



## NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP

Completion of this form is required by Heritage Western Cape for the initiation of all impact assessment processes under Section 38(1) & (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA).

Whilst it is not a requirement, it may expedite processes and in particular avoid calls for additional information if certain of the information required in this form is provided by a heritage specialist/s with the necessary qualifications, skills and experience.

### A. APPLICABILITY OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA)

HWC Case Number: 17062211

DEADP Reference Number: Pending

**NOTE:** A DEADP (W Cape Dept. Environment Affairs & Development Planning) reference number must be included in all NHRA Section 38(8) processes where DEADP is the decision making authority under NEMA. The effect of this requirement is that the NEMA process must be initiated with DEADP prior to the NHRA process with HWC.

**If a DEADP reference number is not entered above please check one of the following boxes:**



This application is made in terms of Section 38(8) of the NHRA and an application under NEMA has been made to the following authority:



This development will not require a NEMA application.

**NOTE:** Making an incorrect statement or providing incorrect information in this part of the form may result in all or part of the application having to be reconsidered by HWC in the future, or submission of a new application.

### B. BASIC DETAILS

#### PROPERTY DETAILS:

Name of property: Farm van der Wattskraal

Street address or location (eg: off R44): Off N2, Swellendam Municipality

Erf or farm number/s: 5/399

Coordinates: -34.13133055555556 ;  
20.048197222222225  
(A logical centre point. Format based on WGS84.)

Town or District: Riviersonderend

Responsible Municipality: Swellendam

Extent of property: 631.7 ha

Current use: Agriculture

Predominant land use/s of surrounding properties: Agriculture

**REGISTERED OWNER OF PROPERTY:**

Name		
Address		
Telephone	Cell	E-mail
<p>By the submission of this form and all material submitted in support of this notification (ie: 'the material'), all applicant parties acknowledge that they are aware that the material and/or parts thereof will be put to the following uses and consent to such use being made: filing as a public record presentations to committees, etc; inclusion in databases; inclusion on and downloading from websites; distribution to committee members and other stakeholders and any other use required in terms of powers, functions, duties and responsibilities allocated to Heritage Western Cape under the terms of the National Heritage Resources Act. Should restrictions on such use apply or if it is not possible to copy or lift information from any part of the digital version of the material, the material will be returned unprocessed.</p>		
<p>I confirm that I enclose with this form four hardcopies of all material submitted together with a CD ROM containing digital versions of all of the same.</p>		

Signature of owner or authorised agent  
(Agents must attach copy of power of attorney to this form.)

Date        /        / 20

**DEVELOPMENT DETAILS:**

Please indicate below which of the following Sections of the National Heritage Resources Act, or other legislation has triggered the need for notification of intent to develop.	
<input type="checkbox"/> S38(1)(a) Construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier over 300m in length.	S38(1)(c) Any development or activity that will change the character of a site -  <input type="checkbox"/> (i) exceeding 5 000m <sup>2</sup> in extent; <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years.
<input type="checkbox"/> S38(1)(b) Construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length.	
<input type="checkbox"/> S38(1)(d) Rezoning of a site exceeding 10 000m <sup>2</sup> in extent.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other triggers, eg: in terms of other legislation, (ie: National Environment Management Act, etc.) Please set out details: NEMA	
If you have checked any of the three boxes above, describe how the proposed development will change the character of the site:	

If an impact assessment process has also been / will be initiated in terms of other legislation please provide the following information:

Authority / government department (ie: consenting authority) to which information has been /will be submitted for final decision:

Present phase at which the process with that authority stands:

Provide a **full** description of the nature and extent of the proposed development or activity including its potential impacts (eg: changes in land use, envisaged timeframes, provision of additional bulk services, excavations, landscaping, total floor area, height of development, etc. etc.):

It is proposed that a farm storage dam be constructed on Portion 5 of Farm van der Wattskraal No. 399 to provide irrigation for proposed citrus orchards. The proposed dam will have a maximum dam wall height of 19,5 m, a dam wall length of 535 m, and will have a capacity of approximately 625 000 cubic meters. Maximum excavation depth could be as much as 6m. The water surface at full capacity will be approximately 8,8ha. Water will be obtained from Eksteenkloof within existing water extraction rights (40 ha or 24 000 m3). An existing weir will be upgraded and a pump station will be installed at the weir.

## C. HERITAGE RESOURCES AND IMPACTS THEREUPON

Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act sets out the following categories of heritage resource as forming part of the national estate. Please indicate the known presence of any of these by checking the box alongside and then providing a description of each occurrence, including nature, location, size, type

Failure to provide sufficient detail or to anticipate the likely presence of heritage resources on the site may lead to a request for more detailed specialist information.

(The assistance of relevant heritage professionals is particularly relevant in completing this section.)

Provide a short history of the site and its environs (Include sources where available): The presence of water in this area has meant that it has been occupied since the Stone Age, first by hunter-gatherers, and, more recently, by pastoralists. The VOC began loaning land to farmers in this region in 1700s, and it became increasingly intensively farmed for stock and, particularly wheat. The site lies 15,5km east of Riviersonderend and 45,7km west of Swellendam, in the heart of this wheat growing region. There are currently accommodation and conference facilities on the farm.

Please indicate which heritage resources exist on the site and in its environs, describe them and indicate the nature of any impact upon them:

	Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Description of resource:
	Description of impact on heritage resource:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b></p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b></p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Historical settlements and townscapes</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b> The farm lies between the historic towns of Riviersonderend, 15,5km east, and Swellendam, 45,7km west</p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b> The development is distant from either town, and there will be no impacts on these heritage resources</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b> The farm lies in the historic wheat-growing region of the ruëns veld.</p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b> As an integral part of agricultural infrastructure, the dam does not pose a disruptive impact on the cultural landscape.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Geological resources of scientific or cultural importance</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b></p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Archaeological resources (including archaeological sites and material, rock art, battlefields &amp; wrecks):</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b></p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b></p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Palaeontological resources (ie: fossils):</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b> The the proposed dam is located on underlying sandstone and mudrock deposits of the Early- to Mid-Devonian Voorstehoek Formation of the Ceres Subgroup, which are of very high palaeontological sensitivity.</p> <p><b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b> Given the proposed depth of excavation for the construction of the dam wall, which could be as deep as 6m, there is a very high likelihood of palaeontologically sensitive deposits being impacted as a result of this development.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Graves and burial grounds (eg: ancestral graves, graves of victims of conflict, historical graves &amp; cemeteries):</b></p> <p><b>Description of Resource:</b></p> <p><b>Description of Impact on Heritage Resource:</b></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Other human remains:</b></p> <p><b>Description of resource:</b></p>

	<b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b>
	<b>Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Description of resource:</b>
	<b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b>
	<b>Other heritage resources:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Description of resource:</b>
	<b>Description of impact on heritage resource:</b>

**Describe elements in the environs of the site that could be deemed to be heritage resources:**

The applicant has proposed that a farm storage dam be constructed on Portion 5 of Farm van der Wattskraal No. 399 to provide irrigation for proposed citrus orchards. The proposed dam will have a maximum dam wall height of 19,5 m, a dam wall length of 535 m, and will have a capacity of approximately 625 000 cubic meters. The water surface at full capacity will be approximately 8,8ha. Water will be obtained from Eksteenkloof within existing water extraction rights (40 ha or 24 000 m<sup>3</sup>). An existing weir will be upgraded and a pump station will be installed at the weir. The dam will be located on previously cultivated land. A new pipeline, approximately 1.5 km in length and a diameter of about 150-300mm will be constructed from the dam to the N2, and access to the dam will be along existing farm roads from the N2.

The presence of water in this area has meant that it has been occupied since the Stone Age, first by hunter-gatherers, and, more recently, by pastoralists. The VOC began loaning land to farmers in this region in the 1700s, and it became increasingly intensively farmed for stock and, particularly wheat. The site lies 15,5 km east of Riviersonderend and 45,7 km west of Swellendam, in the heart of this wheat growing region. There are currently accommodation and conference facilities on the farm.

There are no declared heritage sites within a 10km radius of the proposed development site, although three graded sites exist (Figure 3 and Appendix 1). These are a Grade IIIc historic farmhouse (VRY-RIV01, SID 44099), and two archaeological sites containing ESA and MSA material. One of these, graded IIIB (RSV2, SID 44105), is an extensive scatter of predominantly Early Stone Age material with some Middle Stone Age artefacts included, while the other, graded IIIc (RSV1, SID 44104), is a disturbed site comprising Middle and Early Stone Age artefacts. Only four heritage surveys have been conducted in the area (Figure 2 and Appendix 2), comprising three AIAs and an HIA. These reports confirm that the region has been inhabited since the Stone Age, and occupied more recently by the Khoekhoe, while farms were granted to Europeans from the eighteenth century onwards (Deacon 2006, NID 4731). The early farming of the area has intensified and diversified to create the cultural landscape as it exists today. Relatively little artefactual material was found in these surveys (sites RSV1 and 2), likely owing to the long term disturbance of surfaces resulting from intensive cultivation (Kaplan 1990, NID 7807).

In terms of palaeontology, the proposed dam is located on underlying sandstone and mudrock deposits of the Early- to Mid-Devonian Voorstehoek Formation of the Ceres Subgroup. According to the SAHRIS Fossil Heritage Browser (2016), these deposits are of very high palaeontological sensitivity, containing diverse shelly invertebrate biotas dominated by brachiopods, echinoderms, trilobites and molluscs, diverse trace fossils, rare fish remains and primitive vascular plants as well as microfossils. The Voorstehoek Formation, which is largely mudrock-dominated, tends to be particularly rich in fossil invertebrate biota. Analysis of this Formation between Botrivier and Caledon, to the west, has however shown that "fossil remains have been largely obliterated by intense tectonic deformation and chemical weathering. Bedrock exposure here very poor due to extensive superficial deposits" (Almond 2012). Given the proposed depth of excavation for the construction of the dam wall, which could be as deep as 6m, there is a very high likelihood of palaeontologically sensitive deposits being impacted as a result of this development. Any excavations into bedrock in this region could result in impacts to the significant fossiliferous deposit, and therefore a field assessment by a suitably qualified palaeontologist must be done before any construction activities commence.

Description of impacts on heritage resources in the environs of the site: **While it is clear that archaeological material does occur in this region, the location of this development on previously cultivated land makes any discovery of *in situ*, significant archaeological heritage resources unlikely. In addition, the proposed development of a dam will not have a negative impact on the agricultural cultural landscape of the area. However, any excavations into bedrock in this region could result in impacts to the significant fossiliferous deposit.**

In light of the above, although it is unlikely that the proposed development will impact on significant archaeological resources, it is recommended that a palaeontological field assessment be conducted before construction activities begin on site.

**Summary of anticipated impacts on heritage resources:**

It is recommended that a palaeontological field assessment be conducted prior to construction commencing on site. No other heritage studies are required.

**ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL** (This form will not be processed unless the following are included):

Attach to this form a minimum A4 sized locality plan showing the boundaries of the area affected by the proposed development, its environs, property boundaries and a scale. The plan must be of a scale and size that is appropriate to creating a clear understanding of the development.

Attach also other relevant graphic material such as maps, site plans, satellite photographs and photographs of the site and the heritage resources on it and in its environs. These are essential to the processing of this notification.

Please provide all graphic material on paper of appropriate size and on CD ROM in JPEG format. It is essential that graphic material be annotated via titles on the photographs, map names and numbers, names of files and/or provision of a numbered list describing what is visible in each image.

**D. RECOMMENDATION**

In your opinion do you believe that a heritage impact assessment is required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Recommendation made by:

Name Katie Smuts

Capacity Heritage Practitioner

PLEASE NOTE: No Heritage Impact Assessment should be submitted with this form or conducted until Heritage Western Cape has expressed its opinion on the need for such and the nature thereof.

**E. INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED AND STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED AS PART OF THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA)**

If it is recommended that an HIA is required please complete this section of the form.

**DETAILS OF HERITAGE PRACTITIONERS AND SPECIALISTS INTENDING TO CONDUCT THE HIA:**

1 .	<p>Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <p>Experience:</p> <p>Standing in heritage resource management:</p> <p>E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:</p>
2 .	<p>Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <p>Experience:</p> <p>Standing in heritage resource management:</p> <p>E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:</p>
3 .	<p>Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <p>Experience:</p> <p>Standing in heritage resource management:</p> <p>E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:</p>
4 .	<p>Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <p>Experience:</p> <p>Standing in heritage resource management:</p> <p>E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:</p>
5 .	<p>Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <p>Experience:</p> <p>Standing in heritage resource management:</p> <p>E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:</p>

If this submission is made in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act indicate below the particulars of the principle environmental consultant on the project.

Name of individual:                      Name of Practice:                      Area of specialisation:

E-mail Address:                      Telephone:                      Cell:

Postal Address:

#### DETAILS OF STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE INTENDED HIA

In addition to the requirements set out in Section 38(3) of the NHRA, indicate envisaged studies:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Heritage resource-related guidelines and policies.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Local authority planning and other laws and policies.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Details of parties, communities, etc. to be consulted.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Specialist studies, eg: archaeology, palaeontology, architecture, townscape, visual impact, etc.<br>Provide details: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other. Provide details:  |

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any further studies which Heritage Western Cape may resolve should be submitted must be in the form of a single, consolidated report with a single set of recommendations. Specialist studies must be incorporated in full, either as chapters of the report, or as annexures thereto.