



Eco Route Environmental Consultancy
Attention: Joclyn Marshall
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COMMENTS ON THE BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PORTION 66 AND 67 OF THE FARM BRAKKLOOF 443:

- 1 The Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment (DFPE) is responsible for the implementation and the enforcement of the National Forest Act (NFA), Act 84 of 1998 as amended and the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, Act 101 of 1998 as amended (NVFFA). Thank you for giving Forestry this opportunity to comment on above application.
- 2 Forestry studied the supporting documents for the above mentioned application and the following points related to Forestry's mandate i.e. the implementation of the NFA are applicable
 - a According to the document provided: "Portion 66 was rezoned in 1989 from "Agriculture" to "Subdivisional Area" and subdivided into 11 "Single Residential" erven with average erf sizes of approximately $\pm 1020\text{m}^2$ and 2 open space erven. These development rights were never implemented and have lapsed. Presently, the site contains a dwelling house that does not have approved building plans. The house has never been occupied and will be demolished. Portion 67 of 433 is vacant and undeveloped. The proposal is to consolidate the two land portions and to create a small exclusive beachfront security estate. The present zoning of the property is zoned "Agriculture" in terms of the Plettenberg Bay zoning Scheme and the intention is to apply for the rezoning of the land to "Sub-divisional Area" in the Planning Process which would allow for the further subdivision of the land into 9 "Single Residential" erven and 1 communal "Private Open Space" erf"; the report indicated that the entire property has been burnt in the 2018 fires- the vegetation is disturbed with invader *Acacia cyclops* – with patches of coastal thicket with protected Milkwood trees



- b 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.
 - c Forestry has the following comments:
 - i. Forestry request that the number of units/ plots in above proposal be significantly reduced; removal of units/ plots especially encroaching into coastal forest/ thicket with protected Milkwood trees/ shrubs
 - ii. Forestry request that a buffer of 10-20m be maintained between the ecotone of the indigenous coastal forest forest as well as protected trees and above development proposal
 - iii. Forestry request that the development proposal only remain within the disturbed areas of above property- and not encroach on the areas containing protected Milkwood trees as well as Coastal forest
 - iv. Forestry request that protected Milkwood trees/ indigenous coastal forest be GPS'd with their exact position and be indicated as no-go areas and be incorporated within the development proposal as no-go areas- in order to ensure the protection of the Milkwood trees/ shrubs as well as indigenous Coastal Forest/ thicket
- 3 Forestry reserves the right to revise initial comment based on any additional information that may be received

Yours Faithfully

pp.AREA MANAGER FORESTRY: WESTERN CAPE
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