

#### **CONSERVATION OPERATIONS**

**Postal** Private Bag x29 Gatesville 7766 **physical** PGWC Shared Services Centre

cnr Bosduif & Volstruis Streets,

Bridgetown 7764

Website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries Natalie Hayward
telephone +27 87 087 3203

email <a href="mailto:nhayward@capenature.co.za">nhayward@capenature.co.za</a>

reference EDMS 226158: CFRPA WHS Minor Boundary

Modification

date 24 January 2024

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Attention: Ms. Nomfundo Tshabalala

Director General

By e-mail: tntloko@dffe.gov.za

nbhengu@dffe.gov.za xmabunzi@dffe.gov.za

APPLICATION: CAPE FLORISTIC REGION PROTECTED AREAS WORLD

HERITAGE SITE: MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATION HEXRIVER COMPLEX

World Heritage Site: CFRPA World Heritage Site

Complex name: Hexrivier Complex

Compartment part: Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve

Compartment number: 100

#### I. AREA OF THE PROPERTY

This application concerns a Minor Boundary Modification of one of the 13 complexes of the Cape Floristic Region Protected Area World Heritage Site (CFRPA WHS) as nominated by the Government of South Africa in 2014. The specific compartment referred to in this submission is Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve, ID number 100, which forms part of the Hexriver Complex.

#### I.I Area of the property inscribed:

The Hexriver Complex was nominated as part of the extension to the CFRPA WHS that was originally inscribed on 7 July 2004 that comprised an area of 557 584 ha. With the extension in 2015, the CFRPA WHS amounts to 1 094 742 ha with a buffer zone of 798 514 ha. The Hexriver Complex totalling approximately 19 300 ha, one of the 13 complexes comprising the CFRPA WHS, includes four Nature Reserves, namely the Wittebrug-; Fonteintjiesberg-; Ben-Etive-; and Bokkeriviere State Forest Nature Reserves. The boundary of Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve was incorrectly indicated in the original WHS nomination documents. The original area for Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve included covers a total extent of 11 948.33 ha, centroid S 33° 21' 17.1" E 19° 46' 08.1". Please see Map 1.

#### 1.2 Area of the property as proposed to be modified:

The inscribed area of <u>II 948.33 ha</u> for the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve is proposed to be modified to reflect <u>6 945.74 ha</u>. The area inscribed for the CFRPA WHS must therefore be modified to reflect <u>I 089 739.41 ha</u>. See Map 2.

### 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE MODIFICATION

Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve is divided into a section managed by CapeNature as a Nature Reserve of 6 945.74 ha, and a section managed by the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) of 5 002.59 ha (Map 2). These areas reflect the spatially calculated areas that must undergo subdivision to incorporate the split in management of these farms.

The Minor Boundary Modification is for the exclusion of a section of remainder of the Farm Bokke Rivier 353, Ceres Division, Western Cape Province, and a section of remainder Portion I of the Farm Bokke Rivier 353, situated in the Witzenberg Municipality, Administrative District of Ceres, Western Cape Province totalling 5 002.59 ha. These properties, managed by the SANDF were erroneously reflected as part of the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve due to an incorrect spatial boundary delineation for the Nature Reserve.

The modified Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve boundary that this Minor Boundary Modification application will effect is reflected in Map 2 and Annexure A, with coordinates:

Description of figure subject to Nature Reserve Area Farm Diagram No. Deed of Transfer 1013,3374ha Farm No.346, Ceres (the whole) 1) ABCWX 321/1876 State Land W C D B1 C1 G H D1 E1 F1 G1 U V Farm No.355, Ceres (the whole) Grant Tul.Q.6-12 824,2ha 521/1836 3) D E F G C1 B1 and H Z Y H1 G1 F1 E1 D1 Remainder of the farm Bokke Rivier No.353, Ceres Grant Wor. 0.7-9 4) Z J Y 3,0ha Remainder Portion 1 of the farm Bokke Rivier No.353, Ceres 70/1865 D/T 1865.9.25 G1 H1 J J1 Q K1 L1 Farm No.354, Ceres (the whole) Grant Tul.0.4-19 K L M N P Q J1 J D/T 1840.19.85 390,5087ha 224/1840 7) U G1 L1 K1 Q R S T 1561,4792ha The farm Witteberg No.40, Worcester (the whole) 2392/1878 Grant Wor. 0.19-16

Schedule of Farms

## 3. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE MODIFICATION

The Hexriver Complex was inscribed by the World Heritage Convention, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2015 as a part of the CFRPA WHS. The entire CFRPA WHS property comprises I 094 742 ha. The South African Protected Areas Database spatial data at that time used for the CFRPA WHS extension nomination erroneously included a property utilised by the SANDF for military training purposes as part of the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve. As such, the SANDF property comprising 5 002.59 ha was erroneously delineated as part of the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve and inscribed as part of the CFRPA WHS, although never managed as part of the Nature Reserve or CFRPA WHS.

Government Gazette 44191, Notice No. 141 published Minister's intention to proclaim land situated in the Western and Eastern Cape Province to be part of the CFRPA WHS. The erroneous boundary was observed by the SANDF and an objection lodged with the South African Department of Forestry,

Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). Subsequently the process for Minor Boundary Modification was initiated.

The proposed Minor Boundary Modification will result in a minor reduction in the extent of the Hexriver Complex and greater CFRPA WHS by approximately 0.46% of the total area of the CFRPA WHS. The proposed minor boundary modification will have no effect on the existing buffering mechanisms of the CFRPA WHS, Hexriver Complex and Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve.

The Minor Boundary Modification will enable effective management and maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the CFRPA WHS since land use activities will not conflict with the objectives of the Hexriver Complex.

# 4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

The CFRPA WHS is inscribed in accordance with Criterion (ix) 'Ongoing biological and ecological processes', and Criterion (x) 'Biological diversity and threatened species'.

The Hexriver Complex establishes linkages between the inscribed Cederberg-; Groot Winterhoek; and Boland Mountain Complexes. Landscape transitions and floral diversity of the Hexriver Complex provide physical and climatic diversity in an area of transition between montane and lowland habitats, and juxtaposed Fynbos and Succulent Karoo Biomes.

Of the nine fynbos vegetation types comprising the Hexriver Complex Protected Areas, three vegetation types, including Breede Alluvium Fynbos (Endangered), Breede Shale Fynbos (Vulnerable) and Ceres Shale Renosterveld (Vulnerable), are not formally protected elsewhere. Other conservation targets of note in the Complex include Serotinous Proteaceae, Northern Inland Shale Band Vegetation, Altimontane vegetation, priority small mammal species (Spectacled dormouse (Near Threatened), White-tailed mouse (Vulnerable), Verreux's Eagle, Colophon beetles (Colophon haughton (Endangered) and Colophon kawaii).

The Minor Boundary Modification of the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve will not impact on protection levels of the abovementioned threatened ecosystems and species of conservation concern, while least threatened Matjiesfontein Shale Renosterveld will remain intact and well represented in the Nature Reserve and Hexriver Complex. There will be no change to the buffering mechanisms relating to the Hexriver Complex and the CFRPA WHS.

Thus, the modification of the area of the Bokkerivere Nature Reserve by a reduction of 5 002.59 ha will have no negative impact on OUV, this area never having contributed to protected area targets and objectives in the first place. The OUV will therefore be maintained for the entire CFRPA WHS.

**5. IMPLICATIONS FOR LEGAL PROTECTION** 

There is no negative implication for legal protection, the SANDF property never having been managed

as part of the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve. The Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve, state land managed by

CapeNature for the purpose of a protected area and governed by an approved management plan, has

not yet been afforded legal status in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected

Areas Act. As such, the Minor Boundary Modification will have a positive implication for the

subdivision of the property and associated administrative process for legal status for the Bokkeriviere

Nature Reserve.

**6. IMPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS** 

The Minor Boundary Modification has no implication for management arrangements since the SANDF

property was never managed as part of the Nature Reserve and Hexriver Complex. The Minor

Boundary Modification will strengthen the case for subdivision of the property.

**7. MAPS** 

Map 1: Hexriver Complex including both delimitations of the property (original and proposed

revision).

Map 2: Hexriver Complex showing only the proposed revision.

**8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** 

CapeNature, as the management authority of the Hexriver Complex, a component of the CFRPA

WHS, welcomes the Minor Boundary Modification for the effective management of the Hexriver

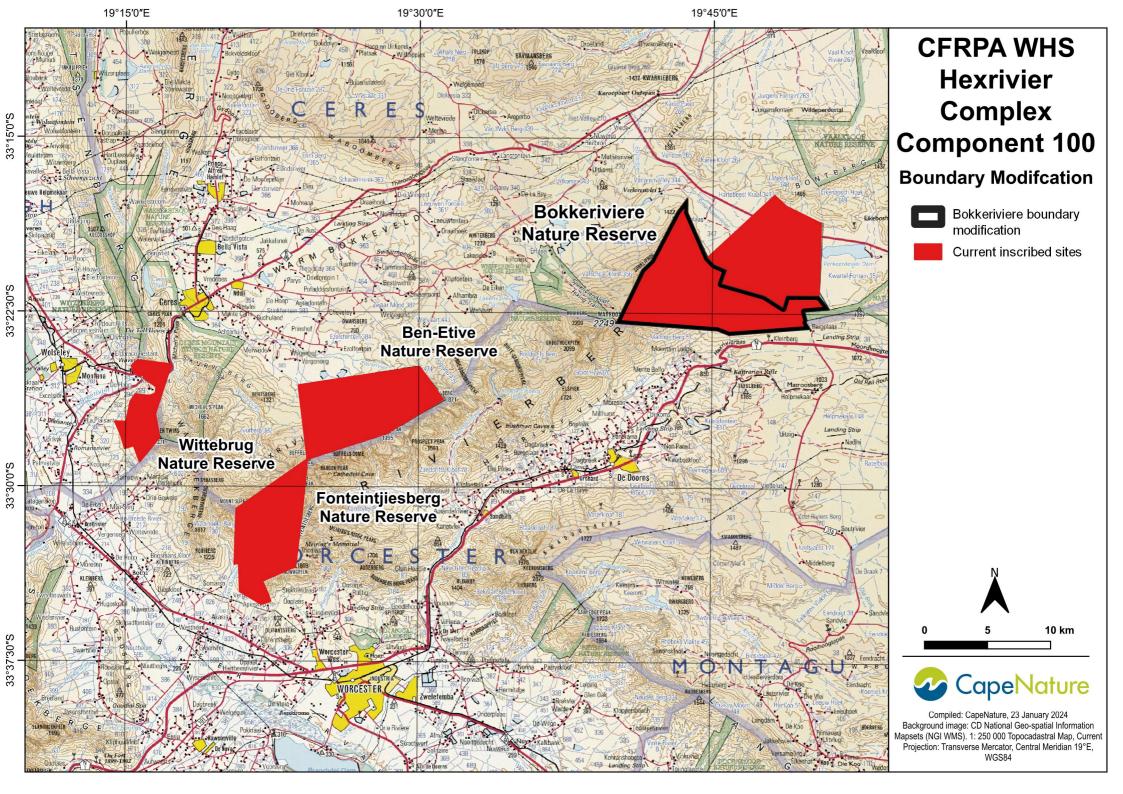
Complex, specifically the Bokkeriviere Nature Reserve.

Sincerely,

Dr Ashley Naidoo

Chief Executive Officer

**CapeNature** 



Riding & Watt.	Professional	Land Surveyors, Ceres	

Riding & Watt, Professional L	and Surveyors, Ceres		FRAMED FOR PROCLAMATION	PUNPUSES	- ACT 3772003				
SIDES ANGLES OF DIRECTION	CO-ORDINATES Y System: WG 19° X							S.G. No. 1076/2021	
A B	B		X 0	/	PLAN NO. 1076/2021			Approved  for Surveyor-General  13-07-2021	L
W X   4 332,02   207.35.11 X A   1 336,89   217.10.36			Farm Laaste Drift No.345					 	
Indicatory Data  J Y   305,17   94.44.50  J Z   414,32   122.41.29  Y Z   203,46   167.20.53			Taim Laaste Dilit No.343		Farm Hartebeeste Kraal No.347			 	
Y Z 203,46 167.20.53 H Z 1 377,62 302.41.29 A1 Z 1 123,86 347.20.53	Y -75 127,72 +3 694 175,55 Z -75 083,16 +3 693 977,03 A1 -74 837,00 +3 692 880,47							 	
Hexrivier 3319-29 Verlorenvlei 3319-245 Witteberg 3319-79	△ -62 219,35 +3 695 298,14 △ -67 013,36 +3 686 527,83 △ -73 639,66 +3 694 849,88		Farm No.346						
Witteberg 3319-79	\( \triangle   \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		NATURE RESERV	\ E				    	
								r	
Beacon Descriptions:  A : iron corner 1  A1,B,D,G,M,N : 12mm iron peg									
C,J : cairn E : wooden fence F : 16mm iron peg	post				C /			injer No.353	
H : large rock K : planted stone	e		W					of Farm Bokke Rive	
U : Trig 3319/29 X : Trig 3319/245	5 Verlorenvlei				D			Portion 2 0.	253
Y,Z : not beaconed		Portion 4 of Farm Valschgat Kloof No.356	5 / Y		E			Rokke Rivier N	10.3
			NATURE RESERVE		F			artion 3 of Farm	
				Remainder	Farm Bokke Rivier No.353 Remainder Farm Bokke Rivi	ier No.353		No. 353	
				NATURE	RESERVE			Porkke Binjer No. 32	
								Tof Farm be	
			Farm No.355		Form No. 255		Al ? Remainder	1	
					Farm No.355	, t	H \ K	L	
		Farm No.499		-050 /5	Remainder Farm Bokke Rivier No.353			Portion 1 of Farm Karbonaatjes Kraal No.38 Breede Valley Municipality,	
			ci NATURE RE	-SERVE	F1 H1	NATURE RESER	VE Z	Administrative District of Worcester  NATURE RESERVE	
					NATURE RESE	ERVE Farm No	NATURE RESE		
	Far	m Erfdeel No. 424			MATURE RECEDUE	L1	71334	K1	-
		- No. 424			NATURE RESERVE				
	Fan	m Groot Hoek No.70			Farm Witteberg No.40	. District (	of Warractor	Q Farm No.770	
		P W W W			Breede Valley Municipality, Administrative	E DISTILLE	or worcester	R	
6978 hectares of land being	KLMNPQRSTUVWX represents approx the	roos			T				
	BOKKERIVIER NATURE RESERVE	erg No	Portion 6 of Farm Matroos Berg N	lo.57	S I		Farm No.770		
over the farms as listed in	the Schedule of Farms	.57							
situate in the Witzenberg & E Administrative Districts of G	Breede Valley Municipalities Ceres and Worcester Province Western	Саре			Scale:1/ 30000				
	urpose of proclaiming a Nature Reserve the National Environmental Management: Prote	ected		Sc	hedule of Farms				
Areas Act 57 of 2003 by me,			Description of figure subject to Nature Reserve	Area	Farm	Diagram No			
	Widin		1) A B C W X 2) W C D B1 C1 G H D1 E1 F1 G1 U V	1013,3374ha 2759,2465ha	Farm No.346, Ceres (the whole) Farm No.355, Ceres (the whole)	321/1876 2871/1876	State Land Grant Tul.Q.6-12		
	Professional Land Surveyor C F Riding (PLS	0521)	3) D E F G C1 B1 and H Z Y H1 G1 F1 E1 D1 4) Z J Y	824,2ha 3,0ha	Remainder of the farm Bokke Rivier No.353, Ceres  Remainder Portion 1 of the farm Bokke Rivier No.353, Ceres	521/1836 70/1865	Grant Wor.Q.7-9 D/T 1865.9.25		
This diagram is annexed to T	The original diagrams are File No. CERE 3	46	5) G1 H1 J J1 Q K1 L1 6) K L M N P Q J1 J	426,2874ha 390,5087ha	Farm No.354, Ceres (the whole)  Portion 1 of the farm Karbonaatjes Kraal No.38, Worcester (the	2935/1876 224/1840	Grant Tul.Q.4-19 D/T 1840.19.85		
No. dated	s listed in the Schedule S.R. No.674/2027 Comp.BI-4 (3817) BI-4DA (3824)		7) U G1 L1 K1 Q R S T	1561,4792ha	whole)  The farm Witteberg No.40, Worcester (the whole)	2392/1878	Grant Wor.Q.19-16		
i.f.o.	LPI C0190000 & C08						<u> </u>		
Registrar of Deeds									