ANIMAL SPECIES COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

THE PROPOSED CITRUSDAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON ERVEN 3677, 3680 AND 3617 AND RESERVOIR ON FARM NR: RE/4/555 (NEXT TO EXISTING RESERVOIR, CITRUSDAL

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DATE: DECEMBER 2025

DECLARATION OF THE SPECIALIST

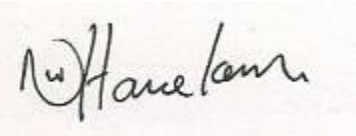
I **Nicolaas Willem Hanekom**, as the appointed Specialist hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the information provided or to be provided as part of the application, and that:

- 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

- 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.



Nicolaas Hanekom
Pri.Sci.Nat (Ecology) 004415 **18 December 2025**

Signature of the ~~EAP~~/ Specialist: Date:

Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd

Name of company (if applicable):

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION

Proposed development and area assessed.

The adjoining subject erven are situated in the north of Citrusdal to the west of Voortrekker Street (MR00539) and Fynbos Avenue. Erf 3617 partially borders the northern urban edge. As per the Cederberg Municipality Spatial Development Framework, the proposed development is located within Citrusdal's land use development zone A. It should be noted that the proposed development does not overlay the full extent of the referred erven.

Source: Cape Farm Mapper
Figure 3: Locality Map

Conservation value and sensitivity (terms which are often used interchangeably in ecological assessments) of habitats are a product of species diversity, plant community composition, rarity of habitat, degree of habitat degradation, rarity of species, ecological viability and connectivity, vulnerability to impacts, and reversibility of threats (which in this case generally refers to the rehabilitation potential of the habitat; high sensitivity habitats having low rehabilitation potential). According to *The Vegetation Map of South African, Lesotho and Swaziland* (VEGMAP), (Rebelo *et al*. 2006 in Mucina & Rutherford, 2006; SANBI, 2018) the Citrusdal Shale Renosterveld (Reservoir Site), (Critically Endangered Ecosystem Status) and Leipoldtville Sand Fynbos (housing site), (Endangered Ecosystem Status). The site and vegetation are however degraded and impacted and does not represent any of these vegetation types and vegetation structures due to historical disturbances as a result of farming and construction activities of the existing reservoir.

The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) is the outcome of a systematic biodiversity planning exercise developed at a relatively fine scale (1:10 000 to 1:50 000) that is used to guide development through identification of both terrestrial and aquatic conservation

priorities (Pool-Stanvliet et al. 2017). The WCSBP defines five broad biodiversity priority categories ranging from Core Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) through to Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) through to highly modified areas rated as No Natural Remaining (NNRs) areas. Each category is given a desired management objective and these spatial data were used to inform whether any potentially affected aquatic ecosystems are considered within any of the biodiversity priority categories to establish the desirability of water resource development and make recommendations within this assessment.

The Western Cape's Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) identified the following applicable to the site:

Reservoir site

Critical Biodiversity Areas
Category 1: CBA: Terrestrial
Category 2: CBA: Terrestrial
Definition: Areas in a natural condition that are required to meet biodiversity targets, for species, ecosystems or ecological processes and infrastructure.
Objective: Maintain in a natural or near-natural state, with no further loss of natural habitat. Degraded areas should be rehabilitated. Only low-impact, biodiversity-sensitive land uses are appropriate.

Photograph 1: Ecological Condition of the reservoir site.

Photograph 2: Ecological Condition of the reservoir site.

Photograph 3: Ecological Condition of the pipeline route.

Photograph 4: Ecological Condition of the housing site.

Photograph 5: Ecological Condition of the housing site.

Photograph 6: Ecological Condition of the housing site.

The environmental screen tool report listed -*, Brinckiella mauerbergerorum, Bullacris obliqua* and *Brinckiella aptera* with a medium sensitivity. None of these species were recorded or observed on site and will not be impacted or affected by the development as a result of the degraded nature of the area and onsite and surrounding land uses and activities.

The following additional animal species of significance that could be impacted by the proposed development not listed in the Environmental Screen tool report were list for the Quarter Degree Squares (QDS) which was extracted from the SABIF/SIBIS database hosted by SANBI:

- Tent Tortoise *Psammobates tentorius* (Near Threatened)
- Secretarybird Sagittarius serpentarius (Endangered)
- Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradiseus* (Vulnerable)
- Grey Rhebok *Pelea capreolus* (Near Threatened)
- Leopard *Panthera pardus* (Vulnerable)
- Barnard's Rock-catfish *Austroglanis barnardi* (Endangered)

- Clanwilliam Yellowfish *Labeobarbus seeberi* (Near threatened).

Cape mole-rats (*Georychus capensis*) mounts were recorded during the survey.

The activity associated with this compliance statement is the Citrusdal Housing Development on remainder of Erf 3677, 3680 and RE 3617, Citrusdal. The development will consist of Phase B: Erf 3677 with a total development footprint of ±3.3282ha; Phase C: Erf 3617 with a total development footprint of ±19.6085ha and Erf 3617 with a total development footprint of ± ±19.6085ha with a development footprint of ±22.9367ha.

Expanding reservoir by constructing a 3 ML reservoir next to existing on a portion of the remainder of Farm number 555, portion 4, Citrusdal.

The Department of Environmental Affairs screening report from the national web based environmental screening tool reported a “medium” sensitivity for animal species” sensitivity. The site sensitivity verification and the specialist assessment does not agree with the designation of “medium” animal species designation in terms of the national web based environmental screening tool. No animal species of conservation concern were observed on the site during the time of the survey and therefore it has a low sensitivity. The vegetation and impact area are degraded. This compliance statement report presents the findings of the animal species verification and site survey that was conducted by Nicolaas Hanekom.

The animal species compliance statement, must contain, as a minimum, the following information:

- Contact details and curriculum vitae of the specialist including SACNASP registration number and field of expertise; **- Refer to cover page, section 1.1. and Appendix A of this report**
- A signed statement of independence by the specialist; **Refer to page 2 of this report**
- A statement on the duration, date and season of the site inspection and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment; **Refer to section 2.**
- A description of the methodology used to undertake the site survey and prepare the compliance statement, including equipment and modelling used where relevant; **Refer to section 3.**
- Where required, proposed impact management actions and outcomes or any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr; **Refer to section 4.**
- A description of the assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge or data; **Refer to section 5.**
- The mean density of observations/ number of samples sites per unit area; and **Refer to section 6.**
- Any conditions to which the compliance statement is subjected. Refer to section 7.
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1.1. Background & Competency

Nicolaas Hanekom is a registered Professional Natural Scientist in the ecological science field with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions ("SACNASP"), (Ecological Science (Pri.Sci.Nat); Aquatic Science, Zoological & Conservation Science (Cand.Sci.Nat) and a qualified registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") who holds a Masters Technologiae, Nature Conservation ("Vegetation Ecology and Biodiversity Assessment") degree from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (Refer to Appendix A, CV). Nicolaas Hanekom is suitably qualified SACNASP registered specialist.

1.2. Scope and Objectives

The protocol[1] provides the criteria for the reporting of requirements for the assessment and reporting of impacts on animal species for activities requiring environmental authorisation.

General Information

An applicant intending to undertake an activity identified in the Scope of this Protocol, on a site identified as being of "very high or high sensitivity" for animal species on the national web based environmental screening tool must submit an Animal Species Impact Assessment Report. However, where the information gathered from the Initial Site Sensitivity Verification and the specialist assessment differs from the designation of "very high or high" animal species sensitivity from the national web based environmental screening tool and it is found to be of a "medium or low" sensitivity, then an animal species impact assessment is not required. Should this apply, an Animal Species Compliance Statement is to be provided.

1.3. Terms of Reference

The Animal Species Compliance Statement, must be prepared by a suitably qualified specialist in the field of Zoological Science or Ecological Science, on the site being submitted as the

1 Published in Government Notice No. 648GOVERNMENT GAZETTE 4542110 MAY 2019.This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za

preferred development site and must verify:

- That the site is of “low” sensitivity for terrestrial animal species; and
- Whether or not the proposed development will have any impact on the biodiversity feature.

2. BASELINE PROFILE DESCRIPTION OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS, INCLUDING A STATEMENT ON THE DURATION, DATE AND SEASON OF THE SITE INSPECTION AND THE RELEVANCE OF THE SEASON TO THE OUTCOME OF THE ASSESSMENT

The environmental screen tool report listed the invertebrate - *Aquila rapax, Circus maurus, Afrotis afra, Brinckiella mauerbergerorum, Bullacris obliqua* and *Brinckiella aptera* with a medium sensitivity. None of these species were recorded or observed on site and will not be impacted or affected by the development as a result of the degraded nature of the area and onsite and surrounding land uses and activities. No plant species were recorded due to the low sensitivity of the site. This confirms the site visit results and the transformed state of the area. No Threatened or Protected Species were recorded on site and unlikely that they will occur on site due to the transformed state of the area.

The information gathered from the site sensitivity verification does differs from the Screen report. The development of the site would have a **Very Low** impact with no mitigations required. The proposed development is therefore supported from an animal species perspective.

3. A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY USED TO UNDERTAKE THE SITE SURVEY AND PREPARE THE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT AND MODELLING USED WHERE RELEVANT

A literature review and desktop analysis were undertaken prior to the field investigation, utilizing various sources including the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) data and other relevant sources. Recent and historical aerial imagery of the site was reviewed in order to identify points for investigation during the field survey. Utilising the above information, a field investigation was undertaken whereby:

- Sites of geomorphological or topographic variance were identified and subjected to an evaluation of species present within transects established across the selected site.
- Species were identified and collated.
- Additional random sample points were selected from other sites surrounding the proposed impacted areas for comparative purposes.

The assessments entailed both a literature review of the region, as well as on site evaluations, during which specific primary data was collected and evaluated. In addition, the identification of key ecological features was undertaken allowing for the interpretation of the prevailing habitat form and associated processes.

All data collected in the field and during the literature review was evaluated and interpreted in order to provide an understanding of the nature of the prevailing environment at a landscape and habitat level. In addition, specific evaluation of data relating to habitat form and structure was undertaken, aiding in the identification of bio-physical anomalies within the prevailing environment. Such variance may be considered to be indicative of differing habitat forms, which under consideration, may be of higher order ecological value in relation of the prevailing environment.

The study area was surveyed on foot, and all animal species, activities or footprints in the greater study area were noted. Various transects were conducted to cover the area. Particular attention was paid to potential fauna and flora Species of Conservation Concern that could have been present. Various photographs were taken.

4. WHERE REQUIRED, PROPOSED IMPACT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND OUTCOMES OR ANY MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE EMPR

No management, mitigation or monitoring requirements for inclusion in the Environmental Authorization and its conditions, or the Environmental Management Plan is required.

5. A DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSUMPTIONS MADE AND ANY UNCERTAINTIES OR GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE OR DATA

The site visit was conducted on 23 November 2024. The peak flowering time in this region is spring, which occurs from August to October. The timing of the survey for animal species is regarded as optimal in terms of accurately assessing the fauna of the site. A good understanding of the animal species priority areas was gained by combining the knowledge of species habitat requirement and behaviour. The overall confidence in the completeness and accuracy of the animal species findings at this point in time is considered to be good. A follow-up survey is not considered essential for decision-making.

6. THE MEAN DENSITY OF OBSERVATIONS/ NUMBER OF SAMPLES SITES PER UNIT AREA

Given the small size and obvious transformed condition and dense squatter activities on site, the surveys were focus on direct observation and surveys covering the whole area visually. No animal species of conservation concern were recorded nor is their preferred habitat present on site.

7. ANY CONDITIONS TO WHICH THE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT IS SUBJECTED

The findings, results, observations, conclusions and recommendations given in this report are based on the author's best scientific and professional knowledge as well as available

information and knowledge of the area.

This report may not be altered or added to without the prior written consent of the author. This restraint also refers to electronic copies of this report which are supplied as sub portion of other reports, including main reports. Similarly, any recommendations, statements, or conclusions drawn from or based on this report must specifically refer to this report. If such comments form part of a main report for this investigation, the report must be included in its entirety as an appendix or separate section to the main report.

8. REFERENCES

Alexander G Marais J. 2007. a Guide To The Reptiles Of Southern Africa.

Barnes K.N. 2000. The Eskom Red Data book of birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg.

Branch W.R. (ed.) 1988. South African Red Data book – reptiles and amphibians. SA National Scientific programmes Report No. 151. CSIR, Pretoria.

Friedmann Y. & Daly B. (eds) 2004. Red Data Book of the mammals of South Africa: a conservation assessment. CBSG Southern Africa, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (SSC/IUCN), Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa.
Hockey PAR., Dean WRJ & Ryan PG. 2006. Roberts Birds Of Southern Africa. VIIth Edition.

Holmes, P. & Pugnalin, A. 2016. The Biodiversity Network for the Cape Town Municipal area: C-Plan & Marxan analysis: 2016 Methods & Results. Environmental Resource Management Department (ERMD), City of Cape Town.

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Smithers RHN. 1983. Land Mammals Of Southern Africa. A field Guide.

APPENDIX A
SPECIALIST CV

CURRICULUM VITAE – NICOLAAS WILLEM HANEKOM

Profession: Environmental Scientist and Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Date of Birth: 01/02/1967

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Nicolaas Hanekom is a qualified Environmental Assessment Practitioner (”EAP”) who holds a Masters Technologiae, Nature Conservation (“Vegetation Ecology and Biodiversity Assessment”) degree from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. Nicolaas is certified in terms of section 20(3)(a) of the Natural Scientific Professions Act, 2003 (Act 27 of 2003), as a Professional Natural Scientist Ecological Science (Pri.Sci.Nat); Aquatic Science & Conservation Science (Cand.Sci.Nat), Registration Number: 004415. He further qualified in Environmental Management Systems ISO 14001:2004, at the Centre for Environmental Management, North-West University, as well as Environmental Management Systems ISO 14001:2004 Audit: Internal Auditors Course to ISO 19011:2003 level, from the Centre for Environmental Management, North-West University qualifying him to execute audits to ISO/SANS environmental compliance and EMS standards.

He has also completed the suite of Greener Governance courses with certificates in;

- An Overview of Environmental Management at the Local Government Level, Centre for Environmental Management, North-West University;
- Greener Governance for Local Authorities, Centre for Environmental Management, North-West University;
- Tools for Integrated Environmental Management and Governance, Centre for Environmental Management, North-West University.

He further attended and obtained a certificate on Integrated Protected Area Planning at the Centre for Environmental Development, University of Kwa Zulu Natal and a certificate in Project Management (Theory and Practical), through CS Holdings. Nicolaas has lectured in two subjects at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. He has 26 years of environmental planning experience, working for Free State and Western Cape departments of environmental affairs, where he reviewed and commented on development (EIA) applications, in the West Coast Region.

He has, as practising EAP been responsible for many environmental impact assessments and EIA applications, waste license and atmospheric emission license applications.

He has also been involved in the implementation of several environmental management systems. He has engaged successfully with various clients as set out below.

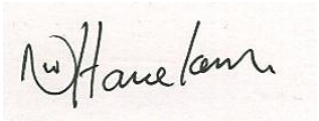
Areas of specialisation:	• Ecosystem (terrestrial and aquatic) monitoring and assessments • Design of monitoring programmes for ecosystems (terrestrial and aquatic) • Environmental Impact Assessments • River classification and environmental water requirements • Wetlands Delineation • River and Wetlands management • Water Use Authorization Applications • Water quality management • River Health Assessments
Countries of Work Experience:	South Africa (Northern Cape, Western Cape, Free State, Mpumalanga, Gauteng)
Employment Record	• Student at Bontebok National Park (1992) • Assistant Reserve Manager at Gariep Dam Nature Reserve, Free State (1993 - 1998) • Reserve Manager, Conservation Services Manager for Western Cape Nature Conservation Board (1998 - 2006) • External Lecturer at Cape Peninsula University of Technology (2003 - 2005) • Director: Environmental Management at Cape Lowlands Environmental Services (2006 – 2010) • Director, Environmental Management and lead Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner at Eco Impact (Pty) Ltd (2010 – to August 2019) • Director, Environmental Management and lead Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner at Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd (September 2019 – to date)
Professional membership, accreditations and courses	• South African Council for Natural Scientists Professions Pri.Sci.Nat (Ecological Science) • Riparian vegetation identification and health assessment. Internal Western Cape Nature Conservation short course presented by Dr C Boucher (Stellenbosch University) in 2000. • SASS5 Aquatic Biomonitoring Training Course. 2 to 5 September 2013. Ground Truth Water and Environmental Engineering consultancy in partnership with the Department of Water Affairs. • Workshop on “Section 21(c) and (i) Water Use Training: Understanding Watercourses and Managing Impacts to their

	Characteristics". 10 May 2017. Presented by Dr Wietsche Roets of the Department of Water and Sanitation (Sub-Directorate: Instream Water Use).
Summary of experience	1992: South African National Parks. Student at Bontebok National Park with management and monitoring actions related to the Breede River. 1993 -1998: Free State Nature Conservation. Ecological management and monitoring actions related to the Gariep Dam, Orange and Caledon Rivers. 1998 -2006: CapeNature. Ecological management and monitoring actions related to the Berg River Estuary, Verlorenvlei, Lamberts bay's Jackalsvlei, Wadrift Soutpanne, Oliphant's River mouth, Rocherpan Nature Reserve, etc. Review and assessment of EIA applications, inclusive of Freshwater ecology. Did some site visits with Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (Hester Lyons) to confirm the presence of aquatic ecological features during EIA water use registration applications. 2006 to date: Cape Lowland Environmental Services, Eco Impact Legal Consultant and Enviro-EAP. Ecological (Freshwater and aquatic) Specialist input, assessment, monitoring and reports.
Publications and assessment reports	Just to name a few. Was involved in many Ecological Assessments, monitoring and inputs in EIA applications. • Elandskloof Farm 475 Citrusdal Biodiversity Baseline Survey. August 2010. This Biodiversity Assessment Covering Terrestrial and Aquatic Aspects to Inform Decisions Regarding The Proposed Elandskloof Weir Flood Damage Project On Farm 475, In The Citrusdal Area. • Cape Solar Energy Electricity Generation Facility. Farm 187/3 & 187/13 Kenhardt. Biodiversity And Ecological Baseline Survey. January 2011. (Included Terrestrial and aquatic ecological assessments and water use authorization applications) • Prieska Photvoltaic Power Generation Project. Prieska Commonage Northern Cape. Biodiversity And Ecological Baseline Survey. July 2011. (Included Terrestrial and aquatic ecological assessments and water use authorization applications) • Witteklip Erf 123 Extension, Vredenburg. Biodiversity Baseline Survey. Updated - October 2012 (Included Terrestrial and aquatic ecological assessments and water use authorization applications) • Baseline Biodiversity Survey And Wetland Delineation for ECCA Holdings: Cape Bentonite Mine on Erf 1412 Near Heidelberg. Prepared for: Shangoni Management Services Pry (Ltd). October 2014. • Freshwater Impact Assessment Laingsburg Flood Damage Repairs & Storm Water Infrastructure. 18 February 2016.

	• Ecological Assessment for Swartland Municipality - Upgrades To Voortrekker/Bokomo Road And Voortrekker/Rozenburg Road Intersections and Upgrade to the Diep River Bridge, Malmesbury on A Portion Of Erf 327, Malmesbury (Road) Erf 1530, Diep River Bridge Crossing, and Erf 1528, Property South of Diep River where Road Widening and Turning Circle Will Be Constructed. March 2016. (Freshwater Ecology Inputs and Water Use Registration) • Freshwater Impact Assessment. McGregor Bridge, Robertson Bridge and Willem Nels River Maintenance Management Plan. 24 June 2016. (Freshwater Ecology assessment and input as well as Water Use Registration) • Water Use Authorization Application Risk Matrix. Orange Grove Trust Vegetation Clearing and Agricultural Development on Portion 4 of Farm Glen Heatlie No 316, Worcester. 12 June 2017. (Freshwater ecological inputs in EIA process and Water Use Registration). • Water Use Authorization Application Risk Matrix Prepared For: Witzenberg Municipality Sand Mine Farm 1 Prince Alfred Hamlet. 28 March 2017. (Freshwater ecological inputs in EIA process and Water Use Registration). • Proposed Hartmanshoop Agri Vegetation Clearing Project and Irrigation on Erf 686, Laingsburg. 12 August 2017. (Freshwater ecological inputs in Water Use Registration). • County Fair: Hocraft Abattoir And Rendering Facility Waste Water Treatment Works “CF Hocraft WWTW” Mosselbank River Second Quarter 2018 Biomonitoring Report. June 2018. (Done quarterly biomonitoring for the last three years).

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe my qualifications, my experience, and me.



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