



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
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CaseID: 10269

Date: Thursday January 26, 2017

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## Interim Comment

### In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Henwood Environmental Services

PO Box 12340

Steitlies

Nelspruit, 1213

### Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment on Plot 34 of the farm Avontuur 725 JT near Badplaas Resort, Mpumalanga Province.

SAHRA issued an Interim Comment on the proposed development dated 16/01/2017, requesting that a detailed project description with specifications to be submitted to the case and that a Palaeontological assessment needs to be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist before we issue further comments. Henwood Environmental Solution Consultancy subsequently appointed Prof Marion Bamford to conduct a palaeontological Desktop Assessment of the development.

*Bamford, M. 2017. Paleontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Avontuur Christian Centre, near Badplaas, Mpumalanga Province.*

The author's desktop assessment found that the underlying geology of the area is mostly ancient basement rocks and few occurrences of younger rocks of the Malmani subgroup. The rocks are igneous and there is no likelihood of fossils occurring in the study area. The author of the report recommends that a palaeontologist should be called in if any fossils are uncovered during construction, if the fossils are deemed to be of scientific importance they will be mitigated after obtaining a section 35 permit from SAHRA.

### Interim Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the Palaeontological report and the recommendations in the report.

The HIA still has not been amended to include the track log of the field survey, according to the 2007 SAHRA minimum standards for Heritage Impact Assessment, a track log of the field survey must be provided in a HIA report.

SAHRA also requires the Basic Assessment report and its appendices to be submitted to the case.

IF Environmental Authorisation has been granted, the Record of Decision and EMPr must be submitted to the

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

Yours faithfully

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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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John Gribble  
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / 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/374448>  
(, Ref: )