Heritage and Scenic Resources: Inventory and Policy Framework for the Western Cape
Heritage and Scenic Resources:
Inventory and Policy Framework

A Study prepared for the Western Cape
Provincial Spatial Development Framework

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1 Introduction

1.1 Scope of the Study

Although the process for identifying and grading heritage resources is fairly well developed in the Province, and the country generally, this is not the case for scenic resource assets. These resources are usually only considered in visual impact assessments (VIAs), which is a more reactive approach rather than a proactive one. There is a need therefore for both cultural and scenic resources of significance to be identified and rated so that these can be included in all Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs), and to pre-empt inappropriate planning applications where these resources exist.

The purpose of this study is to provide input on cultural and scenic resources to the revised Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) currently being prepared. The intention is that the study would in addition provide a guide for the identification and conservation of these resources in Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks (MSDFs). To this end some suggestions are given at the end of the report to guide municipalities.

The study focuses on the broader regional scale rather than the local landscape or individual site scales, and is therefore an overview rather than a detailed inventory of cultural and scenic resources. The framework for the study is largely based on the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA).

The scope of the study outlined in the brief included the following aspects:

- A desktop inventory of cultural and scenic resources at the regional and sub-regional scales;
- Mapping of resources at 1:250 000 scale for exporting to GIS maps;
- Determining the sensitivity, significance and possible grading of the resources;
- Identifying issues, development trends and threats to vulnerable resources;
- Preparing principles, policies and guidelines for the conservation and management of the resources;
- Reviewing the legal framework for the conservation and management of heritage and scenic resources; and
- Making recommendations on the way forward.

1.2 Limitations

The limitations for the study included the following:

- There is no standard method for identifying and classifying or grading scenic resources;
- There is no complete centralised inventory or database for heritage resources at present;
- The level of information on heritage resources is patchy across the Province;
- Only a few municipalities have commissioned heritage or cultural landscape surveys;
- Archaeological and palaeontological resources are limited to broad zones of sensitivity/significance. Historical archaeology is not addressed; and
• The inventory for the Cape Metro focuses on the periphery of the city’s urban areas, where ‘cross cutting’ municipal issues relating to landscape significance, threats and necessary protection and management, become relevant at a provincial planning level.

1.3 Methodology

The primary focus of the study was the preparation of an extensive inventory of most of the significant scenic and cultural resources of the Western Cape, which is documented in the Appendices. The resources were organised on a district basis for ease of reference by the various authorities within each district.

This initially involved collecting as much available heritage survey information as possible from the municipalities, the heritage authorities, heritage practitioners and conservation bodies, then organising the information into a number of categories and mapping each of the resources spatially. The mapping of built environment resources across much of the province, especially within the rural areas, is largely based on the published works of Hans Fransen (2004, 2006).

Except for scenic routes and passes, there was little information on scenic landscape resources, which meant that the inventory had to practically be started from scratch. This was achieved by using geological and topographical maps, as well as the authors’ knowledge of the Province. The process is more fully explained in Section 2 below.

The mapping of the scenic and cultural resources was carried out at a 1:250 000 scale, using a reference number and colour-code for each resource type. These are cross-referenced in the Tables in Appendix B, which contain data on the resource, including a brief description, its significance, existing protection status and finally a recommended grading.

Besides the heritage and scenic resource mapping mentioned above, the GIS maps in Appendix C include a range of other protected areas including National Parks, Nature Reserves, Protected Forest Areas, Marine Protected Areas and Mountain Catchment Areas, which are not numbered, nor described in the Appendix B tables, as they are already proclaimed.

1.4 Assessment and Grading of Scenic and Heritage Resources

Significance has been recorded in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act’s (NHRA 1999) definition of cultural significance (i.e. aesthetic, architectural, historical, social, spiritual, technological, scientific and linguistic significance) as well as its three tier grading system.

The purpose of grading resources is firstly to give an indication of their relative importance or significance, and secondly to assign their conservation status/importance, ranging from national, provincial and local, and providing a tool to guide planning and management of the resources.

Grading is generally based on the intactness, rarity and representivity of the resource, as well as its role in the larger landscape or cultural context. Consideration is given to the existing heritage protection status of a heritage resource (e.g. national heritage site, provincial heritage site, heritage area), or proclaimed National Park or Nature Reserve in the case of scenic landscape resources. However, very few heritage places have been formally protected since the current
heritage legislation. Of the 2500 previous National Monuments, which automatically became provincial heritage sites under the NHRA, many of these are deemed to be of local rather than provincial significance. The process of reviewing the heritage status of these former National Monuments is on-going.

Scenic resources in Appendix B make use of the same grading system as the one contained in the NHRA and HWC’s Guide to grading.

World Heritage Sites have the highest grading accompanied by the following significance grading:

Grade I: Heritage resources of national significance
Grade II: Heritage resources of provincial significance
Grade III: Heritage resources of local significance

Grade III is further divided into IIIA, IIIB and IIIC, but this level of grading is not distinguished in the Part 1 Inventory. However, resources of high local heritage value are identified, which would imply a Grade IIIA grading.
2 Inventory of Scenic and Cultural Resources

2.1 The Western Cape: Landscape Context

The existing district boundaries of the Western Cape were used as the first level of landscape classification as it was felt that they provided a reasonably appropriate division of the Province at the regional scale as their names below imply, namely:

The Cape West Coast
The Cape Metropolitan area
The Cape Winelands
The Overberg
Eden, and
The Central Karoo

At the next sub-regional level of landscape classification it was decided not to use the boundaries of ‘bioregions’ as there are several definitions and delimitations for these landscape units, and because they do not necessarily reflect scenic types. Instead, a geomorphological approach was used because it was found that geology and landform was an overriding trait in determining landscape types at the broad regional scale. The main landscape types are listed in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Landscape Typology of the Western Cape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landscape Type</th>
<th>Landscape Character / Scenic features</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Alluvial Valleys</td>
<td>Fertile valleys along river courses. Mainly agricultural.</td>
<td>Olfants, Berg, Breede River Valleys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent alluvium and colluvium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Coastal Plains</td>
<td>Flat plains or coastal platforms. Dunes, sandy plains, calcrite, limestone. Numerous coastal settlements.</td>
<td>Cape Flats, Sandveld, Agulhas Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quaternary sand, calcrite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Escarpment / plateau</td>
<td>Flat upland plateau with dolerite koppies. Mainly sheep. Irrigated agriculture along rivers.</td>
<td>Die Vlakte, Roggeveld, Nuweveld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort shales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Foothills / undulating plains</td>
<td>Foothills and gently undulating plains incised by rivers. Vineyards, orchards, wheatlands. Farming settlements.</td>
<td>Ruens, Swartland, Darling Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bokkeveld / Malmesbury shales, granites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Mountain Ranges</td>
<td>High peaks, ridges, cliffs of the Cape Fold Belt. Wilderness character. Mountain Fynbos, and montane forest in the kloofs.</td>
<td>Table Mountain Cederberg, Langeberg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The mountain ranges belonging to the Cape Fold Belt are without doubt, together with the coastline, the most significant in scenic terms, and consequently the Western Cape’s tourism economy. This is reflected in the mapping of the scenic resources in the Heritage and Scenic Maps (Appendix C).

A further level of landscape classification would include land use patterns and vegetation cover at the local scale, but these were not considered given the broad regional scale of the study.

A starting point in the classification of landscape types was to ask the question: ‘why does the scenery look like it does?’ An attempt has therefore been made to explain the landscape scenic types of the Western Cape by means of Figures 1 and 2 below. A map of the main geological groups is given in Figure 3, and typical sections for each District in Figures 4a and 4b to illustrate the major role played by geological formations in the characterization of scenery across the Province.

**Figure 1: Geology and Landforms of the Western Cape**

In this diagram, the quartzitic sandstones of the Table Mountain Group of rocks (shown in blue) form the mountain ridges characteristic of the Western Cape. The granites (pink) and Malmesbury Group shales (brown) form the foothills and rolling plains.

Source: Adapted from Talbot 1963: explanation of Paarl Topographical Sheet 3318DB. NTS.
Figure 2: Evolution of the Western Cape Landscape

1 Deposition of Malmesbury Group sediments

2 Intrusion of granite igneous rock (pink).

3 Planation of the land surface to sea level.

4 Deposition of sedimentary shales and sandstones (blue).

5 Erosion of the sedimentary layers to form the present landscape.

Source: Adapted from Geological Society of South Africa: Pamphlet Site C3, Table Mountain. NTS.
In this diagram the yellow dots indicate historic settlements, often located near the base of mountains with access to water and productive soils of the footslopes. The wine growing areas have traditionally located on the granites (pink), and the wheatlands on the Malmesbury and Bokkeveld shales (brown and pale blue). The main scenic resources occur in the sandstone formations of the Cape Fold Mountains (blue).
The sections illustrate the pronounced topography of the quartzitic sandstones (blue), as well as the location of settlements on the footslopes with access to water and productive soils of the granites, shales and alluvial valleys. River valleys often tend to follow fault lines.
Figure 4b: Typical Sections through Districts

NTS vertical exaggerated

Overberg District

Eden District

Central Karoo District

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2.2 The Western Cape: Cultural Context

Appendix A provides a historical overview of the Western Cape ranging from its ancient fossil and pre-colonial archaeological record, to its early and later colonial, apartheid and democratic periods.

Figure 5 below illustrates the settlement chronology of the Province from the 17th century onwards as well as the spatial distribution and origins of numerous historical settlements. This illustrates only one aspect of a very complex and diverse heritage picture of the province, which is further elaborated in Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 below.

Figure 5: Settlement Chronology (adapted from Fransen 2006)
2.2.1 Heritage themes and layering

The heritage resources of the Western Cape are unique for numerous reasons. The province is characterised by number of representative heritage themes, key examples of which are summarised and illustrated below. The list below is by no means exhaustive, particularly with respect to intangible heritage such as public memory, language, ritual and tradition.

Table 2: Heritage themes and layering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEMES &amp; LAYERING</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Palaeontology – fossil record</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richest and most diverse palaeontological record in SA, with a fossil record stretching over 700 million years (Precambian to Mesozoic periods, and Cenozoic period). Exceptional fossil record such as that occurring in the Great Karoo which has rich and well-preserved fossils of aquatic reptiles as well the first terrestrial vertebrates from the Late Permian age (260-250 million years ago) and recording the evolution of reptiles to mammals. The West Coast Fossil Park possesses one of the richest Cenozoic fossil assemblages in the world.</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="West Coast Fossil Park PHS" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Karoo National Park Fossils" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-colonial archaeology and early inhabitants of the WC</strong></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Rock Art, Cederberg" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Blombos Cave, Southern Cape" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanning the Earlier, Middle and Later Stone Age, Herder and colonial periods. Range of sites such as shell middens, cave sites, rock art, fish traps, burials and stone kraals. Range of outstanding sites such as those associated with the emergence of modern human behaviour, e.g. Pinnacle Point and Blombos Cave, and early pastoralist sites, e.g. Kasteelberg, Cederberg possessing the richest collection of rock art in SA.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early colonial history and settlement</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role of the coastline as a stop-over place for European seafarers pioneering the sea-way to India from the late 15th century. Role of Table Bay as a VOC outpost and cultural contact zone at the southern tip of Africa from the mid-17th century and linkages to a world-wide network of VOC sites. Reflecting a spatial trajectory of early colonial settlement and expansion with emphasis on agricultural production concentrated in the well watered fertile valleys and foot slopes during the late 17th and early 18th centuries; expansion of stock farming into the interior during the 18th century, and more gradually into the more remote semi-arid regions. Role of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Paarl as being the oldest colonial settlements in SA.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Early contact and contestation

Early contact and contestation between early settlers and indigenous peoples, resulting in the displacement of the San and Khoekhoe peoples.

![Map of Cape Town c 1750](image)

17th and 18th century land grants in Drakenstein (Guelke 1987)

Cultivation and agricultural production

The rich agricultural potential of the WC and the patterns of cultivation and food production that have occurred over time including the history of wine, fruit and wheat farming, and forestry, as well as the development of secondary industries related to the agricultural sector. The enduring role of the agriculture sector in the WC economy which has evolved in response to soil conditions and water availability. The Olifants Irrigation Scheme (West Coast) and Kammanasie and Stormdrift Irrigation Scheme (Klein Karoo), two of the oldest irrigation schemes in SA dating to the early 20th century.

![Cape winelands](image)

Swartland wheat fields

Fishing, maritime and timber history

The history of the fishing, maritime and timber industries and its various manifestations such as fishing villages, fish traps, harbours, shipwrecks, lighthouses and forestry villages.

![Cape Agulhas Lighthouse PHS](image)

Hermanus harbour PHS
Slavery and labour
A significant history of slavery, and its various manifestations, such as the farm werf and agricultural production to the mid-19th century and the establishment of numerous mission settlements during the post-emancipation period. Also the history of farm and industrial labour from this period, and the role of the migrant labour system during the apartheid years.

Religion
The role of a large number of religious institutions reflecting a wide range of religious practices and denominations; and religious buildings which frequently establish a significant landmark presence. The active role of missionaries during the 19th century and the establishment of numerous mission settlements with Genadendal being the oldest mission settlement in Sub-Saharan Africa dating to 1792. Also the establishment of numerous kerkdorpe in the mid to late 19th century.

Routes and transport
The unique topography of the WC which has given rise to a number of spectacular mountain passes, with many originating as early cattle and wagon routes. Also the development of the railway line in the 19th century and associated railway stations and settlements.

Military history
A significant military history associated with international events such as 17th and 18th century fortifications associated with the defence of the Cape during the early colonial period, fortifications, railway blockhouse and burial grounds associated with the South African War, and WW II radar stations, observation posts and batteries along the coastline.
Political struggle and resistance
The role of the WC in the history of political struggle and resistance reflected in numerous places across the WC. Examples include Robben Island as symbol of the triumph of the human spirit, of freedom, and of democracy over oppression, Drakenstein Prison and its associations with political events from 1985-1994, Langa and its associations with government control and oppression, Rocklands Community Centre in Mitchell’s Plain and associations with the launch of the United Democratic Front, and numerous landscapes affected by Group Areas and forced removals such as District Six, and the spatial fragmentation that resulted.

Town and village formation
Unique layering of settlement history dating to the 18th and 19th centuries, e.g. church towns, mission villages, fishing villages, harbour towns, reflecting a range of distinctive settlement forms and morphologies (Refer to Section 2.2.3 below).

Regional architecture
Layering of early vernacular, Cape Dutch, Georgian, Victorian, Cape Revival, Art Deco, etc., and a range of architectural typologies. Reflecting the evolution of the Cape farm werf tradition, distinctive 19th and early 20th century streetscapes, and regional characteristics such as Sandveld architecture, Karoo corbelled structures, Oudtshoorn sandstone architecture, Waenhuiskrans fishing cottages, Vermaaklikheid ‘kapstyhuisies’ and Winelands rural architecture. Also reflecting the work of some of SA’s foremost architects.
2.2.2 Regional landscape and settlement patterns

Regional landscape and settlement patterns are evident across the province. These have evolved over time in response to water availability, geology, land form, agricultural soils, marine resources and movement routes, in tandem with social, political, and economic influences. Examples of these patterns are summarised and illustrated below (Table 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PATTERN</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PALAEONTOLOGY AND ACHAEOLOGY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fossil record</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral rich karoo shales, which</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>previously supported an abundant</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ancient plant and animal life.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Coast calcretes which result</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in a well-preserved fossil record.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic and sheltered coastal conditions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal areas of natural resource and high amenity value (sheltered bays, promontories, estuaries) have a long tradition of seasonal grazing, fishing and later recreational use. Harbour towns originated as places for sheltered anchorage. Coastal promontories provided strategic locations for military defence and maritime surveillance, e.g. fortifications and lighthouses.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Movement routes and gateways</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlement patterns having evolved in relation to movement routes and patterns of access. Historic mountain passes provided access between coastal plains and the remote interior, and their gateway conditions are typically associated with historical patterns of settlement, e.g. toll houses, labour camps, farmsteads and villages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Distinctive remote settings
Historically Cape Fold Belt and remote semi-arid conditions of the karoo provided a place of refuge for the displaced San and later the Khoekhoe. The remote settings of numerous mission settlements are associated with the role of religion and an emphasis on social engineering and self-sufficiency. The separation of Robben Island from the mainland provided a place of banishment and exile since early colonial times.

2.2.3 Settlement typologies

The region possesses numerous conservation-worthy historical settlements, i.e. towns, small villages and hamlets. Their heritage value is based on a combination of landscape setting (e.g. coastal setting, mountain backdrop and agricultural edges), historical associations and concentration of historical fabric and layering, as well as distinctive townscape and/or streetscape qualities. Although they have evolved in distinctly different ways (evolved organically or planned), their forms tend to fall into three categories, i.e. linear development (e.g. Paarl, Genadendal), grid development (e.g. Wellington, Ladismith and Philadelphia) and informal development (e.g. Stormsvelei, Great Brak River), and often a combination such as multi-grid (e.g. Merweville, Franschhoek) and river ribbon and informal grid (e.g. Prince Albert).

The combination of settlement layouts, responding to environmental conditions (water and topography), as well as patterns of subdivision and built form have resulted in distinctive settlement qualities, often with characteristic rural and agrarian qualities (e.g. Montagu river farmlands and Baardskeersbos agricultural allotments). A very distinctive characteristic of the Karoo and Southern Cape districts are numerous 19th century agricultural hamlets established either around a church or school or by the clustering of farmsteads and cottages along river courses (e.g. Vermaklikheid).

A brief description of each district is given below, with a more detailed historical overview, description of heritage management issues, inventory and maps provided in the Appendix documents.

2.3 The West Coast

A dominant scenic feature and area of prolific archaeological sites, the Cederberg/Kouebokkeveld mountain ranges, lie to the east of the West Coast District. These form part of the great Cape Fold Mountains composed of Table Mountain Group quartzitic sandstones, representing some of the most important scenic, biodiversity, water catchment,
recreational and archaeological resources in the Province. Smaller mountain features, such as Kasteelberg and Piketberg, are relic outliers of the quartzitic sandstone formations.

The mountain ranges give rise to a number of scenically and historically important mountain passes including the Piekenierskloof Pass (Grey’s Pass), Pakhuis Pass and Vanryns Pass, providing crossings of the mountain barriers to the interior.

Towns were traditionally located at the foot of the mountains, near sources of water and access to good agricultural soils. The Olifants River Valley is a particularly important cultural landscape with mainly irrigated fruit farming and a number of settlements, such as Citrusdal and Clanwilliam.

The central area, known as the ‘Swartland’, consists of a gently rolling landscape formed by the weathered Malmesbury Group shales, the wheatlands providing a notable ‘bread basket’ for the region and the country as a whole, the main historic towns being Malmesbury and Mooreesburg.

The ‘Sandveld’ to the west forms part of a flat, low-lying coastal plain, of mostly poor sandy soils. The plain is interspersed at Darling and Saldanha with weathered granites giving rise to the characteristic hilly topography and scenic granite outcrops at the coast, another region of great palaeontological and archaeological interest. Historic settlements include Darling, Hopefield, Aurora and Redelenghuys, as well as a mission village at Goedverwacht, nestled in the Piketberg.

The northern area of the West Coast District is characterised by the relentless expanses of the ‘Hardeveld’ and ‘Knersvlakte’, with the Bokkeveldberg escarpment rising in the east near Vanrynsdorp.

2.4 The Cape Metro

The Cape Metro District, centred on Cape Town, is dominated by Table Mountain and the Cape Peninsula Mountain Chain, which is a National Park, World Heritage Site and area of major scenic and historic importance. Being an area of early colonial settlement, the city and its surroundings have a wide range of heritage sites too numerous to cover in the provincial inventory, but already well documented elsewhere. Robben Island is another World Heritage Site, famed for its political history.

The quartzitic sandstone mountains of the Peninsula are a relic outlier of the Cape Fold Mountains, which include the Hottentots Holland Mountains to the east. These peaks and ranges are not only of scenic and tourism importance, but also for their biodiversity, water catchment and recreational value.

Given the juxtaposition of mountain and sea, the Peninsula offers numerous scenic routes and passes including Chapman’s Peak Drive, Ou Kaapse Weg and Redhill, as well as Sir Lowry’s Pass leading to the Overberg. Near to Sir Lowry’s Pass is the abandoned Gantouw Pass, an old wagon route over the mountains.
Besides the scenically dominant sandstone formations, the Malmesbury Group shales (Signal Hill, Blouberg and Tygerberg), the Cape Granites (Clifton, Hout Bay and Boulders in Simonstown), and the limestones (Macassar cliffs) all contribute to the varied landscapes and shorelines of the Cape Metro.

Important cultural landscapes, containing historical settlements and cultivation (mainly viticulture), include the Constantia Valley, Durbanville Hills, Bottlelray Hills and the Lourens River Valley, as well as the Phillipi horticultural area (market gardens). Philadelphia is one of the old church towns of the Western Cape, and Mamre nearby is an historic mission village.

An old battle site occurs at Blouberg, and numerous World War II remains (mainly derelict radar stations) are found throughout the Cape Metro area, mainly on sites overlooking the coast.

2.5  The Cape Winelands

The Cape Winelands is an area of fertile valleys nestled between the Cape Fold Mountains with their rugged sandstone peaks. It is an area high in scenic and heritage significance, its famous vineyards earmarked for declaration as a World Heritage Site.

At the base of the sandstone massifs, the steep scree slopes grade into gently rolling foothills of weathered Cape granites and Malmesbury shales, which have been incised by rivers to form wide alluvial valleys in places, such as those of the Berg and Breede Rivers. Interestingly the pattern of vineyards has a strong correlation with the occurrence of the granites, the unique combination of soil and climate having made this the centre of viticulture and fruit farming.

Towns, villages and farmsteads are strung along the valleys in response to the topography, sources of water and productive agricultural soils, Stellenbosch and Paarl being two of the oldest colonial settlements. Other towns in the District with ‘Heritage Areas’ include Franschhhoek, Wellington, Montagu, Worcester, McGregor and Tulbagh.

The combination of mountain scenery, rural landscapes, colonial architecture and wine routes make this area a prime tourism destination of critical importance to the economy of the region. The area is however also under great threat of fragmentation through creeping urbanization.

The rugged terrain and tapestry of rural landscapes have given rise a network of scenic routes and mountain passes, many of which began as wagon routes to the interior. Passes such as Bainskloof Pass (a Provincial Heritage Site), Franschoek Pass, Mitchell’s Pass and Cogmanskloof, to name a few, are a legacy from the 1700s and 1800s by road-builders such as Andrew Bain.

2.6  The Overberg

The landscapes of the Overberg, ‘over the mountain’, are typical of the Western Cape. The District is framed by the Cape Fold Mountains, consisting of Table Mountain Group sandstones, to the north (Langeberg and Riviersonderend ranges). At the foot of the mountains are the gently rolling plains of Bokkeveld Shales generally covered with wheatfields, an area known as the Ruens, providing the region’s bread basket. The flat coastal plains lie to the south.
The historical pattern of settlements has responded to these distinct landscape types, usually locating at the foot of the mountains for their source of water, agricultural soils and transport routes. Agricultural towns were established, among others, at Caledon, Napier, Bredasdorp, Stanford, Villiersdorp, Rivieronderend and Swellendam, all of which have heritage significance.

Coastal settlements sprung up around the fishing industry, such as Kleinmond, Hermanus, Struisbaai and Waenhuiskrans (Arniston), most of which became holiday resorts and then retirement places. Typically the coastline is rich in archaeological remains, including middens and limestone caves. Mission villages were founded at Genadendal, Suurbraak and Elim.

The area has high conservation value because of its biodiversity, the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve forming part of the Cape Floral Kingdom World Heritage Site. The Agulhas National Park, which includes the ‘Southern-most Tip’, and De Hoop Nature Reserve represent some of the protected areas in the Overberg District.

2.7 Eden

The Cape Fold Mountains, predominantly the Langeberg and Outeniqua ranges, continue east from the Overberg as far as Plettenberg Bay (and even further to Port Elizabeth). Between the mountains and the coast, the well known ‘Garden Route’ traverses a series of estuaries, lakes and forests of scenic value between Mossel Bay and Plettenberg Bay. The northern boundary of the Eden District is defined by the impressive Swartberg Mountains, a range consisting of the same Table Mountain Group sandstones, reaching over 2100m in places, and often covered by snow in winter.

Inland of the Langeberg and Outeniqua ranges, undulating Bokkeveld shales re-occur, but being in a rain shadow behind the mountains, the area is semi-arid and supports mainly sheep farming and fruit farming in the irrigated valleys. This is the Little Karoo, stretching from the town of Barrydale in the west to Willowmore in the east.

In the middle of the ‘Klein’ Karoo, within the Olifants River Basin, lies the town of Oudtshoorn, straddling an interesting limestone formation, which gave rise to the extensive Cango Caves, a Provincial Heritage Site. The Little karoo is generally of geological and palaeontological significance, while the coast in particular has a number of important archaeological sites, such as at Pinnacle Point (Provincial Heritage Site), Robberg Peninsula, Blombos Cave and Matjies River Cave (Keurboomstrand).

Agricultural towns were established at Heidelberg, Riversdale, Calitzdorp, Ladismith, Uniondale and Oudtshoorn in the 1800s, usually based on a grid pattern, and often with allotment gardens. The late 1900s saw the rapid growth of a number of coastal towns, such as Still Bay, Mossel Bay, Wilderness, Sedgefield, Knysna and Plettenberg Bay.

The mountain passes linking the coast with the interior date back to the 1800s and are of major scenic and heritage significance. These include the Montagu Pass (near George), Robinson Pass and Garcia Pass.

2.8 Central Karoo
Between the Swartberg Mountain range in the south of the Great Karoo and the Nuweveld Mountains forming part of the ‘Great Escarpment’ to the north, lies an extensive plain known as ‘Die Vlakte’. This vast semi-desert area is composed of the Beaufort Group rocks consisting of shales, mudstone, sandstone and tillite. The only relief is provided by the ridges of dolerite, and the koppies capped by dolerite cills.

This is a sparsely populated area with settlements far apart, including the towns of Laingsburg, Merweville, Prince Albert, Beaufort West and Murraysburg. Agriculture is restricted to sheep and game farming.

Given the pre-historic nature of the Central Karoo, the area is of great palaeontological interest (fossils), as well as archaeological sites, such as at Nelspoort, near Beaufort West. During early colonial times the much of the game and the San inhabitants had all but been eliminated by the stock farmers expanding their grazing areas.

Evidence of the Anglo-Boer War in the early 1900s still remains in the form of grave sites and blockhouses along the railway line, and places such as Matjiesfontein and Prince Albert were used as garrisons by the British. Matjiesfontein and the isolated Gamkaskloof have Provincial Heritage Site status.

Mountain passes and ‘poorts’ of scenic and heritage significance include the Swartberg Pass (Provincial Heritage Site), Gamkaskloof Pass, Meiringspoort, Seweweekspoort (all in the Swartberg range), as well as Molteno Pass in the Nuweveld range. The Karoo National Park near Beaufort West is a protected landscape incorporating the Great Escarpment.

Many more sites of scenic and heritage value are listed in Appendix B and on the GIS maps, which accompany this report.

3. Findings

This section provides an overall summary of heritage and scenic resources within the Western Cape, identifies threats, as well as key management issues and challenges.

3.1 Summary of the Resource Assets

Table 4 below identifies heritage and scenic resources formally protected in terms of the NHRA or various zoning schemes, as well as World Heritage Sites (WHS) and those identified for tentative listing/nomination for WHS status. Based on the findings of the Part 1 Inventory, numerous other landscapes, routes and settlements have been identified as worthy of formal protection as indicated by their existing status or recommended Grade I, II and III significance. These are quantified in Table 5.

Table 4: Formally protected heritage and scenic resources

| Table 4: Formally protected heritage and scenic resources
<p>| Heritage and Scenic Resources: Inventory and Policy Framework for the Western Cape, May 2013, Version 4 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE TYPE</th>
<th>LISTING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Parks and Provincial / Municipal Nature Reserves</td>
<td>A large number of national parks and nature reserves have been proclaimed within the Western Cape. (Protected areas fall short of the international recommendation of 10% land area for conservation).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Heritage Sites Tentative listing</td>
<td>Robben Island and Cape Floral Kingdom WHSs. Tentative listing of Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape (Vergelegen and Groot Constantia), Cape Meridian and archaeological sites associated with the emergence of modern human behaviour. Also the extension of the Cape Floral Kingdom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political struggle</td>
<td>Community House (PHS), Rocklands Community Centre (PHS), Nelson Mandela Prison House (NHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living heritage</td>
<td>Ratelgat (PHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology Palaeontology Geology</td>
<td>West Coast Fossil Park (PHS), Baboon Point (PHS), Cango Caves (PHS), Robberg Peninsula (PHS), Matjies River Cave (PHS), Still Bay fish traps and shell middens (PHS), Mike Taylor’s Midden (PHS) and Mussel Point (PHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural landscapes</td>
<td>Idas Valley (PHS), Gamkaskloof (PHS), Robben Island (NHS), Paarl Mountain (PHS), Dwars River Valley (HOZ), Jonkershoek (HOZ), Blaauwberg Conservation Area (HOZ), Table Mountain (PHS) and De Hel (PHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic routes</td>
<td>Various designated scenic routes within the Cape Metro and Stellenbosch municipal areas, Swartberg Pass (PHS), Gantouw Pass (PHS), Bainskloof Pass (PHS), Montagu Pass (PHS), Attaquaskloof Pass (PHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical settlements</td>
<td>33 Heritage Overlay Zones/Special Areas within Cape Metro Prince Albert, Paarl, Wellington, Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, Montagu and Kynsna Conservation Areas/Heritage Overlay Zones Waenhuiskranz (PHS), Elim (PHS) and Puntjie (PHS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other declared provincial and national heritage sites</td>
<td>Approximately 2500 declared sites within the WC; 25% located in Cape Metro. Predominantly former national monuments declared under NMA. 12 sites declared within WC since NHRA (1999): Robben Island (NHS), Ratelgat near Vans Rynsdorp (PHS), Pinnacle Point, Massel Bay (PHS), Community House (PHS), Rocklands Community Centre (PHS) and De Hel (PHS) in Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Prison House (NHS) and Daljosaphat (NHS) in Drakenstein, Mussel Point (PHS), Paternoster, and Mike Taylors Midden (PHS) and Baboon Point (PHS), Elands Bay.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Landscapes, routes and settlements worthy of formal protection
3.2 Threats to the Resources

There are numerous threats to heritage and scenic resources within the Western Cape. Key threats are listed and expanded on in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Key threats to Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE</th>
<th>THREAT</th>
<th>EFFECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural landscapes</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural landscapes</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic routes and passes</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical settlements; towns, villages and hamlets</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESOURCE</td>
<td>THREAT</td>
<td>EFFECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATURAL LANDSCAPES</td>
<td>• Unconsolidated pattern of ‘protected areas’.</td>
<td>• Loss of scenic qualities of wilderness landscapes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Patterns of cultivation extending into visually sensitive wilderness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>landscapes. (E.g. Constantia).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Infrastructural developments (power lines, wind and solar facilities)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>within visually sensitive wilderness (and rural) landscapes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Development on visually sensitive mountain slopes and ridgelines.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCHAEOLGY PALAEOONTOLOGY</td>
<td>• Vulnerability of sites to disturbance by a range of activities. (E.g.</td>
<td>• Destruction of unique fossil record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ploughing, excavation, vegetation clearing, mining, vehicular access).</td>
<td>• Incremental destruction of coastal archaeology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Development pressures along the coastline where sites are highly</td>
<td>• Vandalism of rock art sites (E.g. graffiti at Elands Bay Cave and Peers Cave, Cape Town).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>concentrated and where developments over the last 10 years have</td>
<td>• Erosion and disturbance of coastal sites by off-road vehicular and pedestrian traffic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>destroyed scores of potentially important sites (E.g. shell middens).</td>
<td>• Loss of wilderness ‘pre-colonial’ landscape settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Large scale infrastructural and other development within unique</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>archaeological landscapes (E.g. Central Karoo).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increased public access to sites adjacent to developed areas.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Uncontrolled public access to sites (E.g. hiking trails in nature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>reserves).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RURAL LANDSCAPES</td>
<td>• Development pressure and pattern of suburban sprawl on edges of major</td>
<td>• Incremental erosion and fragmentation of rural landscapes, E.g. Cape Winelands sprawl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>urban areas, E.g. Cape Winelands’.</td>
<td>• Agriculture reduced to ‘islands’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Introduction of industrial activities and intrusion of large scale</td>
<td>• Visual cluttering of the landscape by non-agricultural development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>infrastructure in agricultural areas. (E.g. tunnel farming, wind</td>
<td>• Loss of rural authenticity, character and scenic value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>farms).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Gentrification of rural landscapes through lifestyle ‘rural’ estates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and relocation of farm labour to “off-farm” housing settlements.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCENIC ROUTES AND PASSES</td>
<td>• Intrusion of commercial development (one-stop filling stations,</td>
<td>• Loss of scenic value, wilderness experience and rural character.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>signage)</td>
<td>E.g. Development along the N2 through Elgin.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Inensitive road ‘improvements’, road widenings, street furniture,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lighting, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORICAL SETTLEMENTS</td>
<td>• Poverty and lack of maintenance of historic structures, e.g. mission</td>
<td>• Loss of historic fabric, inappropriate ‘modernisation’ of conservation-worthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>villages.</td>
<td>structures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Inappropriate alterations and additions to historical structures.</td>
<td>• Damage to settlement morphology, sense of place and quality of the public realm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Inappropriate suburban and affordable housing extensions to historic</td>
<td>• Continued pattern of spatial fragmentation and lack of integration of the public realm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>towns and villages.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Infrastructural upgrades within historical settlements. (E.g. over</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>engineered road treatments, interruption of leiwater and random</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>placement of facilities).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• New development that is inconsistent in massing, scale, height,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>setbacks, architectural character and the nature of boundary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>treatments within historic precincts, towns and villages.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• New development reinforcing apartheid planning principles.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3.3 Management Issues and Challenges

Table 7 below identifies key management issues and challenges facing heritage conservation at a provincial and local authority level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUES</th>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Imbalance in the list of formally protected heritage resources</td>
<td>• Developing a coherent strategy for the identification and protection of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reflecting a narrow view of the diverse heritage and history of the</td>
<td>heritage and scenic resources at national, provincial and local level,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province.</td>
<td>especially those most at risk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Over-reliance of EIAs and HIAs and other general protections, i.e.</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of the responsibilities of local authorities to make</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reactive instead of pro-active.</td>
<td>provision for the identification and protection of local heritage and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Too little emphasis on areas outside Cape Town and Cape Winelands,</td>
<td>scenic resources (Spatial Development Frameworks and Zoning Schemes).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(E.g. Karoo and West Coast potentially becoming a ‘dumping ground’).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Limited protection of heritage resources at a local authority level.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Very few Conservation Areas/Heritage Overlay Zones have been</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>implemented since NHRA of 1999).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Developing a coherent strategy for the identification and protection</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>of heritage and scenic resources at national, provincial and local</td>
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<tr>
<td>level, especially those most at risk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Raising awareness of the responsibilities of local authorities to</td>
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<tr>
<td>make provision for the identification and protection of local heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>and scenic resources (Spatial Development Frameworks and Zoning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Schemes).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Absence of a ‘complete’ inventory of heritage and scenic resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>within the Western Cape.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Heritage surveys of Drakenstein, Overstrand and Prince Albert are the</td>
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<tr>
<td>only surveys undertaken since the NHRA and endorsed by HWC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Raising awareness of local authority responsibilities to compile an</td>
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<td>inventory of heritage resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Giving guidance to local authorities in the compilation of heritage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>inventories. (E.g. HWC’s Built Environment Guidelines for Heritage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveys).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Encouraging local communities and conservation bodies to assist in</td>
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<tr>
<td>the identification of heritage resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Absence of a consolidated database and GIS mapping of heritage and</td>
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<tr>
<td>scenic routes for the province (i.e. expanding this basic inventory at</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>a municipal level).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sourcing funding and capacity for the compilation of a provincial</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>database.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Co-ordinating a provincial database with existing databases. (E.g.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAHRIS (SAHRA), City of Cape Town, Drakenstein and Overstrand).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establishing standards for heritage surveys that are consistent with</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a provincial heritage database.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Spatial Development Frameworks often too vague and general with</td>
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<tr>
<td>respect to heritage issues, tending to be limited to desk-top surveys.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Tensions between zoning schemes, development rights and heritage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>management within historic precincts.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Integrated Zoning Schemes tend to assume ‘one size fits all’ which</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>can destroy the fabric of small towns and villages. (E.g. building</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>setbacks and parking requirements).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Providing heritage support and guidance to local authorities in the</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>preparation of Spatial Development Frameworks and Integrated Zoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schemes. (E.g. Built Environment Support Programme of DEA&amp;DP).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Inefficiency within the current heritage approval system, e.g. Section</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improving capacity and competence of local authorities to carry out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Heritage and Scenic Resources: Inventory and Policy Framework for the Western Cape, May 2013, Version 4
| 34 NHRA applications for alterations to structures older than 60 years requiring HWC approval. | local heritage management functions thus making the system more efficient and effective. |
| Limited enforcement capacity within outlying urban and rural areas in terms of the provisions of the NHRA. | Encouraging local authorities to compile heritage inventories as a first step towards obtaining competency for the management of Grade III heritage resources, and obtaining exemption from Section 34 applications for structures older than 60 years not conservation-worthy. |
| Approval of building plans prior to HWC approval, contrary to the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act which requires that no building plan may be approved unless all other applicable laws have been fulfilled. | Raising awareness of local authority responsibilities in terms of NHRA and NBR&BSA. |

### 4. Principles

The principles outlined below provide an overarching framework for the heritage and scenic guidelines in Section 5. They are derived from international best practices as contained in various International Charters on Conservation and a number of local adaptations. (see references). The principles apply to the regional scale.

#### 4.1 Landscape significance

- acknowledging the overall natural and cultural landscape, and the layered pattern of settlements in response to the natural landscape over time.

#### 4.2 Landscape integrity

- retaining the essential character and intactness of wilderness, rural and urban areas in the face of fragmentation through unstructured urbanisation and commercial agriculture.
4.3 **Landscape connectivity** – retaining the continuity and interconnectedness of wilderness and agricultural landscapes, including ecological corridors and green linkages.

4.4 **Landscape setting** – maintaining the role of the natural landscape as a ‘container’ within which settlements are embedded, the landscape providing the dominant setting or backdrop.

4.5 **The logic of landscape** – recognising the intrinsic characteristics and suitability of the landscape and its influence on land use, settlement and movement patterns, in response to geology, topography, water, soil types and microclimate.

4.6 **Cultural significance** – acknowledging all aspects of cultural significance and cultural diversity as well as transforming interpretations of history and heritage values.

4.7 **Contribution of all periods** – recognising and respecting all periods that contribute to the history of a place, without undue emphasis on one particular period.

4.8 **Context and scale** – recognising that the value of heritage sites is often determined by their spatial and social context at a range of scales requiring a holistic approach to heritage management.

4.9 **Settlement hierarchy** – preserving the structural hierarchy of towns, villages, hamlets and farmsteads in relation to patterns of movement in preference to uncontrolled sprawl.

4.10 **Settlement typology** - recognising settlement types such as grid, linear, informal etc. in response to environmental, historical and social influences, and avoiding indiscriminate or inappropriate forms of development.

4.11 **Authenticity** – ensuring that interventions in heritage contexts are sympathetic to distinctive regional building and landscaping typologies, and appropriate in terms of scale, massing, form and architectural idiom.

4.12 **Sense of place** – responding to the unique topographical, geological and cultural features inherent in remote, cultivated and urban landscapes, each with their own sense of place.

4.13 **Sense of fit** – maintaining a sympathetic relationship between settlement and topography - treading lightly on the landscape.

4.14 **Sense of timelessness** – new development remaining sensitive to the context, and expressing a sense of rootedness in the local landscape.

4.15 **Minimal intervention** – respecting historical fabric, with the least possible physical intervention, within the parameters of appropriate adaptive uses, and avoiding conjecture.

4.16 **Community Participation** – using local heritage organisations and heritage expertise in partnership with planning authorities to ensure effective heritage management, e.g. local heritage advisory committees.

4.17 **Local skills** – involving local communities and artisans with traditional building skills, e.g. stone masons and thatchers, in the identification, interpretation and upgrading of heritage resources, creating opportunities for training, job creation and social transformation.
4.18 **Access to resources** - ensuring access to cultural resources as a key conservation management principle, especially where the public has traditionally enjoyed rights of access.

4.19 **Interpretation of heritage** – using appropriate forms of interpretation to enhance the understanding of the significance of heritage resources, recognising that there are different understandings and interpretations of cultural sites from diverse cultural perspectives.

4.20 **Intangible and tangible heritage** – acknowledging that cultural value resides in both tangible and intangible heritage, including recognition of the significance of language, oral history, public memory, tradition and ceremony.

4.21 **Integration with development planning** – landscape and heritage management regarded as an essential and integral aspect of development and planning, which guides responsible and sustainable management of change, and is thus not separate from the planning system.

4.22 **Heritage tourism** – recognising that heritage and scenic resources are economically valuable in terms of tourism development and job creation if developed in a responsible and sustainable way.

4.23 **Urban and rural regeneration** – utilizing heritage resources, such as the adaptive use of historic buildings, to enhance the character of an area, and thus encourage public and private investment and create tourism opportunities.

4.24 **Transformation and inclusivity** – using heritage conservation in social transformation by broadening the scope of heritage to include previously unrecognised heritage resources, e.g. initiation sites, and enhancing the quality, integration and associated sense of belonging of the public environment.

Some imperatives for special scenic and cultural landscapes:

Arising from the Part 1 inventory, a number of scenic and cultural landscapes of high heritage significance have been identified, i.e. Grade I, II or IIIA value. These should be recognised as the heritage and scenic ‘hot-spots’ or ‘crown jewels’ of the Western Cape. Within such landscapes, the following imperatives should apply:

- **A pre-cautionary approach** to development applications within these landscapes should be adopted. The emphasis should be on enhancement of significance, and the avoidance of negative impacts rather than the mitigation thereof.

- **Conservation of special qualities** which make these landscapes particularly unique, for example:
  - Distinctive relationships between wilderness, agriculture and historical settlement (e.g. Paarl Cultural Landscape)
  - Strong evidence of historical layering, (e.g. Piketberg Cultural Landscape);
  - Landscape setting to an important place or feature (e.g. McGregor and Wupperthal Cultural Landscapes);
  - Highly representative of a landscape or settlement type (e.g. Bovlei as representative of Cape Winelands, Vermaakhtheid as representative rural hamlet, Waenhuiskranz as representative fishing settlement and Cederberg as representative pre-colonial landscape);
  - High symbolic values, (e.g. Southernmost point of Africa, Robben Island and Table Mountain);
- Regional historical and scenic gateways, (e.g. Sir Lowry’s and Swartberg Passes);
- Important streetscapes and townscapes, (e.g. Stellenbosch, Montagu, Prince Albert, Mossel Bay).

- **Avoidance of large-scale developments** which negatively impact the intrinsic value and character of these landscapes, (e.g. suburban development within rural landscapes of high significance as exists outside Stellenbosch along the R44).

- **Avoidance of incremental erosion** by developments of these values, (e.g. piecemeal subdivision of productive agricultural land into smaller farming units within rural landscapes of high heritage and scenic significance or commercial development along scenic routes through rural landscapes, (e.g. N2 through Elgin).

- **Careful placement of large-scale infrastructure** within or adjacent to the landscapes of high heritage and scenic significance, such as wind-farms, power stations, transmission lines, solar energy plants.

- **Formal protection** of these landscapes should be prioritised.

- **Conservation emphasis** should be on the public realm, public view cones and corridors, public access and public space.

- **Co-operative governance** between the different heritage, planning and environmental authorities should apply in cases where landscapes and routes of high heritage and scenic significance cut across municipal boundaries, (e.g. the high concentration of significant rural landscapes forming part of the Cape Winelands which fall within the jurisdiction of three different local authorities, namely Drakenstein, Stellenbosch and City of Cape Town).
5. Policies and Guidelines

The tables below set out policies and guidelines for the natural and cultural landscape resources identified in the Part 1 Survey. The tables have been colour-coded to assist with cross-referencing to the Part 1 Survey. In addition, the policies are numbered for easy reference.
5.1 Policies and Guidelines for Natural Landscapes of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quartzitic sandstone ridges and steep scree slopes</td>
<td>N.1 Conserve prominent landforms such as mountain ranges of the Cape Fold Belt in the Western Cape for their high scenic and tourism value and importance as water catchment areas.</td>
<td>• Extend existing nature reserves, or create new provincial or municipal reserves to protect these landforms, which are vital for the Western Cape’s tourism economy and water security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escarpment cliffs and ridges.</td>
<td>N.2 Conserve escarpments to the upland plateau for their scenic value and visual sensitivity, including the “Great Escarpment” of the Karoo.</td>
<td>• Avoid development or infrastructure, such as wind turbines and powerlines, on crests or ridgelines because of their high visibility and the visual sensitivity of the skyline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite and shale hills and outcrops.</td>
<td>N.3 Conserve prominent granite or shale hills and outcrops, such as Paarl Mountain, for their scenic value and visual sensitivity.</td>
<td>• Avoid development or infrastructure on land steeper than 1:4 for environmental and visual reasons. Visual problems include erosion and scarring, and unsightly cut/fill. (E.g. upper slopes of Constantia).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolerite ‘koppies’ and ridges.</td>
<td>N.4 Conserve topographic features of the plains, such as characteristic dolerite-capped ‘koppies’ and dolerite dyke ridges of the Karoo.</td>
<td>• Avoid development on elevated exposed slopes because of their high visibility from the surroundings. Impose no-go zones for development above a certain contour. (E.g. the 150m contour in parts of the Cape Peninsula).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Limit cultivation on upper mountain slopes to protect scenic resources and water catchments, and to minimise visual scarring and erosion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Geological features

<p>| Geological features | N.5 Conserve important geological features for their scenic and scientific interest. | • Identify all special geological features, such as rock outcrops, cliffs, caves, waterfalls etc. at the district and local level. |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|• Include these resources in municipal nature reserves or other forms of protection for these features. (E.g. coastal limestone formations and caves at Macassar, Die Kelders and Arniston). |
|                     |                                                                                      | • Provide educational, interpretive and tourism information on geological features. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Productive soils - granites, shales and alluvial valleys | **N.6** Conserve fertile agricultural areas because of their relative scarcity, the need for food security, and for the scenic and cultural value of traditional farming areas. | - Use local soil surveys to identify and protect areas of highly productive soils, particularly those on the granites, shales and alluvium of the Western Cape.  
- Avoid building development and extensive earthworks, such as landfills, cement works and quarries or borrow pits, in areas with productive soils. |
| Rivers, estuaries and vleis | **N.7** Conserve rivers, estuaries and wetlands for their water resources in a largely water-stressed region, as well as for their ecological, scenic and recreational value. | - Extend existing nature reserves where possible or create additional reserves and conservancies, providing a linked system of blue-green corridors, to protect important habitats and provide opportunities for recreation. (E.g. the Bot River, Klein River and Keurbooms estuaries).  
- Impose development setbacks from these water resources to provide protection from flooding as well as creating scenic corridors. (A min. setback of 30m is generally recommended, but depends on site-specific conditions).  
- Optimize the scenic and recreational opportunities provided by water impoundments. (E.g. Theewaterskloof, Voelvlei, Steenbras and Berg River dams). |
| Coastlines, promontories and islands. | **N.8** Conserve visually sensitive coastlines and coastal promontories for their scenic and cultural value. | - Prevent urban sprawl along the coastline and consolidate the edges of urban areas into distinct, compact settlements to maintain the integrity of landscapes and townscape. (E.g. sprawl along scenic coastlines of Pringle Bay, Betty’s Bay, Yzerfontein).  
- Define and impose coastal setbacks at a municipal level as prescribed in the Integrated Coastal Management Act, to prevent new development in the dynamic coastal zone and to conserve coastal scenic resources.  
- Encourage ecological and visual corridors between mountain and sea, and protect coastal promontories with scenic and cultural value. (E.g. Cape Hangklip, Robberg Peninsula and Cape Agulhas southernmost point). |
| Protected natural areas, public open spaces and patterns of access. | **N.9** Place emphasis on achieving a network of conservation areas and corridors by linking mountains, coastlines, rivers and wetlands. | - Prevent fragmentation and provide continuity within conservation networks, ensuring long term viability of ecosystems and areas of high scenic value. (E.g. Outeniqua Mountains and Garden Route lakes area).  
- Prevent privatisation of natural places forming part of the historical public open space resource network. (E.g. harbours and coastal estuaries).  
- Facilitate public access, education and interpretation to places of natural amenity by |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlement response to topography</td>
<td></td>
<td>means of recreation trails and tourism facilities. (E.g. Hermanus cliff path).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain to sea scenic corridor</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Allow for sustainable, traditional use of natural places for recreational, spiritual and resource-collection purposes. (E.g. Traditional fishing and recreational activities along the coastline and use of the mountain areas as places of retreat).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conservation of Natural Landscapes
## 5.2 Policies and Guidelines for Rural Landscapes of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RURAL LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural visual setting</td>
<td>R.1 Conserve the green or topographical 'containers' of rural landscapes and settlements.</td>
<td>• Prevent encroachment of development where these erode distinctive visual settings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Dominance of rural landscapes | R.2 Create compact rural settlements with well-defined urban edges. | • Prevent urban sprawl in rural landscapes by clustering new development into distinct, compact footprints related to existing movement routes, embedded within zones of agricultural dominance as opposed to creating continuous swaths of development.  
• Give preference to the densification/reinforcement of existing settlements and settlement patterns rather than extending development outside the urban edge in an unstructured random manner.  
• Ensure that new subdivisions respond appropriately to the historical context and pattern of settlement.  
• Avoid the decentralisation of retail and office centres which contribute to urban sprawl.  
• Avoid large-scale infrastructure such as wind farms, solar energy facilities and transmission lines in natural and cultural landscapes of high significance. |
| Productive agricultural landscapes | R.3 Consolidate and retain productive agricultural areas as viable units. | • Avoid development on good agricultural soils, which are essential to maintaining productive landscape qualities.  
• Prevent piecemeal subdivisions and the fragmentation of farmland into unviable units or ‘agricultural islands’ resulting in farming activities becoming ‘incompatible’ with surrounding urban or suburban uses.  
• Prevent the gentrification of productive or working farmland as ornamental green space, as in the case of ‘lifestyle rural estates’.  
• Consider restrictive zoning or overlay zones in historic farming areas, such as the Breede River and Berg River valleys, to conserve the scenic and heritage value of these agricultural valleys. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RURAL LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Rural settlement patterns | R.4 Maintain the natural ordering system of town, village, hamlet and farmstead evolved in response to the natural environment and movement routes. | • Ensure that new development is responsive to the historical rural context, and avoid suburban type layouts, particularly “gated” estates, in rural areas.  
• Ensure that new developments within rural contexts are in sympathy with the topography, drainage patterns and microclimate.  
• Observe the siting of traditional farmsteads, usually nestled into north-facing hillsides, near a source of water, in a copse of trees, overlooking the lands. They avoided visually-exposed, wind-swept hillcrests, and frost-prone valley bottoms.  
• Ensure that new buildings within historical precinct or werf” contexts are in sympathy with the scale, massing, layout and idiom of surrounding buildings. |
| Cultural features | R.5 Respect cultural features of significance. | • Ensure that new development responds positively to special cultural features (e.g. farmsteads) by providing them with “breathing space”, respecting their settings and leaving public views uncluttered and unobtrusive. |
| Planting patterns | R.6 Conserve traditional patterns of planting in cultural landscapes of significance. | • Ensure that windbreaks, avenues, copses and place-defining or gateway planting is not needlessly destroyed by new development.  
• Reinforce or replace traditional patterns of planting where appropriate with suitable species. |
| Socio-historical places and patterns of access | R.7 Maintain traditional movement patterns across rural landscapes or to places of socio-historical value. | • Avoid privatization or creation of barriers to traditional access routes.  
• Retain old roadways, which have been replaced by newer roads, for use as recreation trails. |
| Protected Landscapes | R.8 Protect landscapes of cultural significance by means of legislation, zoning and/or guidelines. | • Use the provisions of the NHRA (for National or Provincial Heritage Sites and Heritage Areas), or through zoning schemes (Heritage Overlay Zones), e.g. Idas Valley PHS and Dwars River Valley Heritage Overlay Zone. |
### 5.3. Policies and Guidelines for Palaeontological and Archaeological Landscapes of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCIENT LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Areas of significance/sensitivity | A.1 Identify and conserve areas of high sensitivity and significance. | • Identify sensitive and significant palaeontological and archaeological areas or sites at an early stage in a development process. Identify ‘no-go’ areas for development, and areas subject to mitigation or monitoring.  
• Take into account the known high archaeological value/sensitivity of natural/relatively undisturbed areas. (E.g. undeveloped coastal areas, Karoo koppies, wilderness mountain areas).  
• Take into account the known outstanding palaeontological value of the Cenozoic fossils of the Western Cape coast.  
• Recognise that many proposed developments involving excavation into bedrock provide opportunities for palaeontological research provided that there is constructive collaboration between palaeontologists, and road builders, miners and developers to ensure adequate chance to study and collect fossils in situ. |
| Landscape settings | A.2 Conserve the natural and cultural landscape settings of important sites or groupings. | • Ensure protection of not only the sites, but also the broader landscape settings of important sites and groupings. (E.g. the wilderness landscape setting of Cederberg Rock Art and Elands Bay Cave). |
| Public access and interpretation | A.3 Enhance the public educational value of these resources through interpretation and ensure appropriate forms of public access. | • Provide controlled public access to and maintenance of sites prone to human disturbance and vandalism. (E.g. graffiti at rock art sites and disturbance of shell middens by off-road vehicles).  
• Prepare a conservation management plan for rock art sites open to the public.  
• Consider training guides from the local community to monitor the sites and provide information for visitors. (E.g. Clanwilliam Living Heritage Project).  
• Provide interpretive literature to meet public awareness, educational and tourism needs. |
| Protected landscapes | A.4 Formally protect landscapes of high archaeological and palaeontological significance. | • Use the provisions of the NHRA (National and Provincial Heritage Sites or Heritage Areas), as well as Heritage Overlay Zones (zoning schemes) to protect landscapes and sites of significance. |
## 5.4 Policies and Guidelines for Scenic Routes of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCENIC ROUTES / PASSES</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Major scenic routes    | S.1    | - Identify important scenic routes, particularly mountain passes / poorts, within each district, using the Provincial inventory contained in Part 1 of this study as a starting point.  
- Formally protect scenic routes of heritage significance through the provisions of the NHRA (National and Provincial Heritage Sites) or municipal zoning schemes (e.g. Scenic Overlay Zones and City of Cape Town’s proclaimed scenic routes, such as Boyes Drive).  
- Prohibit obstruction of sea and mountain views along proclaimed scenic routes and avoid visual intrusions, such as inappropriate signage (billboards) and infrastructure, including transmission lines. Also, prevent the obstruction of views towards important cultural features.  
- Use by-laws to establish visual buffer zones with setbacks and height restrictions along scenic routes. (E.g. 100m setbacks for major national / provincial routes, and 30m for secondary routes, but these are dependent on view corridors and other local conditions). |
| Linking routes, networks and gateways | S.2 | - Identify important linking routes within each district and municipality, using the Provincial inventory contained in Part 1 of this study as a starting point.  
- Ensure that the scenic and linking routes form a coherent system, adding value to the network as a whole.  
- See the routes as important gateways to towns and other settlements, and to places of scenic or heritage significance, by means of appropriate signage and route markers for tourism purposes. |
| Landscape setting and design | S.3 | - Ensure appropriate design of road verges, stormwater structures, fences, farmstalls and picnic sites, which should be in character with the natural or rural surroundings. (E.g. stone walls and picnic elements of Chapman’s Peak Drive, Tradoux Pass and Outeniqua Pass).  
- Avoid over-engineered construction details, such as concrete kerbs and asphalt parking / pedestrian areas not in keeping with wilderness mountain areas. (E.g. Gydo Pass). |
| Thematic routes and trails | S.4 | - Establish and promote various route themes, such as wine routes, fynbos routes, birding routes, battle-site routes etc. Provide well-designed signage, maps and interpretive information at places of interest.  
- Consider resurrecting old wagon and rail routes, or historic donkey trails (E.g. Gamkaskloof), and using abandoned mountain pass roads for hiking, horse-riding or mountain-biking trails. |
### 5.5. Policies and Guidelines for Historical Settlements of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL RESOURCE</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Landscape setting and edges.       | TV.1    | **Respect the distinctive landscape setting and edge conditions (agricultural, mountain and water) of historical settlements which contribute to their overall “sense of fit” within the landscape and unique aesthetic qualities.**  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid development on ridgelines and elevated slopes which contribute to a sense of topographical containment. (E.g. McGregor’s discrete valley setting).  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid large scale infrastructural developments such as windfarms, transmission lines and solar energy facilities where these disrupt the relationship between historical settlements and their landscape setting.  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Retain view-lines and vistas focused on prominent landscape features (E.g. views from the central City of Cape Town towards Table Mountain and visual-spatial linkages between mountain and sea.)  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid sprawl and decentralisation into surrounding green field sites that result in the erosion of the distinctive edge conditions.  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Encourage appropriate densification within defined urban areas which respects existing and proposed heritage areas, and significant views, vistas and landmarks.  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid the indiscriminate “filling in” of green field sites within the urban edge, especially where these sites contribute to the landscape setting of historical settlements (E.g. Significant rural landscapes located within the Drakenstein urban edge.) |
| Land form                          | TV.2    | **Respect the traditional settlement pattern which has traditionally occurred on gently sloping landscapes.**  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid development on slopes greater than 1:4 to prevent visual scarring on steep slopes forming backdrops to historical settlements and “no-go” development areas above a certain contour. (E.g. the 320m contour line which demarcates the historical pattern of settlement in the Drakenstein Valley).  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Align street blocks and buildings parallel instead of at right angles to the contour as in traditional settlements. (E.g. the organic layout of many mission settlements fitting into the folds of valleys). |
| Scale and hierarchy                | TV.3    | **Respect the hierarchical structure of settlement patterns - town, village and hamlet - evolved in response to water, routes and socio-economic forces.**  
                                                                             |                                                                 | • Avoid inappropriate suburban extensions to rural villages and hamlets in order to retain their sense of scale and rootedness. (E.g. the characteristics strongly evident in the Klein Karoo, versus the loss of settlement character of Zoar and Amalienstein mission villages). |
| Settlement geometry                | TV.4    | **Respect the distinctive geometries evident in historical settlements.**  
<pre><code>                                                                         |                                                                 | • Ensure that new development responds positively to the layout of historical settlements, either organically evolved or planned, as manifested in a grid pattern (Beaufort West), linear pattern (Matjiesfontein, Paarl), informal (Stormsvlei, Vermaaklikheid), often with variated multi-grids (Franschhoek, Malmsbury), irregular grid (Piketberg), informal grid (Prince Albert) and river ribbon settlements. |
</code></pre>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL RESOURCE</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Settlement grain and texture | **TV.5** Respect the grain and texture of the settlement form. | - Street layouts and the configuration of subdivisions should reflect existing patterns and not adopt alien or suburban forms.  
- Layouts should have an emphasis on place-making, i.e. urban design and landscape-related heritage considerations, as opposed to standard infrastructure-driven requirements. |
| Historical fabric | **TV.6** Respect the historical fabric and streetscapes of historical settlements. | - New development within or adjacent to historical settlements should follow the grain and texture of historical patterns, including subdivision patterns, block size and shape, street setbacks (buildings lining the street), relation to open spaces, and building forms.  
- Acknowledge the rural morphology found in agricultural settlements, such as houses lining the street with narrow plots or allotments behind. (E.g. Suurbraak, Baardskeersdersbos).  
- Observe the distinctive agrarian qualities found in many settlements in the form of strong agricultural edges, plots to allow for agricultural allotments and river farmlands. (E.g. Montagu).  
- Consider the fine grain and low-rise urban form evident in many historical settlements. Carefully balance provisions for excessive bulk in existing zoning schemes with the need for heritage protection of historical precincts, towns and villages. |
| Public realm | **TV.7** Respect the organizational structure and quality of the public realm, such as those of streets and squares. | - Prevent the imitation or reproduction of vernacular styles, and avoid the introduction of foreign stylistic devices.  
- Distinguish old from new but ensure visual harmony between historical fabric and new interventions in terms of appropriate scale, massing, form and architectural treatment.  
- Alterations and additions to conservation-worthy structures should be sympathetic to their architectural character and period detailing. |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL RESOURCE</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| TV.8 Promote social-spatial integration with emphasis on the historical public environment. | street.  
- Relax building lines prescribed in zoning schemes of heritage areas to allow for continuity in relation to historic streetscapes. 
- Improve the permeability and connectivity of the historical public environment. 
- Do not reinforce patterns that separate and marginalise social fabric from the public environment. | |
| Water and planting patterns | TV.9 Respect the role of historical water and planting patterns, which contribute to the character of historical settlements. | Retain water courses and channels as important place-making elements and integral components of the historical open space network.  
- Retain the patterns and types of tree planting, which reinforce the spatial qualities of historical settlements by lining streets, defining gateways and structuring open spaces. | |
<p>| Formal protection | TV.10 Formally protect historical settlements of significance | Protect these areas through the provisions of the NHRA (National or Provincial Heritage Sites and Heritage Areas) or zoning schemes (Heritage Overlay Zones). Develop place-specific controls and guidelines for defined heritage areas. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL RESOURCE</th>
<th>POLICY</th>
<th>GUIDELINES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historical Settlement Pattern</td>
<td>Settlement with Heritage Management</td>
<td>Settlement without Heritage Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal Framework

Existing Legislation for Scenic and Heritage Resources

6.1.1 National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA)

General protections: The NHRA makes provision for the general protection of structures older than 60 years (Section 34), archaeological and palaeontological remains (Section 35), and historical burials (Section 36). Section 38 of the NHRA lists certain categories of development which will require a heritage impact assessment to be undertaken should the provincial heritage authority (HWC) have reason to believe that heritage resources will impacted.

Formal protections: Section 27 of the NHRA makes provision for the formal protection of heritage resources as a national or provincial heritage site, depending on whether they are deemed to be of Grade I or II heritage significance, respectively. Grade III or local heritage resources are to be protected under the provisions of local authority zoning schemes (Land Use Planning Ordinance), and should be managed by the local authority once deemed to be competent by the provincial heritage authority to take up functions assigned to local authorities in terms of the NHRA.

Local authority functions: There are numerous sections of the NHRA which set out what local authorities should do with respect to the identification, protection and management of heritage resources, including powers that can be conferred once the local authority is deemed competent. Specific sections of the NHRA make provision for:

- The designation and management of heritage areas [Section 26(1), 31(1) (5)(7), 34(1), 47)];
- The identification of heritage resources [Section 30(5)];
- The integration of heritage into planning [Section (31(8), 28(6)];
- The protection of heritage resources [Section 31(7)]; and
- The interpretation and use of heritage resources [Section (31(8), 44(1)].

Integration of heritage and planning: The NHRA enables and encourages the integration of heritage management and planning functions. The provisions of Section 30 (5) and Section 31 are explicit with respect to the responsibilities of planning authorities to compile a heritage inventory of heritage resources within their respective areas of jurisdiction, and to designate and protect of “areas of environmental or cultural value” as heritage areas.
**Provincial Heritage Register:** In terms of Section 30 (5) it is a requirement for a planning authority to compile an inventory of heritage resources within its area of jurisdiction and for this inventory to be submitted to the provincial heritage authority, i.e. Heritage Western Cape, which shall then consult with the owners of properties proposed to be listed on the provincial heritage register and gazette the listing (Section 30 (7) and (9)). Thereafter, and within six months of this gazetting, the planning authority must provide for the protection and regulation of the listed heritage resources through the provisions in the zoning scheme.

A list of completed inventories and those still in the process of being compiled is included in Table 9 and elaborated further in Section 6.3.1 below.

**Heritage Areas:** Section 31 (1) of the NHRA requires that “A planning authority must at the time of revision of a town or regional planning scheme, or the compilation or revision of a spatial plan, or at the initiative of the provincial heritage authority where in the opinion of the provincial heritage resources authority the need exists, investigate the need for the designation of heritage areas to protect any place of environmental or cultural interest.” Where such a heritage area is designated in terms of a notice in a Provincial Gazette, either by a local authority or a provincial heritage authority, it is the responsibility of the local authority to provide for its protection through the provisions of planning schemes or by-laws under the NHRA.

Few places within the Western Cape have been formally designated as heritage areas in terms of Section 31, or have the necessary formal protections in place to be effective. There are two Section 31 heritage areas within the Cape Metro, i.e. Blaauwberg Conservation Area and Clifton Bungalow Area, and the City of Cape Town has put in place the required protections for these areas. Stanford in the Overberg and McGregor in the Cape Winelands were designated as conservation areas under the former National Monument Act, now heritage areas in terms of the NHRA. The protection of these heritage areas was never implemented by way of by-laws and therefore they have no formal protection status.

**6.1.2 Zoning Schemes under the Land Use Planning Ordinance (LUPO): Heritage Overlay Zones**

At the local level, the most effective means for protecting areas of heritage significance has been through the designation of Special Areas / Conservation Areas / Heritage Overlay Zones in terms of the provisions of their municipal zoning schemes. This was the mechanism used for declaring Cape Town’s Urban Conservation Areas, for example.

An alternative legal mechanism for the protection of areas of heritage significance is through separate municipal by-laws rather than zoning schemes. However, this alternative is not desirable from an integrated...
planning and heritage perspective. The separation of planning and heritage functions in terms of separate laws at a municipal level is likely to undermine the ability to integrate and balance planning and heritage issues.

In many instances municipalities are still in the process of combining their various zoning schemes of its inherited substructures into one single ‘integrated’ zoning scheme. From an integrated planning and heritage perspective, caution needs to be raised with respect to some of the possible dangers of integrated zoning schemes, i.e. one size fits all. This relates to inappropriate building set-backs from streets and parking provision which makes little sense, and even destroys the fabric of historic rural towns and villages.

The historic cores of only a handful of the historic settlements within the Western Cape, i.e. Montagu, Knysna, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Wellington, Franschhoek, have been designated as Special Areas / Conservation Areas / Heritage Overlay Zones in terms of their respective zoning scheme provisions. Within the Stellenbosch Municipality, the rural landscapes of Jonkershoek Valley, Idas Valley and Dwars River Valley have also been designated as Heritage Overlay Zones.

There are 33 conservation and special areas within the Cape Metro protected in terms of the City’s old zoning scheme (now Heritage Protection Overlay Zones in terms of the new integrated Cape Town zoning scheme). It should be noted that the City of Cape Town is the only municipality to be formally deemed competent by HWC to take up functions assigned to local authorities in terms of the NHRA (including Section 31) and to continue to carry out heritage management functions in terms of ‘other law’, i.e. LUPO.

Zoning scheme provisions can also be used to protect scenic routes, as in the case of Stellenbosch Municipality, which in terms of its integrated Zoning Scheme has designated a number of routes within the Stellenbosch municipal area as Scenic Overlay Zones.

6.1.3 HWC Recommended municipal zoning scheme by-laws

With respect to the preparation of by-laws for the protection and management of Grade III heritage resources, HWC’s Short Guide to Grading suggests the use of model clauses for Grade IIIA and IIIB heritage resources, and also a model clause for creating Heritage Areas / Heritage Overlay Zones and regulating development within such areas. With respect to Grade IIIC buildings and sites, these would only be protected and regulated if the significance of the environs is sufficient to warrant protective measures. In other words, these buildings and/or sites will only be protected if they are within declared conservation or Heritage Areas / Heritage Overlay Zones.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade IIIA</th>
<th>Proposed Municipal By-law Clause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Grade IIIA building or structure and/or listed on the Provincial Heritage Register shall be demolished, altered or extended nor shall any new building or structure be erected on the property occupied by such building or structure without the Municipality’s special consent; the Municipality shall take account of the provincial heritage resources authority’s requirements; and the Municipality shall not grant its special consent if such proposed demolition, alteration, extension or new building or structure will be detrimental to the character and/or significance of the building or structure.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade IIIB</th>
<th>Proposed Municipal By-law Clause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Grade IIIB building or structure and/or listed on the Provincial Heritage Register, other than an internal wall, surface or component, shall be demolished, altered or extended nor shall any new building or structure be erected on the property occupied by such building or structure without the Municipality’s special consent; the Municipality shall take account of the provincial heritage resources authority’s requirements; and the Municipality shall not grant its special consent if such proposed demolition, alteration, extension or new building or structure will be detrimental to the character and/or significance of the building or structure.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation Area Proposed Municipal By-law Clause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) The following provisions shall apply within an area listed in the Table hereunder and depicted on the Zoning Map as being a Conservation Area:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i) no building or structure other than an internal wall or partition therein shall be demolished or erected unless written application has been made to the Municipality and the Municipality has granted its special consent thereto;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) the Municipality shall not give its special consent if such demolition, alteration, extension or erection, as the case may be, will be detrimental to the protection and/or maintenance and/or enhancement of the architectural, aesthetic and/or historical character and/or significance, as the case may be, of the area in which such demolition, alteration, extension or erection is proposed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.1.4 Protection and management of significant landscapes and routes of heritage and scenic value

A number of practical issues need to be considered regarding the appropriate protection and management of landscapes and scenic routes of heritage and scenic value, especially in cases where these cut across municipal boundaries, cover an expansive area and/or involve different components and levels of significance.

In the above mentioned cases, landscapes of existing or proposed Grade I and II heritage status would not necessarily be appropriately protected as national or provincial heritage sites, which would automatically imply a blanket set of heritage controls relating to a broad range of interventions. Depending on the nature of heritage significance, the formal protection of these landscapes as provincial and national heritage sites may need to be accompanied by exemptions for certain types of interventions which are impractical to manage (e.g., interventions relating to day-to-day farming operations within productive agricultural areas.) Furthermore, some of these landscapes may be more appropriately managed at municipal level by way of heritage overlay zones, delegations and/or by joint agreement between the relevant heritage and competent planning authority.

**Heritage Agreement:** Section 42 of the NHRA makes provision for heritage agreements (a binding contract) to be entered into between heritage authorities, and a heritage authority and local authority *(inter alia)* regarding the management of a heritage resource provided that the consent of the owner of the resource is given. This is one possible legal mechanism to resolve practical issues relating to the appropriate management of heritage resources requiring the co-ordination and co-operation of various role-players and decision-making authorities.

6.2 Possible Conservation Mechanisms

There are a number of additional conservation mechanisms for the protection and management of heritage and scenic resources, for example:

**Urban edges:** the delineation of urban edges have significant implications from a heritage and scenic perspective, especially with respect to the protection of natural and cultural landscapes from the encroachment of further urban development, defining an appropriate interface between urban development and significant landscapes, and protecting the visual and agricultural setting of historical settlements. However, it should be noted that the urban edges cannot be solely be depended on to provide the necessary effective long term protection and management of landscapes of heritage and scenic value.
Conservation Guidelines: the effective management of conservation depends not only on development control but also on political will, community “buy-in”, public awareness and guidance. Conservation guidelines are particularly important in this regard. They describe the qualities of an area and the nature of development that is likely to be permitted, thus preventing wasteful expenditure, misunderstanding and conflict on the part of owners, developers, architects and the local authority. They also ensure that the local authority is consistent in its management of the area in terms of the maintenance and enhancement of the public realm and in terms of development control. The publication of guidelines is therefore regarded as an essential part of an effective local conservation management system. They are aimed at a range of bodies involved in the conservation and development process including policy makers, municipal officials, conservation groups and developers. (Examples include the City of Cape Town Guidelines for Development in Heritage Areas and the Overstrand Heritage Guidelines).

Local Heritage Advisory Committees: there is good precedent within the Western Cape for the effective role of heritage advisory bodies in assisting local planning authorities in the management of heritage resources. Their degree of effectiveness is largely dependent on being well-structured and formally mandated in terms of their advisory role in decision-making processes, clarity in terms of their area of heritage interest and focus on heritage issues, appropriate heritage expertise (or access to heritage expertise) as well as establishing a working relationship with the heritage authorities (HWC and SAHRA). (Examples include the Heritage and Aesthetic Advisory Committees of Knysna, Prince Albert, Stanford, Overstrand and Montagu).

6.3 General Guide for Municipalities

6.3.1 Heritage Inventories

Section 30 (5) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999; NHRA) makes provision for heritage inventories to be prepared at the time of the compilation of local or regional planning schemes and spatial development frameworks, or “at any other time of its choosing, or at the initiative of a provincial heritage resources authority where in the opinion of the provincial heritage authority the need exists....”

Notwithstanding the legal requirement to prepare such inventories, they will ensure more effective management in terms of establishing a degree of convergence as to what constitutes a heritage resource, its significance and the management implications thereof, facilitating administrative efficiency and effective decision-making in the processing of planning and development applications affecting heritage resources with specific reference to structures older than 60 years and assisting the municipalities in obtaining
competency for the management of Grade III heritage resources in terms of Section 8 of the NHRA, and the delegation of certain provincial heritage functions in terms of Section 26.

Table 9 provides a list of heritage inventories that have been compiled. It includes a list of heritage studies and surveys predating NHRA, which need to be reviewed and updated accordingly. It also includes a list of recently completed desk-top surveys undertaken to provide a “heritage layer” to municipal SDFs.

HWC has prepared a set of guidelines for the preparation of built environment heritage surveys. A copy of these guidelines is attached as Appendix D. The scope of work addressed in these survey guidelines would be difficult for all planning authorities to comply with in the short term. A comprehensive heritage survey requires research, fieldwork, multi-disciplinary expertise and consultation. To assist municipalities in the phasing and prioritising of their heritage inventories, a broad set of guidelines is outlined in Table 8 below. In order to address the specific requirements, constraints and heritage issues within each municipality, it is recommended that more detailed phasing and prioritising of work be determined in consultation with HWC at the earliest possible stage. Such consultation should also determine the appropriate heritage expertise necessary to compile an inventory depending on the significance of the heritage context.
### Table 8: Phasing and prioritising heritage inventories at a municipal level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHASE</th>
<th>SCOPE OF WORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Phase 1:         | **Desk-top survey of urban and rural areas.**  
| Baseline         | - Limited fieldwork necessary to clarify broad heritage issues ‘on-the-ground’.  
|                  | - Historical overview.  
|                  | - Preliminary grading and mapping of resources based on available heritage and spatial data.  
|                  | - Statement on archaeoligical and palaeontological issues.  
|                  | - Preliminary demarcation of heritage areas, scenic routes and landscapes of significance.  
|                  | - Targeted discussion with local heritage organisations.  
|                  | - Identification of further work, clarification of phasing and priorities.  
| Phase 2:         | **Survey of areas of high significance, most concentrated, threatened and vulnerable.**  
| Strategic        | - Focused assessment to facilitate administrative efficiency, e.g. buildings older than 60 years.  
|                  | - Identification, mapping, assessment and grading of resources based on HWC’s guidelines.  
|                  | - Historical research to identify and spatialize heritage themes/layering, e.g. settlement chronology, architectural history, social history.  
|                  | - Landscape character analysis (natural and cultural).  
|                  | - Fieldwork including inspection of individual properties.  
|                  | - Identification of heritage resources at various scales.  
|                  | - Identification of zones of archaeological and palaeontological sensitivity.  
|                  | - GIS mapping and database compilation.  
|                  | - Consultation with Interested and Affected Parties.  
| Phase 3:         | **Completion of the inventory for the entire municipal area.**  
| Filling in the gaps | - Identification, mapping, assessment and grading of resources based on HWC’s guidelines.  
|                  | - Scope of work as identified above.  
| Phase 4:         | **Management framework (preferably concurrent with Phase 2 and 3).**  
| Management       | - Statutory mechanisms for protection and management.  
| Implications     | - Heritage principles, policies and guidelines.  

### 6.3.2 Heritage Component of Spatial Development Frameworks

Heritage input into the preparation of Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) is necessary to ensure effective integration of heritage management and planning issues. As part of the Built Environment Support Programme currently being undertaken by DEADP, an evaluation of various municipal SDFs identified adequate heritage input as a major gap. Arising from this evaluation process, an attempt to address these gaps is being
undertaken in the current review of the number of municipal SDFs, e.g. Kannaland, Beaufort West, Hessequa, Oudtshoorn, Swellendam and Matzikamma. The commissioning of these various heritage inventories across the province is a very positive move towards addressing the general absence of heritage input at municipal SDF level. A list of these SDF heritage surveys is included in Table 9.

It should be noted that the above mentioned inventories are essentially baseline or desk-top surveys in order to provide a “basic heritage layer” to SDFs. They thus need to form part of a longer term strategy to build onto the available heritage and spatial data and ultimately to become a useful and meaningful inventory from a heritage management perspective. The inventories would ideally also include scenic resources and scenic routes / passes.

As a general guideline, a desk-top survey undertaken as part of a SDF should include limited fieldwork to clarify heritage issues “on the ground”. This is particularly relevant where available desk-top information is limited or in many cases out dated. It should also include targeted discussion with local heritage organisations. The major emphasis should be on the preliminary demarcation of the heritage areas, landscapes and routes of heritage and scenic significance, identification of priority areas in terms of significance/threats and well as the phasing of further work towards completing a heritage inventory.

Within significant heritage contexts, the scope of heritage input at SDF level will need to extend beyond a heritage inventory to include reference to general heritage principles and guidelines and input at a spatial level with particular reference to the heritage implications of growth management strategies, e.g. urban edge demarcation, densification strategies and infill development.

**Table 9: List of Heritage Inventories**

1. Inventories compiled in terms of the NHRA (submitted to HWC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPAL AREA</th>
<th>SCOPE OF SURVEY</th>
<th>STATUS OF SURVEY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swartland Heritage Survey (2009)</td>
<td>Built environment Urban areas of Swartland</td>
<td>Pending endorsement by HWC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Inventories compiled in terms of the NHRA (not yet submitted to HWC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPAL AREA</th>
<th>SCOPE OF SURVEY</th>
<th>STATUS OF SURVEY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mossel Bay Heritage Survey and</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Mossel Bay town</td>
<td>Approved by Mossel Bay Municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groot Brak Heritage Survey and</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Groot Brak, Herbertsdale, Friemersheim, Brandwacht</td>
<td>Approved by Mossel Bay Municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knysna Heritage Survey (2009)</td>
<td>Knysna town</td>
<td>Pending approval by Knysna Municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stellenbosch Heritage Survey</td>
<td>Stellenbosch historic core</td>
<td>In progress; due to completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Cape Town</td>
<td>Re-auditing of heritage resources within the</td>
<td>Due to be completed 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>municipal area including some 33 000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>heritage resources on the City’s current database.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantia Heritage Inventory</td>
<td>Constantia and surrounding farmlands</td>
<td>Draft Phase 1 completed 2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Desk-top inventories compiled as part of Spatial Development Frameworks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPAL AREA</th>
<th>SCOPE OF SURVEY</th>
<th>STATUS OF SURVEY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort West Desk-Top Heritage</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Beaufort West</td>
<td>Draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey (2013)</td>
<td>Urban and rural areas of Beaufort West Municipality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kannaland Desk-Top Heritage Survey</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Beaufort West</td>
<td>Draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2013)</td>
<td>Urban and rural areas of Beaufort West Municipality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hessequa Preliminary Survey (2012)</td>
<td>Built environment</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban and rural areas of Hessequa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matzikamma Desk-Top Heritage Survey</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Matzikamma</td>
<td>Draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2013)</td>
<td>Urban and rural areas of Matzikamma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Heritage studies and surveys predating the NHRA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPAL AREA</th>
<th>SCOPE OF SURVEY</th>
<th>STATUS OF SURVEY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montagu Conservation Study (1990)</td>
<td>Built environment and landscape Montagu town Conservation guidelines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Cape Town Heritage Surveys (1977-1994)</td>
<td>Built environment Conservation Guidelines</td>
<td>In process of being re-audited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Way Forward

The following section of the report highlights a number of cross-cutting heritage issues requiring further investigation and prioritisation at a provincial level.

7.1 Consolidated Data Base and GIS Mapping

The absence of a consolidated database and GIS mapping of heritage and scenic resources at a provincial level is a major stumbling block to the effective integration of heritage management and spatial planning, and should thus be prioritised with the co-operation of both provincial planning and heritage authorities. This Report and the Appendices are a first step in this direction.

7.2 Protection of Scenic Resources

Another concern is the absence of adequate legislation to protect scenic resources, including scenic routes and passes, at the national, provincial and municipal scales, including those listed in Appendices B and C. As these form part of the ‘natural heritage’, one possibility would be to expand the current heritage legislation to formally incorporate scenic resources. A further rationale is that heritage and visual assessments are often interrelated. A similar grading system could be used with some refinements, if necessary, such as Grade 1 National Scenic Areas, Grade II Provincial Scenic Areas, and Grade III Local Scenic Areas. It is recommended that provincial and heritage authorities co-operate on this with the assistance of relevant expertise.

7.3 Scenic and Cultural Landscapes at Major Risk

A number of scenic and cultural landscapes and settlements of high heritage significance are potentially threatened / vulnerable and require strategies to ensure their long term protection. Such landscapes include the following:

- **Rural landscapes of scenic and cultural significance situated on the major urban edges** and under increasing development pressure, e.g. Cape Winelands.

- **Historical mission settlements** threatened by economic and social challenges such as high unemployment, lack of local employment opportunities, declining agricultural practices as source of livelihood, lack of maintenance and repair of historical structures, possible associations of the vernacular environment with poverty leading to “modernisation” or replacement of traditional dwellings as well as inappropriate infrastructural upgrades.

- **Undeveloped coastal landscapes** under major development pressure.

- **Landscapes under pressure for large scale infrastructural developments** such as wind farms, solar energy facilities, transmission lines and fracking, e.g. Central Karoo.
- **Historic mountain passes and ‘poorts** vulnerable to falling into disrepair, or alternatively inappropriate repairs and upgrading, or requiring ongoing repairs and maintenance, e.g. Swartberg Pass.

Table 10 below provides a brief overview of possible strategies and responsibilities to address these threatened or vulnerable resources.

**Table 10: Possible strategies and responsibilities to address threatened/vulnerable resources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE AT RISK</th>
<th>STRATEGY EXAMPLES</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY</th>
<th>INTERESTED &amp; AFFECTED PARTIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Rural landscapes on major urban edges  | • Formal protection.  
• Conservation guidelines.  
• Promotion and interpretation.  
• Pilot project. |
|                                           | DEA&DP  
SAHRA  
HWC  
Local authorities | Heritage organisations  
Land owners |
| 2. Mission settlements                    | • Multi-disciplinary status quo study.  
• Formal protection.  
• Conservation guidelines.  
• Local skills development and employment, e.g. traditional building techniques, cultural tourism.  
• Promotion and interpretation.  
• Pilot project. |
|                                           | DEA&DP  
SAHRA  
HWC  
Local authorities | Church organisations  
Community |
| 3. Undeveloped coastal landscapes         | • Implementation of coastal management strategy.  
• Promotion and interpretation, e.g. coastal archaeology. |
|                                           | DEA&DP  
HWC  
Local authorities | Heritage organisations  
Environmental groups  
Land owners |
| 4. No-go areas for large scale infrastructure | • Clarification of no-go areas.  
• Review current guidelines from heritage and scenic perspective including cumulative impacts. |
|                                           | DEAT  
DEA&DP  
HWC |
| 5. Historic mountain passes               | • Identification of passes requiring formal protection.  
• Guidelines for restoration.  
• Training of local artisans to involve the community and create jobs. |
|                                           | HWC  
DEA&DP  
Provincial Roads |
| 6. Scenic resources                       | • Provincial inventory and mapping of scenic resources  
• Grading of scenic resources  
• Formal protection  
• Inclusion in municipal SDFs  
• Promotion and interpretation facilities |
|                                           | DEA&DP  
SANParks  
Cape Nature  
Local authorities |
7.4 Municipal Support Programme

It is clear that municipalities require greater support and direction from provincial planning and heritage authorities in carrying out responsibilities with respect to the identification, protection and management of heritage and scenic resources, including powers that can be conferred once a local authority is deemed competent.

To be effective, support needs to be a collaborative effort between HWC and DEA&DP and preferably undertaken by a designated person or task team. The scope of such a programme could include:

- An audit of heritage management issues at a municipal level, e.g. an assessment of capacity and competency, effective integration of planning and heritage functions and identification of areas of significance, which are most vulnerable and threatened.
- Advice to local authorities on the prioritisation and phasing of heritage and scenic inventories, implementation of protection measures, building capacity and drafting heritage by-laws.
- Heritage and planning advice pamphlets and guidelines relating to specific heritage contexts, e.g. scenic routes and passes, mission settlements, rural landscapes of significance and coastal archaeology.

7.5 Conclusion

The implementation of this study should be seen as a way of not only protecting valuable scenic and heritage resources of the Western Cape for generations to come, but also as having social and economic benefits, particularly in the area of tourism on which the Province depends in great measure.

There is a need for clear identification and mapping of scenic and heritage resources, along with ecologically sensitive areas, to inform and facilitate planning within the Province. This information is seen as an essential filter to ease the processing of development proposals, minimising inappropriate applications and improving predictability in the development application process.
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http://www.cwgc.org