

SITE MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER: NFA/NVFFA

INITIALS & SURNAME	PURPOSE	PROPERTY ADDRESS/ ERF NO	SIGNATURE	TIME
P.G. WEBERBERG	INSPECTION	ERF 836 WILDBARNES		
PS	site inspection	18 Wag. n Rubie, Reebok; 92. Le Roux Rd Reebok; 8 Saepedijie Tergriet		
PS	site inspection	Erfs. 206 Nature Da Sea; 23 Bergland, outeniqua strand		
8/11/25 GM Steyn	Site inspection	35 Andries Pretorius Sedg Field		
1/25	site inspections M/Bay/ Hertenbos	8 Tabaandhu, Hertenbos		
2 C de Jager	Site visit SZ69 CCF	Outeniqua strand Ptn 420 + 373 CCF NBM.		

NAME OF OFFICIALS:



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Demar Centre, Main Road, Knysna, WC, Contact Number: 066 374 7795
Enquiries: TF Gwala, E-mail: TGwala@dfpe.gov.za

EIA-WC-GR-0037-2025-26

RE: COMMENT ON S24G FOR PORTIONS 420 AND 373, OUTENIQUA GAME FARM, MOSSEL BAY MUNICIPALITY

DATE: 10 December 2025

Eco Route
Attention: Ms. Claire De Jongh
Email: claire@ecoroute.co.za
Cell/ Tel: -

Dear Sir/ Madam

I refer to your e-mail notification of 17 November 2025 with documents.

Please receive comments from the Branch: Forestry Management, Directorate: Forest Resource Protection in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFPE) on the above-mentioned proposed S24G. Site inspection conducted on 5 December 2025.

The mandate of the Forestry Branch in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFPE), as a commenting authority, is to ensure control over developments that affect State forests, natural forests, forest nature reserves and protected trees.

1. The applicant must assess and quantify the anticipated impacts on the indigenous forests. The National Forests Act of 1998 (as amended) provides the strongest and most comprehensive legislation and mandate for the protection of all natural forests in South Africa. The principles of the Act in Section 3 state clearly that "...natural forests may not be destroyed save in exceptional circumstances where, in the opinion of the Minister, a proposed new land use is preferable in terms of its economic, social or environmental benefits".

2. Section 7 of the National Forest Act (NFA), act no 84 of 1998 as amended provides for the prohibition of the destruction of indigenous trees in any natural forest without a license. Under section 62 (1) of the NFA any person who contravenes the prohibition of certain acts in relation to trees in natural forests referred to in Section 7 (1) is guilty of a second category offence. A person who is guilty of a second category offence may be sentenced on a first conviction for that offence to a fine or imprisonment for a period of up to two years, or to both a fine and such imprisonment. Section 15 of the NFA, prohibits the destruction of protected trees without a license- "No person may cut, damage, destroy or remove any protected tree; or collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree....." Anyone contravening this prohibition, is guilty of a first category offence, and can be sentenced to up to 3 years imprisonment, or a fine, or both.

3. Section 7 of the Act prohibits the cutting, disturbance, destruction or removal of any indigenous living or dead tree in a forest without a licence, while Section 15 places a similar prohibition on protected tree species listed under the Act, some of which are also forest species.



Batho pele - putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

4. Cutting or disturbing an indigenous tree in a natural forest without a valid Forest Act Licence is a criminal offence and a transgression of the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998) and carries a fine or imprisonment or both.

5. Indigenous trees with active bird nests or other significant biodiversity features may not be destroyed without a valid Fauna Permit from the provincial conservation authority, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform ("DAERL"), if these would be affected.

DFFE studied the supporting documents for the above-mentioned S24G and the following points related to Forestry's mandate i.e. the implementation of the NFA are applicable

6. According to the information provided: "The following activities included in Listing Notices (LN) 1, 2 and 3 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended, 2071) published in terms of National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) have been assessed:

- Development within / within 32 meters of watercourse (LN1, activity 19);
- Development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage of water, including dams and reservoirs (LN3 activity 2; 14, 23; LN2 activity 16; LN 1, activity 13);
- Clearance of indigenous vegetation (LN3, activity 12; LN 2 activity 15; LN 1 activity 27));
- Development of roads (LN3 activity 4, Ln 2 activity 27".

The majority of the property is covered with Fynbos species- and a heavy infestation of Blackwattle (of which ongoing alien clearing are underway)- indigenous forest patches are found along the river valleys.

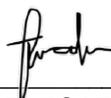
Forestry has the following comments:

- i. Forestry has a co-operative governance relationship with various Authorities as well as stakeholders, and thus will take their concerns into consideration if such should arise
- ii. Forestry request the following:
 1. The vegetation clearing that took place did not affect Forestry's mandate
 2. The proposed dam construction would impact Forestry's mandate under the NFA- as according to the report protected Cheesewood as well as Milkwood trees are impacted. Forestry request that an Impact Assessment be conducted where various alternatives are looked into for the proposed dam construction.
 3. Section 15 of the National Forest Act (NFA) (Act No. 84 of 1998) as amended prohibits the cutting, disturbing, damaging or destroying of protected tree species without a licence. Section 7 of the National Forest Act (NFA), act no 84 of 1998 as amended provides for the prohibition of the destruction of indigenous trees in any natural forest without a license.
- iii. Kindly note that this letter is not a NFA licence
- iv. Section 15 of the National Forest Act (NFA) (Act No. 84 of 1998) as amended prohibits the cutting, disturbing, damaging or destroying of protected tree species without a licence. Section 7 of the National Forest Act (NFA), act no 84 of 1998 as amended provides for the prohibition of the destruction of indigenous trees in any natural forest without a license.

Note: The Department reserves the right to revise the initial comment based on any additional information that may be received

Should you wish to correspond further on this matter, quote Reference EIA-WC-GR-0037-2025-26. Enquiries may be directed to Ms. TF Gwala at TGwala@dffe.gov.za, Cell 066 374 7795.

Yours Faithfully,



SIGNATURE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms. TF Gwala

Designation: Deputy Director Forest Resource Protection

Branch: Forestry Management



claire@ecoroute.co.za

From: claire@ecoroute.co.za
Sent: Friday, 12 December 2025 08:27
To: 'Melanie Koen'
Subject: FW: Site meeting Outeniqua Game Farm
Attachments: Final S24G OGF - Appendix I - DRAFT EMPr_final Nov 2025.pdf; OGF Protected trees in development footprints - Melanie Koen.pdf; Final S24G - OGF - Appendix H1 - ER_OGF_ptns_420_373_24G_TerBot_Draft Final - updated Oct 2024.pdf

Importance: High

Hi Melanie

I trust you are well. could you please send me a copy of the register from the site visit so I can include in the PP and CRR.

Thank you

Kind regards
Claire
0846074743

From: claire@ecoroute.co.za <claire@ecoroute.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 09 December 2025 16:52
To: 'Melanie Koen' <Mkoen@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: 'Patric Reeves-Moore' <patricreevesmoore@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Site meeting Outeniqua Game Farm
Importance: High

Hi Melanie

I trust you are well. Thank you for the site visit on Friday.

As requested on site.

Kindly find attached the draft EMP which includes the AIS management plan currently being followed at OGF as Annexure 2 of the EMPr. The EMPr also provides details of rehabilitation required

I am also attaching the details of protected trees identified in the dam footprint extracted from the terrestrial biodiversity assessment as well as the specialist report.

Please let me know if you require any additional information at this stage.

Thank you

Kind regards
Claire
0846074743

From: Melanie Koen <Mkoen@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 05 December 2025 10:17
To: claire@ecoroute.co.za
Cc: janet <janet@ecoroute.co.za>
Subject: Re: Site meeting Outeniqua Game Farm

Apologies meant Spar in Grootbrak Rivier?

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From: Melanie Koen
Sent: Friday, December 5, 2025 10:15:15 am
To: claire@ecoroute.co.za
Cc: janet@ecoroute.co.za
Subject: Site meeting Outeniqua Game Farm

Good morning Claire, hope you're well. May you please indicate where we'll meet this morning in order to travel to the Game Farm together? As I indicated to you yesterday that I don't know where it is. I sent a text early morning to ask to meet at the Total Garage at Grootbrakrivier but no response, also tried calling but your phone off. Should I travel to the Spar in Grootbrak Riviera? Please let me know as I am in Grootbrak already

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