

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
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 11457

Date: Wednesday October 16, 2019
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Gert Pretorius
Enviro Logic
ENVIRO LOGIC
PO Box 3731
Tyger Valley
7536

Three pieces of land (Sites A, B & C) collectively measuring about 80ha have been identified for the vineyard development, which will be fed by drip irrigation. Existing access roads will be used and no new roads or infrastructure will need to be constructed for the project.

Enviro Logic has been appointed by Mr. Jan-Philip Botha to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the proposed establishment of new vineyards on the Farm Botha (Rem. Erf 4000) located near Prieska, Northern Cape Province. The proposed agricultural development will cover approximately 80 ha.

ACRM and Natura Viva were appointed to conduct the Heritage Studies as part of the EIA.

Kaplan, J. 2017. Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed Agricultural Development Botha Farm (Remainder Erf 4000), Prieska, Northern Cape Province

The development area is covered in a low density scatter of mostly Middle Stone Age (MSA) stone tools. These include flakes with prepared platforms, irregular cores, prepared cores, retouched blades and chunks made from banded iron stone (Site B may be the source of the raw material), some from quartzite and indurated shale, and one silcrete blade was found. A possible side scraper, one step flakes piece and one small Early Stone Age (ESA) biface was identified. A low level manufacturing site was identified within Site C consisting of several hammerstones, an anvil, cores and flaking debris.

All identified heritage resources were rated as a heritage resources of low cultural significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- No archaeological mitigation is required prior to development activities commencing; and



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- Should any unmarked human burials/remains or ostrich eggshell water flask caches for example, be uncovered during preparation of the land for development, these must immediately be reported to the archaeologist (Jonathan Kaplan 082 321 0172), or the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Ms Natasha Higgitt 021 462 4502).

Almond, J. 2017. Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Desktop Study for the proposed Agricultural Development on Botha Farm, Prieska, Siyathemba Municipality, Northern Cape

The proposed development is underlain by the Permo-Carboniferous Dwyka Group of the Karoo Supergroup. These rocks do not contain large amounts of fossils and are unlikely to be impacted by the proposed development. The Dwyka Group rocks are overlain by gravelly alluvial deposits of the Orange River, calcrete hardpans, downwasted surface gravels and wind-blown sands. The overall palaeontological significance of the development is low.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Pending the discovery of significant new fossil material during construction, no further specialist palaeontological studies or mitigation are recommended;
- In the case of any substantial fossil finds during construction (e.g. vertebrate teeth, bones, burrows, petrified wood), these should be safeguarded -preferably in situ- and reported by the ECO as soon as possible to SAHRA so that appropriate mitigation (i.e. recording, sampling or collection) by a palaeontological specialist can be considered and implemented; and
- These recommendations should be incorporated into the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for this project.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 17/08/2017, SAHRA requested that the EIA and appendices be submitted so that an informed comment could be issued.

Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, an addendum to the original AIA has been submitted on the 07/05/2019 and the draft EIAr has been submitted to the case on the 24/09/2019.

Kaplan, J. 2018. Addendum to report: Expansion of Agricultural activities: Proposed construction of chicken layer houses on Botha Farm (Remainder Erf 4000) Prieska, Northern Cape Province.

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The addendum report notes the identification of Stone Age lithics of low significance and no other heritage resources were identified. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
 - The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
 - The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

**PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON BOTHA FARM (REMAINDER
ERF 4000), PRIESKA**

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Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/406506>

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.