

Inge Erasmus

From: Bruce Paxton <bruce@frcsa.org.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 27 March 2018 4:02 PM
To: Inge Erasmus
Subject: Re: Cape Nature comments Sangasdrfit Hut dam and weir rehabilitation

Hi Inge,

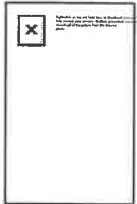
No problem. I agree 100% with CapeNature. See my Section on this in report:

1.5.1 Impact 3 – Alien Invasive Species

The risks of increasing the lentic (standing water) habitat in both Watercourse 1 and Watercourse 2 is that it provides suitable habitat for the introduction and spread of alien fishes such as bass and bluegill sunfish which predate on indigenous fish populations. Every effort should be made to reduce the risk of such introductions. As a mitigation, farm managers and owners need to be made aware of these risks and discourage the introduction of alien fishes into the new water bodies through signage discouraging the introduction of alien fish species particularly at Weir B on Watercourse 1.

I would go to the point of recommending putting up signage to prevent such introductions. Aside from loss of summer flows, this is the highest risk to fish downstream.

Bruce



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On Tue, Mar 27, 2018 at 3:56 PM, Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za> wrote:

Hi Bruce

Sorry to bother you again. Please see another recommendation by from Cape Nature that I over looked.

- No non-native fish species may be stocked in the dam, which could increase invasion risk into the watercourse

Would you agree with this?

Kind regards

Inge

Inge Erasmus



Environmental Consultant

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From: Bruce Paxton <bruce@frcsa.org.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 27 March 2018 12:06 PM

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

Subject: Re: Cape Nature comments Sangasdrfit Hut dam and weir rehabilitation

Dear Inge,

CapeNature's recommendation to move fish away from the construction site is unworkable. Firstly, fish are mobile and will likely move downstream back towards the construction site, or through it if that is possible. Secondly, there is insufficient habitat upstream to support large fish populations and sudden influxes of migrants will be disruptive to existing populations. Once construction begins, the fish will likely start moving downstream to avoid the disturbance area anyway. Much more importantly, during the construction phase, every effort should be made to keep sediment out of the river so that downstream populations are not affected. Hope this helps.

Kind regards,

Bruce



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On Tue, Mar 27, 2018 at 11:36 AM, Inge Erasmus <inge@enviroafrica.co.za> wrote:

Dear Bruce

Please see Cape Natures comments attached on the proposed construction of the Sangasdrift Hut dam and weir rehabilitation.

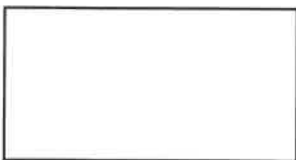
One of their recommendations include the "relocation of fish out of the construction footprint to upstream areas to minimise mortality during construction".

Can you please just give me comment on this ? Or advise as to how we this will have to be done and if, in your opinion, relocation is necessary?

Kind regards

Inge

Inge Erasmus



Environmental Consultant

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