

PALAEONTOLOGICAL DESKTOP ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PAULA POULTRY ABATTOIR NEAR BRANDFORT, MASILONYANA MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE

Compiled for: Michelle Boshoff SM SERVICES AND CONSULTING PTY LTD P. O. Box 1741 Ficksburg 9730

Prepared by
Banzai Environmental
25 October 2020

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 favorable 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 favorable 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 realize that a false declaration is an offense 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:

This Palaeontological Impact Assessment report has been compiled considering 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.

Table 1 - NEMA Table

Table 1 - NEIVIA Table	Ĭ	0 1
Requirements of Appendix 6 – GN R326 EIA Regulations of 7 April 2017	Relevant section in report	Comment where not applicable.
1.(1) (a) (i) Details of the specialist who prepared the report	Page 8 and Section 2 of Report – Contact details and company and Appendix A	-
(ii) The expertise of that person to compile a specialist report including a curriculum vita	Appendix A	-
(b) A declaration that the person is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority	Page 1 of the report	-
(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 specialist report	Section 5 – Geological and Palaeontological history	-
 (cB) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed development and levels of acceptable change; 	Section 9	-
(d) The duration, date 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 specialised process inclusive of equipment and modelling used	Section 7 Approach and Methodology	-
(f) details of an assessment of the specific 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;	Desktop Study	
(g) An identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers		No buffers or areas o sensitivity identified
(h) A map superimposing the activity including the associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers;	Section 5 – Geological and Palaeontological history	
(i) A description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 7.1 – 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 	Section 1 and 10	
(k) Any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr	N/A	
(I) Any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation	N/A	
(m) Any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation	N/A	

Requirements of Appendix 6 – GN R326 EIA Regulations of 7 April 2017	Relevant section in report	Comment where not applicable.
(n)(i) A reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised and	Section 10	
(n)(iA) A reasoned opinion regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or activities; and		
(n)(ii) If the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan	Section 10	-
(o) A description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of carrying out the		Not applicable. A public consultation process was handled as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
(p) A summary and copies if any comments that were received during any consultation process	N/A	process. Not applicable. To date no comments regarding heritage resources that require input from a specialist have been raised.
(q) Any other information requested by the competent		Not
authority.	N/A	applicable.
(2) Where a government notice by the Minister provides for any protocol or minimum information requirement to be applied to a specialist report, the requirements as indicated in such notice will apply.	Section 3 compliance with SAHRA guidelines	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Banzai Environmental was appointed by SM Services and Consulting Pty Ltd to conduct the Palaeontological Desktop Assessment (PDA) to assess the Paula Poultry Abattoir near Brandfort, Masilonyana Municipality, Free State. The National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999, section 38) (NHRA), states that a PIA is necessary to identify the presence of fossil material within the planned development footprint. This PIA is thus necessary to evaluate the effect of the construction on the palaeontological resources.

The Paula Poultry development, as well as the five alternatives identified for the poultry abattoir, is completely underlain by Quaternary superficial deposits. According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Quaternary superficial deposits is moderate. It is therefore considered that the Paula Poultry development and all alternatives are deemed appropriate and feasible and will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area. Thus, the construction and operation of the development may be authorised as the whole extent of the development footprint is not considered sensitive in terms of palaeontological resources.

If fossil remains or trace fossils are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by excavations the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) in charge of these developments must be informed. These discoveries ought to be protected and the ECO must report to 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: www.sahra.org.za) so that mitigation can be carry out by a palaeontologist.

It is consequently recommended that no further palaeontological heritage studies, ground truthing and/or specialist mitigation are required pending the discovery of newly discovered fossils.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The establishment of a Poultry Abattoir on the Farm Paula, near Brandfort within the Masilonyana Municipality is proposed (Figure 1-3). SM Services and Consulting Pty Ltd has been appointed by Mr. Estian de Swardt (the applicant) as the independent environmental consultant to perform the environmental impact assessment (Basic Assessment Report) (BAR) in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, for the proposed construction of an abattoir on the Farm Paula. Additionally, an application for a water use license (WULA) in terms of Section 21 and associated activities will be launched to meet the requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) (NWA).

The abattoir will be about 27,3 m X 6,4 m in extent and will include two ablution facilities. About 800 chickens will be slaughtered and prepared daily. Waste streams will be restricted to effluent (containing primarily blood) and feathers. Effluent will be treated in a septic tank system and used for irrigation. Feathers will be buried and covered for natural breakdown. It is expected that most of the chicken parts will be process and packaged for the market.

This project is an economic growth and upliftment project that will initially provide 12 to 17 job opportunities. The project is in line with the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) of 2016/2017 and the Comprehensive Rural Development Program (CRDP) of 2006 for the area that promote livestock farming and associated value chain development.

In the past the farm has been extensively used for agricultural activities including sheep farming and food production (beans, maize). Some of the agricultural fields are under irrigation.

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 14 years. She has been conducting Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIA) since 2014.

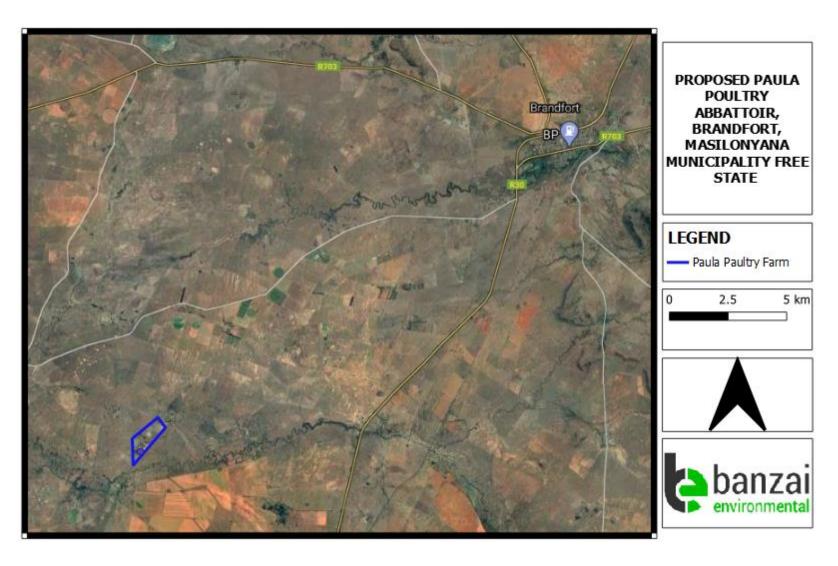


Figure 1 – Google Earth Image indicating the Regional setting of the proposed Paula Poultry Abattoir.

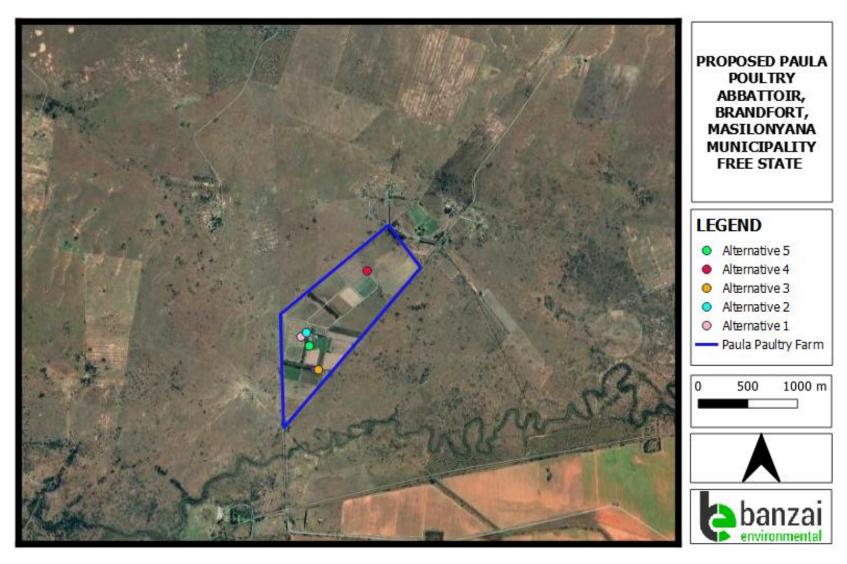


Figure 2 – Close up Google Earth Image of the proposed Paula Poultry Abattoir.

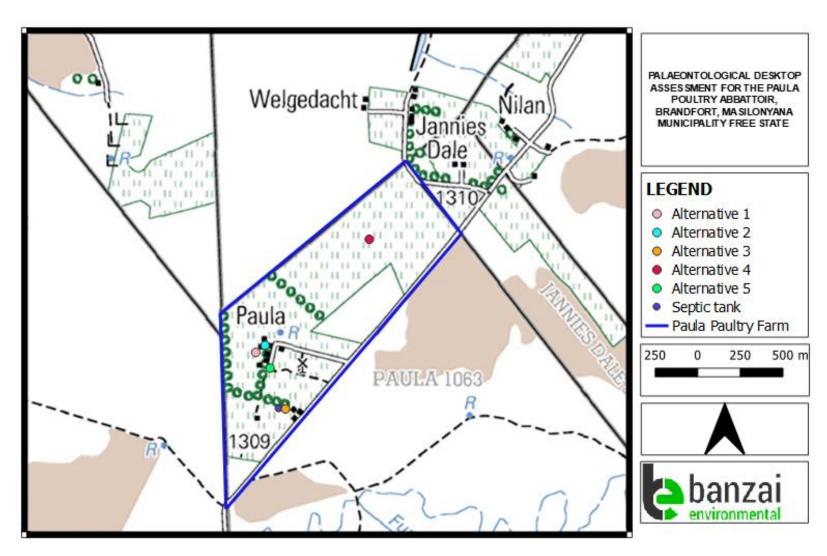


Figure 3 – Local setting.

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 exceptional and non-renewable and is protected by the NHRA. Palaeontological resources and may not be unearthed, 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.

This PIA 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 m² 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.

4 OBJECTIVE

The aim of a PIA is to decrease the effect of the development on potential fossils at the development site.

According to the "SAHRA APM Guidelines: Minimum Standards for the Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports" the purpose of the Paleontological

Impact Assessment (PIA) are: 1) to **identify** the palaeontological importance of the rock formations in the footprint; 2) to evaluate the palaeontological magnitude of the formations; 3) to determine the **impact** on fossil heritage; and 4) to **recommend** how the property developer should guard against and lessen damage to fossil heritage.

The terms of reference of a PIA 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/kml's) in the proposed development.
- 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 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 poultry abattoir near Brandfort in the Free State is depicted on the 1:250 000 2826 Winburg Geological Map (Council of Geosciences). The proposed Paula poultry farm and five proposed alternatives is underlain by Quaternary superficial deposits (Figure 5). According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Quaternary superficial deposits is moderate (Almond *et al.*, 2013; SAHRIS website; Figure 6).

The Quaternary superficial deposits are the youngest geological deposits formed during the most recent geological period (approximately 2.6 million years ago to present). The rocks and sediments are found at or near the Earth's surface. Pre-Quaternary deposits are known as bedrock. Most of the superficial deposits are unconsolidated sediments and consist of clay, gravel, sand, silt, that form relatively thin, discontinuous patches of sediments or larger spreads onshore. These sediments comprise of beach sand, channel, floodplain and stream deposits, talus gravels and glacial drift sediments.

The Quaternary deposits reveal palaeoclimatic changes in the different geological formations (Hunter et al., 2006). The climatic fluctuations in the Cenozoic Era were responsible for the formation of most geomorphologic features in southern Africa (Maud, 2012). Various warming and cooling events occurred in the Cenozoic but climatic changes during the Quaternary, specifically the last 1.8 Ma, were the most drastic relative to all climate variations in the past (Barnosky, 2005). Climate in the Quaternary were drier and wetter than the present and resulted in changes in river flow patterns, sedimentation processes and vegetation variation (Tooth et al., 2004).

Quaternary fossil assemblages are generally rare and low in diversity and occur over a wide-ranging geographic area. These fossil assemblages may in some cases occur in extensive alluvial and colluvial deposits cut by dongas. In the past palaeontologists did not focus on Caenozoic deposits although they sometimes comprise of significant fossil deposits. These fossil assemblages resemble modern animals and may comprise of mammalian teeth, bones and horn corns, reptile skeletons and fragments of ostrich eggs. Microfossils, non-marine mollusc shells are also known from Quaternary. Plant material such as foliage, wood, pollens and peats are recovered as well as trace fossils like vertebrate tracks, burrows, termitaria and rhizoliths.

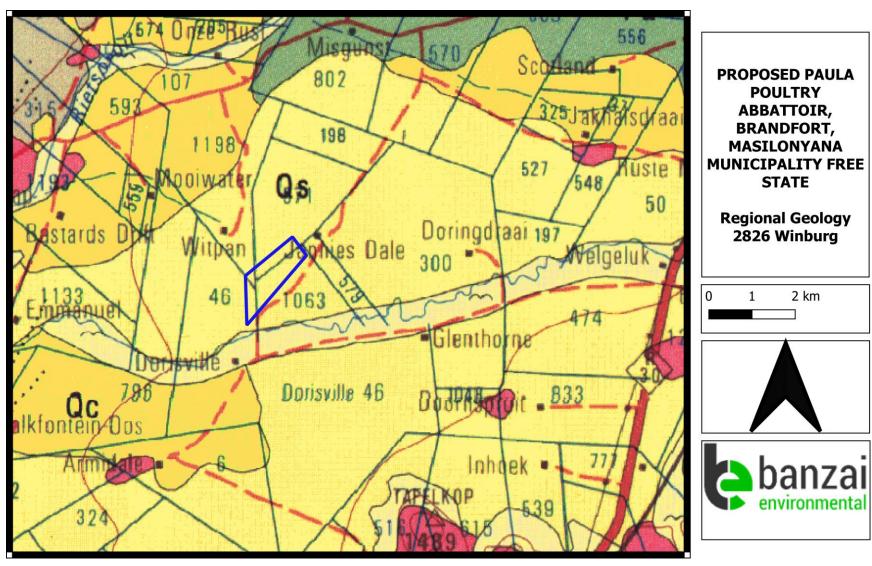


Figure 4 - Extract of the 1: 250 000 2826 Winburg Geological Map (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria). The study area is underlain by the Quaternary superficial sediments.

Geological Unit	Rock Type and Age	Fossil Heritage	Palaeontological
			Sensitivity
CAENOZOIC	Quaternary (1.6 Ma to	Fossil assemblages	Moderate
SUPERFICIAL DEPOSITS	recent)	resemble modern	
		animals. May	
Aeolian sand, alluvium, colluvium,		comprise of	
calcareous spring tufa		mammalian teeth,	
and siliceous sinter, as well as lake deposits,		bones and horn corns,	
peats, pedocretes		reptile skeletons and	
(calcrete and ferricrete), and gravel		fragments of ostrich	
and soils		eggs. Microfossils,	
		non-marine mollusc	
		shells, Plant material	
		includes foliage, wood,	
		pollens and peats and	
		trace fossils like	
		vertebrate tracks,	
		burrows, termitaria	
		and rhizoliths	

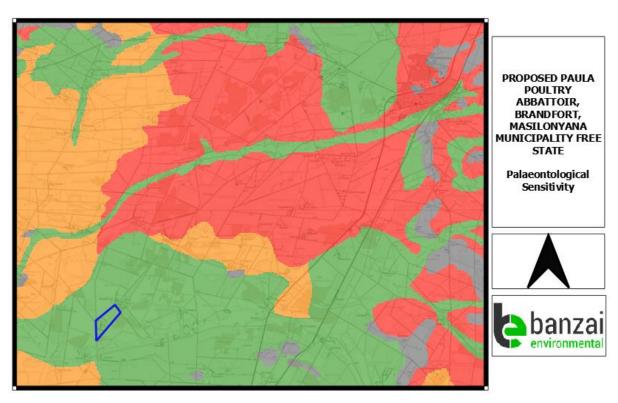


Figure 5 - Extract of the 1 in 250 000 SAHRIS PalaeoMap map (Council of Geosciences) indicating the locality of the proposed development.

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.

According to the SAHRIS Palaeosensitivity map (Figure 55) there is a moderate chance of finding fossils in this area.

6 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF THE SITE

The proposed development is approximately 20 km south west of Brandfort, within Ward 2 of the Masilonyana Municipality with the Lejweleputswa District Municipality.

7 METHODS

The aim of a PDA is to evaluate the risk to palaeontological heritage in the proposed development. This include all trace fossils and fossils. All available information is consulted to compile a desktop study and includes: PIA reports in the same area; aerial photos and Google Earth images, topographical as well as geological maps.

7.1 Assumptions and Limitations

When conducting a PIA several factors can affect the accuracy of the assessment. The focal point of geological maps is the geology of the area and the sheet explanations were not meant to focus on palaeontological heritage. Many inaccessible regions of South Africa have not been reviewed by palaeontologists and data is generally based on aerial photographs. Locality and geological information of museums and universities databases have not been kept up to date or data collected in the past have not always been accurately documented.

Comparable Assemblage Zones in other areas is used to provide information on the existence of fossils in an area which was not yet been documented. When similar Assemblage Zones and geological formations for Desktop studies is used it is generally **assumed** that exposed fossil heritage is present within the footprint. A field-assessment is thus necessary to improve the accuracy of the desktop assessment

8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONSULTED

In compiling this report the following sources were consulted:

- Geological map 1:100 000, Geology of the Republic of South Africa (Visser 1984)
- 1: 250 000 2826 Winburg Geological Map (Council of Geosciences, Pretoria).
- A Google Earth map with polygons of the proposed development was obtained from SM Services and Consulting Pty Ltd

9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY AND HIERARCHY

9.1 **Impact Rating System**

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 2: The rating system

NATURE

Include a brief description of the impact of environmental parameter being assessed in the context of

the p	the project. This criterion includes a brief written statement of the environmental aspect being		
impad	impacted upon by a particular action or activity.		
GEO	GRAPHICAL EXTENT		
This is	s defined as the area over which the	he 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.	
PRO	PROBABILITY		
This o	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).	

Table 1 Continues

This describes the duration of the impacts. Duration indicates the lifetime of the of the proposed activity. 1 Short term The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural process than the construction phase (0 – 1 will last for the period of a relative period and a limited recovery time thereafter it will be entirely negated. 2 Medium term The impact will continue or last for construction phase but will be mitigated. 3 Long term The impact and its effects will continue or last for construction phase but will be mitigated.	ith mitigation or will be sees in a span shorter years), or the impact rely short construction me after construction, if (0 – 2 years).
The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural process than the construction phase (0 – 1 will last for the period of a relative period and a limited recovery time thereafter it will be entirely negated. Medium term The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural processes. The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural processes. The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural processes. The impact will either disappear will mitigated through natural processes.	ses in a span shorter years), or the impact ely short construction me after construction, I (0 – 2 years). For some time after the gated by direct human
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construction phase but will be mitig	gated by direct human
action or by natural processes ther	-
	eafter (2 – 10 vears)
3 Long term The impact and its effects will co	ounton (2 10 yours).
ı	ontinue or last for the
entire operational life of the devi	elopment, but will be
mitigated by direct human action o	r by natural processes
thereafter (10 – 30 years).	
4 Permanent The only class of impact that v	vill 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.	
INTENSITY/ MAGNITUDE	
Describes the severity of an impact.	
1 Low Impact affects the quality, use	and integrity of the
system/component in a way that is	barely perceptible.
2 Medium Impact alters the quality, use	and integrity of the
system/component but system/com	nponent still continues
to function in a moderately modifie	ed way and maintains
general integrity (some impact on i	ntegrity).
3 High Impact affects the continued via	ability of the system/
component and the quality, use, int	egrity and functionality
of the system or component is seve	rely impaired and may
temporarily cease. High costs	of rehabilitation and
remediation.	
4 Very high Impact affects the continued	d viability of the
system/component and the quali	ty, use, integrity and
functionality of the system or co	mponent permanently
ceases and is irreversibly impaired	ed. Rehabilitation and
remediation often impossible. If	possible rehabilitation

	and remediation often unfeasible due to extremely high
	costs of rehabilitation and remediation.

Table 1 Continues

mitigation measures. The impact is partly reversible but more intense mitigat measures are required. Barely reversible The impact is unlikely to be reversed even with intermitigation measures. Irreversible The impact is irreversible and no mitigation measurexist. IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES This describes the degree to which resources will be irreplaceably lost as a result of a proposed activity. No loss of resource The impact will not result in the loss of any resources. Marginal loss of resource The impact will result in marginal loss of resources. Significant loss of resources The impact will result in significant loss of resources. Complete loss of resources The impact is result in a complete loss of all resources. This describes the cumulative effect of the impacts. A cumulative impact is an effect which in its may not be significant but may become significant if added to other existing or potential impacemanating from other similar or diverse activities as a result of the project activity in question. Negligible cumulative impact The impact would result in insignificant cumulate effects. Medium cumulative impact The impact would result in insignificant cumulate effects.				
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Table 1 Continues

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

9.2 Summary of Impacts

The impact on Fossil Heritage is DIRECT NEGATIVE. Only the study site will be affected by the proposed development. The expected duration of the impact is assessed as potentially permanent. The impact is highly destructive but will only occur during the construction phase. The significance of the impact occurring will be **moderate**. As fossil heritage will be destroyed the impact is **irreversible** but the degree to which the impact can cause irreplaceable loss of resources is Moderate if proper mitigation is to undertaken.

10 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Paula poultry development as well as the five alternatives identified for the poultry abattoir is completely underlain by Quaternary superficial deposits. According to the PalaeoMap of South African Heritage Resources Information System the Palaeontological Sensitivity of the Quaternary superficial deposits is moderate. It is therefore considered that the Paula poultry development and all alternatives are deemed appropriate and feasible and will not lead to detrimental impacts on the palaeontological resources of the area. Thus, the construction and operation of the development may be authorised as the whole extent of the development footprint is not considered sensitive in terms of palaeontological resources.

If fossil remains or trace fossils are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or exposed by excavations the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) in charge of these developments must be informed. These discoveries ought to be protected and the ECO must report to 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: www.sahra.org.za) so that mitigation can be carry out by a palaeontologist.

It is consequently recommended that no further palaeontological heritage studies, ground truthing and/or specialist mitigation are required pending the discovery of newly discovered fossils.

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Appendix A – Elize Butler CV

CURRICULUM VITAE

ELIZE BUTLER

PROFESSION: Palaeontologist

YEARS' EXPERIENCE: 26 years in Palaeontology

EDUCATION: B.Sc Botany and Zoology, 1988

University of the Orange Free State

B.Sc (Hons) Zoology, 1991

University of the Orange Free State

Management Course, 1991

University of the Orange Free State

M. Sc. Cum laude (Zoology), 2009

University of the Free State

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

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

University of the Free State Zoology 1992

Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein 1993 – 1997

Principal Research Assistant National Museum, Bloemfontein

and Collection Manager 1998–currently

TECHNICAL REPORTS

Butler, E. 2014. Palaeontological Impact Assessment of the proposed development of private dwellings on portion 5 of farm 304 Matjesfontein Keurboomstrand, Knysna District, Western Cape Province. Bloemfontein.

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