

# RIVER MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (MMP)

for the proposed

## BONATHABA DAM: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTREAM DAM ON PORTIONS 2 AND 3 OF FARM NO. 1100, BONATHABA, MALMESBURY, WESTERN CAPE

DEADP reference number: 16/3/3/2/F5/16/2015/21

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#### **INDEPENDENCE & CONDITIONS**

EnviroAfrica is an independent consulting firm that has no interest in the proposed activity other than fair remuneration for services rendered. Remuneration for services is not linked to approval by decision-making authorities and EnviroAfrica has no interest in secondary or downstream development as a result of this project. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of this EMPr. The findings, results, observations, and recommendations given here are based on the author's best scientific and professional knowledge and available information. EnviroAfrica reserves the right to modify aspects of this report, including the recommendations if new information becomes available which may have a significant impact on the findings of this report.

### RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE OF THE EAP

This River Maintenance and Management Plan was prepared by Mr. Anthony Mader who holds a BSc Honours in Ecology, Environment and Conservation from, and is currently completing his Ph.D. at, the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Relevant experience includes over six (6) years cumulative experience in field and laboratory work in the field of phytoremediation (which involves the use of plants to remediate highly saline and heavy metal-contaminated sites) and over three (3) years experience in the field of environmental consultancy. Anthony has facilitated EAs and WUAs for numerous projects including water supply schemes, housing development projects, roads, culverts, warehouses, and a substation. Experience also includes the auditing of some of these projects (i.e. involved in the entire project's lifecycle - cradle-to-grave).

The entire process and report were supervised by Bernard De Witt who has more than 30 years experience in environmental management and environmental impact assessments.

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### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The applicant, Black Orchid Farming (Pty) Ltd, proposes the development of an in-stream dam on Portions 2 and 3 of Farm No. 1100, Bonathaba, Malmesbury, Western Cape. The proposed instream dam will have a development footprint of approximately 19.2ha and have a gross storage capacity of 1 000 000m<sup>3</sup>. The dam wall will be 18m in height along with a spillway channel which will be created. The site has an existing water use rights, and the proposed dam will provide insurance of water supply for irrigation of the existing irrigation areas. Access to the proposed dam will be gained by existing farm roads and the construction of a 4m wide gravel road around the basin and embankment of the dam footprint. A new pump station with a footprint of 150m<sup>2</sup> is proposed and will be located within 32m of the watercourse. A new outlet pipe will be constructed and a pipeline from the proposed dam will be connected to an existing pipe from the Berg River is also proposed. A spillway channel will be constructed and located on the left flank of the proposed dam boundary. A dam safety and classification application will be submitted to the Dam Safety Office. In summary, the proposed development (including associated infrastructure will be comprised of:

- Construction of the proposed Bonathaba Dam (1 000 000m<sup>3</sup> storage capacity, 18m high embankment) with a spillway (spillway discharge channel 10m wide) on its left abutment.
- A New 500mm dia HDPE outlet pipe will be constructed in reinforced concrete underneath the dam embankment and connected to a new pump station located at the downstream toe of the embankment.
- New 500mm dia PVC Class 8 pipeline (~600m long) from the pump station to tie into existing 400mm pipe which is connected to the pump station located on the banks of the Berg River.
- A 4m wide gravel access road will be constructed around the entire dam basin and embankment.
- Pump station (~150m<sup>2</sup>)

The Bonathaba Dam will be established on approximately 10.4ha of areas currently under permanent crops (namely table grapes) whereas approximately 8.8ha of already disturbed vegetation (due to previous agricultural activities) will be impacted. The location was selected based on environmental sensitivity and to ensure the project life cycle costs are minimized (gravity feed vs. pumping cost etc.). No new roads will be constructed as an existing access road will be utilized to gain access to the proposed site.

The proposed dam development will require a Water Use Authorisation (WUA) in terms of section 21 of the National Water Act (NWA), Act No. 36 of 1998. Applicable section 21 activities include;

- S21 (b) Storing of water
- S21 (c) Impeding or diverting the flow of the watercourse
- S21 (i) Altering the bed, bank, course, or characteristic of a watercourse



**Figure 1.** Proposed, preferred site plan layout. Source: Ingerop Consulting Engineers and Project Managers, (2020). Note, map direction (i.e. north direction).

The proposed development of the Bonathaba Dam forms part of a development plan to approximately double the productive hectares of the farm's agricultural output. This development plan aims to create a large-scale, sustainable citrus and grape operation, creating over 200 new employment opportunities while retaining over 600 jobs. Soil and climatic conditions, along with the farms' proximity to Cape Town Harbour (approximately 60km as the crow flies), provides suitable growing and export conditions for the grape and citrus production industry. This application does not include the expansion of any cropland.

The proposed development of the Bonathaba Dam is in line with the West Coast District Municipality's IDP with regards to sustaining and supporting primary and secondary sectors within the District's economy. The West Coast District's economy is dominated by manufacturing (20.3% in 2016) and the agricultural sector (at 20.2%, generating R 5 482 300 in 2016), highlighting the need for sustainable agricultural developments. One of the main issues highlighted by the West Coast Districts Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is the recent drought and the implications of drought on the agricultural sector. Various climatic drivers, namely higher temperatures and drier conditions further exacerbate the impact of drought events on the agricultural sector, which require careful planning and adequate responses to sustain and grow the agricultural sector. The agricultural industry and more specifically the Bonathaba Farm depend on water abstracted from the Bergrivier for irrigation. Due to the absence of rainfall during mid-summer when water is required (which is generally too little to sustain agricultural activities), water is generally abstracted during winter and subsequently stored in dams for irrigation during the summer months.

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE MMP

A River Maintenance Management Plan (RMMP) was prepared due to the proposed dam being located within two non-perennial watercourses (namely drainage lines). These drainage lines were previously disturbed/transformed into stormwater management systems and return flow canals.



Figure 2. Photograph of disturbed drainage line within the proposed development footprint.



Figure 3. Photograph of transformed drainage line (straightened) within the proposed development footprint.

Therefore, the main purpose of this river maintenance and management plan is to guide the applicant [Black Orchid Farming Pty (Ltd)] on actions to be followed/implemented to prevent avoidable damage to the aquatic habitat associated with the proposed development of the Bonathaba Dam, as well as to enhance the positive benefits of the project.

It should be noted that this MMP with its Method Statements should be read in conjunction with the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Site Sensitivity Verification Report, DEA Screening Report, Botanical Report, and Freshwater Report. It should be noted that these method statements are merely guidelines and must be refined once the applicable contractors have been appointed. The competent authority (Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, DEA&DP) must be informed of any changes to the method statements and MMP.

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS:

#### 2.1 **DEFINITIONS**

**Applicant**: the person or responsible person from an organization who applied for the proposed activity described in the ROD / EA.

**Bund**: enclosure under/around a storage facility to contain spillage.

**Construction:** means the construction period of the project during which the actual works are carried out, deemed to include site establishment, site preparation, the works, maintenance period, and decommissioning and is defined as from the commencement of site establishment until site handover (practical completion).

**Construction site**: means the area influenced and affected by the construction activities or under the control of the Contractor often referred to as "the Site".

**Construction Supervisor**: The person responsible (appointed by the Applicant) to ensure that the construction is carried out to completion on time, within budget and that the Contractor fulfills his obligations in terms of the EMP.

**Contaminated water**: means water contaminated by the Contractor's activities, *e.g.* concrete water and runoff from plant/ personnel wash areas.

**Contractor**: the principal persons/company and all other sub-contractors involved in the construction of the project.

**Declaration of understanding**: Form that is signed by all contractors involved in the construction works of their understanding and acceptance of the EMP and site-specific additions to the EMP.

**Development site**: boundary and extent of development works and infrastructure.

**Environment**: means the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of:

- the land, water, and atmosphere of the earth;
- micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- any part of the combination of the above two bullets and the interrelationships between them;
- the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being

**Environmental Aspect**: Any element of any construction activity, product, or service that can interact with the environment.

**Environmental Control Officer**: The ECO must be independent and suitably qualified and must have a sound knowledge of the environment in which the activity will take place.

**Environmental Impact**: Any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from any construction activity, product, or service.

**Method statement**: A statement by the Contractor, describing the scope of <u>intended</u> construction works stepby-step, for the ECO and Construction Supervisor to understand the Contractors intentions and be able to comment on so that they could assist with devising mitigating measures should it be necessary to avoid environmental impact.

**No-Go Area(s):** An area of such (environmental/aesthetical) importance that no person or activity is allowed within a designated boundary surrounding this area.

**Site meetings**: Periodic (weekly or monthly) meetings between the ECO, Construction Supervisor, and Contractor to discuss construction activities that relate to the environment or any other environmental issues that might arise.

Works: The works to be executed in accordance with a contract.

Start-up meeting: a start-up meeting held on-site, before any construction has begun to discuss EMP and determine site-specific additions that will be included as the basis for the EMP.

Potentially hazardous substance: is a substance, which, in the reasonable opinion of the Engineer, can have a deleterious (detrimental) effect on the environment.

Precautionary principle: means the basic principle, that when in doubt or having insufficient or unreliable information on which to base a decision, to then undertake actions that will have minimal risk.

**Reasonable:** means unless the context indicates otherwise, reasonable in the opinion of the Engineer/Project Leader after he has consulted with a person, not an employee of the Applicant, suitably experienced in "environmental implementation plans" and "environmental management plans", both as defined in the Environmental Management Act (Act No 107, 1998).

Solid waste: means all solid waste, including construction debris, chemical waste, excess cement/concrete, wrapping materials, timber, tins and cans, drums, wire, nails, food, and domestic waste (e.g. plastic packets and wrappers).

CARA	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act no. 43 of 1983
СВА	Critical Biodiversity Area
DEA	Department Environmental Affairs
DEA&DP	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (Western Cape)
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
EA	Environmental Authorization (Record Of Decision) issued by the relevant authorit authorization to commence construction under certain environmental compliance
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner

#### 2.2 ABBREVIATIONS

ECO	Environmental Control Officer - Must be a suitably qualified independent environmental
	consultant appointed to ensure compliance to the EMP

Decision) issued by the relevant authority for the

- EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
- EIS **Ecological Importance and Sensitivity**
- ESA **Ecological Support Area**
- EMP **Environmental Management Plan or Programme**
- FEPA Freshwater Ecological Support Area
- GPS **Global Positioning System**
- Index of Habitat Integrity IHI
- HWC Heritage Western Cape
- NWA National Water Act
- NEMA National Environmental Management Act no. 107 of 1998.
- NEM: AQA National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004.
- NEM: BA National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004.
- NEM: PAA National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003
- NEM: WA National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008.
- NFA National Forest Act 84 of 1998.

NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.
NVFFA	National Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998.
NWA	National Water Act 36 of 1998
PES	Present Ecological State
Sub-WMA	Sub – Water Management Area
WMA	Water Management Area

## 3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The following specific environmental legislation applies to this Maintenance Management Plan:

- This Maintenance Management plan is to be approved in terms of the **NEMA EIA** Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The requirements of the National Water Act 36 of 1998 (as amended);
- The requirements of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (NEMBA) in terms of:
  - National list of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection (GN 1002 of 9 December 2011).
  - Alien and invasive species list 2016 (GN R. 864 of 29 July 2016).
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 43 of 1983, as amended (CARA) in terms of:
  - Combating/preventing erosion; and
  - Combating weeds and invader plants

#### Overview of other applicable legislation:

- **Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996)**: of special relevance in terms of environment is section 24
- **Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 43 of 1983 (CARA)**: supports the conservation of natural agricultural resources (soil, water, plant biodiversity) by maintaining the production potential of the land and combating/preventing erosion; for example, by controlling or eradicating declared weeds and invader plants.
- Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies, and Stock Remedies Act (Act No. 36 of 1947), to control the sell, purchase, use, and disposal of agricultural or stock remedies.
- Hazardous Substances Act 15 of 1973: to control substances that may cause injury, ill-health, or death through their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing, or flammable nature, or by the generation of pressure
- National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (as amended): replaces the Environmental Conservation Act (ECA) and establishes principles for decision-making on matters affecting the environment, and for matters connected therewith.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations**: identifying activities (listed activities) for which environmental authorization must be obtained.
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (NEMBA): supports the conservation of plant and animal biodiversity, including the soil and water upon which it depends.
- National list of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection (GN 1002 of 9 December 2011).
- Alien and invasive species list 2016 (GN R. 864 of 29 July 2016).
- National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 (as amended Act 31 of 2004) (NEMPAA): To provide for the protection and conservation of ecologically viable areas representative of South Africa's biological diversity and its natural landscapes and seascapes.
- National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008 (NEMWA): To reform the law regulating waste management to protect health and the environment by providing reasonable measures for the prevention of pollution and ecological degradation and for securing ecologically sustainable development.
- List of Waste Management Activities that have, or are likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment: Identifies activities in respect of which a waste management license is required.
- National Forests Act 84 of 1998 (as amended): supports sustainable forest management and the restructuring of the forestry sector.
- List of protected tree species (GN 716 of 7 September 2012)

- National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999: supports an integrated and interactive system for the management of national heritage resources, including supports soil, water, and animal and plant biodiversity.
- National Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998 (NVFFA): protects soil, water, and plant life through the prevention and combating of the veld, forest, and mountain fires
- National Water Act 36 of 1998 (NWA): promotes the protection, use, development, conservation, management, and control of water resources sustainably and equitably.

## 4. SITE DESCRIPTION

The proposed Bonathaba dam will be located on Portions 2 and 3 of Farm No. 1100, Bonathaba, Malmesbury. The site is located within Ward 12 of the Swartland Local Municipality, West Coast District Municipality. The study area is located approximately 9km south of Hermon, 14km from Wellington, and 19km from Malmesbury (as the crow flies). The site coordinates for the proposed Bonathaba dam are **33°31'13.66"S; 18°55'17.53"E**.

### 4.1 **BIODIVERSITY FEATURES**

#### **Biodiversity Spatial Plan (BSP; Figure 4):**

The 2017 Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) is comprised of a systematic biodiversity plan which delineates Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA). These areas require safeguarding to ensure they are sustained and maintain their ecosystem functioning (Pool-Stanvliet, 2017). According to the Biodiversity Overlay Map from Cape Farm Mapper, two non-perennial watercourses, classified as an Ecological Support Area (ESA) will be impacted by the proposed Bonathaba Dam development (Figure 4). Although areas classified as ESA2 are recognized as being degraded, such areas should be protected from further impact and ideally restored to a more natural state to support some ecological processes/ function(s). As per the botanical specialist, very little or only remnants of the expected riparian vegetation were observed during the botanical assessment. The proposed site for development does not fall within any CBA.



**Figure 4.** Biodiversity Spatial Plan (BSP) associated with the proposed Bonathaba Dam development. The nonperennial watercourses, located within the proposed site for development, are classified as Ecological Support Areas (ESA2).

#### Vegetation:

The site is situated within the Swartland Shale Renosterveld (Figure 6)<sup>1</sup>, classified as a critically endangered (CR) vegetation type in terms of "List of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection" (GN 1002, December 2011), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, Act 10 of 2004, as well as the more recent (2018) National Biodiversity Assessment (Skowno *et. al.*, 2019)<sup>2</sup>. The Swartland Shale Renosterveld, as described by Mucina and Rutherford (2006)<sup>5</sup>, supports low-to-moderately tall leptophyllous<sup>3</sup> shrubland of varying canopy cover as well as low, open shrubland dominated by renosterbos. The vegetation type typically occurs on moderately undulating plains and valleys. Heuweltjies, which are generally associated with stunted trees and thicket, is a very prominent local feature of the environment, forming 'hummockveld' near Piketberg and the Tygerberg Hills. Disturbed areas are dominated by *Athanasia trifurcata* and *Otholobium hirtum*, whereas patches of *Cynodon dactylon* or 'grazing lawn' are often encountered.

As per the Botanical Assessment, the largest portion of this footprint will overlap areas currently under permanent crops (namely table grapes) whereas the northern portion of the proposed dam footprint will impact an area of virgin soil. According to the foreman of the farm, this area used to be under wheat cultivation, which was confirmed by historic Google images. The site was cultivated at least until 2006, while the next available Google image (from 2009) shows the site lying fallow (please refer to Figure 5). No protected or red-listed plant species were observed during the site investigation. The most significant botanical feature identified by the Botanical Specialist was the presence of a few indigenous *Olea europaea* trees, located within the development footprint. However, *Olea* trees can be transplanted, and it is recommended that these trees are carefully removed and transplanted, next to the new dam.

The specialist concluded that the proposed dam development will have a low impact on any remaining natural veld, as the site and its surroundings are already disturbed and/ or transformed. As per the specialist, it is considered highly unlikely that the development had or will contribute significantly to:

- Significant loss of vegetation type and associated habitat.
- Loss of ecological processes (e.g. migration patterns, pollinators, river function, etc.) due to construction and operational activities.
- Loss of local biodiversity and threatened plant species, or
- Loss of ecosystem connectivity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mucina, L., Rutherford, M.C. and Powrie, L.W., 2006. Vegetation Atlas of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. The Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland'. (Eds L. Mucina and MC Rutherford.) pp, pp.748-789.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Skowno, A.L., Raimondo, D.C., Poole, C.J., Fizzoti, B., Slingsby, J. (eds.) 2019. South African National Biodiversity Assessment 2018 Technical Report Volume 1: Terrestrial Realm. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria. http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12143/6370 <sup>3</sup> Defined as plants which possess long, slender leaves

#### Freshwater resources:

According to the Freshwater resources map from Cape Farm Mapper, the proposed Bonathaba Dam will intercept two non-perennial watercourses (namely drainage lines). As per the Freshwater Assessment, the proposed site is located within the G10D quaternary catchment, situated within a sub-catchment with an extent of approximately 140ha. The drainage line (approximately 3.3km in length) associated with the site drains into the Bergrivier and is mostly dry. Water would be present within these drainage lines shortly after winter rainfall events. Steep slopes associated with the proposed site for development may have a high erosion potential and therefore, is susceptible to erosion. Lower down the slope, the drainage line has been straightened into irrigation return flow channels where sections of the channel have eroded (Figure 6). The nearest NFEPA wetland is located approximately 640m east of the proposed development and is associated with the Bergrivier. The proposed dam will be filled with water from the Berg River, from an existing abstraction point with existing water use rights enlisted under the Berg River Irrigation Board. The existing abstraction point will remain as is. The freshwater report concludes that the existing legal water use is already fully utilized for irrigation and has already been discounted by the DWS against ecological flow requirements of the Berg River, and the proposed extra storage capacity would not alter the situation. However, with large irrigation schemes, there is always the possibility of more agricultural return flow which impacts the river system. However, the drainage lines have already been transformed into stormwater management systems and return flows and the enlargement of the dam will not add to these impacts.

### Current status of drainage lines and the Berg River

No wetlands were identified within 500m of the proposed site for development (Figure 17). The section of the Berg River near the pump house was selected as the biomonitoring point. The oxygen concentration was 4.6mg/L. Riparian zones were previously overgrown with Eucalyptus trees which have been felled. The South African Scoring System (SASS5) score at the sample point was 47 where the ASPT score was 4.3. This scored the Berg River a Class D ("Fair"). Upstream of the sampling point, numerous sources of agricultural return flow, wastewater treatment works, as well as urban stormwater may have contributed to this score.

Table 1. The Pres	ent Ecologi	ical State (PES), I	Ecological Impo	rtance (E	I), and Ecological Sensitivity (ES) of the
drainage line and Berg River. Please refer to the Freshwater Report. *The EI is based on the presence of					
especially fish species that are endangered on a local, regional or national level.					

Index/ Parameter	Drainage Line	Description	Berg River	Description
PES	E	This signifies that the drainage line has been significantly altered with a loss of ecological functioning.	С	It has lost some ecological functioning because of water quality and invasive organisms both instream and in the riparian zone. This score is better than the "D" downstream at Moredou, where the river is heavily overgrown with <i>Eucalyptus</i> trees.
EI*	N/A. Non-perennial watercourse with no fish present.		Considered ecologically important	
ES	Considered sensitive		Considered sensitive	



**Figure 5.** Resource economic footprint of the drainage line associated with the proposed site for development. Adapted from the Freshwater Report.

As per the Freshwater Report, there is no need for ecological maintenance releases from the new dam. The original ecological functioning of the drainage line has been entirely altered, with little conservation value left. There are nevertheless some aquatic species that would hold out in this environment. Nevertheless, it is not necessary to release water for the benefit of these few die-hards (e.g. clicking stream frog).



**Figure 6.** Historic images showing the transformation of land associated with the proposed site for development (red polygon) and associated drainage lines (blue) located within the proposed site for development. Note: A = 2004; B = 2009; C = 2017; D = 2021. Source: Google Earth, 2021.



Figure 7. Photographs of status of non-perennial drainage lines located within the proposed site for the development of the Bonathaba Dam.

## 5. OBJECTIVES OF MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES/ TERMS OF REFERENCE

The main objectives of this river maintenance and management plan (MMP) are to guide the landowner and other responsible parties to correctly implement mitigation measures to protect the integrity of the aquatic habitat and to minimize the impact of the proposed development of the Bonathaba Dam on the receiving environment.

This MMP aims to set guidelines for the correct management procedures and methods, in such a manner that they may be flexible.

#### 5.1 <u>TERMS OF REFERENCE</u>

- Undertake a site visit to assess the site areas;
- Implement mitigation measures proposed by the Freshwater Specialist;
- Desktop review of DEA&DP's Maintenance Management Plan Guidelines;
- Identify the environmental risks associated with the maintenance management activities;
- Recommend appropriate, practicable mitigation measures that will reduce all major impact or enhance potential benefits, if any;
- Compile an MMP that takes into account all the aspects outlined in the DEA&DP Maintenance Management Plan Guidelines.

As per the Mitigation Hierarchy, which attempts to avoid/ prevent, minimize, rehabilitate and offset (if necessary) must be addressed. For example - avoiding or preventing any impact on the receiving environment. If the impact is unavoidable, the extent of the impact must be minimized. All impacts must be rehabilitated accordingly, and if the impact results in irreversible damage – an offset may be required. In the context of this RMMP, it is envisaged that no offset will be required as part of this plan due to the existing level of disturbance/transformation (i.e., The total development footprint will be approximately 19.2ha of which, approximately 8.8ha of disturbed, indigenous vegetation, and approximately 10.4ha of the existing crops will be cleared for the proposed Bonathaba Dam development).



**Figure 8**. Mitigation hierarchy must focus on the biological and ecosystem (structure and function) components. Note, arrows represent the interplay between these components, showing that the maintenance management plan (MMP) requires an integrated, adaptive management approach. Adapted from DEA et al., (2013). This is due to the receiving environment being dynamic (in nature) where biotic, abiotic, and human processes change through space and time, and therefore must be addressed accordingly.

## 6. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES:

The following section briefly describes the maintenance activities. The MMP should be approved by the deciding authority and subsequently complied with by the landowner and responsible parties during maintenance activities.

The engineer responsible for the design and building of the dam must submit an Operating, Maintenance, and Emergency plan to DWS/BGCMA as a requirement of the dam safety regulation after construction which must be implemented.

The following general management activities and mitigation measures have been identified and must be implemented, should maintenance management activities be conducted:

- Repairs and maintenance should be undertaken within the dry season, except for emergency maintenance works;
- The contractor must demarcate the boundaries of the site or area scheduled for maintenance during the maintenance management activities as required;
- Where applicable, existing access routes should be used;
- Responsible management of pollutants through ensuring handling and storage of any pollutants is away from the watercourse. When machinery is involved, ensure effective operation with no leaking parts and refuel outside of the riparian area, at a safe distance from the watercourse to manage any

accidental spillages and pose no threat of pollution. Drip trays are required for any stationary heavy vehicles or small equipment (e.g. generators);

- With regards to maintenance management, the flow of the watercourse should not be blocked (temporary diversions may be allowed) nor should the movement of aquatic and riparian biota (noting breeding periods) be prevented during maintenance actions;
- No new berms can be created for maintenance purposes;
- In circumstances that require the removal of any topsoil, this must be sufficiently restored through sustainable measures and practices;
- A concerted effort must be made to actively rehabilitate repaired or reshaped banks with indigenous local vegetation;
- No deepening of the watercourse beyond the original, pre-damage determined thalweg, unless such deepening is directly related to the natural improved functioning and condition of such a watercourse.
- The build-up of debris/sediment removed from a maintenance site may:
  - be utilized for in-filling or other related maintenance actions related to managing erosion, which forms part of an adopted MMP;
  - not be used to enlarge the height, width, or any extent of existing berms;
  - not be deposited anywhere within 32m of the watercourse or anywhere along the banks of a river where such action is not part of the proposed maintenance activity(ies).
  - Material that cannot be used for maintenance purposes must be removed out of the riparian area (32m from the non-perennial drainage line) to a suitable stockpile location or registered disposal site.
- The use of foreign material, such as concrete, rubble, wood debris, and/or dry land-based soil, is strictly prohibited from being used in maintenance actions unless for the specific purpose of repairs to existing infrastructure, coupled with appropriate mitigation measures.
- Erosion mitigation measures<sup>4</sup> must be implemented where applicable/appropriate.
- Maintenance material should be certified free of invasive alien plant seed to prevent infestation in the watercourse.

### 6.1 SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Site-specific maintenance activities aim to protect the integrity of the watercourse habitat by mitigating, where possible, the loss of aquatic habitat during maintenance activities.

Please refer to **Appendix M1 - 4** for the Method Statements for these maintenance activities. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and Revised Draft BAR should be read in conjunction with these Method Statements.

It should be noted that these method statements are merely guidelines and must be refined once the applicable contractors are appointed and are therefore subject to change. Not all actions may apply to the maintenance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Erosion control methods include silt fences, retention basins, detention ponds, interceptor ditches, seeding and sodding, riprap of exposed embankments, erosion mats, mulching, etc. Exposed areas, susceptible to erosion, must be rehabilitated. Mitigation measures are not limited to measures mentioned here as such measures may need to be adapted for site-specific maintainance. This includes planting vegetation, characteristic of the pertinent vegetation type, to stabilize the soil.

activities associated with the proposed expansion of the Zwartfontein Dam. The department must be informed of any changes to the method statements and MMP.

#### **Objective: Mitigate and monitor alien plant invasion on the property**

As per the Botanical Assessment, the proposed site *is heavily degraded, and although it supported a few more indigenous species, even this area has been heavily degraded with the only plants remaining being hardy shrubs and weedy and alien pioneer species.* Alien invasive plant species identified on-site include; invasive trees were also observed namely *Acacia saligna* (Port Jackson Willow) and *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (Beefwood). The landowner/ applicant is responsible for the removal of alien invasive plant species on their properties.

#### **Mitigation Action:**

- Removal of the invasive and alien plants should be according to the appropriate invasive plant clearing guidelines/ methods provided by the Working for Water Programme
- Alien and invasive plant species should be removed manually as far as possible, from the site as well as any
  areas on the property. All work will be done by hand (manually), either by pulling, using shears, hand saws, or
  chainsaws (depending on the size of the tree). The use of vehicles or mechanical means for alien removal will
  be prohibited within the riparian zone.
- The use of herbicides should be avoided. However, only herbicides that have been certified and proved for watercourse/ aquatic environments by an independent testing authority may be considered.
- Cape Nature generally recommends that all removed vegetation should be removed from the site to be disposed of to reduce fire hazards.

Please refer to Method Statement 1: MS01 Alien invasive plant eradication management (Appendix M1).

#### Objective: Mitigate alteration of hydrology during maintenance activities.

Surface water within the channel of the watercourse will be collected and diverted through or around the site by way of a combination of temporary works including cut-off and bypass channels, a small cofferdam, temporary pumps if necessary, etc, to collect and contain the water to ensure safe and acceptable working conditions. The development of a cofferdam within the watercourse and the diversion of surface water will result in the temporary alteration of aquatic habitat and hydrological flow patterns through the watercourse.

#### Mitigation Action:

- Demarcate the working area and put up signage to ensure maintenance activities only remain within the dedicated area
- Physically demarcate the cut-off and bypass channels, the small cofferdam as well as areas where temporary
  pumps will be placed if needed before the commencement of any activity and strictly prohibit any vehicles or
  maintenance activities outside of the demarcated footprint area. This can be done with danger tape, which
  should be removed once the maintenance activities have been completed.
- Vegetation removal should be limited as far as practically possible. Topsoil management should be implemented for the clearing of vegetation and stripping of soil
- Remove and stockpile topsoil and subsoil separately.
- Stockpile topsoil within an area where no stormwater runoff is expected.
- Replace the soil in the correct order e.g. subsoil below and topsoil above, as soon as possible after maintenance activities have been completed.
- During the completion of maintenance within the watercourse natural material (coarse in the case of watercourse beds) should be used to re-surface the bed of the watercourse to re-instate habitat.
- Compact subsoil while in a moist state and spread the topsoil as evenly as possible over the subsoil.

#### Please refer to Method Statement 2: MS02 Hydrology management (Appendix M2).

## Objective: Mitigate the disturbance of habitat and compaction of soils up and downstream of the proposed sites due to maintenance activities.

Maintenance activities such as the indiscriminate movement of vehicles and personnel and the dumping of excavated materials may result in the disturbance of watercourse vegetation and the compaction/ disturbance of soil located up and downstream of the proposed dam expansion. The disturbance may also result in the proliferation of alien and invasive plant species.

#### Mitigation Action:

- Demarcate working area and put up signage to ensure maintenance activities only remain within the dedicated area
- Immediately rip compacted soil to a depth of 300mm and reprofile the area according to natural terrain units where any accidental disturbance to portions of the watercourse falling outside of the demarcated maintenance footprint area has taken place.
- If the disturbed area will be prone to erosion (sheet runoff or formation of gullies), it is recommended that straw bales (not Lucerne or hay) are used to intercept the bulk of the runoff. The bales should be placed strategically along contour lines and pegged. Disturbance and removal of vegetation within the immediate vicinity of the area where the bales are placed should be kept to a minimum.
- Sediment should be cleared manually as needed.
- If stockpiling of materials is required, stockpiles must be placed at least 32m away from the watercourse.
- Prohibit dumping of excess excavated material within the watercourse.
- Once maintenance is completed, all waste i.e. rubble and equipment must be removed and disposed of appropriately as per the EMP.

Please refer to Method Statement 3: MS03 Mitigate compaction of soil up and downstream of the dam due to maintenance activities (Appendix M3).

## Objective: Mitigate the increased stormwater runoff, erosion, and sedimentation during maintenance activities

An increase in stormwater runoff from cleared, disturbed, and compacted areas may increase stormwater flows and flow velocities into the aquatic habitat which can cause erosion. Earthmoving activities can also result in an increase in the runoff of sediment onto the downstream aquatic habitat.

#### Mitigation Action:

- It is suggested that the maintenance of the dam should be undertaken during the dry summer months.
- Limit sedimentation at the outflow side (downstream of the works)
- Erosion control measures must be implemented to prevent erosion and sedimentation of downstream watercourse areas.
- Strategically divert runoff from areas where earth-moving activities are undertaken in the direction of pegged straw bales where required, in an attempt to intercept sediment-laden runoff before it reaches downstream watercourse habitat.
- Protect stockpiles, if required, from erosion using a tarp or erosion blankets.
- Seed the dam wall after maintenance with indigenous grass that has a good soil binding capacity such as *Cynodon dactylon* or stabilized with geotextiles to prevent erosion.

Please refer to Method Statement 4: MS04 Runoff, erosion and sedimentation control during maintenance activities (Appendix M4)

## **Site Preparation**

- All responsible parties (section 7) must be made aware of this MMP;
- Construction footprint must be demarcated. Construction activities must be restricted to these areas;

- Erosion mitigation measures must be implemnted where applicable, mitigating impacts associated with the erosion and sedimentation of watercourses. Exposed areas, susceptible to erosion, must be rehabilitated. This includes planting vegetation, characteristic of the pertinent vegetation type, to stabilize the soil;

- "No-Go"areas must be demarcated. No heavy vehicles are permitted to enter the watercourse up- or downstream of the proposed development footprint. Existing access routes must be used to cross these watercourses up- and downstream of the proposed site; and

- Areas disturbed by construction activities, outside of the development footprint, must be rehabilitated where applicable. This includes rehabilitating the topographic characteristics of the disturbed area to incoporate the previous topographic features of the site. Should trenches need to be excavated, the protocl as per Figure 10 must be followed.



## **Rehabilitation**

- Topsoil removed during construction activities must be used for rehabilitation purposes. This soil layer contains the seed bank - increasing the likelihood of successful rehabilitating disturbed areas;

- Disturbed areas requiring rehabilitation should be backfilled with topsoil by hand (where possible). This will reduce compaction of soil - a factor limiting successful rehabilitation (Bassett *et al.*, 2005). Any area compacted must be adequately ripped;

Erosion mitigation measures must be implemnted, where applciable, to prevent aeolian erosion (i.e., wind erosion).
 Drip trays are required and must be utilized for any heavy vehicles and /or equipment (i.e., generator).
 Should any trenches need to be excavated, the process diagram (Figure 10 below) must be followed.;

 Areas requiring rehabilitation must be vegetated with indigenous plant species characteristic of the Swartland Shale Renosterveld vegetation type. The vegetation of disturbed sites will stabilize soils (reducing erosion and sedimentation) and increase biodiversity at site (Hobbs, 1994; Xiao et al., 2017; Sun et al., 2018).

**Figure 9.** Implementation of the Maintenance Management Plan. In the context of this MMP, erosion control methods refer to, but are not limited to, the use of silt fences, retention basins, detention ponds, interceptor ditches, seeding and sodding, riprap of exposed embankments, erosion mats, and mulching. References: Bassett *et al.*,  $(2005)^5$ , Hobbs,  $(1994)^6$ , Xiao *et al.*,  $(2017)^7$ , and Sun *et al.*,  $(2018)^8$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Bassett, I.E., Simcock, R.C. and Mitchell, N.D., 2005. Consequences of soil compaction for seedling establishment: implications for natural regeneration and restoration. *Austral Ecology*, 30(8), pp.827-833.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Hobbs, R.J., 1994. Can revegetation assist in the conservation of biodiversity in agricultural areas?. Pacific Conservation Biology, 1(1), pp.29-38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Xiao, H., Li, Z., Dong, Y., Chang, X., Deng, L., Huang, J., Nie, X., Liu, C., Liu, L., Wang, D. and Liu, Q., 2017. Changes in microbial communities and respiration following the revegetation of eroded soil. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment, 246*, pp.30-37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Sun, X., Zhou, Y., Tan, Y., Wu, Z., Lu, P., Zhang, G. and Yu, F., 2018. Restoration with pioneer plants changes soil properties and remodels the diversity and structure of bacterial communities in rhizosphere and bulk soil of copper mine tailings in Jiangxi Province, China. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 25(22), pp.22106-22119.



**Figure 10**. Diagrammatic representation of proposed trench excavation and backfilling activities to increase the effectiveness of rehabilitation. Note: proposed distances (e.g. Total construction footprint<sub>length</sub> = 6m) are subject to change according to site-specific characteristics. Any deviation from the above figure must be approved by the ECO.

## 7. **RESPONSIBLE PARTIES**

- **The Applicant/client** the applicant is responsible for employing the Contractors for the duration of the maintenance work. The contractor will employ the ECO. The applicant/ client will ensure, as a signatory to the MMP, that the Contractor fulfill their obligation in terms of this MMP
- Principal agent the Principal-Agent is appointed by the client and is responsible to the client for ensuring that the maintenance work is carried out to completion on time, in budget and that the Contractor fulfills their obligations in terms of the MMP. The Principal-Agent and ECO are expected to develop a close working relationship and to communicate frequently. The Principal-Agent must be recognized as the senior authority on-site and all communications and instructions between the ECO and the Contractor must occur via the Principal Agent. The Principal-Agent is also responsible for deducting environmental penalties from the Contractor. The Principal-Agent must ensure that the Contractor has a copy of this MMP and all approved Method Statements and that the Contractor is familiar with the relevant documentation.
- The ECO the ECO must be appointed before the commencement of any maintenance activities. The ECO will advise the Contractor of any environmentally-related issues during the maintenance phase of the development.
  - The responsibilities of the ECO will include monitoring of compliance of the MMP by the contractor
  - The ECO has the authority to recommend the cessation of works or any portion of the maintenance activity to the Principal Agent. This will be triggered if in his/her opinion the activity has caused or will imminently cause significant damage and/or harm to the environment or is in contravention of the relevant environmental legislation/permits/authorizations applicable to the site and/or activity/ies.
  - If the Contractor fails to show adequate consideration to the MMP or the recommendations of the ECO, then the ECO may recommend that the Contractor's representative or any employee/s responsible for not showing adequate consideration to the MMP are removed from the site.

Alternatively, the ECO may recommend that all maintenance work on-site be suspended until the matter is remedied. All costs will be carried by the Contractor.

- Should modifications to this document be required, these must be agreed to by all parties concerned.
- **The Contractor** the Contractor will adhere to the conditions of this MMP and ensure that all of its sub-Contractors, employees, suppliers, agents, and so forth, for whom the Contractor is fully responsible for their actions on-site, are fully aware of this MMP, its requirements and the consequences of any breach of the requirements of this MMP. The Contractor is fully responsible for implementing the MMP. The Contractor will ensure that works on site are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner and accordance with the requirements of this MMP.
- **Council Representative** will be an appropriately qualified environmental officer of the Municipality. This representative will monitor compliance of this MMP by the client through the ECO.
- **Problematic Issues** should problematic issues arise, as identified by the ECO, the ECO has the authority to call a special meeting with the Principal Agent to address and rectify the matter.

Applicant / Organisation / Organ of State:	Black Orchid Farming Pty (Ltd)		
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Cellular:	082 511 6036	Fax:	021 421 0510
E-mail:	Mine.van.wyk@uff.co.za		

#### 7.1 CONTACT DETAILS OF APPLICANT/ CLIENT

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS TRAINING

The applicant (who is also the landowner) has been involved during the NEMA EIA application process and understands the implications of the recommendations made by the various specialists' reports, especially the freshwater specialist. By signing the declaration of understanding **(Appendix F)** the applicant declares that they understand their responsibility towards the implementation of the MMP and EMPr.

General awareness training will be given (as needed) in accordance with the EMPr (Section 7.5.1 of the EMPr).

- An ECO should be appointed before the commencement of any maintenance activities.
- The ECO should train the Contractor on-site to ensure that all parties involved are familiar with the potential impacts and environmental risks of the maintenance and monitoring activities as week as mitigation measures to reduce or avoid these impacts and potential pollution or degradation of the site and surrounding environment.

As a minimum, the following should be included in the awareness program:

- Explanation of the importance of this MMP;
- Discussion of the potential environmental impacts of maintenance activities;
- Explanation of the management structure of individuals responsible for matters pertaining to this MMP;
- employees' roles and responsibilities, including emergency preparedness (also refer to Section 8.11 of the EMPr);
- Explanation of the mitigation measures that must be implemented when carrying out maintenance activities; and
- Explanation of the Environmental <u>**Do's and Don'ts**</u> (please refer to **Appendix 3 of the EMPr**) for the Environmental Education section).

Attention should be focussed on the following areas of sensitivity:

- Removal/ disturbance of riparian vegetation;
- Aquatic habitat disturbance
- Soil erosion and sedimentation; and

The awareness training for the maintenance activities should aim to prevent, and where prevention is not possible, mitigate detrimental health, safety, and environmental impacts. In particular, it should promote awareness of environmental risk and management thereof.

## 9. GENERAL CONTROL

The following additional general management activities and mitigation measures have been identified and should be implemented where required during the maintenance management activities:

Description of the Activity & Associated Impacts	Site Boundaries and No-Go Areas
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>The Contractor must demarcate the boundaries of the site or area scheduled for maintenance during maintenance management activities as required.</li> <li>The minimum area scheduled for the maintenance activities should be demarcated.</li> <li>Access to the site during maintenance activities must be restricted to ensure to only the required personnel gain access via the designated, controlled access points. Sensitive areas must be demarcated in conjunction with the ECO before any maintenance work starting on site.</li> </ul>

Description of the Activity & Associated Impacts	Use of Materials Potential environmental impact as a result of the use/misuse of inappropriate materials
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>The principle of "re-use and recycle" (i.e. try to use recycled materials) should be implemented as far as possible on-site for all maintenance-related activities.</li> <li>The Contractor must at all times carefully consider the requirements of the NEMA Principles and take appropriate measures to implement such as far as practicably possible.</li> </ul>

Description of the Activity & Associated Impacts	Occupational Health and Safety Potential health and Safety Impacts associated with the maintenance activities on site		
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>All people working on site are responsible for their safety on site.</li> <li>Contractors must at all times comply with the relevant statutory requirements including the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Act 85 of 1993.</li> <li>A comprehensive site-specific first aid kit must be available on-site at all times.</li> <li>At least one person trained in safety and first aid and familiar with the first aid equipment on site must be present at the site at all times. Emergency procedures must also be established before the start of maintenance operations on site.</li> </ul>		

Description of the Activity & Associated Impacts	Waste Management Possible pollution of or damage to the environment in the general areas of the site, as a result of incorrect or poor waste management.	
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>Liquid waste: (if machinery is used)</li> <li>Use of machinery should only be as a last resort</li> <li>Liquid dispensing receptacles (e.g. lubricants, diesel, shutter oil, etc.) must have drip trays beneath them/beneath the nozzle fixtures.</li> <li>Material safety data sheets (MSDS) must be available on site (if required) where products are stored so that in the event of an incident, the correct action can be taken.</li> <li>Depending on the types of materials stored on-site during the maintenance activities, suitable product recovery materials (such as Spillsorb or Drizit products) must be readily available. Vehicles should ideally be washed at their storage yard as opposed to on-site.</li> <li>Stormwater must be managed in such a way that no overland flow is possible onto any area of the site which could contain potential contaminants (such as concrete mixing areas, material, and hazardous storage areas from any adjacent area).</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Waste must be categorized by the Contractor and disposed of suitably into separate waste streams (this includes general, hazardous, and recyclable waste) only at authorized waste disposal facilities.</li> <li>The Contractor must provide an adequate number of waste receptacles for the duration of the maintenance management activities for general waste at points around the site as well as for hazardous and recyclable waste.</li> <li>Waste is to be disposed of via a licensed waste disposal contractor.</li> <li>The frequency of collections/emptying of waste receptacles will be of such a frequency that waste receptacles do not overflow. Particular care must be taken with the disposal of materials that could be windborne or waterborne to ensure that the release of these materials is minimized (the latter is a requirement for hazardous waste). The use of netting covers or similar sealed containers must be implemented as and when required by the ECO.</li> <li>Areas demarcated for specific activities including food consumption must have suitable waste receptacles provided.</li> <li>Wherever possible recycling must be carried out.</li> <li>No dumping within the surrounding area is to be permitted. No burning of solid waste is allowed.</li> <li>All material used by the Contractor during the maintenance management activities must be managed in such a way that it does not cause pollution, or that it minimizes pollution. In the event of a spillage, the Contractor should have suitably trained personnel who can correctly clean up any spillage in an efficient and environmentally sound manner.</li> </ul>	

Description of the Activity	ity Erosion Control	
& Associated Impacts	Erosion of soil and material resulting along with the impacted areas.	
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>Soil erosion on site must be prevented at all times.</li> <li>Maintenance activities should preferably be undertaken in the low rainfall months when the potential for erosion impacts from the maintenance activities can be contained.</li> </ul>	

Description of the Activity	Fire Safety	
& Associated Impacts	Potential fire risk associated with the maintenance activities on site.	
Measures to be implemented during maintenance activities	<ul> <li>Fires and burning of waste on-site should not be allowed.</li> <li>Open fires will not be permitted anywhere on the site during the maintenance activities.</li> </ul>	

## **10. REHABILITATION SPECIFICATIONS AND SITE CLEAN-UP**

The following measures have been identified to ensure that restoration and rehabilitation of the environment affected by the maintenance activity following the completion of these activities:

- The contractor shall be responsible for rehabilitating (vegetation planting etc. where applicable) all disturbed areas during the maintenance activities to the satisfaction of the ECO.
- Vegetation to be replanted shall be indigenous species that are endemic to that region only. Any invasive alien plants within the disturbed area should be removed according to **MS1 (Appendix M1)** according to the guidelines provided in the Working for Water Programme.
- Any soil and vegetation cover removed during the maintenance activities should be replaced at the same level as the existing level.
- All areas where temporary services were installed are to be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the ECO.
- The implementing agent shall clear and clean the site and ensure that everything not forming part of the permanent works is removed from the site before issuing the completion certificate or as otherwise agreed.
- Any rubble or waste associated with the maintenance activities should be removed to an approved disposal site after the maintenance activity is complete.
- Burying or burning rubble or waste on the site is strictly prohibited.
- The site is to be cleared of all litter following the completion of maintenance activities.
- All surfaces are to be checked for waste products from maintenance activities and cleared in a manner approved by the ECO.

## **11. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING & REPORTING**

Monitoring aims to detect changes that will inform intervention or remedial actions that might be needed to inform environmental performance. Monitoring will be done by physically walking the property, inspecting the dam itself as well as the watercourse habitat up and downstream of the dam.

Part of the watercourse that is monitored	Frequency of Monitoring	Monitoring procedure	How results are analyzed and presented	Comments
The watercourse habitat up and downstream of the dam must be monitored.	Before the commencement of activities and after activities are complete. If necessary also during the maintenance activities.	<ul> <li>The ECO will visit the site during the maintenance management activities and ensure that conditions stipulated in the MMP are being complied with.</li> <li>Guidance will be given to the implementing agent as required with regards to implementing the MMP.</li> <li>Photographs of the maintenance management activity will be taken as a record of the correct undertaking of the specific maintenance management activity.</li> </ul>	The record of the site visit undertaken during the maintenance management activities will include the following: > The report will illustrate what activity was undertaken at the site; > Correct implementation, as well as non-conformance of the MMP, will be outlined; > Recommendations to ensure conformance with the MMP in future maintenance management activities if required. > Photographs of all maintenance management activities undertaken at the site.	<ul> <li>The following, in particular, should be monitored:</li> <li>Post-construction monitoring of plants relocated during search and rescue to evaluate where the intervention was successful or not. This does not necessarily have to be conducted by an ECO. This should be undertaken on a three-month basis for two years after transplanting to evaluate the success thereof, or as suggested by the appointed botanist o Monitoring and clearing of alien invasive plants on the property will need to be undertaken on an ongoing basis according to the applicable recognized methods for clearing of alien invasive plant growth.</li> <li>Monitor discharge points for erosion and incision be noted, corrective measures must be undertaken.</li> </ul>

### 11.1 MONITORING REPORT

The monitoring report will focus mainly on physical site inspections aiming at early detection of erosion and the need for intervention and the measures to be taken. As such the monitoring report needs to address the following minimum criteria, namely the date of inspection, the portion of the river that was inspected, the result of the inspection, and any actions that were or need to be taken as well as photographs showing the site before and after the maintenance activity was completed.

The landowner is responsible to ensure a record of all maintenance activities is recorded as per the forms below.

The Department may, within a reasonable notice period, request to evaluate the maintenance activities and assess the maintenance sites as per the adopted MMP.

Form A should be completed at least 7 working days before the commencement of any maintenance activity and Form B at least 3 working days following the completion of the maintenance activity(ies). At least two photographs are required from two different points of perspective (e.g. A and B) looking at the site (coordinates of these points are required). When listing the type and reference code, this must be done by specifically listing the relevant detail within the adopted MMP.

<b>REPORTING FOR INTENT TO UNDERTAKE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES – FORM A</b>				MA
Section A: Landowner Details				
Name	Surname	Farm No.	Erf No.	Date
	Section B: Details of proposed maintenance activity			
WUA/GA reference number and DEA&DP reference number for MMP.	Activity Type:	Reference code (make reference to MMP)	Footprint area (m²)	Volume of material (m <sup>3</sup> )
Equipment to be used:	Description of method for planned activity:			Date when work will commence:
Date of last flood event for site:	Note any further damage and comments regarding the state of the site			
	Section C: Photographs of acti	vity location before	e maintenance	
Before A				
Coordinates:				
S				
E				
Before B				
Coordinates:				
S				
E				
Date of photos taken:				

<b>REPORTING COMPLETION OF MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES – FORM B</b>				
Section A: Landowner Details				
Name	Surname	Farm No.	Erf No.	Today's Date
	Section B: Details of pro	posed maintenance	e activity	
WUA/GA reference number and DEA&DP reference number for MMP.	Activity Type:	Reference code ( <i>make reference</i> <i>to MMP</i> )	Footprint area (m²)	Volume of material (m <sup>3</sup> )
Equipment that was used:	Description of a method for completed activity and if the commence date changed			Date when work will commence:
Date of last flood event for site:	Note any challenges or difficulties experienced in following the MMP method statement			
	Section C: Photographs of ac	tivity location after	maintenance	
Before A				
Coordinates:				
S				
E				
Before B				
Coordinates:				
S				
E Dete of shotos tokons				
Date of photos taken:				

## **12. APPENDICES TO THE MMP**

Appendices to the MMP have been included as part of the appendices of the larger EMP (and Environmental Impact Report, EIR). Please refer to the following as reference to the applicable appendices:

- Method statements pertaining to the MMP (Appendix M1 M4)
  - MS01 Alien invasive plant eradication plan
  - MS02 Hydrology management during maintenance activities
  - MS03 Mitigate disturbance of habitat and compaction of soils due to maintenance activities
  - MS04 Runoff, erosion, sedimentation control during maintenance activities

Please note that this MMP should be read in conjunction with the EMPr (Appendix 11 of the EIR), Site Sensitivity Verification (SSV) Report (Appendix 7.2 of the EIR), DEA Screening Tool (Appendix 7.1 of the EIR), Freshwater Report (Appendix 8.2 of the EIR), and the Botanical Report (Appendix 8.1 of the EIR).

## APPENDIX M: METHOD STATEMENTS

Appendix M1	MS01 Alien invasive plant eradication plan	
Appendix M2	MS02 Hydrology management during maintenance activities	
Appendix M3	MS03 Mitigate disturbance of habitat and compaction of soils due to maintenance activities	
Appendix M4	MS04 Runoff, erosion, sedimentation control during maintenance activities	

## APPENDIX N: DECLARATION OF UNDERSTANDING