

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 4277

26 January 2024

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998
(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)****CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE SANDVELD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK STANDARD, 2023 AND THE PROPOSED EXCLUSION OF THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE CLEARANCE OF INDIGENOUS VEGETATION IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS LISTING NOTICES 1, 2 AND 3**

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby publish my intention to adopt, in terms of section 24(10)(a)(i) and 24(10)(a)(ii) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), the *Sandveld Environmental Management Framework Standard, 2023*, and based on compliance with this Standard, exclude, in terms of section 24(2)(d) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) the following activities identified in the Listing Notices associated with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation from the competent authority prior to commencement when undertaken in the geographical area assessed by the Sandveld Environmental Management Framework included on the map provided as Annexure 1:

Activity 27 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014;
Activity 15 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014; and
Activity 12(i) of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 3 of 2014.

The Sandveld Environmental Management Framework was adopted by the Western Cape Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on 7 June 2019 as a shared vision of sustainable agriculture within the Sandveld Environmental Management Framework geographical area. The Sandveld Environmental Management Framework introduces the concept of farm-level planning which is to be implemented through the Sandveld Environmental Management Framework Standard, 2023.

The Standard identifies the measures for the management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the cultivation of land in the geographical area assessed by the Sandveld Environmental Management Framework and establishes the processes and procedures for the clearance of indigenous vegetation, to be excluded from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation. The Standard furthermore prescribes procedures and criteria to be used by the competent authority for the monitoring of excluded activities.

The Standard is available at the following link on the following webpages:
https://www.dffe.gov.za/projectprogrammes/environmental_management_instruments
<https://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp/>.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments or inputs, within 30 days after the publication of this Notice in the *Gazette*, or of a newspaper notice calling for comments, whichever period occurs last, to the following addresses:

By post to: The Director-General
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Dr D Fischer
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

By hand at: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
ARCADIA
0083

By e-mail: dfischer@dfef.gov.za

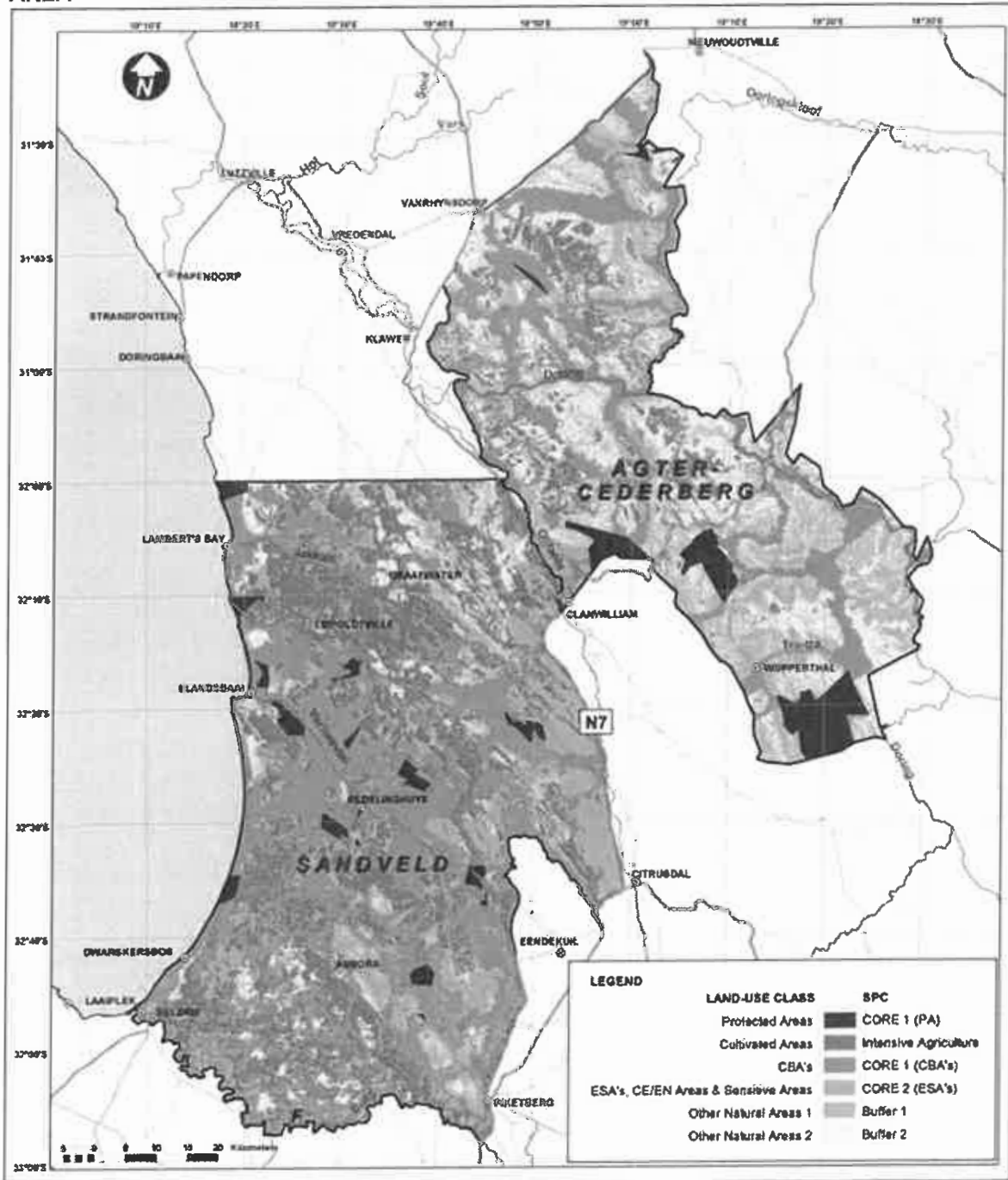
Any inquiries in connection with the notice can be directed to Dr Dee Fischer at dfischer@dfef.gov.za or (012) 399 8843. Comments or inputs received after the closing date may not be considered.

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment complies with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Comments received and responses thereto are collated into a comments and responses report which will be made available to the public as part of the consultation process. If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company/organisation, being made publicly available in the comments and responses report, such objection should be highlighted in bold as part of the comments submitted in response to this government notice.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

ANNEXURE 1: SANDVELD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK GEOGRAPHICAL AREA



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