

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff, PhD

Tel: +27 (0)21 202 8651

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CaseID: 15897

Date: Wednesday February 17, 2021

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Letter

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

Attention: Dr Roger Smith

Iziko: South African Museum

P.O. Box 61

Cape Town 8000

This multidisciplinary, international collaborative project is aimed at excavating and studying a 70 million year old lake deposit buried beneath the Kalahari Fm. sands of the Northern Cape near Marydale. Initially discovered by diamond prospectors at least 40 years ago it has since been shown to have accumulated in an extinct volcanic crater and has great potential to yield fossils of diverse aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, dating back to the Late Cretaceous. This proposed 3 -5 year project will initially investigate the known deposit on the farm StompOor 109 and, if successful, it will include other possible crater lake occurrences in the area.

Dear Dr R. Smith,

Thank you for your permit application to excavate Cretaceous crater lake deposits on the farm Stomp Oor 109 near Marydale, Northern Cape Province. It is noted that large-scale excavations will be required to remove the overburden above the 42m deep crater lake deposits. The collected material will be accessioned by Iziko Museum.

SAHRA also notes the attempt by Dr Roger Smith to contact the holder of prospecting rights, Alidabix (Pty) Ltd, to inform them of his excavation plans and that there is no conflict of interest as there will be no direct overlap of areas intended for excavation/prospecting, respectively.

SAHRA has reviewed your application and decided to approve it. The permit is valid from 1 October 2021 until 31 October 2024.

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.

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Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff, PhD
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/550591>

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.