

# **THE PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE REMAINDER OF FARM WELVENPAS NO. 238, WELVENPAS, WELLINGTON, WESTERN CAPE**



## **DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT**

July 2026

WCDEADP: 16/3/3/6/7/1/B3/38/1098/26

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**Western Cape  
Government**

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# **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT**

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS.

**APRIL 2024**

Department of Environmental Affairs and  
Development Planning



## BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

**THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998) AND  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS.**

**APRIL 2024**

| (For official use only)                           |  |
|---------------------------------------------------|--|
| Pre-application Reference Number (if applicable): |  |
| EIA Application Reference Number:                 |  |
| NEAS Reference Number:                            |  |
| Exemption Reference Number (if applicable):       |  |
| Date BAR received by Department:                  |  |
| Date BAR received by Directorate:                 |  |
| Date BAR received by Case Officer:                |  |

### GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(This must include an overview of the project, including the Farm name/Portion/Erf number)

**THE PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE REMAINDER OF FARM WELVENPAS  
NO. 238, WELVENPAS, WELLINGTON, WESTERN CAPE**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BE READ PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

1. **The purpose** of this template is to provide a format for the Basic Assessment report as set out in Appendix 1 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014 (as amended) in order to ultimately obtain Environmental Authorisation.
2. The Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations is defined in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") hereinafter referred to as the "NEMA EIA Regulations".
3. *Submission of documentation, reports and other correspondence:*

The Department has adopted a digital format for corresponding with proponents/applicants or the general public. If there is a conflict between this approach and any provision in the legislation, then the provisions in the legislation prevail. If there is any uncertainty about the requirements or arrangements, the relevant Competent Authority must be consulted.

The Directorate: Development Management has created generic e-mail addresses for the respective Regions, to centralise their administration. Please make use of the relevant general administration e-mail address below when submitting documents:

**DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za**

Directorate: Development Management (Region 1):  
City of Cape Town; West Coast District Municipal area;  
Cape Winelands District Municipal area and Overberg District Municipal area.

**DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za**

Directorate: Development Management (Region 3):  
Garden Route District Municipal area and Central Karoo District Municipal area

General queries must be submitted via the general administration e-mail for EIA related queries. Where a case-officer of DEA&DP has been assigned, correspondence may be directed to such official and copied to the relevant general administration e-mail for record purposes.

All correspondence, comments, requests and decisions in terms of applications, will be issued to either the applicant/requester in a digital format via email, with digital signatures, and copied to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") (where applicable).

4. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in this Basic Assessment Report ("BAR"). The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided.
5. All applicable sections of this BAR must be completed.
6. Unless protected by law, all information contained in, and attached to this BAR, will become public information on receipt by the Competent Authority. If information is not submitted with this BAR due to such information being protected by law, the applicant and/or Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") must declare such non-disclosure and provide the reasons for believing that the information is protected.
7. This BAR is current as of **April 2024**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant/ EAP to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the BAR have been released by the Department. Visit this Department's website at <http://www.westerncape.gov.za> to check for the latest version of this BAR.
8. This BAR is the standard format, which must be used in all instances when preparing a BAR for Basic Assessment applications for an environmental authorisation in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations when the Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning ("DEA&DP") is the Competent Authority.

9. Unless otherwise indicated by the Department, one hard copy and one electronic copy of this BAR must be submitted to the Department at the postal address given below or by delivery thereof to the Registry Office of the Department. Reasonable access to copies of this Report must be provided to the relevant Organs of State for consultation purposes, which may, if so indicated by the Department, include providing a printed copy to a specific Organ of State.
10. This BAR must be duly dated and originally signed by the Applicant, EAP (if applicable) and Specialist(s) and must be submitted to the Department at the details provided below.
11. The Department's latest Circulars pertaining to the "One Environmental Management System" and the EIA Regulations, any subsequent Circulars, and guidelines must be taken into account when completing this BAR.
12. Should a water use licence application be required in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"), the "One Environmental System" is applicable, specifically in terms of the synchronisation of the consideration of the application in terms of the NEMA and the NWA. Refer to this Department's Circular EADP 0028/2014: One Environmental Management System.
13. Where Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA") is triggered, a copy of Heritage Western Cape's final comment must be attached to the BAR.
14. The Screening Tool developed by the National Department of Environmental Affairs must be used to generate a screening report. Please use the Screening Tool link <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool> to generate the Screening Tool Report. The screening tool report must be attached to this BAR.
15. Where this Department is also identified as the Licencing Authority to decide on applications under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 29 of 2004) ("NEM:AQA"), the submission of the Report must also be made as follows, for-  
Waste Management Licence Applications, this report must also (i.e., another hard copy and electronic copy) be submitted for the attention of the Department's Waste Management Directorate (Tel: 021-483-2728/2705 and Fax: 021-483-4425) at the same postal address as the Cape Town Office.  
  
Atmospheric Emissions Licence Applications, this report must also be (i.e., another hard copy and electronic copy) submitted for the attention of the Licensing Authority or this Department's Air Quality Management Directorate (Tel: 021 483 2888 and Fax: 021 483 4368) at the same postal address as the Cape Town Office.

## DEPARTMENTAL DETAILS

| CAPE TOWN OFFICE:<br>DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)<br>(City of Cape Town, West Coast District,<br>Cape Winelands District & Overberg District)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | GEORGE REGIONAL OFFICE:<br>DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 3)<br>(Central Karoo District & Garden Route District)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The completed Form must be sent via electronic mail to:<br/><a href="mailto:DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za">DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za</a></p> <p>Queries should be directed to the Directorate:<br/>Development Management (Region 1) at:<br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za">DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za</a><br/>Tel: (021) 483-5829</p> <p>Western Cape Government<br/>Department of Environmental Affairs and Development<br/>Planning<br/>Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 1)<br/>Private Bag X 9086<br/>Cape Town,<br/>8000</p> | <p>The completed Form must be sent via electronic mail to:<br/><a href="mailto:DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za">DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za</a></p> <p>Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Development<br/>Management (Region 3) at:<br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za">DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za</a><br/>Tel: (044) 814-2006</p> <p>Western Cape Government<br/>Department of Environmental Affairs and Development<br/>Planning<br/>Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 3)<br/>Private Bag X 6509<br/>George,<br/>6530</p> |

## MAPS

| <b>Provide a location map (see below) as Appendix A1 to this BAR that shows the location of the proposed development and associated structures and infrastructure on the property.</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Locality Map:                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>The scale of the locality map must be at least 1:50 000.<br/>For linear activities or development proposals of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g., 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map.<br/>The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any;</li> <li>• road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s)</li> <li>• a north arrow;</li> <li>• a legend; and</li> <li>• a linear scale.</li> </ul> <p>For ocean based or aquatic activity, the coordinates must be provided within which the activity is to be undertaken and a map at an appropriate scale clearly indicating the area within which the activity is to be undertaken.</p> <p>Where comment from the Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works is required, a map illustrating the properties (owned by the Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works) that will be affected by the proposed development must be included in the Report.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Provide a detailed site development plan / site map (see below) as Appendix B1 to this BAR; and if applicable, all alternative properties and locations.</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Site Plan:                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>Detailed site development plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. The site plans must contain or conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The detailed site plan must preferably be at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be clearly indicated on the plan, preferably together with a linear scale.</li> <li>• The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan.</li> <li>• On land where the property has not been defined, the co-ordinates of the area in which the proposed activity or development is proposed must be provided.</li> <li>• The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be clearly indicated on the site plan.</li> <li>• The position of each component of the proposed activity or development as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan.</li> <li>• Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate aboveground or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the proposed development <b>must</b> be clearly indicated on the site plan.</li> <li>• Servitudes and an indication of the purpose of each servitude must be indicated on the site plan.</li> <li>• Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Watercourses / Rivers / Wetlands</li> <li>○ Flood lines (i.e., 1:100 year, 1:50 year and 1:10 year where applicable);</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Coastal Risk Zones as delineated for the Western Cape by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning ("DEA&amp;DP");</li> <li>o Ridges;</li> <li>o Cultural and historical features/landscapes;</li> <li>o Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if degraded or infested with alien species).</li> <li>• Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, a contour map of the site must be submitted.</li> <li>• North arrow</li> </ul> <p>A map/site plan must also be provided at an appropriate scale, which superimposes the proposed development and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred and alternative sites, indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffer areas.</p> |
| Site photographs                                         | <p>Colour photographs of the site that show the overall condition of the site and its surroundings (taken on the site and taken from outside the site), with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan, or locality plan, as applicable. If available, please also provide a recent aerial photograph. Photographs must be attached to this BAR as <b>Appendix C</b>. The aerial photograph(s) should be supplemented with additional photographs of relevant features on the site. Date of photographs must be included. Please note that the above requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.</p>                                                                                                                |
| Biodiversity Overlay Map:                                | <p>A map of the relevant biodiversity information and conditions must be provided as an overlay map on the property/site plan. The Map must be attached to this BAR as <b>Appendix D</b>.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Linear activities or development and multiple properties | <p>GPS co-ordinates must be provided in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeeshoek 94 WGS84 co-ordinate system.</p> <p>Where numerous properties/sites are involved (linear activities) you must attach a list of the Farm Name(s)/Portion(s)/Erf number(s) to this BAR as an Appendix.</p> <p>For linear activities that are longer than 500m, please provide a map with the co-ordinates taken every 100m along the route to this BAR as <b>Appendix A3</b>.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## ACRONYMS

|          |                                                              |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| DAFF:    | Department of Forestry and Fisheries                         |
| DEA:     | Department of Environmental Affairs                          |
| DEA& DP: | Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning |
| DHS:     | Department of Human Settlement                               |
| DoA:     | Department of Agriculture                                    |
| DoH:     | Department of Health                                         |
| DWS:     | Department of Water and Sanitation                           |
| EMPr:    | Environmental Management Programme                           |
| HWC:     | Heritage Western Cape                                        |
| NFEPA:   | National Freshwater Ecosystem Protection Assessment          |
| NSBA:    | National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment                     |
| TOR:     | Terms of Reference                                           |
| WCBSP:   | Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan                       |
| WCG:     | Western Cape Government                                      |

## ATTACHMENTS

**Note:** The Appendices must be attached to the BAR as per the list below. Please use a ✓ (tick) or a x (cross) to indicate whether the Appendix is attached to the BAR.

The following checklist of attachments must be completed.

| APPENDIX    |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ✓ (Tick) or<br>x (cross) |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Appendix A: | Maps                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                          |
|             | Appendix A1:                                                                                                                                         | Locality Map                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | ✓                        |
|             | Appendix A2:                                                                                                                                         | <del>Coastal Risk Zones as delineated in terms of ICMA for the Western Cape by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning</del>                                                                                                   | N/A                      |
|             | Appendix A3:                                                                                                                                         | <del>Map with the GPS co-ordinates for linear activities</del>                                                                                                                                                                                          | N/A                      |
| Appendix B: | Appendix B1:                                                                                                                                         | Site development plan(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ✓                        |
|             | Appendix B2                                                                                                                                          | A map of appropriate scale, which superimposes the proposed development and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site, indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffer areas; | ✓                        |
| Appendix C: | Photographs                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ✓                        |
| Appendix D: | Biodiversity overlay map                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ✓                        |
| Appendix E: | Permit(s) / license(s) / exemption notice, agreements, comments from the State Department/Organs of state and service letters from the municipality. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                          |
|             | Appendix E1:                                                                                                                                         | Final comment/ROD from HWC                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                          |
|             | Appendix E2:                                                                                                                                         | Copy of comment from Cape Nature                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                          |
|             | Appendix E3:                                                                                                                                         | Final Comment from the DWS                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                          |
|             | Appendix E4:                                                                                                                                         | <del>Comment from the DEA: Oceans and Coast</del>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A                      |
|             | Appendix E5:                                                                                                                                         | Comment from the DAFF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                          |
|             | Appendix E6:                                                                                                                                         | <del>Comment from WCG: Transport and Public Works</del>                                                                                                                                                                                                 | N/A                      |
|             | Appendix E7:                                                                                                                                         | Comment from WCG: DoA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                          |
|             | Appendix E8:                                                                                                                                         | Comment from WCG: DHS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | N/A                      |
|             | Appendix E9:                                                                                                                                         | Comment from WCG: DoH                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | N/A                      |

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                   |     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
|                      | <b>Appendix E10:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | <del>Comment from DEA&amp;DP: Pollution Management</del>                          | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E11:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Comment from DEA&DP: Waste Management                                             | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E12:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Comment from DEA&DP: Biodiversity                                                 |     |
|                      | <b>Appendix E13:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | <del>Comment from DEA&amp;DP: Air Quality</del>                                   | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E14:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | <del>Comment from DEA&amp;DP: Coastal Management</del>                            | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E15:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Comment from the local authority                                                  |     |
|                      | <b>Appendix E16:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Confirmation of all services (water, electricity, sewage, solid waste management) | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E17:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Comment from the District Municipality                                            |     |
|                      | <b>Appendix E18:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Copy of an exemption notice                                                       | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E19:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Pre-approval for the reclamation of land                                          | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E20:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Proof of agreement/TOR of the specialist studies conducted.                       |     |
|                      | <b>Appendix E21:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Proof of land use rights                                                          | N/A |
|                      | <b>Appendix E22:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                            | <del>Proof of public participation agreement for linear activities</del>          | N/A |
| <b>Appendix F:</b>   | Public participation information: including a copy of the register of I&APs, the comments and responses Report, proof of notices, advertisements and any other public participation information as is required. |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix G:</b>   | Specialist Report(s): Freshwater Report, Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement, Agricultural Compliance Statement                                                                                       |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix H:</b>   | EMPr                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix I:</b>   | Screening tool report                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix J:</b>   | The impact and risk assessment for each alternative                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix K:</b>   | Need and desirability for the proposed activity or development in terms of this Department's guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013)/DEA Integrated Environmental Management Guideline                  |                                                                                   | ✓   |
| <b>Appendix.....</b> | Any other attachments must be included as subsequent appendices                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                   |     |

## SECTION A: ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

|                                                                                   | CAPE TOWN OFFICE: REGION 1                                                                      |                                               | GEORGE OFFICE: REGION 3                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Highlight the Departmental Region in which the intended application will fall     | (City of Cape Town, West Coast District)                                                        | (Cape Winelands District & Overberg District) | (Central Karoo District & Garden Route District) |
| <b>Duplicate this section where there is more than one Proponent</b>              |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of Applicant/Proponent:                                                      |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of contact person for Applicant/Proponent (if other):                        | Philip van Wyk                                                                                  |                                               |                                                  |
| Company/ Trading name/State                                                       | Canetsfontein Farm                                                                              |                                               |                                                  |
| Department/Organ of State:                                                        |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Company Registration Number:                                                      |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Postal address:                                                                   | Bovlei Road, Bovlei Valley, Wellington                                                          |                                               |                                                  |
| Telephone:                                                                        | 021 204 5845                                                                                    | Postal code: 7645                             |                                                  |
| E-mail:                                                                           | <a href="mailto:philip@canetsfontein.com">philip@canetsfontein.com</a>                          | Cell: 073 605 3541                            |                                                  |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                                 | Fax:                                          |                                                  |
| Company of EAP:                                                                   | EnviroAfrica cc                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| EAP name:                                                                         | Bianca Gilfillan                                                                                |                                               |                                                  |
| Postal address:                                                                   | Postnet Suite 341, Private Bag X29 Somerset West                                                |                                               |                                                  |
| Telephone:                                                                        | +27(0) 21 851 1616                                                                              | Postal code: 7129                             |                                                  |
| E-mail:                                                                           | <a href="mailto:bianca@enviroafrica.co.za">bianca@enviroafrica.co.za</a>                        | Cell: 079 189 5060                            |                                                  |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                                 | Fax:                                          |                                                  |
| Qualifications:                                                                   | ND: Environmental Management, BTECH: Environmental Management, Honours in Environmental Science |                                               |                                                  |
| EAP registration no:                                                              | 2023/7929                                                                                       |                                               |                                                  |
| <b>Duplicate this section where there is more than one landowner</b>              |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of landowner:                                                                | Same as Proponent                                                                               |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of contact person for landowner (if other):                                  |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Postal address:                                                                   |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Telephone:                                                                        |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| E-mail:                                                                           |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of Person in control of the land:                                            | Same as Proponent                                                                               |                                               |                                                  |
| Name of contact person for person in control of the land:                         |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Postal address:                                                                   |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Telephone:                                                                        | ( )                                                                                             | Postal code:                                  |                                                  |
| E-mail:                                                                           |                                                                                                 | Cell:                                         |                                                  |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                                 | Fax: ( )                                      |                                                  |
| <b>Duplicate this section where there is more than one Municipal Jurisdiction</b> |                                                                                                 |                                               |                                                  |
| Municipality in whose area of jurisdiction the proposed activity will fall:       | Drakenstein Local Municipality                                                                  |                                               |                                                  |
| Contact person:                                                                   | Lauren King (Planning and sustainability)                                                       |                                               |                                                  |
| Postal address:                                                                   | PO Box 1, Paarl, 7620                                                                           |                                               |                                                  |
| Telephone:                                                                        | +27(0) 21 807 4841                                                                              | Postal code: 7620                             |                                                  |
| E-mail:                                                                           | <a href="mailto:Lauren.King@drakenstein.gov.za">Lauren.King@drakenstein.gov.za</a>              | Cell:                                         |                                                  |
|                                                                                   |                                                                                                 | Fax:                                          |                                                  |

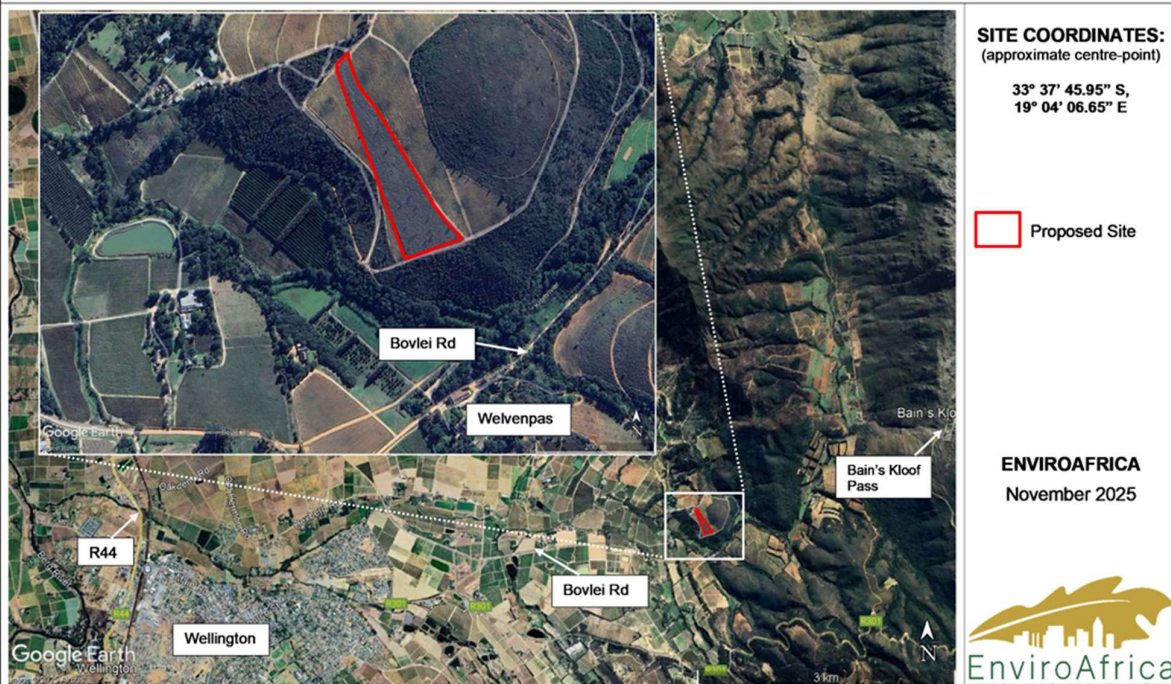
## SECTION B: CONFIRMATION OF SPECIFIC PROJECT DETAILS AS INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION FORM

|    |                                                                          |     |   |           |  |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|-----------|--|
| 1. | Is the proposed development (please tick):                               | New | ✓ | Expansion |  |
| 2. | Is the proposed site(s) a brownfield or greenfield site? Please explain. |     |   |           |  |

**Greenfield site:** The proposed 2.21 ha ( $\pm 22\ 100\ m^2$ ) development footprint forms part of an established farming unit and was previously cultivated (vine/rootstock-related agriculture). However, specialist site observations confirm that this specific footprint has been left fallow and undisturbed for more than 10 years (reported as approximately 12 years) and has re-vegetated with secondary regrowth.

Accordingly, for the purposes of the EIA Regulations, the site is regarded as a greenfield site, albeit previously disturbed agricultural land.

### THE PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON REMAINDER OF FARM WELVENPAS NO.238, WELVENPAS, WELLINGTON, WESTERN CAPE



**Figure 1: Locality Map.**

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----------------|--|
| 3.                              | For Linear activities or developments                                                                                                                                                              |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| 3.1.                            | Provide the Farm(s)/Farm Portion(s)/Erf number(s) for all routes;                                                                                                                                  |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| N/A – not a linear development. |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| 3.2.                            | Development footprint of the proposed development for all alternatives.                                                                                                                            |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | —m <sup>2</sup> |  |
| N/A – not a linear development. |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| 3.3.                            | Provide a description of the proposed development (e.g. for roads the length, width and width of the road reserve in the case of pipelines indicate the length and diameter) for all alternatives. |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| N/A – not a linear development. |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| 3.4.                            | Indicate how access to the proposed routes will be obtained for all alternatives.                                                                                                                  |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| N/A – not a linear development. |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |
| 3.5.                            | SG—Digit<br>codes—of<br>the<br>Farms/Farm                                                                                                                                                          | N<br>/<br>A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                 |  |



- No wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within the proposed development footprint.
- The site is hydrologically isolated from nearby drainage features.
- The development area is located more than 100 metres from the nearest aquatic feature.
- The initial Screening Tool "Very High" aquatic sensitivity rating was disputed and verified as a **Low sensitivity** following site inspection.
- A Water Use Licence Application (WULA) is not required.

Erosion and stormwater management measures will be implemented in accordance with the EMP to prevent sediment transport toward surrounding drainage features during construction and operation.

### 3. Terrestrial and Botanical Context

A Botanical Compliance Statement confirmed that:

- The site no longer supports intact Boland Granite Fynbos.
- Vegetation within the footprint consists of degraded, secondary ruderal vegetation dominated by pioneer species such as *Dicerotheramnus rhinocerotis* (renosterbos).
- The site has been extensively disturbed by historical agricultural activities.
- No plant Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) were recorded.
- The terrestrial biodiversity and plant species sensitivity of the site is considered **Low**, contrary to the Screening Tool's preliminary higher rating.

The site does not contain representative fynbos assemblages and is physically separated from surrounding intact natural vegetation by cultivated lands.

### 4. Faunal Context

No significant faunal species were observed during specialist site inspections. The habitat is highly disturbed and does not provide a sensitive faunal habitat. The site is therefore considered to have low faunal sensitivity.

### 5. Agricultural Resource Context

A specialist Agricultural Impact Assessment confirmed that the development area occurs within a Protected Agricultural Area, the site has very low to moderate agricultural land capability (LC4–LC7) and consists of shallow soils associated with the Fa land type.

National land capability datasets indicate low soil capability and moderate terrain capability, confirming that the land is not classified as high-potential arable land.

Historical land-cover datasets (SANLC 2014 and SANLC 2020) and aerial imagery confirm that the site was previously cultivated and utilised for agricultural production, including vineyards and planted pastures. The area has since remained fallow for several years and has become vegetated with secondary ruderal vegetation.

The proposed olive cultivation, therefore, represents a continuation of agricultural land use within an already transformed agricultural footprint, rather than the conversion of high-potential agricultural land to non-agricultural use.

Due to the limited development footprint (2.21 ha) and the low agricultural capability of the soils, the proposed activity will not result in the loss or downgrading of important agricultural resources and remains compatible with the long-term agricultural use of the farm unit.

### 6. Conclusion

The proposed development represents the reintroduction of agricultural production within a historically transformed and degraded agricultural footprint. The activity does not introduce new infrastructure beyond standard orchard establishment and utilises existing farm access and authorised irrigation supply.

Environmental sensitivities have been verified through specialist studies, confirming:

- Low aquatic sensitivity.
- Low terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity.
- Absence of wetlands within the footprint.
- Absence of plant Species of Conservation Concern.
- No requirement for a Water Use Licence.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                               |     |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The land capability is very low to moderate (LC4–LC7).</li> <li>The soils are shallow (Fa land type).</li> <li>The site has been historically cultivated and used for planted pastures.</li> <li>The development area is only ±2.21 ha.</li> <li>No high-potential irrigated agricultural land will be lost.</li> </ul> <p>All works will be implemented in accordance with the approved EMP to ensure appropriate environmental management during construction and operation.</p> |                                                                                                               |     |                                     |
| 4.5.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Indicate how access to the proposed site(s) will be obtained for all alternatives.                            |     |                                     |
| <p>Access to the proposed development will be obtained via the existing regional road network. The farm is accessed from Route R301, which connects to Bovlei Road, an established public access road serving agricultural properties in the area. Entry to the property is via an existing farm access point.</p> <p>Internal access to the proposed cultivation block will utilise existing farm tracks.</p>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                               |     |                                     |
| 4.6.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | SG Digit code(s) of the proposed site(s) for all alternatives:<br><b>SG Digit Code: C05500000000023800000</b> |     |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                               | C   | 0 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 3 8 0 0 0 0 |
| 4.7.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Coordinates of the proposed site(s) for all alternatives: <b>(estimated central point)</b>                    |     |                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Latitude (S)                                                                                                  | 33° | 37' 45.95"                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Longitude (E)                                                                                                 | 19° | 04' 06.65"                          |

## SECTION C: LEGISLATION/POLICIES AND/OR GUIDELINES/PROTOCOLS

### 1. Exemption applied for in terms of the NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations

|                                                                                                                                                   |     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Has exemption been applied for in terms of the NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations. If yes, include a copy of the exemption notice in Appendix E18. | YES | NO |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|

### 2. Is the following legislation applicable to the proposed activity or development.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| The National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) ("ICMA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the relevant competent authority as Appendix E4 and the pre-approval for the reclamation of land as Appendix E19. | YES | NO |
| The National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from Heritage Western Cape as Appendix E1.                                                                                                                  | YES | NO |
| The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the DWS as Appendix E3.                                                                                                                                              | YES | NO |
| The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) ("NEM:AQA"). If yes, attach a copy of the comment from the relevant authorities as Appendix E13.                                                                                        | YES | NO |
| The National Environmental Management Waste Act (Act No. 59 of 2008) ("NEM:WA")                                                                                                                                                                                           | YES | NO |
| The National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004 ("NEMBA").                                                                                                                                                                               | YES | NO |
| The National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003) ("NEMPAA").                                                                                                                                                                         | YES | NO |
| The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983). If yes, attach a comment from the relevant competent authority as Appendix E5.                                                                                                                 | YES | NO |

### 3. Other legislation

| List any other legislation that is applicable to the proposed activity or development. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Legislation / Regulation                                                               | Relevance to the Proposed Development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)</b>                                   | Regulates water uses such as abstraction and impacts on watercourses (Section 21(c) and (i)). The Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the development footprint and the site is located more than 100 m from the nearest aquatic feature. A Water Use Licence Application (WULA) is therefore not required. |
| <b>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity</b>                                 | Provides for the protection of threatened ecosystems and species. The site historically supported Endangered Boland Granite Fynbos; however, specialist                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004)</b>                                                    | verification confirmed that the footprint is degraded secondary vegetation with no Species of Conservation Concern recorded. Vegetation clearance triggers Listing Notice 1 Activity 12.                                                       |
| <b>National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003)</b> | The site is not located within a declared protected area. The Act is therefore not directly applicable but remains relevant in ensuring no impacts on nearby conservation areas.                                                               |
| <b>National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999)</b>                        | The development footprint exceeds 5 000 m <sup>2</sup> and therefore triggers Section 38(1). A Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) will be submitted to Heritage Western Cape and further requirements will be complied with if requested. |
| <b>National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008)</b>           | Governs the management of waste generated during site preparation. Waste volumes are expected to be minimal and will be managed in accordance with the EMP.                                                                                    |
| <b>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983)</b>             | Regulates soil conservation, erosion control, and invasive species management on agricultural land. Erosion control and stormwater management measures will be implemented.                                                                    |
| <b>National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998)</b>                                   | Protects protected tree species. Should any protected tree species be encountered, the necessary permits will be obtained prior to removal.                                                                                                    |
| <b>National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 1998 (Act No. 101 of 1998)</b>                     | Requires implementation of fire management measures. The farm will comply with applicable fire protection requirements during operation.                                                                                                       |
| <b>Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993)</b>                     | Ensures worker health and safety during land preparation and agricultural operations.                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act No. 16 of 2013)</b>           | Ensures alignment with municipal zoning and spatial development frameworks. The site is zoned for agricultural use and the proposed activity is consistent with this zoning.                                                                   |
|                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Drakenstein Municipality Planning By-law (as amended)</b>                             | Governs land-use compliance and development parameters within the municipality. The proposed activity remains agricultural in nature and is consistent with existing land-use rights.                                                          |
| <b>National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004)</b>     | Dust generation during land preparation will be temporary and localised. Standard dust control measures will be implemented where required.                                                                                                    |

#### 4. Policies

Explain which policies were considered and how the proposed activity or development complies and responds to these policies.

The following policies and planning documents were consulted and adhered to in the preparation of this Basic Assessment Report. These policies informed the approach to land use planning, agricultural sustainability, biodiversity considerations, erosion control, and environmental management, ensuring that the proposed development responds appropriately to its rural context and applicable planning framework.

##### Municipal and District Planning Frameworks:

- Drakenstein Municipal Spatial Development Framework (SDF) – guides rural land use, protection of agricultural land, and sustainable development within the municipality.
- Drakenstein Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) – promotes sustainable economic development, including support for agricultural productivity.
- Cape Winelands District Municipality Spatial Development Framework – provides regional planning guidance supporting agricultural land use and rural economic sustainability.

##### Provincial and Environmental Frameworks:

- Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) (2014) – supports sustainable agricultural land use and the consolidation of development within existing rural production landscapes
- Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) (2023) – consulted to verify biodiversity priority areas and ecological sensitivity.
- SANBI Vegetation Map of South Africa (2018 update) – used to determine the historical vegetation type (Boland Granite Fynbos).

- DFFE National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool – applied to determine environmental theme sensitivities and specialist study requirements.
- National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) – consulted to verify aquatic sensitivities, with specialist confirmation of low aquatic sensitivity within the development footprint.

No urban stormwater, floodplain, or metropolitan planning policies are applicable, as the site is located within a rural agricultural setting outside the urban edge and within the jurisdiction of Drakenstein Municipality.

## 5. Guidelines

List the guidelines which have been considered relevant to the proposed activity or development and explain how they have influenced the development proposal.

The following national, provincial, and municipal guidelines were consulted and adhered to during the preparation of this Basic Assessment Report. These documents guided the approach to environmental assessment, public participation, alternatives analysis, biodiversity verification, heritage considerations, and the overall determination of need and desirability for the proposed agricultural development.

### Guidelines Considered:

- Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) (2014) – to ensure alignment with provincial objectives relating to agricultural sustainability and rural land use management.
- Drakenstein Municipal Spatial Development Framework (SDF) – to confirm consistency with rural land use planning and agricultural zoning.
- Cape Winelands District Municipality Spatial Development Framework – to ensure regional spatial alignment and support for agricultural land use.
- Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) – Guidelines on Need and Desirability (2017) – applied in assessing the justification for re-establishing agricultural production within a previously cultivated footprint.
- DEA – Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014, as amended) – guiding the procedural requirements of the Basic Assessment process.
- DEA – Guideline on Public Participation (2013) – informing the public participation process undertaken as part of the EIA.
- Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) – Guidelines on Need and Desirability (2013) – applied in evaluating spatial, environmental and socio-economic considerations.
- DEA&DP – Guideline on Alternatives (2013) – guiding the consideration of site layout and development alternatives within the agricultural footprint.
- DEA&DP – Guideline for Involving Heritage Specialists in the EIA Process (Baumann & Winter, 2005) – informing the heritage screening and Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) process.
- DFFE National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool Protocols (2020) – guiding the identification and verification of environmental theme sensitivities and specialist study requirements.

The site falls within the jurisdiction of Drakenstein Municipality in a rural agricultural setting outside the urban edge.

## 6. Protocols

Explain how the proposed activity or development complies with the requirements of the protocols referred to in the NOI and/or application form

The DFFE National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool Report (Appendix I) was generated for the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 and the proposed olive cultivation activity to determine the environmental sensitivities and identify required specialist studies.

Following the Screening Tool outcome, a Site Sensitivity Verification (included in Appendix G) was undertaken, incorporating desktop review and specialist site inspections. This process confirmed and refined the environmental theme sensitivities and confirmed the scope of specialist input required to inform this Basic Assessment Report.

The following protocols, as published in Government Notice 320 of Government Gazette 43110 (20 March 2020), are applicable to this assessment:

- Site Sensitivity Verification requirements where a specialist assessment is required; and

- Protocols for specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for reporting on identified environmental themes.
- Based on the Screening Tool Report and the specialist Site Sensitivity Verification process, the following specialist assessments and compliance statements were undertaken:
- Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement – Dr Dirk van Driel (WATSAN Africa), confirming low aquatic sensitivity and absence of wetlands within the development footprint.
- Botanical (Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plant Species) Compliance Statement – Dr David McDonald (Bergwind Botanical Surveys & Tours CC), confirming degraded secondary vegetation, low terrestrial sensitivity, and absence of Species of Conservation Concern.
- Heritage (Section 38 Notification of Intent to Develop) – Submission to Heritage Western Cape in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act. Further assessment will be undertaken if required by the authority.
- Agricultural Impact Assessment – Dr Darren Bouwer (Digital Soils Africa), confirming that the development area consists of historically transformed agricultural land with very low to moderate agricultural land capability, and that the proposed olive cultivation represents a continuation of agricultural land use rather than the loss of high-potential agricultural land.

No separate animal species, avifaunal, palaeontological or visual specialist assessments were required, as sensitivities were either verified as low through specialist input or are adequately addressed within the terrestrial and aquatic assessments.

## SECTION D: APPLICABLE LISTED ACTIVITIES

List the applicable activities in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations

| Activity No(s):    | Provide the relevant <b>Basic Assessment Activity(ies)</b> as set out in <b>Listing Notice 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Activity 27</b> | <p>The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—</p> <p>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or<br/>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p>                                                                                                                           | <p>The proposed agricultural development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 will require the clearance of approximately 2.21 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the establishment of an olive cultivation block. The site was historically cultivated but has remained fallow for an extended period and is currently vegetated.</p> <p>The site historically supported Boland Granite Fynbos, which is listed as Endangered in terms of Section 52 of NEMBA (Threatened Ecosystems List, 2022).</p> <p>The proposed vegetation clearance exceeds 1 hectare but remains below 20 hectares and is not associated with maintenance activities. The activity, therefore, constitutes the transformation of land through the removal of indigenous vegetation for new agricultural use.</p> |
| Activity No(s):    | Provide the relevant <b>Basic Assessment Activity(ies)</b> as set out in <b>Listing Notice 3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Activity 12</b> | <p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p>(a) In Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, North West and Western Cape provinces:<br/>i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA</p> | <p>The proposed agricultural development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 will require the clearance of approximately 2.21 hectares (22 100 m<sup>2</sup>) of vegetation for the establishment of an olive cultivation block.</p> <p>Although the site was historically cultivated for vine rootstock production, it has remained fallow for more than ten years and</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;</p> <p>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</p> <p>iii. Within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from high water mark of the sea or an estuarine functional zone, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas; or</p> <p>iv. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter, such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning.</p> | <p>is currently vegetated with degraded secondary ruderal vegetation.</p> <p>The site historically supported Boland Granite Fynbos, which is listed as Endangered in terms of Section 52 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA). Specialist verification confirmed that no intact fynbos or Species of Conservation Concern occur within the footprint; however, the activity occurs within the mapped distribution of this Endangered ecosystem in the Western Cape Province.</p> <p>The proposed vegetation clearance exceeds the 300 m<sup>2</sup> threshold and is not associated with maintenance activities but constitutes the reintroduction of agricultural production within the defined footprint. The Agricultural Assessment further confirms that the development will not result in the loss of high-potential agricultural land.</p> |
| <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The listed activities specified above must reconcile with activities applied for in the application form. The onus is on the Applicant to ensure that all applicable listed activities are included in the application. If a specific listed activity is not included in an Environmental Authorisation, a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be submitted.</li> <li>Where additional listed activities have been identified, that have not been included in the application form and amended application form must be submitted to the competent authority.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

List the applicable waste management listed activities in terms of the NEM:WA

| Activity No(s): | Provide the relevant <b>Basic Assessment Activity(ies)</b> as set out in <b>Category A</b> | Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates. |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| N/A             |                                                                                            |                                                                                                   |

List the applicable listed activities in terms of the NEM:AQA

| Activity No(s): | Provide the relevant <b>Listed Activity(ies)</b> | Describe the portion of the proposed development to which the applicable listed activity relates. |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| N/A             |                                                  |                                                                                                   |

## SECTION E: PLANNING CONTEXT AND NEED AND DESIRABILITY

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Provide a description of the preferred alternative. |
| <p>The preferred alternative entails the establishment of an olive cultivation block over approximately 2.21 hectares (22 100 m<sup>2</sup>) on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington.</p> <p>This alternative entails the establishment of a single, continuous olive orchard within the defined 2.21 ha footprint. The layout supports efficient mechanical harvesting and improved operational management while keeping all disturbance confined to the assessed footprint.</p> <p><u>The development will include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearing of degraded secondary vegetation within the defined footprint.</li> <li>Mechanical land preparation and soil preparation.</li> <li>Planting of olive trees in a structured agricultural layout.</li> <li>Installation of drip irrigation connected to the farm's existing authorised water supply infrastructure.</li> <li>Implementation of erosion control and environmental management measures in accordance with the EMPr.</li> </ul> |                                                     |

No new access roads, buildings, dams, bulk infrastructure, or water abstraction points form part of the preferred alternative. Existing farm roads and infrastructure will be utilised.

Specialist assessments confirmed that:

- The site does not contain wetlands or watercourses within the footprint.
- Aquatic sensitivity is Low.
- The vegetation is degraded secondary vegetation with no Species of Conservation Concern recorded.
- The footprint does not fall within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) or Ecological Support Area (ESA).
- The land capability is very low to moderate (LC4–LC7).
- The soils are shallow (Fa land type).
- The site has been historically cultivated and used for planted pastures.
- The development area is only ±2.21 ha.
- No high-potential irrigated agricultural land will be lost.

The Agricultural Impact Assessment concluded that the proposed development area has very low to moderate agricultural land capability (LC4–LC7) and consists of historically transformed agricultural land previously utilised for planted pastures and cultivated crops. The establishment of olives, therefore, represents a continuation of agricultural land use rather than a conversion of high-potential agricultural land.

The preferred alternative represents the re-establishment of agricultural production within a historically transformed footprint and is considered environmentally acceptable subject to mitigation measures outlined in the BAR and EMPr.

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Explain how the proposed development is in line with the existing land use rights of the property, as you have indicated in the NOI and application form? Include the proof of the existing land use rights granted in Appendix E21. |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is zoned Agricultural Zone I in terms of the Drakenstein Municipality Land Use Planning By-law and applicable zoning scheme.

The proposed activity entails the establishment of an olive cultivation block, which constitutes primary agricultural use. Agricultural cultivation, including orchards, vineyards and crop production, is a primary right within the Agricultural Zone I zoning and does not require rezoning or consent use approval.

The development does not introduce:

- A change in land use category;
- Urban development;
- Subdivision;
- Additional dwelling units;
- Industrial or commercial land use;
- Processing facilities beyond normal agricultural practice.

The proposed activity, therefore, remains fully aligned with the existing agricultural land use rights of the property and is consistent with the rural planning framework applicable to the area.

Accordingly, the proposed development is compliant with the current zoning and land use rights of the property.

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Explain how potential conflict with respect to existing approvals for the proposed site (as indicated in the NOI/and or application form) and the proposed development have been resolved. |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is zoned Agricultural Zone I and is historically utilised for agricultural production. No previous environmental authorisation, water use licence, or heritage permit exists over the specific 2.21 ha footprint that would restrict its use for agricultural cultivation.

The key regulatory consideration arises from the fact that the defined 2.21 ha footprint has remained fallow for more than ten years. The reintroduction of agricultural cultivation after an extended fallow period requires authorisation for the clearance of indigenous vegetation exceeding 300 m<sup>2</sup> within an Endangered ecosystem, triggering Listing Notice 3, Activity 12.

To address this, the applicant initiated the Basic Assessment process and appointed independent specialists to verify environmental sensitivities. The specialist assessments confirmed that:

- The vegetation within the footprint is degraded secondary vegetation and not intact Boland Granite Fynbos;
- No wetlands or watercourses occur within the footprint.
- No Species of Conservation Concern were recorded.
- No Water Use Licence is required; and
- The development remains consistent with the existing agricultural zoning.
- The land capability is very low to moderate (LC4–LC7).
- The soils are shallow (Fa land type).
- The site has been historically cultivated and used for planted pastures.
- The development area is only ±2.21 ha.
- No high-potential irrigated agricultural land will be lost.

Accordingly, any potential conflict between historic agricultural use and current environmental regulatory requirements has been resolved through compliance with the NEMA EIA process. The proposed development does not conflict with existing land use rights or other statutory approvals, and the Basic Assessment serves to regularise the re-introduction of cultivation within the previously fallow portion.

4. Explain how the proposed development will be in line with the following?

4.1 The Provincial Spatial Development Framework.

The proposed establishment of an olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is consistent with the objectives and spatial principles of the Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF, 2014).

The PSDF promotes:

- The protection and optimal use of high-value agricultural land;
- The consolidation of development within existing rural production landscapes;
- Avoidance of urban sprawl into agricultural areas;
- Sustainable use of natural resources; and
- Climate resilience and long-term economic sustainability in rural areas.

The proposed development:

- Occurs within an established agricultural landscape in the Drakenstein Municipality;
- Does not introduce urban land uses or non-agricultural development;
- Reuses previously cultivated land rather than transforming intact natural vegetation;
- Maintains the rural character and productive function of the area; and
- Supports long-term agricultural viability and food production within the province.

The activity, therefore, aligns with the PSDF's spatial vision of strengthening rural economies while safeguarding environmental assets and promoting sustainable land management practices.

Accordingly, the proposed development is consistent with the Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework.

4.2 The Integrated Development Plan of the local municipality.

The proposed establishment of an olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is aligned with the objectives of the Drakenstein Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

The IDP promotes:

- Sustainable economic growth within the municipality;
- Support for the agricultural sector as a key economic driver;
- Job creation and rural development;
- Environmental sustainability and responsible land management; and
- Efficient use of existing infrastructure and resources.

The proposed development supports these objectives by:

- Strengthening agricultural productivity within an established farming area;
- Contributing to rural economic stability and long-term farm viability;
- Creating temporary employment opportunities during establishment and supporting ongoing agricultural operations;
- Re-utilising previously cultivated land rather than expanding into undisturbed natural areas; and
- Implementing environmental management measures to ensure responsible land use.

The activity does not introduce incompatible land uses or require additional municipal services and remains consistent with the agricultural character of the area.  
Accordingly, the proposed development is consistent with the strategic objectives and development priorities of the Drakenstein Municipality IDP.

#### 4.3. The Spatial Development Framework of the local municipality.

The proposed establishment of an olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is consistent with the objectives and spatial principles of the Drakenstein Municipal Spatial Development Framework (SDF).

##### The SDF promotes:

- Protection and sustainable utilisation of agricultural land;
- Consolidation of development within existing rural production landscapes;
- Prevention of urban sprawl into agricultural areas;
- Support for agricultural diversification and long-term rural economic sustainability; and
- Environmental stewardship and responsible land management.

##### The proposed development:

- Is located within a designated rural agricultural area outside the urban edge;
- Maintains the agricultural land use of the property and does not introduce urban or non-agricultural activities;
- Re-establishes productive agricultural use within a historically cultivated footprint;
- Does not require extension of municipal services or new infrastructure; and
- Incorporates environmental management measures to mitigate potential erosion and ecological impacts.

The activity, therefore, supports the SDF's objectives of strengthening the agricultural economy while ensuring environmentally responsible development.

Accordingly, the proposed development is aligned with the Drakenstein Municipal Spatial Development Framework.

#### 4.4. The Environmental Management Framework applicable to the area.

The proposed development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 was assessed against applicable environmental planning instruments and environmental management frameworks relevant to the Drakenstein municipal area.

There is no site-specific Environmental Management Framework (EMF) adopted for this specific property that restricts agricultural land use. However, broader environmental planning tools, including the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP, 2023), the DFFE National Web-Based Screening Tool, and associated provincial biodiversity mapping, were consulted to guide environmental sensitivity identification and decision-making.

These tools identified the broader ecosystem type as Endangered Boland Granite Fynbos. However, specialist site verification confirmed that:

- The development footprint does not fall within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) or Ecological Support Area (ESA);
- The vegetation within the footprint is degraded secondary vegetation and not intact fynbos;
- No wetlands or aquatic features occur within the footprint; and
- Environmental sensitivities are low and manageable.

The proposed activity remains agricultural in nature and occurs within a historically transformed footprint. Environmental mitigation measures have been incorporated into the EMP to address erosion control, stormwater management, and rehabilitation where required.

Accordingly, the proposed development is consistent with the environmental planning framework applicable to the area and does not conflict with any adopted Environmental Management Framework.

#### 5. Explain how comments from the relevant authorities and/or specialists (s) with respect to biodiversity have influenced the proposed development.

The DFFE Screening Tool initially identified Very High terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity and potential aquatic sensitivity for the site. These preliminary ratings triggered the requirement for specialist verification and assessment.

Independent specialist investigations were undertaken to verify the environmental sensitivities on site. The findings of these specialists directly informed the final development approach:

#### Aquatic Biodiversity:

The Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems, or watercourses occur within the proposed development footprint and that the site is located more than 100 metres from the nearest aquatic feature. The initial Screening Tool sensitivity was therefore revised to Low. As a result:

- No watercourse buffers are required within the footprint.
- No Water Use Licence Application is required.
- Erosion control and stormwater management measures were incorporated into the EMP to prevent indirect impacts on nearby drainage features.

#### Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plant Species:

The Botanical Compliance Statement confirmed that the site comprises degraded secondary ruderal vegetation and does not contain intact Boland Granite Fynbos or Species of Conservation Concern. The terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity was therefore verified as Low. As a result:

- The development footprint remains confined to the previously cultivated and degraded area.
- No expansion into adjacent intact natural vegetation is proposed.
- Alien invasive management and erosion control measures were incorporated into the EMP.

#### Overall Biodiversity Influence:

Although the specialists confirmed low on-site sensitivity, their recommendations influenced the project by:

- Confirming the exact footprint to avoid unnecessary disturbance;
- Requiring implementation of soil stabilisation and erosion prevention measures;
- Requiring responsible irrigation management to prevent runoff; and
- Ensuring compliance with Activity 12 under Listing Notice 3.

#### Agricultural Resources

An Agricultural Impact Assessment confirmed that the proposed development area occurs within a Protected Agricultural Area, but that the soils have very low to moderate land capability (LC4–LC7) and consist of shallow soils associated with the Fa land type. Historical land cover datasets and aerial imagery confirm that the site was previously cultivated for agricultural production and later used as planted pastures before being left fallow. The specialist concluded that the establishment of olives represents a continuation of agricultural land use within a historically transformed footprint, and that the development will not result in the loss or downgrading of high-potential agricultural land.

In summary, biodiversity comments and specialist findings refined the environmental sensitivity ratings, confirmed that impacts are low and manageable, and informed the mitigation measures incorporated into the Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme.

|    |                                                                                                                                            |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. | Explain how the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (including the guidelines in the handbook) has influenced the proposed development. |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP, 2023) and its accompanying handbook were consulted during the environmental assessment process to identify biodiversity priority areas and guide responsible land-use decision-making.

The WCBSP mapping was used to determine whether the proposed development footprint falls within:

- Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA1 or CBA2);
- Ecological Support Areas (ESA1 or ESA2);
- Protected Areas; or
- Other biodiversity priority areas.

The mapping confirmed that the proposed 2.21 ha development footprint does not fall within a CBA or ESA and is not located within a Protected Area. The site is mapped as transformed land within a broader agricultural matrix.

In line with the WCBSP handbook guidelines:

- Development was confined to a previously cultivated and degraded footprint.
- No expansion into adjacent intact natural Boland Granite Fynbos upslope of the site is proposed.
- The development avoids areas identified as biodiversity priority areas.
- Mitigation measures have been incorporated to prevent erosion and sediment transport toward surrounding natural areas.

Although the broader ecosystem type is listed as Endangered (Boland Granite Fynbos), specialist verification confirmed that the development footprint no longer supports representative or intact fynbos vegetation.

Accordingly, the WCBSP influenced the project by:

- Guiding the identification and verification of biodiversity sensitivities;
- Confirming that the footprint avoids mapped priority areas; and
- Reinforcing the principle of limiting disturbance to previously transformed land.

The proposed development is therefore consistent with the spatial biodiversity planning objectives of the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan.

|    |                                                                                                                          |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7. | Explain how the proposed development is in line with the intention/purpose of the relevant zones as defined in the ICMA. |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

N/A

|    |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. | Explain whether the screening report has changed from the one submitted together with the application form. The screening report must be attached as Appendix I. |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The DFFE National Web-Based Environmental Screening Tool Report submitted with the Notice of Intent (NOI) and application form remains unchanged.

The same Screening Tool Report has been used throughout the Basic Assessment process and is attached to this Draft Basic Assessment Report as Appendix I.

Following submission of the Screening Tool Report, a Site Sensitivity Verification process was undertaken in accordance with Government Notice 320 of 20 March 2020. Independent specialist assessments verified and, where necessary, refined the preliminary sensitivity ratings identified by the Screening Tool.

The Screening Tool report itself has not been amended; however, the verified sensitivities and specialist conclusions are presented in the Site Sensitivity Verification Report and relevant specialist reports appended to this BAR.

Accordingly, the Screening Tool Report attached as Appendix I is identical to the report originally generated and submitted with the application form.

|    |                                                                                                |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9. | Explain how the proposed development will optimise vacant land available within an urban area. |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed development is not located within an urban area, as defined in the EIA Regulations, but rather within a rural agricultural setting outside the urban edge of the Drakenstein Municipality.

Accordingly, the concept of optimising vacant land within an urban area is not directly applicable to this proposal.

However, the proposed development does optimise available land within the existing agricultural footprint by:

- Re-utilising previously cultivated land that has remained fallow for an extended period.
- Consolidating fragmented agricultural areas into a single, continuous olive orchard.
- Improving operational efficiency and long-term agricultural productivity; and
- Avoiding the need to expand into undisturbed natural areas or non-agricultural land.

The activity, therefore, promotes efficient land use within an established rural production landscape, consistent with sustainable spatial planning principles.

|     |                                                                                                      |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10. | Explain how the proposed development will optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure. |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed establishment of the olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 optimises the use of existing agricultural resources and infrastructure on the property.

The development:

- Utilises existing farm access roads, with no requirement for new road construction or upgrades.

- Connects to the farm's existing authorised irrigation water supply infrastructure.
- Makes use of existing agricultural operational systems and management practices.
- Does not require new bulk services, municipal infrastructure, or utility extensions.
- Re-uses a previously cultivated area that has been fallow for more than ten years by re-establishing productive agricultural use within the defined 2.21 ha footprint.

By consolidating the footprint into a single, continuous orchard, the proposal enhances operational efficiency and reduces fragmentation of agricultural land. This improves the productivity of the farm without expanding into undisturbed areas or requiring additional infrastructure investment.

The development, therefore, represents an efficient and sustainable re-use of existing agricultural land, infrastructure, and resources within an established rural farming landscape.

|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. | Explain whether the necessary services are available and whether the local authority has confirmed sufficient, spare, unallocated service capacity. (Confirmation of all services must be included in Appendix E16). |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed development consists solely of agricultural land preparation and the establishment of an olive orchard within an existing farming operation. The activity does not require municipal bulk services such as potable water supply, sewerage, electricity upgrades, or solid waste services.

The development:

- Utilises the farm's existing authorised irrigation water supply infrastructure.
- Does not require connection to municipal sewerage services.
- Does not introduce new buildings requiring municipal service connections.
- Does not require municipal stormwater infrastructure.
- Will utilise existing farm-based power supply (if required for irrigation pumps).

As the proposed activity does not rely on additional municipal services or infrastructure, confirmation of spare municipal service capacity is not required for this development.

Accordingly, no additional municipal service capacity allocation is necessary. The proposed development, therefore, does not place additional demand on local authority infrastructure or service capacity.

|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12. | In addition to the above, explain the need and desirability of the proposed activity or development in terms of this Department's guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013) or the DEA's Integrated Environmental Management Guideline on Need and Desirability. This may be attached to this BAR as Appendix K. |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

A detailed Need and Desirability Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) Guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013) and the DEA Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) Guideline. The full assessment is attached to this Basic Assessment Report as Appendix K.

In summary, the proposed establishment of an olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 is considered both necessary and desirable for the following reasons:

Need

- The site forms part of an established agricultural operation and was historically cultivated.
- A central portion of the land has remained fallow for more than ten years, resulting in underutilisation of productive agricultural land.
- The establishment of a single, continuous orchard within the defined 2.21 ha footprint enables efficient mechanical harvesting and improved farm management.
- The activity supports continued agricultural production and long-term farm viability within the Drakenstein rural economy.
- The development promotes optimal use of agricultural land within a designated rural production landscape.

Desirability

- The site is located outside the urban edge within an established agricultural area.
- The development does not introduce urban sprawl or non-agricultural land uses.

- Specialist verification confirmed low aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity within the footprint.
- The footprint does not fall within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) or Ecological Support Area (ESA).
- The activity re-uses previously disturbed land and avoids the transformation of intact natural vegetation.
- Environmental management measures have been incorporated to mitigate erosion and stormwater impacts.

In terms of the Department's guidelines, the proposed activity aligns with spatial planning objectives, supports rural economic sustainability, and limits environmental impact through confinement to a historically transformed footprint. The proposed development is therefore considered both necessary and desirable within its local, municipal, and provincial planning context.

## SECTION F: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Participation Process ("PPP") must fulfil the requirements as outlined in the NEMA EIA Regulations and must be attached as Appendix F. Please note that if the NEM: WA and/or the NEM: AQA is applicable to the proposed development, an advertisement must be placed in at least two newspapers.

1. Exclusively for linear activities: Indicate what PPP was agreed to by the competent authority. Include proof of this agreement in Appendix E22.

N/A.

2. Confirm that the PPP as indicated in the application form, has been complied with. All the PPP must be included in Appendix F.

The Initial Public Participation Process (PPP) for the proposed olive cultivation development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington, was undertaken in accordance with Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Supporting documentation is provided in Appendix F.

This initial phase served to notify Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the intent to apply for Environmental Authorisation and to allow for registration and submission of preliminary comments. The PPP process will continue during the 30-day public review period of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR), during which all issues and concerns raised will be formally recorded and responded to.

Interested and Affected Parties include adjacent landowners, relevant organs of state, organisations, the Ward Councillor, and the Drakenstein Local Municipality. A complete list of identified I&APs is included in Appendix F5.

### Compliance with Regulation 41

Each subsection of Regulation 41 has been addressed to demonstrate compliance with the public participation requirements:

- R41(2)(a)(i): One A2 site notice was placed at the farm entrance, and an additional site notice was displayed at the Wellington Public Library (Appendix F2). Notices contained all prescribed information per R41(3)(a)–(b) and met the required minimum dimensions.
- R41(2)(a)(ii): Not applicable — no alternative site was considered.
- R41(2)(b)(i): Not applicable — the Applicant has authorisation to act on behalf of the landowner.
- R41(2)(b)(ii): Notification letters were circulated to surrounding/adjacent landowners and stakeholders (Appendix F4).
- R41(2)(b)(iii): The Ward Councillor of the Drakenstein Municipality was notified via email (Appendix F3).
- R41(2)(b)(iv): Notification letters were sent to the Drakenstein Municipality and relevant District departments (Appendix F3).
- R41(2)(b)(v): Notifications were sent to all relevant organs of state with jurisdiction over any aspect of the proposed activity (Appendix F3).
- R41(2)(c)(i): An advertisement was published in the Paarl Post newspaper (Appendix F1).
- R41(2)(d): Not applicable.
- R41(6)(a): All relevant facts and project details were made available to potential I&APs.
- R41(6)(b): I&APs were afforded a 30-day registration and comment period during the initial PPP round.

- R42(a)–(c) & R43(2): An I&AP register was opened, maintained, and is available for inspection upon written request (Appendix F5).
- Appendices Containing PPP Evidence
- Appendix F1: Proof of newspaper advertisements
- Appendix F2: Proof of site notices/posters
- Appendix F3: Proof of email notifications and notification letters to organs of state, the municipality and the Ward Councillor
- Appendix F4: Proof of notifications to surrounding/adjacent landowners and stakeholders
- Appendix F5: I&AP register / database
- Appendix F6: Summary of comments received (if none, none were received during the initial PPP period)

3. Confirm which of the State Departments and Organs of State indicated in the Notice of Intent/application form were consulted with.

Table 1 below outlines the state departments and Organs of State who have been notified of the availability to provide comment on the Pre-application draft Basic Assessment Report.

| Name    | Surname         | Organ of State                                                                                                | Email Address                                                                                              |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Waseefa | Dhansay         | Heritage Western Cape                                                                                         | <a href="mailto:Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za">Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za</a>                 |
| Cor     | van der Walt    | Department of Agriculture – Land Use Management (Elsenburg)                                                   | <a href="mailto:corvdW@elsenburg.com">corvdW@elsenburg.com</a>                                             |
| Brandon | Layman          | Department of Agriculture – Land Use Management (Elsenburg)                                                   | <a href="mailto:BrandonL@elsenburg.com">BrandonL@elsenburg.com</a>                                         |
| Ismat   | Adams           | CapeNature: Conservation Operations – Landscape Conservation Intelligence                                     | <a href="mailto:iadams@capenature.co.za">iadams@capenature.co.za</a>                                       |
| Anneke  | Schreuder       | Department of Water and Sanitation                                                                            | <a href="mailto:anneke@dws.gov.za">anneke@dws.gov.za</a>                                                   |
| Rassie  | Nieuwoudt       | Department of Water and Sanitation – Water Resource Management (Berg/Olifants)                                | <a href="mailto:NieuwoudtR@dws.gov.za">NieuwoudtR@dws.gov.za</a>                                           |
| T       | Torch           | Department of Water and Sanitation                                                                            | <a href="mailto:TorchT@dws.gov.za">TorchT@dws.gov.za</a>                                                   |
| M       | Litnaar-Strauss | Department of Water and Sanitation                                                                            | <a href="mailto:Litnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za">Litnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za</a>                               |
| Saliem  | Haider          | Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning – Waste Management                  | <a href="mailto:Saliem.Haider@westerncape.gov.za">Saliem.Haider@westerncape.gov.za</a>                     |
| Natasha | Davis-Wolmarans | Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning – Pollution and Chemical Management | <a href="mailto:Natasha.Davis-Wolmarans@westerncape.gov.za">Natasha.Davis-Wolmarans@westerncape.gov.za</a> |
| —       | —               | Western Cape Department of Infrastructure                                                                     | <a href="mailto:service@westerncape.gov.za">service@westerncape.gov.za</a>                                 |
| —       | —               | Berg-Olifants Catchment Management Agency (BOCMA)                                                             | <a href="mailto:info@bocma.co.za">info@bocma.co.za</a>                                                     |

4. If any of the State Departments and Organs of State were not consulted, indicate which and why.

The following organs of state will not be consulted, as the proposed development will not have any impact on their respective mandates or areas of jurisdiction. The project is privately owned and does not involve any defence, aviation, human settlement, or health-related activities.

- Department of Defence & Military Veterans
- South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
- Western Cape Government: Department of Human Settlements
- Western Cape Government: Department of Health
- Regional Land Claims Commission

5. if any of the State Departments and Organs of State did not respond, indicate which.

The Initial Public Participation Process (PPP) was undertaken from 11 December 2025 to 04 February 2026 in accordance with Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). All relevant State Departments and Organs of State were notified via email and provided with the opportunity to register as Interested and Affected

Parties (I&APs) and to submit comments on the proposed olive cultivation development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington.

No formal comments were received from any of the organs of state during the initial PPP period. The authorities will be provided another opportunity to comment during the 30-day public review period for the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR). Any comments received at that stage will be included and addressed in the Draft BAR and Comments and Response Report.

6. Provide a summary of the issues raised by I&APs and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated into the development proposal.

During the Initial Public Participation Process (PPP) undertaken from 11 December 2025 to 04 February 2026, no comments, objections, or issues were received from any Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) or Organs of State.

**Note:**

A register of all the I&AP's notified, including the Organs of State, and all the registered I&APs must be included in Appendix F. The register must be maintained and made available to any person requesting access to the register in writing.

The EAP must notify I&AP's that all information submitted by I&AP's becomes public information.

Your attention is drawn to Regulation 40 (3) of the NEMA EIA Regulations which states that "*Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but **must** be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.*"

All the comments received from I&APs on the pre -application BAR (if applicable and the draft BAR must be recorded, responded to and included in the Comments and Responses Report and must be included in Appendix F.

All information obtained during the PPP (the minutes of any meetings held by the EAP with I&APs and other role players wherein the views of the participants are recorded) and must be included in Appendix F.

Please note that proof of the PPP conducted must be included in Appendix F. In terms of the required "proof" the following is required:

- a site map showing where the site notice was displayed, dated photographs showing the notice displayed on site and a copy of the text displayed on the notice;
- in terms of the written notices given, a copy of the written notice sent, as well as:
  - if registered mail was sent, a list of the registered mail sent (showing the registered mail number, the name of the person the mail was sent to, the address of the person and the date the registered mail was sent);
  - if normal mail was sent, a list of the mail sent (showing the name of the person the mail was sent to, the address of the person, the date the mail was sent, and the signature of the post office worker or the post office stamp indicating that the letter was sent);
  - if a facsimile was sent, a copy of the facsimile Report;
  - if an electronic mail was sent, a copy of the electronic mail sent; and
  - if a "mail drop" was done, a signed register of "mail drops" received (showing the name of the person the notice was handed to, the address of the person, the date, and the signature of the person); and
- a copy of the newspaper advertisement ("newspaper clipping") that was placed, indicating the name of the newspaper and date of publication (of such quality that the wording in the advertisement is legible).

## SECTION G: DESCRIPTION OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

All specialist studies must be attached as Appendix G.

### 1. Groundwater

|      |                                                                                                                                                       |     |    |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1.1. | Was a specialist study conducted?                                                                                                                     | YES | NO |
| 1.2. | Provide the name and or company who conducted the specialist study.                                                                                   |     |    |
| 1.3. | Indicate above which aquifer your proposed development will be located and explain how this has influenced your proposed development.                 |     |    |
| 1.4. | Indicate the depth of groundwater and explain how the depth of groundwater and type of aquifer (if present) has influenced your proposed development. |     |    |

The site forms part of an established agricultural farm unit. The proposed activity does not include the development of new water supply infrastructure or new groundwater abstraction points. Irrigation for the olive block will utilise the farm's existing authorised irrigation water supply and existing on-farm infrastructure. Standard measures for the prevention of contamination (e.g., controlled storage and handling of fuels and agrichemicals, and spill response procedures) will be implemented via the EMP to protect soil and groundwater resources.

## 2. Surface water

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                           |     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 2.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Was a specialist study conducted?                                                                                         | YES | NO |
| 2.2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study.                                                       |     |    |
| The Freshwater (Aquatic Biodiversity) Compliance Statement was conducted by Dr Dirk van Driel of WATSAN Africa (Pty) Ltd.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                           |     |    |
| 2.3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Explain how the presence of watercourse(s) and/or wetlands on the property(ies) has influenced your proposed development. |     |    |
| <p>A specialist Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement was undertaken to determine whether any wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within or adjacent to the proposed development footprint.</p> <p>The specialist assessment confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within the proposed 2.21 ha development footprint, and that the site is hydrologically isolated from nearby drainage features. The nearest aquatic feature is located more than 100 metres from the proposed development area.</p> <p>As a result, the proposed olive cultivation block was designed to remain entirely outside any aquatic features or associated buffers. No direct impacts on wetlands or watercourses are therefore expected.</p> <p>Although no aquatic features occur within the footprint, precautionary environmental management measures have been incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMP) to prevent potential indirect impacts. These measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of erosion control measures during land preparation;</li> <li>• Responsible irrigation management to prevent runoff;</li> <li>• Maintenance of natural drainage patterns; and</li> <li>• Stormwater management to prevent sediment transport to surrounding areas.</li> </ul> <p>The absence of wetlands and watercourses within the development footprint allowed the project to proceed within the previously cultivated and degraded agricultural area, avoiding any aquatic ecosystems and ensuring that the proposed activity does not negatively affect freshwater resources.</p> <p>Specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within or adjacent to the 2.21 ha development footprint, and the nearest aquatic feature is located more than 100 m from the footprint. The proposed activity will therefore not directly impact any surface water features. Indirect risks (e.g., erosion and sediment mobilisation during land preparation) will be managed through staged clearing, erosion controls, stormwater management and rapid soil stabilisation as required in the EMP. A water use licence application is not required for the proposed activity.</p> |                                                                                                                           |     |    |

## 3. Coastal Environment

|      |                                                                                                                                                                          |     |    |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 3.1. | Was a specialist study conducted?                                                                                                                                        | YES | NO |
| 3.2. | Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study.                                                                                                      |     |    |
| 3.3. | Explain how the relevant considerations of Section 63 of the ICMA were taken into account and explain how this influenced your proposed development.                     |     |    |
| 3.4. | Explain how estuary management plans (if applicable) has influenced the proposed development.                                                                            |     |    |
| 3.5. | Explain how the modelled coastal risk zones, the coastal protection zone, littoral active zone and estuarine functional zones, have influenced the proposed development. |     |    |

#### 4. Biodiversity

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| 4.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Were specialist studies conducted?                                                                                                                                                                | YES | NO |
| 4.2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist studies.                                                                                                                             |     |    |
| Dr Dave Macdonald, Botanical Compliance Statement dated 24 February 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |     |    |
| 4.3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Explain which systematic conservation planning and other biodiversity informants such as vegetation maps, NFEPA, NSBA etc., have been used and how has this influenced your proposed development. |     |    |
| <p>Several biodiversity spatial datasets and systematic conservation planning tools were consulted during the environmental assessment process to identify environmental sensitivities and inform the design of the proposed development. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DFFE National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool</li><li>• Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP, 2017 / 2023)</li><li>• Vegetation Map of South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini (Mucina &amp; Rutherford, 2006; updated SANBI 2018)</li><li>• National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA)</li><li>• National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment (NSBA)</li><li>• CapeFarmMapper spatial datasets</li><li>• South African National Land Cover datasets (SANLC 2014 and 2020)</li></ul> <p>These datasets were used to determine the ecological context of the site and identify any biodiversity priority areas, threatened ecosystems, or aquatic features that could influence the proposed development.</p> <p>The Vegetation Map indicates that the broader landscape historically supported Boland Granite Fynbos, which is classified as an Endangered ecosystem. However, specialist botanical verification confirmed that the proposed development footprint has been historically transformed through agricultural activities and currently supports degraded secondary ruderal vegetation rather than intact natural vegetation.</p> <p>The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) was consulted to determine whether the site falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) or Ecological Support Area (ESA). The development footprint is located outside mapped CBAs and ESAs, confirming that the site is not considered a biodiversity priority area.</p> <p>The NFEPA and freshwater datasets were reviewed to determine whether wetlands, rivers or other aquatic priority features occur within the development footprint. Specialist aquatic assessment confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the development area, and the site is located more than 100 metres from the nearest aquatic feature.</p> <p><u>These biodiversity informants influenced the proposed development by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirming that the development footprint should remain within the historically cultivated agricultural area;</li><li>• Avoiding expansion into adjacent natural vegetation or biodiversity priority areas;</li><li>• Ensuring that aquatic features are avoided; and</li><li>• Informing the mitigation measures incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).</li></ul> <p>Overall, the use of systematic biodiversity planning tools and specialist verification confirmed that the proposed development occurs within a previously transformed agricultural landscape, where biodiversity sensitivities are low and environmental impacts can be effectively managed.</p> <p>The proposed development is confined to the assessed footprint, with strict demarcation of no-go areas and alien invasive control, erosion control and stormwater management measures included in the EMPr.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |     |    |
| 4.4.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Explain how the objectives and management guidelines of the Biodiversity Spatial Plan have been used and how has this influenced your proposed development.                                       |     |    |

The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) and its accompanying handbook were used as a key planning informant to guide the environmental assessment and ensure the proposed development responds appropriately to biodiversity priorities and land management objectives.

The WCBSP objectives and management guidelines were applied in the following ways:

- Screening and verification of biodiversity priority areas: The WCBSP mapping was consulted to confirm whether the proposed development footprint falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), Ecological Support Area (ESA), protected area, or other priority biodiversity feature. This informed the initial sensitivity screening and helped identify potential constraints.
- Application of the mitigation hierarchy: The WCBSP handbook promotes an avoid–minimise–mitigate approach, prioritising the avoidance of impacts on biodiversity priority areas. In response, the proposed development footprint was confined to a historically transformed agricultural area and no expansion into adjacent natural vegetation upslope was proposed.
- Land Management Objective (LMO) consideration: The WCBSP handbook provides LMOs for different planning categories. The development footprint was assessed against these LMOs and specialist verification was used to determine the actual ecological condition and biodiversity value of the footprint.
- Informing site layout and operational controls: The guidelines were used to inform the need for clear footprint demarcation, protection of adjacent natural areas, alien invasive plant control, and rehabilitation measures. These controls were incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Influence on the Proposed Development

The WCBSP influenced the proposed development by:

- Confirming that the development should remain within an already transformed footprint and avoid intact natural vegetation and biodiversity priority areas.
- Supporting the decision to limit disturbance to the defined 2.21 ha area and avoid expansion.
- Informing mitigation measures in the EMPr, including erosion control, alien clearing, and rehabilitation where needed.
- Reinforcing the requirement for specialist verification to confirm ecological condition and the presence/absence of Species of Conservation Concern.

Overall, the objectives and management guidelines of the Biodiversity Spatial Plan ensured that the proposed development is planned in a manner that limits biodiversity loss, avoids priority areas, and implements appropriate mitigation and land management measures.

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.5. | Explain what impact the proposed development will have on the site-specific features and/or function of the Biodiversity Spatial Plan category and how has this influenced the proposed development. |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed development falls within a historically transformed agricultural footprint that the WCBSP treats as part of the broader agricultural matrix (i.e., it does not function as an intact CBA/ESA feature on-site). The botanical specialist confirmed that the footprint is dominated by degraded secondary (ruderal) vegetation, with no intact fynbos assemblages or plant SCC recorded, and that the site is surrounded by higher biodiversity areas but the footprint itself is not a mapped CBA/ESA feature of functional conservation value.

Impact on BSP category features/function:

- Direct biodiversity function loss is low, because the footprint is already transformed and does not represent an intact biodiversity priority feature (e.g., no CBA/ESA habitat function within the footprint).
- No aquatic BSP functions are affected, as the freshwater specialist confirmed no wetlands/watercourses within the footprint and the nearest aquatic feature is >100 m away, so no aquatic corridor/wetland function is impacted.

How this influenced the proposed development:

- The footprint was kept strictly within the previously cultivated/degraded area to avoid encroachment into adjacent natural vegetation and any higher-value biodiversity features in the surrounding landscape.
- The EMPr includes erosion and stormwater controls to prevent indirect impacts (sediment/runoff) to nearby drainage features in the wider landscape.

|      |                                                                                                                                                       |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.6. | If your proposed development is located in a protected area, explain how the proposed development is in line with the protected area management plan. |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

N/A

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| 4.7.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Explain how the presence of fauna on and adjacent to the proposed development has influenced your proposed development. |
| <p>The botanical site assessment confirmed that the habitat within the proposed footprint is highly disturbed and does not provide sensitive faunal habitat. No notable mammals, reptiles, birds or insects were observed during the site inspection, although Cape porcupine scats were recorded, indicating occasional use of the area by common fauna.</p> <p><u>As a result, fauna considerations influenced the proposed development as follows:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development footprint was kept strictly within the previously cultivated and degraded area, avoiding any expansion into adjacent natural vegetation upslope.</li> <li>• Footprint demarcation and “no-go” areas will be implemented to prevent unnecessary disturbance outside the approved area.</li> <li>• The EMPr will require pre-construction checks for any fauna sheltering in vegetation and allow fauna to move away before clearing.</li> <li>• Construction activities will apply basic fauna protection measures (e.g., no trapping/hunting, speed control on farm tracks, managing open trenches/holes, and safe storage of waste/food that could attract animals).</li> </ul> <p>Overall, because fauna use is limited and the habitat is degraded, the expected faunal impact is low, and the development has been designed to minimise disturbance and avoid adjacent higher-value habitats.</p> |                                                                                                                         |

## 5. Geographical Aspects

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Explain whether any geographical aspects will be affected and how has this influenced the proposed activity or development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| <p>The site is situated on the foothills of Groenberg within the Bovlei Valley and includes a moderate slope (generally south to south-west facing). The freshwater specialist further confirms that the development footprint occurs on elevated ground (a knoll) and is hydrologically separated from the mountain slope by a ravine, with the nearest aquatic feature more than 100 m away.</p> <p><u>Potential geographical aspects affected and influencing the development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slope and erosion potential: Land preparation on sloping terrain can increase runoff velocity and soil loss. This influenced the proposed activity by requiring strict erosion control, rapid establishment of cover/ground protection, and stormwater/runoff management measures in the EMPr.</li> <li>• Drainage patterns: While no watercourses occur within the footprint, the surrounding landscape drains toward nearby drainage features. This influenced the development by keeping the footprint within the historically disturbed area and including measures to prevent sediment and agrichemical transport via stormwater.</li> <li>• Soils and landform: The soils are granite-derived and shallow in places, consistent with a previously cultivated agricultural setting. This influenced the choice of a perennial crop (olives) and limiting disturbance to the defined footprint, supported by the agricultural specialist findings.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, no major geographical constraints prevent the activity, but the site’s slope and drainage setting have directly informed the design and mitigation measures to ensure the development remains stable and does not cause erosion or downstream sedimentation.</p> <p>The proposed development is located within an existing agricultural landscape. The soils are shallow and the agricultural capability is very low to moderate, which supports the continuation of agricultural use without the loss of high-potential arable land. The primary geographical risk associated with the activity relates to localised erosion during land preparation, particularly during heavy rainfall events. This will be managed through standard soil conservation measures, staged disturbance, groundcover management and stormwater controls as required in the EMPr.</p> |  |

## 6. Heritage Resources

|      |                                                                     |     |    |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 6.1. | Was a specialist study conducted?                                   | YES | NO |
| 6.2. | Provide the name and/or company who conducted the specialist study. |     |    |

The NID was compiled by Jonathan Kaplan of the Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM) (03 March 2026). The submission assessed the potential for heritage resources, including archaeology, palaeontology, the built environment, and the cultural landscape.

The final HWC response letter will be included in Appendix E1 of the report.

6.3. Explain how areas that contain sensitive heritage resources have influenced the proposed development.

Potential heritage sensitivity was considered during project planning, and the development footprint has been confined to a historically cultivated and previously disturbed agricultural area. No known heritage features (e.g., structures older than 60 years, graves, archaeological sites, or declared heritage resources) have been identified within the development footprint.

The NID submission to Heritage Western Cape will confirm whether any heritage constraints apply. If any heritage resources are identified during the assessment or during implementation, the layout will be adjusted where feasible and a Chance Finds Procedure will be implemented through the EMP.

## 7. Historical and Cultural Aspects

Explain whether there are any culturally or historically significant elements as defined in Section 2 of the NHRA that will be affected and how has this influenced the proposed development.

At this stage, no culturally or historically significant elements as defined in Section 2 of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) have been identified within the proposed 2.21 ha development footprint. The area is a historically cultivated agricultural block that has been disturbed by previous farming activities and does not contain any known heritage structures, archaeological sites, graves, palaeontological exposures, or other declared heritage resources.

Heritage considerations have influenced the proposed development by:

- Confining the activity to a previously disturbed agricultural footprint and avoiding expansion into surrounding undisturbed areas;
- Ensuring that a Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) is submitted to Heritage Western Cape to confirm whether any further heritage assessment is required; and
- Including a Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure in the EMP to ensure that, should any previously unknown heritage resources be uncovered during land preparation, work will stop in the affected area, and the relevant heritage authority will be notified.

The final confirmation of heritage constraints will be informed by Heritage Western Cape's response to the NID submission.

## 8. Socio/Economic Aspects

8.1. Describe the existing social and economic characteristics of the community in the vicinity of the proposed site.

8.2. Explain the socio-economic value/contribution of the proposed development.

The proposed site is located in the Bovlei Valley on the outskirts of Wellington within the Drakenstein Municipality, in a predominantly rural agricultural setting. The surrounding area is characterised by commercial farming activities, including vineyards, orchards and associated agri-processing support services.

#### Social characteristics

- Settlement patterns in the immediate vicinity are dispersed, consisting mainly of farm homesteads, worker housing on farms, and small clusters of rural residences.
- The broader receiving community is Wellington and nearby rural settlements, where households rely on a mix of formal employment, seasonal agricultural work, informal income and small business activity.
- Community services (schools, clinics, retail and municipal services) are primarily accessed in Wellington, with limited services available directly in the rural valley area.
- The area has a strong agricultural identity and land-use patterns are shaped by farming operations, water management structures, and seasonal activity related to planting and harvesting cycles.

#### Economic characteristics

- The local economy is strongly agriculture-based, with viticulture and fruit production forming key drivers, supported by packing, transport, equipment supply, agri-chemicals, and farm service contractors.
- Employment is typically a combination of permanent farm employment and seasonal labour demand, with higher labour needs during peak agricultural periods.
- Wellington functions as the nearest service and employment hub, providing commercial services, logistics links, markets, and employment opportunities tied to agriculture and the broader Cape Winelands economy.
- Land values and economic activity in the area are closely linked to the productivity and long-term viability of commercial farms and their ability to diversify crops and maintain production.

Overall, the community in the vicinity of the proposed site is rural and agriculture-oriented, with Wellington serving as the primary social and economic centre for surrounding farms and residents.

|      |                                                                                                                                    |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.3. | Explain what social initiatives will be implemented by the applicant to address the needs of the community and to uplift the area. |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed development is an agricultural activity within an existing farming operation. Social upliftment initiatives will therefore focus on practical, locally relevant interventions that support employees, nearby communities, and the rural economy. The applicant will implement the following social initiatives:

- Local employment and procurement: Prioritise the use of local labour and local contractors/suppliers from Wellington and surrounding areas for establishment and ongoing orchard operations where feasible.
- Safe working conditions: Maintain compliance with occupational health and safety requirements, provide appropriate PPE, and ensure workers have access to safe drinking water and basic facilities during establishment activities.
- Community engagement: Maintain an open channel for communication with adjacent landowners and Interested and Affected Parties and respond timeously to concerns raised during implementation.

These initiatives are intended to support rural livelihoods, strengthen local agricultural capacity, and contribute to sustainable development within the Drakenstein municipal area.

|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.4. | Explain whether the proposed development will impact on people's health and well-being (e.g. in terms of noise, odours, visual character and sense of place, etc.) and how has this influenced the proposed development. |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The proposed development is expected to have a low impact on people's health and well-being, as it consists of agricultural land preparation and the establishment of an olive orchard within an existing farming landscape and does not introduce industrial operations or new buildings.

#### Noise:

Temporary noise will occur during the establishment phase from agricultural machinery. This noise will be short-term, daytime-related, and comparable to normal farming activities already occurring in the area. The project layout remains within the existing agricultural footprint and no new access roads are proposed, which limits additional disturbance.

#### Odours and air quality:

No offensive odours are anticipated, as no sewage or processing facilities form part of the proposal. Minor dust may be generated during soil preparation, particularly in dry conditions. Dust and emissions will be managed through standard good farming practice (e.g. limiting unnecessary vehicle speeds, wetting where required, and scheduling activities to reduce nuisance during high winds).

#### Visual character and sense of place:

The area is characterised by an established agricultural sense of place, with vineyards, orchards and farm infrastructure forming part of the landscape character. The proposed olive orchard is consistent with this rural setting and is not expected to negatively affect landscape character. The development does not involve tall structures or urban-type infrastructure.

#### Health and safety:

The activity does not introduce hazardous industrial processes. Standard agricultural health and safety controls will be applied, including safe storage and use of agrichemicals in accordance with the EMPr and applicable best practice.

#### How this influenced the proposed development:

To minimise any potential impacts on health and well-being, the development has been planned to:

- Remain within the historically cultivated and disturbed footprint;
- Avoid new access routes and additional infrastructure;
- Restrict noisy activities to normal daytime working hours;
- Implement dust suppression and housekeeping during land preparation; and
- Apply environmentally responsible agrichemical management and erosion controls through the EMPr.

Overall, the proposed development is compatible with the existing agricultural environment and is not expected to result in significant health or well-being impacts.

## SECTION H: ALTERNATIVES, METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES

### 1. Details of the alternatives identified and considered

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Property and site alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts. |
| Provide a description of the preferred property and site alternative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                |
| <p>The preferred site alternative is the establishment of the proposed olive cultivation block on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 (Wellington). This alternative was selected as it represents the most environmentally and technically feasible option, achieving the project's objective of reintroducing productive agricultural use while limiting environmental disturbance.</p> <p>The proposed development is confined to the defined 2.21 ha footprint, which forms part of a historically cultivated agricultural block. The area was previously used for vine rootstock cultivation and has been disturbed by past agricultural practices. A central portion remained fallow for an extended period and is currently dominated by degraded secondary vegetation. The preferred alternative integrates this portion into a single, continuous olive orchard, enabling efficient farm operations and mechanical harvesting.</p> |                                                                                                                                |

This alternative maximises positive impacts by:

- Utilising an existing agricultural footprint and existing farm infrastructure (internal access routes and authorised irrigation supply), thereby avoiding the need for new bulk services or additional disturbance;
- Supporting long-term agricultural viability and diversification through the establishment of a perennial crop suited to local conditions; and
- Maintaining the rural agricultural character of the area and supporting local economic activity linked to farming and agricultural services.

Specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems or watercourses occur within the development footprint and that the site is located more than 100 metres from the nearest aquatic feature. The vegetation within the footprint is degraded secondary vegetation, and no plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded. As a result, the development footprint avoids sensitive freshwater features and is limited to an already disturbed agricultural area. Unavoidable establishment impacts, such as temporary noise, dust and soil disturbance during land preparation, will be localised and mitigated through the implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), including erosion control and stormwater management measures.

No alternative property sites were considered, as the proposed development is directly linked to the existing farming operation and land use rights on Welvenpas and is intended to optimise agricultural production within this specific farm unit. Accordingly, the preferred alternative is the on-site establishment of the olive cultivation block within the defined footprint, which best meets the project purpose while avoiding and minimising environmental impacts.

Provide a description of any other property and site alternatives investigated.

No alternative properties were investigated, as the proposed development is directly linked to the existing farming operation on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 and is intended to optimise agricultural production within this farm unit. Relocating the activity to another property would not achieve the project's purpose and could result in new environmental impacts and additional land transformation.

No alternative site locations were investigated in detail, as the development footprint is fixed by the historically cultivated agricultural block and the operational objective of consolidating the footprint into a single, continuous olive orchard. An alternative to relocate the orchard to another area on the farm was considered at the screening level, but was not pursued as it would increase disturbance and the likelihood of encountering environmental constraints without providing any additional project benefit.

Specialist verification confirmed that the selected footprint avoids wetlands and watercourses and comprises degraded secondary vegetation, making it the most suitable location on the farm for the proposed activity. Accordingly, no feasible alternative property or site alternatives were identified beyond the preferred footprint.

Provide a motivation for the preferred property and site alternative, including the outcome of the site selection matrix.

The preferred site alternative for the project is the establishment of the proposed olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha (22 100 m<sup>2</sup>) footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington. This option was selected after a comparative assessment of operational feasibility, environmental sensitivity verification, and regulatory compliance.

#### Motivation

The preferred site alternative was selected for the following reasons:

- Use of a historically transformed agricultural footprint: The footprint was previously cultivated (vine rootstock/vineyard-related use) and has been disturbed by past agricultural activities. Re-using this area avoids expanding into adjacent natural vegetation and limits cumulative environmental impacts.
- Operational and cost efficiency: The footprint allows consolidation of the previously fallow central portion with surrounding cultivated areas to form a single, continuous orchard suitable for efficient mechanical harvesting and farm management.
- Environmental compatibility confirmed by specialist verification: Specialist studies verified low on-site aquatic sensitivity (no wetlands or watercourses within the footprint and more than 100 m from the nearest aquatic feature) and low terrestrial sensitivity within the footprint (degraded secondary vegetation with no plant Species of Conservation Concern recorded). This supports the use of the selected footprint as the most environmentally acceptable option.

- **Agricultural suitability:** The agricultural assessment confirms that the site occurs within an established agricultural landscape and supports continued agricultural production. Olives are a suitable perennial crop for the local conditions, and the proposal represents a continuation of agricultural land use rather than conversion to non-agricultural use.
- **Alignment with planning objectives:** The site is outside the urban edge within a rural agricultural area, and the proposed activity is consistent with existing agricultural land use rights and local/provincial spatial planning intent.

#### Alternative: Establish the Orchard Outside the Defined Footprint (Rejected)

An alternative involving relocation of the orchard to another area on the farm (outside the defined historically cultivated footprint) was rejected because it would require disturbance of additional land, increase the potential for environmental sensitivities to be encountered, and result in higher implementation costs and permitting risk without improving the project outcome.

#### Outcome of the Site-Selection Matrix

A comparative site-selection matrix was prepared to evaluate each option based on environmental, technical, and agricultural criteria. The results are summarised below:

| Evaluation Criterion      | Development within Defined 2.21 ha Footprint (Preferred)              | Relocation to Another Area on the Farm (Rejected)                                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Environmental Sensitivity | Low (verified) – degraded footprint, no aquatic features              | Moderate–High – increased risk of encountering intact habitat or constraints      |
| Operational Feasibility   | High – supports continuous orchard and mechanical harvesting          | Moderate – may create fragmentation and additional infrastructure requirements    |
| Cost Implications         | Low – uses existing access and irrigation infrastructure              | Higher – may require additional track works and operational adjustments           |
| Permitting Complexity     | Moderate – BAR process already underway                               | Higher – may introduce additional sensitivities and require redesign/re-screening |
| Visual / Landscape Impact | Low – consistent with the existing agricultural landscape             | Low–Moderate – depends on location and visibility                                 |
| Socio-economic Benefit    | Positive – supports the local agricultural value chain and employment | Similar benefit, but with higher cost and risk                                    |
| Overall Suitability       | Preferred                                                             | Not Preferred                                                                     |

#### Conclusion

Based on the comparative evaluation, the establishment of the olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint was identified as the optimal and environmentally responsible site alternative. It meets the project objectives for agricultural production and operational efficiency while minimising environmental risk and maintaining compliance with the applicable environmental legislation, subject to implementation of mitigation measures in the BAR and EMPr.

Provide a full description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site.

The process of identifying and confirming the preferred alternative for the proposed olive cultivation development on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 (Wellington, Drakenstein Municipality) was undertaken through an integrated agricultural and environmental assessment process, supported by field verification and specialist input.

#### Step 1: Identification of Project Need

The applicant identified the need to re-establish productive agricultural use within an existing farm unit by developing a single, continuous olive orchard that integrates a previously fallow central portion into the surrounding cultivated lands. This approach improves operational efficiency, enables mechanical harvesting, and supports long-term agricultural sustainability.

#### Step 2: Desktop Assessment of Site Feasibility

An initial desktop assessment was undertaken using cadastral information, aerial imagery, and environmental sensitivity outputs from the DFFE Screening Tool and relevant spatial informants. This assessment confirmed that the defined footprint is historically cultivated land within an established agricultural landscape and is practically suitable for orchard development using existing farm access and irrigation infrastructure.

#### Step 3: Site Sensitivity Verification

A Site Sensitivity Verification process was undertaken through specialist site inspections and desktop review. This confirmed that the footprint is a historically disturbed agricultural area and that the preliminary Screening Tool sensitivity ratings required verification through specialist input.

#### Step 4: Assessment of On-Site Alternatives

On-site alternatives were considered in relation to achieving the project purpose while limiting environmental disturbance:

- Develop the orchard within the defined footprint, including the previously fallow central portion (preferred): Enables a continuous orchard layout, supports mechanical harvesting, utilises existing farm access and irrigation infrastructure, and confines disturbance to a historically cultivated area.
- Exclude the central fallow portion: Rejected because it would result in a fragmented orchard layout, reduced operational efficiency, and would not achieve the project purpose of creating a continuous production area.
- Relocate the orchard to another area of the farm: Rejected because it would expand disturbance beyond the historically cultivated footprint and increase the likelihood of encountering environmental constraints, with no additional benefit to the project outcome.
- The preferred alternative was selected because it meets the project objectives with the least additional disturbance and the highest operational feasibility.

#### Step 5: Specialist Input and BAR Integration

Specialist studies were undertaken to verify sensitivities and inform the Basic Assessment process:

Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines, or watercourses occur within the development footprint and that the nearest aquatic feature is more than 100 metres away. The specialist verified that the aquatic sensitivity of the footprint is low and confirmed that a Water Use Licence Application is not required. Mitigation measures relating to erosion control, stormwater management, and preventing sediment transport were incorporated into the EMPr.

Botanical (Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plant Species) Compliance Statement confirmed that the footprint does not contain intact Boland Granite Fynbos and is dominated by degraded secondary ruderal vegetation. No plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded. The specialist verified that the terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity of the footprint is low and supported the re-establishment of agricultural use within the disturbed area.

Agricultural Impact Assessment confirmed that the site falls within a Protected Agricultural Area, but that the land capability is very low to moderate, and the area is historically transformed for agriculture. The specialist concluded that the proposed olive cultivation represents a continuation of agricultural land use and does not result in the loss of high-potential agricultural land. The assessment supports the suitability of olives as a perennial crop within the identified land capability.

Heritage requirements were addressed through the submission of a Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) to Heritage Western Cape in terms of Section 38 of the NHRA. Chance finds and Accidental Discovery Procedures were incorporated into the EMPr to manage any heritage resources that may be uncovered during soil preparation.

The combined specialist findings demonstrated that:

- The preferred footprint is historically transformed and suitable for agricultural re-use.
- No freshwater features occur within the footprint, and indirect impacts can be effectively managed;
- Terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity is low within the footprint, and no SCC were recorded;
- The activity is compatible with agricultural land use objectives; and
- Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project design and EMPr.

Accordingly, the preferred alternative—establishment of the olive cultivation block within the defined footprint—represents the least-impact, most feasible and most sustainable option for achieving the project objectives.

Provide a detailed motivation if no property and site alternatives were considered.

No alternative properties were considered because the proposed development is intrinsically linked to the existing farming operation on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 and is intended to optimise agricultural production within this specific farm unit. The activity is not a stand-alone land use that can be relocated without undermining the project purpose, as the proposal relies on existing farm infrastructure, management systems, and authorised irrigation supply associated with this property.

No alternative sites on the property were formally assessed because the proposed development footprint is fixed by the historically cultivated agricultural block and the operational objective of consolidating a previously fallow central portion into a single, continuous olive orchard suitable for efficient mechanical harvesting. Relocating the development to another area on the farm would require disturbance of additional land, increase the likelihood of encountering environmental constraints, and potentially introduce avoidable impacts without providing a measurable environmental or operational benefit.

The defined footprint was selected specifically to minimise impacts by confining disturbance to a previously transformed agricultural area. Specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the footprint and that the vegetation is degraded secondary vegetation with no plant Species of Conservation Concern recorded. The selection of this footprint, therefore, already represents the application of avoidance and minimisation principles, and alternative properties or sites were not considered feasible or necessary.

Accordingly, no property or site alternatives were pursued because the preferred footprint is the only practicable location that achieves the project purpose while limiting environmental disturbance and utilising existing agricultural infrastructure and land use rights.

List the positive and negative impacts that the property and site alternatives will have on the environment.

| Alternative                                                                                                       | Positive environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Negative environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A: Preferred site (develop within the defined 2.21 ha footprint, including the previously fallow central portion) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confines disturbance to a historically cultivated/disturbed agricultural area (limits new transformation).</li> <li>• Avoids the need for new access routes and bulk infrastructure.</li> <li>• Allows a single, continuous orchard layout (less internal fragmentation and fewer unnecessary vehicle movements over time).</li> <li>• Impacts are predictable and can be effectively managed through EMP measures (erosion control, stormwater controls, alien management).</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation clearance and soil disturbance will occur within the footprint (temporary dust/noise, loss of secondary vegetation).</li> <li>• Increased erosion/sediment risk during land preparation if not managed properly.</li> <li>• Ongoing agricultural activities may introduce risks of chemical runoff if not well managed (mitigable).</li> </ul>                                |
| B: Relocate the orchard to another area on the same farm (outside the defined historically cultivated footprint)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could avoid disturbance within the currently identified block (if an alternative area is already degraded).</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher risk of encountering intact natural vegetation, biodiversity priority features, or heritage resources (increased environmental risk).</li> <li>• Likely requires new access tracks or additional infrastructure, increasing disturbance footprint.</li> <li>• May increase permitting complexity and the likelihood of additional impacts and mitigation requirements.</li> </ul> |
| C: Alternative property (develop on a different property) ( <i>not pursued</i> )                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could theoretically avoid impacts on the Welvenpas footprint if a more suitable already-disturbed site exists elsewhere.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High risk of creating new disturbance on another property (new vegetation clearance, new infrastructure, new receptors).</li> <li>• Would not align with the project purpose of optimising the existing farming unit and would likely increase cumulative impacts regionally.</li> </ul>                                                                                                 |

1.2. Activity alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Provide a description of the preferred activity alternative.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Provide a description of any other activity alternatives investigated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>No alternative activities were formally investigated, as the purpose of the proposal is specifically to establish an olive cultivation block within the existing farming operation and within the defined historically cultivated footprint. The activity is therefore fixed as agricultural land preparation and orchard establishment.</p> <p>During project planning, the following conceptual activity alternatives were considered, but were not pursued because they would not achieve the project objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No-go / “do nothing” alternative: Leaving the area fallow would avoid short-term disturbance but would not meet the applicant’s objective of reintroducing productive agricultural use and consolidating the orchard for efficient management. It could also result in ongoing weed/alien invasion and unmanaged erosion on disturbed land.</li> <li>• Alternative crop or land use: Alternative agricultural uses were not assessed, as the intended development is crop-specific (olive cultivation) to support the farm’s long-term agricultural planning. Any different crop or non-agricultural use would constitute a different development proposal and would require separate motivation and assessment.</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, no feasible alternative activity options were identified that would meet the project purpose and remain within the same development scope, and the assessed alternative activity remains the establishment of an olive orchard within the defined footprint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Provide a motivation for the preferred activity alternative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>The preferred activity alternative is the establishment of an olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238.</p> <p>This activity is preferred because it best achieves the project purpose while limiting environmental risk and maintaining compatibility with the existing agricultural context. The motivation is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of lawful agricultural land use: The proposed activity remains agricultural in nature and is consistent with the existing land use rights and rural land use context of the property.</li> <li>• Optimises use of historically transformed land: The footprint has been previously cultivated and disturbed, and the proposal reintroduces productive agricultural use rather than expanding into new or undisturbed areas.</li> <li>• Low verified environmental sensitivity: Specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the footprint and that terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity within the footprint is low, with no plant Species of Conservation Concern recorded.</li> <li>• Agricultural suitability: Olives are a suitable perennial crop for the site and, once established, require limited soil disturbance, which can enhance long-term soil stability compared to unmanaged fallow land.</li> <li>• Impacts are manageable: Establishment impacts (temporary dust, noise, and erosion risk during land preparation) are localised and can be effectively mitigated through standard good practice and the EMP.</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, the preferred activity alternative is considered the most practical and environmentally responsible option to achieve the project objective while maintaining compliance with applicable legislation and minimising environmental impacts.</p> |
| Provide a detailed motivation if no activity alternatives exist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>No activity alternatives exist because the proposed development is defined by a single, specific project purpose: the establishment of an olive cultivation block as part of the existing Welvenpas farming operation. The activity is therefore not interchangeable with a different type of development without fundamentally changing the nature of the proposal and the outcomes sought by the applicant.</p> <p>The proposed activity is required to achieve the applicant’s operational objective of consolidating the identified footprint into a single, continuous orchard layout that supports efficient farm management and mechanical harvesting. Any alternative “activity” (such as a different land use, a different crop, or a non-agricultural development) would constitute a materially different proposal with different infrastructure needs, different impacts, and different regulatory requirements. Such alternatives would require a separate project motivation and, potentially, a separate environmental assessment process.</p> <p>The “no-go” option (leaving the area fallow) is not considered a viable activity alternative because it would not achieve the project purpose of restoring productive agricultural use within the existing farm unit. It would also not address</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

ongoing management issues commonly associated with fallow disturbed land, such as alien invasive plant encroachment, erosion risk, and inefficient use of land already historically transformed for agriculture.

Accordingly, no reasonable activity alternatives were identified, as the proposed activity is the only practicable option that meets the project objective, aligns with the land use rights of the property, and utilises existing farm infrastructure within an established agricultural landscape.

List the positive and negative impacts that the activity alternatives will have on the environment.

| Activity option                                                                     | Positive environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Negative environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Preferred activity:<br>Establish olive orchard within the defined 2.21 ha footprint | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-uses a historically disturbed agricultural footprint (limits pressure to expand into undisturbed areas).</li> <li>• Perennial crop cover can improve long-term soil stability compared to unmanaged fallow land.</li> <li>• Allows structured erosion and stormwater controls to be implemented through the EMPr.</li> <li>• Enables alien invasive control and rehabilitation commitments as part of farm management.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation clearance and soil disturbance during establishment (temporary dust and noise).</li> <li>• Increased erosion/sediment risk during land preparation if not managed (mitigable).</li> <li>• Potential for agrichemical runoff or irrigation return-flow if not well managed (mitigable).</li> <li>• Localised disturbance to common fauna during clearing (low, mitigable).</li> </ul> |
| No-go option:<br>Leave the area fallow / no development                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional vegetation clearance or soil disturbance.</li> <li>• No construction-phase dust/noise impacts.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued degradation risk on disturbed fallow land (erosion, poor ground cover, weed growth).</li> <li>• Increased likelihood of alien invasive plant spread if not actively managed.</li> <li>• Ongoing underutilisation of previously transformed land may shift production pressure to other areas (potential indirect impact).</li> </ul>                                                  |

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| 1.3. | Design or layout alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts |
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Provide a description of the preferred design or layout alternative.

The preferred design/layout alternative is the establishment of a single, continuous olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238. This layout establishes a single, consolidated orchard within the defined 2.21 ha footprint.

The preferred layout was selected because it:

- Confines all disturbance to the historically cultivated and degraded footprint and avoids expansion into adjacent natural vegetation areas.
- Uses existing farm access routes and existing authorised irrigation infrastructure, with no requirement for new roads or bulk services.
- Enables efficient mechanical harvesting and improved farm management by avoiding fragmented orchard blocks.
- Allows clear demarcation of the cultivation footprint and establishment of “no-go” areas outside the footprint to prevent unnecessary disturbance.
- Supports effective implementation of mitigation measures, including erosion control, stormwater management, alien invasive control, and responsible irrigation management, as set out in the EMPr.

No buildings or permanent structures form part of the preferred layout. The layout consists of standard orchard row planting patterns, with irrigation lines installed within the cultivated rows and the use of existing farm tracks for access and maintenance.

Provide a description of any other design or layout alternatives investigated.

No formal design or layout alternatives were investigated beyond the preferred layout, as the development footprint and operational objective require a single, continuous orchard block within the defined 2.21 ha area.

Accordingly, the preferred layout remains the only practical design option that meets the project purpose while keeping disturbance confined to the historically cultivated footprint and avoiding unnecessary additional impacts.

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| Provide a motivation for the preferred design or layout alternative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>The preferred design/layout alternative is the establishment of a single, continuous olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint. This layout is preferred because it best achieves the project objective while minimising environmental impacts and improving operational efficiency.</p> <p><u>The motivation is as follows:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It confines all clearing and soil preparation to a historically cultivated and disturbed agricultural footprint, avoiding expansion into surrounding areas.</li> <li>It enables efficient farm management and mechanical harvesting through a consolidated orchard layout, reducing long-term operational disturbance associated with fragmented cultivation.</li> <li>It utilises existing farm access routes and existing authorised irrigation infrastructure, avoiding the need for new roads, bulk services or additional infrastructure.</li> <li>It supports effective implementation of mitigation measures, including clear footprint demarcation, erosion control and stormwater management, and alien invasive plant management as set out in the EMPr.</li> <li>It remains consistent with the agricultural land use rights and rural land use character of the area.</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, the preferred layout represents the most practical and environmentally responsible option for establishing the olive orchard within the defined footprint, subject to implementation of the EMPr.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Provide a detailed motivation if no design or layout alternatives exist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>No design or layout alternatives exist because the proposed development is defined by a fixed and operationally required footprint and objective. The project entails the establishment of a single, continuous olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha area, and the layout is constrained by the existing agricultural context, historic cultivation footprint, and the need to create an orchard that is workable for efficient farm management and mechanical harvesting.</p> <p>Alternative layouts would not achieve the project purpose, would reduce operational efficiency, and could increase cumulative disturbance over time through additional turning movements, repeated access requirements, and increased “edge effects” along fragmented boundaries.</p> <p>The preferred layout also supports environmental management requirements by allowing clear demarcation of the development footprint and “no-go” areas, limiting disturbance to the historically cultivated area and enabling effective implementation of erosion control, stormwater management, and alien invasive control measures through the EMPr. Accordingly, the single, consolidated orchard layout within the defined footprint is the only practicable design option that meets the project objective and enables impacts to be managed effectively.</p>                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| List the positive and negative impacts that the design alternatives will have on the environment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>No design or layout alternatives were identified as practicable for this proposal. The preferred layout comprises a single, continuous olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint. This layout limits disturbance to one clearly demarcated historically cultivated area, reduces fragmentation and edge effects, and enables effective implementation of mitigation measures (particularly erosion control, stormwater management and alien invasive control) through the EMPr.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Design / Layout Option                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Positive environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Negative environmental impacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Preferred layout: Single continuous olive block within the defined 2.21 ha footprint                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confines disturbance to a single, clearly demarcated historically cultivated footprint.</li> <li>Reduces fragmentation and edge effects compared to split/fragmented layouts.</li> <li>Fewer internal access movements over time (less cumulative disturbance).</li> <li>Easier to implement and enforce EMPr measures (erosion control, stormwater management, alien control).</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation clearance and soil disturbance during establishment (temporary dust/noise).</li> <li>Erosion/sediment risk during land preparation if controls are not implemented (mitigable).</li> <li>Potential agrichemical runoff risk if not managed (mitigable).</li> </ul> |
| 1.4. Technology alternatives (e.g., to reduce resource demand and increase resource use efficiency) to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Provide a description of the preferred technology alternative:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

The preferred technology alternative is the establishment of the olive orchard using standard, low-impact agricultural methods appropriate to an existing farming operation. This includes:

- Mechanical land preparation (ripping and soil preparation) limited to the defined 2.21 ha footprint.
- Perennial olive orchard planting in structured rows suitable for mechanical harvesting.
- Drip irrigation technology supplied from the existing authorised farm irrigation system, using low-flow irrigation lines to optimise water-use efficiency and minimise runoff.
- Use of existing farm access routes and standard agricultural machinery for planting, maintenance and harvesting.

No new buildings, bulk services, processing facilities, or additional water abstraction infrastructure form part of the preferred technology alternative. The selected technology is practical, cost-effective, water-efficient, and compatible with the rural agricultural setting while enabling effective environmental control measures through the EMPr.

Provide a description of any other technology alternatives investigated.

No other technology alternatives were formally investigated, as the proposed development entails standard orchard establishment methods that are appropriate to the existing farming operation and available infrastructure.

During planning, the following technology options were considered at a conceptual level but were not pursued:

- Alternative irrigation methods (micro-sprinklers or overhead irrigation): Not preferred due to higher water demand, increased evaporation losses, and a greater risk of runoff and soil erosion compared to drip irrigation.
- Dryland (non-irrigated) establishment: Not preferred due to reduced establishment success and lower yield reliability under local climatic conditions.

Accordingly, drip irrigation combined with conventional orchard establishment and mechanical harvesting remains the preferred and most practical technology alternative for the project.

Provide a motivation for the preferred technology alternative.

The preferred technology alternative is the establishment of the olive orchard using conventional orchard practices with drip irrigation supplied from the existing authorised farm irrigation system, and a row layout suitable for mechanical harvesting. This option is preferred because:

- Water efficiency: Drip irrigation delivers water directly to the root zone, reducing evaporation losses and limiting unnecessary water use compared to overhead systems.
- Reduced runoff and erosion risk: Low-flow irrigation and controlled application reduce the likelihood of surface runoff, soil loss, and sediment transport, supporting effective erosion control.
- Low infrastructure requirements: The technology can be implemented using existing farm infrastructure and does not require new bulk services, new water abstraction points, or permanent structures.
- Operational feasibility: A row layout compatible with mechanical harvesting improves efficiency, reduces repeated vehicle movements, and supports long-term agricultural viability.
- Environmental manageability: The technology allows impacts to be managed effectively through standard controls in the EMPr (e.g., irrigation scheduling, erosion management, and responsible agrichemical use).
- Appropriate to the setting: The approach is consistent with normal agricultural operations in the area and does not introduce industrial processes, processing facilities, or high-impact infrastructure.

Accordingly, the preferred technology alternative provides the most practical, efficient, and environmentally responsible approach for establishing the olive orchard within the defined footprint.

Provide a detailed motivation if no alternatives exist.

No technology alternatives exist because the proposed development is an agricultural orchard establishment activity that relies on standard, proven farming methods and the existing infrastructure available on the property. The project purpose is to establish a productive olive cultivation block within the defined footprint, and this requires conventional land preparation, orchard row planting, and an efficient irrigation method that can be integrated into existing farm operations.

Drip irrigation supplied from the existing authorised farm irrigation system is the only practicable option for this development because it is compatible with the existing infrastructure, is the most water-efficient method for orchard cultivation and reduces the risk of runoff and erosion compared to higher-volume irrigation systems. Alternative

technologies (such as overhead irrigation or non-irrigated establishment) would either increase water demand and environmental risk or reduce orchard establishment success and long-term viability.

The proposed cultivation layout is also constrained by the operational requirement for mechanical harvesting and efficient farm management, which necessitates a structured row layout and the use of standard agricultural machinery. More complex or infrastructure-intensive technologies are not required for an orchard of this nature and would introduce unnecessary cost and potential impacts without improving the project outcome.

Accordingly, the preferred technology approach is the only practical and reasonable option to achieve the project objective while remaining consistent with existing farm infrastructure and ensuring impacts can be effectively managed through the EMPr.

List the positive and negative impacts that the technology alternatives will have on the environment.

No formal technology alternatives were identified as practicable for this proposal. The preferred technology is drip irrigation with standard orchard establishment and mechanical harvesting, using existing farm infrastructure. This option has the advantage of efficient water use and a reduced risk of runoff and erosion, and it does not require new bulk services, new abstraction points, or permanent structures. Potential negative impacts are limited to temporary dust and noise during establishment and the risk of erosion or agrichemical runoff if not managed, all of which are mitigable through the EMPr.

A technology option that was considered but not pursued was the use of higher-volume irrigation systems (e.g., micro-sprinklers/overhead irrigation). While feasible in principle, this alternative would likely increase water demand and evaporation losses and could increase the potential for runoff and soil erosion compared to drip irrigation. It was therefore excluded in favour of the lower-impact, more water-efficient drip irrigation approach.

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| 1.5. | Operational alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts. |
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Provide a description of the preferred operational alternative.

The preferred operational alternative is to operate the olive cultivation block as an integrated part of the existing farming operation on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, using standard orchard management practices supported by existing farm infrastructure.

Key operational elements include:

- Routine orchard management (pruning, pest and weed control, fertilisation, and general maintenance).
- Efficient irrigation management using drip irrigation supplied from the existing authorised farm irrigation system, with irrigation scheduling to avoid over-irrigation and runoff.
- Use of existing farm access routes for operational vehicle movement and maintenance activities.
- Harvesting undertaken using mechanical harvesting (where applicable) to improve efficiency and minimise repeated vehicle movements.
- Ongoing implementation of EMPr measures, including erosion control, stormwater management, and alien invasive plant management.
- Responsible storage and handling of agrichemicals and fuel within existing farm facilities in accordance with best practice and applicable safety requirements.

This operational approach is preferred because it maintains the activity within the existing agricultural land use, limits additional infrastructure needs, and ensures that operational impacts remain manageable and controlled through established farm systems and the EMPr.

Provide a description of any other operational alternatives investigated.

No other operational alternatives were formally investigated, as the proposed development will operate as a standard olive orchard within an existing farming operation using established agricultural practices and existing farm infrastructure.

A conceptual alternative of operating the orchard as separate/independent blocks (rather than a single integrated orchard unit) was not pursued because it would reduce operational efficiency, increase internal vehicle movements and turn, and potentially increase cumulative disturbance over time without providing an environmental benefit.

Accordingly, the preferred operational approach—integrated orchard management using existing access and irrigation infrastructure—remains the only practical operational option for the project.

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| Provide a motivation for the preferred operational alternative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>The preferred operational alternative is to manage and operate the olive cultivation block as a single, integrated orchard within the existing farming operation, using standard orchard practices and existing farm infrastructure. This operational approach is preferred because it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimises operational efficiency: A single integrated orchard layout supports efficient day-to-day management and mechanical harvesting, reducing unnecessary operational disruption and repeated vehicle movements.</li> <li>• Minimises cumulative disturbance: Consolidated operations limit the need for additional internal access, turning areas, and repeated traffic patterns, thereby reducing long-term disturbance and dust generation.</li> <li>• Uses existing resources and infrastructure: Operations will utilise existing farm access routes and the existing authorised irrigation supply, avoiding additional infrastructure and associated impacts.</li> <li>• Supports effective environmental management: A single operational system makes it easier to implement and enforce EMPr measures, including erosion control, stormwater management, responsible irrigation scheduling, and alien invasive plant control.</li> <li>• Maintains compatibility with the surrounding land use: The operation remains consistent with the established agricultural character of the area and does not introduce new non-agricultural activities.</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, the preferred operational alternative provides the most practical and environmentally manageable method of operating the proposed development while achieving the project objectives.</p>                                                                                         |
| Provide a detailed motivation if no alternatives exist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>No operational alternatives exist because the proposed development is an agricultural activity that must be managed in accordance with standard orchard production requirements and the existing operational systems of the farm. The project purpose is to establish and operate a single, continuous olive orchard within the defined footprint, and this requires routine orchard management, irrigation, maintenance access, and harvesting operations that follow established agricultural practice.</p> <p>Operating the development in any materially different way (for example, as separate operational units, with different access patterns, or using non-standard management approaches) would not achieve the project objective of efficient, consolidated production and could increase cumulative disturbance through additional vehicle movements, repeated access requirements, and fragmented management actions. Such approaches would also complicate the implementation and enforcement of environmental controls.</p> <p><u>The preferred operational approach is the only practical option because it:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses existing farm access routes and existing authorised irrigation infrastructure;</li> <li>• Provides a workable orchard layout for efficient management and mechanical harvesting; and</li> <li>• Enables effective implementation of EMPr measures (erosion control, stormwater management, irrigation scheduling, and responsible agrichemical handling).</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, the proposed operation as an integrated olive orchard within the existing farm operation is the only reasonable and practicable operational option that achieves the project purpose while keeping operational impacts manageable.</p> |
| List the positive and negative impacts that the operational alternatives will have on the environment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>No formal operational alternatives were identified as practicable for this proposal. The preferred operational approach is to manage the olive cultivation block as a single integrated orchard using existing farm access and the existing authorised irrigation system, with EMPr controls in place.</p> <p><u>Positive operational impacts (preferred operation):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficient orchard management and mechanical harvesting reduce unnecessary vehicle movements and limit cumulative disturbance over time.</li> <li>• Controlled irrigation scheduling using drip irrigation reduces the risk of runoff, erosion and sediment transport.</li> <li>• Ongoing implementation of EMPr measures supports erosion control, stormwater management and alien invasive plant control.</li> <li>• Continued agricultural use of a previously disturbed area reduces pressure to expand farming into less disturbed land.</li> </ul> <p><u>Negative operational impacts (preferred operation):</u></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Routine operational vehicle movement may generate minor dust and noise, consistent with surrounding agricultural activities.</li> <li>• If irrigation and agrichemical use are poorly managed, there is potential for runoff or pollution; this is mitigable through best practices and EMPr requirements.</li> <li>• Ongoing land management may disturb common fauna using the area occasionally, although impacts are expected to be low due to the disturbed habitat.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, operational impacts are expected to be low and manageable, provided the EMPr is implemented.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1.6.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>The option of not implementing the activity (the 'No-Go' Option).</p> <p>The No-Go Option entails not establishing the proposed olive cultivation block and leaving the identified 2.21 ha area in its current condition, with no further land preparation or agricultural development.</p> <p><u>Under the No-Go Option:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional vegetation clearing, soil disturbance, or establishment activities would occur.</li> <li>• There would be no construction-phase noise or dust impacts.</li> <li>• There would be no operational impacts associated with irrigation, agrichemical use, or farm vehicle movements in this area.</li> </ul> <p><u>However, the No-Go Option would also result in:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued underutilisation of historically cultivated agricultural land within an established farming unit.</li> <li>• Ongoing dominance of degraded secondary vegetation and the potential for invasive alien plant encroachment if not actively managed.</li> <li>• Possible ongoing erosion risk on disturbed ground if not stabilised or managed through agricultural cover and soil conservation measures.</li> <li>• The project purpose (reintroducing productive agricultural use and consolidating a continuous orchard for efficient management and mechanical harvesting) not being achieved.</li> </ul> <p>Accordingly, while the No-Go Option avoids the short-term impacts of establishment, it does not meet the applicant's objectives and may allow ongoing degradation pressures to persist on historically disturbed land.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1.7.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Provide an explanation as to whether any other alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist.</p> <p>No other reasonable or feasible alternatives were identified that would achieve the project purpose while further avoiding impacts. The proposed development is fixed to a specific historically cultivated footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238 and is intended to consolidate the area into a single continuous olive orchard within the existing farming operation.</p> <p>The key avoidance and minimisation measures have already been built into the preferred option by selecting a previously disturbed agricultural footprint, using existing farm access and authorised irrigation infrastructure, and excluding any additional infrastructure such as buildings, new roads, dams or new abstraction points. Specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the footprint and that the vegetation is degraded secondary vegetation, which supports the selection of this footprint as the least environmentally risky option.</p> <p>Further alternatives, such as relocating the development to other areas on the farm, using alternative properties, or fragmenting the orchard layout, were not considered feasible because they would either not meet the operational objective of a single continuous orchard or would increase disturbance and the likelihood of encountering environmental constraints without any additional benefit.</p> <p>Accordingly, no further reasonable alternatives exist beyond the preferred development footprint. Negative impacts will instead be addressed through the mitigation hierarchy and implementation of the EMPr, including footprint demarcation, erosion and stormwater controls, responsible irrigation and agrichemical management, and alien invasive plant control to minimise impacts and maximise positive outcomes.</p> |
| 1.8.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Provide a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including the preferred location of the activity.</p> <p>The preferred alternative is the establishment of an olive cultivation block within the defined 2.21 ha (22 100 m<sup>2</sup>) footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington (Drakenstein Municipality), Western Cape. This location represents the preferred site and layout alternative, as it confines the activity to a historically cultivated and</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

disturbed agricultural area, utilises existing farm access and authorised irrigation infrastructure, avoids sensitive aquatic features, and supports efficient farm operations and mechanical harvesting. The preferred technology and operational alternatives comprise standard orchard establishment practices with drip irrigation and integrated farm management in accordance with the EMPr.

## 2. “No-Go” areas

Explain what “no-go” area(s) have been identified during the identification of the alternatives and provide the co-ordinates of the “no-go” area(s).

No-go areas identified: For Welvenpas, no discrete “no-go” polygons (e.g., wetlands/watercourses, heritage sites, SCC habitat patches) were identified within or adjacent to the proposed 2.21 ha footprint during the alternatives screening and specialist verification. The only enforceable no-go area is therefore:

- All land outside the approved 2.21 ha development footprint (i.e., anything beyond the cultivated block boundary is a no-go / “no disturbance” area).

Coordinates (reference point for the no-go area boundary control):

Use the centre-point of the development area as the control reference for on-site demarcation:

- Centre of the development footprint: 33°37'46.57" S, 19°04'06.80" E

(For completeness, the farm locality reference is 33°38'01.44" S, 19°03'48.84" E.)

How it's implemented on site:

- The approved footprint boundary is pegged and taped before any work starts.
- Everything outside that pegged boundary is treated as a no-go area (no clearing, no stockpiling, no parking, no turning of machinery, no dumping).

## 3. Methodology to determine the significance ratings of the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives.

Describe the methodology to be used in determining and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration of the potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the proposed activity or development and alternatives, the degree to which the impact or risk can be reversed and the degree to which the impact and risk may cause irreplaceable loss of resources.

Please refer to **Appendix J** for more information.

The following impact rating approach used by EnviroAfrica CC is a basic exponential rating system to assess actual and potential negative and positive environmental impacts.

Environmental activities or aspects are identified based on:

- the phases of the project,
- the nature (or description) of the actual and potential impacts of the activities.

For every project activity or aspect, various environmental impacts are listed. Every negative impact is allocated a value as per each of the following criteria:

- Probability (Likelihood)
- Extent
- Duration (Frequency)
- Consequence (Receiving Environment)
- Magnitude (Intensity/severity)

Every positive impact is allocated a +value as per each of the following criteria:

- Probability (Likelihood)
- Extent
- Duration (Frequency)
- Magnitude (Intensity/severity)

Once a value is allocated for each of the criteria, the scores are averaged to determine the final impact rating, see Table 1 below.

EnviroAfrica then further assesses environmental significance, based on the nature of the impact, as per the score and colour key which forms part of Table 1 below. This results in impacts having either a low (indicated in green), medium (indicated in yellow) or high (indicated in orange and red) negative significance, and a low (light blue), medium (blue) or a high (dark blue) positive significance

**Table 1.** Environmental Impact Significance criteria are used to rank the significance of impacts associated with the proposed development.

| <b>SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA</b>              | <b>Very High</b>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>High</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Medium</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Low</b>                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Negligible (very low)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Value</b>                              | <b>16</b>                                                                                                                                                            | <b>8</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>4</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>2</b>                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Probability (likelihood) (P)</b>       |                                                                                                                                                                      | Definite. Impact will definitely occur (impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures)                                                                                               | Highly probable. Very likely for impact to occur.                                                                                                                                                                       | Probable. Impact may likely occur.                                                                                                                                                     | Improbable. Low likelihood/unlikely for impact to occur.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Extent (E)</b>                         | Impact potentially reaches beyond national boundaries                                                                                                                | Impact has definite provincial/potential national consequences                                                                                                                                 | Impact confined to the regional area/ town                                                                                                                                                                              | Impact confined to the local region and impact on neighbouring properties                                                                                                              | Impact confined to project property/site                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Duration (D)</b>                       |                                                                                                                                                                      | Permanent<br>The impact is expected to have a permanent impact, with very little to no rehabilitation possible                                                                                 | Long-Term<br>The impact is expected to last for a long time after construction, with rehabilitation expected to be 15-50 years. Impact is reversible, but only with long-term mitigation                                | Medium-term<br>The impact is expected to last for some time after construction, with rehabilitation expected to be 2 - 15 years. Impact is reversible but only with ongoing mitigation | Short-term/temporary<br>The impact is expected to be temporary or last for a relatively short time, with rehabilitation expected to be <2years. The impact is reversible through natural processes and/or some mitigation. |
| <b>Magnitude (Intensity/Severity) (M)</b> | It is expected that the activity will have a very severe to permanent impact on the surrounding environment. Functioning irreversibly impaired. Rehabilitation often | It is expected that the activity will have a severe impact on the surrounding environment. Functioning may be severely impaired and may be temporarily cease. Rehabilitation will be needed to | It is expected that the activity will have an impact on the surrounding environment, but it will maintain its function, even if moderately modified (overall integrity not compromised). Rehabilitation easily achieved | It is expected that the activity will have a perceptible impact on the surrounding environment, but it will maintain its function, even if slightly modified (overall integrity not    | It is expected that the impact will have little or no effect on the integrity of the surrounding environment                                                                                                               |

|                                                  |                                                                                             |                                                              |                                                                   |                                                                                                            |                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                                                  | impossible or unfeasible                                                                    | restore system integrity                                     |                                                                   | compromised). Rehabilitation easily achieved                                                               |                                                     |
| <b>Receiving environment (Consequence): (RE)</b> | Very sensitive, pristine area – protected site or species permanently or seasonally present | Unused area containing only indigenous fauna / flora species | Unused area containing indigenous and alien fauna / flora species | Semi-disturbed area already rehabilitated / recovered from prior impact, or with moderate alien vegetation | Disturbed area/ transformed/ heavy alien vegetation |

**Environmental Significance Rating Methodology (Rating Criteria and Significance Key):**

**Negative Impacts**

| SIGNIFICANCE            | RATING     | Final rating score / value range |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Very Significant        | Very High  | -11 to -16                       |
| Significant             | High       | -7 to <-11                       |
| Increasing Significance | Medium     | ≥-5 to <-7                       |
|                         | Medium Low | -4 to ≤-5                        |
| Insignificant           | Low        | -3 to <-4                        |
|                         | Very Low   | -1 to <-2                        |

**Positive Impacts**

| SIGNIFICANCE            | RATING | Final rating score / value range |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| Significant             | High   | 10 to 16                         |
| Increasing Significance | Medium | 4 to <10                         |
| Insignificant           | Low    | 1 to <4                          |

#### 4. Assessment of each impact and risk identified for each alternative

**Note:** The following table serves as a guide for summarising each alternative. The table should be repeated for each alternative to ensure a comparative assessment. The EAP may decide to include this section as Appendix J to this BAR.

#### **Preferred Alternative: Establishment of Olive Cultivation Block within the Defined 2.21 ha Footprint (Welvenpas)**

| Alternative 1: Preferred                      | Geographical / Topographical                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                                                                                            |
| Potential impact and risk                     | Localised alteration of micro-topography due to vegetation clearing, ripping and soil preparation on a sloping agricultural block.                         |
| Nature of impact                              | Direct, negative but site-specific change to surface profile and soil structure within a historically disturbed footprint; no change to regional landform. |
| Extent and duration of impact                 | Local; Short-term (establishment period). Confined to the 2.21 ha footprint.                                                                               |

|                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium if unmanaged (erosion/rilling possible); Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (will occur) – land preparation is integral to the activity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no unique landforms or geological features; previously cultivated footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium–High – stabilisation and rehabilitation can restore stable surface conditions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased runoff velocity and sediment mobilisation downslope if bare soil is exposed during rainfall events.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (local) – incremental soil loss risk typical of agricultural establishment if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – disturbance required but can be staged and confined to the footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High – standard erosion and stormwater controls are effective.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High – stabilisation and good practice reduce risk substantially.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit works to the approved 2.21 ha footprint.</li> <li>• Phase clearing/soil preparation to limit exposed soils.</li> <li>• Align ripping/rows to contours where feasible.</li> <li>• Install temporary erosion controls (berms, cut-off drains, silt traps).</li> <li>• Establish groundcover/row middles rapidly.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Minor long-term landform changes consistent with orchard agriculture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Ongoing soil erosion and altered runoff patterns due to orchard operations and maintenance traffic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Mostly indirect; negative if poor groundcover/drainage; neutral if properly managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term (life of orchard).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low with permanent/seasonal groundcover and maintenance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – dependent on rainfall intensity and management.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – adaptive management can restore stability.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Sediment transport during intense rainfall if controls fail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – cannot be eliminated but can be reduced.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain groundcover between rows.</li> <li>• Maintain berms/drainage and repair erosion promptly.</li> <li>• Limit trafficking during saturated conditions.</li> <li>• Control vehicle speeds on farm tracks.</li> </ul>                                                                                                       |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Stable orchard surface with manageable runoff.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Erosion and landscape scarring if the orchard is removed and the land is left bare/unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative, but manageable with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term during removal/rehabilitation; long-term if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low – decommissioning not anticipated in the near term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – regrading and revegetation can restore stability.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indirect impacts                                  | Increased sediment transport downslope during closure works if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation             | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided         | High – closure planning and staged rehabilitation avoid most impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed         | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated       | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Proposed mitigation                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a closure/rehabilitation plan.</li> <li>• Stage removal to limit bare soil.</li> <li>• Stabilise soils immediately (cover crop/reseeding).</li> <li>• Reinstate erosion controls until vegetation is established.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                  | Low if rehabilitated; land remains stable and usable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                 | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>AQUATIC / FRESHWATER IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Indirect sedimentation risk to downstream drainage features due to soil disturbance during land preparation.                                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative – sediment mobilisation and polluted runoff are possible if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local to runoff pathways; Short-term (establishment period).                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium without controls; Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – rainfall-driven during exposed-soil periods.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no wetlands/watercourses occur within the footprint.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – preventable and reversible through stabilisation.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Short-term turbidity increase downstream during heavy rain if controls fail.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – by containing/stabilising disturbed areas and stockpiles.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep stockpiles away from runoff routes.</li> <li>• Install silt traps/berms before work.</li> <li>• Stabilise soils rapidly.</li> <li>• Manage irrigation to prevent runoff.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Runoff carrying sediment/nutrients/agrichemicals if irrigation and chemical use are poorly managed.                                                                                                                               |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; negative if unmanaged; neutral if best practice applied.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low with drip irrigation and responsible nutrient/chemical management.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low–Medium – dependent on management and extreme rainfall.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – operational controls can be improved at any time.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential downstream nutrient enrichment if poor practices occur.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – cannot be fully avoided but can be minimised.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain drip irrigation; avoid over-irrigation.</li> <li>• Avoid fertiliser/chemical application before heavy rain.</li> <li>• Maintain soil cover and drainage controls.</li> </ul>    |

|                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| Residual impacts                                                     | Minimal.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Sediment mobilisation during the removal of orchard/irrigation lines if soils are exposed.                                                                                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative – increased erosion potential during closure works.                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without controls; Low with controls.                                                                                                                                      |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low (closure unlikely).                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary sediment transport downstream if unmanaged.                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – controlled removal and immediate stabilisation.                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage works; stabilise exposed areas immediately.</li> <li>• Reinstatement erosion controls until vegetation is established.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>Terrestrial Biodiversity (Botanical – Vegetation &amp; Habitat)</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Loss of degraded secondary vegetation within the footprint; risk of alien invasion if disturbed areas are unmanaged.                                                                                                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative – clearing and soil disturbance; temporary reduction in cover/habitat structure.                                                                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term; confined to 2.21 ha footprint.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low due to degraded baseline; increases if alien control is absent.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (definite).                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no plant SCC recorded; footprint is historically disturbed.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – rehabilitation/groundcover and alien control restore cover and stability.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary reduction in habitat for generalist fauna; alien spread risk if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – clearing required but strictly confined to the footprint.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strict demarcation of footprint and no-go areas outside the footprint.</li> <li>▪ Ongoing alien invasive monitoring/control.</li> <li>▪ Restore/maintain groundcover between rows.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low – orchard replaces degraded secondary vegetation within a cultivated landscape.                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Ongoing weed/alien invasion; habitat simplification typical of orchards.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; negative if invasives increase; neutral if controlled.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low with active management.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – depends on maintenance.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential spread of invasives along disturbed edges if unmanaged.                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement ongoing alien invasive control.</li> <li>Maintain groundcover; avoid unnecessary disturbance beyond rows.</li> </ul>                 |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Loss of orchard cover and exposure of soils; invasive colonisation during closure if unmanaged.                                                                                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative; manageable through closure rehabilitation.                                                                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased alien invasion risk if closure is unmanaged.                                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure plan and prompt rehabilitation avoid most impacts.                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closure rehabilitation and alien control for at least 2–3 seasons.</li> <li>Stabilise soils immediately with cover crops/reseeding.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>Visual Impact</b>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary visual disturbance from clearing, bare soil, and machinery.                                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Short-term negative change in visual character within an agricultural landscape.                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment period).                                                                                                                                                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low – consistent with normal farming operations in the area.                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no unique scenic resource loss.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – visual character stabilises once the orchard and groundcover establish.                                                                                                             |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary dust haze in dry/windy conditions.                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (temporary).                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – staging reduces bare soil exposure.                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stage works; progressively stabilise/cover soils.</li> <li>Dust suppression on dry/windy days.</li> <li>Maintain neat site housekeeping.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| Potential impact and risk                                            | Long-term change from fallow/degraded field to cultivated olive orchard.                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral to positive – consistent with surrounding vineyards/orchards and rural sense of place. |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Very low.                                                                                      |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Reversible only through cessation; not required.                                               |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Maintains agricultural landscape character and productive land use.                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low (neutral/positive).                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not required.                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High (good housekeeping).                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable (neutral/positive).                                                             |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain neat orchard margins; ongoing alien control.                                          |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Neutral/positive.                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Neutral to positive.                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Very Low (neutral/positive).                                                                   |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary visual scarring if the orchard is removed and the land is left bare.                 |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative, short-term.                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                             |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Very low.                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary dust/visual exposure.                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low (hypothetical).                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure plan and prompt rehabilitation.                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Progressive rehabilitation, dust control, and re-establishment of stable vegetation cover.     |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                           |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>Socio-Economic Impact</b>                                                                                                  |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                               |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary disturbance (noise/dust/traffic) and short-term job creation.                                                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Mixed – short-term negative nuisance; short-term positive employment.                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment period).                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                   |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None – no displacement or loss of community assets.                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible after establishment.                                                                                         |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Local procurement and service contractor opportunities.                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                          |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – disturbance cannot be eliminated but can be reduced.                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                         |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Daytime working hours; dust control; safe traffic management on farm tracks; maintain a communication channel for complaints. |

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| Residual impacts                                                     | Minor temporary nuisance; positive short-term jobs.                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Long-term agricultural production, employment stability, and value chain support.                                              |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Positive.                                                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local-regional; Long-term.                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium-High positive.                                                                                                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable (positive).                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Supports local agricultural services and seasonal labour demand.                                                               |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Positive.                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium-High (positive).                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable (positive).                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain environmental controls (erosion, irrigation, and alien control) to protect long-term productivity and sustainability. |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Positive socio-economic contribution.                                                                                          |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Positive.                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Medium-High (positive).                                                                                                        |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Loss of production and associated employment if the orchard is removed without replacement land use.                           |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative (indirect economic effect).                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term if not replaced.                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium (depends on replacement land use).                                                                                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – alternative productive use could replace benefits.                                                                    |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary closure-phase disturbance similar to the establishment phase.                                                        |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low (hypothetical).                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High (closure unlikely).                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium.                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Medium.                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Closure planning and transition to alternative productive land use where feasible; dust/noise controls during closure works.   |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                           |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>Heritage Impact</b>                                                        |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                               |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Disturbance of unknown heritage resources during soil preparation.            |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative if heritage resources are present and disturbed.             |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Site-specific; permanent only if damaged without procedures.                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium – footprint previously disturbed but chance finds remain possible. |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – low likelihood; manageable through protocols.                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Moderate-High – stop-work and specialist intervention can prevent loss.       |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary delays if chance finds occur.                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                          |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium.                                                                   |

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| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – strict footprint control and chance finds procedure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure in EMPr.</li> <li>Stop work immediately if heritage material/graves are found; notify Heritage Western Cape and appoint a specialist if required.</li> <li>Toolbox talks before works commence.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Negligible with procedures in place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Disturbance from routine operations (unlikely as no excavation occurs).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Site-specific; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High (stop-work if discovered during maintenance).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None expected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Apply the Chance Finds Procedure during any maintenance involving soil disturbance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Residual impacts                                                     | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Exposure of buried heritage materials during removal/rehabilitation works.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Localised; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with protocols.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None expected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Very low (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Apply the Chance Finds Procedure; stop work and notify Heritage Western Cape if required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Item                                          | Noise & Dust Impacts                                                                             |
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| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                     | Dust and noise from clearing, ripping, planting and vehicle movement affecting nearby receptors. |
| Nature of impact                              | Negative; short-term nuisance.                                                                   |
| Extent and duration of impact                 | Local; Short-term (establishment period).                                                        |

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| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible once works stop.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Minor disturbance to generalist fauna; temporary reduction in amenity.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – cannot be eliminated but can be reduced.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dust suppression on dry/windy days (wetting).</li> <li>• Limit works to daytime hours.</li> <li>• Maintain machinery and silencers.</li> <li>• Control vehicle speeds on farm tracks.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Minor and temporary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Routine farm activity noise and occasional dust from vehicle movement.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Low-level, consistent with agricultural baseline.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – reversible through operational controls.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None significant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain tracks; manage speeds; avoid unnecessary operations at night; continue dust control as needed.                                                                                                                                   |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary dust/noise during removal and rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative; short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible post-works.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary nuisance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Same as construction controls (dust suppression, daytime hours, speed control, neat housekeeping).                                                                                                                                        |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b> | <b>WASTE IMPACT</b> |
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| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Potential impact and risk                                            | Generation of general waste (packaging, domestic waste), vegetation waste from clearing, and minor agricultural-related waste during establishment; risk of littering, illegal dumping, or pollution if waste is not properly managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative but localised; waste generation is temporary and manageable through standard waste controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment period). Confined to the 2.21 ha footprint and farm operational areas where waste is stored/collected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium without controls (pollution/litter risk); Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (will occur) – waste generation is unavoidable during establishment activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no irreplaceable resources likely to be affected if waste is properly contained and disposed of.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – impacted areas can be cleaned and rehabilitated; pollution prevention is achievable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Attraction of pests/vermin if waste is not stored correctly; potential contamination of soil if oils/chemicals are mishandled; visual nuisance from litter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium – incremental increase in farm waste streams during establishment if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – waste cannot be eliminated but can be minimised through good housekeeping and waste reduction.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High – waste management procedures are standard and enforceable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High – segregation, storage and lawful disposal effectively mitigate impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implement waste management plan and housekeeping rules.</li> <li>▪ Provide labelled bins/skips for general waste and recyclables.</li> <li>▪ Remove waste from the site regularly and dispose of it at a licensed facility.</li> <li>▪ No burying/burning of waste.</li> <li>▪ Designate a secure area for temporary waste storage.</li> <li>▪ Spill prevention and clean-up procedures for any oils/fuels.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Minimal; small volumes of waste are generated and removed via normal farm waste arrangements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Ongoing generation of routine agricultural waste (empty containers, packaging, pruning material) and general farm waste; risk of contamination from incorrect storage/disposal of agrichemical containers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, low-level negative impact; manageable within normal farm waste systems and best practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term (life of orchard).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low with proper storage and disposal; can become Medium if agrichemical waste is mismanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High – operational waste is inherent to farming activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – avoidable through compliance and proper handling.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – clean-up and corrective management possible at any time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential soil contamination or harm to fauna if waste is left accessible; visual nuisance if litter accumulates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium – continual small waste streams could accumulate if not managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – waste generation cannot be avoided but can be reduced and controlled.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ongoing waste segregation and collection.</li> <li>▪ Triple-rinse and puncture agrichemical containers and dispose via approved/recognised collection system.</li> <li>▪ Store hazardous waste (if any) securely in a bunded area within existing farm facilities.</li> <li>▪ Regular clean-up inspections and housekeeping.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low; waste remains controlled and removed via routine farm waste systems.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Waste generation from removal of irrigation lines, trellis/support material (if any), plastic piping, packaging, and possible tree removal; risk of illegal dumping or burning if not managed.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative, but temporary and manageable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (closure period).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without controls (dumping/burning risk); Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low – closure not anticipated; if it occurs, waste generation will occur.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – waste can be removed and areas cleaned/rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Visual nuisance: potential contamination if materials are burnt or dumped; harm to fauna if plastics remain on site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – waste generation is unavoidable if closure occurs; avoidable impacts relate to disposal method.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare closure waste plan.</li> <li>• Remove all materials to licensed disposal/recycling facilities.</li> <li>• No burying/burning.</li> <li>• Ensure site clean-up and final inspection to remove plastics and debris.</li> </ul>                                                                                                    |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if materials are removed and the site rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| <b>Alternative 1: Preferred</b>                                      | <b>CUMULATIVE IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Incremental cumulative disturbance associated with agricultural land preparation in the Bovei Valley, including vegetation clearance, soil disturbance, dust, and potential erosion contributions if multiple developments occur in the area. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative; additive effect of small disturbances within an established agricultural landscape.                                                                                                                                       |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local to sub-catchment / local agricultural landscape; Short-term (establishment period) with potential longer-term consequences if erosion occurs.                                                                                           |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium – limited by small footprint (2.21 ha) and historically cultivated baseline; increases if mitigation not applied.                                                                                                                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – cumulative effects depend on timing and number of similar activities in the vicinity.                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – footprint is historically disturbed; no sensitive freshwater features within footprint; cumulative loss of intact habitat is unlikely from this activity alone.                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium–High – cumulative erosion/dust effects are largely reversible through rehabilitation and good management.                                                                                                                              |

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| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential incremental sediment loads to downstream systems if multiple sites are disturbed simultaneously and controls fail; incremental spread of alien invasives if not controlled.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – cumulative risk reduced by limiting disturbance and implementing best practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High – via strict EMPr measures and staging of works.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High – erosion controls, stabilisation, and alien control reduce cumulative contribution.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stage clearing/soil preparation to limit simultaneous bare-soil exposure.</li> <li>▪ Implement erosion/stormwater controls before and during works.</li> <li>▪ Maintain strict footprint demarcation.</li> <li>▪ Implement alien invasive control.</li> <li>▪ Maintain housekeeping and dust control.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Very low incremental contribution to cumulative impacts due to small footprint and mitigation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Incremental cumulative pressure from ongoing agricultural operations in the area (water demand, agrichemical use, soil management), adding to existing agricultural intensity in the Bovlei Valley.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; largely neutral if best practice is applied; negative if poor management leads to runoff/pollution.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local to sub-catchment; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low – olives are a perennial crop with relatively stable soil cover if managed correctly; risks increase if poor irrigation/nutrient practices occur.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – depends on long-term management and cumulative activities in the area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no direct impact on wetlands/watercourses within footprint; cumulative impacts are avoidable through best practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – operational practices can be adapted and improved at any time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential incremental nutrient/sediment contribution to downstream systems if runoff occurs; cumulative spread of invasives if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – cannot avoid agricultural presence but can avoid negative outcomes through best practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain drip irrigation and avoid over-irrigation.</li> <li>▪ Implement nutrient management and avoid application before heavy rain.</li> <li>▪ Maintain soil cover and erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Continue alien invasive control.</li> </ul>                                                                |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low; orchard contributes minimally to cumulative pressures when well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Cumulative short-term disturbance if closure coincides with other land disturbances nearby (soil exposure, dust, waste streams), increasing risk of erosion/sediment export if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative (hypothetical), but controllable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term during closure works; long-term only if rehabilitation is not implemented.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low – closure unlikely; cumulative effect depends on timing with other activities.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – rehabilitation and clean-up reverse most effects.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary sediment loads and visual nuisance; risk of litter/plastic persistence if not removed.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure planning and immediate rehabilitation avoid most cumulative effects.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Closure plan including rehabilitation and waste removal.</li> <li>▪ Stabilise soils immediately and maintain erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Remove all materials to licensed disposal/recycling facilities.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if rehabilitated and the site is restored to stable condition.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## **Alternative 2: Relocate the orchard to another area on the farm (Rejected)**

| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>Geographical / Topographical (All phases in one table)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Localised alteration of micro-topography due to clearing and soil preparation on a potentially less-disturbed area, with increased erosion risk depending on slope/soil conditions at the relocated site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative; disturbance of soil profile and surface stability in an area not already confirmed as historically cultivated/disturbed to the same extent as the preferred footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term during establishment; footprint likely similar in size, but disturbance may extend to access/irrigation tie-ins.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium consequence – greater likelihood of rilling, gulying and slope instability if the relocated area has steeper gradients, shallow soils, or poorer existing groundcover.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (will occur) – land preparation is required for orchard establishment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium – depends on whether any natural landform features or stable slopes are affected; risk is higher than preferred due to uncertainty and potential intact landform elements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – stabilisation is achievable, but restoring pre-disturbance landform condition is difficult once ripping/earthworks occur.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased runoff velocity and sediment mobilisation downslope during rainfall events; potential downstream sedimentation if not controlled.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium – adds to cumulative soil disturbance pressures in the local agricultural landscape, with a higher risk if multiple areas are disturbed over time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low–Moderate – disturbance is inherent; avoidance is possible only by selecting already disturbed land (which is why the preferred footprint is superior).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High – standard erosion and stormwater controls are effective if implemented early.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High – stabilisation, staging and drainage controls reduce erosion risk substantially.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select the flattest/most stable portion of the alternative area.</li> <li>• Phase clearing and soil prep to limit bare-soil exposure.</li> <li>• Align rows/ripping to contours where feasible.</li> <li>• Install temporary erosion controls (berms, cut-off drains, silt traps).</li> <li>• Rapidly establish groundcover/row middles.</li> <li>• Keep stockpiles off slopes and away from drainage routes.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Residual landform change consistent with orchard agriculture, but with higher residual erosion sensitivity than the preferred footprint if the area is naturally more vulnerable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Long-term soil erosion and maintenance-related disturbance, potentially higher due to new access routes and/or longer travel distances for farm machinery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; negative if groundcover and drainage controls are poorly maintained; neutral if well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium – increased if the site is steeper or more erosion-prone than the preferred footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – adaptive operational management can correct issues.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Incremental sediment transport during heavy rain if maintenance fails.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (relative to preferred) due to potential additional internal routes and repeated trafficking.                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low – operation requires ongoing access/maintenance.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain permanent/seasonal groundcover.</li> <li>• Maintain drainage/berms and repair erosion immediately.</li> <li>• Manage traffic in wet conditions; control vehicle speed.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Manageable, but potentially higher than preferred depending on site conditions.                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Erosion and land degradation if the orchard is removed and the relocated area is left bare, especially if the site is naturally erosion prone.                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative; manageable with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term during closure; potentially long-term if not rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                            |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low (closure unlikely).                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium – depends on whether the alternative area contains any natural landform stability features.                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with proper regrading, stabilisation and revegetation.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Down-slope sediment transport if exposed soils are not stabilised.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure planning and staged rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closure/rehabilitation plan.</li> <li>• Immediate soil stabilisation (cover crop/reseeding).</li> <li>• Reinstate erosion controls until vegetation is established.</li> </ul>             |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>Aquatic / Freshwater Impact</b>                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Increased risk of direct or indirect impacts on freshwater features if the relocated area is closer to drainage lines, seep zones or seasonal flow paths not present in the preferred footprint. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Potentially direct (if a feature is present) and indirect (sedimentation/runoff); negative.                                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term during establishment, with possible downstream effects during rainfall events.                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium – higher risk than preferred due to uncertainty of proximity to aquatic features.                                                                                                         |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – depends on final location, but sediment/runoff risk during establishment is likely.                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium – increases if any aquatic features or buffers are affected.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium–High – reversible if impacts are indirect and promptly managed; less reversible if direct disturbance occurs.                                                                             |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased turbidity/sedimentation downstream; potential nutrient/chemical runoff if unmanaged.                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium – contributes to catchment sediment/nutrient pressures if multiple disturbed sites exist.                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – avoidance depends on selecting a location demonstrably away from aquatic features (again favouring the preferred footprint).                                                          |

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| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select relocation area with confirmed separation from drainage features.</li> <li>• Maintain precautionary buffers to any flow paths/low points.</li> <li>• Install silt traps/berms before clearing.</li> <li>• Stabilise soils rapidly; manage irrigation to prevent runoff.</li> <li>• No storage of fuels/chemicals in runoff-prone areas.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low–Medium depending on proximity to aquatic features; typically, higher residual risk than preferred.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Ongoing runoff carrying sediment/nutrients/agrichemicals, potentially higher if the relocated orchard is closer to receiving drainage features.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; negative if best practice not applied; neutral if well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – dependent on management and rainfall extremes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium if aquatic receptors are closer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High through operational changes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential downstream nutrient enrichment or sedimentation if controls fail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (relative to preferred).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain drip irrigation and avoid over-irrigation.</li> <li>• Nutrient management; avoid application before heavy rain.</li> <li>• Maintain soil cover and erosion controls.</li> <li>• Maintain buffers and no chemical mixing within runoff-prone areas.</li> </ul>                                                                                    |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Sediment mobilisation during removal works; risk increases if closure coincides with the wet season or if near drainage features.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without controls; Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium depending on receptor proximity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with stabilisation and rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary sediment transport downstream if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High–stage works and immediate stabilisation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage works; stabilise exposed areas immediately.</li> <li>• Reinstall erosion controls until vegetation is established.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Alternative 2: Relocate                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Terrestrial Biodiversity (Botanical – Vegetation & Habitat) |
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| PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                             |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Increased risk of clearing more natural or less disturbed vegetation, with a higher likelihood of encountering remnant fynbos elements and/or species of conservation concern compared to the preferred footprint.                                                                                                                                          |                                                             |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative – habitat loss and fragmentation potential; increased alien invasion risk from new disturbance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                             |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term, but vegetation loss may be long-term where converted to an orchard.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium–High – due to uncertainty and a higher probability of affecting higher-value vegetation than the preferred footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium–High – vegetation clearance is definite; the sensitivity of what is cleared is uncertain but could be higher.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Medium – increased likelihood of impacting remnant vegetation or SCC habitat if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – orchard conversion is not easily reversible; rehabilitation is possible only upon closure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                             |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Habitat fragmentation, edge effects, and potential alien spread into adjacent natural areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium–High – contributes more meaningfully to cumulative biodiversity loss if the area is less transformed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium–High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low–Moderate – depends on selecting an area already transformed; uncertainty makes avoidance harder than the preferred footprint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium–High – management possible but cannot fully offset direct habitat conversion if higher-value vegetation is cleared.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Medium – mitigation reduces secondary effects (aliens/erosion) but cannot fully mitigate loss of intact habitat if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                             |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Avoid any areas with intact natural vegetation; select already transformed fields only.</li><li>▪ Pre-clear walk-through to identify SCC/habitat features.</li><li>▪ Strict footprint demarcation.</li><li>▪ Alien invasive control programme.</li><li>▪ Maintain buffers to adjacent natural vegetation.</li></ul> |                                                             |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low–Medium if relocation is confined to already transformed land; Medium if any natural vegetation is converted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low–Medium (dependent on final site).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low–Medium (if relocated onto transformed land) / Medium (if not).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                             |
| OPERATIONAL PHASE                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                             |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Ongoing edge effects and alien spread risk if orchard borders natural vegetation; continued habitat simplification.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                             |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; negative if alien control fails; neutral if well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                             |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                             |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium–High through management, but habitat conversion remains.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                             |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential spread of invasives into adjacent natural areas; reduced connectivity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                             |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – depends on buffer and management.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High for indirect effects (aliens), limited for direct conversion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                             |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Maintain buffers to adjacent natural vegetation.</li><li>▪ Ongoing alien invasive control.</li><li>▪ Maintain groundcover between rows; minimise disturbance beyond rows.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                 |                                                             |

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| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if buffers and alien control are effective.                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Closure disturbance could expose soils and allow invasives; an opportunity exists for rehabilitation if managed.                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative during works; potentially positive if rehabilitation restores indigenous cover.                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short- to Medium-term.                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium (depends on baseline vegetation value).                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High if closure rehabilitation is properly implemented.                                                                                                                               |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased alien invasion risk if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure plan and immediate rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closure rehabilitation plan and alien control for 2–3 seasons.</li> <li>• Stabilise soils immediately with cover crops/reseeding.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>Visual Impact</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Potentially greater temporary visual disturbance if relocation is more exposed to public viewpoints or neighboring receptors than the preferred footprint.                                                                            |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Short-term negative change from clearing, bare soil, and machinery; the magnitude depends on the visibility of the alternative site.                                                                                                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment).                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium – could be more noticeable if the site is prominent.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – reduces once the orchard and groundcover establish.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary dust haze in windy conditions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (if the area is more visually sensitive).                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – avoidance depends on selecting a less visible location.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Select a location screened by existing topography/vegetation where possible.</li> <li>▪ Stage works; progressively stabilise soils.</li> <li>▪ Dust suppression and housekeeping.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low once established, consistent with agricultural landscape character.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Long-term change in visual character due to the creation of an orchard in an area that may currently appear more natural or less cultivated.                                                                                          |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral to negative depending on baseline; orchard is agricultural but may contrast more with the current landscape if the area was less transformed.                                                                                 |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Low – reversal requires cessation and rehabilitation.                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential change in sense of place if viewed from sensitive receptors.                         |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low – orchard presence is the purpose.                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium–High (edge management/housekeeping).                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Medium (visual mitigation limited for long-term land use change).                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain neat orchard margins; preserve screening vegetation outside footprint; alien control. |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low–Medium, depending on visual exposure.                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                           |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary visual scarring if the orchard is removed and soils left exposed.                    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative, short-term.                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                             |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Very low.                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary dust/visual exposure.                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High with a closure plan.                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Progressive rehabilitation, dust control, and re-establishment of stable vegetation cover.     |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                           |

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| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>Socio-Economic Impact</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Similar short-term employment benefits but potentially greater nuisance to nearby receptors if relocation is closer to residences/worker housing or public routes. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Mixed; short-term positive jobs; potentially higher short-term negative disturbance.                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible after establishment.                                                                                                                              |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased traffic on internal farm routes; potential temporary access interference.                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – dependent on-site selection relative to receptors.                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Daytime working hours, dust control, speed control; communication channel for complaints.                                                                          |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Minor and temporary.                                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| Potential impact and risk                                            | Similar long-term agricultural benefits but reduced operational efficiency could increase costs and operational disturbance if the site is less suitable/logistically distant. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Positive overall, but potentially less efficient than preferred.                                                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local-regional; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium positive.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable (positive).                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Increased travel distances on farm tracks may increase the dust/noise footprint marginally.                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (positive).                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable (positive).                                                                                                                                                     |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain environmental controls to protect long-term productivity; manage traffic and dust on internal routes.                                                                 |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Positive but less optimal than preferred.                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Positive.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Medium (positive).                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Loss of production and associated employment if the orchard is removed; similar to preferred.                                                                                  |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative (indirect).                                                                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term if not replaced.                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – alternative agricultural use could replace benefits.                                                                                                                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary closure disturbance.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High (closure unlikely).                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Closure planning and transition to alternative productive use where feasible.                                                                                                  |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>Heritage Impact</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Higher chance of finding risk because the relocated area has not been verified as intensively disturbed; potential to encounter buried heritage material, old farm features or graves. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative if heritage resources are present and disturbed during soil preparation.                                                                                              |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Site-specific; permanent only if damaged without procedures.                                                                                                                           |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium – risk higher than preferred due to uncertainty and potentially less disturbed ground.                                                                                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Medium if graves/archaeological deposits are present.                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – stop-work protocols can prevent loss; damage is not reversible if it occurs.                                                                                                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Delays and additional permitting/requirements if heritage resources are discovered.                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – depends on selecting already disturbed land.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High (procedural), though direct impacts cannot be mitigated after damage occurs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure.</li> <li>Toolbox talks before work.</li> <li>Stop work immediately if heritage material/graves are found; notify Heritage Western Cape and appoint a specialist if required.</li> <li>Avoid any visible old structures/walls/stone-packed areas.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if protocols followed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Disturbance from routine operations (unlikely as no excavation occurs).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Site-specific; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High (stop-work if discovered during maintenance).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None expected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Apply the Chance Finds Procedure during any maintenance involving soil disturbance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Residual impacts                                                     | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Exposure of buried heritage materials during removal/rehabilitation works.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Localised; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with protocols.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary delays if finds occur.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Apply the Chance Finds Procedure; stop work and notify Heritage Western Cape if required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                | <b>Noise &amp; Dust Impacts</b>                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                     | Dust and noise from clearing, ripping, planting and vehicle movement; potentially greater impact if the alternative site is closer to receptors or requires more/longer access travel. |
| Nature of impact                              | Negative; short-term nuisance.                                                                                                                                                         |

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| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment period).                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium (potentially Medium if near sensitive receptors).                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible once work stops.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary disturbance to fauna and amenity; dust deposition on adjacent crops if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – can be reduced by selecting a less sensitive location and limiting movements.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dust suppression (wetting) on dry/windy days.</li> <li>• Daytime working hours only.</li> <li>• Maintain machinery/silencers.</li> <li>• Speed control on farm tracks; minimise unnecessary trips.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Minor and temporary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Routine farm activity noise and occasional dust; potentially greater if the site requires longer travel distances.                                                                                                                                     |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Low-level; consistent with agricultural baseline.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – reversible through operational controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None significant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Maintain tracks; manage speeds; avoid unnecessary operations at night; continue dust control as needed.                                                                                                                                                |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Temporary dust/noise during removal and rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative; short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Fully reversible post-works.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary nuisance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Same as establishment controls (dust suppression, daytime hours, speed control, housekeeping).                                                                                                                                                         |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| Alternative 2: Relocate                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | WASTE IMPACT |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Increased waste generation due to additional infrastructure tie-ins (longer irrigation lines, additional fittings), more packaging, and potentially more clearing waste; higher risk of littering/dumping if not managed.                                                                                             |              |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative but localised; manageable through standard waste controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term (establishment period), potentially extending beyond the footprint due to infrastructure routes.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without controls; Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (will occur).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – clean-up and lawful disposal are achievable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |              |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Pest attraction: soil contamination risk if oils/chemicals are mismanaged; visual nuisance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium – higher volume of waste than preferred due to additional infrastructure needs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – reduce by minimising packaging and reusing materials.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Waste plan and housekeeping.</li><li>• Provide bins/skips for general waste and recyclables.</li><li>• Regular removal to licensed facilities.</li><li>• No burning/burying.</li><li>• Secure storage for hazardous waste (if any) within existing farm facilities.</li></ul> |              |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| OPERATIONAL PHASE                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Similar operational waste streams, potentially increased due to longer irrigation system maintenance and additional materials.                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, low-level negative; manageable within farm waste systems.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low with proper disposal; Medium if agrichemical waste is mismanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Litter and contamination risk if waste is left accessible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Ongoing segregation/collection.</li><li>▪ Approved disposal for agrichemical containers (triple-rinse/puncture).</li><li>▪ Routine inspections and housekeeping.</li></ul>                                                                                                    |              |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |
| DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Higher closure waste volumes (longer irrigation lines/pipes, fittings, plastics) and risk of improper disposal if not managed.                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Direct, negative but temporary and manageable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without controls; Low with controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |

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| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Visual nuisance; contamination if materials are burnt/dumped.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate – waste generation is unavoidable if closure occurs.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Closure waste plan.</li> <li>▪ Remove all materials to licensed disposal/recycling facilities.</li> <li>▪ No burning/burying.</li> <li>▪ Final site clean-up inspection.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| <b>Alternative 2: Relocate</b>                                       | <b>CUMULATIVE IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Higher cumulative contribution to landscape-level disturbance because relocation may convert a less disturbed area, potentially adding to biodiversity loss, erosion and sediment pressure beyond the historically cultivated footprint.                                                                                                             |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative; additive effect of new transformation in the farm matrix.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local to sub-catchment/local landscape; Short-term during establishment with potential longer-term consequences if higher-value areas are converted.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium-High – higher than preferred due to increased risk of affecting less transformed land and/or closer receptors.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – dependent on final location and other activities in the area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Medium – increases if intact vegetation or sensitive receptors are affected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – indirect effects are reversible; direct conversion is not easily reversible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Incremental sediment/nutrient loads, invasive spread, and incremental loss of natural habitat if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium-High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium-High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low-Moderate – depends entirely on selecting already transformed land; uncertainty makes avoidance harder.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High for indirect effects; limited for direct habitat conversion if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Medium-High – mitigation reduces indirect effects; cannot fully mitigate direct conversion of intact habitat.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Only relocate into demonstrably transformed land.</li> <li>▪ Stage works to limit bare-soil exposure.</li> <li>▪ Implement erosion controls before clearing.</li> <li>▪ Maintain buffers to natural areas/drainage features.</li> <li>▪ Implement ongoing alien control and nutrient management.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Higher residual cumulative contribution than preferred, even if mitigated, due to increased transformation risk.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Incremental cumulative pressure from ongoing agriculture (water, nutrients, chemicals, traffic) is potentially higher due to longer internal access routes and potential proximity to sensitive receptors.                                                                                                                                           |

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| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect; neutral if best practice applied; negative if poorly managed.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local to sub-catchment; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium depending on receptor proximity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High through operational changes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential incremental nutrient/sediment contribution if runoff occurs; invasive spread.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (relative to preferred).                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Moderate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain drip irrigation; avoid over-irrigation.</li> <li>▪ Nutrient management.</li> <li>▪ Maintain soil cover and erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Ongoing alien control.</li> </ul>                                |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if well managed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Higher cumulative short-term disturbance if closure coincides with other land disturbances and if the relocated site is naturally more sensitive, increasing erosion and waste pressures.                                                                  |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Indirect, negative (hypothetical), controllable.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Short-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Medium without rehabilitation; Low with rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with rehabilitation and clean-up.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Temporary sediment loads and litter/plastic persistence if not removed.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Medium (hypothetical).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – closure planning and immediate rehabilitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Closure plan including rehabilitation and waste removal.</li> <li>▪ Stabilise soils immediately; maintain erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Remove all materials to licensed disposal/recycling facilities.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if rehabilitated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## **No-Go Option – Do not implement the proposed olive cultivation block (Welvenpas)**

| <b>No-Go Option</b>                                                  | <b>GEOGRAPHICAL / TOPOGRAPHICAL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No change to micro-topography from land preparation. Ongoing risk relates to the existing disturbed/fallow condition of the 2.21 ha block (minor rilling/uneven ground) persisting without active stabilisation.                                               |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral (no new disturbance). Indirect negative possible if unmanaged fallow land continues to degrade through erosion.                                                                                                                                        |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term – current landform and surface condition remain unchanged within the 2.21 ha block.                                                                                                                                                           |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium – depends on ongoing management; erosion risk may increase during intense rainfall if groundcover is poor.                                                                                                                                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – erosion risk is rainfall-driven and depends on vegetation cover and management.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no unique landforms; however, gradual soil loss is a potential resource loss if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium–High – erosion can be addressed through rehabilitation/groundcover management if implemented later.                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential for continued soil loss and sediment movement downslope during heavy rainfall if the fallow area is not stabilised.                                                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium – contributes to cumulative erosion risk if multiple fallow disturbed areas persist in the landscape.                                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – through basic land management (stabilisation, cover crop, contour management) even without development.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain stable groundcover on the 2.21 ha block.</li> <li>• Implement basic erosion controls (berms/contour measures) where needed.</li> <li>• Monitor after heavy rainfall and repair any rills/gullies.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Stable current landform maintained; residual risk only if the area remains unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No operational impacts from orchard activities. Continued risk is the long-term persistence of fallow land with potential erosion and weed encroachment if unmanaged.                                                                                          |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral (no new operational activity). Indirect negative possible if the land condition deteriorates.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium, depending on maintenance of groundcover and erosion controls.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High with land management interventions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Continued soil loss risk; potential for sediment movement off-site during storm events if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing maintenance of vegetative cover.</li> <li>• Erosion monitoring and prompt repairs.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                 |

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| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                             |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                             |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development to decommission). |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                  |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                  |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                  |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                                                  | <b>AQUATIC / FRESHWATER IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No establishment-phase sedimentation risk from land preparation. Ongoing risk remains from existing fallow conditions on the 2.21 ha block if erosion occurs during storm events.                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral (no new disturbance). Indirect negative possible if sediment is mobilised from unmanaged soils.                                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term – current runoff and erosion dynamics remain.                                                                                                                                         |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium – depends on groundcover and erosion status.                                                                                                                                                |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – rainfall-driven.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – no watercourses/wetlands within the footprint; risk relates to indirect sediment contribution downstream.                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – erosion controls and rehabilitation can be implemented at any stage.                                                                                                                            |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential episodic sediment transport to downstream drainage features if the fallow area is not stabilised.                                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – maintain vegetation cover and manage erosion.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain stable groundcover.</li> <li>▪ Implement basic erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Avoid leaving bare soil exposed before high rainfall periods.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Very low if managed; low–medium if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No operational impacts (no irrigation/agrichemicals). Ongoing indirect risk is sediment movement from unmanaged fallow land during heavy rainfall.                                                     |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral; indirect negative possible if erosion persists.                                                                                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential sediment contribution to downstream systems during storm events if unmanaged.                                        |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain cover vegetation.</li> <li>• Monitor erosion and repair promptly.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                           |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                               |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                                                                                                |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                                                  | <b>TERRESTRIAL/BOTANICAL (BOTANICAL – VEGETATION &amp; HABITAT)</b>                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No vegetation clearance for development. Ongoing risk is the continued dominance of degraded ruderal vegetation on the 2.21 ha block and possible alien invasive spread if not actively managed.                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral (no new clearing). Indirect negative possible if invasives increase and degrade surrounding areas.                                                                                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term – current vegetation state persists.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium – depends on whether alien invasives establish/spread and whether the fallow area is actively managed.                                                                                                                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium – alien invasion risk is realistic without active control.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – area is already degraded; however, invasive spread could affect adjacent areas if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High - alien control and rehabilitation can improve the condition.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential spread of alien invasive plants into adjacent cultivated/natural areas; increased fire fuel load in unmanaged vegetation.                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – through ongoing alien management and land stewardship.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement alien invasive control and follow-ups.</li> <li>• Maintain manageable groundcover.</li> <li>• Prevent dumping and unnecessary disturbance that encourages invasives.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if managed; persistent degraded state if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No operational impacts from orchard activities. Ongoing risk is continued invasive spread, weed dominance and poor ecological condition if unmanaged. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral; indirect negative possible if land stewardship is absent.                                                                                    |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                           |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential incremental degradation of surrounding areas through invasive spread.                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                           |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                 |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued alien invasive control.</li> <li>• Periodic site inspections and corrective action.</li> </ul>     |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low if actively managed.                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                       |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                                                  | <b>VISUAL IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No temporary establishment visual impacts. Visual character remains as an unmanaged/partly fallow agricultural block with secondary vegetation on the 2.21 ha footprint. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (status quo maintained).                                                                                                                                            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | If unmanaged, the area may appear neglected and may accumulate weeds/aliens, affecting the sense of place.                                                               |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High – through good land stewardship, even without development.                                                                                                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain neatness/housekeeping.</li> <li>• Control invasive weeds and dumping.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No operational visual impacts (no orchard established). Visual character remains unchanged.                                        |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral.                                                                                                                           |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Continued visual appearance of fallow land; potential weediness if not managed.                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain weed/alien control and prevent dumping.</li> </ul>                               |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                               |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                    |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                                   |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                                                                                                    |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                                                  | <b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No short-term job creation and no temporary disturbance from establishment activities. Foregone opportunity to improve productivity and support the local agricultural value chain through the use of the 2.21 ha block. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral for disturbance; negative due to foregone socio-economic benefits.                                                                                                                                               |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium (foregone benefits).                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (if no-go is selected).                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – but opportunity costs may affect long-term farm resilience/diversification.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium – benefits could be realised later if development proceeds in future.                                                                                                                                             |

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| Indirect impacts                                                     | Potential increased pressure to expand production elsewhere; continued underutilisation and management burden of fallow land (weeds/aliens).           |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low–Medium (negative).                                                                                                                                 |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low – foregone benefits are inherent to a no-go choice.                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain land stewardship and consider future productive use options that follow lawful processes.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Continued underutilisation; lost opportunity for employment and production.                                                                            |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No long-term agricultural production and associated value chain support from this block; continued management burden of fallow land (weeds/aliens).    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Negative due to foregone production and ongoing land management issues.                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                      |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High.                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium.                                                                                                                                                |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Reduced diversification/resilience; potential shift of production pressure to other areas.                                                             |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low (negative).                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Low.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Medium.                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                            |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing stewardship of the fallow area and invasive control.</li> </ul>                                       |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Ongoing foregone benefits.                                                                                                                             |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                   |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                        |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                                                       |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                           | <b>HERITAGE IMPACT</b>                                                                      |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                             |
| Potential impact and risk                     | No risk of disturbance to potential heritage resources from excavation or soil preparation. |

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| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral (no development-related impact). |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term (status quo).           |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low.                                     |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (no disturbance occurs).            |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                                    |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None.                                    |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Negligible.                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                          |
| Residual impacts                                                     | None.                                    |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                              |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                     |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no activity).            |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                          |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                          |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                          |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                          |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                          |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                          |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).         |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                          |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                          |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                          |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                          |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                          |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                          |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                          |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                          |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                          |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                          |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                           | <b>NOISE AND DUST IMPACTS</b>                           |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                         |
| Potential impact and risk                     | No dust or noise impacts from establishment activities. |
| Nature of impact                              | Neutral.                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                 | Local; Long-term (status quo).                          |
| Consequence of impact or risk                 | Low.                                                    |

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| Probability of occurrence                                            | High (no activity).              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | None.                            |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | None.                            |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Negligible.                      |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                             |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                  |
| Residual impacts                                                     | None.                            |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Negligible.                      |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                             |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no activity).    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                  |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                  |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                  |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development). |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                  |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                  |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                  |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                  |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                  |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                  |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                  |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                  |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                  |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                  |

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| <b>No-Go Option</b>                           | <b>WASTE IMPACT</b>                                                                                                   |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                                                       |
| Potential impact and risk                     | No development waste generated. Ongoing risk relates to illegal dumping/littering on unmanaged land if not monitored. |
| Nature of impact                              | Neutral; indirect negative possible if dumping occurs.                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                 | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                 | Low-Medium if dumping occurs; Low if monitored.                                                                       |
| Probability of occurrence                     | Low-Medium, depending on access control and monitoring.                                                               |

|                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High – clean-up is possible.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Pest attraction and visual nuisance if dumping occurs.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain access control and periodic inspections.</li> <li>▪ Remove any dumped waste promptly.</li> <li>▪ Maintain housekeeping and signage if required.</li> </ul> |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No operational waste from orchard activities. Ongoing risk is continued dumping/littering if unmanaged.                                                                                                      |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral; indirect negative possible.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low–Medium if dumping occurs.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Low–Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Visual nuisance and potential soil contamination if illegal dumping occurs.                                                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing monitoring and clean-ups.</li> <li>• Maintain access control.</li> </ul>                                                                                    |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                               |                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>No-Go Option</b>                           | <b>CUMULATIVE IMPACTS</b>                                                                                                            |
| <b>PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PHASE</b> |                                                                                                                                      |
| Potential impact and risk                     | No contribution to cumulative construction impacts (no clearing, no soil disturbance). Ongoing cumulative risk is the persistence of |

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|                                                                      | unmanaged fallow land on the 2.21 ha block, contributing to erosion, invasive spread and local land degradation.                                                                                                    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral in terms of new disturbance; indirect negative possible if land condition declines.                                                                                                                         |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium (dependent on stewardship).                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium if unmanaged; low if actively managed.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low – gradual soil loss possible if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Medium-High – land condition can be improved through rehabilitation and management.                                                                                                                                 |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Continued invasive spread and episodic sediment movement during storms if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain cover vegetation and erosion controls.</li> <li>▪ Alien invasive control.</li> <li>▪ Periodic inspections and prompt repairs/clean-ups.</li> </ul>                |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Very low if managed; low-medium if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PHASE</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | No contribution to cumulative operational agricultural pressures from this development. Ongoing cumulative risk relates to continued underutilisation and land degradation pressures if the area remains unmanaged. |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Neutral; indirect negative possible.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Local; Long-term.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Medium if unmanaged.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Persistent invasive spread and erosion contribute cumulatively to local land degradation if stewardship is absent.                                                                                                  |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Low-Medium.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be managed                            | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated                          | High.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Proposed mitigation                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue stewardship and alien control.</li> <li>• Maintain stable groundcover.</li> </ul>                                                                                 |
| Residual impacts                                                     | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation                                    | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation                       | Low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>DECOMMISSIONING AND CLOSURE PHASE</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Potential impact and risk                                            | Not applicable (no development).                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nature of impact                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Extent and duration of impact                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Consequence of impact or risk                                        | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Probability of occurrence                                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be reversed                           | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indirect impacts                                                     | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cumulative impact prior to mitigation                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation                    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Degree to which the impact can be avoided                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                                                |                 |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Degree to which the impact can be managed      | Not applicable. |
| Degree to which the impact can be mitigated    | Not applicable. |
| Proposed mitigation                            | Not applicable. |
| Residual impacts                               | Not applicable. |
| Cumulative impact post mitigation              | Not applicable. |
| Significance rating of impact after mitigation | Not applicable. |

## SECTION I: FINDINGS, IMPACT MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES

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| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Provide a summary of the findings and impact management measures identified by all Specialists and an indication of how these findings and recommendations have influenced the proposed development. |
| <p>Specialist inputs were obtained to verify the environmental sensitivities of the proposed 2.21 ha olive cultivation block and to inform the Basic Assessment and EMP. The specialist findings confirmed that the proposed development can proceed within the defined footprint, subject to implementation of standard impact management measures.</p> <p><u>Aquatic / Freshwater Specialist (Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement)</u></p> <p><u>Key findings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within the 2.21 ha development footprint.</li> <li>The footprint is hydrologically separated from nearby drainage features and is located more than 100 m from the nearest aquatic feature.</li> <li>The aquatic sensitivity of the footprint is low and no Water Use Licence Application is required for the activity.</li> </ul> <p><u>Impact management measures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement erosion and stormwater controls during land preparation to prevent sediment mobilisation.</li> <li>Maintain responsible irrigation practices to prevent runoff or ponding.</li> <li>Keep disturbed soils stabilised and manage stockpiles to avoid sediment movement off-site.</li> </ul> <p><u>Influence on the proposed development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmed that the footprint does not require aquatic buffers and that no redesign is required to avoid freshwater features.</li> <li>Informed the inclusion of erosion and stormwater mitigation measures in the EMP to prevent indirect impacts.</li> </ul> <p><u>Botanical / Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist (Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plant Species Compliance Statement)</u></p> <p><u>Key findings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The footprint does not contain intact Boland Granite Fynbos.</li> <li>Vegetation within the footprint is degraded secondary (ruderal) vegetation associated with historical agricultural disturbance.</li> <li>No plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded within the footprint.</li> <li>Terrestrial biodiversity and plant species sensitivity to the footprint are low.</li> </ul> <p><u>Impact management measures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confine all clearing strictly to the approved 2.21 ha footprint with clear demarcation and “no-go” areas outside the footprint.</li> <li>Implement alien invasive plant control (including follow-up treatments) to prevent spread after disturbance.</li> <li>Maintain groundcover between rows and implement soil stabilisation measures to reduce erosion and reinvasion by weeds.</li> </ul> <p><u>Influence on the proposed development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmed that the development footprint is appropriate and that impacts on biodiversity are limited and manageable.</li> <li>Reinforced the need to keep disturbance strictly within the defined footprint and informed vegetation/alien control measures in the EMP.</li> </ul> <p><u>Heritage Specialist / Heritage Process (NID to Heritage Western Cape)</u></p> <p><u>Key findings:</u></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

- A heritage process is being followed through submission of a Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) to determine if further heritage assessment is required.
- The footprint is a historically disturbed agricultural area, and no known heritage features have been identified within the footprint at this stage.

Impact management measures:

- Implement a Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure in the EMPr.
- Stop work and notify the relevant authority if any heritage resources (e.g., artefacts, fossils, graves) are uncovered during soil preparation.

Influence on the proposed development:

- Confirmed that heritage risk is likely low but ensured procedural safeguards are built into the EMPr.
- Ensured that the development can proceed with appropriate controls in place should any unexpected heritage resources be encountered.

Overall Influence on the Proposed Development

Collectively, the specialist findings confirmed that the proposed olive cultivation block within the 2.21 ha footprint is environmentally acceptable provided that:

- The footprint is strictly demarcated and adhered to;
- Erosion, stormwater and irrigation runoff are managed to prevent indirect effects;
- Alien invasive plant control and groundcover management are implemented; and
- Chance Find procedures are applied for heritage protection.

These recommendations have been incorporated into the project design (footprint containment and operational approach) and into the EMPr as enforceable impact management measures.

2. List the impact management measures that were identified by all specialists that will be included in the EMPr

A. Footprint control and “no-go” management

- Demarcate the approved 2.21 ha development footprint prior to any clearing.
- Establish and enforce no-go areas outside the demarcated footprint (no clearing, stockpiling, parking or turning of machinery).
- Keep all activities, material storage, refuelling and servicing within designated areas.

B. Erosion control and stormwater management

- Implement erosion and stormwater controls before land preparation starts (e.g., berms, cut-off drains, silt traps where needed).
- Phase clearing/soil preparation to minimise the extent of exposed soils at any one time.
- Stabilise disturbed soils as soon as practicable (e.g., re-seeding / cover crop / groundcover in row middles).
- Manage stockpiles to prevent wind and water erosion (place away from runoff pathways and stabilise if required).
- Inspect erosion controls after rainfall events and repair promptly.

C. Irrigation and runoff prevention

- Use and maintain drip irrigation to minimise runoff and water wastage.
- Prevent over-irrigation and ponding; adjust irrigation scheduling to soil and weather conditions.
- Maintain natural drainage patterns and avoid creating preferential flow paths that could cause erosion.

D. Alien invasive plant and vegetation management

- Implement an Alien Invasive Plant Control Programme during and after establishment, including follow-up treatments.
- Prevent the spread of invasives via vehicles and machinery (clean-down if working through weedy areas).
- Maintain managed groundcover between rows to reduce weed reinvasion and erosion.

E. Heritage chance finds procedure

- Include and implement a Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure.
- Stop work immediately in the affected area if any heritage material (artefacts, fossils, graves) is discovered.
- Secure the area and notify the relevant authority and/or heritage specialist for instruction before work continues.

F. Environmental monitoring and compliance

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct toolbox talks/site inductions covering footprint limits, erosion controls, alien control and chance finds procedures.</li> <li>Maintain site records (inspections, erosion incidents, alien control actions, and any chance-find occurrences).</li> <li>Ensure corrective actions are implemented promptly if non-compliance or environmental incidents occur.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 3. | <p>List the specialist investigations and the impact management measures that will <b>not</b> be implemented and provide an explanation as to why these measures will not be implemented.</p> <p><u>Specialist investigations were not undertaken</u></p> <p>1. <u>Visual / Landscape Impact Assessment</u><br/>Not undertaken because the proposed activity is a low-profile agricultural land use (olive orchard) within an existing agricultural landscape, with no buildings or major structures. Visual impacts are limited and can be managed through standard EMPr measures.</p> <p>2. <u>Noise Impact Assessment</u><br/>Not undertaken because noise will be temporary and typical of normal farm operations during establishment, with no long-term noise-generating infrastructure.</p> <p>3. <u>Air Quality / Dust Specialist Assessment</u><br/>Not undertaken because dust impacts are short-term, localised, and can be addressed through standard mitigation (watering, speed control, staged clearing) in the EMPr.</p> <p>4. <u>Faunal (Animal Species) Specialist Assessment</u><br/>Not undertaken because the habitat within the 2.21 ha footprint is degraded and highly disturbed, and faunal sensitivity is low. Faunal considerations are adequately addressed through general EMPr controls (avoid unnecessary disturbance, prevent harm to animals, housekeeping).</p> <p>5. <u>Palaeontological Specialist Assessment</u><br/>Not undertaken because no excavations of significant depth or large cuttings are proposed, and any unexpected finds can be managed through the Chance Finds procedure included in the EMPr and the heritage process.</p> <p>6. <u>Agricultural specialist "mitigation measures" beyond standard best practice</u><br/>Not required because the development remains agricultural in nature and occurs within an existing agricultural footprint. Standard soil conservation and farm management measures are sufficient and are included in the EMPr.</p> <p><u>Impact management measures not implemented</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Wetland/watercourse buffer demarcation (e.g., 32 m buffer or aquatic buffer fencing)</u><br/>Not implemented because specialist verification confirmed that no wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within the 2.21 ha footprint. The nearest aquatic feature is outside the footprint and no on-site aquatic buffer is required.</li> <li><u>Water Use Licence Application (WULA) or General Authorisation water-use registration measures</u><br/>Not implemented because the activity does not involve works within a watercourse, abstraction changes, or watercourse alteration, and specialist findings confirmed that a WULA is not required for the proposed development footprint.</li> <li><u>Biodiversity offset or formal habitat compensation</u><br/>Not implemented because the footprint contains degraded secondary vegetation, no plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded, and the terrestrial sensitivity is low. The development is confined to a historically disturbed agricultural footprint.</li> <li><u>Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) (full study) (unless later required by the authority)</u><br/>Not implemented at this stage because the heritage process is being addressed through submission of an NID to Heritage Western Cape, and no heritage features are known within the footprint. A full HIA will only be undertaken if required by the authority.</li> </ul> |
| 4. | <p>Explain how the proposed development will impact the surrounding communities.</p> <p>The proposed development is a small-scale agricultural activity (establishment of a 2.21 ha olive cultivation block) within an existing farming area. Surrounding communities are therefore expected to experience limited impacts, most of which are short-term during establishment.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

#### Construction/establishment phase (short-term)

- Temporary noise and dust: Land preparation and planting will generate short-term machinery noise and dust. These impacts are typical of farming activities in the area and will be managed through standard controls (daytime working hours, dust suppression where needed, and speed control on farm tracks).
- Local traffic and activity: There may be a temporary increase in farm vehicle movement (workers, equipment delivery), but no new public access roads are required and traffic impacts are expected to be minor and localised.
- Temporary employment: The establishment phase may create short-term work opportunities for local labour and service providers.

#### Operational phase (long-term)

- Ongoing agricultural activity: The olive orchard will operate as part of normal farming activities. Noise, traffic and visual change are expected to remain low and consistent with the existing agricultural character of the area.
- Economic contribution: The development supports agricultural production and may contribute positively to the local economy through continued employment, procurement of agricultural services, and strengthening farm viability.
- No new service demands: The development does not require new municipal services, does not introduce housing or processing facilities, and will not place pressure on local social infrastructure.

#### Overall impact on surrounding communities

Overall, the proposed development is expected to have low negative impacts (temporary, manageable nuisance during establishment) and positive socio-economic effects through maintaining productive agricultural use and supporting local agricultural value chains.

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| 5. | Explain how the risk of climate change may influence the proposed activity or development and how has the potential impacts of climate change been considered and addressed. |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Climate change may influence the proposed olive cultivation development primarily through increasing temperatures, more frequent heatwaves, longer dry periods, greater rainfall variability, and a higher likelihood of intense storm events. These risks can affect crop establishment success, irrigation demand, soil stability, and long-term farm productivity.

#### How climate change risks may influence the activity

- Water availability and drought stress: Longer dry periods and higher evapotranspiration may increase irrigation demand and place greater pressure on existing water resources, particularly during establishment and peak summer months.
- Extreme rainfall and erosion: More intense rainfall events can increase runoff, soil erosion, and sediment transport from disturbed or exposed soils during land preparation.
- Heatwaves and crop stress: Higher temperatures can affect young tree survival, reduce yield potential during extreme heat, and increase pest and disease pressures.
- Fire risk: Hotter, drier conditions can elevate veldfire risk, particularly where unmanaged weeds or invasive vegetation increase fuel loads.

#### How climate change considerations have been addressed

The potential impacts of climate change have been considered in the planning, design and management approach as follows:

- Crop selection and orchard design: Olives are a drought-tolerant perennial crop suited to Mediterranean-type climates and are generally more resilient to climate variability than many annual crops.
- Water-efficient irrigation: The development will use drip irrigation, which improves water-use efficiency, reduces evaporation losses, and limits runoff, supporting climate resilience under water-scarce conditions.
- Soil and stormwater management: The EMPr requires staged clearing, erosion controls, and rapid stabilisation/groundcover establishment to reduce erosion risk during extreme rainfall events.
- Adaptive management: Irrigation scheduling and orchard management practices will be adjusted to seasonal conditions, including reducing irrigation during cooler periods, avoiding over-irrigation, and responding to drought restrictions if applicable.
- Alien/weed control and fire prevention: Ongoing weed and alien invasive control will reduce fuel loads and help lower fire risk, while maintaining orderly vegetation management across the block.
- Monitoring and maintenance: Regular inspection of erosion controls, runoff pathways, and orchard condition will be undertaken, particularly after heavy rainfall or heat events, to enable prompt corrective action.

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| <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Climate change risks have been considered by selecting an appropriate crop, limiting disturbance to a defined footprint, prioritising water efficiency, and incorporating erosion, stormwater, and vegetation management measures into the EMPr. These measures ensure that the proposed development can remain productive and environmentally stable under increasing climate variability.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Explain whether there are any conflicting recommendations between the specialists. If so, explain how these have been addressed and resolved.</p> <p><u>There are no conflicting recommendations between specialists.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No material conflicting recommendations were identified between the specialists.</li> <li>▪ The aquatic specialist confirmed that no wetlands or watercourses occur within the 2.21 ha footprint and recommended standard erosion and stormwater controls to prevent indirect sediment impacts. The botanical specialist confirmed that the footprint contains degraded secondary vegetation with low terrestrial sensitivity and recommended strict footprint demarcation, alien invasive control, and maintenance of groundcover to limit disturbance and reinvasion. These recommendations are complementary and have been incorporated together into the EMPr.</li> <li>▪ Where the initial Screening Tool indicated higher sensitivities, this was resolved through specialist site verification, which confirmed low on-site aquatic and terrestrial sensitivity within the footprint. The specialist findings were therefore used as the basis for the final sensitivity ratings and the mitigation measures included in the EMPr.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 7.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Explain how the findings and recommendations of the different specialist studies have been integrated to inform the most appropriate mitigation measures that should be implemented to manage the potential impacts of the proposed activity or development.</p> <p>The findings and recommendations of the specialist studies were integrated using the mitigation hierarchy (avoid–minimise–mitigate) and translated into a single set of practical, enforceable measures in the EMPr that address the key impact pathways identified for the 2.21 ha footprint.</p> <p>1) <u>Avoidance and footprint containment (integrating all specialist inputs)</u></p> <p>Both the aquatic and botanical specialists confirmed that the development footprint is suitable, provided disturbance is strictly confined to the approved area. As a result, the EMPr requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-construction demarcation of the 2.21 ha footprint;</li> <li>• Clear “no-go” areas outside the footprint; and</li> <li>• Controls on where vehicles, stockpiles, refuelling and storage may occur.</li> </ul> <p>This directly implements the specialists' shared emphasis on limiting the disturbance area to prevent unnecessary impacts.</p> <p>2) <u>Soil, erosion and stormwater controls (aquatic + botanical integration)</u></p> <p>Although no wetlands or watercourses occur within the footprint, the aquatic specialist identified the key indirect risk as sediment mobilisation during land preparation and storm events. The botanical specialist likewise highlighted the need to maintain vegetation cover and prevent reinvasion by weeds/aliens after disturbance. These were integrated into a single EMPr package that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staged clearing and soil preparation to minimise exposed soil;</li> <li>• Early installation of berms/cut-off drains/silt controls where needed;</li> <li>• Rapid stabilisation of disturbed areas; and</li> <li>• Ongoing maintenance of groundcover between rows.</li> </ul> <p>This combined approach manages both sediment/runoff risks (freshwater protection) and vegetation/soil stability risks (terrestrial protection).</p> <p>3) <u>Vegetation and alien invasive management (botanical-led, supporting other themes)</u></p> <p>The botanical specialist confirmed degraded secondary vegetation and recommended alien control and groundcover management to prevent spread and maintain stable soils. These measures were incorporated and linked to erosion/runoff controls because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alien control reduces reinvasion and limits fire fuel loads; and</li> <li>• Stable groundcover reduces erosion, dust and indirect sediment impacts.</li> </ul> |

#### 4) Irrigation and agrichemical management (supporting aquatic protection)

To prevent indirect impacts to downstream systems, the EMPr integrates operational controls that support the aquatic findings, including:

- Use of drip irrigation and scheduling to prevent runoff/ponding;
- Responsible for fertiliser and chemical handling/storage within existing farm facilities; and
- Avoiding application before heavy rainfall events.

These measures ensure that low verified aquatic sensitivity remains protected through good practice.

#### 5) Heritage risk management (procedural integration)

Although no heritage resources are known within the footprint, the heritage process requires precautionary management. The EMPr integrates this through:

- A Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure;
- Stop-work and notification steps; and
- Site induction/toolbox talks so contractors understand the procedure.

#### 6) Compliance, monitoring and adaptive management (cross-cutting integration)

To ensure specialist recommendations remain effective over time, the EMPr consolidates monitoring and corrective action requirements, including:

- Regular inspections during establishment (especially after rainfall);
- Record keeping for erosion controls, alien control actions and incidents; and
- Corrective actions if any non-compliance or erosion/runoff problems occur.

#### Conclusion

The specialist findings were integrated into a single coherent mitigation strategy focused on: (i) strict footprint control, (ii) erosion/stormwater prevention, (iii) vegetation/alien management and soil stabilisation, (iv) responsible irrigation and chemical management, and (v) heritage chance-find procedures. Together, these measures address the main potential impacts and ensure the development remains low-impact and manageable within the 2.21 ha footprint.

#### 8. Explain how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied to arrive at the best practicable environmental option.

The mitigation hierarchy (avoid–minimise–rehabilitate/mitigate–offset) was applied throughout the planning and specialist verification process to determine the best practicable environmental option for the proposed 2.21 ha olive cultivation block.

##### 1) Avoidance

Avoidance was achieved by selecting a development footprint that is already historically disturbed and by confirming, through specialist verification, that the footprint does not contain wetlands, watercourses, intact natural vegetation, or plant Species of Conservation Concern. The project was confined to the defined 2.21 ha block and did not expand into surrounding areas, thereby avoiding unnecessary disturbance and potential sensitive receptors.

##### 2) Minimisation

Impacts are minimised by:

- Keeping the footprint strictly limited to the approved 2.21 ha area and designating all areas outside the footprint as no-go areas;
- Using existing farm access routes and existing authorised irrigation infrastructure, avoiding new roads, dams, or bulk services;
- Staging, clearing, and soil preparation to reduce the extent of exposed soil at any one time; and
- Implementing low-impact irrigation (drip irrigation) to reduce runoff and water wastage.

##### 3) Mitigation and rehabilitation

Where impacts cannot be avoided (e.g., temporary disturbance during land preparation), mitigation and rehabilitation measures are built into the EMPr, including:

- Erosion and stormwater controls (berms, cut-off drains, silt controls where needed);
- Rapid stabilisation of soils and maintenance of groundcover between rows;
- Alien invasive plant control with follow-up treatments;
- Responsible for agrichemical handling and irrigation scheduling to prevent runoff; and

- Chance finds procedures to protect any unexpected heritage resources.

#### 4) Offsets

Offsets are not required because specialist verification confirmed low on-site ecological sensitivity, no wetlands or watercourses within the footprint, and no SCC recorded. The development is confined to a historically disturbed agricultural footprint, and residual impacts are low and manageable with EMPr measures.

#### Conclusion: Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO)

By avoiding sensitive features, minimising disturbance through strict footprint control and use of existing infrastructure, and implementing targeted mitigation measures in the EMPr, the preferred alternative (establishment of the olive orchard within the 2.21 ha footprint) represents the best practicable environmental option.

## SECTION J: GENERAL

### 1. Environmental Impact Statement

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| 1.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Provide a summary of the key findings of the EIA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <u>Summary of the Key Findings of the EIA (Basic Assessment)</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed development entails the establishment of an olive cultivation block within a defined 2.21 ha footprint on the Remainder of Farm Welvenpas No. 238, Wellington, within an existing agricultural landscape.</li> <li>• The environmental sensitivities initially indicated by the screening process were verified through specialist investigations. The final verified sensitivities for the footprint are low, with no on-site freshwater features and no intact natural vegetation remaining within the footprint.</li> <li>• Specialist findings confirmed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No wetlands, seep systems, drainage lines or watercourses occur within the 2.21 ha footprint and the nearest aquatic feature is located outside the footprint; therefore, potential freshwater impacts are limited to indirect risks (sediment/runoff) that can be effectively managed.</li> <li>○ The vegetation within the footprint is degraded secondary (ruderal) vegetation associated with historical agricultural disturbance, and no plant Species of Conservation Concern were recorded.</li> <li>○ Heritage risk is considered low, and a precautionary Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure will be implemented to manage any unexpected heritage resources uncovered during soil preparation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The key potential negative impacts are primarily associated with the establishment phase and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Temporary dust and noise from machinery,</li> <li>○ Soil disturbance and increased erosion/sediment risk during land preparation, and</li> <li>○ The potential for an alien invasive plant to spread if not actively managed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These impacts are localised, short-term, and manageable through the EMPr, which includes strict footprint demarcation, erosion and stormwater controls, rapid soil stabilisation and groundcover management, alien invasive control, responsible irrigation and agrichemical management, and heritage chance finds procedures.</li> <li>• The assessment concludes that the preferred alternative is acceptable and represents the best practicable environmental option, as it confines disturbance to a historically disturbed agricultural footprint, uses existing farm infrastructure, and avoids sensitive environmental features.</li> <li>• With implementation of the EMPr and compliance with all conditions of authorisation, the residual environmental impacts are expected to be low, and the development is considered suitable to proceed for environmental authorisation.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1.2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Provide a map that superimposes the preferred activity and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site, indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffers. (Attach map to this BAR as Appendix B2) |
| Please refer to Appendix B1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1.3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Provide a summary of the positive and negative impacts and risks that the proposed activity or development and alternatives will have on the environment and community.                                                                                                   |

Summary of positive and negative impacts and risks for the proposed activity and alternatives (the environment and the community)

Alternative 1: Preferred – Establish olives within the defined 2.21 ha footprint

Positive impacts

- Optimises existing disturbed agricultural land (re-uses a previously transformed block and avoids expanding into new areas).
- Supports local agricultural production and long-term farm viability (diversification and continued productive use).
- Socio-economic benefit through short-term establishment work and longer-term agricultural employment/services.
- No major new infrastructure required (no buildings, new roads, new dams, or new abstraction points), keeping the footprint contained.
- Potential land stewardship improvement (better managed land cover and alien control compared to unmanaged fallow land).

Negative impacts / risks

- Vegetation clearance within 2.21 ha (loss of degraded secondary vegetation).
- Soil disturbance and erosion risk during land preparation (ripping/clearing), with potential indirect sediment movement during storm events if controls fail.
- Temporary dust and noise during establishment (localised nuisance).
- Waste generation (packaging/plastics/containers) if not managed properly.
- Operational runoff/contamination risk if irrigation or agrichemicals are mismanaged (low if best practice is followed).
- Alien invasive spread risk if follow-up control is not implemented.
- Chance-find heritage risk (low likelihood but managed procedurally).
- Overall: impacts are localised and manageable with EMPr measures; residual impacts expected to be low.

Alternative 2: Relocate the orchard to another area on the farm (rejected)

Positive impacts

- Similar agricultural and socio-economic benefits (production and employment) as the preferred alternative.
- Negative impacts / risks (higher than preferred)
- Higher environmental risk/uncertainty because the relocated area may have greater sensitivity (potential natural vegetation remnants, different soils/slopes, closer drainage pathways).
- Greater disturbance footprint likely due to additional tie-ins (longer irrigation lines, increased vehicle movement, possible new/expanded internal tracks).
- Higher erosion and runoff risk if the alternative area is steeper or more erosion-prone.
- Higher biodiversity and heritage risk because the alternative area is not already “proven” to be the lowest-sensitivity footprint.
- Potentially greater community nuisance if the alternative site is closer to receptors (dust/noise/traffic impacts could be more noticeable).
- Overall: likely higher and less predictable impacts than the preferred option, with increased risk of triggering additional constraints.

No-Go Option – Do not implement the olive cultivation

Positive impacts

- Avoids all establishment and operational impacts, including vegetation clearance, soil disturbance, dust/noise, waste, and agrichemical risks.
- No additional pressure from farming activity on the 2.21 ha block.
- Negative impacts / risks
- Foregone socio-economic benefits (no short-term jobs, no long-term production contribution).
- The fallow block may remain degraded, with ongoing risks of:
  - Erosion during heavy rainfall if the groundcover is poor,
  - Alien invasive spread and weed dominance,
  - Potential dumping/neglect if not actively managed.

Overall: lowest immediate environmental impact but misses benefits and can allow ongoing land degradation risks if stewardship is poor.

Conclusion (summary)

- The preferred alternative provides the intended socio-economic and agricultural benefits while keeping impacts low and manageable due to the confirmed low-sensitivity footprint and strict EMPr controls.
- The relocation alternative carries a higher risk and uncertainty and would likely increase disturbance and potential environmental constraints.
- The no-go option avoids project impacts but results in lost benefits and may perpetuate unmanaged degradation risks on the site.

## 2. RECOMMENDATION of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (“EAP”)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Provide Impact management outcomes (based on the assessment and where applicable, specialist assessments) for the proposed activity or development for inclusion in the EMPr |
| Impact Management Outcomes for inclusion in the EMPr (Proposed 2.21 ha Olive Cultivation Block)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Footprint control and disturbance limitation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All site establishment activities are confined to the approved 2.21 ha footprint.</li> <li>• All areas outside the footprint are treated as no-go (no clearing, parking, stockpiling, turning of machinery or storage).</li> <li>• Temporary laydown/stockpile areas and vehicle routes are designated and controlled.</li> </ul>                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Soil stability, erosion control and stormwater management</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil loss, erosion, rilling and sediment mobilisation are prevented through staged clearing, early installation of erosion controls, and rapid stabilisation of disturbed areas.</li> <li>• Runoff is managed so that no new erosion channels form and sediment is not transported off-site.</li> <li>• Erosion controls are inspected after rainfall and repaired immediately where required.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Protection of the freshwater environment (indirect risk management)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although no wetlands/watercourses occur within the footprint, indirect impacts are prevented by ensuring sediment-laden runoff does not leave the site.</li> <li>• Stockpiles are located away from runoff pathways and stabilised where necessary.</li> <li>• Irrigation is managed to prevent runoff, ponding and unnecessary discharge from the cultivated area.</li> </ul>                  |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Vegetation and biodiversity management</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation removal is limited strictly to the footprint, and unnecessary clearing is avoided.</li> <li>• Groundcover between rows is established and maintained to reduce erosion and suppress weed reinvasion.</li> <li>• Alien invasive plants are actively controlled, with follow-up treatments to prevent spread and re-infestation.</li> </ul>                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Responsible agrichemical and fuel management</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertilisers, herbicides and other chemicals are stored and handled within existing farm facilities and used according to best practice to prevent spills and runoff.</li> <li>• No mixing, decanting or refuelling occurs in areas where spills could enter runoff routes.</li> <li>• Any spills are contained and cleaned immediately, and contaminated material is disposed of appropriately.</li> </ul>             |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Waste management</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste generation is minimised, segregated, and removed regularly.</li> <li>• No waste is buried or burned on site.</li> <li>• Empty agrichemical containers are managed responsibly (rinsed/punctured and disposed of via an approved system).</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Dust and noise control</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dust and noise are kept to acceptable levels through daytime working hours, speed control on farm tracks, and dust suppression during dry/windy conditions.</li> <li>• Complaints (if any) are recorded and addressed promptly.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <u>Heritage protection (chance finds)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure is implemented.</li> <li>• Work stops immediately if any heritage material or human remains are found; the area is secured and the relevant authority is notified before work continues.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                              |

#### Monitoring, compliance and corrective action

- Environmental awareness induction/toolbox talks are conducted for all workers.
  - Routine inspections are undertaken during establishment and after rainfall events to confirm compliance with footprint limits, erosion controls, waste handling and alien control.
  - Corrective actions are implemented immediately where non-compliance or environmental incidents occur, and records are kept.
- These outcomes should be included as EMPr objectives/outcomes, with method statements and monitoring requirements linked to each outcome.

2.2. Provide a description of any aspects that were conditional to the findings of the assessment either by the EAP or specialist that must be included as conditions of the authorisation.

The following aspects are conditional on the findings of the Basic Assessment and specialist inputs and should be included as conditions of Environmental Authorisation to ensure the activity remains within the assessed scope and that impacts remain low and manageable:

#### Authorised footprint limitation (critical condition):

The activity may only occur within the approved 2.21 ha development footprint. No clearing, soil preparation, stockpiling, vehicle turning/parking, or storage may occur outside the approved footprint. Any change to the footprint/layout requires prior written approval from the competent authority.

#### Pre-construction demarcation and no-go enforcement:

The approved footprint must be clearly pegged/marked on site before any work starts, and all areas outside the footprint must be treated as no-go areas. Demarcation must remain in place for the duration of establishment activities.

#### Erosion and stormwater controls (must be in place before disturbance):

Erosion and stormwater control measures must be implemented prior to vegetation clearing and soil preparation and maintained throughout establishment, particularly ahead of rainfall events. Any erosion, rilling, or sediment movement must be rectified immediately.

#### Soil stabilisation and groundcover requirement:

Disturbed areas must be stabilised as soon as practicable after land preparation, including the establishment and maintenance of groundcover/row middles to reduce erosion and suppress reinvasion by weeds.

#### Alien invasive plant management and follow-up:

An alien invasive plant control programme must be implemented during and after establishment, including follow-up treatments, to prevent spread and reinfestation as a result of disturbance.

#### Irrigation and runoff prevention measures:

Irrigation must be managed to prevent runoff and ponding. Over-irrigation must be avoided and the irrigation system must be maintained to prevent leaks and uncontrolled discharge.

#### Heritage chance finds procedure:

A Chance Find / Accidental Discovery Procedure must be included in the EMPr and implemented. Work must stop immediately if heritage resources or human remains are encountered, the area must be secured, and the relevant authority must be notified before work continues.

#### Waste and hazardous substance management:

Waste must be collected, stored and disposed of lawfully. No burying or burning of waste is permitted. Any storage/handling of fuels and agrichemicals must occur within designated areas and spills must be contained and cleaned immediately.

#### Environmental induction, monitoring and record-keeping:

All personnel must receive environmental induction covering footprint limits, erosion controls, waste handling, alien control and chance finds procedures. Regular inspections must be undertaken during establishment and after rainfall, and records of compliance and corrective actions must be kept and made available upon request.

These conditions reflect the key dependencies of the assessment—namely that the activity remains confined to the assessed footprint, avoids indirect erosion/sediment impacts, manages disturbance-related invasive spread, and includes precautionary heritage protection procedures.

2.3. Provide a reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity or development should or should not be authorised, and if the opinion is that it should be authorised, any conditions that should be included in the authorisation.

It is my reasoned opinion that the proposed activity should be authorised, subject to implementation of the EMPr and the conditions below.

The proposed development is limited in scale and is confined to a defined 2.21 ha footprint within an existing agricultural landscape. Specialist verification confirmed that the footprint is of low environmental sensitivity, with no wetlands or watercourses within the development area and degraded secondary vegetation with no plant Species of Conservation Concern recorded. The key potential impacts (vegetation clearance, soil disturbance, erosion/sediment risk, dust/noise and waste) are localised, largely temporary during establishment, and can be effectively managed through standard mitigation measures. The proposed activity supports continued agricultural production and associated socio-economic benefits without requiring major new infrastructure.

#### Recommended conditions of authorisation

1. Authorised footprint and scope
  - The activity may only occur within the approved 2.21 ha footprint and for the purpose described in the BAR.
  - No clearing, stockpiling, parking, storage, servicing or turning of vehicles may occur outside the approved footprint.
  - Any change to the footprint/layout or scope requires prior written approval from the competent authority.
2. Demarcation and no-go areas
  - The footprint must be clearly pegged/marked before any works commence and maintained for the duration of establishment activities.
  - All areas outside the demarcated footprint are no-go areas.
3. Erosion, stormwater and soil stabilisation
  - Erosion and stormwater controls must be implemented before vegetation clearing and soil preparation.
  - Disturbed areas must be stabilised as soon as practicable, including establishment and maintenance of groundcover between rows.
  - Erosion controls must be inspected after rainfall and repaired immediately.
4. Alien invasive plant control
  - An alien invasive plant control programme must be implemented during and after establishment, including follow-up treatments to prevent reinvasion and spread.
5. Irrigation and runoff prevention
  - Irrigation must be managed to prevent runoff and ponding, and over-irrigation must be avoided.
  - The irrigation system must be maintained to prevent leaks and uncontrolled discharge.
6. Waste and hazardous substances
  - Waste must be minimised, collected, stored and disposed of lawfully; no burning or burying is permitted.
  - Agrichemicals and fuels must be stored/handled in designated areas within existing farm facilities and any spills must be contained and cleaned immediately.
7. Heritage protection
  - A Chance Finds / Accidental Discovery Procedure must be implemented.
  - Work must stop immediately if any heritage material or human remains are found, the area must be secured, and the relevant authority must be notified before work continues.
8. Environmental awareness, monitoring and record-keeping
  - All personnel must receive environmental induction covering footprint limits, erosion controls, alien control, waste management and chance finds procedures.
  - Compliance monitoring must be undertaken during establishment and records of inspections, incidents and corrective actions must be kept and made available on request.

Subject to these conditions and the EMPr, the proposed development is considered environmentally acceptable and suitable for authorisation.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.4.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Provide a description of any assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge that relate to the assessment and mitigation measures proposed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><u>The following assumptions underpin this assessment and the recommended mitigation measures:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project information provided by the applicant and appointed specialists is correct, accurate and complete, and the proposed development will be limited to the assessed 2.21 ha footprint.</li> <li>2. The establishment, operation and ongoing management of the olive cultivation block will be undertaken in accordance with the mitigation measures and monitoring requirements contained in the BAR and EMPr. The effectiveness of impact management is dependent on consistent implementation, inspection and corrective action.</li> <li>3. The specialist inputs (Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement, Botanical/Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plant Species Compliance Statement, and the Heritage submission process) adequately confirm the environmental sensitivities of the assessed footprint and inform the mitigation measures required.</li> </ol> <p>There are no uncertainties that we are aware of at present.</p> |
| 2.5.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The period for which the EA is required, the date the activity will be concluded and when the post construction monitoring requirements should be finalised.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| It is recommended that the Environmental Authorisation (EA) be issued for a duration of five (5) years, with the stipulation that construction be completed within one (1) year from the date of commencement. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

### 3. Water

Since the Western Cape is a water scarce area explain what measures will be implemented to avoid the use of potable water during the development and operational phase and what measures will be implemented to reduce your water demand, save water and measures to reuse or recycle water.

Since the Western Cape is a water-scarce region, the proposed Welvenpas development has been designed to avoid the use of potable (municipal) water and to reduce water demand through efficient irrigation and good agricultural practice. The proposed activity is limited to the establishment and operation of a 2.21 ha olive cultivation block and does not include new bulk water infrastructure or new abstraction points.

#### 1. Avoidance of Potable-Water Use

- No municipal potable water will be used during the establishment or operation of the olive block.
- Any water required during establishment (e.g., limited dust suppression or plant establishment watering, if needed) will be sourced from the farm's existing authorised non-potable irrigation supply and existing farm water infrastructure.
- Contractors and workers will be instructed not to connect to or draw water from any potable supply for construction-related purposes.

#### 2. Reduction of Water Demand

- The orchard will be irrigated using drip irrigation, which delivers water directly to the root zone and reduces evaporation losses and runoff compared to higher-volume systems.
- Irrigation scheduling will be applied to prevent over-irrigation (e.g., irrigating according to seasonal conditions, soil moisture needs and weather patterns).
- Groundcover management between rows will be maintained to improve soil moisture retention, reduce evaporation, and support soil health.
- Routine checks and maintenance of irrigation lines will be implemented to prevent leaks and unnecessary water loss.

#### 3. Water Re-use and Recycling

- Where practical, water will be managed to remain within the farm's existing irrigation system (i.e., no discharge of irrigation water from the olive block).
- Any wash-down water (where used) will be managed within existing farm facilities and not discharged into the environment, with reuse where feasible as part of normal farm operational practice.

#### 4. Long-Term Water-Efficiency Measures

- Ongoing monitoring of irrigation performance (including leak detection and maintenance) will be implemented to keep demand as low as reasonably practicable.

- The olive orchard (as a perennial crop) supports long-term soil stability and improved moisture retention when properly managed, reducing the need for repeated soil disturbance and inefficient watering practices.

#### Conclusion

The proposed development avoids potable water use by relying on the farm's existing authorised non-potable irrigation supply, reduces demand through drip irrigation and controlled scheduling, and manages water responsibly to prevent losses, runoff and unnecessary discharge. These measures support water resilience in a water-scarce region during both the establishment and operational phases.

## 4. Waste

Explain what measures have been taken to reduce, reuse or recycle waste.

The proposed Welvenpas development (establishment of a 2.21 ha olive cultivation block) will generate limited waste, mainly during establishment. Measures to reduce, reuse and recycle waste will be implemented as follows:

### 1. Waste avoidance and reduction

- Materials will be ordered and handled to minimise packaging and wastage (e.g., bulk ordering where feasible and accurate quantity estimation).
- Good housekeeping will be enforced to prevent littering and unnecessary waste generation.
- Only the minimum required vegetation within the approved footprint will be cleared, reducing green waste volumes.

### 2. Reuse of materials

- Organic vegetation material (where appropriate) will be mulched or windrowed and reused on-site for soil protection, moisture retention and erosion control, where it does not introduce invasive material.
- Suitable surplus soil (if any) generated during minor shaping/levelling will be reused within the footprint to level planting areas or to form small berms for runoff control, rather than being removed for disposal.
- Irrigation components and materials (pipes, fittings, drippers) will be stored and handled to prevent damage and maximise reuse of off-cuts where feasible.

### 3. Recycling measures

- Waste will be separated at source (e.g., plastic, cardboard, metal) during establishment activities.
- Recyclable waste will be stored temporarily in a designated area and removed by an approved service provider for recycling where feasible (particularly plastics and cardboard from irrigation materials and packaging).

### 4. Responsible storage and disposal

- No waste will be buried or burned on site.
- General waste will be collected in designated bins/skips and removed regularly to a lawful disposal facility.
- Any hazardous waste (e.g., oily rags, empty chemical containers) will be stored securely in sealed containers and disposed of through an approved system.

### 5. Operational waste (long-term)

- Ongoing orchard waste (e.g., prunings) will be mulched/composted where feasible and reused on-site.
- Empty agrichemical containers (if used) will be managed responsibly (rinsed/punctured and removed via an approved collection/disposal route).
- Routine farm housekeeping and waste separation will continue as part of standard operational management.

#### Conclusion

Waste management for the Welvenpas project follows the waste hierarchy by prioritising avoidance and reduction, then reuse (mulch/compost and soil reuse), and recycling (segregated packaging materials), with lawful disposal for all remaining waste.

## 5. Energy Efficiency

8.1. Explain what design measures have been taken to ensure that the development proposal will be energy efficient.

Energy efficiency design measures (Welvenpas – 2.21 ha olive cultivation block)

The proposed development is an agricultural activity with no new buildings or energy-intensive infrastructure. Energy-efficiency has been addressed by designing the activity to use existing farm infrastructure and by selecting low-energy operational methods.

1. Low-energy development design

- No new buildings, processing facilities, refrigeration, or permanent powered infrastructure are proposed.
- The development uses the existing farm layout and access routes, avoiding additional construction activities and energy demand.

2. Energy-efficient irrigation approach

- The orchard will use drip irrigation, which typically requires lower pumping energy than higher-volume irrigation systems because it delivers water efficiently and reduces wastage.
- Irrigation scheduling will be managed to avoid unnecessary pumping time (e.g., irrigating only as required and avoiding over-irrigation).

3. Efficient operational practices

- Orchard design allows for efficient mechanised operations (where applicable), reducing repeated vehicle movements and fuel consumption over time.
- Farm vehicles and equipment will operate on existing routes to minimise travel distance, idling, and unnecessary trips.
- Routine maintenance of pumps, lines, and equipment will be undertaken to prevent leaks, blockages and inefficiencies that increase energy use.

4. Efficient construction/establishment practices

- Establishment activities will be planned to minimise repeated mobilisation of machinery (e.g., coordinated clearing, soil preparation and planting in logical phases).
- Machinery and vehicles will be maintained in good condition to reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Conclusion

The development is energy efficient by design because it introduces no new energy-intensive infrastructure, relies on existing farm systems, applies drip irrigation with controlled scheduling, and uses efficient operational practices to minimise fuel and electricity demand during establishment and operation.

## SECTION K: DECLARATIONS

### DECLARATION OF THE APPLICANT

**Note:** Duplicate this section where there is more than one Applicant.

I, Philip van Wyk, ID number 7708035074088, in my personal capacity or duly authorised thereto, hereby declare/affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted as part of this application form is true and correct, and that:

- I am fully aware of my responsibilities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, and any relevant Specific Environmental Management Act and that failure to comply with these requirements may constitute an offence in terms of relevant environmental legislation;
- I am aware of my general duty of care in terms of Section 28 of the NEMA;
- I am aware that it is an offence in terms of Section 24F of the NEMA should I commence with a listed activity prior to obtaining an Environmental Authorisation;
- I appointed the Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") (if not exempted from this requirement) which:
  - meets all the requirements in terms of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations; or
  - meets all the requirements other than the requirement to be independent in terms of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, but a review EAP has been appointed who does meet all the requirements of Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
- I will provide the EAP and any specialist, where applicable, and the Competent Authority with access to all information at my disposal that is relevant to the application;
- I will be responsible for the costs incurred in complying with the NEMA EIA Regulations and other environmental legislation including but not limited to –
  - costs incurred for the appointment of the EAP or any legitimately person contracted by the EAP;
  - costs in respect of any fee prescribed by the Minister or MEC in respect of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
  - Legitimate costs in respect of specialist(s) reviews; and
  - the provision of security to ensure compliance with applicable management and mitigation measures;
- I am responsible for complying with conditions that may be attached to any decision(s) issued by the Competent Authority, hereby indemnify, the government of the Republic, the Competent Authority and all its officers, agents and employees, from any liability arising out of the content of any report, any procedure or any action for which I or the EAP is responsible in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations and any Specific Environmental Management Act.

**Note:** If acting in a representative capacity, a certified copy of the resolution or power of attorney must be attached.

Signature of the Applicant:

15 July 2026

Date:

Canetsfontein Farm

Name of company (if applicable):

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2026  
104

  
**CANETSFONTEIN**  
EST 1781 | BAINSKLOOF  
CANETSFONTEIN ORGANIC WINE AND FRUIT ESTATE  
FALK REAL ESTATE PTY LTD  
BOYLEI ROAD, BOYLEI VALLEY 7654 WELLINGTON,  
WESTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA  
COMP REG NO 96 000422/07 +27 (0) 71 248 1222  
INFO@CANETSFONTEIN.COM | WWW.CANETSFONTEIN.COM

DATE 15 July 2026 SIGNATURE

## DECLARATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER ("EAP")

I, **Bianca Gilfillan**, EAP Registration number **2023/7929**, as the appointed EAP hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the:

- Information provided in this BAR and any other documents/reports submitted in support of this BAR;
- The inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs;
- The inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; and
- Any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties, and that:
- In terms of the general requirement to be independent:
  - other than fair remuneration for work performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity; or
  - am not independent, but another EAP that meets the general requirements set out in Regulation 13 of NEMA EIA Regulations has been appointed to review my work (Note: a declaration by the review EAP must be submitted);
- In terms of the remainder of the general requirements for an EAP, am fully aware of and meet all of the requirements and that failure to comply with any the requirements may result in disqualification;
- I have disclosed, to the Applicant, the specialist (if any), the Competent Authority and registered interested and affected parties, all material information that have or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Competent Authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document prepared or to be prepared as part of this application;
- I have ensured that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application was distributed or was made available to registered interested and affected parties and that participation will be facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments;
- I have ensured that the comments of all interested and affected parties were considered, recorded, responded to and submitted to the Competent Authority in respect of this application;
- I have ensured the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports in respect of the application, where relevant;
- I have kept a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in the public participation process; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;



16 July 2026

Signature of the EAP:

Date:

EnviroAfrica cc

Name of company (if applicable):

## DECLARATION OF THE REVIEW EAP

I ....., EAP Registration number ..... as the appointed Review EAP hereby declare/affirm that:

- I have reviewed all the work produced by the EAP;
- I have reviewed the correctness of the information provided as part of this Report;
- I meet all of the general requirements of EAPs as set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the specialist (if any), the review specialist (if any), the Department and I&APs, all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared as part of the application; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations.

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Signature of the EAP:

Date:

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Name of company (if applicable):

## DECLARATION OF THE SPECIALIST

**Note:** Duplicate this section where there is more than one specialist.

I ....., as the appointed Specialist, hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the information provided or to be provided as part of the application, and that:

- In terms of the general requirement to be independent:
  - other than fair remuneration for work performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the development proposal or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity; or
  - am not independent, but another specialist (the "Review Specialist") that meets the general requirements set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations has been appointed to review my work (Note: a declaration by the review specialist must be submitted);
- In terms of the remainder of the general requirements for a specialist, have throughout this EIA process met all of the requirements;
- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the Review EAP (if applicable), the Department and I&APs all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared or to be prepared as part of the application; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the EIA Regulations.

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Signature of the EAP:

Date:

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Name of company (if applicable):

## DECLARATION OF THE REVIEW SPECIALIST

I ....., as the appointed Review Specialist hereby declare/affirm that:

- I have reviewed all the work produced by the Specialist(s);
- I have reviewed the correctness of the specialist information provided as part of this Report;
- I meet all of the general requirements of specialists as set out in Regulation 13 of the NEMA EIA Regulations;
- I have disclosed to the applicant, the EAP, the review EAP (if applicable), the Specialist(s), the Department and I&APs, all material information that has or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any Report, plan or document prepared as part of the application; and
- I am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the NEMA EIA Regulations.

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Signature of the EAP:

Date:

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Name of company (if applicable):