Phylogenetic Relationships of extinct Caprini from Boomplaas Cave (Western Cape), Republic of South Africa**

**Our Ref: 12059**



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Ragna Redelstorff  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/487527>

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.