

postal 16 17th Avenue, Voëlkop, Hermanus, 7200
physical 16 17th Avenue, Voëlkop, Hermanus, 7200
website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries Rhett Smart
telephone 087 087 8017
email rsmart@capenature.co.za
reference LS14/2/6/1/6/5/499-9&503-3_S24G_Vermaaklikheid
date 11 March 2024

EnviroAfrica
P.O. Box 5367
Helderberg
7135

Attention: Clinton Geysers
By email: admin@enviroafrica.co.za

Dear Mr Geysers

Background Information Document for the NEMA Section 24G Application for the Unlawful Development of a Dwelling and a Jetty on Portion 9 of Farm Vermaaklikheid 499 and Portion 3 of Farm Kleinfontein 503, Vermaaklikheid

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

The footprint of the dwelling and jetty is mapped as Critical Biodiversity Area I (CBA) in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan. The vegetation which would have occurred on the dwelling footprint is mapped as Canca Limestone Fynbos classified as least concern and the vegetation at the jetty footprint is non-terrestrial estuarine vegetation. The jetty is within the estuarine functional zone of the Duivenhoks River Estuary.

The web-based screening tool should be used to determine which specialist assessments are required and incorporates the desktop information referred to above. A site sensitivity verification report should be compiled motivating the specialist assessments undertaken in relation to the screening tool results. We recommend that the aquatic biodiversity specialist should have experience with estuaries. The development proposal must respond to any biodiversity constraints identified in the specialist assessments.

CapeNature will provide further comment once the Section 24G Report is released for comment. Take note that a Sea Shore Lease is required from CapeNature for structures below the high water mark, including jetties.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhett Smart", with a horizontal line underneath.

Rhett Smart

For: Manager (Landscape Conservation Intelligence)