Exploration and Sampling at Soetwater Farm, Cradle of Humankind

Our Ref: 8099



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PermitID: 2220

PERMIT: Sampling, Analysis, Dating

In terms of Section 48(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Site: Soetwater Farm, Cradle of Humankind (Soetwater Farm)

Conditions:

1. This permit is issued to Dr Dominic Stratford (Evolutionary Studies Institute, University of the Witwatersrand) in collaboration with Drs Jose Braga (Paul Sabatier University, France) and Laurent Bruxelles (Institut National d Recherches Archeologiques Preventive, France).

2. If the permit holder is not to be present on the site at all times then SAHRA must be provided with the names and qualifications of the authorised representatives.

3. This permit refers to sampling of fossiliferous mining dumps and residual *in situ* breccias in two locations (as indicated in Figure 1 in the research proposal) in a small valley north of the Soetwater farm.

4. Permitted activities include mapping and stratigraphic analysis (DGPS mapping/ total station/GIS); sampling of both mine dump and *in situ* breccias (8-10 blocks weighing 5-10kg and by excavating a surface of the exposed sediment of *in situ* breccias); preparation at Sterkfontein lab; and fossil analysis.

5. The permit holder must ensure that the necessary environmental authorisation/exemption has been obtained from the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site Managing Authority before commencing work on site.

6. Adequate recording methods as specified in the Regulations and Guidelines pertaining to the National Heritage Resources Act must be employed. Note that the position of all excavations and objects collected must be marked on a plan of the site.

7. A standard site record form must be lodged with the ESI, University of the Witwatersrand.



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

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8. All material collected and excavated, as well as field notes and records, will be curated by the ESI (University of the Witwatersrand), who will be responsible for the permanent curation and safekeeping of all artefactual and palaeontological material in a condition that allows ongoing research.

9. An annual progress report on the results of the excavations and analyses must be submitted to SAHRA permit on or before 30 April 2017 and 30 April 2018. A final report is due on or before 30 April 2019. SAHRA reserves the right to withhold further permits if progress is not deemed satisfactory.

10. Reprints of all published papers or copies of theses and/or reports resulting from this work must be lodged with SAHRA.

11. The final permit report can be made available to researchers on request within one year of the lapsing of this permit.

12. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the landowner for each visit, and the excavator is responsible for ensuring that he or she has an understanding with the landowner concerning: the number of visitors and workers; conditions for camping on the property; speed limits on access roads; possible prohibitions on off-road driving; size, type and number of vehicles permitted; possible prohibitions on trespassing beyond the site; disturbing fauna, flora or substrate; erection and demolition of structures on the site; appropriate hours of visiting and working on the site; use of firewood, electricity and water; lighting fires and the prevention of uncontrolled fires and any fencing necessary to protect livestock. Conditions of access imposed by the landowner must be observed.

13. The permitted excavator shall be responsible for the activities and impacts of all colleagues, students and employees under his or her supervision and for their compliance with the terms of the Heritage Agreement and the Management Plan for this site.

14. Excavators must take measures to ensure the safety of any person who may enter the National Heritage Site as part of their excavation team or as their visitor.

15. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to protect sites during and after excavation and to ensure that where appropriate excavations are filled in or stabilised with adequate materials (e.g. Loffelstein blocks or army bags in geotextile) to the satisfaction of SAHRA and the landowner.

16. SAHRA shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities in connection with this permit.

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PermitID: 2220

17. SAHRA reserves the right to cancel this permit by notice to the permit holder.

18. This permit is subject to a general appeal and may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.

This permit is valid from **12/04/2016 to 30/04/2019**.

Ragna Redelstorff Heritage Officer South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting) South African Heritage Resources Agency

Additional Info:

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.