

Inge Erasmus

From: Natasha Van de Haar <natasha@enviroswift.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 March 2018 9:21 AM
To: Inge Erasmus
Subject: Re: FW: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend
Attachments: DSCN7057.JPG; DSCN7045.JPG; DSCN7049.JPG



More Inge,

Vind asb aangeheg die foto's, ek hoop dit help. Mens moet eintlik maar self daar wees om dit te verstaan.

Groete,
Natasha

Sent with [Mailtrack](#)

Natasha van de Haar (*Pr.Sci.Nat*)
Director

e: natasha@enviroswift.co.za
c: 082 866 9849
w: www.enviroswift.co.za



On Tue, Mar 27, 2018 at 8:47 AM, Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za> wrote:

Hi Natasha

Sien asb Cape Nature se reaksie na ek vir hulle jou terugvoering gestuur het. Hulle wil weet of daar dalk fotos is van die gebied stroomop ?

Al foto wat ek het is die foto van die beskadigde weir. Sien aangeheg

Groete

Inge

Inge Erasmus



Environmental Consultant

EnviroAfrica cc

p: +27 21 851 1616 m: +27 83 417 0800

f: +27 86 512 0154

a: Unit 7, Pastorie Park, Reitz St, Somerset West, 7130
P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135

w: www.enviroafrica.co.za e: inge@enviroafrica.co.za

From: Chanel Rampartab <crampartab@capenature.co.za>

Sent: Monday, 26 March 2018 4:58 PM

To: Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>

Subject: RE: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Hi Inge

Regarding point 1: it is understandable if the upstream site was genuinely inaccessible in this case. Perhaps site photos of the upstream area would be helpful? Generally however, an upstream assessment would have allowed for a comparison of the biotopes that were present in both upstream and downstream sites to provide baseline and monitoring data.

Regards

Chanel

From: Chanel Rampartab <crampartab@capenature.co.za>

Sent: 26 March 2018 02:14 PM

To: 'Inge Erasmus' <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>

Subject: RE: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Thank you Inge.

Regarding point 1, I will get back to you shortly.

Regarding point 2, that is sufficient info.

Regarding the ecological reserve, Elkerine explained to me telephonically how a series of outlet pipes in the weir will ensure flow into the ecological reserve, but I will wait for the response in writing for our records. If possible, I would like to get a copy of the design diagram as well.

Kind regards

Chanel

From: Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 26 March 2018 01:58 PM
To: 'Chanel Rampartab' <crampartab@capenature.co.za>
Subject: RE: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Dear Chanel

I spoke to the engineers as well as the freshwater specialist with regards to your queries as per the email below and they came back with the following answers.

1. SASS: It is unclear what is meant by "limited habitat" – does the encroached/narrower habitat refer to the upstream site being inaccessible?

" Limited habitat refers to inadequate availability of habitat ranging across specified biotopes (e.g. Stones-in current-across the river and up and down the riffle, vegetation was also restrictive at the time. The most common error of SASS comes from not covering all biotopes adequately and it was not possible to wade through the most important parts of the upstream section to collection samples where the old weir was "

2. Alternative dam site: Is it correct to assume that the engineers believe that there are no feasible alternatives for the dam?

"Point (2) Yes, it is correct, although alternatives were researched, there are no other feasible dam site"

Please let me know if you need any more information with regards to these two points. I will forward you their emails if you require them and will include them in my comments and response report.

Then I spoke to Elkerine Rossouw from BGCMA with regards to your Ecological Reserve comments. She informed me that she spoke to you over the phone? I am still just waiting on her email response and some information from the engineers on the design of the dam and weir before I send you a proper response.

Kind regards

Inge

Inge Erasmus



Environmental Consultant

EnviroAfrica cc

p: +27 21 851 1616 m: +27 83 417 0800

f: +27 86 512 0154

a: Unit 7, Pastorie Park, Reitz St, Somerset West, 7130
P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135

w: www.enviroafrica.co.za e: inge@enviroafrica.co.za

From: Chanel Rampartab <crampartab@capenature.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 23 March 2018 4:25 PM

To: Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>

Subject: RE: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Hi Inge

Many thanks for the information. Please clarify the following:

1. SASS: It is unclear what is meant by "limited habitat" – does the encroached/narrower habitat refer to the upstream site being inaccessible?
2. Alternative dam site: Is it correct to assume that the engineers believe that there are no feasible alternatives for the dam?

I look forward to more info on the ecological reserve.

Have a great weekend!

Regards

Chanel

From: Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 23 March 2018 07:57 AM
To: 'Chanel Rampartab' <crampartab@capenature.co.za>
Subject: RE: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Dear Chanel

Please see the response emails attached with regards to your comment on the 1. SASS assessment and 2. alternative dam site.

1. SASS Assessment:

I communicated with the Freshwater specialist with regards to the SASS assessment based on previous comments from Cape Nature and her response were as follows:

“The Freshwater Specialist, Natasha van Haar was contacted in this regard. Her response: “The upstream reach above the collapsed weir had limited habitat (too encroached and narrower) thus sampling straddled the above and downstream of the weir to combine the SASS invertebrate community. The overall SASS was more representative of the affected reach, which is in the downstream reach”.

Alternative dam site (Off-stream)

I communicated with the engineers with regards to your comments regarding the feasibility of the off stream dam alternative which was assessed by the applicant and engineers. Sarel Bester Engineer’s response:

The off-stream option is not quite feasible in terms of technical and design aspects. If one study the farming unit in terms of the contours, it is obvious that not only is the unit rather small but also has a rather flat topography bordering the Riviersonderend River. This implies that a natural dam basin is scarce also in terms of the soil types when considering sealing the dam. This further means that the dam costs will rise significantly when regarding topography and sealing of the wall.

Alternatives were researched in our Feasibility Study as the first step of assisting the client. The other option that was also researched was also an in-stream dam. Please refer to attached maps regarding alternatives (with and without contours). “

Please let me know if these responses are sufficient and if more assessment needs to be done. I will source more information with regards to the Ecological reserve.

Kind regards

Inge

Inge Erasmus



Environmental Consultant

EnviroAfrica cc

p: [+27 21 851 1616](tel:+27218511616) m: [+27 83 417 0800](tel:+27834170800)

f: [+27 86 512 0154](tel:+27865120154)

a: [Unit 7, Pastorie Park, Reitz St, Somerset West, 7130](#)
P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135

w: www.enviroafrica.co.za e: inge@enviroafrica.co.za

From: Chanel Rampartab <crampartab@capenature.co.za>

Sent: Thursday, 22 March 2018 8:52 PM

To: Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za>

Subject: Sangasdrift Trust Dam and Weir, Riviersonderend

Dear Inge

Please find attached CapeNature's comment to the application for the Sangasdrift Trust dam and weir, Riviersonderend.

For your information, I have also attached a draft version (awaiting sign off) of CapeNature's Land Use Advice Requirements for Development Applications.

Kind regards

Chanel

Chanel Rampartab
Scientist: Land-use & Conservation Planning



CapeNature

tel +27 21 866 8000 | fax +27 21 866 1523 | fax2email +27 86 415 5468
email crampartab@capenature.co.za |
postal Private Bag x5014 Stellenbosch 7599
physical Assagaaibosch Nature Reserve Jonkershoek Road Stellenbosch
www.capenature.co.za

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