# PALAEONTOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PROTOCOL FOR FINDS OF A PROPOSED NEW QUARRY ON PORTION 9 (OF 6) OF THE FARM MIMOSA GLEN 885, BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE STATE PROVINCE

# Compiled for:

Lefatse Environmental Planning Services (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 11945
Universitas
9321

Compiled by Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Bloemfontein

# **Declaration of Independence**

I, Elize Butler, declare that -

#### General declaration:

- I act as the independent palaeontological specialist in this application
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting palaeontological impact assessments, including knowledge
  of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in section 38 of the NHRA when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- I will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is
  distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that
  participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all
  interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to
  participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the
  application;
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not
- All the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- I will perform all other obligations as expected a palaeontological specialist in terms of the
   Act and the constitutions of my affiliated professional bodies; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 of the Regulations and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the NEMA.

# **Disclosure of Vested Interest**

I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Regulations;

PALAEONTOLOGICAL CONSULTANT: Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd

CONTACT PERSON: Elize Butler

Tel: +27 844478759

Email: elizebutler002@gmail.com

**SIGNATURE:** 

The heritage impact assessment report has been compiled taking into account the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (NEMA) and Environmental Impact Regulations 2014 as amended, requirements for specialist reports, Appendix 6, as indicated in the table below.

NEMA	Regs (2014) - Appendix 6	Relevant section in report
1. (1) A	specialist report prepared in terms of these Regulations must contain-	
a)	details of-	Page 2 of Report -
	i. the specialist who prepared the report; and	Contact details and
	ii. the expertise of that specialist to compile a specialist report	company and
	including a curriculum vitae;	Appendix A
b)	a declaration that the specialist is independent in a form as may be	
	specified by the competent authority;	Page 2
c)	an indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report	
	was prepared;	Section 4 – Objective
	(cA) an indication of the quality and age of base data used for the	Section 5 – Geological
	specialist report;	and Palaeontological
		history
	(B) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts	
_	proposed development and levels of acceptable change;	Section 10
d)	the date, duration and season of the site investigation and the	
	relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment;	Desktop study
e)	a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or	
	carrying out the specialized process inclusive of equipment and	
	modeling used;	Section 7 Methodology
f)	details of an assessment of the specifically identified sensitivity of	
	the site related to the proposed activity or activities and its	
	associated structures and infrastructure, inclusive of a site plan	
	identifying site alternatives;	Section 1 and 9
g)	an identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers;	Not identified, Section
		9
h)	a map superimposing the activity including the associated	Section 5 – Geological
	structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of	and Palaeontological
	the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers;	history
i)	a description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or	Section 7.1 –
	gaps in knowledge;	Assumptions and
		Limitation
j)	a description of the findings and potential implications of such	
	findings on the impact of the proposed activity, including identified	
	alternatives on the environment or activities;	Section 12

	Relevant section in
NEMA Regs (2014) - Appendix 6	report
k) any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr;	Section 12
l) any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorization;	N/A
m) any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or	N/A
environmental authorization;	
n) a reasoned opinion-	
i. as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof	
should be authorized;	
(iA) regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or	
activities; and	
ii. if the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions	
thereof should be authorized, any avoidance, management and	
mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr, and	
where applicable, the closure plan;	Section 12
o) a description of any consultation process that was undertaken	
during the course of preparing the specialist report;	Not applicable.
p) a summary and copies of any comments received during any	
consultation process and where applicable all responses thereto;	
and	Not applicable.
q) any other information requested by the competent authority.	Not applicable.
2) Where a government notice gazetted by the Minister provides for any	
protocol or minimum information requirement to be applied to a specialist	Section 3 compliance
report, the requirements as indicated in such notice will apply.	with SAHRA guidelines

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

AMC Umsenge Quarry (Pty) Ltd appointed Lefatse Environmental Planning Services (Pty) Ltd to conduct the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT for the proposed new Mimosa Glen Quarry application on the existing mining permit area on Portion 9 of the farm Mimosa Glen 885 situated in the Magisterial District of Bloemfontein, Free State.

The proposed Mimosa Glen Quarry, near Bloemfontein, Free State Province is almost entirely underlain by Jurassic dolerite although a small portion in the south-west is underlain by the late Permian, Beaufort Group (Adelaide Subgroup), while all these sediments are capped by Quaternary superficial sediments. According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Karoo dolerite is rated as zero, while the Adelaide Group has a very high Palaeontological sensitivity and the Quaternary superficial deposits has a low palaeontological sensitivity (Almond and Pether 2008, SAHRIS website).

A Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment (Rossouw, 2015) was conducted for the previous development footprints of the Quarry. Rossouw (2015) found that the palaeontological impact resulting from excavations within the footprint area is very low and he rated the footprint as Generally Protected C (GP.C). Rossouw (2015) found that the construction of the Mimosa Glen Quarry near Bloemfontein in the Free State is deemed appropriate and feasible and will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area and may be authorised as the whole extent. Another 3 ha has now been added to the original development footprint and thus the current Palaeontological Desktop assessment and Chance find Protocol has been commissioned.

If fossil remains are uncovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by fresh excavations the **Chance Find Protocol** must be implemented by the ECO in charge of these developments. These discoveries ought to be secured (preferably *in situ*) and the ECO ought to alert SAHRA so that appropriate mitigation (e.g. documented and collection) can be undertaken by a professional palaeontologist.

The specialist would need a collection permit from SAHRA. Fossil material must be curated in an approved collection (museum or university) and all fieldwork and reports should meet the minimum standards for palaeontological impact studies developed by SAHRA.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

AMC Umsenge Quarry (Pty) Ltd appointed Lefatse Environmental Planning Services (Pty) Ltd to conduct the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT for the proposed new Mimosa Glen Quarry application on the existing mining permit area on Portion 9 of the farm Mimosa Glen 885 situated in the Magisterial District of Bloemfontein, Free State.

The proposed new development (Figure 1-2) of the Mimosa Glen Quarry is located near an existing quarry, approximately 10 km north of Bloemfontein, on the farm Mimosa Glen 885/9 (of 6).

#### 2 QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF THE AUTHOR

The author (Elize Butler) has an MSc in Palaeontology from the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. She has been working in Palaeontology for more than twenty-four years. She has extensive experience in locating, collecting and curating fossils, including exploration field trips in search of new localities in the Karoo Basin. She has been a member of the Palaeontological Society of South Africa for 12 years. She has been conducting PIAs since 2014.

# 3 LEGISLATION

# 3.1 National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999)

Cultural Heritage in South Africa, includes all heritage resources, is protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA). Heritage resources as defined in Section 3 of the Act include "all objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens".

Palaeontological heritage is unique and non-renewable and is protected by the NHRA. Palaeontological resources may not be unearthed, moved, broken or destroyed by any development without prior assessment and without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority as per section 35 of the NHRA.

This Palaeontological Desktop Assessment forms part of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and adhere to the conditions of the Act. According to **Section 38 (1)**, an HIA is required to assess any potential impacts to palaeontological heritage within the development footprint where:

- the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300 m in length;
- the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50 m in length;
- any development or other activity which will change the character of a site— (exceeding 5 000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent); or
- involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or

- involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
- the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority
- the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent;
- or any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial heritage resources authority.

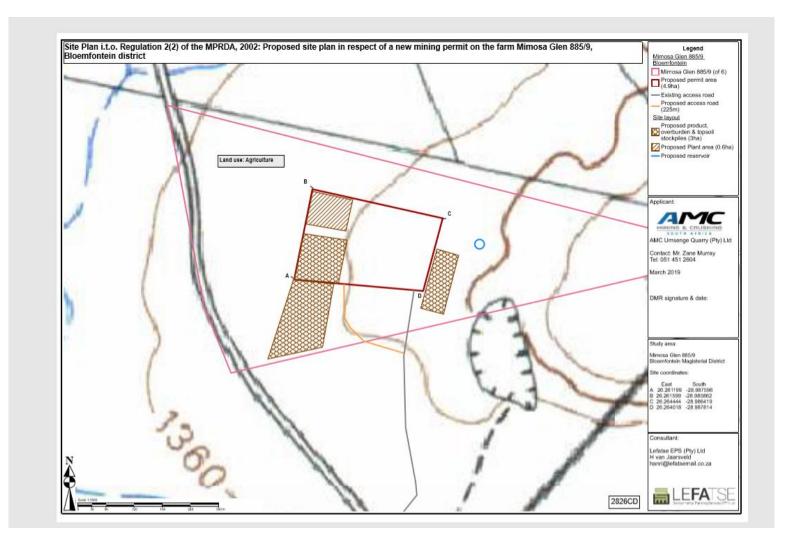


Figure 1: The proposed development footprint of the Mimosa Glen Quarry indicated on the extract of the 1: 50 000 topographical map of Glen (2626CD).



Figure 2: Google Earth (2019) Image of the proposed Mimosa Glen Quarry (indicated in blue) on the farm Mimosa Glen 885, Portion 9, near Bloemfontein in the Free State.

# 4 OBJECTIVE

The objective of a DPIA is to determine the impact of the development on potential palaeontological material at the site.

According to the "SAHRA APM Guidelines: Minimum Standards for the Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports" the aims of the PIA are: 1) to **identify** the palaeontological status of the exposed as well as rock formations just below the surface in the development footprint 2) to estimate the **palaeontological importance** of the formations 3) to determine the **impact** on fossil heritage; and 4) to recommend how the developer ought to protect or mitigate damage to fossil heritage.

The terms of reference of a DPIA are as follows:

# **General Requirements:**

- Adherence to the content requirements for specialist reports in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended;
- Adherence to all applicable best practice recommendations, appropriate legislation and authority requirements;
- Submit a comprehensive overview of all appropriate legislation, guidelines;
- Description of the proposed project and provide information regarding the developer and consultant who commissioned the study,
- Description and location of the proposed development and provide geological and topographical maps
- Provide Palaeontological and geological history of the affected area.
- Identification sensitive areas to be avoided (providing shapefiles/kmls) in the proposed dvelopment;
- Evaluation of the significance of the planned development during the Pre-construction, Construction, Operation, Decommissioning Phases and Cumulative impacts. Potential impacts should be rated in terms of the direct, indirect and cumulative:
  - a. **Direct impacts** are impacts that are caused directly by the activity and generally occur at the same time and at the place of the activity.
  - b. **Indirect impacts** of an activity are indirect or induced changes that may occur as a result of the activity.
  - **c. Cumulative impacts** are impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities.
- Fair assessment of alternatives (infrastructure alternatives have been provided):
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise the impact of the proposed development; and

Implications of specialist findings for the proposed development (such as permits, licenses etc).

# 5 GEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL HISTORY

The proposed quarry on the farm Mimosa Glen Portion 9 (of 6), near Bloemfontein is almost completely underlain by Karoo Dolerite with a very small portion (in the south west) lin the late Permian Adelaide Subgroup of the Beaufort Group (most probably the Balfour Formation, Karoo Supergroup). These sediments are completely covered by a mantle of Quaternary superficial deposits (Figure 3 and 4).

According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Karoo dolerite is rated as zero, while the Adelaide Group has a very high Palaeontological sensitivity and the Quaternary superficial deposits has a low palaeontological sensitivity.

The **Karoo Supergroup** strata are between 310 and 182 million years old and span the Upper Carboniferous to Middle Jurassic Periods. The Beaufort group consists of largely fluvial sediments which were deposited on the floodplains of rivers. The flood plains of the Beaufort Group (Karoo Supergroup) are internationally well-known for the early diversification of land vertebrates and provide the worlds' most complete transition from early "reptiles" to mammals (Rubidge et al, 1995; MacRae, 1999; McCarthy and Rubidge, 2005; Johnson et al, 2009).

The Beaufort Group comprises of the lower Adelaide and upper Tarkastad Subgroup. In the south-eastern part of the Karoo Basin the Adelaide Subgroup is divided into the Kroonap, Middelton, and Balfour Formations while the Abrahamskraal and Teekloof Formations are present in the west. The development area is most probably underlain by sediments of the Balfour Formation, *Daptocephalus Assembage Zone*. The thickness of the Adelaide Subgroup varies of a maximum of approximately 500 m in the southeast to about 800 m in the central parts of the basin. The Balfour Formation is approximately 200 m thick. The Adelaide Subgroup consist of alternating bluish-grey, greenish-grey or greyish-red mudrocks as well as very fine to medium-grained grey lithofeldspathic sandstones.

This *Daptocephalus* Assemblage Zone is characterized by the occurrence of the two therapsids namely *Dicynodon* and *Theriognathus*. The *Daptocephalus* Zone of the Beaufort Group shows the greatest vertebrate diversity and includes numerous well-preserved genera and species of biarmosuchians, dicynodonts, gorgonopsian, therocephalian and cynodont therapsids as well as Amphibia, captorhinid and eosuchian Reptilia and Pisces. Trace fossils of vertebrates and invertebrates and *Glossopteris* flora have also been described.

# **Karoo Dolerite Suite**

The Karoo Dolerite Suite is a volcanic suite which consists of igneous rocks and was formed in the Early Jurassic Period (approximately 183 million years ago). Flood basalts do not typically form any visible volcanic structures but with s series of eruptions form a suite of fissures of sub-horizontal lava flows that may vary in thickness. The Karoo Dolerite Suite is a widespread system of igneous bodies (dykes, sills) that encroached into the sediments of the Main Karoo Basin. Karoo lavas preserved today are erosional remnants of a more extensive lava cap that covered much of southern Africa. This Suite is unfossiliferous.

# **Quaternary superficial deposits**

The Tertiary to Quaternary superficial deposits (represented on Geological maps by Q, Qw, Qs, Qg, Qc and Qm) consist of aeolian sand, alluvium (clay, silt and sand deposited by flowing floodwater in a river valley/ delta producing fertile soil), colluvium (material collecting at the foot if a steep slope), spring tufa/tuff (a porous rock composed of calcium carbonate and formed by precipitation from water, for example, around mineral springs.) and lake deposits, peats, pedocretes or duricrusts (calcrete, ferricrete), soils and gravels.

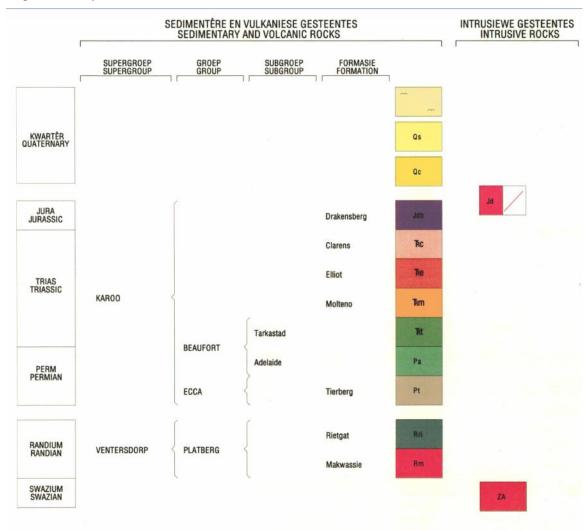
Quaternary fossil assemblages are usually rare and low in diversity and occur over a wide-ranging geographic area. These fossil assemblages may sometimes occur in extensive alluvial and colluvial deposits which are cut by dongas. In the past palaeontologists did not focus on Quaternary superficial deposits although they occasionally comprise of significant fossil biotas. Fossils assemblages may consist of bones, horn corns and mammalian teeth as well as reptile skeletons and fragmentary ostrich eggs. Microfossils and non-marine mollusc shells are also known from Quaternary deposits. Plant material consist of foliage, wood, pollens and peats are trace fossils of burrows, vertebrate tracks, and termite heaps and root casts have also been recovered.

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Figure 3:- Extract of the 1250 000 2826 Winburg Geological map (Council for Geosciences, Pretoria) showing the surface geology of the proposed Mimosa Glen Quarry near Bloemfontein (indicated by blue arrow), The map was drawn by QGIS Desktop 2.18.28.

# Legend to Map.



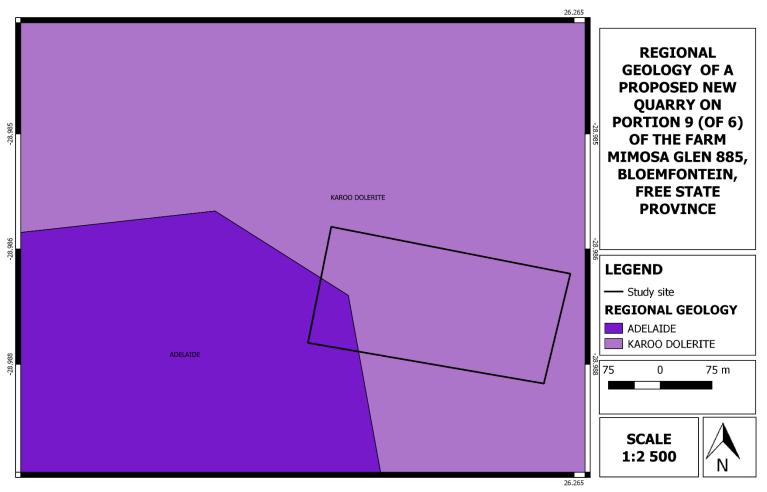


Figure 4: Surface geology of the proposed Quarry on the farm Mimosa Glen 885 Portion 9 (of 6) near Bloemfontein in the Free State. The proposed development is almost completely underlain by Karoo Dolerite with a small portion of the Beaufort Group (Adelaide Subgroup)

located in the south west of the development footprint. Map drawn QGIS Desktop 2.18.28

#### 6 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE SITE

The proposed new Mimosa Glen Quarry is located near an existing quarry, approximately 10 km north of Bloemfontein, Free State Province on the farm Mimosa Glen 885/9 (of 6).

#### 7 METHODS

A desktop study was prepared to evaluate the possible risk to palaeontological heritage (this includes fossils as well as trace fossils) in the proposed development area. In compiling the desktop report aerial photos, Google Earth 2019, topographical and geological maps and other reports from the same area as well as the author's experience were used to assess the proposed development footprint.

# 7.1 Assumptions and Limitations

The accuracy of DIA is reduced by several factors which may include the following: the databases of institutions are not always up to date and relevant locality and geological information were not accurately documented in the past. Various remote areas of South Africa have not been assessed by palaeontologists and data is based on aerial photographs alone. Geological maps concentre on the geology of an area and the sheet explanations were never intended to focus on palaeontological heritage.

Similar Assemblage Zones, but in different areas is used to provide information on the presence of fossil heritage in an unmapped area. Desktop studies of similar geological formations and Assemblage Zones generally **assume** that exposed fossil heritage is present within the development area. The accuracy of the Palaeontological Impact Assessment is thus improved considerably by conducting a field-assessment.

# 8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONSULTED

In compiling this report the following sources were consulted:

- The Palaeosensitivity Map from the SAHRIS website.
- 2826 CD Topographical map
- Geological map 1:100 000, Geology of the Republic of South Africa (Visser 1984)
- Geological Map 1: 250 000 2826 Winburg Geological map (Council for Geosciences, Pretoria.

A few Impact Study reports have been found on the internet and include Butler, 2015,
 2018. These reports have been listed in the references.

# 9 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposed quarry on the farm Mimosa Glen Portion 9 (of 6), near Bloemfontein is almost completely underlain by Karoo Dolerite with a very small portion in the south west located in the late Permian Adelaide Subgroup of the Beaufort Group (most probably the Balfour Formation, Karoo Supergroup). These sediments are completely covered by a mantle of Quaternary superficial deposits.

According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Karoo dolerite is rated as zero, while the Adelaide Group has a very high Palaeontological sensitivity and the Quaternary superficial deposits has a low palaeontological sensitivity.

A phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment (Rossouw, 2015) was conducted for the previous development footprint. Rossouw (2015) and this study have found that the development footprint is underlain by the late Permian, Beaufort Group (Adelaide Subgroup) which is overlain by Jurassic dolerite as well as Quaternary superficial sediments. The palaeontological impact is considered to be very low and is rated as Generally Protected C (GP.C). The proposed construction of the Mimosa Glen Quarry near Bloemfontein in the Free State is deemed appropriate and feasible and will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area and may be authorised as the whole extent.

As the geology of the old (2015) and new development footprint (2019) is the same a **Chance Find Protocol** is included for the development. If fossil remains are uncovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by fresh excavations the **Chance Find Protocol** must be implemented by the ECO in charge of these developments. These discoveries ought to be secured (preferably *in situ*) and the ECO ought to alert SAHRA so that appropriate mitigation (e.g. documented and collection) can be undertaken by a professional palaeontologist.

The specialist would need a collection permit from SAHRA. Fossil material must be curated in an approved collection (museum or university) and all fieldwork and reports should meet the minimum standards for palaeontological impact studies developed by SAHRA.

# 10 IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

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Impact assessment must take account of the nature, scale and duration of impacts on the environment whether such impacts are positive or negative. Each impact is also assessed according to the following project phases:

- Construction
- Operation
- Decommissioning

Where necessary, the proposal for mitigation or optimisation of an impact should be detailed. A brief discussion of the impact and the rationale behind the assessment of its significance should also be included. The rating system is applied to the potential impacts on the receiving environment and includes an objective evaluation of the mitigation of the impact. In assessing the significance of each impact, the following criteria is used:

Table 1: The rating system

# **NATURE**

Include a brief description of the impact of environmental parameter being assessed in the context of the project. This criterion includes a brief written statement of the environmental aspect being impacted upon by a particular action or activity.

The Nature of the Impact is the possible descruction of fossil heritage

# **GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT**

This is defined as the area over which the impact will be experienced.

1	Site	The impact will only affect the site.
2	Local/district	Will affect the local area or district.
3	Province/region	Will affect the entire province or region.
4	International and National	Will affect the entire country.

# **PROBABILITY**

This describes the chance of occurrence of an impact.

1	Unlikely	The chance of the impact occurring is extremely low (Less than a 25% chance of occurrence).
2	Possible	The impact may occur (Between a 25% to 50% chance of occurrence).
3	Probable	The impact will likely occur (Between a 50% to 75% chance of occurrence).
4	Definite	Impact will certainly occur (Greater than a 75% chance of occurrence).

# **DURATION**

This describes the duration of the impacts. Duration indicates the lifetime of the impact as a result of the proposed activity.

1	Short term	The impact will either disappear with mitigation or will be
		mitigated through natural processes in a span shorter
		than the construction phase $(0 - 1 \text{ years})$ , or the impact
		will last for the period of a relatively short construction
		period and a limited recovery time after construction,
		thereafter it will be entirely negated (0 – 2 years).
2	Medium term	The impact will continue or last for some time after the
		construction phase but will be mitigated by direct human
		action or by natural processes thereafter (2 – 10 years).
3	Long term	The impact and its effects will continue or last for the
		entire operational life of the development, but will be
		mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes
		thereafter (10 – 30 years).
4	Permanent	The only class of impact that will be non-transitory.
		Mitigation either by man or natural process will not occur
		in such a way or such a time span that the impact can be
		considered indefinite.
INTENS	SITY/ MAGNITUDE	
Describes the severity of an impact.		
Describ	es the severity of an impact.	
Describ	es the severity of an impact.  Low	Impact affects the quality, use and integrity of the
	, ,	Impact affects the quality, use and integrity of the system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.
	, ,	
1	Low	system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.
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2	Low Medium	system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.  Impact alters the quality, use and integrity of the system/component but system/component still continues to function in a moderately modified way and maintains general integrity (some impact on integrity).  Impact affects the continued viability of the system/
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2	Low Medium  High	system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.  Impact alters the quality, use and integrity of the system/component but system/component still continues to function in a moderately modified way and maintains general integrity (some impact on integrity).  Impact affects the continued viability of the system/component and the quality, use, integrity and functionality of the system or component is severely impaired and may temporarily cease. High costs of rehabilitation and remediation.
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2	Low Medium  High	system/component in a way that is barely perceptible.  Impact alters the quality, use and integrity of the system/component but system/component still continues to function in a moderately modified way and maintains general integrity (some impact on integrity).  Impact affects the continued viability of the system/component and the quality, use, integrity and functionality of the system or component is severely impaired and may temporarily cease. High costs of rehabilitation and remediation.  Impact affects the continued viability of the system/component and the quality, use, integrity and functionality of the system or component permanently ceases and is irreversibly impaired. Rehabilitation and

# REVERSIBILITY

This describes the degree to which an impact can be successfully reversed upon completion of the proposed activity.

1	Completely reversible	The impact is reversible with implementation of minor
		mitigation measures.
2	Partly reversible	The impact is partly reversible but more intense
		mitigation measures are required.
3	Barely reversible	The impact is unlikely to be reversed even with intense
		mitigation measures.
4	Irreversible	The impact is irreversible and no mitigation measures
		exist.
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# **IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES**

This describes the degree to which resources will be irreplaceably lost as a result of a proposed activity.

1	No loss of resource	The impact will not result in the loss of any resources.
2	Marginal loss of resource	The impact will result in marginal loss of resources.
3	Significant loss of resources	The impact will result in significant loss of resources.
4	Complete loss of resources	The impact is result in a complete loss of all resources.

# **CUMULATIVE EFFECT**

This describes the cumulative effect of the impacts. A cumulative impact is an effect which in itself may not be significant but may become significant if added to other existing or potential impacts emanating from other similar or diverse activities as a result of the project activity in question.

1	Negligible cumulative impact	The impact would result in negligible to no cumulative
		effects.
2	Low cumulative impact	The impact would result in insignificant cumulative
		effects.
3	Medium cumulative impact	The impact would result in minor cumulative effects.
4	High cumulative impact	The impact would result in significant cumulative effects

# SIGNIFICANCE

Significance is determined through a synthesis of impact characteristics. Significance is an indication of the importance of the impact in terms of both physical extent and time scale, and therefore indicates the level of mitigation required. The calculation of the significance of an impact uses the following formula:

# (Extent + probability + reversibility + irreplaceability + duration + cumulative effect) x magnitude/intensity.

The summation of the different criteria will produce a non-weighted value. By multiplying this value with the magnitude/intensity, the resultant value acquires a weighted characteristic which can be measured and assigned a significance rating.

Points	Impact significance rating	Description
6 to 28	Negative low impact	The anticipated impact will have negligible negative effects and will require little to no mitigation.
6 to 28	Positive low impact	The anticipated impact will have minor positive effects.

29 to 50	Negative medium impact	The anticipated impact will have moderate negative effects and will require moderate mitigation measures.
29 to 50	Positive medium impact	The anticipated impact will have moderate positive effects.
51 to 73	Negative high impact	The anticipated impact will have significant effects and will require significant mitigation measures to achieve an acceptable level of impact.
51 to 73	Positive high impact	The anticipated impact will have significant positive effects.
74 to 96	Negative very high impact	The anticipated impact will have highly significant effects and are unlikely to be able to be mitigated adequately.  These impacts could be considered "fatal flaws".
74 to 96	Positive very high impact	The anticipated impact will have highly significant positive

# 11 IMACT SUMMERY

The proposed quarry on the farm Mimosa Glen Portion 9 (of 6), near Bloemfontein is almost completely underlain by Karoo Dolerite with a very small portion (in the south west) in the late Permian Adelaide Subgroup of the Beaufort Group (most probably the Balfour Formation, Karoo Supergroup). These sediments are completely covered by a mantle of Quaternary superficial deposits. According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Karoo dolerite is rated as zero, while the Adelaide Group has a very high Palaeontological sensitivity and the Quaternary superficial deposits has a low palaeontological sensitivity.

The expected duration of the impact is assessed as potentially permanent to long term. In the absence of mitigation procedures (should fossil material be present within the affected area) the damage or destruction of any palaeontological materials will be **permanent**. Impacts on palaeontological heritage during the construction phase could potentially occur but are regarded as having a low possibility as a previous Phase 1 Palaeontological was conducted in 2015 no fossiliferous outcrop was found

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# 12 CHANCE FINDS PROTOCOL

A following procedure will only be followed if fossils are uncovered during excavation.

# 12.1 Legislation

Cultural Heritage in South Africa (includes all heritage resources) is protected by the **National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA).** According to Section 3 of the Act, all Heritage resources include "all objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens".

Palaeontological heritage is unique and non-renewable and is protected by the NHRA and are the property of the State. It is thus the responsibility of the State to manage and conserve fossils on behalf of the citizens of South Africa. Palaeontological resources may not be excavated, broken, moved, or destroyed by any development without prior assessment and without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority as per section 35 of the NHRA.

# 12.2 Background

A fossil is the naturally preserved remains (or traces) of plants or animals embedded in rock. These plants and animals lived in the geologic past millions of years ago. Fossils are extremely rare and irreplaceable. By studying fossils, it is possible to determine the environmental conditions that existed in a specific geographical area millions of years ago.

# 12.3 Introduction

This informational document is intended for workmen and foremen on construction sites. It describes the actions to be taken when mining or construction activities accidentally uncovers fossil material.

It is the responsibility of the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) of the project to train the workmen and foremen in the procedure to follow when a fossil is accidentally uncovered. In the absence of the ECO, a member of the staff must be appointed to be responsible for the proper implementation of the chance find protocol as not to compromise the conservation of fossil material.

# 12.4 Chance Find Procedure

- If a chance find is made the person responsible for the find must immediately stop working and all work must cease in the immediate vicinity of the find.
- The person who made the find must immediately report the find to his/her direct supervisor which in turn must report the find to his/her manager and the ECO or Site

Mimosa Glen quarry, Bloemfontein

manager. The ECO must report the find to the relevant Heritage Agency (South African Heritage Research Agency, SAHRA). Contact details: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town. PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000, South Africa. Tel: 021 462 4502. Fax: +27 (0)21 462 4509. Web: <a href="www.sahra.org.za">www.sahra.org.za</a>). The information to the Heritage Agency must include photographs of the find, from various angles, as well as the GPS co-ordinates.

- A preliminary report must be submitted to the Heritage Agency within 24 hours of the find and must include the following: 1) date of the find; 2) a description of the discovery and a 3) description of the fossil and its context (depth and position of the fossil), GPS coordinates.
- Photographs (the more the better) of the discovery must be of high quality, in focus, accompanied by a scale. It is also important to have photographs of the vertical section (side) where the fossil was found.

Upon receipt of the preliminary report, the Heritage Agency will inform the ECO / Site manager whether a rescue excavation or rescue collection by a palaeontologist is necessary.

- The site must be secured to protect it from any further damage. No attempt should be
  made to remove material from their environment. The exposed finds must be stabilized
  and covered by a plastic sheet or sand bags. The Heritage Agency will also be able to
  advise on the most suitable method of protection of the find.
- In the event that the fossil cannot be stabilized the fossil may be collected with extreme
  care by the ECO / Site manager. Fossils finds must be stored in tissue paper and in an
  appropriate box while due care must be taken to remove all fossil material from the
  rescue site.
- Once the Heritage Agency has issued the written authorization, the developer may continue with the development.

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**CURRICULUM VITAE** 

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YEARS' EXPERIENCE: 26 years in Palaeontology

**EDUCATION:** B.Sc Botany and Zoology, 1988

University of the Orange Free State

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Management Course, 1991

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M. Sc. Cum laude (Zoology), 2009

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**Dissertation title:** The postcranial skeleton of the Early Triassic non-mammalian Cynodont *Galesaurus planiceps*: implications for biology and lifestyle

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2013 to current

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# **MEMBERSHIP**

Palaeontological Society of South Africa (PSSA) 2006-currently

# **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Part time Laboratory assistant Department of Zoology & Entomology

University of the Free State Zoology

1989-1992

Part time laboratory assistant Department of Virology

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Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein 1993 –

1997

Principal Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein

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# **TECHNICAL REPORTS**

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