



13/07/2016

## **Terms of Reference for the appointment of a Ecological Specialist**

<b>Project Name:</b>	The Proposed Development at Crabs Creek, Portion 29 of the Farm Uitzicht 216, Knysna Western Cape Province.
<b>DEA Reference Number:</b>	14/12/16/3/6/1/1053
<b>Project Proponent:</b>	Crabs Creek (Pty) Ltd, Mr John M. Sayers
<b>Appointed EAP:</b>	Eco Route Environmental Consultancy

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Eco Route Environmental Consultancy has been appointed as independent environmental practitioners by the applicant, Mr. John Sayers, to ensure compliance in terms of the requirement of Regulation 23(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010.

Portion 29 of the Farm Uitzicht NO 216 is situated within the Knysna Municipal Area and is located on the south western bank of the Knysna Lagoon, bordering SanParks.

The property is currently vacant, but was used for tourist facilities that include a restaurant, gift shop and farm store.

The developer intends to develop the property into a low key Resort consisting of 5 accommodation units and a restaurant.

### **SCOPE OF THE ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as the Competent Authority has requested that a Ecological Specialist is appointed to assess the effects and impacts on the receiving environment including the Knysna Estuary.

The scope of the Ecological Specialist must include:

1. *Literature Review and assessment of existing information:* Conduct a review of existing studies, reports and data of the area and the details of the proposed development.
2. *Site Assessment of the ecosystems that may be impacted upon by the development activities:* Undertake a site assessment of the development area. The assessment will include:
  - An assessment of the impacts associated with the triggered Listed Activities.
  - Ecological impacts of the proposed development on the estuary and the biodiversity in the area.
  - The site is a critical and important supporting area for maintaining corridors, linkages, ecological processes and hydrological processes. It also serves for the conservation of threatened and protected habitats. The potential impact of the development on the Ecological Support Area and the ecological services that it must provide must therefore be assessed.
  - The report must include an assessment of all the proposed alternative layouts.
  - Integration of the results of the above work as input to the site layout planning and landscaping to realize the site potential and minimize the risk of environmental impacts on the estuary.
  - A signed declaration of interest must be included in the report.

3. *Compilation of the report: Impact assessment:* Based on the data and information collected in the previous tasks, describe ecological characteristics of the Knysna Estuary System that may have been impacted. Evaluate the development activities and their impacts, and propose mitigation measures for the development. Describe the potential impacts, the significance of those impacts, and weigh and rank each impact during the project life cycle stages, according to the assessment, ranking, weighting and scaling criteria as laid out in the EIA Regulations. Write up findings and recommendations for EIA process.

## **SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

The appointed Ecological Specialist will be required to be qualified to comply with the following factors:

1. Evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on the ecological processes and services..
2. Assess the negative and positive Environmental impacts of the proposed development on the receiving environment.
3. Work together with the appointed EAP and other appointed specialists to complete the project.
4. Have the required qualifications and experience.

## **TIMEFRAME**

The appointed Specialist will need to complete the work within a period of one calendar month from date of appointment. Failure to deliver within this timeframe will result in a penalty of 2% of the total contract value being levied per working day that the final report is overdue.

The Ecological Specialist study will be provided to the appointed Coastal Engineer. Please refer to attached gant chart to ensure compliance with the timeframes.

In regard to the above, the client will make available all required information at the inception of the contract, and will be readily available to answer any queries that the appointed specialist may have during and after the contract period.

## **BUDGET (this has been submitted)**

The Specialist must provide a cost proposal that includes all professional fees, disbursements, travel, accommodation (if required) to complete the scope of work to a high standard within the specified time frames.

## **POINTS TO ADDRESS IN THE REPORT AS REQUESTED BY LAURIE BARWELL**

An onsite meeting was conducted on 07/07/2016. The following aspects need to be included in the report:

1. The invasive Latana species occurring on site.
2. The probability of rehabilitating the upper marsh.
3. Rehabilitation of banks from jetty.
4. The impact of the sawdust that was used in the old parking area
5. Using grass blocks in the parking area
6. The possibility of a landscape pond to ensure that stormwater and water that runs from the sewer plant is clear from pollutants.

The Ecological and biodiversity report will form as a basis for the Coastal Engineer report and needs to be submitted to the appointed coastal engineer in order for him to complete his report.

