

*Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement and Risk Assessment:
Proposed Repairs to the Steenbras Water Treatment Plant Access
Road in Gordon's Bay, Cape Town in the Western Cape
March 2026*



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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Zutari (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by the City of Cape Town for the Steenbras Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Road Rehabilitation/Maintenance near Gordon's Bay in Cape Town. The access road leading to the WTP has been damaged by the washaway of the fill embankments at small drainage features on the mountain slopes. Currently, there is a significant slope failure along this route, referred to as Slope 1 (shown in Figure 1). The City proposes to rehabilitate this section of the road at Slope 1. This aquatic ecosystem compliance statement and risk assessment is intended to provide input into the authorisation process for the proposed works and is in line with the Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Aquatic Biodiversity.

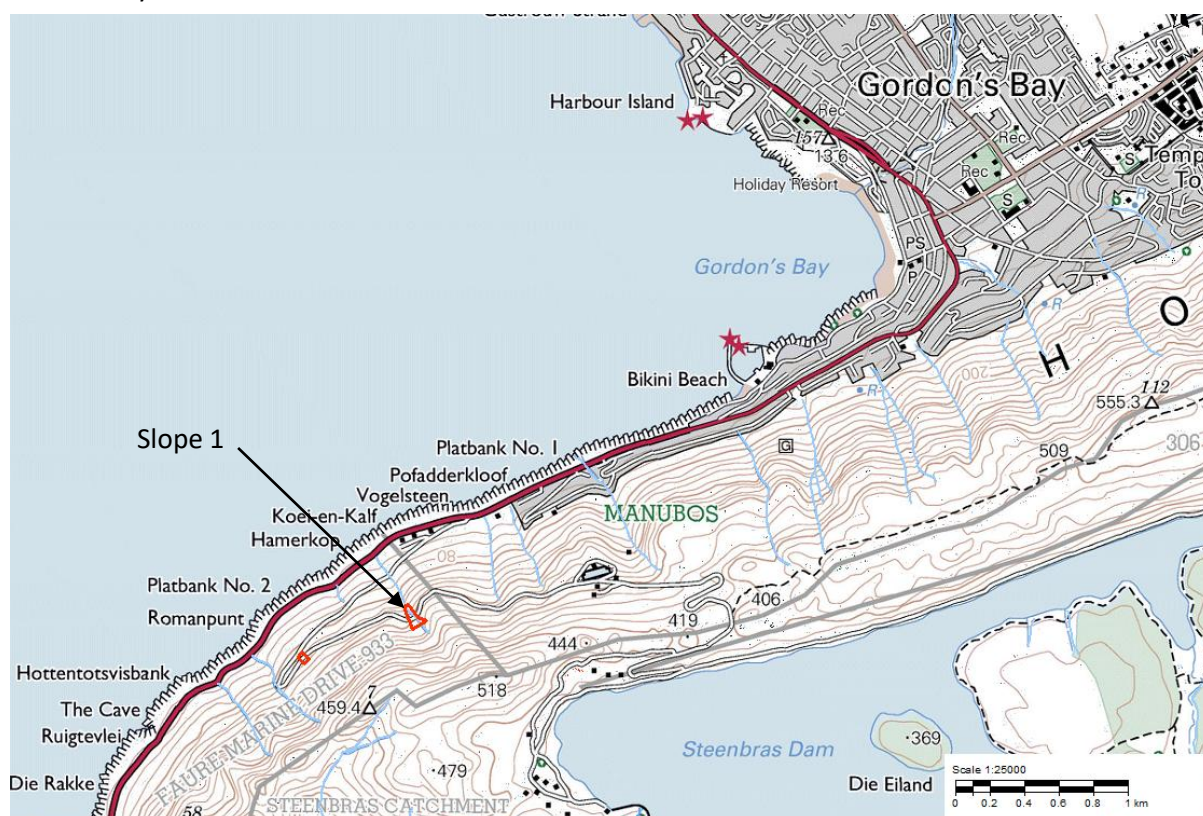


Figure 1. Topographical map for the area showing the location of the site.

Table 1: Key water resources information associated with the proposed activities.

Descriptor	Name / details	Notes
Water Management Area (WMA)	Breede Olifants WMA	
Catchment Area	Sir Lowry's Pass River Catchment	Minor watercourses in the larger Sir Lowry's Pass River Catchment
Quaternary Catchment	G22K	
Present Ecological State (PES)	Sir Lowry's Pass River: E category (seriously modified)	DWS 2024 for the larger Sir Lowry's Pass River. The minor watercourses are still largely natural.
Ecological Importance (EI) and Ecological Sensitivity (ES)	Sir Lowry's Pass River: Moderate EI and High ES	
Latitude	34°10'38.03"S	Location of watercourse crossing on the road at Slope 1
Longitude	18°50'18.55"E	

2. RIVER ASSESSMENT

2.1. Assessment Methodology

Input into this report was informed by a combination of desktop assessments of existing aquatic ecosystem information for the study area and catchment, as well as by a more detailed assessment of the aquatic features at the site. A site visit was conducted on 21 November 2025 and provided input into this assessment. Although the assessment was in the dry summer period, the minor watercourses on the hillslope are likely only to flow for very short periods during rainfall events so the timing of the assessment was not seen as a constraint to the assessment. In addition to the site visit, past knowledge, aerial imagery and mapping for the site were also utilised for this assessment. The SANBI Biodiversity GIS, Freshwater Biodiversity Information System, City of Cape Town Viewer, iNaturalist and CapeFarmMapper websites were consulted to identify any aquatic constraints. The level of aquatic assessment undertaken was considered to be adequate for this study.

2.2. Assessment Findings

The study area is located on the Remainder of Farm Faure Marine Drive No 933, Stellenbosch RD, just west of the suburb of Gordon's Bay in the City of Cape Town (Figure 1). The property is at the base of the northwest-facing slopes of the Hottentots Holland Mountains. Aquatic features associated with the site comprise small watercourses and drainage features that drain from southeast, north westwards, into False Bay (Figure 2). The watercourses and surrounding landscape at the site are still largely natural with the only impacts being the road infrastructure and the WTP.

On average, the area receives approximately 830 mm of rainfall per year, with the rainfall, runoff and resulting flow within the watercourses typically occurring during winter (May to August). More recently, the area has been receiving cut-off low rainfall events that are intense rainfall events that are often outside of the typical rainfall season and cause extreme erosion of watercourse channels and damage to associated infrastructure such as road crossings, as is the case for the road repairs considered in this assessment.

The geology of the study area comprises predominantly of quartzitic sandstone of the Peninsula Formation, Table Mountain Group, with some conglomerate and shale. Soils on the mountain slope and within the watercourse channels are very limited. The cover vegetation is still natural and comprises Kogelberg Sandstone Fynbos which occurs on the higherlying areas of the Hottentots Holland and Kogelberg Mountains. Kogelberg Sandstone Fynbos is considered Critically Endangered as it is narrowly distributed with evidence of ongoing biotic disruption from invasive species

As mentioned above, the aquatic features in the area comprise minor watercourses and drainage features which drain the mountain slopes of the Hottentots Holland Mountains. The watercourses range from about 1000 m in length for the watercourse at Slope 1 to about 400 m for an adjacent watercourse. Due to the limited time that they carry water, they have very limited aquatic habitat and

vegetation and mostly resemble the surrounding terrestrial areas, with only a defined channel in places (Figure 3). The slope of the watercourse at the two sites is about 40%. The erosion potential of the watercourse channels at these sites is thus very high as they are on steep slopes, with little soil or vegetation cover.

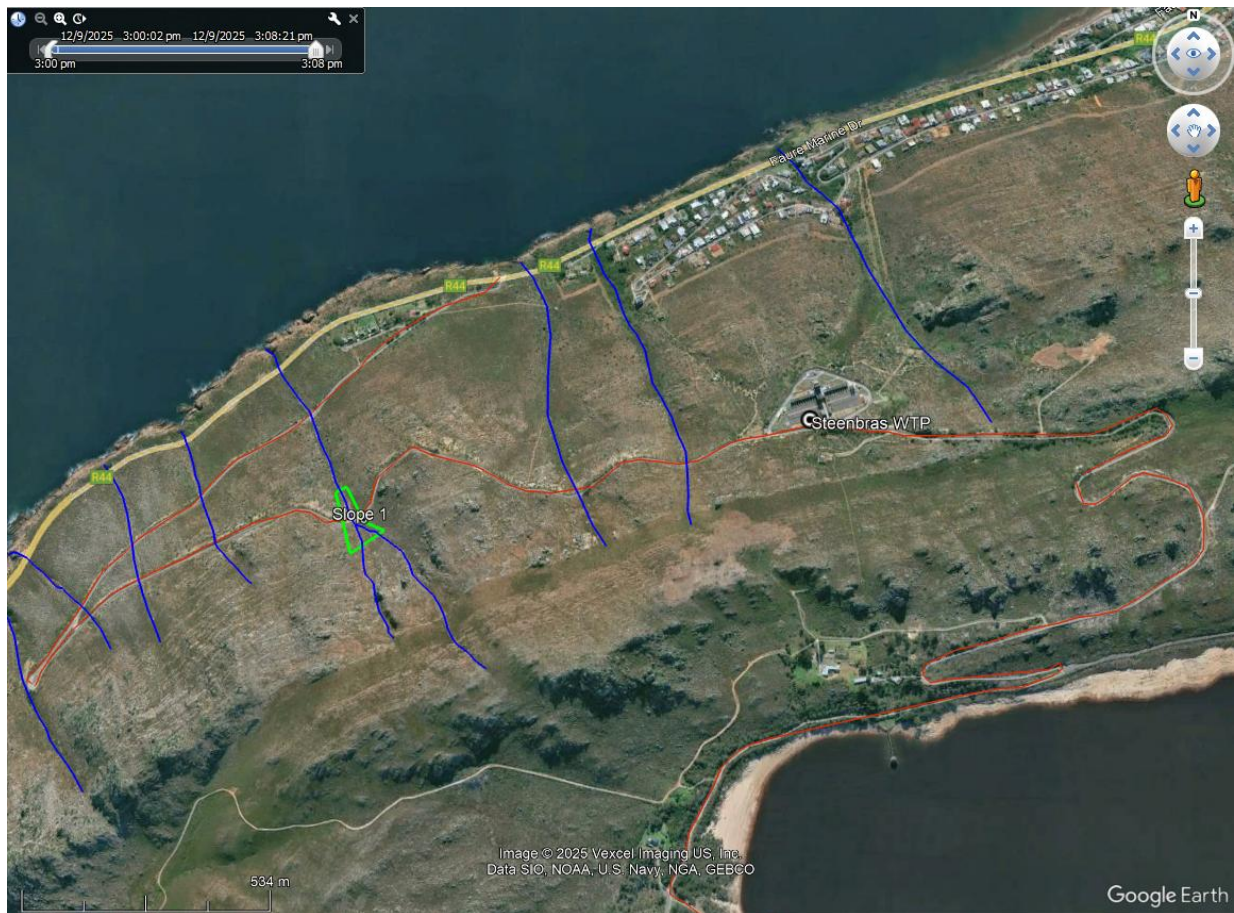


Figure 2. Google Earth image showing the location of the access road and Slope 1 in relation to the mapped watercourses.



Figure 3. View of the watercourse at Slope 1, upslope of the Steenbras WTP access road.

Past imagery of the wider study area, taken in 1938 (Figure 5, top image), shows that the area before the construction of the access road (the road was constructed in the early 1950s). Access was gained from the Steenbras Dam to the south or more directly from Gordon's Bay, to the north. The watercourses at that time were thus natural with no disturbances. Little has changed in these features since then, despite construction of the road.

Figure 5 (bottom image) provides an image of the site, taken in January 2019, during the recent drought. There has also been a recent fire that had burnt the cover vegetation in the area. From the 2019 imagery (Figure 5, bottom image), one can clearly see where groundwater contributes to flow in these watercourses and associated seep and wetland vegetation. Neither of the watercourses has any associated wetland habitat visible at or upstream of the proposed working area. There is some wetland habitat visible on the larger stream, about 60 m downstream of the working area for Slope 1. The most significant wetland areas are visible on the two streams directly east of this watercourse. These wetland areas are included in the City Wetland layer as well as the National Wetland Map (Versions 5 and 6 beta).

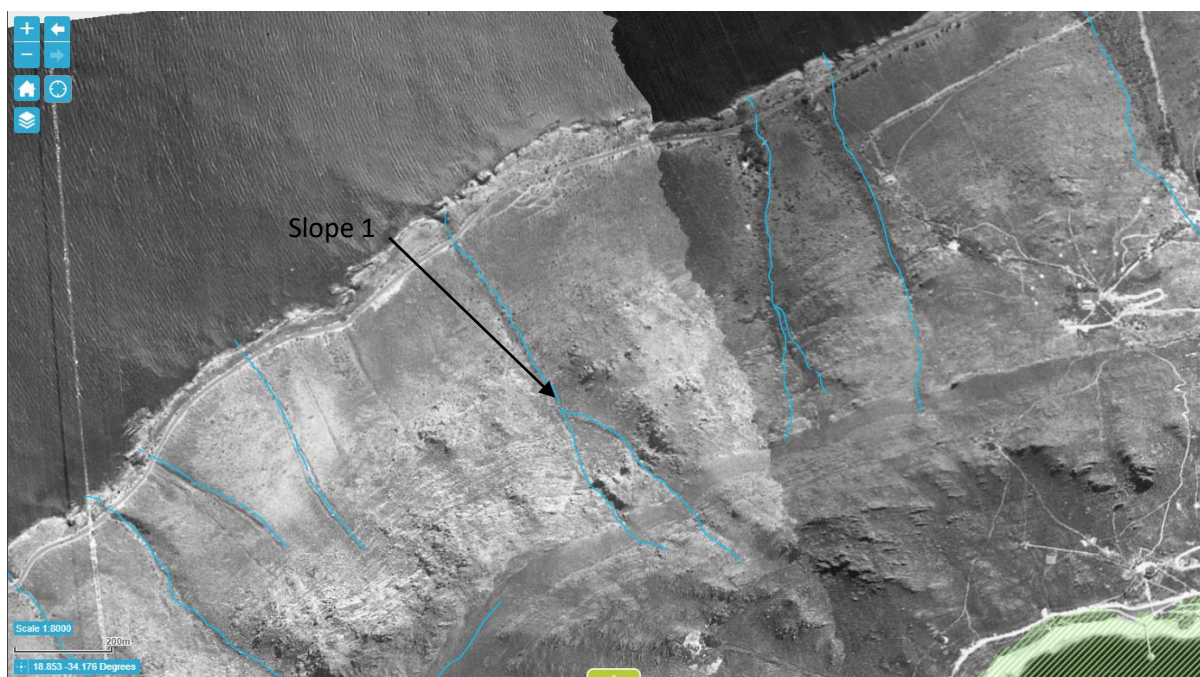


Figure 4. Aerial image of the site and surrounding area, taken in 1938 ([City of Cape Town Map Viewer](#), 2025)



Figure 5. Aerial image of the site and surrounding area, taken in 1968 ([City of Cape Town Map Viewer](#), 2025)

3. BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION VALUE

The DFFE Screening Tool mapping for Aquatic Biodiversity Combined Sensitivity has mapped the sites and surrounding area as being of very high sensitivity (Figure 6). This is because both sites are located within a Strategic Water Source Area for surface water (Boland). The proposed works on the road is unlikely to impact the Strategic Water Source Areas. There are no aquatic fauna or flora of very high sensitivity listed for the area in the Screening Tool.



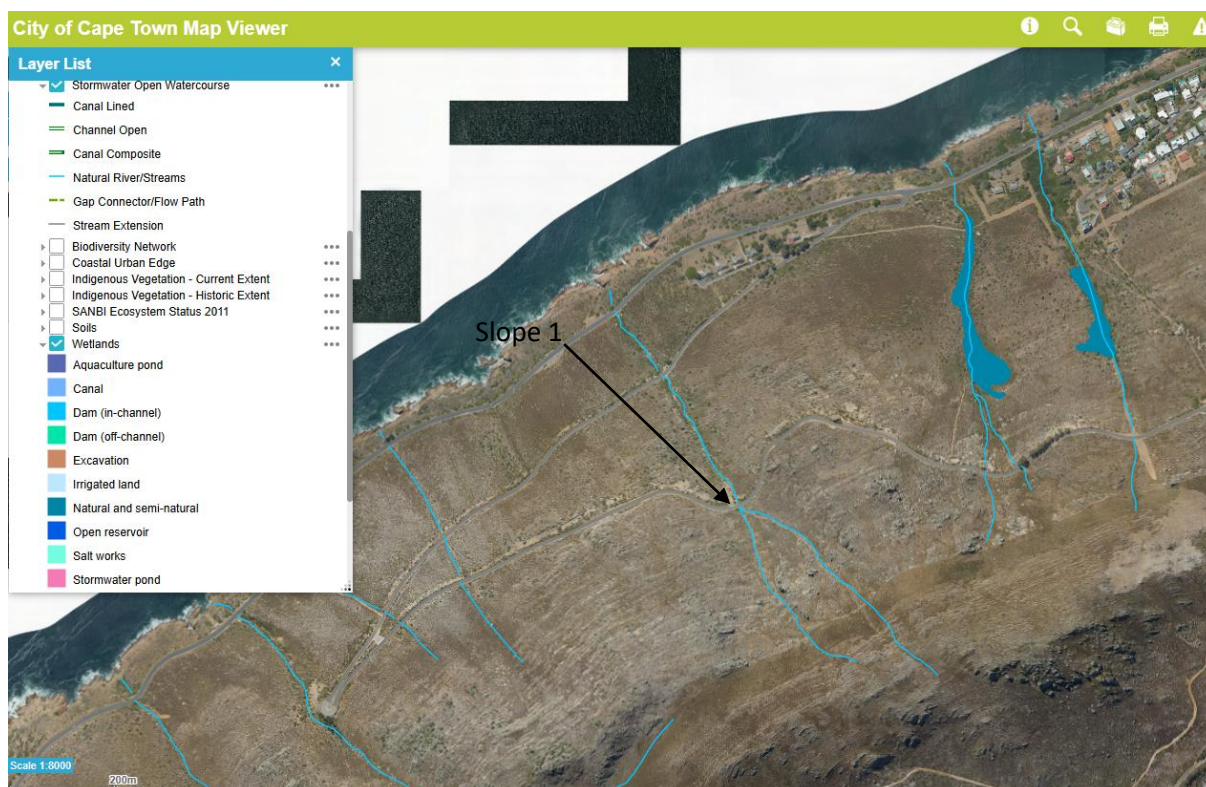


Figure 7. City of Cape Town watercourse and Wetlands Mapping for the area (City of Cape Town Map Viewer)

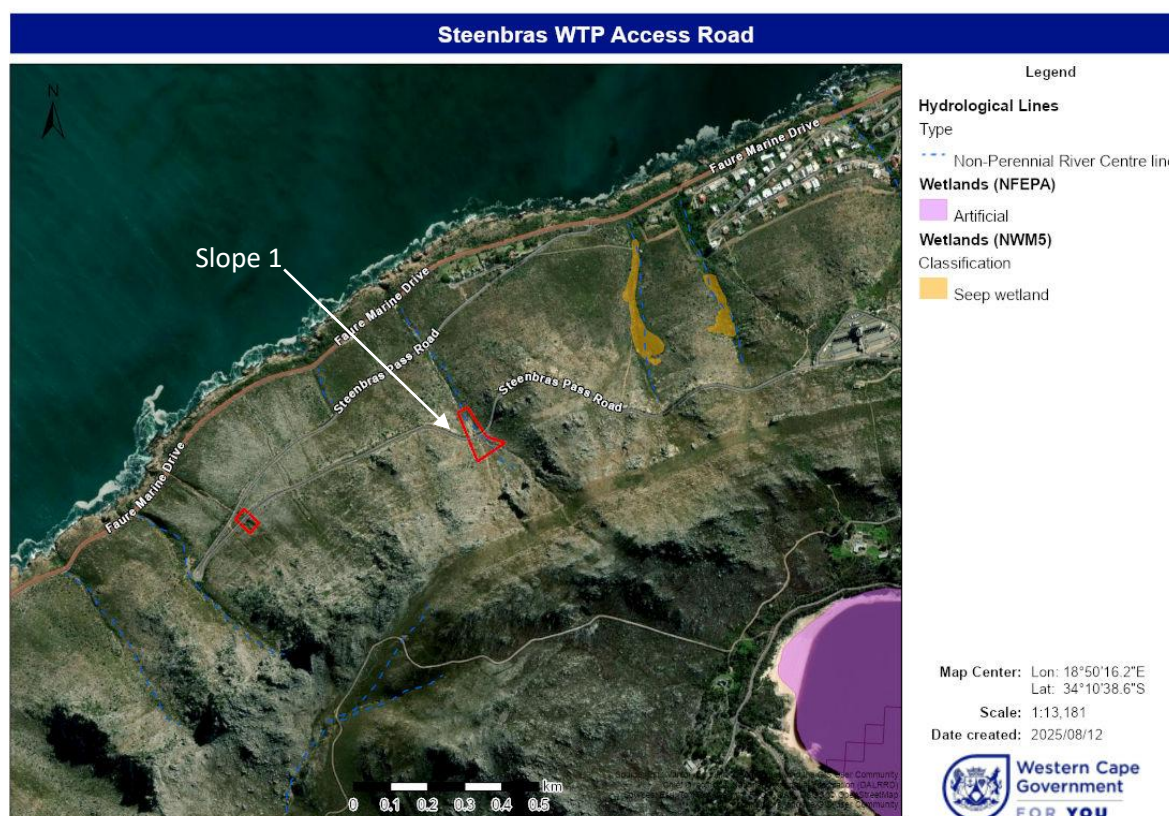


Figure 8. National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas Wetlands and National Wetland Map (version 5) for the area (CapeFarmMapper)

In the 2023 Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Figure 9), the area to the east of the site is within the formally protected Steenbras Nature Reserve and Hottentots-Holland Mountain Catchment Area. There are, however, no features mapped along the watercourse at Slope 1.



Figure 9. 2023 Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan for the area (CapeFarmMapper, 2025)

From the desktop and site assessment for the proposed activities at Slope 1, it can be said that the associated aquatic biodiversity is of a low aquatic importance and sensitivity.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORKS

The City of Cape Town proposes the rehabilitation/repair of the damaged sections of the Steenbras Water Treatment Plant (WTP) access road, where the slope instability occurred as a result of flood damage. Two slope stabilisation methods have been considered as described below:

Preferred Alternative: Anchored Gabion Wall: This option (shown in Figure 10) involves a gabion wall founded 5 m from the road edge. To stabilize the wall on the steep slope, 25 mm to 32 mm steel anchors are to be installed, extending 6 m to 9 m into the underlying rock. Minimal disturbance to the existing road is expected and limited backfill will be required behind the wall. The gabion baskets can either be left exposed with a hand-placed stone finish or be grouted to achieve a solid concrete-like appearance. The wall is expected to be approximately 5 m high based on the ground profile at the time of the investigation. This option will allow for permeability and vegetation growth over time.

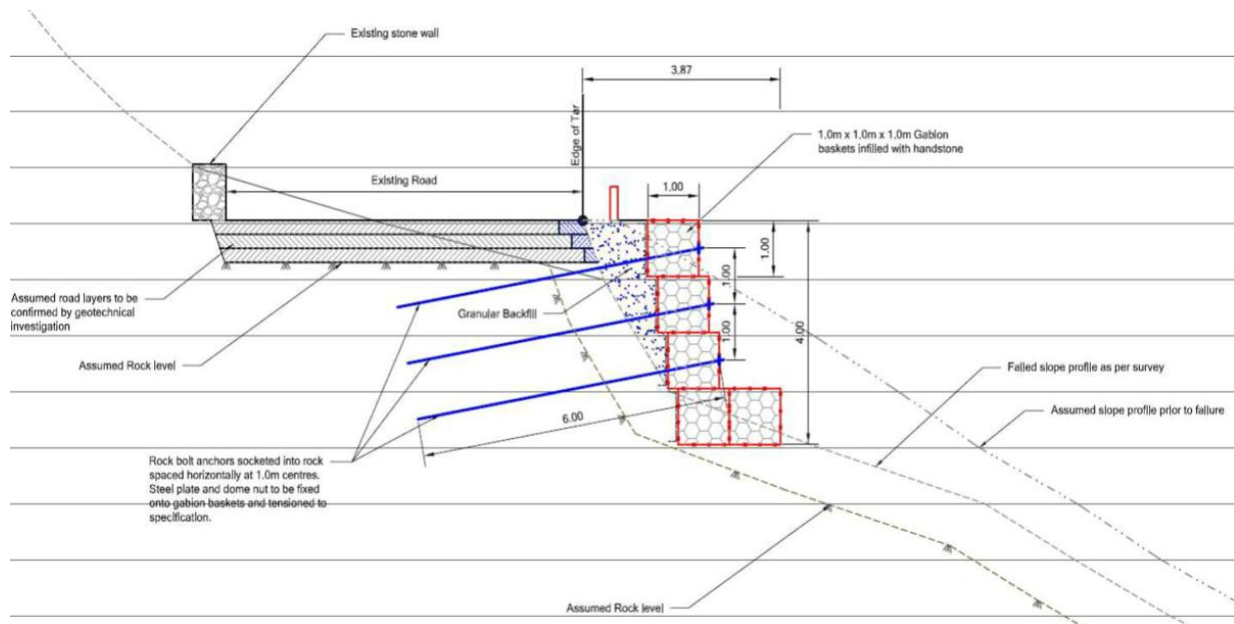


Figure 10. Anchored gabion wall concept (Ingerop, 2024)

Alternative 1: Terramesh Retaining Wall: This option involves using Terramesh baskets to build a retaining structure along the road edge (Figure 11). Terramesh baskets typically provide increased stability when compared with traditional gabion baskets due to the welded tail reinforcement. A portion of the existing roadway will need to be demolished to bench the 2 m long reinforcement tail into the slope, requiring lateral support to prevent destabilisation of the road. Excavation will pass through the talus under burden and proper shoring will be necessary. The final height of the Terramesh wall is expected to be between 4 m and 5 m based on the ground profile at the time of the investigation.

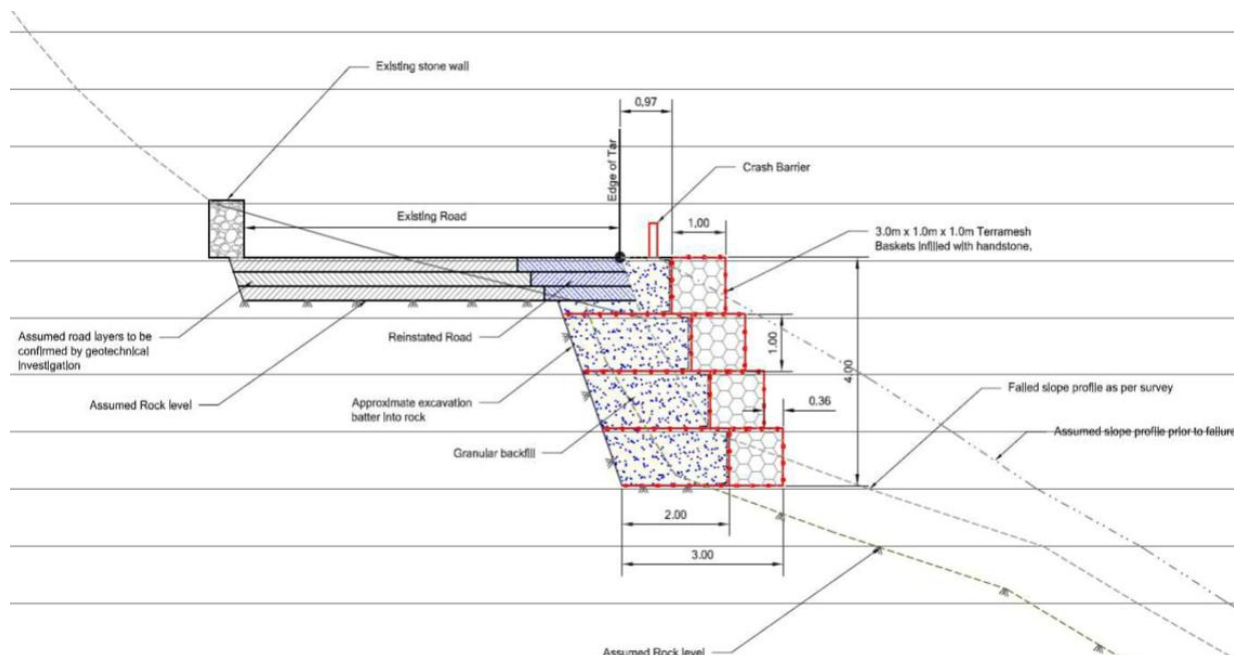


Figure 11. Terramesh retaining wall concept (Ingerop, 2024)

Based on the site conditions and constraints, the anchored gabion wall has been identified as the preferred alternative for the rehabilitation/repair works. The anchored gabion wall alternative that allows for capturing of soil and growth of cover vegetation over time is also a more acceptable alternative from an aquatic ecosystem perspective. An example of the anchored gabion wall is shown in Figure 12.



Figure 12. Example of an anchored gabion wall

5. AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM IMPACT AND RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1. NEMA and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations

National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (No. 107 of 1998, as amended) is the overarching piece of legislation for environmental management in South Africa and includes provisions that must be considered to give effect to the general objectives of integrated environmental management. These provisions are contained in Section 24 (4)(a)(b) of the Act and will be considered during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Activities listed in terms of Chapter 5 of NEMA in Government Notice No. R. 983, 984 and 985, dated 4 December 2014, as amended, trigger a mandatory Basic Assessment, or even a full scoping EIA process, before development.

Zutari (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to undertake the requisite environmental authorisation assessment process for the proposed project under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended). Due to the presence of aquatic features present within the footprint of the proposed works, this specialist aquatic assessment report is required to inform the authorisation process.

The watercourse at Slope 1 is in a largely natural ecological condition with the only impact being the road infrastructure. The ecological importance of the watercourse is low as it does not have significant aquatic habitat or biota associated with it. The sensitivity of the watercourse is high from an erosion perspective but not from an ecological perspective. There is no wetland habitat at the site.

The works will have a limited footprint adjacent to the existing road where there is existing disturbance of the watercourses. The footprint of the wall to be constructed at Slope 1 is approximately 6 500 m² (or about 200 m of watercourse channel). Therefore, it can be expected that the likely impacts of the proposed works would be a disturbance of a limited extent that is mostly of a short-term nature and of low significance.

The impact of the works on Slope 1 will thus be of low significance with mitigation, given the small extent of works proposed at Slope 1 and the minor watercourse associated with Slope 1. Addressing the existing erosion of the watercourse channels will also prevent further erosion of the channels and the downstream sedimentation that would impact on the downstream aquatic habitat, including the small wetland that is about 60 m downstream of the proposed footprint of the work at Slope 1.

Longer-term impacts that may occur relate to how any future maintenance or repair work is undertaken for Slope 1 within the watercourse at the road. These impacts can easily be mitigated. Recommended mitigation measures are as follows:

- The works, where they need to occur within the watercourse, should be limited as far as possible both in terms of extent and duration and should in particular avoid removal of cover vegetation outside of the approved footprint for the work.
- Responsible management of pollutants through ensuring handling and storage of any pollutants is away from the watercourse. When machinery is involved, ensure effective operation with no leaking parts and refuel outside of the riparian area, at a safe distance from the watercourse to manage any accidental spillages and pose no threat of pollution.
- Repairs and maintenance should as far as possible be undertaken within the dry season.
- No deepening of the watercourse beyond the original, pre-damage determined thalweg, unless such deepening is directly related to the natural improved functioning and condition of such a watercourse.
- Any material brought onto the site should be certified to be free of invasive alien plant seed.
- Stockpiling of material should be undertaken within existing disturbed areas.
- The build-up of debris/sediment removed from a maintenance site may be utilised for infilling or other related maintenance actions related to managing erosion.
- Any rubble or waste material arising from the activities should not be placed within or adjacent to the watercourse channels but should be removed from the site.
- A concerted effort must be made to actively rehabilitate repaired or reshaped banks with indigenous local vegetation.
- Invasive alien vegetation growth should be monitored and cleared on an ongoing basis according to methods as provided by the Working for Water Programme.

Table 2. Summary Table of potential impacts of the proposed activities

Potential impact on freshwater features	Repair works to Steenbras Access Road at Slope 1
Nature of impact:	Aquatic habitat disturbance as well as possible flow and water quality impacts during construction
Extent of impact:	Local
Duration of impact	Short term
Intensity of Impact:	Low
Consequence of impact	Low
Probability of occurrence:	Probable
Degree to which impact can be reversed:	Partially Reversible
Irreplaceability of resources:	Medium
Indirect impacts	Risk for growth of invasive alien plants in the disturbed area; reduced risk of erosion
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Low
Significance of impact pre-mitigation	Low
Degree to which the impact can be avoided:	Medium
Degree to which the impact can be managed:	High
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	Medium
Proposed mitigation:	See above
Residual impacts:	Limited habitat modification
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Very low
Significance after mitigation	Very low

5.2. National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)

The purpose of the National Water Act, 1998 (NWA) is to provide a framework for the equitable allocation and sustainable management of water resources. Both surface and groundwater sources are redefined by the Act as national resources which cannot be owned by any individual and rights which are not automatically coupled to land rights, but for which prospective users must apply for authorisation and register as users. The NWA also provides measures to prevent, control and remedy the pollution of surface and groundwater sources.

The Act aims to regulate the use of water and activities (as defined in Part 4, Section 21 of the NWA), which may impact water resources through the categorisation of 'listed water uses' encompassing water abstraction and flow attenuation within catchments as well as the potential contamination of water resources, where the DWS is the administering body in this regard. Defined water use activities require the approval of DWS in the form of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence authorisation. There are restrictions on the extent and scale of listed activities for which General Authorisations apply.

According to the preamble to Part 6 of the NWA, *"This Part established a procedure to enable a responsible authority, after public consultation, to permit the use of water by publishing general authorisations in the Gazette..."* *"The use of water under a general authorisation does not require a licence until the general authorisation is revoked, in which case licensing will be necessary..."*

The General Authorisations for Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses (impeding or diverting flow or changing the bed, banks or characteristics of a watercourse) as defined under the NWA have been last revised in 2023 (Government Notice R4167 of 2023). The proposed works within or adjacent to the aquatic features have the potential to change the characteristics of the associated freshwater ecosystems and may therefore require authorisation. Determining if a water use licence is required for these water uses is now associated with the risk of degrading the ecological status of a watercourse.

A risk assessment was carried out for the proposed activity (summary in Table 3). The full risk assessment matrix can be seen in full in Appendix 2. The risk rating (where the risk significance score is described in Table 4) of the proposed activities is considered to be low, provided the recommended mitigation measures as listed in the previous section are implemented.

Table 3: A summary of the risk assessment for the proposed activity

PROJECT:		Steenbras Water Treatment Plant Access Road Repairs	
Name of assessor:		A Belcher	
Date of assessment:		08-Dec-25	
RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX for Section 21 (c) and (i) Water Use activities (version 2.0): SUMMARY			
[ASSUMING ALL PROPOSED IMPACT CONTROL MEASURES (AS STIPULATED IN PROJECT SPECS) ARE EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED]			
Phase	Activity	Impact	Risk Ratings
CONSTRUCTION	Preparation of sites for construction of proposed anchored gabion wall with removal of cover vegetation and movement of soil/rocks within proposed footprint and shaping of embankment	Disturbance and modification of watercourse channel	L
	Construction of anchored gabion wall - levelling and compaction of soil, anchoring and	Altered runoff and sedimentation from construction area	L
OPERATION	Operation phase activities (use and maintenance of repaired road) with associated stormwater runoff	Flow modification of runoff from paved driveway	L

Table 4. A description of the risk rating categories

CLASS	MANAGEMENT DESCRIPTION
(L) Low Risk	Acceptable as is or consider requirement for mitigation. Impact to watercourses and resource quality small and easily mitigated. Wetlands may be excluded.
(M) Moderate Risk	Risk and impact on watercourses are notably and require mitigation measures on a higher level, which costs more and require specialist input. Wetlands are excluded.
(H) High Risk	Always involves wetlands. Watercourse(s) impacts by the activity are such that they impose a long-term threat on a large scale and lowering of the Reserve.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

The DFFE Screening Tool mapping for Aquatic Biodiversity Combined Sensitivity has mapped the site and surrounding area as being of very high sensitivity because the site (Slope 1) is located within a Strategic Water Source Area for surface water (Boland). The proposed works is, however, not likely to impact the Strategic Water Source Area. Four sets of conservation mapping are of relevance to the aquatic features in the study area. There are no watercourses and any associated wetland areas of conservation importance mapped in any of these mapping initiatives.

The watercourse at Slope 1 is in a largely natural ecological condition with the only impact being the road infrastructure. The ecological importance of the watercourse is low as it does not have significant aquatic habitat or biota associated with it. The sensitivity of the watercourse is high from an erosion perspective but not from an ecological perspective. There is no wetland habitat at the site.

The works will have a limited footprint adjacent to the existing road where there is existing disturbance of the watercourses. Therefore, it can be expected that the likely impacts of the proposed works would be a disturbance of a limited extent that is mostly of a short-term nature. The impact of the works on Slope 1 would be of low significance from an aquatic ecosystem perspective, given the small extent of works and the small watercourse with little associated aquatic habitat at Slope 1. Addressing the existing erosion of the watercourse channels will also prevent further erosion of the channels and the downstream sedimentation that would impact on the downstream aquatic habitat, including the small seep that is about 60 m downstream of the proposed footprint of the work at Slope 1.

General mitigation measures are:

- The works within the watercourse should be limited as far as possible both in terms of extent and duration and should in particular avoid removal of cover vegetation outside of the approved footprint for the work.
- Responsible management of pollutants through ensuring handling and storage of any pollutants is away from the watercourse. When machinery is involved, ensure effective operation with no leaking parts and refuel outside of the riparian area, at a safe distance from the watercourse to manage any accidental spillages and pose no threat of pollution.
- Repairs and maintenance should as far as possible be undertaken within the dry season.
- No deepening of the watercourse beyond the original, pre-damage determined thalweg, unless such deepening is directly related to the natural improved functioning and condition of such a watercourse.
- Any material brought onto the site should be certified to be free of invasive alien plant seed.
- Stockpiling of material should be undertaken within existing disturbed areas.
- The build-up of debris/sediment removed from a maintenance site may be utilised for infilling or other related maintenance actions related to managing erosion.
- Any rubble or waste material arising from the activities should not be placed within or adjacent to the watercourse channels but should be removed from the site.

- A concerted effort must be made to actively rehabilitate repaired or reshaped banks with indigenous local vegetation.
- Invasive alien vegetation growth should be monitored and cleared on an ongoing basis according to methods as provided by the Working for Water Programme.

The risk rating of the proposed activities is considered to be low, provided the recommended mitigation measures are implemented.

From the desktop and site assessments for the site of the proposed activities, it can be said that the associated aquatic biodiversity where the works is proposed are of a low sensitivity and that there should be no reason, from an aquatic ecosystem perspective why the proposed activity should not be approved. The anchored gabion wall alternative that allows for capturing of soil and growth of cover vegetation over time is a more acceptable alternative from an aquatic ecosystem perspective.

7. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1: SPECIALIST DETAILS, EXPERTISE AND DECLARATION

1.1. Background and Qualifications of Specialist Consultant

Full Name	Antonia Belcher
Company	BlueScience (Pty) Ltd
Profession	Aquatic Ecologist and Environmental Management (P. Sci. Nat. 005681)
Years in Profession	30+ years

Toni Belcher worked for the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry for more than 17 years. During this period, she worked for the Directorate Water Quality Management, the Institute for Water Quality Studies and the Western Cape Regional Office and has built up a wide skills base on water resource management and water resource quality for rivers, estuaries and the coastal marine environment. Since leaving the Department in 2007, she has been working in her private capacity and was co-owner of BlueScience (Pty) Ltd, working in the field of water resource management and has been involved in more than 500 aquatic ecosystem assessments for environmental impact assessment and water use authorisation purposes. In 2006 she was awarded a Woman in Water award for Environmental Education and was a runner up for the Woman in Water prize for Water Research.

Professional Qualifications:

1984	Matriculation Lawson Brown High School
1987	B.Sc. – Mathematics, Applied Mathematics University of Port Elizabeth
1989	B.Sc. (Hons) – Oceanography University of Port Elizabeth
1998	M.Sc. – Environmental Management (<i>cum laude</i>) Potchefstroom University

Key Skills:

Areas of specialisation: Aquatic ecosystem assessments, Monitoring and evaluation of water resources, Water resource legislation and authorisations, River classification and Resource Quality Objectives, River Reserve determination and implementation, Water Quality Assessments, Biomonitoring, River and Wetland Rehabilitation Plans, Catchment management, River maintenance management, Water education.

Summary of Experience:

1987 – 1988	Part-time field researcher, Department of Oceanography, University of Port Elizabeth
1989 – 1990	Mathematics tutor and administrator, Master Maths, Randburg and Braamfontein Colleges, Johannesburg
1991 – 1995	Water Pollution Control Officer, Water Quality Management, Department of Water Affairs, Pretoria
1995 – 1999	Hydrologist and Assistant Director, Institute for Water Quality Studies, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, Pretoria
1999 – 2007	Assistant and Deputy Director, Water Resource Protection, Western Cape Regional Office, Department of Water Affairs, Cape Town
2007 – 2012	Self-employed
2013 – 2020	Senior Aquatic Specialist and part-owner, BlueScience
2020 – 2025	Self-employed
Present	Senior Aquatic Specialist and part-owner, BlueScience

1.2. Declaration of Independence

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

- 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 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;
- 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
- am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

Signature of the Specialist:



Name of Company:

BlueScience (Pty) Ltd

Date:

8 December 2025

APPENDIX 2: RISK ASSESSMENT

PROJECT:

Steenbras Water Treatment Plant Access Road Repairs

RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX for Section 21 (c) and (i) Water Use activities - Version 2.0

Name of Assessor:

A Belcher

Signature:



SACNASP Registration Number:

SACNASP 005681

Date:

08-Dec-25

Risk to be scored for all relevant phases of the project (factoring in specified control measures). MUST BE COMPLETED BY SACNASP PROFESSIONAL MEMBER REGISTERED IN AN APPROPRIATE FIELD OF EXPERTISE.

Phase	Activity	Impact	Potentially affected watercourses			Intensity of Impact on Resource Quality					Overall Intensity (max = 10)	Spatial scale (max = 5)	Duration (max = 5)	Severity (max = 20)	Importance rating (max = 5)	Consequence (max = 100)	Likelihood (Probability) of Impact	Significance (max = 100)	Risk Rating	Confidence level										
			Name/s	PES	Ecological Importance	Abiotic Habitat (Drivers)			Biota (Responses)																					
						Hydrology	Water Quality	Geomorph	Vegetation	Fauna																				
CONSTRUCTION	Preparation of sites for construction of proposed anchored gabion wall with removal of cover vegetation and movement of soil/rocks within proposed footprint and shaping of embankment	Disturbance and modification of watercourse channel	Minor unnamed watercourses	AB	Low	1	2	2	2	1	4	1	2	7	2	14	100%	14	L	High										
	Construction of anchored gabion wall - levelling and compaction of soil, anchoring and packing of gabion walls, backfill and shaping	Altered runoff and sedimentation from construction area	Minor unnamed watercourses	AB	Low	2	2	2	2	1	4	1	2	7	2	14	100%	14	L	High										
OPERATION	Operation phase activities (use and maintenance of repaired road) with associated stormwater runoff	Flow modification of runoff from paved driveway	Minor unnamed watercourses	AB	Low	2	1	2	1	1	4	1	2	7	2	14	40%	5.6	L	High										

APPENDIX 3: MINIMUM CONTENT REQUIREMENT FOR AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS

Minimum Content requirement for Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statements as per Protocol for the Specialist Assessment of Environmental Impacts on Aquatic Biodiversity (GN 320 of 20 March 2020)

Aquatic Biodiversity Compliance Statement		
Protocol ref	Content requirement	Section / Page in Report
3.1.	The compliance statement must be prepared by a suitably qualified specialist registered with SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences.	Appendix 1
3.2.	The compliance statement must:	
3.2.1.	be applicable to the preferred site and the proposed development footprint;	Section 1 and 3
3.2.2.	confirm that the site is of "low" sensitivity for aquatic biodiversity; and	Section 3 and 4
3.2.3.	indicate whether or not the proposed development will have an impact on the aquatic features.	Section 4
3.3.	The compliance statement must contain, as a minimum, the following information:	
3.3.1.	contact details of the specialist, their SACNASP registration number, their field of expertise and a curriculum vitae;	Appendix 1
3.3.2.	a signed statement of independence by the specialist;	Appendix 1
3.3.3.	a statement on the duration, date and season of the site inspection and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment;	Section 2
3.3.4.	a baseline profile description of biodiversity and ecosystems of the site;	Section 3
3.3.5.	the methodology used to verify the sensitivities of the aquatic biodiversity features on the site including the equipment and modelling used where relevant;	Section 2
3.3.6.	in the case of a linear activity, confirmation from the aquatic biodiversity specialist that, in their opinion, based on the mitigation and remedial measures proposed, the land can be returned to the current state within two years of completion of the construction phase;	N/A
3.3.7.	where required, proposed impact management outcomes or any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMP; and	Section 4 and 6
3.3.8.	a description of the assumptions made as well as any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge or data; and	Section 2
3.3.9.	any conditions to which this statement is subjected.	Section 4 and 6
3.4.	A signed copy of the compliance statement must be appended to the Basic Assessment Report or Environmental Impact Assessment Report.	-