

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

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reference SSD14/2/6/1/9/6_383-26_JadeHills_Dam_Ceres
date 11 December 2018

Inge Erasmus
EnviroAfrica CC
P O Box 5367
Helderberg
7135

By email: admin@enviroafrica.co.za

Dear Inge,

RE: CapeNature comment on notification letter for proposed construction of the new Jade Hills Dam on portion 26 of the Farm Stinkfontein 383, Ceres

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above application and wish to make the following comments. Please note that our comments pertain only to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application.

In the context of this application please note that CapeNature does not support activities that may negatively impact the following habitats and their ecological functioning: a) rivers, wetlands, flood plains, and groundwater dependent communities or ecosystems; b) representative habitat in Critically Endangered and Endangered ecosystems; c) any area that has been identified as a Critical Biodiversity Area or Ecological Support Area as identified by the most recent systematic conservation plan (the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan of 2017); d) any other special habitats that may contain a unique assemblage of species; e) any habitat that may contain rare, threatened or range-restricted floral or faunal species (Species of Conservation Concern); f) natural or mostly natural habitat in an ecological corridor or along a vegetation boundary.

Appropriate buffers must be determined by a suitably qualified specialist to avoid impacting on these habitats and particular attention should be paid to avoiding the loss of intact habitat, maximizing connectivity at a landscape scale, maximizing habitat heterogeneity and reducing fragmentation at a local and regional scale. Please also note that an infestation by alien plants does not necessarily mean that an area is not important for biodiversity conservation.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely



Philippa Huntly For: Manager (Scientific Services)