

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

<b>HERITAGE KWAZULU NATAL</b>		<b>AMAFI AKWAZULU NATALI</b>
-----------------------------------	---	----------------------------------

**Date visited: 13 June 2016**  
**Date created: 17 June 2016**

<b>SITE</b>	<b>PREPARED BY</b>	<b>DUE FOR REVIEW</b>
<b>COW CAVE on the farm Ptn. 3 Rood 14899</b>	CELESTE ROSSOUW Senior Rock Art Officer (SRAO) and Mr. Siyabonga Mbatha Rock Art Monitor (RAM)	June 2017

## *Preamble*

The Cow Cave site is situated in the Buffer Zone of the Maloti-Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site. It is located on private land, owned by Mr. Allan Mackintosh. The site is open for public visitation.

Sites within the Buffer Zone of the Maloti-Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site must be managed according to land-use-systems and limitations prescribed by EKZWN's Buffer Zone Management Plan that forms part of EKZWN's Integrated Management plan: 2012-2016.

Amafa's policy prescribes that for each rock art site opened, a management plan must be completed to ensure that no damage occurs for the sake of the long-term conservation of the rock art panels and their setting. The management plan must be edited on an annual basis.

Access to the site is managed by Buffalo Guides who has an MoU with the owner and Amafa's Permit System.

<b>Legislative and Policy Framework</b>	<b>Core issues addressed</b>	<b>Appendix</b>
<b>KZN HERITAGE ACT (ACT 4 of 2008)</b>	Empowers Amafa to prohibit or limit any activity within 50m of a rock art site and establishes Amafa as the custodian of that heritage	1

	resource.	
<b>NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT 25 OF 1999</b>	Delegates authority to a provincial heritage authority to manage heritage resources including rock art in terms of listed criteria.	2
<b>BURRA CHARTER</b>	Provides internationally accepted best-practice model for management of heritage resources	3
<b>ACCESS MANAGEMENT</b>	Managed via the permit system	4

## 1. Objectives

- 1.1 Survey and base-line documentation
- 1.2 Statement of Significance
- 1.3 Grading
- 1.4 Risk Assessment
2. Prescribe strategies to achieve long term conservation of the site, addressing in particular:
  - 2.1 Access management
  - 2.2 Conservation management
  - 2.3 Research Management
  - 2.4 Tourism Management
3. Revision of the Management Plan
4. Summary of Actions for the financial year

### 1.1. Survey and base-line documentation of Cow Cave

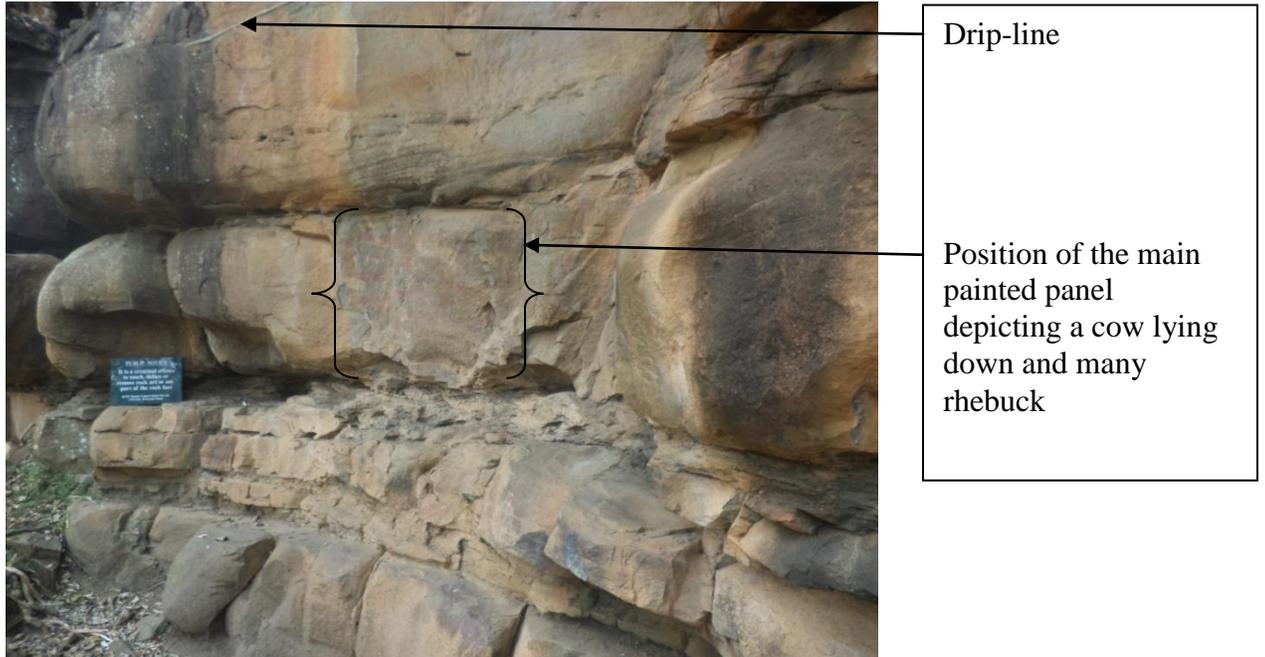
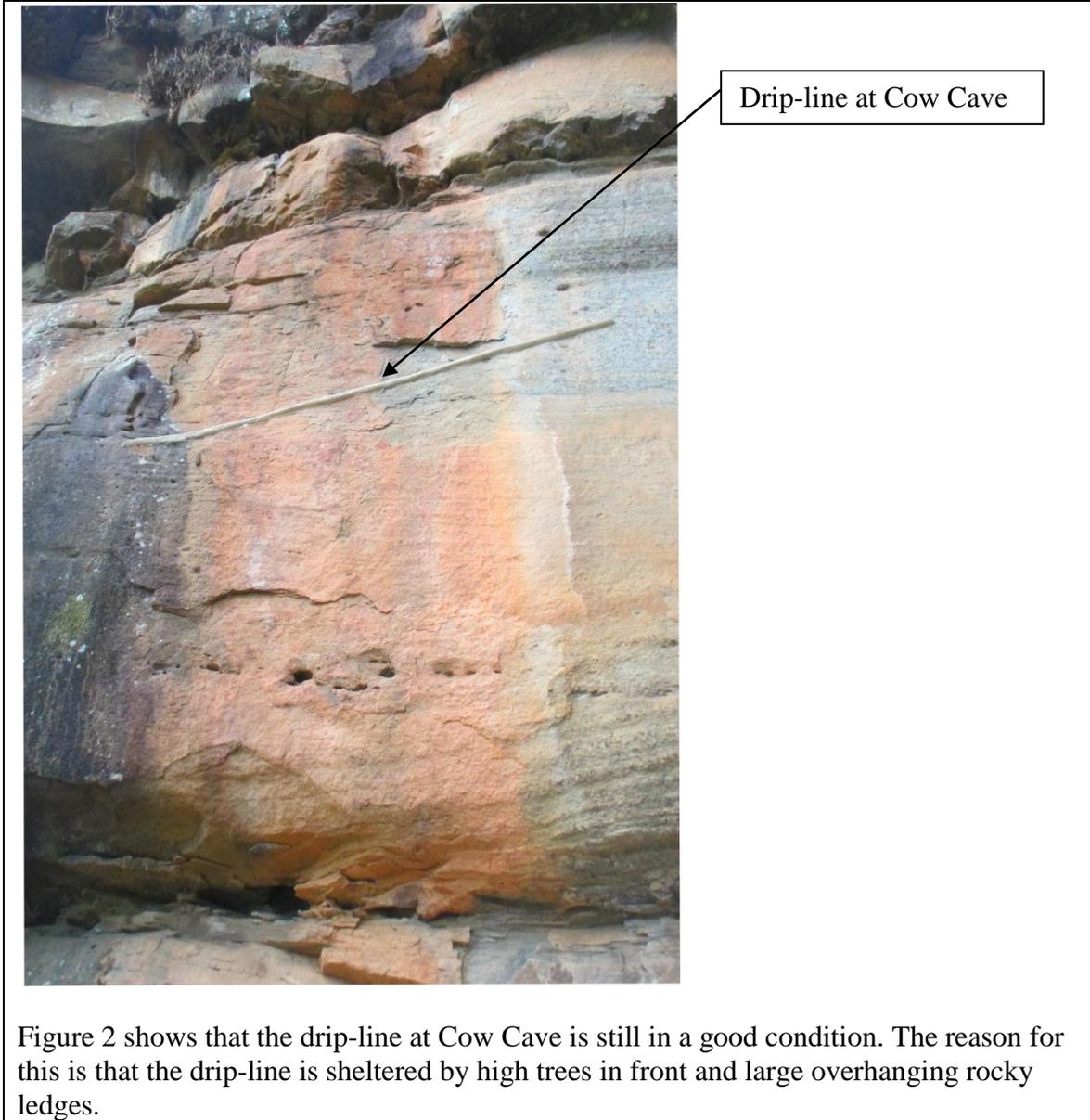
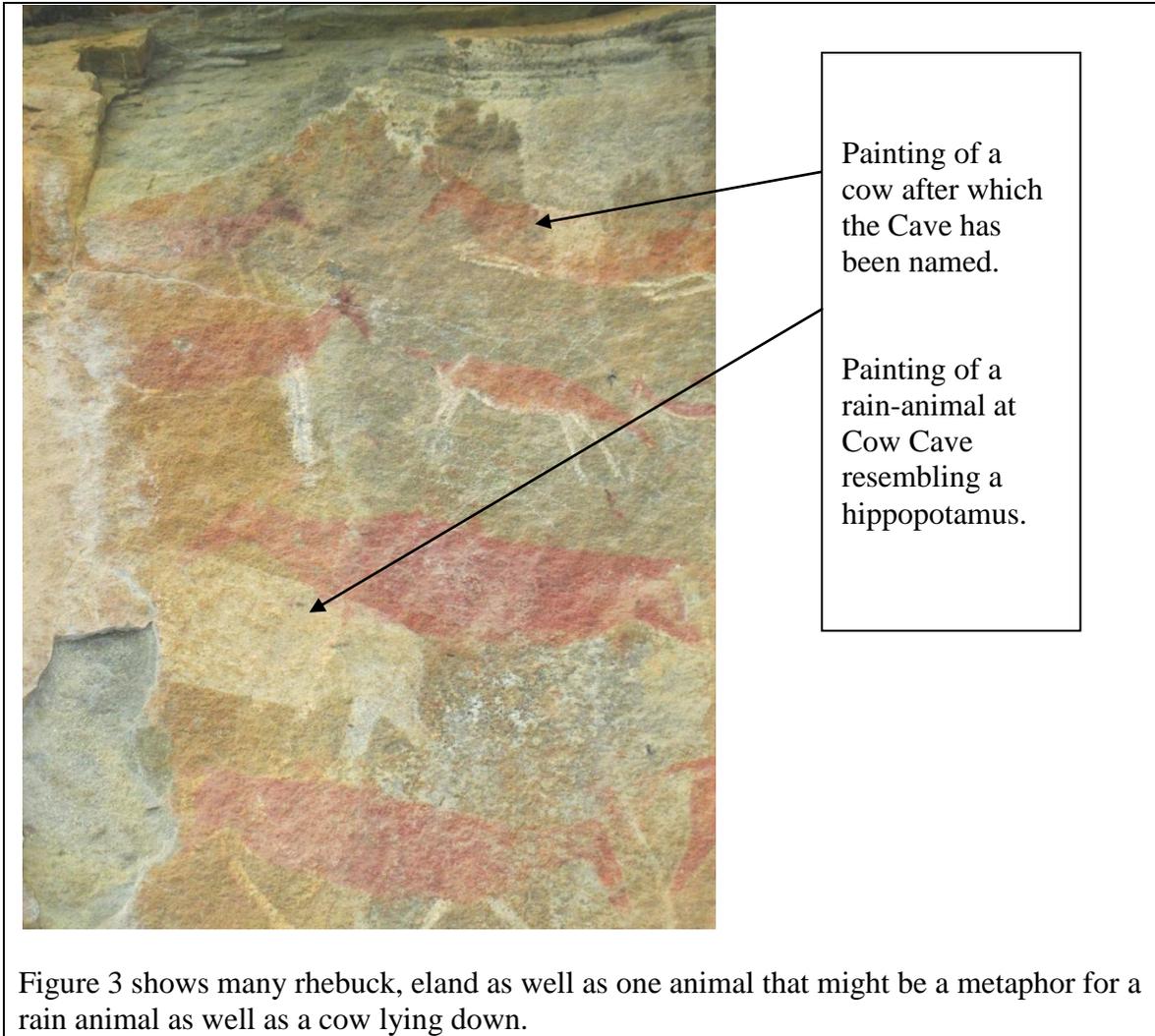


Figure 1 Parent rock of Cow Cave to contextualize the position of the main panel and the position of the drip line, above.





### Locality and Contacts

Site location	Monk's Cowl Buffer Zone
Farm/ Erf Number	Part 3 of the farm named Rood 14899
Owner and contact	Mr. Allan Mackintosh P.O. Box 30603 Jet Park 1469 <a href="mailto:allan@thembelihle.co.za">allan@thembelihle.co.za</a> Cell no: 082 444 9676
Honorary Rock Art Monitor (HRM)	Mr. Graham Barry P.O.Box 1080 Winterton 3340 <a href="mailto:info@witsend.co.za">info@witsend.co.za</a>

	Cell no: 083 784 9633 Tel no: 036 468 1133
--	---

### Site Description



Figure 4 Cow Cave is located in a small shelter measuring 14,5m screened by thick vegetation. The cave is facing south and it is not known whether an archeological deposit is present.

Archaeology database number	
-----------------------------	--

Site name	Cow Cave
Official Site name	Cow Cave
National Site number	Not on KwaZulu-Natal Museum's database
District and 1:50 000 map sheet no:	2929AB Champagne Castle
GPS Latitude and Longitude	
Elevation	
Accuracy	

Direction to the site	
Community land, State land or Private Property	Private Property
Owner's contact details	Mr. Allan Mackintosh, Part 3 of the farm named Rood 14899 P.O. Box 30603, Jet Park, 1469 <a href="mailto:allan@themelihle.co.za">allan@themelihle.co.za</a> Cell no: 082 444 9676
Recorder's name	Siyabonga Mbatha and Celeste Rossouw
Recorder's address	195 Longmarket street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201
Date of visit	13 June 2016
Archaeological deposit	Unknown
Type of shelter	Rock Shelter
Cave mouth faces	South facing
Approximate size of the rock shelter floor?	14,5m
Approximate are of wall covered with paintings	1,5m by 1m
Natural damage to paintings	Water-wash area is present causing mineral deposits on the rock face; swallows nests are present although they are not covering the art. Baboons are utilizing the site and causing abrasion. Lichen is present, but not covering the art. Dust poses a problem and a red crust covers most of the parent rock and the art.
Have the paintings or rock shelter been damaged by graffiti?	Yes, there are some new scratches visible. 
	Figure 5 Some vertical scratches are visible.

	
	<p>Figure 6 shows new engraved graffiti measuring approximately 35cm by 15cm. Underneath the “SKHOLE” HM was also engraved measuring 20cm by 20cm.</p>
Approximate number of paintings: 30	Red: Black: White: Yellow: Bichrome: Polychrome:
Number of human figures: 2	Male: Female: Indeterminate: 2
Number of animals: 27	Indeterminate antelope: 3 Cow: 1 Rhebuck: 15 Eland: Leopard: Baboon: 1 Hartebeest: 2 Impala: Giraffe: Buffalo: Gemsbok: 1 Dik-dik: 5
Number of handprints: None	Plain: Patterned:
Number of non-representative patterns: None	Dots: Lines: Grids: U-shapes: Smears: Zigzags: Y Shapes: Finger paint:
Describe unusual images: 1	White painted animal portraying a large and fat mammal, this might represent a rain-animal and is accordingly of ritual significance
Is the cave floor rocky or sandy or ashy?	Sandy
Location of the site (on top of mountain, in stream bed, half way up a mountain?)	Halfway up a koppie.
Records made (Photo/slides/drawings)	Written documentations as well as digital photography.

## 1.2. Risk Assessment

New graffiti was documented at the site and reports from Buffalo Guides mentioned the problem of illegal access to Cow Cave. Proposal: Mr. Mbatha and I should go and see the owners or the Hospitality/Entertainment Manager of Dragon's Peak Hotel who were directing their guests to the site illegally based on complaints by Buffalo Guides.

## 2. Conservation Strategy

### 2.1. Access Management



Figure 7 shows that the trail to Cow Cave is well maintained. A gate is also in place to allow for better access control, however, sometimes the gate is not closed and people from the neighbouring Dragon's Peak Hotel may access the property of Mr. Mackintosh and go to the site alone.



Figure 8 shows the pathway up the slope to Cow Cave, no soil erosion is visible and the trail is clear.

During the rainy seasons the pathway must be checked for soil erosion and should be rehabilitated as soon as possible. This would be the responsibility of the owner of the site.

## 2.2 Conservation Management



Figure 9 shows part of the shelter floor and parent rock with the drip-line.

- a. Taken into consideration that the area in front of the cave is very narrow, it is recommended that only five guests enter the cave at once, the custodian included. Guests must also be informed to be careful not to stir dust or to accidentally rub or touch the parent rock or paintings.
- b. A maximum of two site visitations may occur and the time frame specified will be at 9am and 11am daily.

## 2.3. Research management

- a) All researchers must apply to Amafa for research permits.

## 2.4. Tourism management

- a) Amafa is in process of developing a brochure that focuses on all the officially open rock art sites in the northern and southern MDP WHS and in its Buffer Zone.
- b) Amafa is in process of developing posters to be placed at the receptions of all the reserves containing open rock art destinations.
- c) Both of the mentioned items were completed but for final ratification, EKZNW's Design Department has requested a day to workshop these items before tabling them at the Cultural Heritage Management Meeting.
- d) Signage to be located at boom-gates or entrance gates of reserves and at the reception was developed.
- e) Funding might be a problem for Amafa and therefore the Senior Heritage Officer of Rock Art will request whether EKZNW can fund the production of the brochure, posters and signage. The final products will be handed over to the Design Department of EKZNW.

## 3. Revision and monitoring

- a) This management plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and any annual objectives actions transferred to the following financial year action plan.

## 4. Summary of Actions for current year.

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
1.	Complete the site survey form and condition assessment report.	Senior Rock Art Officer (SRAO) and Rock Art Monitor (RAM)
2.	Make an appointment with the owner and or Hospitality/Entertainment Manager of Dragon's Peak Hotel since the site is illegally visited by people that are shown directions to the site by staff of the Hotel.	SRAO
3.	Condition assessment reports to be completed on a monthly basis by the guides or Honorary Rock Art Monitor and forwarded to Amafa.	Buffalo Thorn Guides or Mr. Graham Barry
4.	Soil erosion should be monitored after the rainy season.	Landowner
5.	Amount of people allowed within Cow Cave at once: 5 (including the custodian). And people may only visit Cow Cave twice a day at 9h00 and 11h00	Buffalo Thorn Guides
6.	Any person that wants to carry out research at Cow Cave must apply for a permit at Amafa	All
7.	Amafa to disseminate a visitor book and permits to Buffalo Guides who are the custodian of the site.	SRAO
8.	This management plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and any annual objectives actions transferred to the	SRAO

	following financial year action plan.	
--	---------------------------------------	--

## APPENDIX 1

### **Legislative Framework:**

#### **1) LEGISLATION: KWAZULU-NATAL HERITAGE ACT NO. 4 OF 2008, SECTION 36**

36. General protection: Battlefield sites, **archaeological sites, rock art sites, palaeontological sites**, historic fortifications, meteorite or meteorite impact sites.—(1) No person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter, write or draw upon, or otherwise disturb any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

(2) Upon discovery of archaeological or palaeontological material or a meteorite by any person, all activity or operations in the general vicinity of such material or meteorite must cease forthwith and a person who made the discovery must submit a written report to the Council without delay.

(3) The Council may, after consultation with an owner or controlling authority, by way of written notice served on the owner or controlling authority, prohibit any activity considered by the Council to be inappropriate within 50 meters of a rock art site.

(4) No person may exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb, damage, destroy, own or collect any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

(5) No person may bring any equipment which assists in the detection of metals and archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, or excavation equipment onto any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, or meteorite impact site, or use similar detection or excavation equipment for the recovery of meteorites, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

(6) (a) The ownership of any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site, on discovery, vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.

## APPENDIX 2

**2) The National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999**, definition 1(d), section 35, section 50 (heritage inspectors), and for offences and penalties, section 51

### Section 35 Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

(1) Subject to the provisions of section 8, the protection of archaeological and palaeontological sites and material and meteorites is the responsibility of a provincial heritage resources authority: Provided that the protection of any wreck in the territorial waters and the maritime cultural zone shall be the responsibility of SAHRA.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (8) (a), all archaeological objects, palaeontological material and meteorites are the property of the State. The responsible heritage authority must, on behalf of the State, at its discretion ensure that such objects are lodged with a museum or other public institution that has a collection policy acceptable to the heritage resources authority and may in so doing establish such terms and conditions as it sees fit for the conservation of such objects.

(3) Any person who discovers archaeological or palaeontological objects or material or a meteorite in the course of development or agricultural activity must immediately report the find to the responsible heritage resources authority, or to the nearest local authority office or museum, which must immediately notify such heritage resources authority.

(4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority –

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (c) trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- (d) bring onto or use at any archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

### Appointment and powers of heritage inspectors

50 (2) By force of this section, each member of the South African Police Services and each custom and excise officer is deemed to be a heritage inspector.

### Offences and Penalties

51 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, any person who contravenes – (b) section 35(4) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine or imprisonment or both such fine and imprisonment as set out in item 2 of the Schedule.

51 (2) The Minister, with the concurrence of the relevant MEC, may prescribe a penalty of a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months...

51 (3)(a) The Minister or the MEC, as the case may be, may make regulations in terms of which the magistrate of the district may – levy admission of guilt fines up to a maximum of R10 000,00 for infringement....and

(b) serve a notice upon a person who is contravening a specified provision of this Act or has not complied with the terms of a permit issued by such authority, imposing a fine of R50,00 for the duration of the contravention, subject to a maximum of 365 days.

Permit requirements:What constitutes development?Definition 1 (d)

“development” means any physical intervention, excavation or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in any way result in a change of nature, appearance or physical nature of a place or influence its stability and future well-being; including –

- (a) construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change of use of a place or structure on the place,
- (b) carrying out any works on or over or under the place;
- (c) subdivision or consolidation of land comprising a place, including the structures of airspace;
- (d) construction or putting up for display signs.
- (e) any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land;
- (f) any removal or destruction of trees or removal of vegetation or topsoil.

Section 36(1) General ProtectionStructures:

Any proposed demolition, addition or alteration of structures or parts thereof, which are older than 60 years, shall be subject to the following:

- (a) thirty days prior to the commencement of such a proposed activity a permit shall be applied for from Amafa.
- (d) Conditions stipulated in terms of permits issued under this provision shall be of such nature so as to facilitate the recycling of historical building materials and the revision of design proposals.
- (e) Where a permit is refused, the Council shall within a three-month period give consideration to the protection of the site in terms of one of the formal classifications provided for in section 19 to 25 (e.g. Heritage Landmark, Provincial Landmark, Heritage Object, Heritage Conservancies, Provisional Protection or designating a suitable buffer area as a Sensitive Site.

Heritage resources management:

(1) Any person wishing to undertake a project described in terms of the following categories:

- (a) construction of a road, wall, power line, pipe line, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length.
- (b) construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length; and
- (c) any development that will change the character of an area of land or water –
  - (i) exceeding 5 000m<sup>2</sup> in extent;
  - (ii) involving three or more existing erven, or subdivisions thereof, or
  - (iii) involving three or more erven, or subdivisions thereof, which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
  - (iv) the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations; or
  - (v) any other category of development provided for regulations, shall the earliest stages of initiating development, notify the Council of Amafa and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

(2) within 14 days of receipt of the notification the Council will notify the person that he/she must submit and Heritage Impact Assessment Report at the cost of the person proposing the development.

(3) the HIA must include the following

- (a) identification and mapping of heritage resources in the area affected;
- (b) an assessment of the significance of such heritage resources
- (c) an assessment of the impact of the development on the resources

(d) an evaluation of above-mentioned in relation to socio-economic benefits derived from development

(e) should heritage resources be adversely affected by the proposed development, the consideration of alternatives; and

(f) plans for mitigation of any adverse effects during and after completion of the proposed development

(4) The HIA will be considered timeously by the Council, which shall then decide whether the proposed development can proceed or not; whether any limitations or conditions are to be applied to the development, what general protections apply and what formal protections can be applied to such heritage resource.

## APPENDIX 3

### **3) Applying guidelines of the Burra Charter to Rock Art Management in South Africa**

**Preamble:** The Burra Charter was adopted by the Australian National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1979. Revisions were adopted in 1981, 1988 and 1999. The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places with cultural significance.

**Strategies:** The management of rock art sites includes the following strategies: maintenance, physical conservation as well as visitor management.

1) **Maintenance** According to the Burra Charter, article 1.5, maintenance can be defined as the continuous protection of the setting, fabric and contents, distinguishing it from repair, which would indicate restoration or reconstruction.

Maintenance includes baseline documentation, condition assessment reports and continuous monitoring (regular inspections and the replication of recording methods). This is based on the rationale of minimum intervention and preventative care e.g. checking that the fire breaks are carried out, removing dead wood inside caves and rock shelter that poses a fire threat, trimming shrubs that are rubbing against rock art panels, checking that the visitors' infrastructure (fences, walk ways, signage) are maintained and repaired if necessary.

2) **Physical conservation:** According to the Burra Charter, "conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance"(Article 1: Definitions 1.4) This also includes direct intervention at a site, e.g. stabilisation, adaptation, restoration and reconstruction.

a) **Stabilisation or preservation** (article 1.6) can be defined as preserving what exists as it is or retarding deterioration (not improvement) e.g. establishing a drip line, consolidation treatment to stabilise paintings and engravings.

b) **Adaptation:** According to article 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 6, 7 and 21 adaptation embodies, modifying a place to suit compatible uses and it is acceptable where it will supplement the conservation of the place and if it does not substantially subtract from the cultural significance of a site.

Adaptation must be limited to which is essential to allow use of the place in accordance with the Statement of Goals and Objectives, e.g. modifying a site to allow for low impact tourism (The construction of fences, signage, board walks, benches, etc. at rock art sites).

c) **Restoration** involves returning the existing fabric to a known earlier state by removing accretions without introducing new materials (article 1.7 & 19). This can only be done if there are sufficient evidence of an earlier state and only if removing the fabric reveals the cultural significance of the place/setting.

This process is limited to the removal of post-contact graffiti (younger than 100 years) as well as the removal of stains caused by lichen, vascular plants and the removal of birds and insect nests obliterating the art.

d) **Reconstruction:** implies returning a site as near as possible to a known earlier state (article 1.8 & 20). This is aimed at legibility as well as the aesthetic presentation of a site/artefact. New as well as old materials are used in the process. Reconstruction must be limited to the completion of a dilapidated entity (it should not involve the majority of the fabric).

Reconstruction is not applicable in South Africa as there are no San descendants left to renovate their rock art by retouching original panels (It is however allowed in Australia, where the original artists are living and still paint and renovate their art).

3) Visitor management: The management of visitors includes the employment of guides, custodians, the development of interpretive programmes as well as the construction and maintenance of visitors' facilities. E.g. signs, physical barriers, walk ways, etc which correlates intrinsically with strategies related to adaptation. (See physical conservation strategies).

