



## ALIEN INVASIVE VEGETATION SPECIES CONTROL COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

FOR

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF KINETIC CATAMARANS INDUSTRIAL FACILITY  
ON ERF 1339, AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT / REDEVELOPMENT OF THE  
SOUTH AFRICAN SEA CADET CORPS INFRASTRUCTURE ON ERF 1316,  
KNYSNA, WESTERN CAPE



In terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA Act No 10 of 2004, as amended), Invasive Species Regulations (October 2020) and NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended)

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<b>DOCUMENT REFERENCE:</b>	2026.26.14 – Alien Invasive Management Control Compliance Statement
<b>DFFE REF NO:</b>	TBC
<b>DATE:</b>	May 2026
<b>SUBMITTED TO:</b>	Competent Authority (DFFE) I&AP's

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Alien invasive plant species (AIPs) pose a significant risk to biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and long-term sustainability of development projects in South Africa. Disturbance of soil and vegetation during construction often creates conditions that favour the establishment and spread of invasive species. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) and the Alien and Invasive Species Regulations (2016) require landowners and developers to prevent the introduction and spread of listed invasive species, and to actively manage or eradicate them where they occur.

Although no alien invasive plant species have been identified on the proposed development site during baseline surveys, it is necessary to prepare a compliance statement to ensure that if AIPs are encountered during construction or operation, appropriate measures are implemented. This document sets out the compliance framework and mitigation measures to be applied throughout the project lifecycle.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

The proposed development comprises two components assessed under a single Basic Assessment process:

- Expansion of the Kinetic Catamarans manufacturing facility (Erf 1339) – construction of a ±2,056 m<sup>2</sup> yacht factory building with associated infrastructure.
- Upgrading of the South African Sea Cadet Corps facilities (Erf 1316) – refurbishment of existing structures and provision of improved training facilities.

The development area is located within the established industrial/maritime precinct of Knysna, adjacent to the northern shoreline of the Knysna Estuary. Historical imagery confirms that the site has been disturbed for more than a decade, with hardened surfaces and no evidence of natural vegetation regeneration. Baseline surveys undertaken for the Draft Basic Assessment Report (April 2026) confirmed that no alien invasive plant species are currently present on the property.

However, construction activities such as excavation, earthworks, and material stockpiling may create disturbed conditions that favour the germination of invasive species from dormant seed banks or nearby sources. This compliance statement therefore anticipates potential AIP emergence and prescribes management measures to ensure compliance with national legislation.

## **3. CONSTRUCTION PHASE MITIGATION MEASURES**

During construction, the following measures will be implemented to prevent the establishment and spread of alien invasive plant species:

- **Site Monitoring:** The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) will conduct monthly inspections to identify any invasive species emerging on disturbed soils, stockpile areas, or along access routes.
- **Immediate Removal:** Any alien invasive plants identified will be manually removed (uprooted) before seed set. Removed material will be bagged and disposed of at an approved landfill site.
- **Topsoil Management:** Topsoil stripped during construction will be stockpiled separately and monitored for invasive germination. If invasive seedlings appear, they will be removed before re-use.
- **Stockpile Controls:** Sand, gravel, and fill material will be sourced from approved suppliers and kept in bunded areas to prevent contamination with invasive propagules.
- **Awareness Training:** Construction staff will receive induction training on recognising common invasive species (e.g., *Acacia mearnsii*, *Lantana camara*, *Arundo donax*) and reporting them to the ECO.

#### 4. CONSTRUCTION PHASE MITIGATION MEASURES

Once construction is complete, the following measures will ensure ongoing compliance during the operational phase:

- **Routine Inspections:** Facility management will conduct quarterly inspections of landscaped areas, stormwater depressions, and boundary zones to detect invasive species.
- **Maintenance Contracts:** Landscaping and grounds maintenance contracts will include explicit clauses requiring removal of invasive species in accordance with the Alien and Invasive Species Regulations.
- **Waste Handling:** Plant material removed will be disposed of responsibly (bagged and taken to landfill), not composted on site.
- **Buffer Zone Management:** The “Grow don’t Mow” principle will be applied along the estuary interface, ensuring natural saltmarsh vegetation is retained and invasive species are excluded.
- **Reporting:** Any invasive species encountered will be reported to SANParks and the Knysna Municipality Environmental Section, in line with cooperative management of the Knysna Estuary.
- **Long-term Compliance:** Facility management will remain responsible for ensuring no Category 1b or 2 invasive species are allowed to establish, as per NEMBA requirements.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Although baseline surveys confirmed that no alien invasive plant species are currently present on the development site, disturbance during construction may create opportunities for invasive species to establish. This compliance statement sets out clear mitigation measures for both the construction and operational phases, ensuring proactive monitoring, immediate removal, and responsible disposal of any invasive species encountered.

Implementation of these measures will ensure compliance with the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act and Alien and Invasive Species Regulations, safeguard the ecological integrity of the Knysna Estuary, and support the long-term sustainability of the Kinetic Catamarans and Sea Cadet Corps development.