

**CONSERVATION INTELLIGENCE:
LANDSCAPE CENTRAL**

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reference SSD14/2/6/1/9/4/1674-11_Resort_Retreat_Boschendal
date **10 November 2020**

Marielle Penwarden
Chand Environmental Consultants
PO Box 238
Plumstead
7801

By email: marielle@chand.co.za

Dear Ms Penwarden

RE: Proposed development of new retreat on portion of portion 11 of Farm 1674, Boschendal – Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report.

DEA Ref: 16/3/3/1/B4/45/1064/19

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Pre-application Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) and wish to make the following comments:

1. According to the South African Vegetation Map, the proposed development site is in an area which historically supported Swartland Alluvium Fynbos, which is listed as an Endangered vegetation type (NBA, 2018). However, the general area has been largely transformed and degraded due agriculture and related activities and very little natural vegetation is remaining.
2. Therefore, the main concern from a biodiversity perspective is linked to the watercourse (Stream 10) and the wetlands on the site. We are pleased to note that a detailed freshwater specialist study was undertaken as part of this application process.
3. Parts of the study area has been mapped as Ecological Support Area 2 (ESA 2) which are areas that are acknowledged as being degraded or even transformed but which should, where possible be restored. In this instance, the main reason for the determination is related to water course protection.
4. The freshwater specialist has provided detailed mitigation measures for protection of the stream and wetlands on site and CapeNature support these measures. The implementation of the calculated buffer areas is especially important for both the construction and operational phases of the development. We also support the recommendation of allowing water to flow in stream 10 below the diversion channel. Providing all of the mitigation measures are strictly implemented, CapeNature does not object to this application.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alana Duffell-Canham', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Alana Duffell-Canham