Western Cape Government
Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

FORM NO. BAR10/2019

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS.

NOVEMBER 2019

(For official use only)	
Pre-application Reference Number (if applicable):	
EIA Application Reference Number:	
NEAS Reference Number:	
Exemption Reference Number (if applicable):	
Date BAR received by Department:	
Date BAR received by Directorate:	
Date BAR received by Case Officer:	

GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(This must Include an overview of the project including the Farm name/Portion/Erf number)

PROPOSED BRIDGE AND GRAVEL ROAD UPGRADE ON PORTION 3 OF FARM VISGAT 207, AND PORTION 2 OF FARM 304, WITZENBERG VALLEY, WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BE READ PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

1. **The purpose** of this template is to provide a format for the Basic Assessment report as set out in Appendix 1 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014 (as amended) in order to ultimately obtain Environmental Authorisation.

2. The Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations is defined in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 19998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") hereinafter referred to as the "NEMA EIA Regulations".

3. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in this Basic Assessment Report ("BAR"). The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided.

4. All applicable sections of this BAR must be completed.

5. Unless protected by law, all information contained in, and attached to this BAR, will become public information on receipt by the Competent Authority. If information is not submitted with this BAR due to such information being protected by law, the applicant and/or Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") must declare such non-disclosure and provide the reasons for believing that the information is protected.

6. This BAR is current as of **November 2019**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant/ EAP to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the BAR have been released by the Department. Visit this Department's website at http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp to check for the latest version of this BAR.

7. This BAR is the standard format, which must be used in all instances when preparing a BAR for Basic Assessment applications for an environmental authorisation in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations when the Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning ("DEA&DP") is the Competent Authority.

8. Unless otherwise indicated by the Department, one hard copy and one electronic copy of this BAR must be submitted to the Department at the postal address given below or by delivery thereof to the Registry Office of the Department. Reasonable access to copies of this Report must be provided to the relevant Organs of State for consultation purposes, which may, if so indicated by the Department, include providing a printed copy to a specific Organ of State.

9. This BAR must be duly dated and originally signed by the Applicant, EAP (if applicable) and Specialist(s) and must be submitted to the Department at the details provided below.

10. The Department's latest Circulars pertaining to the "One Environmental Management System" and the EIA Regulations, any subsequent Circulars, and guidelines must be taken into account when completing this BAR.

11. Should a water use licence application be required in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"), the "One Environmental System" is applicable, specifically in terms of the synchronisation of the consideration of the application in terms of the NEMA and the NWA. Refer to this Department's Circular EADP 0028/2014: One Environmental Management System.

12. Where Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA") is triggered, a copy of Heritage Western Cape's final comment must be attached to the BAR.

13. The Screening Tool developed by the National Department of Environmental Affairs must be used to generate a screening report. Please use the Screening Tool link https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool to generate the Screening Tool Report. The screening tool report must be attached to this BAR.

14. Where this Department is also identified as the Licencing Authority to decide on applications under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 29 of 2004) ('NEM:AQA"), the submission of the Report must also be made as follows, for-
Waste Management Licence Applications, this report must also (i.e., another hard copy and electronic copy) be submitted for the attention of the Department's Waste Management Directorate (Tel: 021-483-2728/2705 and Fax: 021-483-4425) at the same postal address as the Cape Town Office.

Atmospheric Emissions Licence Applications, this report must also be (i.e., another hard copy and electronic copy) submitted for the attention of the Licensing Authority or this Department's Air Quality Management Directorate (Tel: 021 483 2888 and Fax: 021 483 4368) at the same postal address as the Cape Town Office.

DEPARTMENTAL DETAILS

CAPE TOWN OFFICE: REGION 1 and REGION 2 **(Region 1: City of Cape Town, West Coast District)** **(Region 2: Cape Winelands District & Overberg District)**	**GEORGE OFFICE: REGION 3** **(Central Karoo District & Garden Route District)**
BAR must be sent to the following details: Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 1 or 2) Private Bag X 9086 Cape Town, 8000 Registry Office 1st Floor Utilitas Building 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 1 and 2) at: Tel: (021) 483-5829 Fax (021) 483-4372	BAR must be sent to the following details: Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) Private Bag X 6509 George, 6530 Registry Office 4th Floor, York Park Building 93 York Street George Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) at: Tel: (044) 805-8600 Fax (044) 805 8650

MAPS

Provide a location map (see below) as Appendix A1 to this BAR that shows the location of the proposed development and associated structures and infrastructure on the property.	
Locality Map:	The scale of the locality map must be at least 1:50 000. For linear activities or development proposals of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g., 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following: • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend; and • a linear scale. For ocean based or aquatic activity, the coordinates must be provided within which the activity is to be undertaken and a map at an appropriate scale clearly indicating the area within which the activity is to be undertaken.

	Where comment from the Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works is required, a map illustrating the properties (owned by the Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works) that will be affected by the proposed development must be included in the Report.
Provide a detailed site development plan / site map (see below) as Appendix B1 to this BAR; and if applicable, all alternative properties and locations.	
Site Plan:	Detailed site development plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. The site plans must contain or conform to the following: • The detailed site plan must preferably be at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be clearly indicated on the plan, preferably together with a linear scale. • The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan. • On land where the property has not been defined, the co-ordinates of the area in which the proposed activity or development is proposed must be provided. • The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be clearly indicated on the site plan. • The position of each component of the proposed activity or development as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan. • Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate aboveground or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the proposed development **must** be clearly indicated on the site plan. • Servitudes and an indication of the purpose of each servitude must be indicated on the site plan. • Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): o Watercourses / Rivers / Wetlands o Flood lines (*i.e.,* 1:100 year, 1:50 year and 1:10 year where applicable); o Coastal Risk Zones as delineated for the Western Cape by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning ("DEA&DP"): o Ridges; o Cultural and historical features/landscapes; o Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if degraded or infested with alien species). • Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, a contour map of the site must be submitted. • North arrow A map/site plan must also be provided at an appropriate scale, which superimposes the proposed development and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred and alternative sites indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffer areas.
Site photographs	Colour photographs of the site that shows the overall condition of the site and its surroundings (taken on the site and taken from outside the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan, or locality plan as applicable. If available, please also provide a recent aerial photograph. Photographs must be attached to this BAR as **Appendix C**. The aerial photograph(s) should be supplemented with additional photographs of relevant features on the site. Date of photographs must be included. Please note that the above requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.
Biodiversity Overlay Map:	A map of the relevant biodiversity information and conditions must be provided as an overlay map on the property/site plan. The Map must be attached to this BAR as **Appendix D**.
Linear activities or development and multiple properties	GPS co-ordinates must be provided in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeeshoek 94 WGS84 co-ordinate system. Where numerous properties/sites are involved (linear activities) you must attach a list of the Farm Name(s)/Portion(s)/Erf number(s) to this BAR as an Appendix. For linear activities that are longer than 500m, please provide a map with the co-ordinates taken every 100m along the route to this BAR as **Appendix A3**.

ACRONYMS

DAFF:	Department of Forestry and Fisheries
DEA:	Department of Environmental Affairs
DEA& DP:	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
DHS:	Department of Human Settlement
DoA:	Department of Agriculture
DoH:	Department of Health
DWS:	Department of Water and Sanitation
EMPr:	Environmental Management Programme

HWC:	Heritage Western Cape
NFEPA:	National Freshwater Ecosystem Protection Assessment
NSBA:	National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment
TOR:	Terms of Reference
WCBSP:	Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan
WCG:	Western Cape Government

ATTACHMENTS

Note: The Appendices must be attached to the BAR as per the list below. Please use a ✓ **(**tick) or a **x** (cross) to indicate whether the Appendix is attached to the BAR.

The following checklist of attachments must be completed.

APPENDIX			**✓ (Tick) or x (cross)**
Appendix A:	**Maps**		
	Appendix A1:	**Locality Map**	✓
	Appendix A2:	**Coastal Risk Zones as delineated in terms of ICMA for the Western Cape by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning**	**X**
	Appendix A3:	**Map with the GPS co-ordinates for linear activities**	✓
Appendix B:	**Appendix B1:**	**Site development plan(s)**	✓
	Appendix B2	**A map of appropriate scale, which superimposes the proposed development and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site, indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffer areas;**	✓
Appendix C:	**Photographs**		✓
Appendix D:	**Biodiversity overlay map**		✓
Appendix E:	**Permit(s) / license(s) / exemption notice, agreements, comments from State Department/Organs of state and service letters from the municipality.**		
	Appendix E1:	**Final comment/ROD from HWC (Draft Comment)**	✓
	Appendix E2:	**Copy of comment from Cape Nature**	
	Appendix E3:	**Final Comment from the DWS (Draft comment from BGCMA)**	
	Appendix E4:	**Comment from the DEA: Oceans and Coast**	
	Appendix E5:	**Comment from the DAFF**	
	Appendix E6:	**Comment from WCG: Transport and Public Works**	

	Appendix E7:	**Comment from WCG: DoA**	
	Appendix E8:	**Comment from WCG: DHS**	
	Appendix E9:	**Comment from WCG: DoH**	
	Appendix E10:	**Comment from DEA&DP: Pollution Management**	
	Appendix E11:	**Comment from DEA&DP: Waste Management**	
	Appendix E12:	**Comment from DEA&DP: Biodiversity**	
	Appendix E13:	**Comment from DEA&DP: Air Quality**	
	Appendix E14:	**Comment from DEA&DP: Coastal Management**	
	Appendix E15:	**Comment from the local authority**	
	Appendix E16:	**Confirmation of all services (water, electricity, sewage, solid waste management)**	
	Appendix E17:	**Comment from the District Municipality**	
	Appendix E18:	**Copy of an exemption notice**	
	Appendix E19	**Pre-approval for the reclamation of land**	
	Appendix E20:	**Proof of agreement/TOR of the specialist studies conducted.**	
	Appendix E21:	**Proof of land use rights**	
	Appendix E22:	**Proof of public participation agreement for linear activities**	
Appendix F:	**Public participation information: including a copy of the register of I&APs, the comments and responses Report, proof of notices, advertisements and any other public participation information as is required.**		✓
Appendix G:	**Specialist Report(s)**		✓
Appendix H:	**EMPr**		✓
Appendix I:	**Screening tool report**		✓

Appendix J:	**The impact and risk assessment for each alternative**	✓
Appendix K:	**Need and desirability for the proposed activity or development in terms of this Department's guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013)/DEA Integrated Environmental Management Guideline**	
Appendix L:	**Any other attachments must be included as subsequent appendices** **Appendix L1: Engineering Concept Summary** **Appendix L2: Option 1 Route Layout Plan (Alternative 1)** **Appendix L3: Option 2 Route Layout Plan** **Appendix L4: Option 3 Route Layout Plan**	✓

SECTION A: ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Highlight the Departmental Region in which the intended application will fall	CAPE TOWN OFFICE:		GEORGE OFFICE:
	REGION 1 (City of Cape Town, West Coast District	REGION 2 (Cape Winelands District & Overberg District)	REGION 3 (Central Karoo District & Garden Route District)

Duplicate this section where there is more than one Proponent Name of Applicant/Proponent:	Doornkraal Investments (Pty) Ltd	
Name of contact person for Applicant/Proponent (if other):	Alexander Gibson	
Company/ Trading name/State Department/Organ of State:	Doornkraal Investments (Pty) Ltd	
Company Registration Number:	2000/006375/07	
Postal address:	P.O. Box 484	
	Ceres	Postal code: 6835
Telephone:	+27 (0) 23 313 3279	Cell: 072 204 5454
E-mail:	alexander@dkagri.co.za	Fax: ( )
Company of EAP:	EnviroAfrica CC	
EAP name:	Clinton Geyser	
Postal address:	P.O. Box 5367	
	Helderberg	Postal code: 7135
Telephone:	021 851 1616	Cell:
E-mail:	clinton@enviroafrica.co.za	Fax: (086) 512 0154
Qualifications:	Clinton Geyser – MSc: Geography and Environmental Management	
EAPASA registration no:	2021/3287	
Duplicate this section where there is more than one landowner Name of landowner:	Portion 3 of Farm Visgat 207 - Same as Proponent Portion 2 of Farm 304 – Bosrivier Estates (Pty) Ltd	
Name of contact person for landowner (if other):	Dogald Alexander (Bosrivier Estates (Pty) Ltd)	
Postal address:	30 Bishopscourt Drive, Bishopscourt	
	Cape Town	Postal code: 7708
Telephone:	( )	Cell: 083 459 0888
E-mail:	simbotcape@global.co.za	Fax: ( )
Name of Person in control of the land:	Same as Applicant	
Name of contact person for person in control of the land:		
Postal address:		
		Postal code:
Telephone:	( )	Cell:
E-mail:		Fax: ( )

Duplicate this section where there is more than one Municipal Jurisdiction Municipality in whose area of jurisdiction the proposed activity will fall:	Witzenberg Municipality	
Contact person:	Heloise Truter	
Postal address:	P.O. Box 44	
	Ceres	Postal code: 6835
Telephone	023 316 1854	Cell:
E-mail:	heloise@witzenberg.gov.za	Fax: ( )

SECTION B: CONFIRMATION OF SPECIFIC PROJECT DETAILS AS INLCUDED IN THE APPLICATION FORM

1.	Is the proposed development (please tick):	New	**X**	Expansion	

2.	Is the proposed site(s) a brownfield of greenfield site? Please explain.

The site will be a green field site. A new bridge on a new location will be constructed, and the road realignment will be through indigenous vegetation.

3.	**For Linear activities or developments**
3.1.	Provide the Farm(s)/Farm Portion(s)/Erf number(s) for all routes:

Portion 3 of Farm Visgat 207

Portion 2 of Farm 304

3.2.	Development footprint of the proposed development for all alternatives.	m²

N/A

3.3.	Provide a description of the proposed development (e.g. for roads the length, width and width of the road reserve in the case of pipelines indicate the length and diameter) for all alternatives.

A new bridge will be constructed over the Olifants River. The bridge will be constructed using pre-cast concrete culverts, placed upstream of the existing bridge. The proposed bridge will be 7.5m wide, and approximately 50m in length. The road on either side of the bridge will also be realigned (approximately 180m).

An additional 550m of the gravel entrance road will need to be realigned to allow interlink trucks better access to the farm. Three sections of the entrance road will be realigned. The new road sections will be approximately 5m wide, with an 8m road reserve.

The proposed bridge and road sections 1 and 2 will be located on Portion 3 of Farm Visgat 207, while road section 3 will be located on Portion 2 of Farm 304.

3.4.	Indicate how access to the proposed routes will be obtained for all alternatives.

The existing access road will be used. This is the same road on which the bridge will be constructed and the three road sections for realignment are located.

3.5.	SG Digit codes of the Farms/Farm Portions/Erf numbers for all alternatives	C	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	0	0	0	0	3
		C	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	2

3.6.	**Starting point co-ordinates for all alternatives**			
	Latitude (S)	°	‘	“
	Longitude (E)	°	‘	“
	Middle point co-ordinates for all alternatives			
	Latitude (S)	°	‘	“
	Longitude (E)	°	‘	“
	End point co-ordinates for all alternatives			
	Latitude (S)	°	‘	“
	Longitude (E)	°	‘	“

Note: For Linear activities or developments longer than 500m, a map indicating the co-ordinates for every 100m along the route must be attached to this BAR as Appendix A3.

4.	**Other developments**	
4.1.	Property size(s) of all proposed site(s):	m²
4.2.	Developed footprint of the existing facility and associated infrastructure (if applicable):	m²

4.3.	Development footprint of the proposed development and associated infrastructure size(s) for all alternatives:																					m^2
4.4.	Provide a detailed description of the proposed development and its associated infrastructure (This must include details of e.g. buildings, structures, infrastructure, storage facilities, sewage/effluent treatment and holding facilities).																					
4.5.	Indicate how access to the proposed site(s) will be obtained for all alternatives.																					
4.6.	SG Digit code(s) of the proposed site(s) for all alternatives:																					
4.7.	Coordinates of the proposed site(s) for all alternatives:																					
	Latitude (S)																					
	Longitude (E)																					

SECTION C: LEGISLATION/POLICIES AND/OR GUIDELINES/PROTOCOLS

1. Exemption applied for in terms of the NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations

Has exemption been applied for in terms of the NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations. If yes, include a copy of the exemption notice in Appendix E18.	~~YES~~	NO

2. Is the following legislation applicable to the proposed activity or development.

The National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) ("ICMA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the relevant competent authority as Appendix E4 and the pre-approval for the reclamation of land as Appendix E19.	~~YES~~	NO
The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from Heritage Western Cape as Appendix E1.	YES	~~NO~~
The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the DWS as Appendix E3.	YES	~~NO~~
The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) ("NEM:AQA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the relevant authorities as Appendix E13.	~~YES~~	NO
The National Environmental Management Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008) ("NEM:WA")	~~YES~~	NO
The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004 ("NEMBA").	~~YES~~	NO
The National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003) ("NEMPAA").	~~YES~~	NO
The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983). If yes, attach comment from the relevant competent authority as Appendix E5.	YES	~~NO~~

3. Other legislation

List any other legislation that is applicable to the proposed activity or development.

4. Policies

Explain which policies were considered and how the proposed activity or development complies and responds to these policies.
N/A

5. Guidelines

List the guidelines which have been considered relevant to the proposed activity or development and explain how they have influenced the development proposal.
DEADP Guidelines - All guidelines were consulted and adhered to when undertaking this Basic Assessment Report. Circulars pertaining to the "One Environmental Management System" and the EIA Regulations.

6. Protocols

Explain how the proposed activity or development complies with the requirements of the protocols referred to in the NOI and/or application form
The Assessment protocols identified in the DFFE Screening Tool, particularly pertaining to Terrestrial Biodiversity, Palaeontological, Archaeological and Heritage, and Plant Species. In this regard, a Heritage Notice of Intent was submitted to Heritage Western Cape, and a Botanical Impact Assessment and Freshwater Assessment were conducted.

SECTION D: APPLICABLE LISTED ACTIVITIES

List the applicable activities in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant **Basic Assessment Activity(ies)** as set out in **Listing Notice 1**	Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.
12	The development of; (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs; (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;	The bridge and road sections within 32m of a watercourse will exceed 100m^2.
19	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from; (i) a watercourse; (ii) the seashore; or (iii) the littoral active zone, an estuary or a distance of 100 metres inland of the high-water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving; (a) will occur behind a development setback; (b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan; or (c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies.	Material may be moved, removed, excavated from the Olifants River during the construction of the bridge.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant **Basic Assessment Activity(ies)** as set out in **Listing Notice 3**	Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.
4	The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres. ii. Areas outside urban areas; (aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation; (bb) Areas on the estuary side of the development setback line or in an estuarine functional zone where no such setback line has been determined;	The proposed new road sections will be 5m wide, with an 8m road reserve. They will be located within areas of indigenous vegetation. The road is a gravel road.

Note:

- The listed activities specified above must reconcile with activities applied for in the application form. The onus is on the Applicant to ensure that all applicable listed activities are included in the application. If a specific listed activity is not included in an Environmental Authorisation, a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be submitted.
- Where additional listed activities have been identified, that have not been included in the application form, and amended application form must be submitted to the competent authority.

List the applicable waste management listed activities in terms of the NEM:WA

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant **Basic Assessment Activity(ies)** as set out in **Category A**	Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.
N/A		

List the applicable listed activities in terms of the NEM:AQA

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant **Listed Activity(ies)**	Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.
N/A		

SECTION E: PLANNING CONTEXT AND NEED AND DESIRABILITY

1.	Provide a description of the preferred alternative.

A new bridge will be constructed over the Olifants River. The bridge will be constructed using pre-cast concrete culverts, placed upstream of the existing bridge. The proposed bridge will be 7.5m wide, and approximately 50m in length. The road on either side of the bridge will also be realigned (approximately 180m).

An additional 550m of the gravel entrance road will need to be realigned to allow interlink trucks better access to the farm. Three sections of the entrance road will be realigned. The new road sections will be approximately 5m wide, with an 8m road reserve.

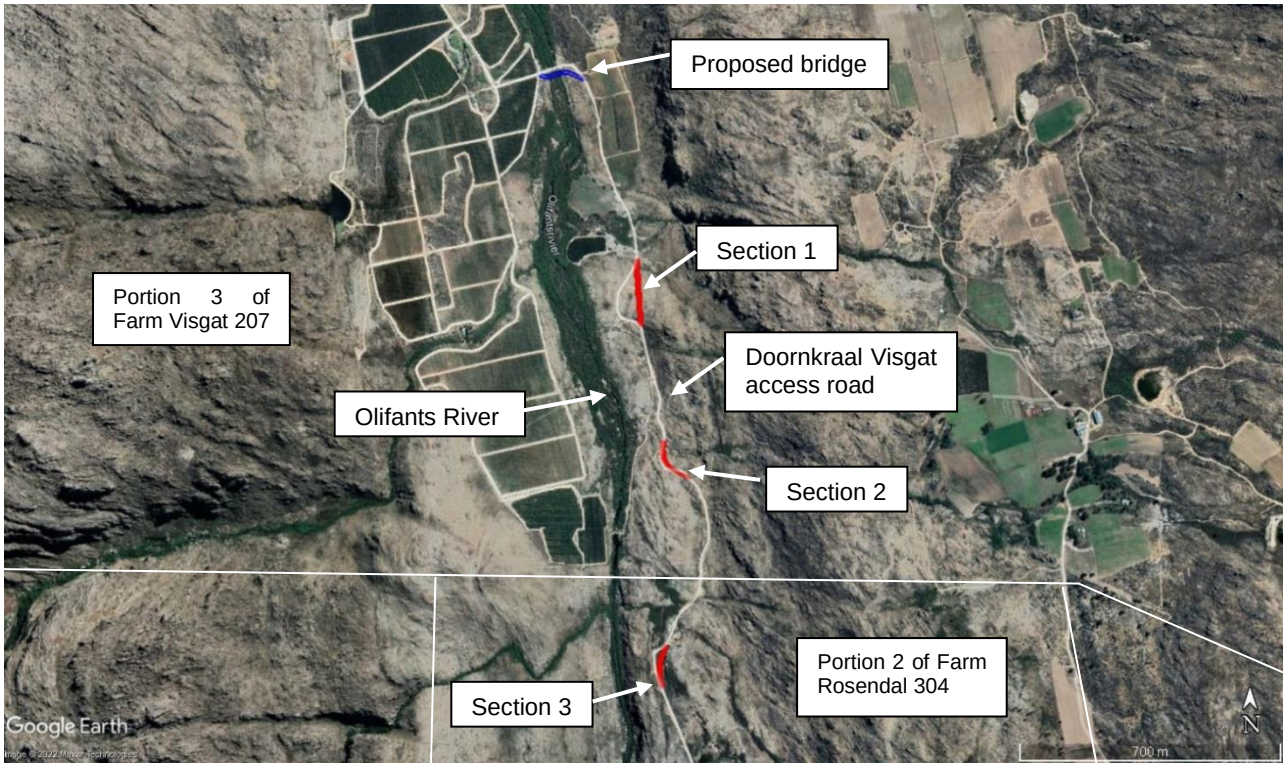


Figure 1: Google Earth Image indicating the proposed properties, the proposed road realignment sections indicated by the red polygons, and the new bridge, indicated by the blue polygon.

Figure 2: Google Earth Image showing the alignment of the proposed bridge.

Figure 3: Google Earth Image indicating the realignment of road section 1.

Figure 4: Google Earth Image indicating the realignment of road section 2.

Figure 5: Google Earth Image indicating the realignment of road section 3.

2.	Explain how the proposed development is in line with the existing land use rights of the property as you have indicated in the NOI and application form? Include the proof of the existing land use rights granted in Appendix E21.
The proposed development is the construction of a bridge and realignment of the access road on a property zoned Agricultural. The surrounding land-uses are also predominantly agricultural in nature.	
3.	Explain how potential conflict with respect to existing approvals for the proposed site (as indicated in the NOI/and or application form) and the proposed development have been resolved.

There are no conflicts with respect to existing approvals.	
4.	Explain how the proposed development will be in line with the following?
4.1	The Provincial Spatial Development Framework.
The proposed development is the construction of a bridge and realignment of the access road on a property zoned Agricultural.	
4.2	The Integrated Development Plan of the local municipality.
The proposed development is the construction of a bridge and realignment of the access road on a property zoned Agricultural.	
4.3.	The Spatial Development Framework of the local municipality.
The proposed development is the construction of a bridge and realignment of the access road on a property zoned Agricultural.	
4.4.	The Environmental Management Framework applicable to the area.
No EMF was identified.	
5.	Explain how comments from the relevant authorities and/or specialist(s) with respect to biodiversity have influenced the proposed development.
Authorities are yet to comment on the Basic Assessment Report and the Specialists reports.	
6.	Explain how the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (including the guidelines in the handbook) has influenced the proposed development.
The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan has been considered, and has been assessed in the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**).	
7.	Explain how the proposed development is in line with the intention/purpose of the relevant zones as defined in the ICMA.
N/A	
8.	Explain whether the screening report has changed from the one submitted together with the application form. The screening report must be attached as Appendix I.
The Screening Report has not changed.	
9.	Explain how the proposed development will optimise vacant land available within an urban area.
N/A	
10.	Explain how the proposed development will optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure.
The proposed development is the construction of a bridge and realignment of the access road on a property zoned Agricultural.	
11.	Explain whether the necessary services are available and whether the local authority has confirmed sufficient, spare, unallocated service capacity. (Confirmation of all services must be included in Appendix E16).
No additional services will be required from the local authority	
12.	In addition to the above, explain the need and desirability of the proposed activity or development in terms of this Department's guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013) or the DEA's Integrated Environmental Management Guideline on Need and Desirability. This may be attached to this BAR as Appendix K.
While the concept of need and desirability relates to the *type* of development being proposed, essentially, the concept of need and desirability can be explained in terms of the general meaning of its two components in which *need* refers to *time* and *desirability* to *place* – i.e. is this the right time and is it the right place for locating the type of land-use/activity being proposed? Need and desirability can be equated to *wise use of land* – i.e. the question of what is the most sustainable use of land.	

- **NEED**

According to the Engineering Concept Report (**Appendix L1**), the gravel access road presents challenges to get the produce from the farm with interlink trucks due to the size of the road and mainly numerous sharp corners. This has a major effect on the productivity and profitability of the farm.

To address this, the owner of the farm proposes to upgrade the road to better suite the transportation of the harvest and increase the productivity of the farm.

According to the Applicant, during winter when there are heavy rains, the bridge floods and there is no access to farms beyond the bridge. Due to expansions done on the farm in the form of orchards being planted, extra job opportunities on the farm arose. When there is no access via the bridge, everybody is stranded and children are unable to attend school, and emergency services will not be able to access farms when there is an emergency (fire, medical, etc).

- **DESIRABILITY**

The following factors determine the desirability of the area for the proposed development.

Location and Accessibility:

The sites considered for the bridge and the road realignment are along the only existing access road, and are the only possible locations. The proposed activities will greatly improve accessibility to, and therefore profitability of, the farm.

Compatibility with the Surrounding Area:

The surrounding area is also generally agricultural in nature, with other farms adjacent to, and in close proximity to the property (see Figure 6 below). The proposed bridge and road realignment will therefore not be considered inappropriate for the area, and is compatible with the existing land-uses in the area.

Figure 6: Google Earth Image showing the surrounding land uses, and the only existing access road to the farm.

SECTION F: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Participation Process ("PPP") must fulfil the requirements as outlined in the NEMA EIA Regulations and must be attached as Appendix F. Please note that If the NEM: WA and/or the NEM: AQA is applicable to the proposed development, an advertisement must be placed in at least two newspapers.

1. Exclusively for linear activities: Indicate what PPP was agreed to by the competent authority. Include proof of this agreement in Appendix E22.

N/A

2. Confirm that the PPP as indicated in the application form has been complied with. All the PPP must be included in Appendix F.

Yes, all PPP has been complied with.

Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) have been and will be identified throughout the process. Landowners adjacent to the proposed site, relevant organs of state, organizations, ward councillors and the Local and District Municipality were added to this database. A complete list of organisations and individual groups identified to date is shown in **Appendix F.**

Public Participation will be conducted for the proposed development in accordance with the requirements outlined in Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014.

As such each subsection of Regulation 41 contained in Chapter 6 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 will be addressed separately to thereby demonstrate that all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) were notified of the proposed development.

R41 (2) (a):

R41 (2) (a) (i): One site notice (A2) was placed at the entrance to the farm, and one (A3) at the turn-off to the farm (start of access road). An A3 poster was placed at the public notice board at the Spar in Prince Alfred Hamlet and at the Prince Alfred Hamlet Library.

The posters contained all details as prescribed by R41(3) (a) & (b) and the size of the on-site poster was at least 60cm by 42cm as prescribed by section R41 (4) (a).

R41 (2) (a) (ii): N/A. There is no alternative site.

R41 (2) b):

R41 (2) (b) (i): **N/A. The Applicant is the landowner**

R41 (2) (b) (ii): Notification letters will be circulated to neighbouring landowners.

R41 (2) (b) (iii): Notification letters was sent to the municipal Ward councillor at the Breede Valley Municipality and the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

R41 (2) (b) (iv): Notification letter will be sent to the Witzenberg Local Municipality and Cape Winelands District Municipality notifying them of the availability of the "pre-application" Draft BAR.

R54 (2) (b) (v): Notification letters will be sent to the following organs of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity, notifying them of the availability "pre-application" Draft BAR:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Water and Sanitation: Olifants River
- Department of Water and Sanitation: Berg/Olifants
- Heritage Western Cape
- CapeNature
- Witzenberg Municipality
- Cape Winelands District Municipality

R41 (2) (c) (i): An advertisement was placed in the local newspaper, Witzenberg Herald, on 10 December 2021 (please refer to **Appendix F** for proof of advertisement).

R41 (2) (d): N/A

R41 (6):
R41 (6) (a): All relevant facts in respect of the application were made available to potential I&AP's.

R41 (6) (b): I&AP's were given more than a 30-day registration and comment period on the proposed application during the first round of public participation.

R42 (a), (b), (c) and R43(2): A register of interested and affected parties was opened, maintained and is available to any person requesting access to the register in writing (please refer to **Appendix F** for the list of Interested and Affected Parties.

Please find attached in **Appendix F**:

- Proof of Notice boards, advertisements and notices that were sent out
- List of potential interested and affected parties
- Summary of issues raised by interested and affected parties

3. Confirm which of the State Departments and Organs of State indicated in the Notice of Intent/application form were consulted with.

Department of Agriculture
Department of Water and Sanitation (Olifants)
Heritage Western Cape
CapeNature
Witzenberg Valley Municipality
Cape Winelands District Municipality

4. If any of the State Departments and Organs of State were not consulted, indicate which and why.

None

5. if any of the State Departments and Organs of State did not respond, indicate which.

State departments will be given opportunity to comment on the "pre-application" Draft BAR.

6. Provide a summary of the issues raised by I&APs and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated into the development proposal.

No comments received to date.

Note:

A register of all the I&AP's notified, including the Organs of State, and all the registered I&APs must be included in Appendix F. The register must be maintained and made available to any person requesting access to the register in writing.

The EAP must notify I&AP's that all information submitted by I&AP's becomes public information.

Your attention is drawn to Regulation 40 (3) of the NEMA EIA Regulations which states that *"Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but **must** be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority."*

All the comments received from I&APs on the pre -application BAR (if applicable and the draft BAR must be recorded, responded to and included in the Comments and Responses Report and must be included in Appendix F.

All information obtained during the PPP (the minutes of any meetings held by the EAP with I&APs and other role players wherein the views of the participants are recorded) and must be included in Appendix F.

Please note that proof of the PPP conducted must be included in Appendix F. In terms of the required "proof" the following is required:

- a site map showing where the site notice was displayed, dated photographs showing the notice displayed on site and a copy of the text displayed on the notice;
- in terms of the written notices given, a copy of the written notice sent, as well as:
  - if registered mail was sent, a list of the registered mail sent (showing the registered mail number, the name of the person the mail was sent to, the address of the person and the date the registered mail was sent);
  - if normal mail was sent, a list of the mail sent (showing the name of the person the mail was sent to, the address of the person, the date the mail was sent, and the signature of the post office worker or the post office stamp indicating that the letter was sent);
  - if a facsimile was sent, a copy of the facsimile Report;
  - if an electronic mail was sent, a copy of the electronic mail sent; and
  - if a "mail drop" was done, a signed register of "mail drops" received (showing the name of the person the notice was handed to, the address of the person, the date, and the signature of the person); and
- a copy of the newspaper advertisement ("newspaper clipping") that was placed, indicating the name of the newspaper and date of publication (of such quality that the wording in the advertisement is legible).

SECTION G: DESCRIPTION OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

All specialist studies must be attached as Appendix G.

1. Groundwater

1.1.	Was a specialist study conducted?	~~YES~~	NO
1.2.	Provide the name and or company who conducted the specialist study.		
N/A			
1.3.	Indicate above which aquifer your proposed development will be located and explain how this has influenced your proposed development.		
According to CapeFarmMapper, an underlying aquifer, classified as major with a "most" vulnerability and high susceptibility is located below the property. The proposed development is not expected to have any significant impact on this aquifer.			
1.4.	Indicate the depth of groundwater and explain how the depth of groundwater and type of aquifer (if present) has influenced your proposed development.		
According to CapeFarmMapper, the groundwater depth is between 11.1 and 11.3mbgl.			

2. Surface water

2.1.	Was a specialist study conducted?	YES	~~NO~~
2.2.	Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study.		
Dr. Dirk van Driel – Watsan Africa			
2.3.	Explain how the presence of watercourse(s) and/or wetlands on the property(ies) has influenced your proposed development.		
According to the Freshwater Assessment (**Appendix G1**), and the NFEPA Overlays, the upper section of the Olifants River flows through the property. There are also a number of non-perennial streams crossing the property (tributaries to the Olifants River). The proposed bridge will cross the Olifants River, and the access road runs roughly parallel to the Olifants River, on the eastern side of the river. The road realignment section cross, or are in close proximity, to a number of the non-perennial streams indicated on the NFEPA overlays, but also on non-perennial streams not indicated on the NFEPA overlays (please refer to Figures 7 and 8 below).			

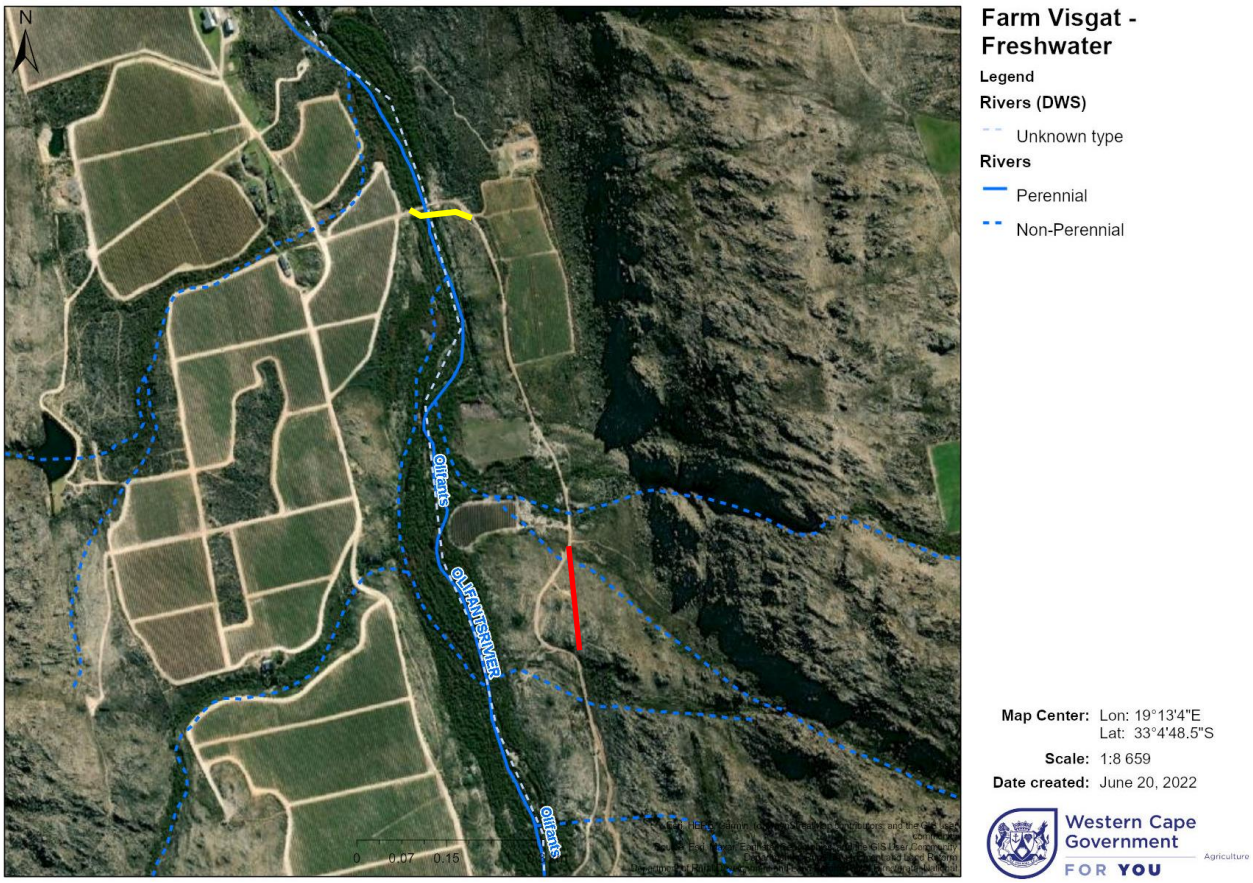


Figure 7: NFEPA Overlay image indicating the watercourses on the property. The bridge (yellow line) crosses the Olifants River and the road realignment (red line is in close proximity to non-perennial streams.

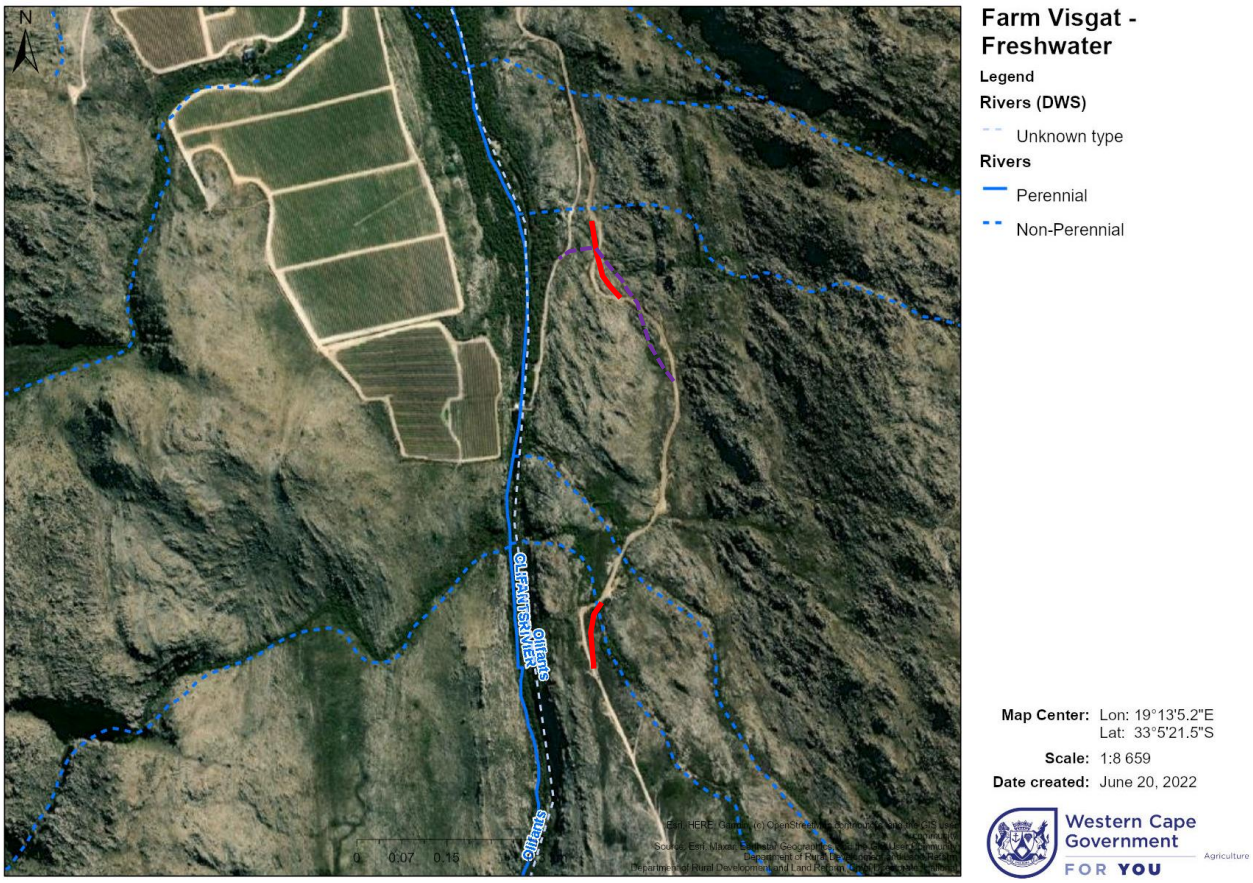


Figure 8: NFEPA Overlay image indicating the watercourses on the property. The road realignment (red line is in close proximity to non-perennial streams. A seasonal stream not indicated on NFEPA is indicated by the purple dashed line.

3. Coastal Environment

3.1.	Was a specialist study conducted?	~~YES~~	NO
3.2.	Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study.		
N/A			
3.3.	Explain how the relevant considerations of Section 63 of the ICMA were taken into account and explain how this influenced your proposed development.		
N/A			
3.4.	Explain how estuary management plans (if applicable) has influenced the proposed development.		
N/A			
3.5.	Explain how the modelled coastal risk zones, the coastal protection zone, littoral active zone and estuarine functional zones, have influenced the proposed development.		
N/A			

4. Biodiversity

4.1.	Were specialist studies conducted?	YES	~~NO~~
4.2.	Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist studies.		
Dr Dave McDonald – Bergwind			

4.3.	Explain which systematic conservation planning and other biodiversity informants such as vegetation maps, NFEPA, NSBA etc. have been used and how has this influenced your proposed development.

According to the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**), according to the Vegetation map of South Africa, Lesotho, and Swaziland (Mucina *et al.*, 2005; Mucina *et al.* 2006; SANBI 2018), only one vegetation type occurs in the Visgat study area, namely **Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos (Least Concern)** (see Figure 9).

Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos covers a wide area on the mountains of the Groot Winterhoek, Witzenberg, Skurweberg and Waboomsberg. The fynbos vegetation within the Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos vegetation unit is variable depending on the location. In the Visgat study area the vegetation is mostly low closed restioid shrublands with some ericoid elements and emergent Proteaceae, notably *Protea laurifolia*. Since the vegetation was burnt in the recent past, the tall proteas have not reached their height as at maturity, except at the Site 3 road upgrade site where the vegetation survived the fire.

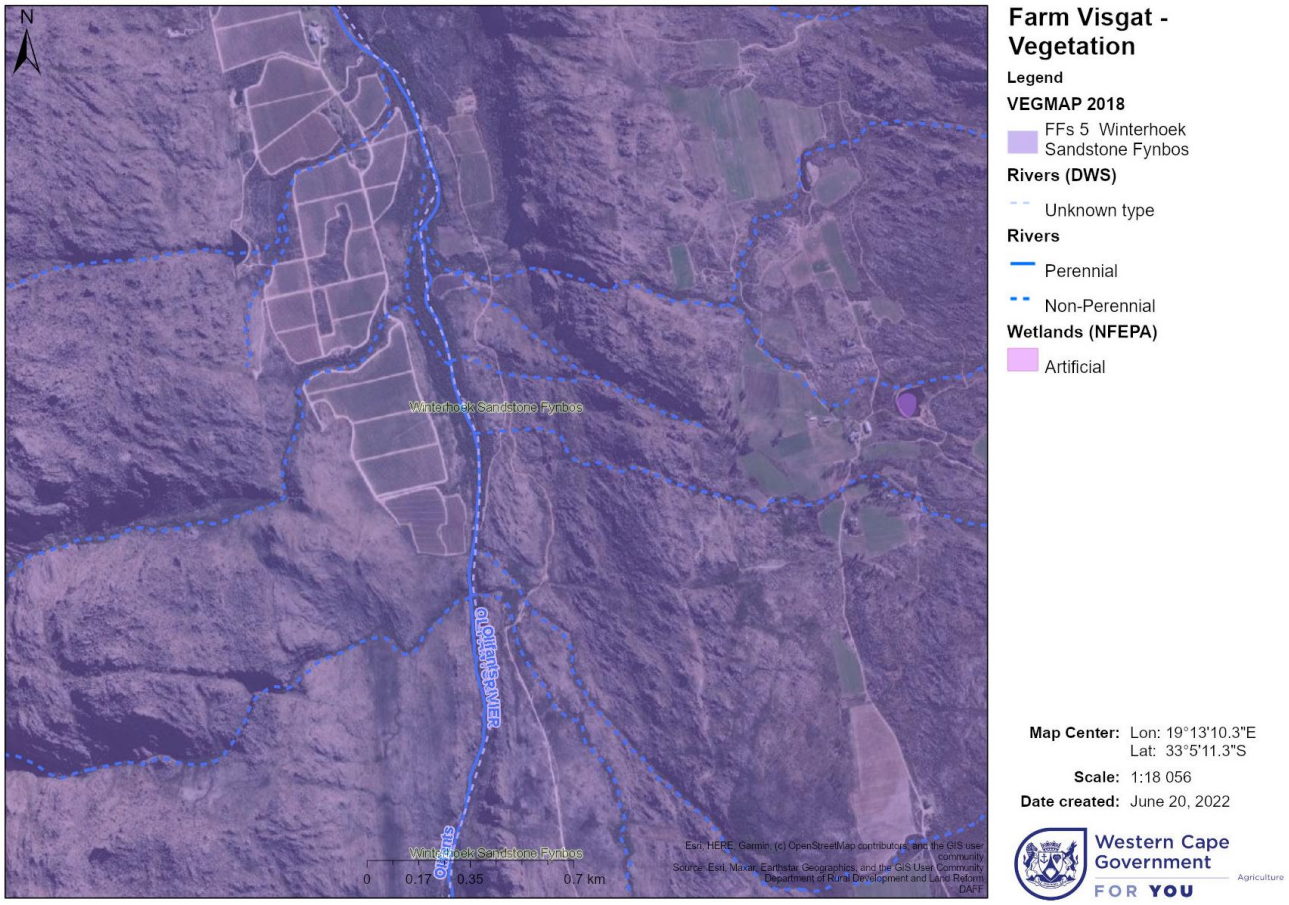


Figure 9. Vegetation Map (2018)(CapeFarmMapper)

4.4.	Explain how the objectives and management guidelines of the Biodiversity Spatial Plan have been used and how has this influenced your proposed development.

According to the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**), the new bridge, road upgrade sections Site 1 and Site 2, are classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas. The road upgrade Site 3 falls within the Koue Bokkeveld Mountain Catchment. This indicates that all the locations where change through implementation of the road upgrade is proposed, are within ecologically sensitive areas.

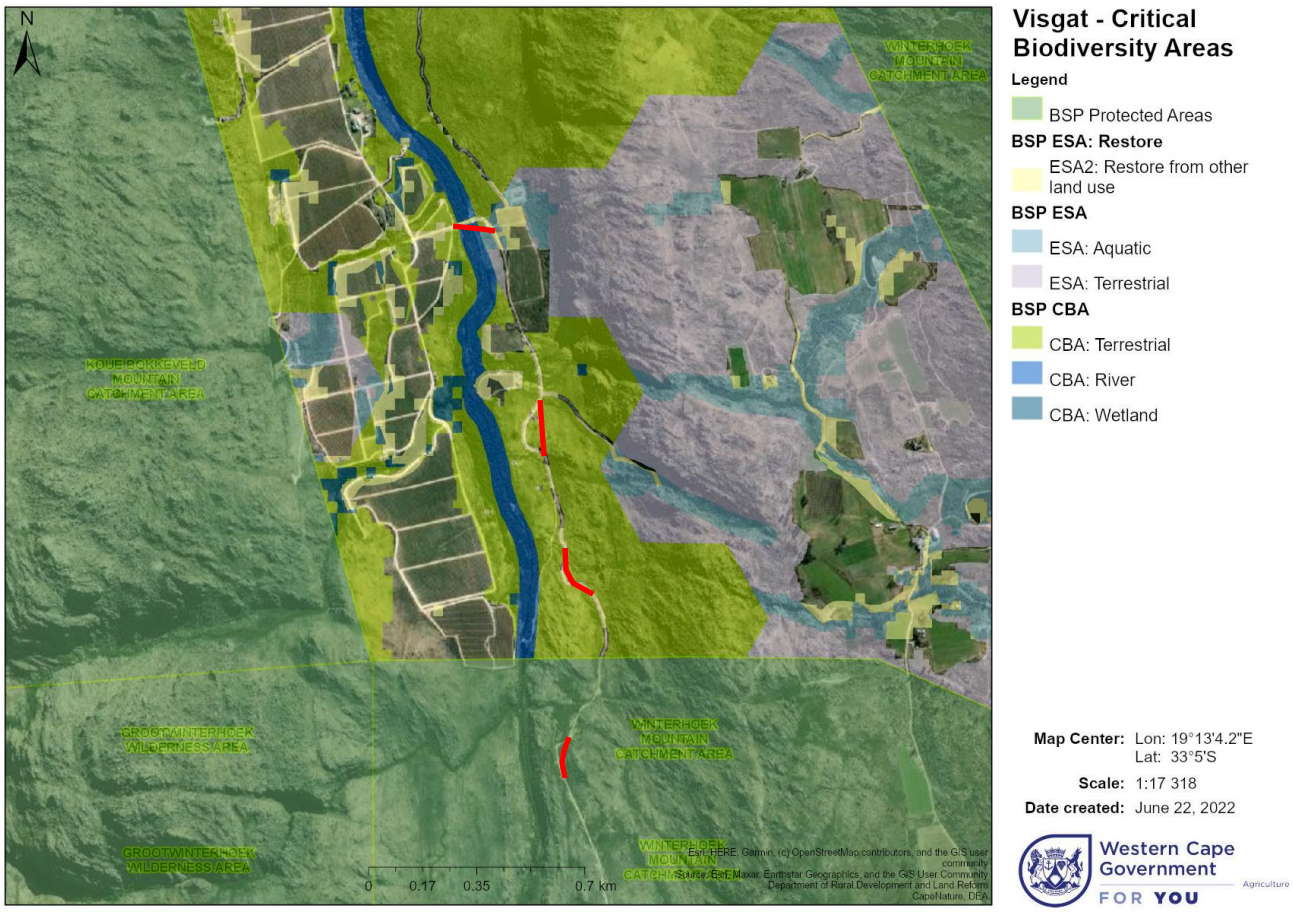


Figure 10: Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (CapeFarmMapper).

4.5.	Explain what impact the proposed development will have on the site specific features and/or function of the Biodiversity Spatial Plan category and how has this influenced the proposed development.

The findings of the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**), and the impacts and mitigation measures proposed for each area are described below.

Bridge site:

The bridge and road alignment will be on the upstream side (southern side) of the existing bridge and road. On the west side, some of the fruit orchard would have to be sacrificed. The riparian vegetation is azonal is and is more correctly described as Fynbos Riparian Vegetation (Mucina *et al.* 2006).

At this waypoint there is a remnant of the local fynbos but all around it is very disturbed by mechanical disturbance.

Plant species recorded:
Anthospermum aethiopicum, Athanasia trifurcata, Chrysocoma ciliata, Diospyros glabra, Ehrharta ramosa, Eragrostis curvula, Pelargonium rapaceum, Protea laurifolia, Searsia angustifolia, Seriphium plumosum and Thesium virgatum.

On the west bank of the Olifants River, the vegetation is riparian thicket that is mid-high to tall. *Prionium serratum* (palmiet) lines the bank of the river.

Other plant species recorded:
Athanasia trifurcata, Diospyros glabra, Ehrharta ramosa, Euryops sp., Helichrysum sp., Metrosideros angustifolia, Pelargonium rapaceum (Figure 33), *Pelargonium grandiflorum* (Figure 32), *Pentaschistis colorata, Seriphium plumosum* and *Thesium virgatum.*

The main channel of the river where there is alluvial white sand. Plant species in the riparian thicket:
Acacia mearnsii, Cliffortia strobilinum, Diospyros glabra, Merxmuellera cincta, Metrosideros angustifolius, Prionium serratum, Psoralea pinnata, Rhodocoma fruticosa, Searsia angustifolia, Selago sp.* and *Seriphium plumosum.*

There is an abrupt change from the riparian vegetation to fynbos on the east side of the Olifants River. The west-facing slope is rocky (with some sandstone bedrock). The vegetation is in an early post-fire phase, typified by the tall *Othonna corymbosa* and *Thesium virgatum*.

Plant species recorded are: *Anthospermum aethiopicum, Centella sp., Centella sp. (2)*, *Cliffortia ruscifolia*, *Crassula fascicularis, Ehrharta sp. (not E. ramosa), Eragrostis capensis, Liechtensteinia lacera, Micranthus junceus, Montinia caryophyllaceae*, *Othonna corymbosa, Pelargonium grandiflorum, Phylica sp, Restio sieberi, Searsia rosmarinifolia, Stoebe plumosa, Struthiola ciliata, Tenaxia stricta, Thesium virgatum, Tritoniopsis antholyza, Wahlenbergia sp., Watsonia angusta* and *Willdenowia sulcata.*

The substrate is very rocky with large boulders and bedrock. The habitat is not sensitive.

Road Section 1

The terrain is rocky, and the area has not been previously cultivated but burnt 3—4 years ago. The vegetation is young restioid shrubland with emergent *Protea laurifolia.* Notable but not rare species are *Dilatris ixioides* and *Serruria pedunculata*.

Other plant species recorded include:
Bobartia sp.*, Cannomois* sp.*, Cliffortia ruscifolia, Crassula fascicularis, Dilatris ixioides, Elegia filacea, Heterolepis aliena, Leucadendron rubrum, Liechtensteinia lacera, Metalasia* sp.*, Montinia caryophyllacea, Othonna corymbosa, Phylica* sp.*, Protea laurifolia, Seriphium plumosum, Seriphium spirale, Serruria pedunculata, Syncarpha paniculata, Tenaxia stricta, Tetraria ustulata, Thesium* sp. *(low shrub), Ursinia* sp.*,* and *Wahlenbergia* sp.

Road Section 2

At the northern end of road section 2, the same plant community as found at Section 1 with similarly young veld after fire is found at this location. The terrain is very rocky, with some exposed bedrock.

Additional plant species recorded here and not at Section 1 are:
Cliffortia sp., *Corymbium* sp., *Erica inflata* and *Eriocephalus africanus*

Located approximately mid-way along the proposed road upgrade section Site 2 where there is some localized disturbance apparently for sand and gravel for road building:
Cannomois virgata, Carpha glomerata, Cliffortia ruscifolia, Crassula sp., *Dilatris ixioides, Elegia* sp., *Erica inflata, Metrosideros angustifolia, Micranthus junceus, Muraltia heisteria, Ornithogalum hispidum, Othonna corymbosa, Pennisetum macrourum, Thesium virgatum, Watsonia angusta.*

The 'new route' (see Section H regarding Alternatives) of Site 2 also runs through a significant seasonal stream and perennial seep. The habitat is very sensitive and all precautions possible must be taken to prevent negative impacts on the stream and wetland.

This waypoint was recorded where the road would cross a significant area of sandstone bedrock with the perennial stream running along one side of the rock slab and over loose boulders. The vegetation is the same community as recorded at the mid-way point of Section 2. *Cannomois virgata* (Restionaceae) is found along the course of the stream.

Road Section 3

At the northern point of meeting of the proposed new 'upgrade section' of the road with the existing road, the upgrade route goes through undisturbed, mature and unburnt veld. The negative impact would be high and added to this is that the route will cross a well-defined perennial stream and associated wetland.

At the stream crossing at Site 3 of the road upgrade, the presence of *Leucadendron salicifolium*, *Cannomois virgata* and *Metrosideros angustifolius*, indicates perennial wetness. The proposed route goes directly over the stream so stringent mitigation measures would be required to limit negative impacts on the watercourse and surrounding habitat.

Plant species recorded:
Calopsis sp., *Cassytha ciliolata, Corymbium* sp., *Dilatris ixioides, Elegia* sp. –tall, *Erica inflata, Erica* sp. (very small flowers), *Euphorbia tuberosa, Leucadendron salicifolium, Metrosideros angustifolia, Protea laurifolia, Pteronia* sp., *Seriphium spirale, Syncarpha* cf., *paniculata, Tenaxia stricta, Thamnochortus* sp., *Thesium virgatum* and *Watsonia angusta.*

4.6.	If your proposed development is located in a protected area, explain how the proposed development is in line with the protected area management plan.

Road Section 3 is located within the Winterhoek Mountain Catchment Area.

4.7.	Explain how the presence of fauna on and adjacent to the proposed development has influenced your proposed development.

To proposed development of the bridge and road realignments will result in the loss of indigenous vegetation. The loss of Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos will have a Very Low to Medium negative impact.

The new road sections footprints have been minimised as much as possible to decrease the potential impact on vehetation.

5. Geographical Aspects

Explain whether any geographical aspects will be affected and how has this influenced the proposed activity or development.

No geographical aspects are expected to be significantly impacted by the proposed development.

6. Heritage Resources

6.1.	Was a specialist study conducted?	~~YES~~	NO
6.2.	Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study.		

A Notice of Intent to Develop, in terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999), was submitted by Mr. Jonathan Kaplan (ACRM) to HWC.

The following response, date 02 December 2021 (see **Appendix E1**), was received from HWC: *You are hereby notified that, since there is no reason to believe that the proposed upgrading of an existing gravel road on ptn 3 farm 207, Visgat Ceres will impact on heritage resource, no further action under Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is required.*

6.3.	Explain how areas that contain sensitive heritage resources have influenced the proposed development.

See above.

7. Historical and Cultural Aspects

Explain whether there are any culturally or historically significant elements as defined in Section 2 of the NHRA that will be affected and how has this influenced the proposed development.

See above.

8. Socio/Economic Aspects

8.1.	Describe the existing social and economic characteristics of the community in the vicinity of the proposed site.

The surrounding area is generally agricultural in nature.

8.2.	Explain the socio-economic value/contribution of the proposed development.

According to the Applicant, during winter when there is heavy rains, the bridge floods and there is no access to farms beyond the bridge. Due to expansions done on the farm in the form of orchards being planted, extra job opportunities on the farm arose. When there is no access via the bridge, everybody is stranded and children are unable to attend school, and emergency services will not be able to access farms when there is an emergency (fire, medical, etc).

The proposed activity will therefore secure current jobs, and allow for the expansion of farming activities on the farm, resulting in additional potential job opportunities.

8.3.	Explain what social initiatives will be implemented by applicant to address the needs of the community and to uplift the area.

According to the Applicant, provision for a day-care and after-care for children on the farm when the farm is more easily accessible for a Coordinator is planned.

8.4.	Explain whether the proposed development will impact on people's health and well-being (e.g. in terms of noise, odours, visual character and sense of place etc) and how has this influenced the proposed development.

The proposed development is not expected to have any additional significant negative impacts on people's health and well-being. There are no additional noise or odour impacts expected.

The sense of place is also not expected to be significantly impacted on, as the development is character with the surrounding agricultural area.

The proposed development is expected to have an Insignificant visual impact.

The new bridge will make crossing the bridge, especially during high water levels, significantly safer for vistors and staff on the farm.

SECTION H: ALTERNATIVES, METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES

1. Details of the alternatives identified and considered

1.1.	Property and site alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Provide a description of the preferred property and site site alternative.

The bridge and road sections 1 and 2 are located on Portion 3 of Farm Visgat 207 and road section 3 on Portion 2 of Farm 304.

Provide a description of any other property and site alternatives investigated.

No other site or property alternative has been investigated that would be feasible. These are the only sections of road that need to be aligned to make access to the farm easier for larger trucks, and the only location to feasibly construct the proposed bridge.

Provide a motivation for the preferred property and site alternative including the outcome of the site selectin matrix.

The properties involved are the only properties on which the access road needs realignment or where the bridge can be feasibly constructed, and therefore no other site or property alternative has been investigated.

Provide a full description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site.

No other site or property alternative has been investigated.

Provide a detailed motivation if no property and site alternatives were considered.

No other site or property alternative has been investigated that would be feasible. These are the only sections of road that need to be aligned to make access to the farm easier for larger trucks, and the only location to feasibly construct the proposed bridge.

List the positive and negative impacts that the property and site alternatives will have on the environment.

No other site or property alternative has been investigated.

1.2.	Activity alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Provide a description of the preferred activity alternative.

No other activity alternative has been investigated, as this is the only feasible activity to improve access to the farm.

Provide a description of any other activity alternatives investigated.

No other activity alternative has been investigated, as this is the only feasible activity to improve access to the farm.

Provide a motivation for the preferred activity alternative.

The activity is the only feasible activity to improve access to the farm and safely cross the Olifants River.

Provide a detailed motivation if no activity alternatives exist.

No other activity alternative has been investigated, as this is the only feasible activity to improve access to the farm.

List the positive and negative impacts that the activity alternatives will have on the environment.

Positive Impacts:

- Job creation during the construction and operational phases of the development
- Ensuring viability of the farm by allowing the potential expanding the cultivated areas and increase production.

Negative impacts:

- The loss of indigenous vegetation

For a more detailed description of impacts, please refer to Appendix J.

1.3.	Design or layout alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts

Provide a description of the preferred design or layout alternative.

Layout alternatives have investigated.

Three options were initially proposed by the engineers. Option 1 was the preferred option from engineering point of view, while options 2 and 3 were considered non-viable. Please refer to Appendix L1, for details on the various options.

A summary of the options are as follows:

Option 1:

- Quantity of diversions: 4.
- Quantity of new water crossings: 2.
- Estimated total length of upgrade 675m.

This option is considered as the least intrusive of the environment with only small sections rerouted, mainly where there are sharp corners restricted the movement of the transport vehicles. The total length of new road sections required is the shortest of the three options resulting in the most economical option.

This option is based on the idea that most of the existing road will remain in use with minimal rerouting.

Option 2:

- Quantity of diversions: 3.
- Quantity of new water crossings: 3.
- Estimated total length of upgrade: 1 325m.

This option is considered as the most intrusive of the environment with most of the existing road abandoned to create the most direct route to the farm.

The total length of new road sections required is the longest of the three options resulting in the least economical option. This involve significant earthwork to be done and importation of fill material to construct the road.

This option is based on the idea to create the most direct route greatly benefitting the transportation of goods.

Option 3:

- Quantity of diversions: 2.
- Quantity of new water crossings: 4.
- Estimated total length of upgrade: 1 180m.

This option considered the benefits of both Options 1 and 2 shortest route to for the transportation of goods, economical factor, and impact on the environment.

The total length of new road sections required is almost double that of Option 1, yet some 145m (11%) shorter than Option 2. The economical factor for this option is expected to be like that of Option 2.

This option will also involve significant earthwork to be done and importation of fill material to construct the road.

According to the engineers, Option 1 will have the least amount of impact on the environment and is the shortest route and is the most economical solution of the three. Options 2 and 3 will involve significant earthworks and importation of fill material with the greatest impact on the environment. These options are expected to have a similar economic impact and be significantly greater than Option 1.

It was recommended to proceed to detail design and construction of Option 1. Therefore, only Option 1 was assessed, and will be discussed further.

Option1 alternatives:

Although road sections 1, 2 and 3 are the only sections of road that require realignment in Option 1 to allow better access for larger trucks, the route of section 2 has been amended with input from the EAP and the botanical specialist due to its potential impact on a non-perennial stream and seep. There are no other layout alternatives to sections 1 and 3.

Section 2 (Alternative 1)(refer to Appendix L2).
This was the originally proposed route for Section 2 by the consulting engineers. This proposed route would straighten the curve, making the road almost straight in this section. However, a seasonal stream (not indicated on the NFEPA overlays flows through the route (see figure 11 below). According to the Botanical Assessment, this habitat is very sensitive. This proposed section would almost certainly have a significant, high impact on this habitat.

Section 2 (Preferred Alternative)(refer to Appendix B1).
This section may not be as straight as Alternative 1, and may require more rock material to be removed, but it will mostly avoid the seasonal stream. Where it does cross the stream, it can be done with culverts. The stream will therefore still function, and the sensitive habitat identified will be avoided.

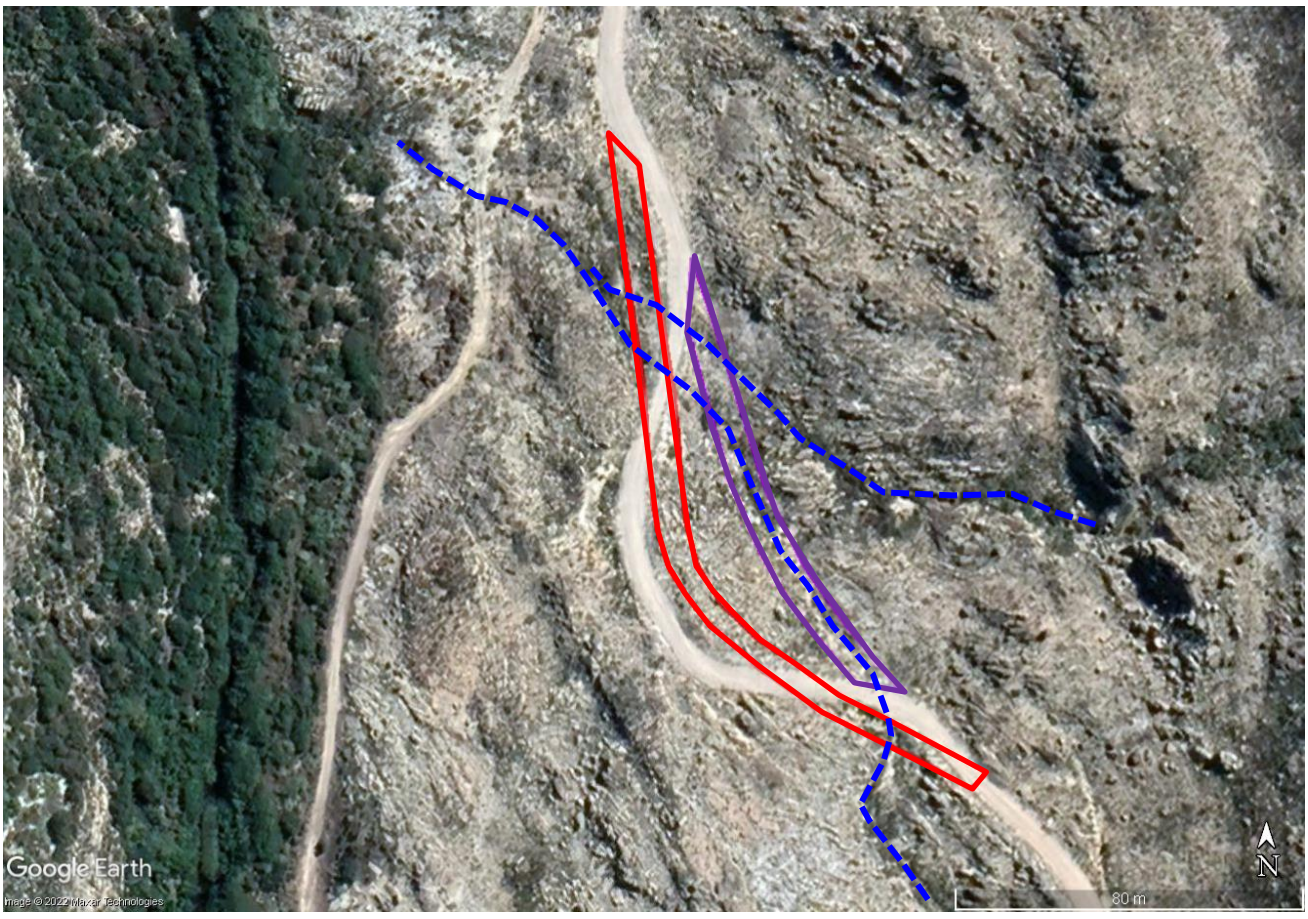


Figure 11: Google Earth Image showing the Alternative routes for Section 2. Alternative (originally proposed route) is indicated by the purple polygon, and the Preferred route is indicated by the red polygon. A non-perennial stream (not indicated on the NFEPA Overlays but clearly evident on site) is indicated by the blue dashed line.

Figure 11: Taken from the northern part of the proposed Alternative 1 section (the approximate proposed route is indicated by the white dashed lines) looking south towards the seasonal stream and sensitive habitat.

Figure 12: Taken from the middle of the proposed Alternative 1 section (the approximate proposed route is indicated by the white dashed lines) looking north over the seasonal stream and sensitive habitat.

Figure 13: Taken from the middle of the proposed Alternative 1 section (the approximate proposed route is indicated by the white dashed lines) looking south over the seasonal stream and sensitive habitat.

Figure 14: Taken from the existing road looking north. The Preferred Section 2 route is indicated by the green lines, showing that it will mostly avoid the stream, will require more rock to be removed.

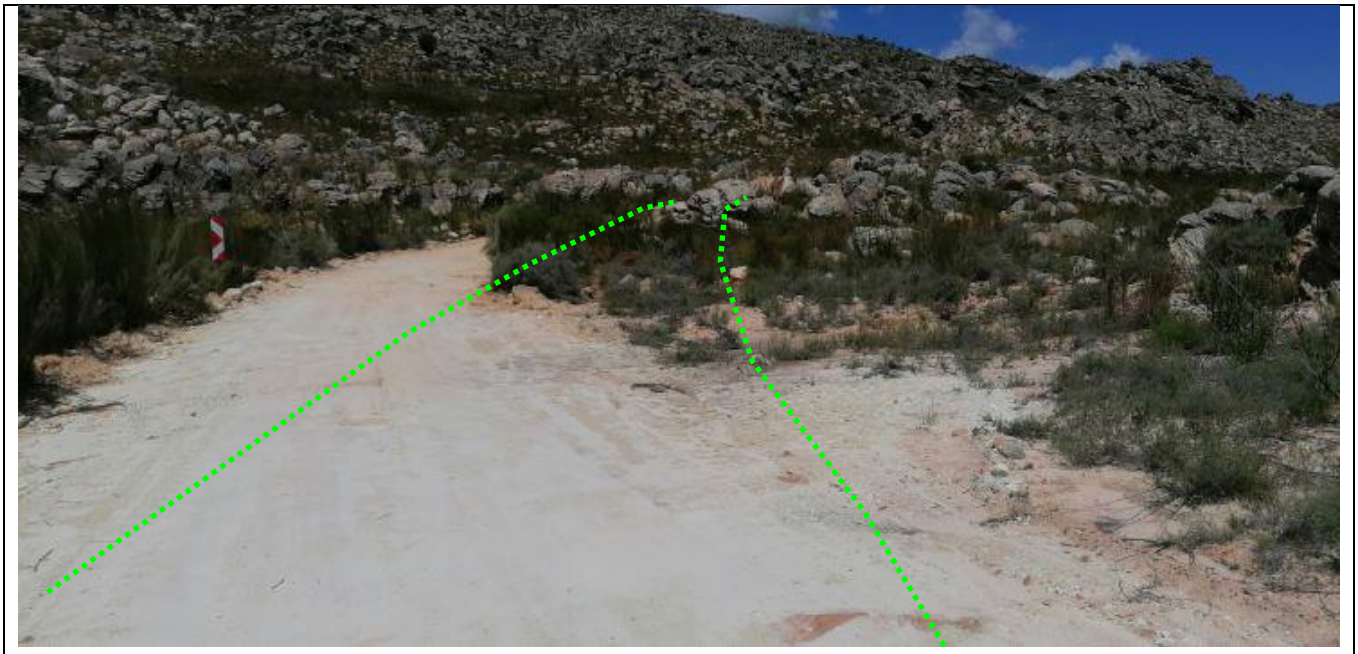


Figure 14: Taken from the existing road looking south. The Preferred Section 2 route is indicated by the green lines.

Provide a description of any other design or layout alternatives investigated.

No other design or layout alternatives have been considered viable.

Provide a motivation for the preferred design or layout alternative.

The Preferred Section 2 Alternative mostly avoids the sensitive seasonal stream

Provide a detailed motivation if no design or layout alternatives exist.

N/A

List the positive and negative impacts that the design alternatives will have on the environment.

Alternatives for route of Section 2 realignment

Preferred route:

Positives:

- Avoids the sensitive seasonal stream.

Negatives:

- More rock material will need to be removed
- Not as straight as Alternative 1, but still navigable by large trucks

Alternative 1:

Positives:

- Straighter alignment than the Preferred route
- Less material to be removed
- Potentially cheaper to construct.

Negatives:

- Almost complete loss of the stream and the sensitive habitat along the route.

1.4.	Technology alternatives (e.g., to reduce resource demand and increase resource use efficiency) to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Provide a description of the preferred technology alternative:

No viable technology alternatives were assessed.

Provide a description of any other technology alternatives investigated.

No viable technology alternatives were assessed.
Provide a motivation for the preferred technology alternative.
N/A. No viable technology alternatives were assessed.
Provide a detailed motivation if no alternatives exist.
N/A. No viable technology alternatives were assessed.
List the positive and negative impacts that the technology alternatives will have on the environment.
N/A. No viable technology alternatives were assessed.

1.5.	Operational alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Provide a description of the preferred operational alternative.
No viable operational alternatives were assessed.
Provide a description of any other operational alternatives investigated.
No viable operational alternatives were assessed.
Provide a motivation for the preferred operational alternative.
No viable operational alternatives were assessed.
Provide a detailed motivation if no alternatives exist.
No viable operational alternatives were assessed.
List the positive and negative impacts that the operational alternatives will have on the environment.
N/A

1.6.	The option of not implementing the activity (the 'No-Go' Option).

Provide an explanation as to why the 'No-Go' Option is not preferred.

This is the option of not constructing a new bridge and realigning sections of the access road. This would mean that no-development would take place and the proposed site will remain as is.

Although this option would result in no potential negative environmental impacts, the socio-economic benefits from implementing the activity would not be achieved, and the viability and profitability of the farm may not be met. It would also mean that no new jobs (temporary jobs during the construction phase, and permanent and seasonal jobs during the operational phase) would be created.

The no-go option would only have been recommended if it were found that the construction of the bridge and the realignment of sections of the access road might potentially cause substantial detrimental harm to the environment.

According to the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**), in the case of the **"No Go" alternative** where there would be no change to the *status quo*. The 'no development' alternative would thus have a **Very Low Negative** impact on the areas proposed for the road upgrade. The terrain would remain in its natural state and any changes that would occur would only be attributable to abiotic factors such as fire and climate change.

1.7.	Provide and explanation as to whether any other alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist.

No other feasible alternatives, besides those described above, have been assessed.

1.8.	Provide a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including the preferred location of the activity.

The preferred alternative is the construction of a new bridge over the Olifants River, and the realignment of three sections of the access road, allowing for greater accessibility for interlink trucks to remove products from the farm. This is expected to greatly increase productivity and profitability of the farm, making it more viable.

The preferred layout for section 2 of the road realignment will avoid a seasonal stream and sensitive habitat, decreasing the potential impact on the stream and the vegetation found in this area.

2. "No-Go" areas

Explain what "no-go" area(s) have been identified during identification of the alternatives and provide the co-ordinates of the "no-go" area(s).
No specific "no-go" areas have been identified, however, all natural areas and streams outside of the construction footprints must be considered no-go areas.

3. Methodology to determine the significance ratings of the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives.

Describe the methodology to be used in determining and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration of the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the proposed activity or development and alternatives, the degree to which the impact or risk can be reversed and the degree to which the impact and risk may cause irreplaceable loss of resources.
Please refer to Appendix J.

4. Assessment of each impact and risk identified for each alternative

Note: The following table serves as a guide for summarising each alternative. The table should be repeated for each alternative to ensure a comparative assessment. The EAP may decide to include this section as Appendix J to this BAR.

Alternative:	
PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE	
Potential impact and risk:	
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Consequence of impact or risk:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Indirect impacts:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be avoided:	
Degree to which the impact can be managed:	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Residual impacts:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
OPERATIONAL PHASE	
Potential impact and risk:	
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Consequence of impact or risk:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Indirect impacts:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	

Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be avoided:	
Degree to which the impact can be managed:	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Residual impacts:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE	
Potential impact and risk:	
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Consequence of impact or risk:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Indirect impacts:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be avoided:	
Degree to which the impact can be managed:	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Residual impacts:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (e.g. Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

SECTION I: FINDINGS, IMPACT MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES

1.	Provide a summary of the findings and impact management measures identified by all Specialist and an indication of how these findings and recommendations have influenced the proposed development.
2.	List the impact management measures that were identified by all Specialist that will be included in the EMPr

Heritage and Palaeontology:

The following response, date 02 December 2021 (see **Appendix E1**), was received from HWC: *You are hereby notified that, since there is no reason to believe that the proposed upgrading of an existing gravel road on ptn 3 farm 207, Visgat Ceres will impact on heritage resource, no further action under Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is required.*

Therefore, no impact assessment was required, and no specific mitigation required.

However, the following is included in the Environmental Management Programme in case any heritage resources are discovered during construction:

- Should any archaeological remains (including but not limited to fossil bones and fossil shells, coins, indigenous and/or colonial ceramics, any articles of value or antiquity, stone artefacts and bone remains, structures and other built features, rock art and rock engravings) are discovered during construction they must immediately be reported to HWC and must not be disturbed further until the necessary approval has been obtained from HWC.
- Should any human remains/burial or archaeological material be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during construction, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (021 462 4502) and Heritage Western Cape (021 483 9685). The ECO and ER are also to be informed. An archaeologist will be required to remove the remains at the expense of the developer
- Note that the Contractor may not, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resource authority; destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological site or archaeological material. The latter is a criminal offence under the Heritage Resources Act.
- The Fossil Find Procedure must be implemented, should any fossil material be discovered during construction, this must be safeguarded (preferably *in situ*) and the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should alert Heritage Western Cape so that appropriate mitigation (*e. g.* recording, sampling, or collection) can be taken by a professional palaeontologist.

Botanical:

The only mitigation that could be applied for the loss of approximately 0.5ha ha of Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos would be to set aside some of the same vegetation type as a conservation offset. However, there is extensive conservation of this vegetation type on Farm Visgat 207 simply because it cannot be developed. Therefore, an onsite conservation offset is spurious since such an offset would not result in any net gain for conservation.

Bridge site: Allow vegetation to grow back naturally. This should be assisted by stabilising the riverbanks. Any *Prionium serratum* removed during construction should be retained and replanted to enhance the restorative process.
Road section 1: Rehabilitation of vegetation in the abandoned section of road.
Road section 2: Rehabilitation of vegetation in the abandoned section of road. Culverts must be built to allow the stream to flow naturally.
Road section 3: Rehabilitation of vegetation in the abandoned section of road. Culverts must be built to allow the stream to flow naturally.

Freshwater

Construction of the bridge:

- Work must be done during the dry season, low flow conditions.
- Downstream placement of sediment containing measures.
- Due diligence to limit sediments washing down the river.
- Vegetation of ramps and shoulders.

Construction of the road sections:

- Work must be done during the dry season, low flow conditions.
- Downstream placement of sediment containing measures.
- Due diligence to limit sediments washing down the river.
- Limit footprint.

Operation of the road sections:

- Maintain the road surface.
- Maintain storm water management infrastructure.
- Due diligence to limit sediments washing down the river.

3.	List the specialist investigations and the impact management measures that will **not** be implemented and provide an explanation as to why these measures will not be implemented.

No impact measurement measures recommended by the specialists will not be implemented.

4.	Explain how the proposed development will impact the surrounding communities.

The proposed development may provide additional job opportunities, especially during the operational phase, as production on the farm increases. No negative impacts are expected.

5.	Explain how the risk of climate change may influence the proposed activity or development and how has the potential impacts of climate change been considered and addressed.

Adverse rain events caused by climate change, may lead to more frequent flooding along the Olifants River. A safer, more reliable river crossing is therefore required.

6.	Explain whether there are any conflicting recommendations between the specialists. If so, explain how these have been addressed and resolved.

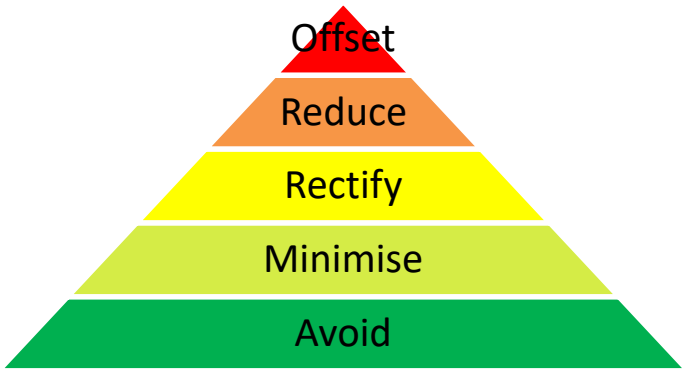
No conflicting recommendations between the specialists.

7.	Explain how the findings and recommendations of the different specialist studies have been integrated to inform the most appropriate mitigation measures that should be implemented to manage the potential impacts of the proposed activity or development.

All mitigation measures recommended by the Specialists can be implemented, and therefore all have been included in the Environmental Management Programme.

8.	Explain how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied to arrive at the best practicable environmental option.

The mitigation hierarchy is as follows:



The proposed development avoids the following impacts:

- The preferred alternative route for section 2 avoids the sensitive habitat and most of the seasonal stream.

The proposed development minimises the following potential impacts:

- Option 1 road alignment minimises the amount of vegetation that will need to be removed to construct the road realignments.

The proposed development reduces the following potential impacts:

- Option 1 reduces the amount of earthworks and fill material that will need to be imported to construct the road sections.

SECTION J: GENERAL

1. Environmental Impact Statement

1.1.	Provide a summary of the key findings of the EIA.

The proposed development is needed to secure the profitability and viability of the farm, by improving access to the farm, especially for large interlink trucks that transport the produce from the farm.

According to the Freshwater Report (**Appendix G1**), the impact of the proposed new bridge and the new road sections during construction will be short-lived, with mud and sand washing down the river. This can be contained to some extent. Given the strong flow in the river, the mud will be washed away, with no lasting impact.

It is expected that the proposed developments on Visgat Farm will not alter or lower the ecological service rendered by the upper Olifants River. On the long-term, the services will very much stay the same.

The Olifants River at Visgat is rated as ecologically sensitive. It is ecologically important because of the fish community. The DFFE screening tool indicated a high and very high sensitivity. The conservation value is high, but because of the low impact of the envisaged developments at Visgat, the numerical significance was **Medium / Low**. Despite of the ecological sensitivity, the development can go ahead, according to these findings, provided that the level of management remains high and provided that mitigating measurers are strictly applied.

The Risk Matrix indicates that the ecological risks to the aquatic environment are at the high end of the "Low" category. The risks are acceptable.

It is therefore recommended that the proposed developments are authorized.

According to the Botanical Impact Assessment (**Appendix G2**), 0.5ha of Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos vegetation (Least Concern).

The proposed road and bridge upgrade will target areas that are mostly undisturbed habitat. The impact at a local scale is anticipated to be **High Negative** for the bridge and road re-alignments during the construction phase without any mitigation and **Medium Negative** after mitigation. For the operational phase, the direct impact would be **Low Negative** before and after mitigation.

Based on the data collected and analysed for the target area for the development of the agricultural areas and realignment of the road, no fatal flaws or any other obstacles were found with respect to the flora, vegetation as a whole and terrestrial biodiversity.

According to the Heritage Western Cape (**Appendix E1**), there is no reason to believe that the proposed development will impact on heritage resources.

Due to the nature of the development, the site and the surrounding land-uses, the proposed development is expected to have no negative impact on the visual character of the area.

The construction phases will create job opportunities, and with potential increased production on the farm, additional labour during the operational phase.

Considering all the information, it is not envisaged that this proposed development will have a significant negative impact on the environment, besides the removal of approximately 0.5ha of Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos vegetation, which is acceptable if mitigation measures are applied. The socio-economic benefits of the project are expected to outweigh the negative environmental impacts.

1.2.	Provide a map that that superimposes the preferred activity and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffers. (Attach map to this BAR as Appendix B2)

1.3.	Provide a summary of the positive and negative impacts and risks that the proposed activity or development and alternatives will have on the environment and community.

Preferred Alternative:

Positive Impacts:

- Securing the profitability and viability of the farm, securing the employment of the current farm workers
- Potentially providing additional permanent job opportunities as productivity on the farm increases.
- Providing additional job opportunities during the construction phase, using mostly local suppliers.
- Safer crossing of the Olifants River, especially during high rainfall events

Negative Impacts:

- The loss of up to 0.5ha of natural vegetation (Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos).
- Some sedimentation of the Olifants River during construction
- Localised removal of aquatic habitat/vegetation at the bridge site.

Alternative 1 (routing of road sections 2):

This option will have similar positive and negative impacts as the Preferred option as described above. However, it will also have the following additional impacts:

Negative:

- Almost complete loss of the stream and the sensitive habitat along the route.

Positive:

- Straighter alignment than the Preferred route
- Less material to be removed
- Potentially cheaper to construct.

2. Recommendation of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP")

2.1.	Provide Impact management outcomes (based on the assessment and where applicable, specialist assessments) for the proposed activity or development for inclusion in the EMPr

- Loss of natural vegetation is limited to only the construction footprint, and must be minimised. The construction site must be clearly demarcated.
- Access to "no-go areas" (areas outside the development footprint) are prevented.
- All staff must be provided with environmental training before the commencement of construction and operational phases.
- Construction of the bridge to take place during the dry season
- Undertake responsible waste management
- Undertake proper site rehabilitation, including old road sections, after construction activities
- Ensure management and conservation of the remaining natural areas.

2.2.	Provide a description of any aspects that were conditional to the findings of the assessment either by the EAP or specialist that must be included as conditions of the authorisation.

Bridge construction to take place during the drier summer months. No other specific conditions required.

2.3.	Provide a reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity or development should or should not be authorised, and if the opinion is that it should be authorised, any conditions that should be included in the authorisation.

Considering all the information, it is not envisaged that this proposed development will have a significant negative impact on the environment. Although the development will involve the removal of approximately 0.5ha of natural vegetation, the vegetation is considered Least Threatened and no rare or threatened plant species were found.

The potential impact on freshwater resources are also expected to be Medium/Low. The impact of the proposed new bridge and the new road sections during construction will be short-lived, with mud and sand washing down the river. This can be contained to some extent. Given the strong flow in the river, the mud will be washed away, with no lasting impact. It is expected that the proposed developments on Visgat Farm will not alter or lower the ecological service rendered by the upper Olifants River. On the long-term, the services will very much stay the same.

The overall impact on the environment is expected to be Medium-Low (Negative). However, with the mitigation measures proposed above, and their implementation and compliance in the Environmental Management Programme during the construction and operational phases of the development, the expected overall impact is expected to be Low (Negative).

The potential socio-economic benefits, including providing job opportunities during the construction and operational phase, and ensuring the viability of the farm in the future, is expected to outweigh any potential negative environmental impacts.

2.4.	Provide a description of any assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge that relate to the assessment and mitigation measures proposed.

The following assumptions are made:

- The information on which the report is based (i.e. project information) is correct.
- The construction and management of this proposed development will be in line with the recommendations in this report, which will be enforced by the implementation of detailed Environmental Management Programme. Much of the long-term success lies in the effective implementation of the measures prescribed in the Environmental Management Programme.

There are no significant gaps of knowledge that have been identified.

There are no uncertainties that we are aware of at present.

2.5.	The period for which the EA is required, the date the activity will be concluded and when the post construction monitoring requirements should be finalised.

It is recommended that the EA be made valid for 5 years in which construction must commence. Construction is expected to take 1 year to complete.

3. Water

Since the Western Cape is a water scarce area explain what measures will be implemented to avoid the use of potable water during the development and operational phase and what measures will be implemented to reduce your water demand, save water and measures to reuse or recycle water.

Minimal amounts of water will be required during the construction phase of the project, and the development will not use any water during the operational phase.

4. Waste

Explain what measures have been taken to reduce, reuse or recycle waste.

The only significant waste that will be produced during construction and operations is organic waste and removed rock and soil.

Excess rock and soil removed during construction will be used as fill material, and for the bridge culvert construction.

Vegetation should be chipped and used as mulch in the land preparation/rehabilitation.

5. Energy Efficiency

8.1.	Explain what design measures have been taken to ensure that the development proposal will be energy efficient.

The proposed activities will not require energy to operate.

SECTION K: DECLARATIONS

DECLARATION OF THE APPLICANT

Note: Duplicate this section where there is more than one Applicant.

I……, ID number ……in my personal capacity or duly authorised thereto hereby declare/affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted as part of this application form is true and correct, and that:

- I am fully aware of my responsibilities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, and any relevant Specific Environmental Management Act and that failure to comply with these requirements may constitute an offence in terms of relevant environmental legislation;
- I am aware of my general duty of care in terms of Section 28 of the NEMA;

- I am aware that it is an offence in terms of Section 24F of the NEMA should I commence with a listed activity prior to obtaining an Environmental Authorisation;

- I appointed the Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") (if not exempted from this requirement) which:
  - meets all the requirements in terms of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations; or
  - meets all the requirements other than the requirement to be independent in terms of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, but a review EAP has been appointed who does meet all the requirements of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;

- I will provide the EAP and any specialist, where applicable, and the Competent Authority with access to all information at my disposal that is relevant to the application;

- I will be responsible for the costs incurred in complying with the NEMA EIA Regulations and other environmental legislation including but not limited to –
  - costs incurred for the appointment of the EAP or any legitimately person contracted by the EAP;
  - costs in respect of any fee prescribed by the Minister or MEC in respect of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
  - Legitimate costs in respect of specialist(s) reviews; and
  - the provision of security to ensure compliance with applicable management and mitigation measures;

- I am responsible for complying with conditions that may be attached to any decision(s) issued by the Competent Authority, hereby indemnify, the government of the Republic, the Competent Authority and all its officers, agents and employees, from any liability arising out of the content of any report, any procedure or any action for which I or the EAP is responsible in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations and any Specific Environmental Management Act.

Note: If acting in a representative capacity, a certified copy of the resolution or power of attorney must be attached.

Signature of the Applicant: Date:

Name of company (if applicable):

DECLARATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER ("EAP")

I ……, EAPASA Registration number …….. as the appointed EAP hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the:

- Information provided in this BAR and any other documents/reports submitted in support of this BAR;
- The inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs;
- The inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; and
- Any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties, and that:
- In terms of the general requirement to be independent:
  - other than fair remuneration for work performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity; or
  - am not independent, but another EAP that meets the general requirements set out in Regulation 13 of NEMA EIA Regulations has been appointed to review my work (Note: a declaration by the review EAP must be submitted);
- In terms of the remainder of the general requirements for an EAP, am fully aware of and meet all of the requirements and that failure to comply with any the requirements may result in disqualification;
- I have disclosed, to the Applicant, the specialist (if any), the Competent Authority and registered interested and affected parties, all material information that have or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Competent Authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document prepared or to be prepared as part of this application;
- I have ensured that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application was distributed or was made available to registered interested and affected parties and that participation will be facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments;
- I have ensured that the comments of all interested and affected parties were considered, recorded, responded to and submitted to the Competent Authority in respect of this application;
- I have ensured the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports in respect of the application, where relevant;
- I have kept a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in the public participation process; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;

Signature of the EAP: Date:

Name of company (if applicable):

DECLARATION OF THE REVIEW EAP

I ……, EAPASA Registration number …….. as the appointed Review EAP hereby declare/affirm that:

- I have reviewed all the work produced by the EAP;
- I have reviewed the correctness of the information provided as part of this Report;
- I meet all of the general requirements of EAPs as set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the specialist (if any), the review specialist (if any), the Department and I&APs, all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared as part of the application; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations.

Signature of the EAP: Date:

Name of company (if applicable):

DECLARATION OF THE SPECIALIST

Note: Duplicate this section where there is more than one specialist.

I ……, as the appointed Specialist hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the information provided or to be provided as part of the application, and that:

- In terms of the general requirement to be independent:
  - other than fair remuneration for work performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the development proposal or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity; or

  - am not independent, but another specialist (the "Review Specialist") that meets the general requirements set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations has been appointed to review my work (Note: a declaration by the review specialist must be submitted);

- In terms of the remainder of the general requirements for a specialist, have throughout this EIA process met all of the requirements;

- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the Review EAP (if applicable), the Department and I&APs all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared or to be prepared as part of the application; and

- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the EIA Regulations.

Signature of the EAP: Date:

Name of company (if applicable):

DECLARATION OF THE REVIEW SPECIALIST

I ……., as the appointed Review Specialist hereby declare/affirm that:

- I have reviewed all the work produced by the Specialist(s):
- I have reviewed the correctness of the specialist information provided as part of this Report;
- I meet all of the general requirements of specialists as set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the review EAP (if applicable), the Specialist(s), the Department and I&APs, all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared as part of the application; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations.

Signature of the EAP: Date:

Name of company (if applicable):