

**A LETTER OF EXEMPTION FOR THE KWAVALA
RURAL HOUSING PROJECT**

FOR K2M ENVIRONMENTAL

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Abbreviations

HP	Historical Period
IIA	Indeterminate Iron Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
EIA	Early Iron Age
ISA	Indeterminate Stone Age
ESA	Early Stone Age
MSA	Middle Stone Age
LSA	Late Stone Age
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
PIA	Palaeontological Impact Assessment

INTRODUCTION

The project area falls within a portion of the Wards 1 and 2 of the Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality. The total extent of the project area is approximately 5 836.96 Ha. The total population of the Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality, as recorded in the Census 2011 is estimated at 196 226 persons while the overall population of the KwaVala Rural Housing project area is approximately 12 448 persons which resides in approximately 2 278 households within the project area.

The proposed housing development will consist of the construction of approximately 2 000 new top structures within the project area and will therefore benefit approximately 2 000 beneficiaries and their associated families.

The Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality has signed a service agreement regarding the provision of bulk services to the proposed housing development. These bulk services are not covered by this LoE.

Umlando was requested to assist in the HIA and suggested that it be exempt from further HIA. Figures 1 – 4 show the location of the site.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA

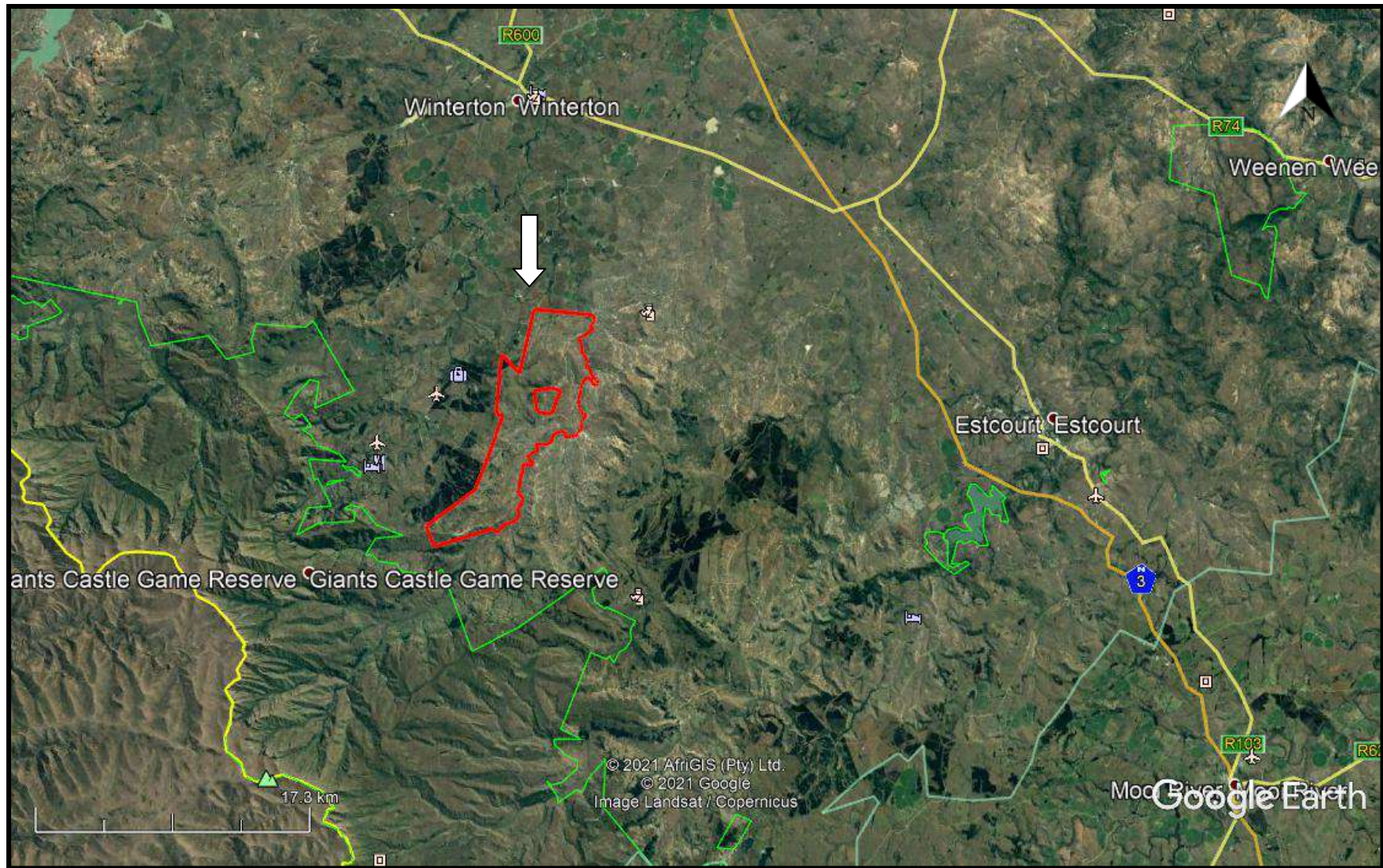


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA

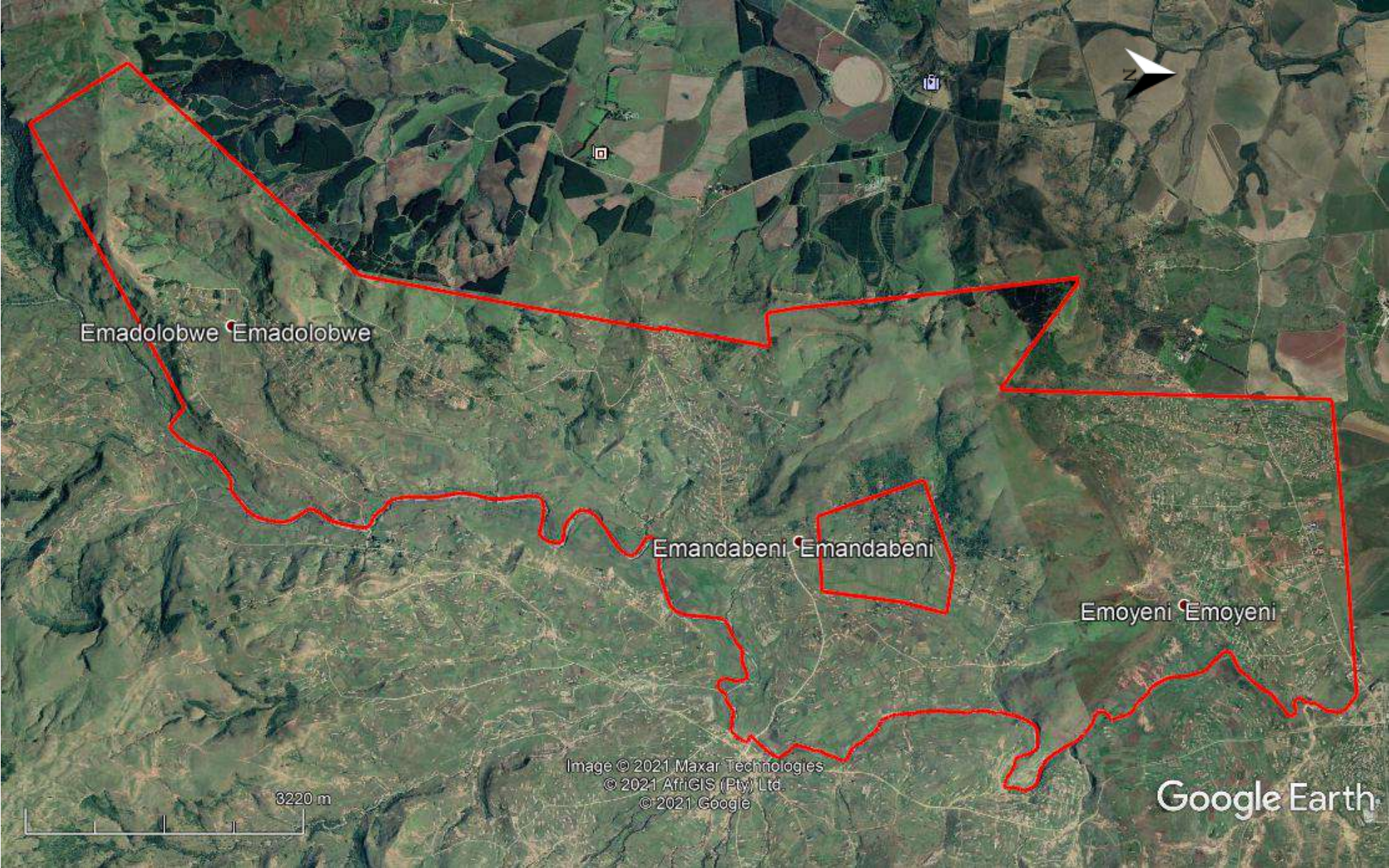


FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW OF THE EASTERN STUDY AREA (1996)

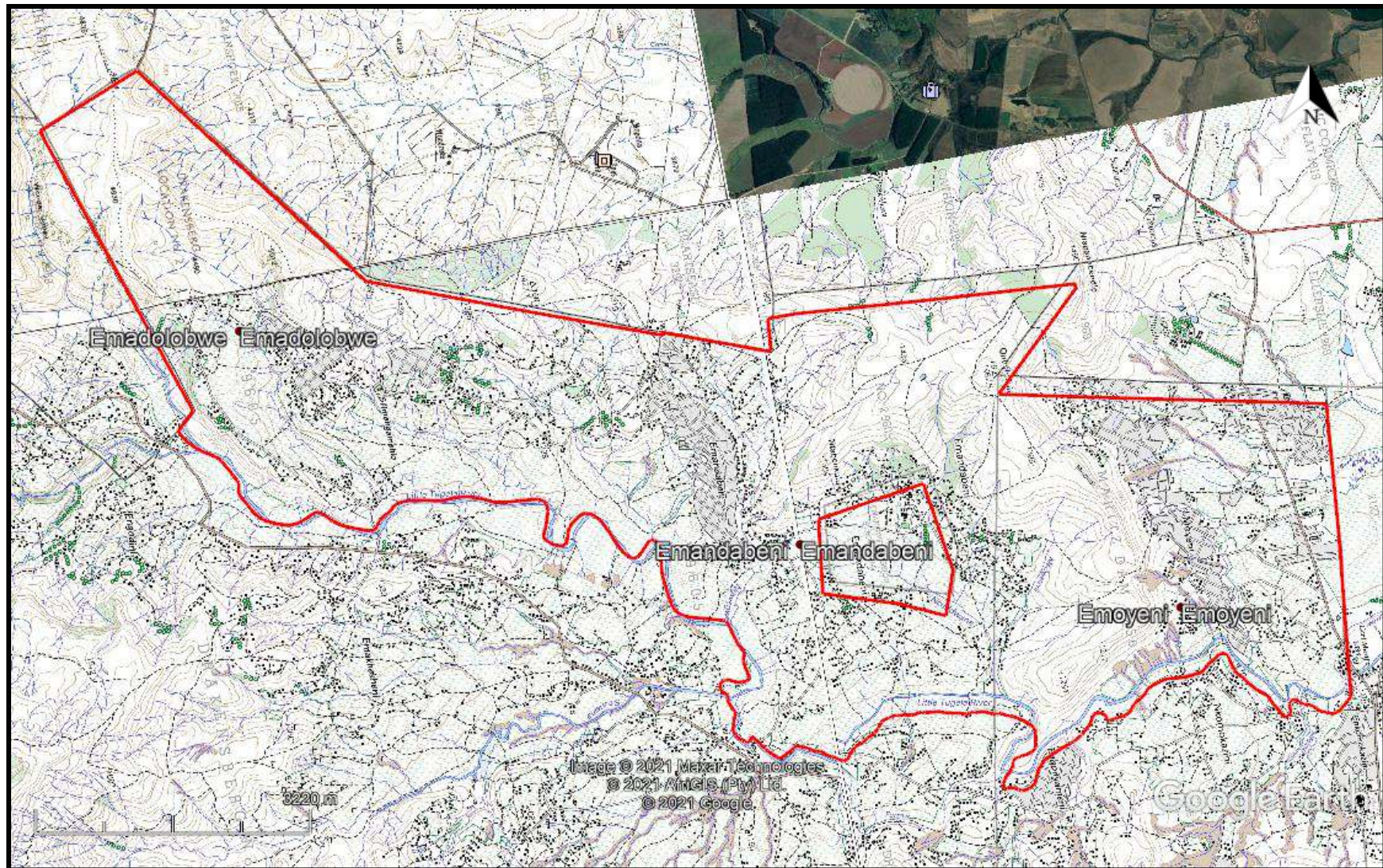


FIG. 4: SCENIC VIEWS OF THE STUDY AREA



The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The archaeological database indicates that there are archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 5). These sites include all types of Stone Age and Iron Age sites. No sites occur in the study area. It is highly unlikely that archaeological sites would exist within existing settlement footprints.

No national monuments, battlefields, or historical cemeteries are known to occur in the study area.

The 1944, 1969 and 1975 topographical maps (fig. 7) indicate that the area was under agricultural cultivation with many settlements. This suggests that there will be rural graves within many of these settlements. These would then be graves known to the family and will not be disturbed.

The Emangweni Mission Station (1863) and surrounding land (1863) will not be included.

The study area varies from no to very high palaeontological sensitivity. However, the *in situ* housing project will not extend into unweathered fossil bearing layers.

The proposed development will occur in pre-existing housing footprints. Since there are no known heritage sites in these settlements, the project should be exempt from further HIA studies.

FIG. 5: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES NEAR THE STUDY AREA

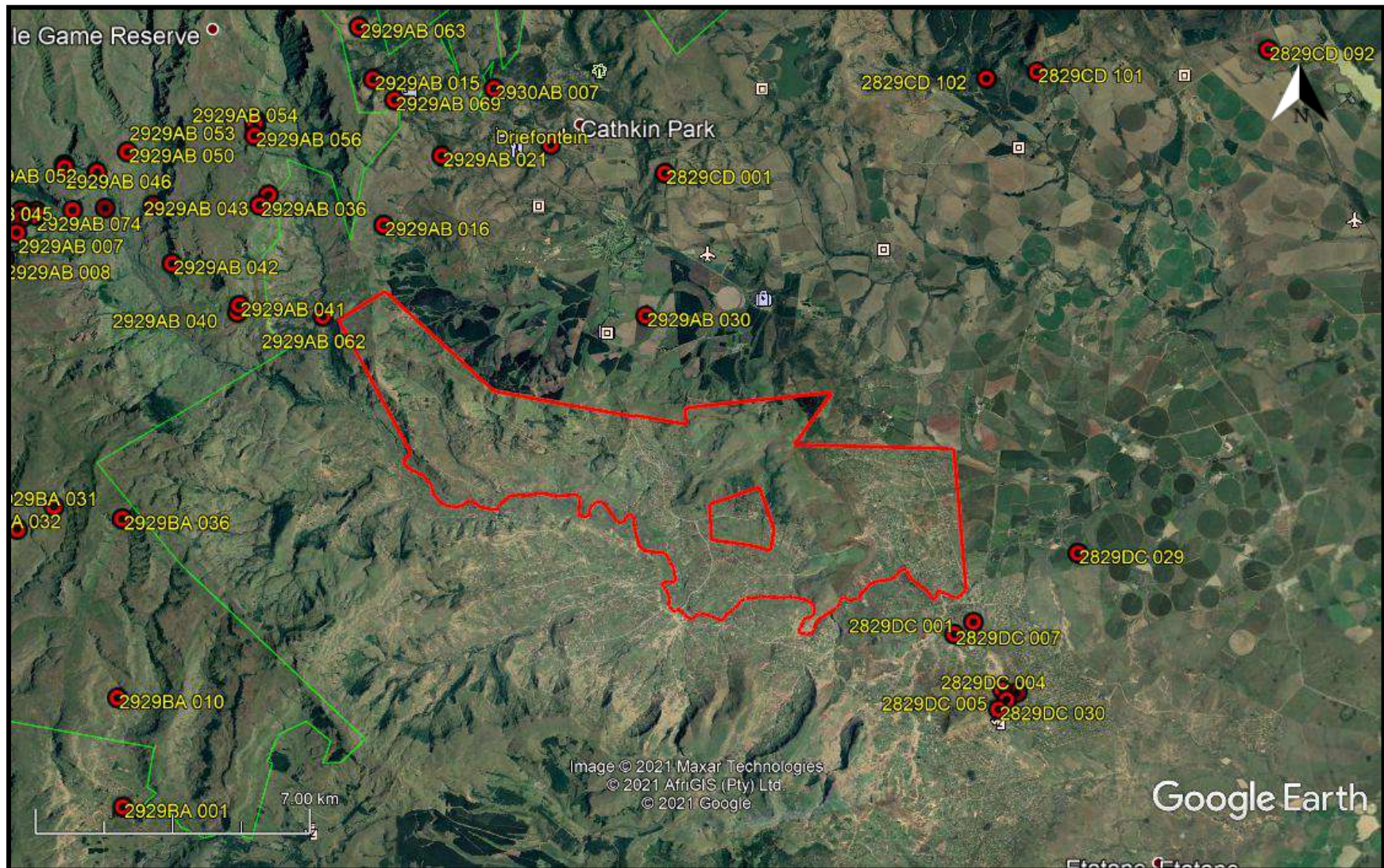


FIG. 7: STUDY AREA IN 1968

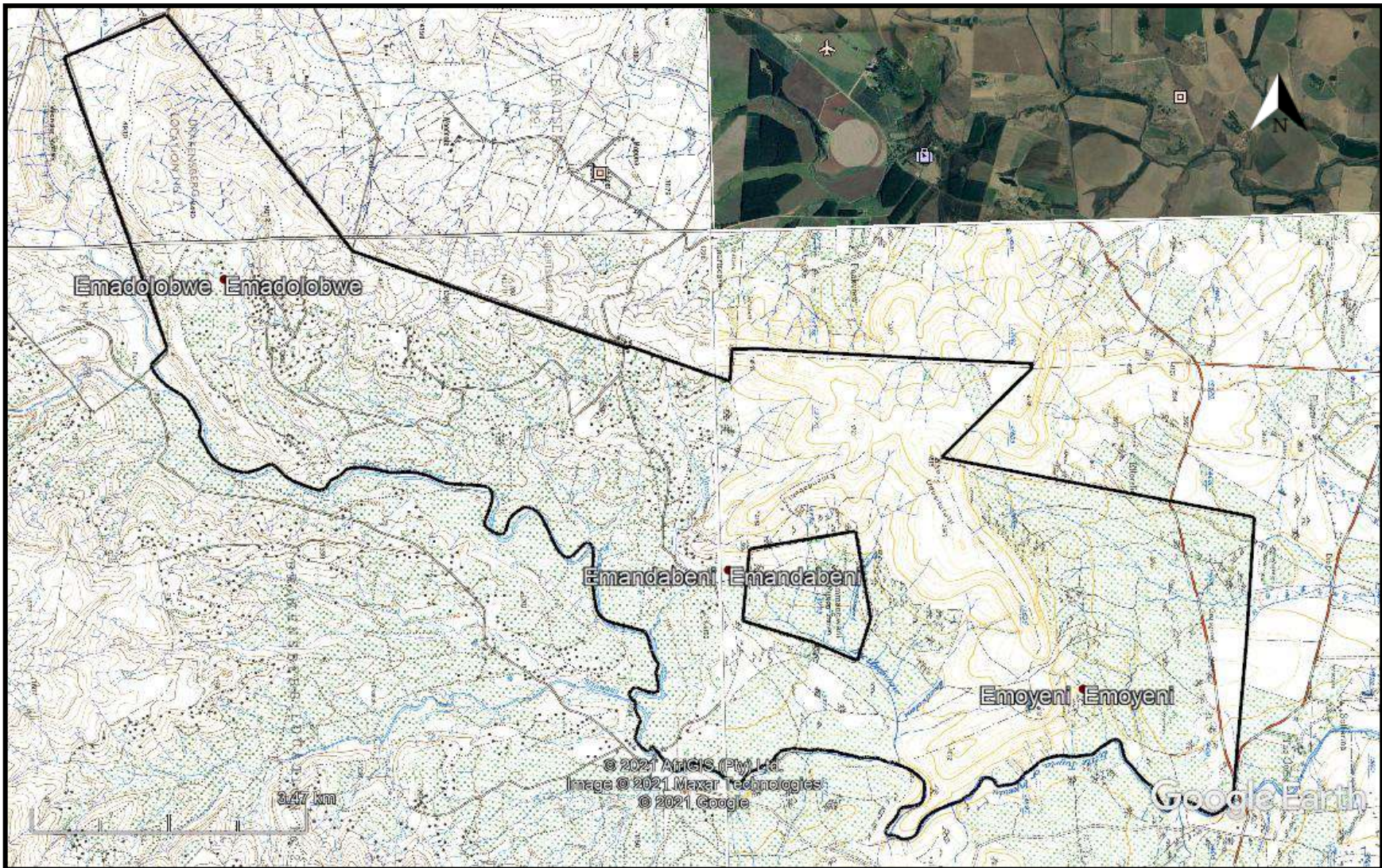


FIG. 8: PALAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY



COLOUR	SENSITIVITY	REQUIRED ACTION
RED	VERY HIGH	field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	no palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	no palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	these areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

EXPERIENCE OF THE HERITAGE CONSULTANT

Gavin Anderson has a M. Phil (in archaeology and social psychology) degree from the University of Cape Town. Gavin has been working as a professional archaeologist and heritage impact assessor since 1995. He joined the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Southern Africa in 1998 when it was formed. Gavin is rated as a Principle Investigator with expertise status in Rock Art, Stone Age and Iron Age studies. In addition to this, he was worked on both West and East Coast shell middens, Anglo-Boer War sites, and Historical Period sites.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Gavin Anderson, declare that I am an independent specialist consultant and have no financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development, nor the developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from fair remuneration for work performed in the delivery of heritage assessment services. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of my performing such work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Anderson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Gavin Anderson
Archaeologist/Heritage Impact Assessor