

# Construction of a proposed new Gauging Weir in the Vals River near Bothaville, FS Province: Exemption from Phase 1 HIA.

Site: Farms Winkelplaats 897 & Bothas Drift 286

Map Ref.: 1: 50 000 topographic map 2726BC Bothaville

Site coordinates: 27°29'41.79"S 26°39'33.57"E

The proposed footprint lies about 12 km south-southeast of Bothaville and consists of a 0.6 ha area selected for construction of a new gauging weir next to, and downstream from, an existing weir in the Vals River (**Fig 1 & 2**). Multiple tracks provide access to the site. The overbank sediments flanking the river at the site have been severely degraded by previous farming activities, including earlier construction of an existing weir. Furthermore, underlying geology at the site consist of palaeontologically insignificant volcanic rocks (Karoo Dolerite Suite, Karoo Supergroup) (**Fig. 3**).

Given the degree of current and prior degradation of the surface potentially intact alluvial deposits at the site, the proposed development footprint is not considered palaeontologically or archaeologically vulnerable and is assigned a site rating of Generally Protected C (Significance: low / Mitigation: destruction).

It is recommended that the proposed development is exempt from further Heritage Impact Assessments.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Rossouw', is written in a cursive style.

Report prepared by Paleo Field Services, PO Box 38806, Langenhovenpark, 9330

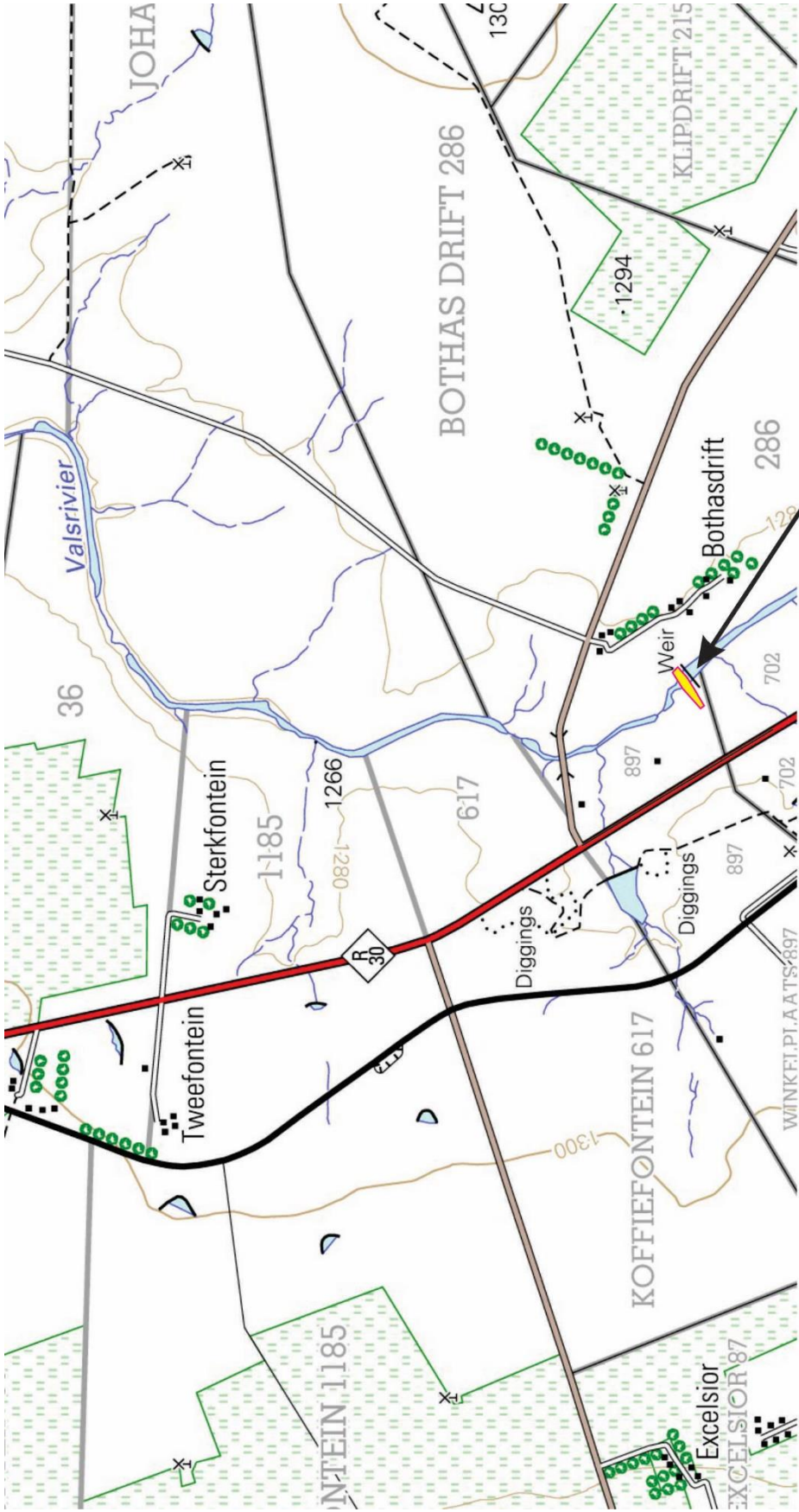


Figure 1. Map of proposed weir development marked on portion of 1:50 000 scale topographic map 2726 BC Bothaville.

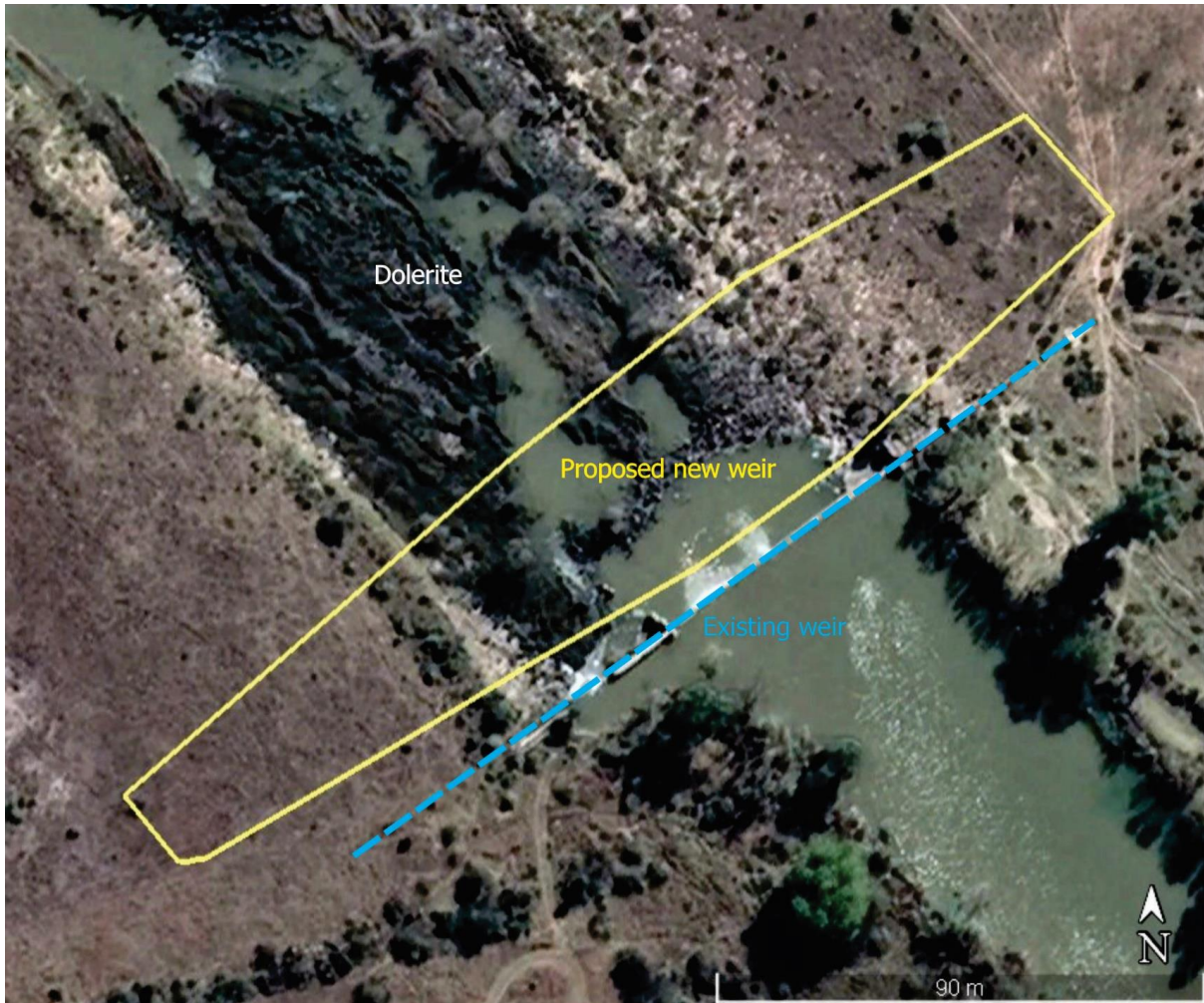


Figure 2. Aerial view of the proposed development footprint (yellow polygon).

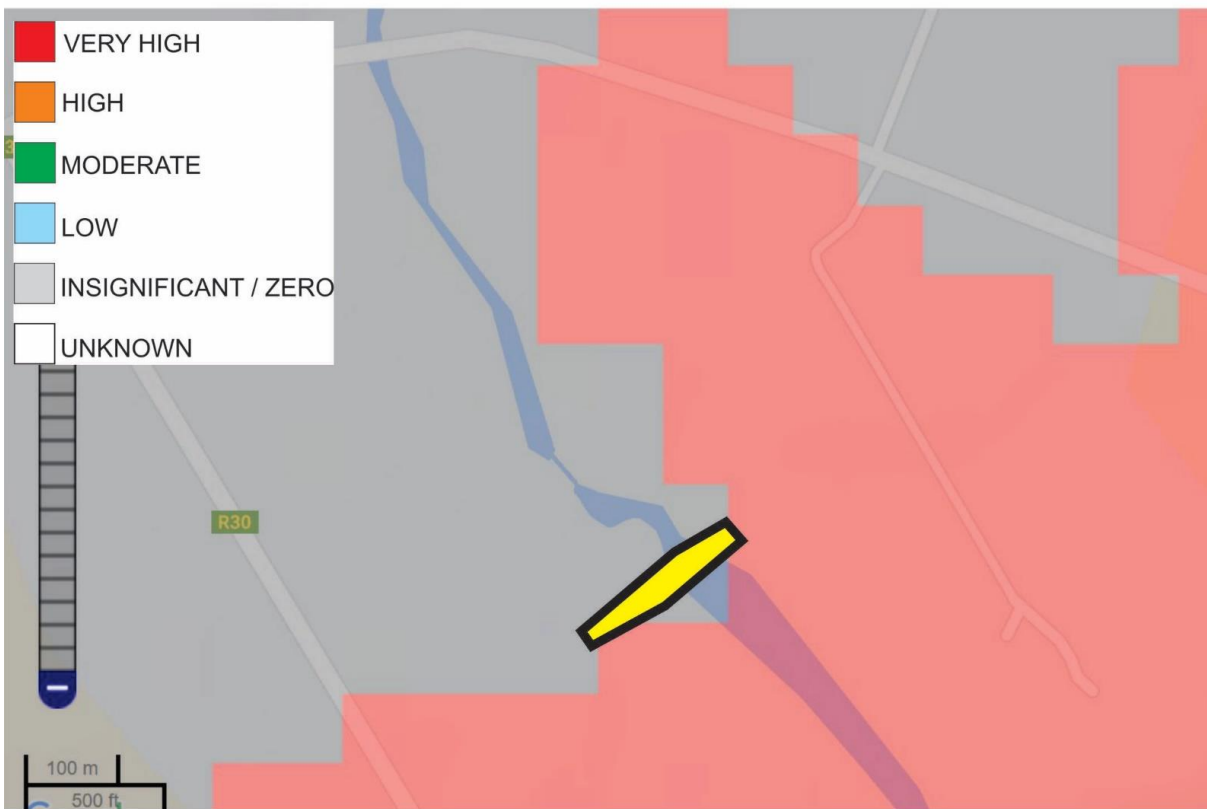


Figure 3. Portion of 1:250 000 geological map 2726 Kroonstad (above) and SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity map (below), showing underlying geology (dolerite) and its significance at the site.