

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: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Tel: 0214624502

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CaseID: 19208

Date: Friday August 19, 2022

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## Letter

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

Attention: Dr MH Alex Schoeman

School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies

University of the Witwatersrand

Private Bag 3, Wits

**Note: Mining operations on the property adjacent to the one on which the DeWittekrans Shelter is located has hastened my decision to excavate De Wittekrans Shelter. It is the second largest shelter in the great Lake Chrissie area. My team intends to develop a finely resolved occupation sequence for northeastern South Africa with a specific focus on livelihoods and foodways. This includes the adoption of livestock by hunter-gatherers, the introduction of pastoralism in the region, and landscape scale vegetation continuities and change linked / due to the spread of livestock keeping into northeastern South Africa. The Lake Chrissie region is an important location in which to pursue the hunter-gatherers with sheep / pastoralist component of this broader regional economy. Our current excavations focus on Welgelegen Shelter. We propose to compliment this data set with data from De Wittekrans shelter. Ouzman (2009) identified the art at De Wittekrans as that of Khoe speakers and thus the site forms an important node in the understanding of the regional economy and foodways.**

Dear Prof. Schoeman,

### RE: Test Excavations at deWitterkrans Shelter

Thank you for your permit application to conduct archaeological Test Excavations at deWitterkrans Shelter on the Farm De Witterkrans 218 iS, in the Gert Sibande District, Mpumalanga Province. SAHRA has successfully reviewed your application and approved it. Kindly note that your permit is valid until 31 August 2023.

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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Elijah Dumisani Katsetse  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahr.is.sahra.org.za/node/602652>

**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.