



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: 12059

Date: Friday February 18, 2022

Page No: 1

## **Letter**

### **In terms of Section 32(19) 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,

### **RE: Return of Samples to Iziko Museums of South Africa, Cape Twon**

Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the remaining samples issued under permit 2693. The remaining samples from the five bone or cementum samples (200mg per bone/tooth) of five caprin specimens from Boomplaas Cave, Oudtshoorn District, exported for DNA sequencing at the University of Potsdam, Germany are to be returned to Iziko Museums of South Africa as per permit conditions by 31st April 2022. The samples must be securely packaged and delivered to Iziko Museums of South Africa, Cape Town.

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, PhD  
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://sahris.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.