

# Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

**Project Title:** Uilenkraal Chicken Farm

**Project Location:** 11 km north of Darling, Swartland 'B' Municipality, West Coast District 'C' Municipality, Malmesbury Magisterial District, Western Cape.

**Farm Number:** 1036 (Kikoes Vlei)      **Size:** 929.43 ha

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**Date:** 18 March 2007



**Figure 1. Location, 11 km north of Darling**

## **Executive Summary**

The property, Farm No. 1036 (Kikoesvlei) 11 km north of Darling, was surveyed for archaeological, palaeontological resources. There are no buildings on the property in proximity to the development. The development, housing for poultry, will be on ploughed farmland land and this minimises impact. The soils are underlain by ferricrete (koffieklip) and are unfavourable for the preservation of bone and shell and no palaeontological remains were recorded. No Stone Age artefacts were seen in the plough zone on the property. No mitigation in respect of archaeological or palaeontological resources is recommended.

## **Background Information**

This report is part of an EIA. The application is develop facilities for housing poultry on a farm located north of Darling (Figure 1). The property is zoned as Agriculture 1 and rezoning is not required. The development is part of the intensification of land use in the area.

## **Description of the property**

The property (33°15'49.9" S; 18°22'45.3" E) is open ploughed farmland land surrounding a natural depression, a pan or vlei. The farmyard is adjacent to the vlei and none of the proposed developments are within 0.5 km of the buildings. The farm adjoins Farm 460/2 where a similar development is proposed and which was also surveyed.

## **Archaeological and palaeontological potential**

Stone Age hunter-gatherers and Khoekhoe herders would have ranged through the area in precolonial times and historical materials could occur.

## **Methodology**

The development requires the construction of three clusters of chicken broiler houses on different parts of the property. Each cluster will be approximately 300 m x 100 m. Four possible locations have been identified. Each location was traversed. The positions of the locations (Ki 1-4) are recorded on a GPS plot (Figure 2). Exposures of the subsurface in the area were examined to evaluate the potential for buried occurrences.

## **Observations**

The locations are relatively flat ground at some 60 m asl. In exposures near location Ki 1 (Figure 2) the profile shows ferricrete (koffieklip) and capped by sandy soil, a substrate not favourable for the preservation of palaeontological remains. No cultural material was recorded in the plough zones.

## Sources of risk

There is a risk that the foundations for structures may uncover stone artefacts but the risks are considered low. The risks of uncovering palaeontological remains given the nature of the substrates are negligible.

## Statement of significance and field rating

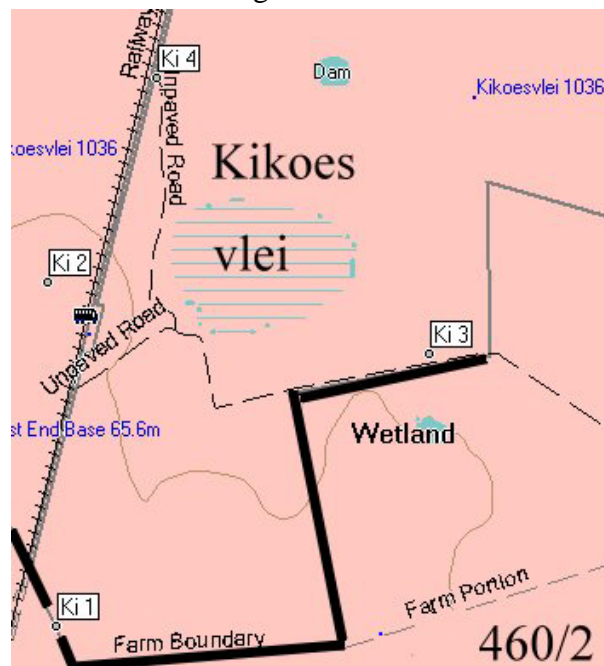
The significance of the archaeological resources on the property is rated as low.

## Recommended mitigations

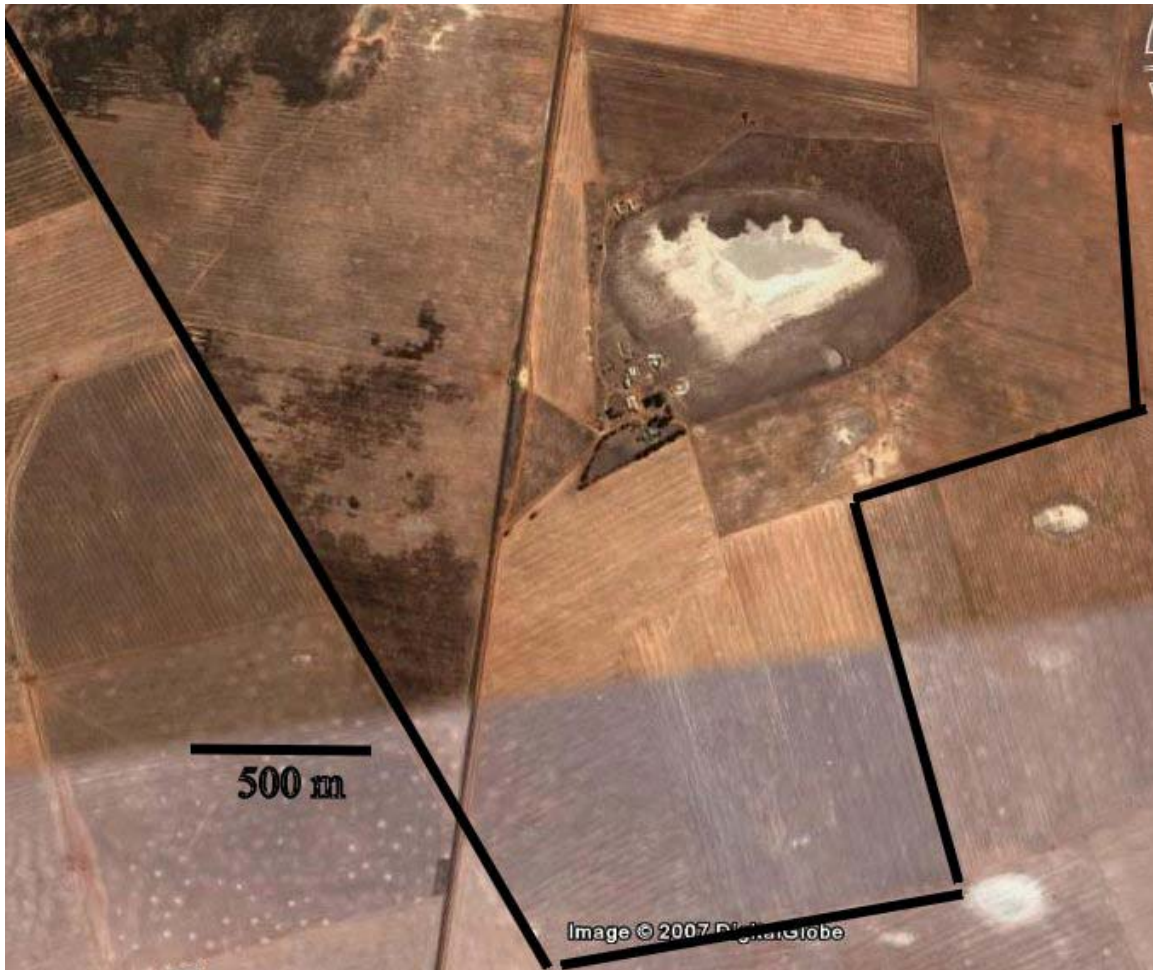
No mitigations are recommended with the proviso that should development by chance uncover any archaeological, palaeontological or other cultural remains, including human remains, that Heritage Western Cape be notified (Mr N Ndlovu, Senior Heritage Officer – Archaeologist, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel: 021 483 9687, Fax: 021 483 9842, email: [nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za](mailto:nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za) ).

## Conclusions

The survey of the farm 1036 showed no significant archaeological or palaeontological resources that warranted mitigation.



**Figure 2.** Farm 1036 Kikoes Vlei showing the four possible locations (Ki 1-4) from which three will be chosen for development.



**Figure 3.** Aerial view of Farm 1036, Kikoeshvlei, none of the proposed locations (Figure 2) are within 0.5 km of the farmyard adjacent to the vlei in the centre of the image.