

# **NAMAKWA SANDS MAIN ACCESS ROAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

Prepared for

**Environmental Evaluation Unit**

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Prepared by

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## **1. THE BRIEF**

We have been asked to assess the likely impact on archaeological sites of the building of the main access road to the Namakwa Sands concentration plants from the mineral separation plant near Koekenaap.

## **2. METHOD**

We drove the alignment and foot-searched representative samples of the landscape through which the road is to pass. We paid particular attention to rock outcrops, eroded areas and deflated dune swarms.

## **3. RESULTS**

Five archaeological sites were recorded directly on the alignment and will be destroyed during construction of the road. These are as follows:

3.1 A small sparse scatter of stone flakes in a deflated dune ridge in the vegetated dunes east of Bloukoppies se Knop. Other sites lie nearby outside the servitude.

3.2 One kilometer south east of Hendriksvlei are two small scatters of shell, bone and stone (5-10 m in diameter) in areas extensively burrowed by meerkats. Marine limpet shells are present with bone fragments in association. No potsherds were seen.

3.3 A very sparse stone tool scatter in an eroding surface close to the railway in the Vleifontein area.

3.4 An extremely sparse scatter of ESA or MSA material, no bone no ostrich eggshell, but two hand axes, lots of large flakes and super-abundant quartz - much of which could be natural. The scatter is located at the site of the mineral separation plant and slimes dams.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Because all the sites are fairly ephemeral and similar sites are known outside the servitude, no mitigating measures are deemed necessary.

Fieldwork and report

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