

ECOLOGICAL FAUNA AND FLORA HABITAT SURVEY

**Portions of Erf 687, Barkly West, Frances Baard Local  
Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa**



Indigenous *Senna italica*, a plant species often found at hitherto cleared areas, at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.

**MARCH 2020**

**COMPILED BY:**

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(M.Sc : Ecology, *Cum Laude*; Pr.Sci.Nat, Reg. No. 400244/05)

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## I) SPECIALIST EXPERTISE

### SYNOPTIC CV: REINIER. F. TERBLANCHE

Reinier is an ecologist and in particular a habitat specialist with an exceptional combination of botanical and zoological expertise which he keeps fostering, updating and improving. He is busy with a PhD for which he registered at the Department of Conservation Ecology at the University of Stellenbosch in July 2013. The PhD research focuses on the landscape ecology of selected terrestrial and wetland butterflies in South Africa. Reinier's experience includes being a lecturer in ecology and zoology at the North West University, Potchefstroom Campus (1998-2008). Reinier collaborates with a number of institutes, organizations and universities on animal, plant and habitat research.

#### Qualifications:

Qualification	Main subject matter	University
<b>M.Sc Cum Laude, 1998:</b> Botany: Ecology	Quantitative study of invertebrate assemblages and plant assemblages of rangelands in grasslands.	North-West University, Potchefstroom
<b>B.Sc Honns Cum Laude, 1992</b> Botany: Taxonomy	Distinctions in all subjects: Plant Anatomy, Taxonomy, Modern Systematics, System Modelling, Plant Ecology, Taxonomy Project. Also included: Statistics Attendance Course.	North-West University, Potchefstroom
<b>B.Sc Botany, Zoology</b>	Main subjects: Botany, Zoology.	North-West University, Potchefstroom
<b>Higher Education Diploma, 1990</b>	Numerous subjects aimed at holistic training of teachers.	North-West University, Potchefstroom

In research Reinier specializes in conservation biology, threatened butterfly species, vegetation dynamics and ant assemblages at terrestrial and wetland butterfly habitats as well as enhancing quantitative studies on butterflies of Africa. He has published extensively in the fields of taxonomy, biogeography and ecology in popular journals, peer-reviewed scientific journals and as co-author and co-editor of books (see 10 examples beneath).

Reinier practices as an ecological consultant and has been registered as a Professional Natural Scientist by SACNASP since 2005: Reg. No. 400244/05. His experience in consultation includes: Flora and fauna habitat surveys, Threatened species assessments, Riparian vegetation index surveys, Compilation of Ecological Management Plans, Biodiversity Action Plans and Status quo of biodiversity for Environmental Management Frameworks, Wetland Assessments, Management of Rare Wetland Species.

*Recent activities/ awards:* Best Poster Award at Oppenheimer De Beers Group Research Conference 2015, Johannesburg. One of the co-authors of Guidelines for Standardised Global Butterfly Monitoring, 2015, Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, Leipzig, Germany (UNEP-WCMC), GEO BON Technical Series 1. Awarded the prestigious Torben Larsen Memorial Tankard in October 2017; one is awarded annually to the person responsible for the most outstanding written account on Afrotropical Lepidoptera. Lectured as Conservationist-in-Residence in the Wildlife Conservation Programme of the African Leadership University, Kigali, Rwanda, 9-23 February 2019. Reinier won a photographic competition which resulted his photograph of the Critically Endangered *Erikssonia edgei* (Waterberg Copper) being on the front cover of the Synthesis Report of the National Biodiversity Assessment (2018) prepared by SANBI. Reinier is a Research Fellow at the University of South Africa (Unisa) from 1 January 2020.

## EXPERIENCE

Lecturer: Zoology 1998-2008	Main subject matter and level	Organization
<b>Lectured subjects</b>	- 3 <sup>rd</sup> year level Ecology, Plantparasitology - 2 <sup>nd</sup> year level Ethology - <u>Master's degree</u> Evolutionary Ethology, Systematics in Practice, Morphology and Taxonomy of Insect Pests, Wetlands.	North-West University, Potchefstroom and University of South Africa
<b>Co-promoter</b>	PhD: Edge, D.A. 2005. Ecological factors that influence the survival of the Brenton Blue butterfly	North-West University, Potchefstroom
<b>Study leader/ assistant study leader</b>	Six MSc students, One BSc Honn student: Various quantitative biodiversity studies (terrestrial and aquatic).	North-West University, Potchefstroom
<b>Teacher 1994-1998</b>	Biology and Science, Secondary School	Afrikaans Hoër Seunskool, Pretoria
<b>Owned Anthene Ecological CC 2008 – present</b>	- Flora and Fauna habitat surveys - Highly specialized ecological surveys - Riparian vegetation index surveys - Ecological Management Plans - Biodiversity Action Plans - Biodiversity section of Environmental Management Frameworks - Wetland assessments	Private Closed Corporation that has been subcontracted by many companies
<b>Herbarium assistant 1988-1991</b>	- Part-time assistant at the A.P. Goossens herbarium, Botany Department, North-West University, 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991 (as a student).	North-West University, Potchefstroom

## 10 EXAMPLES OF PUBLICATIONS OF WHICH R.F. TERBLANCHE IS AUTHOR/ CO-AUTHOR

(Three books, two chapters in books and five articles are listed here as examples)

- HENNING, G.A., **TERBLANCHE, R.F.** & BALL, J.B. (eds) **2009**. *South African Red Data Book: butterflies*. SANBI Biodiversity Series 13. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria. 158p. ISBN 978-1-919976-51-8
- MECENERO, S., BALL, J.B., EDGE, D.A., HAMER, M.L., HENNING, G.A., KRÜGER, M., PRINGLE, E.L., **TERBLANCHE, R.F.** & WILLIAMS, M.C. (eds). 2013. *Conservation Assessment of Butterflies of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland: Red List and atlas*. Safronics (Pty) Ltd., Johannesburg & Animal Demography Unit, Cape Town.
- VAN SWAAY, C., REGAN, E., LING, M., BOZHINOVSKA, E., FERNANDEZ, M., MARINI-FILHO, O.J., HUERTAS, B., PHON, C.-K., KÓRÖSI, A., MEERMAN, J., PE'ER, G., UEHARA-PRADO, M., SÁFIÁN, S., SAM, L., SHUEY, J., TARON, D., **TERBLANCHE, R.F.** & UNDERHILL, L. 2015. Guidelines for Standardised Global Butterfly Monitoring. Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, Leipzig, Germany. GEO BON Technical Series 1.
- TERBLANCHE, R.F.** & HENNING, G.A. **2009**. *A framework for conservation management of South African butterflies in practice*. In: Henning, G.A., Terblanche, R.F. & Ball, J.B. (eds). *South African Red Data Book: Butterflies*. SANBI Biodiversity Series 13. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria. p. 68 – 71.
- EDGE, D.A., **TERBLANCHE, R.F.**, HENNING, G.A., MECENERO, S. & NAVARRO, R.A. 2013. Butterfly conservation in southern Africa: Analysis of the Red List and threats. In: Mecenero, S., Ball, J.B., Edge, D.A., Hamer, M.L., Henning, G.A., Krüger, M., Pringle, E.L., Terblanche, R.F. & Williams, M.C. (eds). *Conservation Assessment of Butterflies of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland: Red List and Atlas*. pp. 13-33. Safronics (Pty) Ltd., Johannesburg & Animal Demography Unit, Cape Town.
- TERBLANCHE, R.F.**, SMITH, G.F. & THEUNISSEN, J.D. **1993**. Did Scott typify names in *Haworthia* (Asphodelaceae: Alooideae)? *Taxon* **42**(1): 91–95. (International Journal of Plant Taxonomy).
- TERBLANCHE, R.F.**, MORGENTHAL, T.L. & CILLIERS, S.S. **2003**. The vegetation of three localities of the threatened butterfly species *Chrysoritis aureus* (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae). *Koedoe* **46**(1): 73-90.
- EDGE, D.A., CILLIERS, S.S. & **TERBLANCHE, R.F.** **2008**. Vegetation associated with the occurrence of the Brenton blue butterfly. *South African Journal of Science* **104**: 505 - 510.
- GARDINER, A.J. & **TERBLANCHE, R.F.** **2010**. Taxonomy, biology, biogeography, evolution and conservation of the genus *Eriksonia* Trimen (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) *African Entomology* **18**(1): 171-191.
- TERBLANCHE, R.F.** 2016. *Acraea trimeni* Aurivillius, [1899], *Acraea stenobea* Wallengren, 1860 and *Acraea neobule* Doubleday, [1847] on host-plant *Adenia repanda* (Burch.) Engl. at Tswalu Kalahari Reserve, South Africa. *Metamorphosis* **27**: 92-102.

\* A detailed CV with more complete publication list is available.

## II) SPECIALIST DECLARATION

I, Reinier F. Terblanche, as the appointed independent specialist, in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended), hereby declare that I:

- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- regard the information contained in this report as it relates to my specialist input/study to be true and correct, and do not have and will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and any specific environmental management Act;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I have no vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- I have ensured that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the specialist input/study was distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties was facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on the specialist input/study;
- I have ensured that the comments of all interested and affected parties on the specialist input/study were considered, recorded and submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application;
- all the particulars furnished by me in this specialist input/study are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

Name of Specialist: Reinier F. Terblanche



Signature of the specialist

Date: 13 March 2020

# 1 INTRODUCTION

An ecological habitat survey was required for Portions of Erf 687, west of Barkly West, Frances Baard Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa (elsewhere referred to as the site). The survey mainly focused on the possibility that Threatened flora and fauna known to occur in Northern Cape Province are likely to occur at the site or not. Species which are not threatened but of conservation concern, for example near threatened, data deficient or declining species also received attention in the survey.

## 1.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE HABITAT STUDY

The objectives of the habitat study are to provide:

- A detailed fauna and flora habitat survey;
- A detailed habitat survey of possible threatened or localised plant species, vertebrates and invertebrates;
- Recording of possible host plants of fauna such as butterflies.
- Evaluate the conservation importance and significance of the site with special emphasis on the current status of threatened species;
- Literature investigation of possible species that may occur on site;
- Identification of potential ecological impacts on fauna and flora that could occur as a result of the development; and
- Make recommendations to reduce or minimise impacts, should the development be approved.

## 1.2 SCOPE OF STUDY

- A survey consisting of visits to investigate key elements of habitats on the site, relevant to the conservation of fauna and flora.
- Recording of any sightings and/or evidence of existing fauna and flora.
- The selective and careful collecting of voucher specimens of invertebrates where deemed necessary.
- An evaluation of the conservation importance and significance of the site with special emphasis on the current status of threatened species.
- Recording of possible host plants or foodplants of fauna such as butterflies.
- Literature investigation of possible species that might occur on site.
- Integration of the literature investigation and field observations to identify potential ecological impacts that could occur as a result of the development.
- Integration of literature investigation and field observations to make recommendations to reduce or minimise impacts, should the development be approved.

## 2 STUDY AREA

The study area is west of Barkly West, Frances Baard Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa (elsewhere referred to as the site). Site is part of the Savanna Biome which at the site is represented by the Kimberley Thornveld vegetation type (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

To serve as local context for the vegetation at the site an outline of the Kimberley Thornveld vegetation type from Mucina and Rutherford (2006) follows.

### SVk 4 Kimberley Thornveld

Distribution: In South Africa the Kimberley Thornveld is found in the North West, Free State and Northern Cape Provinces. Kimberley Thornveld is present in most of the Kimberley, Hartswater, Bloemhof and Hoopstad Districts as well as substantial parts of the Warrenton, Christiana, Taung, Boshof and to some extent the Barkly West Districts. The distribution also includes pediment areas in the Herbert and Jacobsdal Districts (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Vegetation and landscape features: Plains often slightly irregular with well-developed tree layer of *Acacia erioloba*, *Acacia tortilis*, *Acacia karroo* and *Boscia albitrunca* and well-developed shrub layer with occasional dense stands of *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* and *Acacia mellifera*. Grass layer open with much uncovered soil (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Geology and soils: Andesitic lavas of the Allanridge formation in the north and west and fine-grained sediments of the Karoo Supergroup in the south and east. Deep sandy (0.6 – 1.2 m) to loamy soils of the Hutton soil form are present on slightly undulating sandy plains (Mucina & Rutherford).

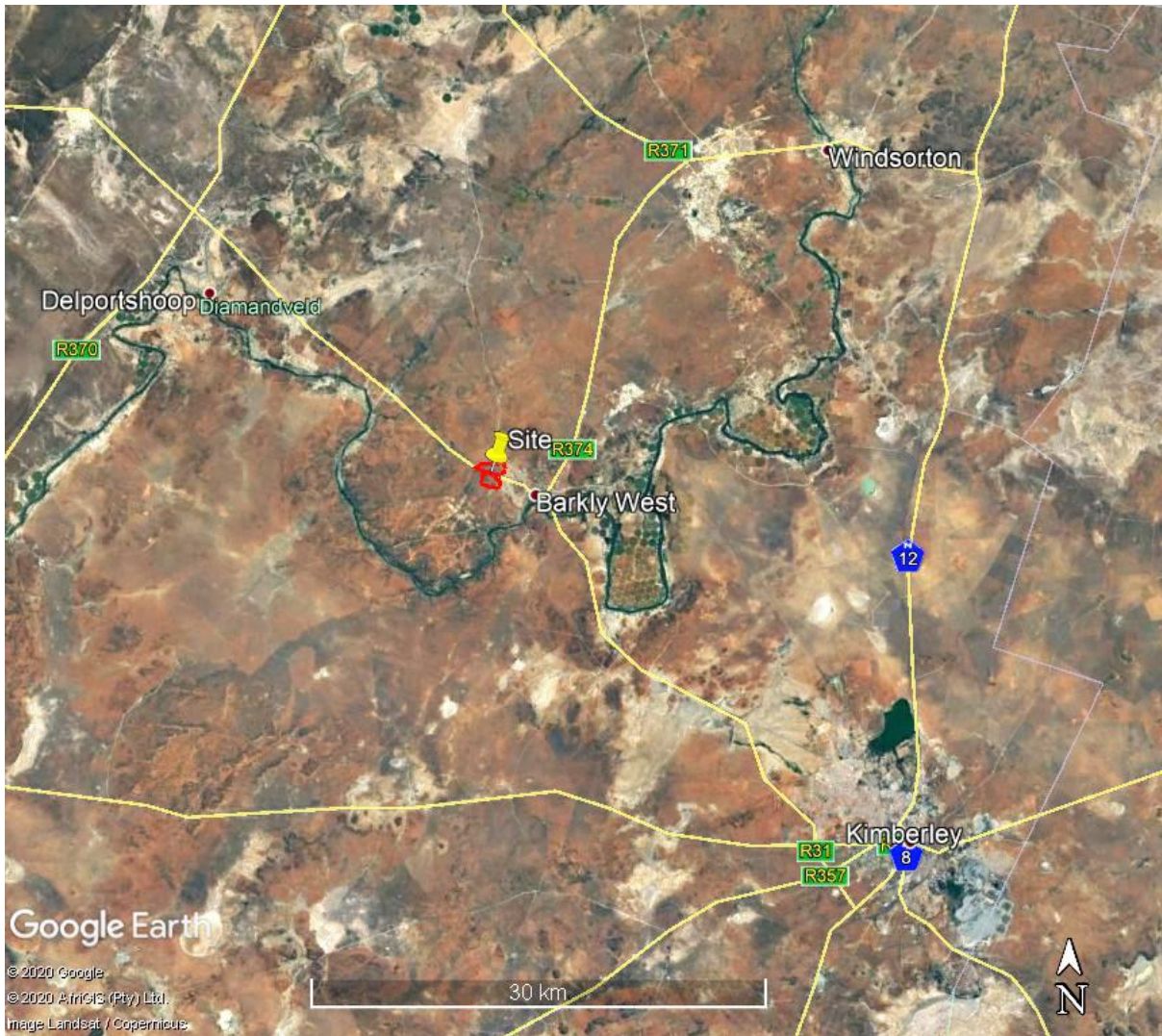
Climate: Climate is characterized by summer and autumn rainfall and very dry winters. Mean annual precipitation from about 300 mm in the southwest to about 500 mm in the northeast. Frost frequent in winter (Mucina & Rutherford 2006).

Important taxa of the Kimberley Thornveld listed by Mucina & Rutherford (2006): Tall Tree: *Acacia erioloba*. Small Trees: *Acacia karroo*, *Acacia mellifera* subsp. *detinens*, *Acacia tortilis* subsp. *heteracantha*, *Searsia lancea*. Tall Shrubs: *Tarchonanthus camphoratus*, *Diospyros pallens*, *Ehretia rigida* subsp. *rigida*, *Euclea crispa* subsp. *ovata*, *Grewia flava*, *Lycium arenicola*, *Lycium hirsutum*, *Searsia tridactyla*. Low Shrubs: *Acacia hebeclada* subsp.

*hebeclada*, *Anthospermum rigidum* subsp. *pumilum*, *Helichrysum zeyheri*, *Hermannia comosa*, *Lycium pilifolium*, *Melolobium microphyllum*, *Pavonia burchellii*, *Peliostomum leucorrhizum*, *Plinthus sericeus*, *Wahlenbergia nodosa*. Succulent Shrubs: *Aloe hereroensis* var. *hereroensis*, *Lycium cinereum*. Graminoids: *Eragrostis lehmanniana*, *Aristida canescens*, *Aristida congesta*, *Aristida mollissima* subsp. *argentea*, *Cymbopogon pospischilii*, *Digitaria argyrograpta*, *Digitaria eriantha* subsp. *eriantha*, *Heteropogon contortus*, *Themeda triandra*. Herbs: *Barleria macrostegia*, *Dicoma schinzii*, *Harpagophytum procumbens* subsp. *procumbens*, *Helichrysum cerastioides*, *Hermbstaedtia odorata*, *Hibiscus marlothianus*, *Jamesbrittenia aurantiaca*, *Lippia scaberrima*, *Osteospermum muricatum*, *Vahlia capensis* subsp. *vulgaris*. Succulent Herbs: *Aloe grandidentata*, *Piранthus decipiens*.

Note: Though some plant species of the above listed vegetation type are present at the site, not necessarily all of the plant species listed above are present at the site.





**Figure 1** Map with indication of the location of the site.

Map information were analysed and depicted on Google images with the aid of Google Earth Pro (US Dept. of State Geographer, MapLink/ Tele Atlas, Google, 2020).

### **3 METHODS**

A desktop study comprised not only an initial phase, but also it was used throughout the study to accommodate and integrate all the data that become available during the field observations.

Surveys were conducted by R.F. Terblanche on 3-4 March 2020 to note key elements of habitats on the site, relevant to the conservation of fauna and flora. Earlier visits to the study area were also taken into account where applicable. The main purpose of the site visits was ultimately to serve as a habitat survey that noted the possible presence or not of threatened species and other species of particular conservation concern.

The following sections highlight the materials and methods applicable to different aspects that were observed.

#### **3.1 HABITAT CHARACTERISTICS AND VEGETATION**

The habitat was investigated by noting habitat structure (rockiness, slope, plant structure/ physiognomy) as well as floristic composition. Voucher specimens of plant species were only taken where the taxonomy was in doubt and where the plant specimens were of significant relevance for invertebrate conservation. In this case no plant specimens were needed to be collected as voucher specimens or to be send to a herbarium for identification. A wealth of guides and detailed works of plant identifications, ecology and conservation is fortunately available and very useful. Field guides, biogeographic works, species lists, diagnostic outlines, conservation statuses and detail on specific plant groups were sourced from Court (2010), Germishuizen (2003), Germishuizen, Meyer & Steenkamp (2006), Goldblatt (1986), Goldblatt & Manning (1998), Jacobsen (1983), Manning (2003), Manning (2009), McMurtry, Grobler, Grobler & Burns (2008), Pooley (1998), Retief & Herman (1997), Smit (2008), Van Ginkel, Glen, Gordon-Gray, Cilliers, Muasya & Van Deventer (2011), Van Jaarsveld (2006), Van Oudtshoorn (2012), Van Wyk (2000), Van Wyk & Smith (2001), Van Wyk & Smith (2014), Van Wyk & Malan (1998) and Van Wyk & Van Wyk (2013). Lists of species, species names and the conservation status of species were mainly sourced from Raimondo, von Staden, Victor, Helme, Turner, Kamundi & Manyama (2009) and updated versions of red lists and species from the Threatened Species Programme of SANBI and the Red List of South African Plants ([sanbi.org.za](http://sanbi.org.za))

#### **3.2 MAMMALS**

Mammals were noted as sight records by day. For the identification of species and observation of diagnostic characteristics Smithers (1986), Skinner & Chimimba (2005), Cillié, Oberprieler and Joubert (2004) and Apps (2000) are consulted. Sites have been walked, covering as many habitats as possible. Signs of the presence of

mammal species, such as calls of animals, animal tracks (spoor), burrows, runways, nests and faeces were recorded. Walker (1996), Stuart & Stuart (2000) and Liebenberg (1990) were consulted for additional information and for the identification of tracks and signs. Because of the type of threatened mammals that are assessed in the local area such as the blackfooted cat and golden moles or rough-haired golden moles which are not to be trapped in normal way, the poor trapping success with normal traps of species in question such as the White-tailed Mouse as well as the similarity of terrestrial habitats and lack of unique habitats at the sites, trapping was not done since it was not deemed necessary in the case of this study. The focus has been on signs and surveying habitat characteristics to note potential occurrences of mammals of particular conservation concern. Many mammals can be identified from field sightings but, with a few exceptions, bats, rodents and shrews can only be reliably identified in the hand, and then some species needs examination of skulls, or even chromosomes (Apps, 2000).

### **3.3 BIRDS**

Birds were noted as sight records, mainly with the aid of binoculars (10x30). Nearby bird calls of which the observer was sure of the identity were also recorded. For practical skills of noting diagnostic characteristics, the identification of species and observation techniques Ryan (2001) is followed. For information on identification, biogeography and ecology Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005), Cillié, Oberprieler & Joubert (2004), Tarboton & Erasmus (1998) and Chittenden (2007) were consulted. Ringing of birds fell beyond the scope of this survey and was not deemed necessary. Sites have been walked, covering as many habitats as possible. Signs of the presence of bird species such as spoor and nests have additionally been recorded. Habitat characteristics were surveyed to note potential occurrences of birds.

### **3.4 REPTILES**

Reptiles were noted as sight records in the field. Binoculars (10x30) can also be used for identifying reptiles of which some are wary. For practical skills of noting diagnostic characteristics, the identification of species and observation techniques, Branch (1998), Marais (2004), Alexander & Marais (2007) and Cillié, Oberprieler and Joubert (2004) were followed. The Atlas and Red List of Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and South Africa (Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers, 2014) has been used as the main source to compile the list for assessment. Sites were walked, covering as many habitats as possible. Smaller reptiles are sometimes collected for identification, but this practice was not necessary in the case of this study. Habitat characteristics are surveyed to note potential occurrences of reptiles.

### **3.5 AMPHIBIANS**

Frogs and toads are noted as sight records in the field or by their calls. For practical skills of noting diagnostic characteristics, the identification of species and observation techniques Carruthers (2001), Du Preez (1996),

Conradie, Du Preez, Smith & Weldon (2006) and the recent complete guide by Du Preez & Carruthers (2009) are consulted. CD's with frog calls by Carruthers (2001) and Du Preez & Carruthers (2009) are used to identify species by their calls when applicable. Sites are walked, covering as many habitats as possible. Smaller frogs are often collected by pitfall traps put out for epigeal invertebrates (on the soil), but this practice falls beyond the scope of this survey. Habitat characteristics are also surveyed to note potential occurrences of amphibians.

### **3.6 BUTTERFLIES**

Butterflies were noted as sight records or voucher specimens. Voucher specimens are mostly taken of those species of which the taxa warrant collecting due to taxonomic difficulties or in the cases where species can look similar in the veldt. Many butterflies use only one species or a limited number of plant species as host plants for their larvae. Myrmecophilous (ant-loving) butterflies such as the *Aloeides*, *Chrysoritis*, *Erikssonina*, *Lepidochrysops* and *Orachrysops* species (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae), which live in association with a specific ant species, require a unique ecosystem for their survival (Deutschländer & Bredenkamp, 1999; Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers, 2003; Edge, Cilliers & Terblanche, 2008; Gardiner & Terblanche, 2010). Known food plants of butterflies were therefore also recorded. After the visits to the site and the identification of the butterflies found there, a list was also compiled of butterflies that will most probably be found in the area in all the other seasons because of suitable habitat. The emphasis of this study remains a habitat survey that focuses on the likelihood of occurrence of threatened, near threatened or rare butterfly species.

### **3.7 FRUIT CHAFER BEETLES**

Different habitat types in the areas were explored for any sensitive or special fruit chafer species. Selection of methods to find fruit chafers depends on the different types of habitat present and the species that may be present. Fruit bait traps would probably not be successful for capturing *Ichneustoma* species in a grassland patch (Holm & Marais 1992). Possible chafer beetles of high conservation priority were noted as sight records accompanied by the collecting of voucher specimens with grass nets or containers where deemed necessary.

### **3.8 ROCK SCORPIONS**

Relatively homogenous habitat / vegetation areas were identified and explored to identify any sensitive or special species. Selected stones that were lifted to search for Arachnids were put back very carefully resulting in the least disturbance possible. All the above actions were accompanied by the least disturbance possible.

### **3.9 LIMITATIONS**

For each site visited, it should be emphasized that surveys can by no means result in an exhaustive list of the plants and animals present on the site, because of the time constraint. There are many invertebrate groups with huge taxonomic and biogeographic impediments which further add to limitations of present surveys. The site survey was conducted during March 2020 which is an optimal time of the season to find sensitive plant and animal species of high conservation priority. Weather conditions during the surveys were favourable for recording fauna and flora. The focus of the present survey remains a habitat survey that concentrates on the possibility that species of particular conservation priority occur on the site or not. It is unlikely that any more visits would reveal information that would change the outcome of this assessment both in terms of ecosystems of special conservation concern or suitable habitats of species of particular conservation concern. Visits that were conducted therefore appear to be sufficient to address the objectives of this study.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 HABITAT AND VEGETATION CHARACTERISTICS

Table 4.1 Outline of main landscape and habitat characteristics of the site.

HABITAT FEATURE	DESCRIPTION
Topography	Site consists of relatively flat or slightly undulating landscape.
Rockiness	Some rocky patches are present but rocky ridges of note are absent.
Presence of wetlands	Ditches and canals are present. Rivers with riparian zones and wetlands appear to be absent at the site.
Broad overview of vegetation	<p>Informal settlements have transformed or modified vegetation at the eastern parts of the site. Remaining savanna at the site consists of shrub-height trees and a layer of grasses and forbs. Old diggings which resulted in numerous soil dumps, hitherto cleared areas, disturbances and bush encroachment occur at some areas. Conspicuous shrub-height trees at the site are <i>Tarchonanthus camphoratus</i> (Camphor Bush), <i>Senegalia mellifera</i> (Black Thorn) and <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> (Umbrella Thorn). Other indigenous trees at the site are <i>Ziziphus mucronata</i> and <i>Ehretia alba</i>. Few individuals of <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> and <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> are present.</p> <p>Conspicuous forbs with trailing stems at the site are <i>Corchorus asplenifolius</i>, <i>Senna italica</i> subsp. <i>arachoides</i> and <i>Tribulus terrestris</i>. Herbaceous plant species include <i>Heliotropium ciliatum</i>, <i>Chascanum pinnatifidum</i>, <i>Barleria macrostegia</i>, <i>Helichrysum cerastioides</i> and <i>Nidorella resedifolia</i>. Indigenous grass species such as <i>Enneapogon cenchroides</i>, <i>Melinis repens</i>, <i>Eragrostis lehmanniana</i>, <i>Heteropogon contortus</i>, <i>Aristida congesta</i>, <i>Eragrostis echinochloidea</i>, <i>Schmidtia pappophoroides</i>, <i>Enneapogon cenchroides</i>, <i>Cynodon dactylon</i>, <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> and <i>Urochloa mosambicensis</i> are found at the site. The succulent herb <i>Aloe grandidentata</i> occurs in small clumps at some areas.</p> <p>Some of the alien invasive weed species at hitherto bare ground or ecologically disturbed areas are <i>Verbesina encelioides</i>, <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> (Mexican Poppy), <i>Schkuhria pinnata</i> (Dwarf Marigold), <i>Xanthium spinosum</i> (Spiny Cocklebur), <i>Chenopodium album</i> (White Goosefoot) and <i>Alternanthera pungens</i> (Paper Thorn).</p>
Signs of ecological disturbances	Informal settlements, informal dumping and associated dirt roads and tracks cover fairly large areas of the eastern parts of the site. Numerous soil dumps remain from diggings in the past. Ditches, excavations and canals are present. A railway line is present at the northern boundary of the site. Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas.
Connectivity	Scope for the site to be part of a corridor of particular conservation concern in the larger area is small.





**Photo 1** Remaining savanna at the site is characterized by conspicuous presence of shrub-height trees *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* and *Senegalia mellifera*. Following substantial rains, grasses are prominent between the shrubs and small trees.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 2** Informal settlements are found at the eastern parts of the site. Conspicuous yellow flowers in the picture are those of the alien invasive weed *Verbesina encelioides*.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 3** Extensive informal dumping at the southern parts of the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 4** Informal dumping at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 5** Disturbed savanna and informal settlement at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 6** Railway line and service road at northern boundary of the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 7** Old soil dump from diggings in the past covered by some vegetation that established again over years.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 8** *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* at the site with old burnt branches.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 9** Foliage and branches of *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) at the site. The few *Boscia albitrunca* individuals at the site appear to be in a relatively poor condition.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 10** Foliage and pods of one of the few *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) trees at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 11** Indigenous *Senna italica*, a plant species often found at hitherto cleared areas, at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 12** The widespread indigenous herb *Heliotropium ciliatum* at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.





**Photo 13** *Tribulus terrestris* at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.



**Photo 14** *Crithagra flaviventris* (Yellow Canary) resting on a *Vachellia tortilis* (Umbrella Thorn) branch at the site.  
Photo: R.F. Terblanche.

## 4.2 ASSESSMENT OF PLANT SPECIES OF PARTICULAR HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY

Studying the geographical extent of the Griqualand West Centre of Plant Endemism (van Wyk & Smith, 2001) as well as the Eastern Kalahari Bushveld Bioregion (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006) it is clear that these regions which stretch across the boundaries of Northern Cape and North West Provinces will include similar suitable habitat for localized plant and animal species. A number of other similar Grassland and Savanna Biome Vegetation Types as well as karroid patches occur in both provinces. Because of this occurrence of similar suitable habitat types in the different provinces, the assessment that follows focus on northern Northern Cape Province and North West Province for assessing the likely occurrence or not of species of particular conservation concern.

### 4.2.1 Plant species of particular conservation concern according to the red list of plants

**Table 4.2** Threatened plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of Northern Cape Province which are listed in the **Critically Endangered** category. The list here follows the Red List of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009) as well as its updated versions on websites of the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Species	Status: Global status or national status indicated	Resident at the site
<i>Brachystelma canum</i>	Critically Endangered	No
<i>Brachystelma gracillimum</i>	Critically Endangered	No

**Table 4.3** Threatened plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of Northern Cape Province which are listed in the **Endangered** category. The list here follows the Red List of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009) as well as its updated versions on websites of the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Species	Status: Global status or national status indicated	Resident at the site
<i>Aginon jaarsveldii</i>	Endangered	No
<i>Aloe peglerae</i>	Endangered	No
<i>Aloidendron pillansii</i>	Endangered	No
<i>Brachystelma discoideum</i>	Endangered	No
<i>Lithops dorotheae</i>	Endangered	No

**Table 4.4** Threatened plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of the Northern Cape Province which are listed in the **Vulnerable** category. The list here follows the Red List of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009) or recent update. No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Status:</b> Global status or national status indicated	<b>Resident at the site</b>
<i>Aloidendron dichotomum</i> (= <i>Aloe dichotoma</i> )	Vulnerable	No
<i>Aloidendron ramosissimum</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Brachycorythis conica</i> subsp. <i>transvaalensis</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Brachystelma incanum</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Caesalpinia bracteata</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Ceropegia decidua</i> subsp. <i>pretoriensis</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Ceropegia stentiae</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Conophytum achabense</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Dinteranthus pole-evansii</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Ledebouria atrobrunnea</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Lithops dinteri</i> subsp. <i>frederici</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Lithops olivacea</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Marsilea farinosa</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Melolobium subspicatum</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Prunus africana</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Rennera stellata</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Searsia maricoan</i>	Vulnerable	No
<i>Schwantesia borchersii</i>	Vulnerable	No

**Table 4.5** **Near Threatened** plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of the Northern Cape Province. The list here follows the most recent updated red list of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Status:</b> Global status or national status indicated	<b>Resident at the site</b>
<i>Adromischus umbraticola</i> subsp. <i>umbraticola</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Ceropegia turricula</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Cineraria austrotransvaalensis</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Cleome conrathii</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Conophytum limpidum</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Delosperma leendertziae</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Drimia sanguinea</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Elaeodendron transvaalense</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Kniphofia typhoides</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Lithops leslei</i> subsp. <i>leslei</i>	Near Threatened	No

<i>Nerine gracilis</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Sporobolus oxyphyllus</i>	Near Threatened	No
<i>Stenostelma umbelluliferum</i>	Near Threatened	No

**Table 4.6** Plant species of the North West Province and northern Cape Province which are not threatened and not near threatened but which are of particular conservation concern and listed in the **Critically Rare** category (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). The list here follows the most recent red list of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Species	Conservation status	Resident at the site
<i>Bulbine striata</i>	Critically Rare	No
<i>Gladiolus filiformis</i>	Critically Rare	No

**Table 4.7** Plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of the Northern Cape Province which are not threatened and not near threatened but of which are of particular conservation concern and listed in the **Rare** category (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). The list here follows the most recent red list of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Species	Status: Global status or national status indicated	Resident at the site
<i>Adromischus marianiae</i>	Rare	No
<i>Anacampseros bayeriana</i>	Rare	No
<i>Anacampseros scopata</i>	Rare	No
<i>Brachystelma dimorphum</i> subsp. <i>gratum</i>	Rare	No
<i>Cephalophyllum fulleri</i>	Rare	No
<i>Ceropegia insignis</i>	Rare	No
<i>Conophytum bolusiae</i> subsp. <i>bolusiae</i>	Rare	No
<i>Eriospermum ernstii</i>	Rare	No
<i>Frithia pulchra</i>	Rare	No
<i>Gnaphalium nelsonii</i>	Rare	No
<i>Habenaria culveri</i>	Rare	No
<i>Hoodia officinalis</i> subsp. <i>officinalis</i>	Rare	No
<i>Ozoroa namaquensis</i>	Rare	No
<i>Schwantesia pillansii</i>	Rare	No
<i>Tridentia virescens</i>	Rare	No
<i>Tylecodon boddleyi</i>	Rare	No
<i>Tylecodon sulphureus</i> var. <i>armianus</i>	Rare	No



**Table 4.8** Plant species of the North West Province and northern parts of Northern Cape Province which are not threatened and not near threatened but which are of particular conservation concern and listed in the **Declining** category (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). The list here follows the most recent red list of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). No = Plant species is unlikely to be a resident at the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Status:</b> Global status or national status indicated	<b>Resident at the site</b>
<i>Boophone disticha</i>	Declining	No
<i>Crinum bulbispermum</i>	Declining	No
<i>Crinum macowanii</i>	Declining	No
<i>Drimia altissima</i>	Declining	No
<i>Eucomis autumnalis</i>	Declining	No
<i>Gunnera perpensa</i>	Declining	No
<i>Hypoxis hemerocallidea</i>	Declining	No
<i>Ilex mitis</i>	Declining	No
<i>Pelargonium sidoides</i>	Declining	No
<i>Vachellia erioloba</i>	<b>Declining</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Table 4.9** Plant species of northern parts of the Northern Cape Province of which the conservation status is uncertain owing to a lack of information and which are listed in the **Data Deficient** category. The list here follows the most recent red list of South African plant species (Raimondo *et al.* 2009). No = Plant species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Conservation status</b>	<b>Resident at the site</b>
<i>Avonia recurvata</i> subsp. <i>minuta</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Cephalaria amerioides</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Conophytum lithopsoides</i> subsp. <i>boreale</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Cotula loganii</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Felicia deserti</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Hoodia gordonii</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Manulea deserticola</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Oxalis extensa</i>	Data Deficient	No
<i>Senecio garipepiensis</i>	Data Deficient	No

#### 4.2.2 Plant species of particular conservation concern: Nationally Protected Tree Species

**Table 4.10** Tree species of the North West Province and northern parts of the Northern Cape Province which are listed as **Protected Tree Species** under the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, Section 15(1) which was published under Section 12(1)d in GN1602 of 23 December 2016. No = Plant species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Species	Conservation status	Resident at the site
<b><i>Boscia albitrunca</i></b> (Shepherd's Tree)	Nationally Protected Tree	Yes
<i>Combretum imberbe</i> (Leadwood)	Nationally Protected Tree	No
<i>Euclea pseudebenus</i> (Ebony Guarri)	Nationally Protected Tree	No
<i>Ozoroa namaquensis</i> (Gariiep Resin Tree)	Nationally Protected Tree	No
<i>Prunus africana</i> (Red Stinkwood)	Nationally Protected Tree	No
<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i> subsp. <i>caffra</i> (Marula)	Nationally Protected Tree	No
<b><i>Vachellia erioloba</i></b> (Camel Thorn Tree)	Nationally Protected Tree	Yes
<i>Vachellia haematoxylon</i> (Grey Camel Thorn)	Nationally Protected Tree	No

#### 4.2.3 Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009: Specially Protected Plant Species (Schedule 1)

**Table 4.11** Plant species of the Northern Cape Province which are listed as **Specially Protected Species** in Schedule 1 of Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, No. 9 of 2009. No = Plant species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Families andSpecies	Conservation status	Resident at the site
FAMILY AMARYLLIDACEAE		
<b><i>Clivia mirabilis</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Haemanthus graniticus</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Hessea pusilla</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Strumaria bidentata</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Strumaria perryae</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY ANACARDIACEAE		
<b><i>Ozoroa</i> spp.</b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: APIACEAE		
<b><i>Centella tridentata</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

<b><i>Chamarea snijmaniae</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: APOCYNACEAE		
<b><i>Hoodia gordonii</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Pachypodium namaquanum</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ASPHODELACEAE		
<b><i>Aloe buhrii</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe dichotoma</i></b> (Note <i>Aloe dichotoma</i> is now known as <i>Aloidendron dichotomum</i> )	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe dichotoma</i> var. <i>ramosissima</i></b> (Note <i>Aloe ramosissima</i> is now regarded as full species <i>Aloidendron ramosissimum</i> )	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe dabenorisana</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe erinacea</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe meyeri</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe pearsonii</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Aloe pillansii</i></b> (Note <i>Aloe pillansii</i> is now known as <i>Aloidendron pillansii</i> )	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Trachyandra prolifera</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ASTERACEAE		
<b><i>Athanasia adenantha</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Athanasia spatulata</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Cotula filifolia</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Euryops mirus</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Euryops rosulatus</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Euryops virgatus</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Felicia diffusa</i> subsp. <i>kamiesbergensis</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Othonna armiana</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant Species (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY CRASSULACEAE		
<b><i>Tylecodon torulosus</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family DIOSCOREACEAE		

<i>Dioscorea</i> spp.	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ERIOSPERMACEAE		
<i>Eriospermum erinum</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Eriospermum glaciale</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: FABACEAE		
<i>Amphithalea obtusiloba</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Lotononis acutiflora</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Lotononis polycephala</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Lessertia</i> spp.	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Sceletium toruosum</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Sutherlandia</i> spp.	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Wiborgia fusca</i> subsp. <i>macrocarpa</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY GERANIACEAE		
<i>Pelargonium</i> spp.	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY HYACINTHACEAE		
<i>Drimia nana</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Ornithogalum bicornutum</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Ornithogalum inclusum</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: IRIDACEAE		
<i>Babiana framesii</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Ferraria kamiesbergensis</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Freesia marginata</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Geissorhiza subrigida</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Hesperantha minima</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Hesperantha oligantha</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Hesperantha rivulicola</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Lapeirousia verecunda</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Moraea kamiesensis</i>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

<b><i>Moraea namaquana</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Romulea albiflora</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Romulea maculata</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Romulea rupestris</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: MOLLUGINACEAE		
<b><i>Hypertelis trachysperma</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Psammotropha spicata</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ORCHIDACEAE		
<b><i>Corycium ingaenum</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Disa macrostachya</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: OXALIDACEAE		
<b><i>Oxalis pseudo-hirta</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PEDALIACEAE		
<b><i>Harpagophytum</i> spp.</b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: POACEAE		
<b><i>Prionanthium dentatum</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Secale strictum</i> subsp. <i>africanum</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PROTEACEAE		
<b><i>Leucadendron meyerianum</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Mimetes</i> spp.</b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Orothamnus zeyheri</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ROSACEAE		
<b><i>Cliffortia arborea</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: SCROPHULARIACEAE		
<b><i>Charadrophila capensis</i></b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: STANGERIACEAE		
<b><i>Stangeria</i> spp.</b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ZAMIACEAE		
<b><i>Encephalartos</i> spp.</b>	Specially Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

#### 4.2.4 Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, No. 9 of 2009: Protected Plant Species (Schedule 2)

**Table 4.12** Plant species of the Northern Cape Province which are listed as **Protected Species** in Schedule 2 of Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, No. 9 of 2009. No = Plant species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Plant species is a resident at the site.

Families andSpecies	Conservation status	Resident at the site
Family: ACANTHACEAE		
<b><i>Barleria papillosa</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Monechma saxatile</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Peristrophe</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ADIANTHACEAE		
<b><i>Adiantum</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: AGAPANTHACEAE		
<b><i>Agapanthus</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: AIZOACEAE (MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE)		
<b>All species of Aizoaceae</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: AMARYLLIDACEAE		
<b>All species of Amaryllidaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ANTHERICACEAE		
<b>All species of Anthericaceae</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: APIACEAE		
<b>All species of Apiaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: APOCYNACEAE		
<b>All species of Apocynaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: AQUIFOLIACEAE		
<b><i>Ilex mitis</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ARACACEAE		
<b><i>Zantedeschia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family ARALIACEAE		
<b><i>Cussonia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ASPHODELACEAE		
<b>All species of Asphodelaceae except those listed in Schedule 1 and <i>Aloe ferox</i></b>	<b>Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Family: ASTERACEAE		
	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

<i>Helichrysum jubilatum</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Felicia deserti</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Gnaphalium simii</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Lopholaena longipes</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Senecio albo-punctatus</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Senecio trachylaenus</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Trichogyne lerouxiae</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Tripteris pinnatilobata</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Troglophyton acocksianum</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Vallereophyton lasianthum</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: BURMANNIACEAE		
<i>Burmattia madagascariensis</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: BURSERACEAE		
<i>Commiphora spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: CAPPARACEAE		
<i>Boscia spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: CARYOPHYLLACEAE		
<i>Dinanthus spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: CELASTRACEAE		
<i>Gymnosporia spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: COLCHICACEAE		
<i>Androcymbium spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Gloriosa spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY COMBRETACEAE		
<i>Combretum spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY CRASSULACEAE		
<b>All species of Crassulaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family CUPRESSACEAE		
<i>Widdringtonia spp.</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: CYATHACEAE		

<b><i>Cyathea</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Cyathea capensis</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: CYPERACEAE		
<b><i>Carex acocksii</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: DROSERACEAE		
<b><i>Drosera</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: DRYOPTERIDACEAE		
<b><i>Rumohro</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ERICACEAE		
<b><i>Erica</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: FABACEAE		
<b><i>Aspalathus</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Erythrina zeyheri</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Argyrolobium petiolare</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Caesalpinia bracteata</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Calliandra redacta</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Crotalaria pearsonii</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Indigofera limosa</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Lebeckia bowieana</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Polhillia involucrata</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Rhyncosia emarginata</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Wiborgia humilus</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: HYACINTHACEAE		
<b><i>Daubenya</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Lachenalia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Veltheimia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Eucomis</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Neopaterersonia namaquensis</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No



<i>Ornithogalum</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY IRIDACEAE		
<b>All species of Iridaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
FAMILY LAURACEAE		
<i>Ocotea</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE (See Aizoaceae)		
<b>All species of Mesembryanthemaceae (see Aizoaceae)</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: MELIACEAE		
<i>Nymania capensis</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: OLEACEAE		
<i>Olea europaea</i> subsp. <i>africana</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ORCHIDACEAE		
<b>All species of Orchidaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: OROBANCHACEAE		
<i>Harveya</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: OXALIDACEAE		
<b>All <i>Oxalis</i> species except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PLUMBAGINACEAE		
<i>Afrolimon namaquanum</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: POACEAE		
<i>Brachiaria dura</i> var. <i>dura</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Diregeochloa calviniensis</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Pentaschistis lima</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PODOCARPACEAE		
<i>Podocarpus</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PORTULACACEAE		
<i>Anacampseros</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Avonia</i> spp.	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<i>Portulaca foliosa</i>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: PROTEACEAE		
<b>All species of Proteaceae except those listed in Schedule 1</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

Family: RESTIONACEAE		
<b>All species of Restionaceae</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: RHAMNACEAE		
<b><i>Phyllica</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: RUTACEAE		
<b><i>Agathosma</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: SCROPHULARIACEAE		
<b><i>Diascia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Halleria</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Jamesbrittenia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Manulea</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Nemesia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Pyllopodium</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Polycarena filiformis</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
<b><i>Chaenostoma longipedicellatum</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: STRELITZIACEAE		
<b><i>Strelitzia</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: TECOPHILAEACEAE		
<b><i>Cyanella</i> spp.</b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: THYMELAEACEAE		
<b><i>Gnidia leipoldtii</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No
Family: ZINGIBERACEAE		
<b><i>Siphonochilus aethiopicus</i></b>	Protected Plant (NCNCA, 2009)	No

### 4.3 ASSESSMENT OF VERTEBRATE SPECIES OF PARTICULAR HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY

#### 4.3.1 Mammals of particular high conservation priority

**Table 4.13** Threatened mammal species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Friedman & Daly, (2004), Skinner & Chimimba (2005), Wilson & Reeder (2005). With mammal species which normally needs a large range their residential status does not implicate that they are exclusively dependent on the site or use the site as important shelter or for reproduction. No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Site is part of range	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<b><i>Bunolagus monticularis</i></b> Riverine Rabbit	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Chrysoxalax villosus</i></b> Rough-haired golden mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Chrysochloris visagiei</i></b> Visagie's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Cryptochloris wintoni</i></b> De Winton's Golden Mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Chrytochloris zyli</i></b> Van Zyl's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Cloeotis percivali</i></b> Short-eared Trident Bat	Vulnerable/ Near-threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Cistugo lesueurii</i></b> Lesueur's Hairy Bat	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Diceros bicornis</i></b> Black rhinoceros	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Eremitalpa granti</i></b> Grant's Golden Mole	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Felis nigripes</i></b> Black-footed Cat	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Lycaon pictus</i></b> African wild dog	Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Loxodonta africana</i></b> African elephant	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Mystromys albicaudatus</i></b> White-tailed mouse	Endangered	Yes	No	No

<b><i>Neamblysomus julianae</i></b> Juliana's Golden Mole	Critically Endangered	No	No	No
<b><i>Panthera leo</i></b> Lion	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Rhinolophus blasii</i></b> Blasi's Horseshoe Bat	Vulnerable	No	No	No

**Table 4.14** Near threatened mammal species known to occur in the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Skinner & Chimimba (2005). No = Not recorded at site/ unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Site is part of range	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<b><i>Ceratotherium simum</i></b> White Rhinoceros	Near threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Cistugo seabrai</i></b> Angolan Hairy Bat	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Manis temminckii</i></b> Ground Pangolin	Near threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Rhinolophus capensis</i></b> Cape Horseshoe Bat	Near Threatened	No	No	No

**Table 4.15** Data deficient (or uncertain) mammal species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources: Skinner & Chimimba (2005). No = Not recorded at site/ unlikely to be resident at the site. Yes: Recorded at the site/ Likely to be resident at the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely be a resident at the site
<b><i>Myosorex varius</i></b> Forest shrew	Uncertain	No	No
<b><i>Rhinolophus denti</i></b> Dent's Horseshoe Bat	Data Deficient	No	No

#### 4.3.2 Birds of particular high conservation priority

**Table 4.16 Threatened** bird species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Literature sources Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005) and Chittenden (2007). No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to use site as breeding area or particular habitat on which the species depends. Yes = Recorded at site/ Likely to use site as breeding area or particular habitat on which the species depends.

Species	Common name	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to use site as breeding area or habitat
<i>Aegypius tracheliotos</i>	<b>Lappet-faced Vulture</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>	<b>Blue Crane</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Aquila rapax</i>	<b>Tawny Eagle</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	<b>Kori Bustard</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	<b>Grey Crowned Crane (Mahem)</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	<b>Eurasian Bittern</b>	Critically Endangered	No	No
<i>Calendulauda burra</i>	<b>Red Lark</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	<b>African Marsh- Harrier</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Crex crex</i>	<b>Corn Crake</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>	<b>White-bellied Korhaan</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Falco naumanni</i>	<b>Lesser Kestrel</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Geronticus calvus</i>	<b>Southern Bald Ibis</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>	<b>White-backed Night-heron</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	<b>Bearded Vulture</b>	Endangered	No	No
<i>Gyps africanus</i>	<b>White-backed Vulture</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	<b>Cape Vulture</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	<b>Egyptian Vulture</b>	Regionally almost extinct	No	No
<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>	<b>Ludwig's Bustard</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>	<b>Pink-backed Pelican</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	<b>Martial Eagle</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Rhynchops flavirostris</i>	<b>African Skimmer</b>	Endangered	No	No
<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	<b>Secretarybird</b>	Vulnerable	No	No
<i>Sarothrura ayresi</i>	<b>White-winged Flufftail</b>	Critically Endangered	No	No
<i>Therathopius ecaudatus</i>	<b>Bateleur</b>	Vulnerable (in South Africa)	No	No
<i>Tyto capensis</i>	<b>African Grass-Owl</b>	Vulnerable	No	No

\* Though some of the above bird species that roams over large areas may occasionally be found at the site, the site does not appear to be a habitat of particular importance to these birds, and these birds also do not use the site as breeding area.

**Table 4.17 Near threatened bird species of the North West Province and Northern Cape Province.** Literature sources Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005) and Chittenden (2007). No = Not recorded at site/ Unlikely to be particularly dependent on the site as breeding area or habitat. Yes = Recorded at site/ Likely to be particularly dependant on the site as breeding area or habitat.

Species	Common name	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to use site breeding area or habitat
<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	<b>Red-Billed Oxpecker</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Certhilauda chuana</i>	<b>Short-clawed Lark</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Calendulauda barlowi</i>	<b>Barlow's Lark</b>	Near Threatened	No	No
<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	<b>Chestnut-banded Plover</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	<b>Black Stork</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Circus macrourus</i>	<b>Pallid Harrier</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Circus maurus</i>	<b>Black Harrier</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Eupodotis caeruleascens</i>	<b>Blue Korhaan</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	<b>Lanner Falcon</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	<b>Black-winged Pratincole</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	<b>Marabou Stork</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Mirafra cheniana</i>	<b>Melodious lark</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	<b>Yellow-billed Stork</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	<b>Great White Pelican</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	<b>Lesser Flamingo</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	<b>Greater Flamingo</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	<b>Greater Painted-snipe</b>	Near threatened	No	No
<i>Spizocorys sclateri</i>	<b>Sclater's Lark</b>	Near Threatened	No	No
<i>Sterna caspia</i>	<b>Caspian Tern</b>	Near threatened	No	No

\*\* Though some of the above bird species that roams over large areas may occasionally be found at the site, the site does not appear to be a habitat of particular importance to these birds, and these birds also do not use the site as breeding area.

### 4.3.3 Reptiles of particular high conservation priority

The following tables list possible presence or absence of threatened reptile or near threatened reptile species in the study area. The Atlas and Red List of Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and South Africa (Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers, 2014) has been used as the main source to compile the list for assessment.

**Table 4.18** Threatened reptile species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Main Source: (Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers, 2014). No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<b><i>Crocodylus niloticus</i></b> Nile Crocodile	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Homopus signatus</i></b> Speckled Dwarf Tortoise	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Pachydactylus goodi</i></b> Good's Gecko	Vulnerable	No	No	No
<b><i>Pachydactylus rangei</i></b> Namib Web-footed Gecko	Critically Endangered (Regionally)	No	No	No

**Table 4.19** Near threatened reptile species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. Main Source: Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers (2014). Though *Homoroselaps dorsalis* has not yet been recorded from the North West Province, its presence in some areas of the Province is anticipated. No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<b><i>Cordylus imkeae</i></b> Rooiberg Girdled Lizard	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Cordylus macropholis</i></b> Large-scaled Girdled Lizard	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Goggia gemmula</i></b> Richtersveld Pygmy Gecko	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Homopus boulengeri</i></b> Karoo Dwarf Tortoise	Near Threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Homoroselaps dorsalis</i></b> Striped Harlequin Snake	Near threatened	No	No	No
<b><i>Typhlosaurus lomiae</i></b> Lomi's Blind Legless Skink	Near Threatened	No	No	No

#### 4.3.4 Amphibian species of particular high conservation priority

**Table 4.20 Threatened** amphibian species in Northern Cape Province. Sources: Du Preez & Carruthers (2009), Carruthers & Du Preez (2011). No = Reptile species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Reptile species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Red Listed Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Breviceps macrops</i> Desert Rain Frog	Vulnerable	No	No	No

**Table 4.21** Near threatened (currently least concern) amphibian species in North West Province and Northern Cape Province. No = Amphibian species is not a resident on the site; Yes = Amphibian species is found to be resident on the site.

Species	Threatened Status	Resident at site	Recorded at site during survey	Likely to be found based on habitat assessment
<i>Pyxicephalus adspersus</i> Giant Bullfrog	Near threatened (Currently Least Concern)	No	No	No

#### 4.4 ASSESSMENT OF INVERTEBRATE SPECIES OF PARTICULAR HIGH CONSERVATION PRIORITY

##### 4.4.1 Butterflies of particular conservation priority

**Table 4.22 Threatened** butterfly species in North West Province, northern Northern Cape Province and Gauteng Province. Sources: Henning, Terblanche & Ball (2009), Mecenero *et al.* (2013). Invertebrates such as threatened butterfly species are often very habitat specific and residential status imply a unique ecosystem that is at stake.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Residential status at the site: Yes confirmed, Highly likely, Likely, Medium possibility, Unlikely, Highly unlikely
<i>Aloeides dentatis dentatis</i> Roodepoort Russet	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Anthene lindae</i> Kalahari Hairtail	Vulnerable	No	Unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i> Golden Opal	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysoritis trimeni</i> Diamond Opal	Vulnerable	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysops praeterita</i> Highveld Blue	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Orachrysops mijburghi</i> Mijburgh's Blue	Endangered	No	Highly unlikely



**Table 4.23** Butterfly species of the Gauteng Province, North West Province and Northern Cape Province that are not threatened and not near threatened but of which are of particular conservation concern and listed as **Critically Rare/ Rare/ Data Deficient** category (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). No = Butterfly species is unlikely to be a resident at the study area; Yes = Butterfly species is a resident at the study area.

Species	Threatened Status	Recorded at site during survey	Residential status at the site: Yes confirmed, Highly likely, Likely, Medium possibility, Unlikely, Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysochrysis beaufortia charlesi</i> Roggeveld Opal	Rare (Restricted Range)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysochrysis beaufortia stepheni</i> Hantam Mountain Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysochrysis turneri wykehami</i> Hantam Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Chrysochrysis violescens</i> Violescent Opal	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Colotis celimene amina</i> Lilac Tip	Rare (Low density)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysis jamesi claassensi</i> Hantamsberg Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysis jamesi jamesi</i> Karoobush Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysis mcgregori</i> Copper-brown Nimble Blue	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysis penningtoni</i> Arid Nimble Blue	Data Deficient	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Lepidochrysis procera</i> Savanna Blue	Rare (Habitat specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Metisella meninx</i> Marsh Sylph	Rare (Habitat specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Platylesches dolomitica</i> Hilltop Hopper	Rare (low density)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Pseudonympha southeyi kamiesbergensis</i> Kamiesberg Pepperbrown	Rare (Habitat Specialist)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Thestor calviniae</i> Calvinia Skolly	Rare (Restricted Range)	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Tuxentius melaena griqua</i> Griqua Black Pie	Data Deficient	No	Highly unlikely

#### 4.4.2 Beetles of particular conservation priority

**Table 4.24** Fruit chafer species (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoninae) in the Gauteng Province and North-West Province which are of known high conservation priority.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Threatened Status</b>	<b>Recorded at site during survey</b>	<b>Likely to be resident based on habitat assessment</b>
<i>Ichneustoma stobbiai</i>	Uncertain	No	No
<i>Trichocephala brincki</i>	Uncertain	No	No

#### 4.4.3 Scorpion species of particular conservation priority

**Table 4.25** Rock scorpion species (Scorpiones: Ischnuridae) species that are of known high conservation priority in the Gauteng Province and North-West Province.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Threatened Status</b>	<b>Recorded at site during survey</b>	<b>Likely to be resident at site based on habitat assessment</b>
<i>Hadogenes gracilis</i>	Uncertain	No	No
<i>Hadogenes gunningi</i>	Uncertain	No	No

## 5 DISCUSSION

### 5.1 HABITAT AND VEGETATION CHARACTERISTICS

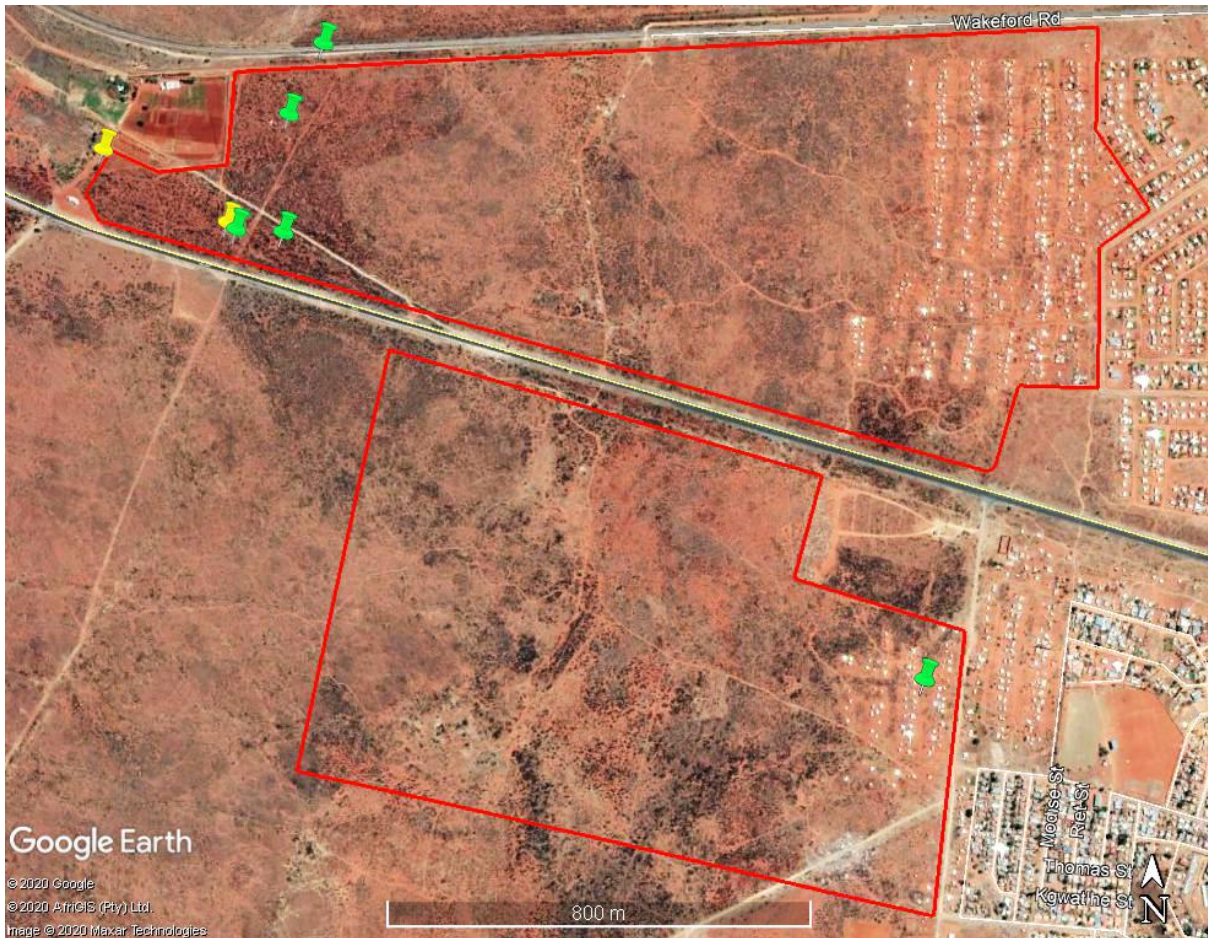
An outline of the habitat and vegetation characteristics is given in Table 4.1.

### 5.2 PLANT SPECIES

Extinct, threatened, near threatened and other plant species of high conservation priority in Northern Cape and West Provinces are listed in Tables 4.2 – 4.9. Protected tree species are listed in Table 4.10. Plant species listed in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 are included in Table 4.11 and 4.12. The presence or not of all the species listed in the tables were investigated during the survey.

None of the Threatened and Near-threatened plant species are likely to occur on the site. The site contains two protected tree species *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) and *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree). Few individuals of both *Boscia albitrunca* and *Vachellia erioloba* occur at the site (Figure 2). In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister.

One widespread *Aloe* species, *Aloe grandidentata*, is listed in Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009. According to Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 (Updated in Provincial Gazette No. 1566, December 2011 with date of commencement 1 January 2012) no person may pick a Specially Protected Plant species or Protected Plant species without a permit. The term "pick" includes "to collect, to cut, to chop off, to take, to gather, to pluck, to uproot, to break, to damage or to destroy" (NCNCA, No. 9 of 2009). A permit for the removal of indigenous vegetation at the site and in particular *Aloe grandidentata* is therefore required.



**Figure 2** Indications of the locations of individuals of the Protected tree species *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn Tree) at the site.

Green Markers: *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree)

Yellow Markers: *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn Tree)

Grid references and altitudes were taken at site with a GPS Garmin E-trex 20 © instrument. Map information were analysed and depicted on Google images with the aid of Google Earth Pro (US Dept. of State Geographer, MapLink/ Tele Atlas, Google, 2020).

## 5.3 VERTEBRATES

### 5.3.1 Mammals

Table 4.13, Table 4.14 and Table 4.15 list the possible presence or absence of threatened mammal species, near threatened mammal species and mammal species of which the status is uncertain, respectively, at the site. Literature sources that were used are Friedman & Daly (2004), Skinner & Chimimba (2005) and Wilson & Reeder (2005). Since the site falls outside reserves, threatened species such as the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) and the African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*) are obviously not present. No smaller mammals of particular high conservation significance are likely to be found on the site as well.

### 5.3.2 Birds

Table 4.16 and Table 4.17 list the possible presence or absence of threatened bird species and near threatened bird species at the site. With bird species which often have a large distributional range, their presence does not imply that they are particularly dependent on a site as breeding location. Therefore the emphasis in the right hand columns of Table 4.16 and Table 4.17 are on the particular likely dependence or not of bird species on the site. Literature sources that were mainly consulted are Barnes (2000), Hockey, Dean & Ryan, P.G. (2005) and Chittenden (2007). No threat to any threatened bird species or any bird species of particular conservation importance are foreseen.

### 5.3.3 Reptiles

Table 4.18 and Table 4.19 list the possible presence or absence of threatened and near threatened reptile species on the site. The main source consulted for compiling the tables of reptiles of particular conservation concern in South Africa is Bates, Branch, Bauer, Burger, Marais, Alexander & de Villiers (2014). There appears to be no threat to any reptile species of particular high conservation importance if the site is developed.

### 5.3.4 Amphibians

Table 4.20 lists frog species that are threatened (vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered) in the Northern Cape according to Minter, Burger, Harrison, Braack, Bishop and Kloepfer (2004) as well as Du Preez & Carruthers (2009). Table 4.21 lists *Pyxicephalus adspersus* (Giant Bullfrog) as near threatened (Minter *et al.*, 2004; Du Preez & Carruthers, 2009). Though currently this species is listed as Least Concern (IUCN) it remains as species which

is considered as of special conservation priority. There is no suitable habitat for *Pyxicephalus adspersus* (Giant Bullfrog) at the site. There appears to be no threat to any amphibian species of particular high conservation importance if the site is developed.

## 5.4 INVERTEBRATES

### 5.4.1 Butterflies

Studies about the vegetation and habitat of threatened butterfly species in South Africa showed that ecosystems with a unique combination of features are selected by these often localised threatened butterfly species (Deutschländer and Bredenkamp 1999; Edge 2002, 2005; Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers 2003; Lubke, Hoare, Victor & Ketelaar 2003; Edge, Cilliers & Terblanche, 2008). Threatened butterfly species in South Africa can then be regarded as bio-indicators of rare ecosystems.

Four species of butterfly in Gauteng Province, northeastern Northern Cape Province and North West Province combined are listed as threatened in the recent butterfly conservation assessment of South Africa (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). The expected presence or not of these threatened butterfly species as well as species of high conservation priority that are not threatened, at the site (Table 4.22 and Table 4.23) follows.

#### 5.4.1.1 Assessment of threatened butterfly species

##### ***Aloeides dentatis dentatis* (Roodepoort Russet)**

The proposed global red list status for *Aloeides dentatis dentatis* according to the most recent IUCN criteria and categories is Endangered (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). *Aloeides dentatis dentatis* colonies are found where one of its host plants *Hermannia depressa* or *Lotononis eriantha* is present. Larval ant association is with *Lepisiota capensis* (S.F. Henning 1983; S.F. Henning & G.A. Henning 1989). The habitat requirements of *Aloeides dentatis dentatis* are complex and not fully understood yet. See Deutschländer and Bredenkamp (1999) for the description of the vegetation and habitat characteristics of one locality of *Aloeides dentatis* subsp. *dentatis* at Ruimsig, Roodepoort, Gauteng Province. There is not an ideal habitat of *Aloeides dentatis* subsp. *dentatis* on the site and it is unlikely that the butterfly is present at the site.

##### ***Anthene lindae* (Kalahari Hairtail)**

Small but distinct butterfly species discovered by R.F. Terblanche in 1990 at the present Witsand Nature Reserve in the Northern Cape. Recent red listing and extinction risk assessments list *Anthene lindae* as Vulnerable (Henning, Terblanche & Ball, 2009; Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). The butterfly is intimately associated with *Acacia erioloba* which

may prove to be the larval food plant (Terblanche, 1994; Jessnitz pers. comm). However, all the localities for this butterfly species have been found on what appears to be a unique catchment area and basins with particular high water tables on the western side of the Langberg mountain chain, Northern Cape Province (Terblanche & Taylor, 2000). According to Henning *et al.* (2009) *Anthene lindae* has up to date only been found at an ecotone between Gordonia Plains Shrubland and Olifantshoek Plains Thornveld (Mucina & Rutherford, 2006). *Anthene lindae* is not found everywhere where *Vachellia erioloba* is present (Terblanche In prep.) and based on the present knowledge and surveys, presence of the butterfly at the site is unlikely.

#### ***Chrysochrysis aureus* (Golden Opal/ Heidelberg Copper)**

The proposed global red list status for *Chrysochrysis aureus* according to the most recent IUCN criteria and categories is Endangered (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013) *Chrysochrysis aureus* (Golden Opal/ Heidelberg Copper) is a resident where the larval host plant, *Clusia pulchella* is present. However, the distribution of the butterfly is much more restricted than that of the larval host plant (S.F. Henning 1983; Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers 2003). One of the reasons for the localised distribution of *Chrysochrysis aureus* is that a specific host ant *Crematogaster liengmei* must also be present at the habitat. Fire appears to be an essential factor for the maintenance of suitable habitat (Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers 2003). Research revealed that *Chrysochrysis aureus* (Golden Opal/ Heidelberg Copper) has very specific habitat requirements, which include rocky ridges with a steep slope and a southern aspect (Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers 2003). Owing to a lack of habitat requirements and ideal habitat the presence of the taxon is highly unlikely.

#### ***Lepidochrysis praeterita* (Highveld Blue)**

The proposed global red list status for *Lepidochrysis praeterita* according to the most recent IUCN criteria and categories is Endangered (G.A. Henning, Terblanche & Ball, 2009; Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). *Lepidochrysis praeterita* is a butterfly that occurs where the larval host plant *Ocimum obovatum* (= *Becium obovatum*) is present (Pringle, G.A. Henning & Ball, 1994), but the distribution of the butterfly is much more restricted than the distribution of the host plant. *Lepidochrysis praeterita* is found on selected rocky ridges and rocky hillsides in parts of Gauteng, the extreme northern Free State and the south-eastern Gauteng Province. No ideal habitat appears to be present for the butterfly on the site. It is unlikely that *Lepidochrysis praeterita* would be present on the site and at the footprint proposed for the development.

#### ***Orachrysis mijburghi* (Mijburgh's Blue)**

The proposed global red list status for *Orachrysis mijburghi* according to the most recent IUCN criteria and categories is Endangered (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). *Orachrysis mijburghi* favours grassland depressions where specific *Indigofera* plant species occur (Terblanche & Edge 2007). The Heilbron population of *Orachrysis mijburghi* in the Free State uses *Indigofera evansiana* as a larval host plant (Edge, 2005) while the Suikerbosrand population in Gauteng uses *Indigofera dimidiata* as a larval host plant (Terblanche & Edge 2007). There is no

suitable habitat for *Orachrysops mijburghi* on the site and it is unlikely that *Orachrysops mijburghi* would be present on the site.

### **Conclusion on threatened butterfly species**

There appears to be no threat to any threatened butterfly species if the site is developed.

#### **5.4.1.2 Assessment of butterfly species that are not threatened but also of high conservation priority**

##### ***Colotis celimene amina* (Lilac tip)**

*Colotis celimene amina* is listed as Rare (Low density) by Mecenero *et al.* (2013). In South Africa *Colotis celimene amina* is present from Pietermaritzburg in the south and northwards into parts of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the North West Provinces (Mecenero *et al.* In press.). Reasons for its rarity are poorly understood. It is highly unlikely that *Colotis celimene amina* would be present at the site.

##### ***Lepidochrysops procera* (Savanna Blue)**

*Lepidochrysops procera* is listed as Rare (Habitat specialist) by Mecenero *et al.* (2013). *Lepidochrysops procera* is endemic to South Africa and found in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and North West (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Owing to a lack of habitat requirements and ideal habitat the presence of the taxon at the site is highly unlikely.

##### ***Metisella meninx* (Marsh Sylph)**

Henning and Henning (1989) in the first South African Red Data Book of Butterflies, listed *Metisella meninx* as threatened under the former IUCN category Indeterminate. Even earlier in the 20<sup>th</sup> century Swanepoel (1953) raised concern about vanishing wetlands leading to habitat loss and loss of populations of *Metisella meninx*. According to the second South African Red Data Book of butterflies (Henning, Terblanche & Ball, 2009) the proposed global red list status of *Metisella meninx* has been Vulnerable. During a recent large scale atlasing project the *Conservation Assessment of Butterflies of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland: Red List and Atlas* (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013) it was found that more *Metisella meninx* populations are present than thought before. Based on this valid new information, the conservation status of *Metisella meninx* is now regarded as Rare (Habitat specialist) (Mecenero *et al.*, 2013). Though *Metisella meninx* is more widespread and less threatened than perceived before, it should be regarded as a localised rare habitat specialist of conservation priority, which is dependent on wetlands with suitable patches of grass at wetlands (Terblanche In prep.). Another important factor to keep in mind for the conservation of *Metisella meninx* is that based on very recent discoveries of new taxa in the group the present *Metisella meninx* is species complex consisting of at least three taxa (Terblanche In prep., Terblanche & Henning In prep.). The ideal habitat of *Metisella meninx* is treeless marshy areas where *Leersia hexandra* (rice grass) is abundant (Terblanche In prep.). The larval host plant of *Metisella meninx* is wild rice grass,



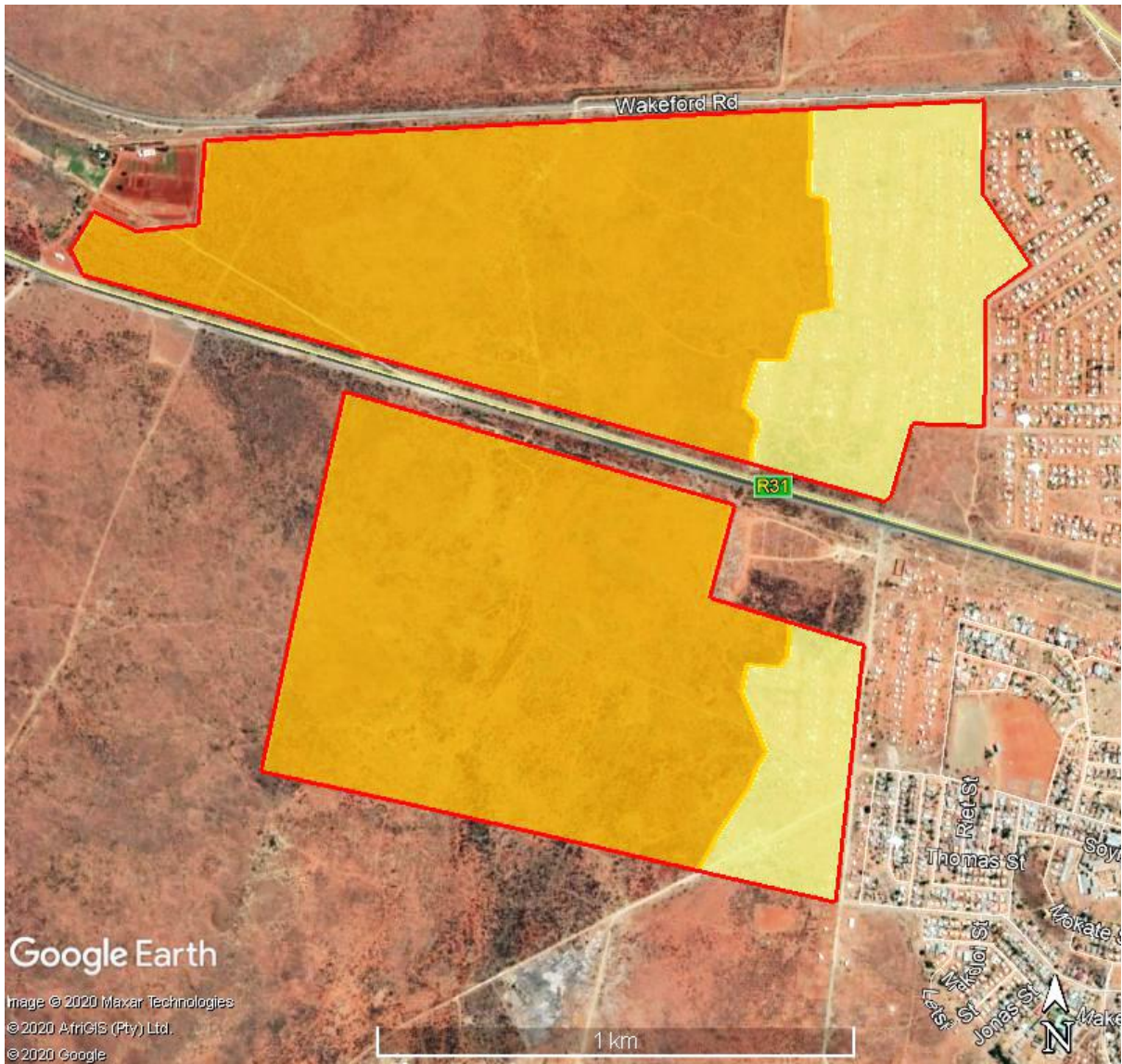
*Leersia hexandra* (G.A. Henning & Roos, 2001). Owing to a lack of habitat requirements and ideal habitat the presence of the taxon at the site is highly unlikely.

***Platylesches dolomitica*** (Hilltop Hopper)




*Platylesches dolomitica* is listed as Rare (Low density) by Mecenero *et al.* (2013). Historically the conservation status of *Platylesches dolomitica* was proposed to be Vulnerable (Henning, Terblanche & Ball 2009). This butterfly which is easily overlooked and has a wider distribution than perceived before. *Platylesches dolomitica* has a patchy distribution and is found on rocky ledges where *Parinari capensis* occurs, between 1300 m and 1800m (Mecenero *et al.* 2013, Dobson Pers comm.). Owing to a lack of habitat requirements and ideal habitat the presence of the taxon at the site is highly unlikely.

## **5.5 Ecological Sensitivity at the site**

Ecological sensitivity at the site ranges from low at the eastern parts of the site to medium at the central and western parts of the site. Informal settlements have transformed or modified vegetation at the eastern parts of the site. Remaining savanna at the site consists of shrub-height trees and a layer of grasses and forbs. Old diggings which resulted in numerous soil dumps, hitherto cleared areas, disturbances and bush encroachment (*Tarchonanthus camphoratus*, *Senegalia mellifera*) occur at some areas. Few individuals of the Nationally Protected tree species, *Boscia albitrunca* and *Vachellia erioloba* are present at the site.



**Figure 3** Indications of ecological sensitivity at the site.

- |   |                                  |                        |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Red outline                      | Boundaries of the site |
|  | Orange-brown outline and shading | Medium Sensitivity     |
|  | Light yellow outline and shading | Low Sensitivity        |

Grid references and altitudes were taken at site with a GPS Garmin E-trex 20 © instrument. Map information were analysed and depicted on Google images with the aid of Google Earth Pro (US Dept. of State Geographer, MapLink/ Tele Atlas, Google, 2020).

## 6 RISKS, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

The primary cause of loss of biological diversity is habitat degradation and loss (IUCN, 2004; Primack, 2006). Habitats of threatened plants are in danger most often due to urban developments such as is the case for the Gauteng Province (Pfab & Victor, 2002). Habitat conservation is the key to the conservation of invertebrates such as threatened butterflies (Deutschländer and Bredenkamp 1999; Edge 2002, 2005; Terblanche, Morgenthal & Cilliers 2003; Lubke, Hoare, Victor & Ketelaar 2003; Edge, Cilliers & Terblanche, 2008). Though human impacts in few cases have improved the habitat for mammalian species such as greater cane rats, that prosper in sugar cane and maize fields (Apps 2000), for many mammalian habitat specialist species, human impacts has lead to habitat loss. Some mammal species, especially many of the larger species, could adapt to a wide range of habitat types, but then need a large range. Some animals and plants are rare and occupy only one or a few specialised habitats (Primack 2006). Habitat conservation, either as large available land or as specialised habitats is therefore key to the conservation of many threatened plant species and animal species or any other species of high conservation priority (i.e. rare, near threatened species). Corridors and linkages play a significant role in conservation of fauna.

Corridors are important to link ecosystems of high conservation priority. Such corridors or linkages are there to improve the chances of survival of otherwise isolated populations (Samways, 2005). How wide should corridors be? The answer to this question depends on the conservation goal and the focal species (Samways, 2005). Corridors for mammalian species are especially important for migratory species (Mwalyosi, 1991, Pullin 2002). For an African butterfly assemblage this is about 250m when the corridor is for movement as well as being a habitat source (Pryke and Samways 2003). Hill (1995) found a figure of 200m for dung beetles in tropical Australian forest. In the agricultural context, and at least for some common insects, even small corridors can play a valuable role (Samways, 2005). Much more research remains to be done to find refined answers to the width of grassland corridors in South Africa. The width of corridors will also depend on the type of development, for instance the effects of the shade of multiple story buildings will be quite different from that of small houses. Corridors have a number of advantages related to dispersal and gene flow by avoiding isolation of ecological patches. However, corridors could also have potential drawbacks, for example creating gene flow where none has occurred naturally in the past and also as reservoirs for pathogens or introduced species (Pullin, 2002). Perhault and Lomolino (2000) studied corridors and mammal community structure in an old-growth forest landscape in the United States of America and their data suggest that each corridor should be valued individually. A lot of research remains to be conducted to have a better idea of the value of corridors, but in general corridors would be of considerable value. It appears that a network of wetland corridors and rocky ridges is highly likely to be of considerable benefit in

environmental management and planning. Though proper management plans for habitats are not in place, setting aside special ecosystems is in line with the recent Biodiversity Act (2004) of the Republic of South Africa.

To summarise: In practice, as far as any developments are concerned, the key would be to prioritise and plan according to sensitive species and special ecosystems.

*In the case of this study:*

Informal settlements have transformed or modified vegetation at the eastern parts of the site. Remaining savanna at the site consists of shrub-height trees and a layer of grasses and forbs. Old diggings which resulted in numerous soil dumps, hitherto cleared areas, disturbances and bush encroachment occur at some areas. Conspicuous shrub-height trees at the site are *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* (Camphor Bush), *Senegalia mellifera* (Black Thorn) and *Vachellia tortilis* (Umbrella Thorn). Ditches, excavations and canals are also present. A railway line runs along the northern boundary of the site. Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas.

No Threatened and Near-threatened plant or animal species are likely to occur on the site.

The site contains two Protected tree species *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn). Few individuals of both *Boscia albitrunca* and *Vachellia erioloba* occur at the site (Figure 2). In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister.

Presence of wetlands at the site is unlikely.

The scope for the site to be part of a corridor of particular conservation concern is small.

The following potential risks, impacts and mitigation measures apply to the proposed development:

### **6.1 Identification of potential impacts and risks**

The potential impacts identified are:

#### **Construction Phase**

- Potential impact 1: Loss of habitat owing to the removal of vegetation at the proposed development.
- Potential impact 2: Loss of sensitive species (Threatened, Near-Threatened, Rare, Declining or Protected species) during the construction phase.

- Potential impact 3: Loss of connectivity and conservation corridor networks in the landscape.
- Potential impact 4: Contamination of soil during construction in particular by hydrocarbon spills.
- Potential impact 5: Killing of vertebrate fauna during the construction phase.

### Operational Phase

- Potential impact 6: An increased infestation of exotic or alien invasive plant species owing to disturbance.

## 6.2 Potential impacts and risks during the construction phase

Classes of impacts for this study: Very High, High, Moderate, Low, Very Low

Aspect/Activity	Clearance of vegetation at part of the site for the development
Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)	Direct
Potential Impact	Clearing of vegetation at the proposed development. This will entail the destruction of habitat of low and medium ecological sensitivity.
Status	Negative
Mitigation Required	If the development is approved cultivation of indigenous vegetation at the site is imperative.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	High
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Moderate
RISK	Following the mitigation measures a moderate risk of impact is expected.

Aspect/Activity	Removal of sensitive species
Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)	Direct
Potential Impact	Sensitive species: Presence of Threatened or Near Threatened Plants, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Invertebrates at the site appear to be unlikely. No other plant or animal species of particular conservation concern are anticipated to be resident at the site.
Status	Negative.
Mitigation Required	No specific mitigation measures for sensitive species apply at the site apart from avoidance of a few individuals of Protected Tree species <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree) and <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn). These trees will be avoided and marked so that they remain unharmed during construction.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	Moderate
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Low
RISK	A low risk of threat to any sensitive species at the site is anticipated.

Aspect/Activity	Fragmentation of corridors of particular conservation concern
Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)	Direct
Potential Impact	Savanna containing some indigenous vegetation will be destroyed.
Status	Negative
Mitigation Required	If the development is approved cultivation of indigenous plant species at the site is imperative.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	Moderate
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Low
RISK	Following mitigation, a low impact risk is expected.

Aspect/Activity	Contamination of soil by leaving rubble/ waste or spilling petroleum fuels or any pollutants on soil which could infiltrate the soil
Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)	Direct

<b>Potential Impact</b>	Rubble or waste could lead to infiltration of unwanted pollutants into the soil. Spilling of petroleum fuels and unwanted chemicals onto the soils that infiltrate these soils could lead to pollution of soils.
<b>Status</b>	Negative
<b>Mitigation Required</b>	Rubble or waste that could accompany the construction effort, if the development is approved, should be removed during and after construction. Measures should be taken to avoid any spills and infiltration of petroleum fuels or any chemical pollutants into the soil during construction phase.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	Moderate
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Low
<b>RISKS</b>	A low risk is expected following mitigation.

Aspect/Activity	Possible disturbance, trapping, hunting and killing of vertebrates during construction phase
<b>Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)</b>	Direct
<b>Potential Impact</b>	During the construction phase animal species could be disturbed, trapped, hunted or killed.
<b>Status</b>	Negative
<b>Mitigation Required</b>	If the development is approved, contractors must ensure that no animal species are disturbed, trapped, hunted or killed during the construction phase.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	Moderate
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Low
<b>RISKS</b>	Following mitigation a low risk is anticipated.

### 6.3 Potential impacts during the operational phase

Aspect/Activity	An increased infestation of exotic or alien invasive plant species owing to clearance or disturbance where the footprint took place.
<b>Type of Impact (i.e. Impact Status)</b>	Direct
<b>Potential Impact</b>	Infestation by alien invasive species could replace indigenous vegetation or potential areas where indigenous vegetation could recover. It is in particular declared alien invasive species such as <i>Melia azedarach</i> (Syringa) or alien invasive <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> (Mesquite) that should not be allowed to establish. Once established combatting these alien invasive plant species may become very expensive in the long term.
<b>Status</b>	Negative
<b>Mitigation Required</b>	Continued monitoring and eradication of alien invasive plant species are imperative. It is in particular declared alien invasive species such as <i>Melia azedarach</i> (Syringa) and alien invasive <i>Prosopis glandulos</i> (Mesquite) that should not be allowed to establish.
Impact Significance (Pre-Mitigation)	Moderate
Impact Significance (Post-Mitigation)	Low
<b>RISKS</b>	Following mitigation, a low risk is anticipated.

## 6.4 Risk and impact assessment summary for the construction phase

Aspect/ Impact Pathway	Nature of Potential Impact/ Risk	Status	Spatial Extent	Duration	Consequence	Probability	Reversibility of Impact	Irreplaceability	Potential Mitigation Measures	Significance of Impact and Risk		Confidence Level
										Without Mitigation/ Management	With Mitigation/ Management (Residual Impact/ Risk)	
Clearing of vegetation	Habitat loss, loss of indigenous species	Negative	Part of site	Long-Term	Substantial	Very likely	Low	Low	The removal of vegetation takes place at an area of medium ecological sensitivity. If the development is approved, cultivation of indigenous plant species at the site is essential.	High	Moderate	High
Loss of sensitive species	Loss of sensitive species (Note no Threatened species or Near-threatened species)	Negative	Site	Long-Term	Low (No species anticipated to be impacted at site)	Unlikely	Not applicable	Not applicable	No specific mitigation measures for sensitive species apply at the site apart from avoidance of a few individuals of Protected Tree species <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree) and <i>Vachellia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn). These trees will be avoided and marked so that they remain unharmed during construction.	Moderate	Low	High
Loss of corridors of particular conservation concern	Fragmentation of landscape and loss of connectivity	Negative	Site	Long-Term	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate	The scope for the site to be a corridor of particular conservation importance is small. Cultivation of indigenous plant species at the site is essential and will enhance urban conservation corridors.	Moderate	Low	High
Contamination of soil by spilling pollutants on soil which could infiltrate the soil	Soil contamination	Negative	Site	Long-Term	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate	Rubble and waste removal. Measures that avoid hydrocarbon (petroleum) spills to get into contact with the soil.	Moderate	Low	High

Disturbance or killing of vertebrates	Disturbance or killing of species	Negative	Site	Long-Term	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate	If the development is approved, contractors must ensure that no animal species are disturbed, trapped, hunted or killed during the construction phase.	Moderate	Low	High
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### 6.5 Risk/ Impact assessment summary for the operational phase

Aspect/ Impact Pathway	Nature of Potential Impact/ Risk	Status	Spatial Extent	Duration	Consequence	Probability	Reversibility of Impact	Irreplaceability	Potential Mitigation Measures	Significance of Impact and Risk		Confidence Level
										Without Mitigation/ Management	With Mitigation/ Management (Residual Impact/ Risk)	
Increased infestation of exotic or alien invasive plant species	Loss of habitat quality	Negative	Site	Long-Term	Substantial	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Monitoring and eradication of alien invasive plant species. Cultivation of indigenous plant species at the site.	Moderate	Low	High



## 6.6 Summary of risks and impacts

Following the mitigations which will be upheld and planned footprint for development all the impact risks listed above are moderate or low.

## 7 CONCLUSION

- Informal settlements have transformed or modified vegetation at the eastern parts of the site. Remaining savanna at the site consists of shrub-height trees and a layer of grasses and forbs. Old diggings which resulted in numerous soil dumps, hitherto cleared areas, disturbances and bush encroachment occur at some areas. Conspicuous shrub-height trees at the site are *Tarchonanthus camphoratus* (Camphor Bush), *Senegalia mellifera* (Black Thorn) and *Vachellia tortilis* (Umbrella Thorn). Ditches, excavations and canals are also present. A railway line runs along the northern boundary of the site. Alien invasive weeds occur at disturbed and hitherto cleared areas.
- The vegetation type that represents the Savanna Biome at the site, the Kimberley Thornveld (SVk 4) is not listed as threatened according to the National List of Threatened Ecosystems (2011).
- Wetlands appears to be absent at the site.
- No Threatened and Near-threatened plant or animal species are likely to occur on the site.
- The site contains two Protected tree species *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn). Few individuals of both *Boscia albitrunca* and *Vachellia erioloba* occur at the site (Figure 2). In terms of a part of section 15(1) of the National Forests Act No. 84 of 1998, no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister.
- *Boscia albitrunca* (Shepherd's Tree) and *Vachellia erioloba* (Camel Thorn) will be marked and avoided so that they remain unharmed during construction.
- One widespread *Aloe* species, *Aloe grandidentata*, is listed in Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009. According to Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act No. 9 of 2009 (Updated in Provincial Gazette No. 1566, December 2011 with date of commencement 1 January 2012) no person may pick a Specially Protected Plant species or Protected Plant species without a permit. The term "pick" includes "to collect, to cut, to chop off, to take, to gather, to pluck, to uproot, to break, to damage or to destroy" (NCNCA, No. 9 of 2009). A permit for the removal of indigenous vegetation at the site and in particular *Aloe grandidentata* is therefore required.
- The scope for the site to be part of a corridor of particular conservation concern is small.
- Ecological sensitivity at the site is low at the eastern parts and medium at the central and western parts (Figure 3).
- Following the mitigations which will be upheld and planned footprint for development all the impact risks listed above are moderate or low.

- Establishment of exotic weeds should be monitored and exotic weeds at the site should be eradicated. A declared invader such as the mesquite tree (*Prosopis* species), should not be planted or allowed to spread from adjacent areas to the proposed footprint.

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## ANNEXURE 1: Plants

List of plant species recorded at the site.

Plant species marked with an asterisk (\*) are exotic.

Sources: Germishuizen (2003), Manning (2003), Manning (2009), Van Oudtshoorn (1999), Van Wyk (2000), Van Wyk & Malan (1998), Van Wyk & Van Wyk (2013), Crouch, Klopper, Burrows & Burrows (2011), Goldblatt (1986), Goldblatt & Manning (1998), Jacobsen (1983), McMurtry, Grobler, Grobler & Burns (2008), Smit (2008), Van Ginkel *et al.* (2011), Van Jaarsveld (2006), Van Wyk & Smith (2003).

TAXON	COMMON NAMES	FAMILY
<b>ANGIOSPERMAE: MONOCOTYLEDONS</b>		
<i>Aloe grandidentata</i>		ASPHODELACEAE
<i>Albuca setosa</i>	Fibrous Slime Lily	HYACINTHACEAE
<i>Aristida adscensionis</i>	Annual Three-awn	POACEAE
<i>Aristida canescens</i>	Pale Three-awn	POACEAE
<i>Aristida congesta</i>	Three-awn	POACEAE
<i>Bulbine narcissifolia</i>		ASPHODELACEAE
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	Foxtail Buffalo Grass	POACEAE
<i>Chloris virgata</i>	Feather-top Chloris	POACEAE
<i>Commelina africana</i>		COMMELINACEAE
<i>Cymbopogon pospischilii</i>	Narrow-leaved Turpentine Grass	POACEAE
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Couch Grass	POACEAE
<i>Digitaria eriantha</i>	Common Finger Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eleusine coracana</i>	Goose Grass	POACEAE
<i>Elionurus muticus</i>	Wire Grass	POACEAE
<i>Enneapogon cenchroides</i>	Nine-awned Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	Weeping Love Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis echinochloidea</i>	Tick Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis lehmanniana</i>	Lehmann's Love Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis rigidior</i>	Curly Leaf Love Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis rotifer</i>	Pearly Love Grass	POACEAE
<i>Eragrostis superba</i>	Saw-toothed Love Grass	POACEAE
<i>Fingerhuthia africana</i>	Thimble Grass	POACEAE

<i>Heteropogon contortus</i>	Spear Grass	POACEAE
<i>Melinis repens</i>	Natal Red Top	POACEAE
<i>Pogonarthria squarrosa</i>	Herringbone Grass	POACEAE
<i>Sporobolus africanus</i>	Ratstail Dropseed	POACEAE
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Red Grass	POACEAE
<i>Tragus racemosus</i>	Carrot-seed Grass	POACEAE
<i>Trichoneura grandiglumis</i>	Small Rolling Grass	POACEAE
<i>Urochloa panicoides</i>	Herringbone Grass	POACEAE
<i>Urochloa mosambicensis</i>	Bushveld Signal Grass	POACEAE
<b>ANGIOSPERMS: DICOTYLEDONS</b>		
<i>Acrotome inflata</i>		LAMIACEAE
* <i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	Paper Thorn	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>		AMARANTHACEAE
* <i>Amaranthus deflexus</i>	Perennial Pigweed	AMARANTHACEAE
* <i>Amaranthus hybridus</i>	Pigweed	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Amaranthus thunbergii</i>		AMARANTHACEAE
* <i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	Slender Amaranth	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Arctotis arctotoides</i>		ASTERACEAE
* <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i>	White-flowered Mexican poppy	PAPAVERACEAE
* <i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	Australian Salt Bush	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Barleria macrostegia</i>		ACANTHACEAE
<i>Berkheya onopordifolia</i> var. <i>onopordifolia</i>		ASTERACEAE
* <i>Bidens bipinnata</i>	Spanish blackjack	ASTERACEAE
* <i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Common blackjack	ASTERACEAE
<i>Boscia albitrunca</i>	Shepherd's Tree	CAPPARACEAE
<i>Cadaba aphylla</i>		CAPPARACEAE
<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i>	Red Milkweed	EUPHORBIACEAE
<i>Chamaesyce inaequilatera</i>	Smooth Creeping Milkweed	EUPHORBIACEAE
* <i>Chamaesyce prostrata</i>	Hairy Creeping Milkweed	EUPHORBIACEAE
* <i>Chenopodium album</i>	White Goosefoot	CHENOPODIACEAE
* <i>Chenopodium ambrosioides</i>	Wormseed Goosefoot	CHENOPODIACEAE
* <i>Chenopodium carinatum</i>	Green Goosefoot	CHENOPODIACEAE
<i>Chrysocoma ciliata</i>	Bitterbush	ASTERACEAE



<i>Cleome monophylla</i>	Single-leaved Spindle Pod	BRASSICACEAE/ CAPPARACEAE
* <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	CONVOLVULACEAE
<i>Convolvulus sagittatus</i>		CONVOLVULACEAE
<i>Corchorus asplenifolius</i>		MALVACEAE
* <i>Datura ferox</i>	Large Thorn-apple	SOLANACEAE
* <i>Datura stramonium</i>	Common Thorn-apple	SOLANACEAE
<i>Ehretia alba</i>		BORAGINACEAE
<i>Emex australis</i>	Spiny Emex	POLYGONACEAE
<i>Felicia muricata</i>		ASTERACEAE
* <i>Galinsoga parviflora</i>	Small-flowered quickweed	ASTERACEAE
<i>Gazania krebsiana</i> subsp. <i>krebsiana</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Gerbera ambigua</i>	Common Gerbera	ASTERACEAE
<i>Gerbera viridifolia</i> subsp. <i>viridifolia</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Gomphocarpus fruticosus</i>	Milkweed	APOCYNACEAE
* <i>Gomphrena celosioides</i>	Bachelor's Button	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Grewia flava</i>	Wild Raisin	SPARRMANNIACEAE
* <i>Guilleminea densa</i>	Small Mat Weed	AMARANTHACEAE
<i>Helichrysum argyrosphaerum</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Helichrysum cerastioides</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Heliotropium ciliatum</i>		BORAGINACEAE
<i>Hibiscus pusillus</i>		MALVACEAE
* <i>Hibiscus trionum</i>	Bladder hibiscus	MALVACEAE
<i>Indigofera alternans</i>		FABACEAE
<i>Indigofera daleoides</i>		FABACEAE
<i>Lactuca inermis</i>		ASTERACEAE
* <i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Wild Lettuce	ASTERACEAE
<i>Lepidium africanum</i>	Pepperweed	BRASSICACEAE
* <i>Lepidium bonariense</i>	Pepperweed	BRASSICACEAE
<i>Lotononis listii</i>		FABACEAE
<i>Lycium cinereum</i>		SOLANACEAE
<i>Lycium hirsutum</i>		SOLANACEAE
* <i>Malva parviflora</i>	Small Mallow	MALVACEAE
* <i>Medicago laciniata</i>	Little Burweed	FABACEAE

* <i>Melia azedarach</i>	Seringa	MELIACEAE
* <i>Melilotus albus</i>	Bokhara Clover	FABACEAE
<i>Monsonia angustifolia</i>	Crane's Bill	GERANIACEAE
<i>Nidorella resedifolia</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Pavonia burchellii</i>		MALVACEAE
<i>Pentzia globosa</i>		ASTERACEAE
<i>Pollichia campestris</i>	Waxberry	ILLECEBRACEAE
* <i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Purslane	POLYGONACEAE
* <i>Richardia brasiliensis</i>	Mexican Richardia	RUBIACEAE
* <i>Salsola kali</i>	Russian Tumbleweed	AMARANTHACEAE
* <i>Schkuhria pinnata</i>	Dwarf Marigold	ASTERACEAE
<i>Searsia lancea</i>	Karree	ANACARDIACEAE
<i>Searsia pyroides</i>	Common Wild Currant	ANACARDIACEAE
<i>Searsia tridactyla</i>		ANACARDIACEAE
<i>Selago densiflora</i>		SCROPHULARIACEAE
<i>Senecio coronatus</i>	Sybossie	ASTERACEAE
<i>Senecio consanguineus</i>	Starvation Senecio	ASTERACEAE
<i>Senegalia mellifera</i> subsp. <i>detinens</i>	Black Thorn	FABACEAE
<i>Senna italica</i>	Wild Senna	CAESALPINIACEAE
<i>Solanum panduriforme</i>	Poison Apple	SOLANACEAE
* <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silver-leaf Bitter Apple	SOLANACEAE
<i>Solanum retroflexum</i>	Black Nightshade	SOLANACEAE
* <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Sowthistle	ASTERACEAE
* <i>Tagetes minuta</i>	Khakiweed	ASTERACEAE
<i>Tarchonanthus camphoratus</i>	Wild Camphor Bush	ASTERACEAE
<i>Thesium</i> sp.		SANTALACEAE
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Devil's Thorn	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE
<i>Vachellia erioloba</i>	Camel Thorn	MIMOSACEAE
<i>Vachellia tortilis</i> subsp. <i>heteracantha</i>	Umbrella Thorn	MIMOSACEAE
* <i>Verbena aristigera</i>	Fine-leaved Verbena	VERBENACEAE
* <i>Verbesina encelioides</i>	Wild Sunflower	ASTERACEAE
<i>Viscum rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Mistletoe	VISCACEAE
<i>Waltheria indica</i>		MALVACEAE

<b>* <i>Xanthium spinosum</i></b>	Spiny Cocklebur	ASTERACEAE
<b>* <i>Xanthium strumarium</i></b>	Large Cocklebur	ASTERACEAE
<b><i>Ziziphus mucronata</i></b>	Buffalo-thorn	RHAMNACEAE