



SHAMETU  
RIVER LODGE

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# REPORT:

## EMP FOR SHAMETU RIVER LODGE AND CAMPSITE

PROJECT NUMBER: ECC-144-484-REP-05-D

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## ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
<	Less than
>	Greater than
°C	degrees celsius
dB	decibels
ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
EIA	environmental impact assessment
EMP	environmental management plan
GPS	Global Positioning System
IFC	International Finance Corporation
Km/h	kilometre per hour
kVA	Kilo-volt-amperes
m	metre
m <sup>3</sup>	Cubic metre
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MSDS	material safety data sheet
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
Ltd.	Limited
PPE	personnel protective equipment
Pty	proprietary
OSH	occupational safety health
SHE	safety health and environment

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) has been contracted by Azalea Investments Five CC (trading as Shametu River Lodge) (herein referred to as 'the proponent') to develop a comprehensive environmental management plan (EMP) and apply for an environmental clearance certificate for the tourism-related activities at existing and operational Shametu River Lodge situated on townlands portion No. 1362 in the local authority area of Divundu, Kavango East Region, Namibia.

Shametu River Lodge has been fully built and is currently in operation. Its construction took place since the start of January 2015, culminating in the opening of the lodge to tourism in April 2015. Situated adjacent to the C48/D3403 district road situated on townlands portion No. 1362 in the local authority area of Divundu, Kavango East Region, Namibia. Shametu River Lodge is strategically positioned, next to the Okavango River near the Bwabwata National Park as depicted in Figure 1.

## 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SITE LAYOUT

The entire infrastructure for this project is situated within the boundaries situated on townlands portion No. 1362 in the local authority area of Divundu, encompassing an area of approximately 4.7 hectares.

The project site comprises several key components, including 2 swimming pools, a restaurant, bar, spa, 20 double rooms, 3 family rooms, 3 guide rooms, 4 management/owner houses, 1 self-catering house, 7 campsites, and 1 long-term rental house. Images of the lodge and descriptions can be seen in Table 1.

Additionally, an effective on-site septic tank and greywater system have been implemented with the following specifications:

- The septic tank is primarily constructed using brick, mortar, and concrete, featuring three compartments.
- The effluent from the last compartment is pumped into a soakaway designed for black water.
- The soakaway comprises rocks, tires, and sand, measuring 17 m x 3 m x 3 m in size.
- A distinct system manages grey water from the kitchen and laundry. The kitchen wastewater passes through a grease trap before entering a brick-and-mortar concrete tank with a single compartment.
- The greywater is then pumped into a separate soakaway, comparable in size and design to the one designated for black water.



In terms of guest capacity, this lodge can comfortably accommodate between 50 and 100 guests daily while employing around 60 staff members to operate efficiently.

The lodge receives its power from NORED and is equipped with two backup diesel generators. It relies on a daily water supply ranging from 6 m<sup>3</sup> to 10 m<sup>3</sup>, supplied by NamWater and pumped from the Okavango River.

The lodge also offers various recreational and leisure activities for guests.

**Table 1 - Table with images and descriptions of Shametu River Lodge and Campsite.**

	
<p>NamWater newly installed connection and meter.</p>	<p>Water tank for NamWater water.</p>
	
<p>Tank with tap for the community.</p>	<p>3-phase power supply for 2 x submersible pumps in the river.</p>





Luxury tented chalet.



6 x 10000 L tanks filled with water from the river.



200 kVA transformer from NORED.



2 x 100 kW backup diesel generator.



Boat dock.



Fat trap from the kitchen.





Greywater system.



Holding tank for a greywater system.



Septic tank with 3 x compartments.



Soak away, part of the sewage system.



Soak away, part of the grey water system.



Waste management drums.





Spa.



Spa waiting area.



Lodge deck.



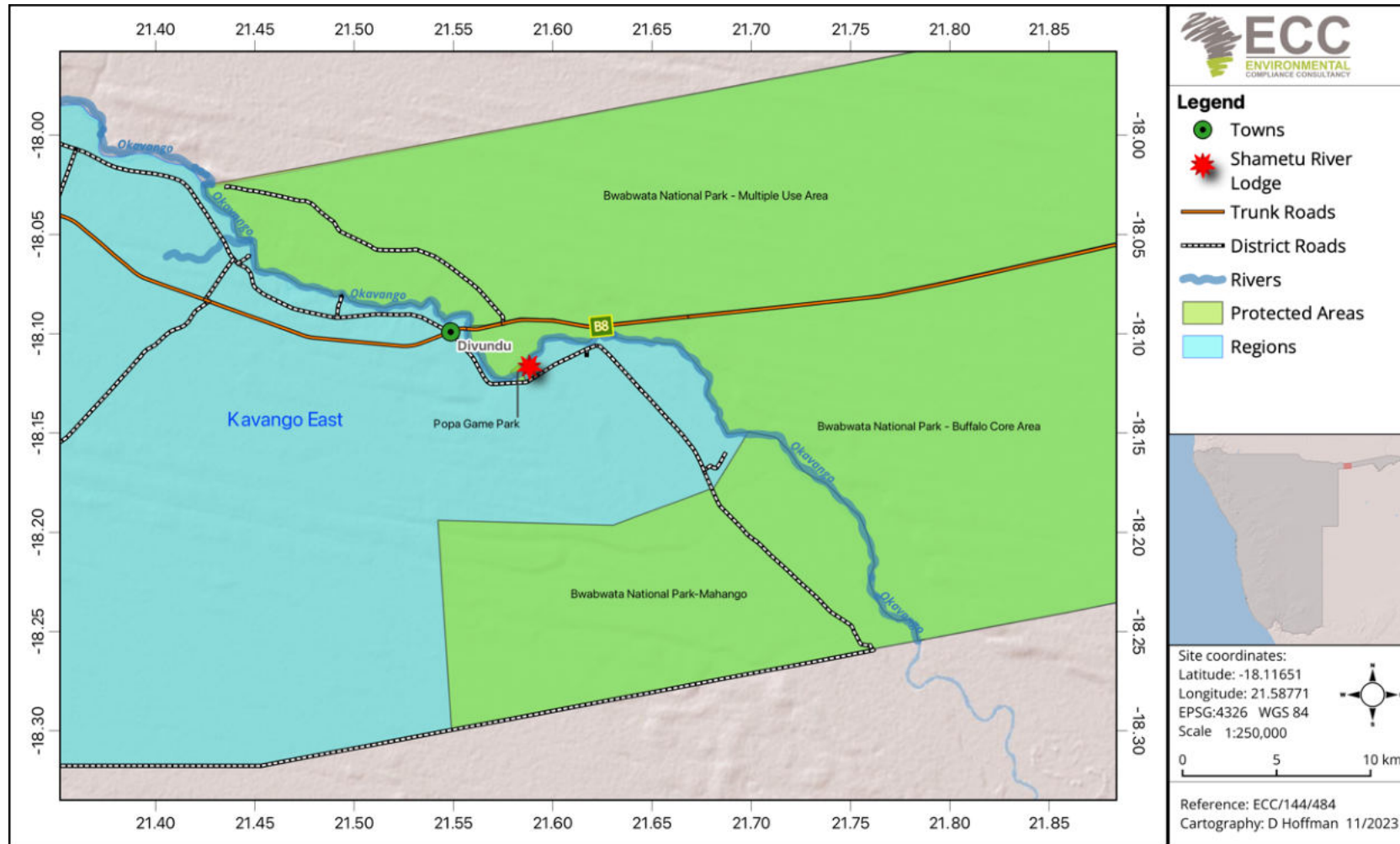
Main swimming pool.



Chalet.



Private Campsites.



**Figure 1 - Location of Shametu River Lodge**

### 1.3 BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION

This section provides an overview of the existing biophysical environment through the analysis of the available baseline data regarding the receiving environment.

Shametu River Lodge is in the Kavango East Region near Divundu as seen in Figure 1, nestled at an elevation of approximately 1018 meters above sea level. This region experiences an average annual rainfall ranging from 550 to 600 mm, with distinct climatic conditions characterized by hot summers and cool winters, with a mean annual temperature of  $> 22^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The maximum temperatures generally range between  $26^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $36^{\circ}\text{C}$ , while the minimum temperatures vary from  $9^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $23^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Notably, the hottest months occur between September and November, while the coolest months fall in June and July (Bubenzer, 2002 & meteoblue, 2023).

The site lies within the Okavango Valley vegetation type and is characterized by a dense shrubland structure, which is part of the broader Savanna biome. In terms of terrestrial diversity, this area exhibits some of the highest diversity within Namibia.

Geologically, this area is composed of the Kalahari Group and the dominant soil in the area is eutric Fluvisols (Buzenher, 2002).

The site's location places it within the Kavango groundwater basin and the Kavango catchment area (Bubenzer, 2002 & Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

### 1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The project triggers listed activities as stipulated in the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and its Regulations, promulgated in 2012. An environmental scoping report, environmental impact assessment (EIA) and environmental management plan (EMP) are required to be submitted as part of the application to support the decision-making process for issuing an environmental clearance certificate.

For this project, ECC proposes to only develop a comprehensive environmental management plan (EMP) for the following reason. Shametu River Lodge is situated in the Divundu townlands and is on a portion of land which is only 4.7 hectares in size. Small lodges by nature have limited environmental footprints and low potential for significant adverse impacts on their surroundings. Thus, subjecting them to a full environmental impact assessment (EIA) could be excessively resource-intensive, furthermore this is a pre-established lodge.

This report presents the EMP which has been undertaken in terms of the requirements of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 and its Regulations.



Legislation that should be adhered to or is relevant to the Project includes the following as mentioned in Table 2.

**Table 2 - Applicable laws, regulations and best practice methods**

National Regulatory Regime	Relevance To the Project
Constitution of the Republic of Namibia of 1990	Social protection
Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance 11 of 1976	Social and biophysical landscape protection
Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and its regulations, including the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, No. 30 of 2012	Environmental management
Soil Conservation Act, No. 76 of 1969 and the Soil Conservation Amendment Act, No. 38 of 1971	Biophysical protection
Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023): Water Resources Management Act, 2013.	Water source protection
The Forestry Act, No. 12 of 2001 as amended by the Forest Amendment Act, No. 13 of 2005	Vegetation protection
Nature Conservation Ordinance Act No. 4 of 1975 and its regulations.	Biodiversity protection
Labour Act, No. 11 of 2007 and regulations relating to the Health and Safety of Employees at Work (No. 156 of 1997)	Social protection
National Heritage Act, No. 27 of 2004.	Heritage protection
Namibia Tourism Board Act (No. 21 of 2000) and Regulations relating to Levy Payable by Accommodation Establishments Government Notice 137 of 2004	Regulatory board
Draft Pollution Control; and Waste Management Bill (1999)	Biophysical landscape protection
Hazardous Substances Ordinance Ordinance No. 14 of 1974	Biophysical landscape protection

## 1.5 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

The environmental management plan (EMP) provides a logical framework, mitigation measures and management strategies for the activities associated with the proposed project. In this way ensuring that the potential environmental impacts are curbed and minimised as far as practically possible and that statutory and other legal obligations are adhered to and fulfilled. Outlined in the EMP are the protocols, procedures and roles and responsibilities to ensure the management arrangements are effectively and appropriately implemented.

This EMP is a live document and shall be reviewed at predetermined intervals, and or updated when or if the scope of work alters, or when further data or information is added. All personnel working on the project will be legally required to comply with the requirements set out in the final EMP that is approved by the competent authorities and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

## 1.6 MANAGEMENT OF THIS EMP

The proponent will hold the environmental clearance certificate for the proposed project and will be responsible for the implementation and management of this EMP. The implementation and management of this EMP, and thus the monitoring of compliance, will be undertaken through daily duties and activities, as well as monthly inspections.

## 1.7 LIMITATIONS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND ASSUMPTIONS RELATED TO THIS EMP

This EMP does not include measures for compliance with statutory occupational health and safety requirements. This will be provided in the safety management plan to be developed by the proponent.

Where there is any conflict between the provisions of this EMP and any contractor's obligations under their respective contracts, including statutory requirements (such as licences, project approval conditions, permits, standards, guidelines, and relevant laws), the contract should be amended, and statutory requirements are to take precedence.

The information contained in this EMP is based on the project description as provided in this document. Where the design or operation method is different, this EMP may require updating and potential further assessment may be undertaken.

## 1.8 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

The report has been prepared by Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) (Reg. No. 2022/0593) on behalf of the Proponent. Authored by ECC employees with no material interest in the report's outcome, ECC maintains independence from the Proponent and has no financial interest in the project apart from fair remuneration for professional fees. Payment of fees is not contingent on the report's results or any government decision. ECC members or employees are not, and do not intend to be, employed by the Proponent, nor do they hold any shareholding in the project. Personal views expressed by the writer may not reflect ECC or its client's views. The environmental report's information is based on the best available data and professional judgment at the time of writing. However, please note that environmental conditions can change rapidly, and the accuracy, completeness, or currency of the information cannot be guaranteed.

All compliance and regulatory requirements regarding this report should be forwarded by email or posted to the following address:

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## 2 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

### 2.1 OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

Environmental objectives and targets have been developed so that lodge operations can minimise potential impacts on the environment, as far as reasonably practicable.

Environmental objectives for the project are as follows:

- Zero pollution incidents;
- Minimal impact on regional groundwater users;
- Protect local flora and fauna, and
- Use natural resources effectively and efficiently.

### 2.2 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Proponent shall be responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of the project team, including contractors, comply with the procedures set out in this EMP;
- Ensuring that all persons are provided with sufficient training, supervision, and instruction to fulfil this requirement;
- Ensuring that any persons allocated specific environmental responsibilities are notified of their appointment and confirm that their responsibilities are clearly understood; and
- Contractors shall be responsible for ensuring and demonstrating that all personnel employed by them are compliant with this EMP, and meet the responsibilities listed above.

Table 3 lists the roles and responsibilities allocated to different management levels in the company and specific personnel.

**Table 3 - Roles and responsibilities**

Role	Responsibilities And Duties
<b>General /Lodge Manager (Proponent)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsible for ensuring compliance with this EMP;</li> <li>- Ensuring employees understand and comply with the requirements of this EMP;</li> <li>- Ensuring that all personnel are provided with enough training, supervision and instructions to fulfil this requirement;</li> <li>- Ensuring compliance with this EMP including overseeing the day-to-day activities during operations, and routine and non-routine maintenance works during operations;</li> <li>- Ensure the environmental policy is communicated to all personnel;</li> </ul>



Role	Responsibilities And Duties
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsible for providing the required resources (including financial and technical) to complete any required tasks;</li> <li>- Responsible for the management, maintenance and revisions of this EMP;</li> <li>- Maintain community issues and concerns register and keep records of complaints and responses provided;</li> <li>- Maintain an up-to-date register(s) of employees who have completed the site induction;</li> <li>- Ensure that best environmental practice is undertaken throughout the operations of the facility;</li> <li>- Notifying the relevant authorities of serious environmental incidents promptly;</li> <li>- Being responsible for all management plans and environmental monitoring; and</li> <li>- Receiving, recording, and responding to environment-related complaints received from the public and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Foreman (Appointed HSE responsible person)</b></p>	<p>The lodge foreman will be responsible for the implementation of the EMP for the lodge. The foreman will be available as required throughout the operation of the lodge and is tasked with the following roles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bearing authority and independence to demand reasonable steps as required to avoid or minimise unintended or adverse environmental impacts, and failing the effectiveness of such steps, to direct that relevant construction/maintenance activities be ceased immediately should an adverse impact on the environment be likely to occur;</li> <li>- Complete weekly checklists and submit findings to the general/lodge manager;</li> <li>- Complete monthly EMP checklists and submit findings to the general/lodge manager;</li> <li>- Provisioning of environmental awareness/management training, capacity building and inductions;</li> <li>- Ensuring that best environmental practices are undertaken throughout the operations of the lodge;</li> <li>- Timely distribution of any relevant environmental documentation, including revisions to this EMP to all staff;</li> <li>- Ensuring site inductions are conducted throughout the different phases of the Project;</li> <li>- Reporting of any operations and conditions that deviate from the EMP or any non-compliant issues or accidents to the Proponent; and</li> </ul>

Role	Responsibilities And Duties
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsible for compliance with conditions as set out in this EMP.</li> </ul>
<b>Employees, contractors and visitors</b>	<p>Contractors hired for operations or maintenance activities at the lodge should comply with this EMP and shall be responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Undertaking activities in accordance with this EMP as well as relevant policies, procedures, management plans, statutory requirements and contract requirements;</li> <li>- Implementing appropriate environmental management measures;</li> <li>- Reporting environmental issues, including actual or potential environmental incidents and hazards to the Proponent or foreman; and</li> <li>- Ensuring appropriate corrective or remedial actions are taken to address all environmental hazards and incidents.</li> </ul>

### 2.3 EMPLOYMENT

The Proponent and all contractors shall comply with the requirements of the Republic of Namibia’s regulations for Labour, Health and Safety, and any amendments to these regulations. The following shall be complied with:

- In liaison with local government and community authorities, the Proponent shall ensure that local people have access to information about job opportunities and are considered first for construction/maintenance contract employment positions;
- The number of job opportunities shall be made known together with the associated skills and required qualifications;
- The maximum length of time the job is likely to last shall be indicated;
- Foreign workers with no proof of permanent legal residence shall not be hired;
- Every effort shall be made to recruit from the group of unemployed workers living in the surrounding area; and
- Every employee hired must be provided with a valid employment contract stating the position hired and the hourly remuneration offered.

### 3 COMMUNICATION AND TRAINING

To ensure potential risks and impacts are minimised, personnel must be appropriately informed and trained on how to properly implement the EMP. It is also important that regular communications are maintained with stakeholders (if applicable) and made aware of potential impacts and how to minimise or avoid them. This section sets out the framework for communication and training in relation to the EMP.

#### 3.1 COMMUNICATIONS

During any new construction or maintenance, the project manager and site manager shall communicate site-wide environmental issues to the project team through the following means (as and when required):

- Site induction;
- Audits and site inspections;
- Toolbox talks, including instruction on incident response procedure, and
- Briefings on key project-specific environmental issues, like feedback on complaints.

This EMP shall be distributed to the construction team including any contractors to ensure that the environmental requirements are adequately communicated. Key activities and environmentally sensitive operations will be highlighted to workers and contractors.

Communications between the management team shall include discussing any complaints received and actions to resolve them, - any inspections, audits, or non-conformance with this EMP, and any objectives or target achievements.

#### 3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY AND RESPONSE

An emergency is any abnormal event, which demands immediate attention. It is any unplanned event, which results in the temporary loss of management control at the site, but where functional resources can manage the response. An emergency response plan document will be put in place that manages the response in relation to emergencies including environmental emergencies. Table 4 contains a list of emergency contact numbers.

**Table 4 - Emergency contact details**

Town	Ambulance	Police	Hospital
Divundu	-	+264 66 259 432	+264 66 259 1333 (clinic)
Rundu	+264 (66) 25-5025	+264 (66) 1-0111	+264 (66) 25-5025

For large-scale spills (i.e., greater than 200 litres) and other significant environmental incidents, the fire service should be notified as required and MEFT office should be informed of the incidents (telephone +264 61 284 2111) as well as the Ministry of Mines and Energy

(MME) by completing form PP/11. All correspondence with MME/MEFT should be undertaken by the general manager as guided by the foreman.

### 3.3 COMPLAINTS HANDLING AND RECORDING

Any complaints received verbally by any personnel on the project site shall be recorded by the receiver including:

- The name of the complainant
- The contact details of the complainant
- Date and time of the complaint
- The nature of the complaint

The information shall be given to the project manager who is overall responsible for the management of complaints. The project manager shall do the following:

- Inform the site manager of issues, concerns, or complaints;
- Maintain a complaint register that required details of the complaint; and
- Provide a written response to the complainant of the results of the investigation and action to be taken to rectify or address the matter(s). Where no action is taken, the reasons why are to be recorded in the register.

The workforce shall be informed about the complaints register, its location and the person responsible, to refer residents or the public who wish to lodge a complaint. The complaints register shall be kept for the duration of the Project and will be available for government or public review upon request.

### 3.4 TRAINING AND AWARENESS

All personnel working on the project shall be competent to perform tasks that have the potential to cause an environmental impact. Competence is defined in terms of appropriate education, training, and experience.

### 3.5 SITE INDUCTION

All personnel involved in the project shall be inducted to the site with specific environmental and social awareness training, and health and safety issues. The environmental and social awareness training shall ensure that personnel are familiar with the principles of this EMP, the environmental impacts associated with their activities, the procedures in place to control these impacts and the consequences of departure from these procedures. The project manager shall ensure a register of completed training is maintained.

The site induction should include, but is not limited to the following:

A general site-specific induction that outlines:

- What is meant by “environment” and “social”;
- What are the environmental risks and impacts associated with lodge operations;



- How can any additional construction/maintenance activities impact the environment; and
- What can be done to mitigate against impacts.

The inductee's role and responsibilities concerning implementing the EMP:

- The site's environmental rules;
- Details of how to deal with, and who to contact should any environmental problems occur;
- The potential consequences of non-compliance with this EMP and relevant statutory requirements, and
- The role of responsible people working on the project.

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## 4 REPORTING, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

### 4.1 OPERATIONS: ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTIONS & COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Annual inspections of the different lodge operational areas will be undertaken by the general manager to determine any non-conformances. Any non-conformance will be recorded, including the following details: a brief description of non-conformance; the reason for the non-conformance; the responsible party; the result (consequence); the corrective action taken and any necessary follow-up measures required.

### 4.2 REPORTING

There will be a requirement to ensure that any incident or non-compliance, including any environmental issue, failure of equipment or accident, is reported to the lodge manager.

### 4.3 NON-COMPLIANCE

Where it has been identified that works are not compliant with this EMP, the general/lodge manager will implement corrective actions to the extent that the works return to being compliant as soon as possible. In instances where the requirements of the EMP are not upheld, a non-conformance and corrective action notice will be produced. The notice will be generated during the inspections and the project manager will be responsible for ensuring a corrective action plan is established and implemented to address the identified shortcoming.

Activities shall be stopped in the event of a non-compliant event identified until corrective actions have been completed.

### 4.4 INCIDENT REPORTING

The general manager must ensure that an accident and incident (including minor or near-miss) reporting system is maintained by the foreman so that all applicable statutory requirements are covered. For any serious incident involving a fatality, or permanent disability, the incident scene must be left untouched until witnessed by a representative of the police. This requirement does not preclude immediate first aid being administered and the location being made safe.

The foreman must investigate the cause of all work accidents and significant incidents and must provide the results of the investigation and recommendations on how to prevent a recurrence of such incidents. A formal root-cause investigation process should be followed.

#### 4.5 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

This EMP is a legally binding document and non-compliance with it shall result in disciplinary action being taken against the perpetrator(s). Such action may take the form of (but is not limited to):

- Fine/penalties;
- Legal action;
- Monetary penalties imposed by the Proponent on the contractor;
- Withdrawal of licence; and
- Suspension of work.

The disciplinary action shall be determined according to the nature and extent of the transgression / non-compliance, and penalties are to be weighed against the severity of the incident.

#### 4.6 RELEVANT PERMITS

The project should comply with the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 of 2023): Water Resources Management Act, 2013.

Shametu River Lodge does have a wastewater and effluent disposal exemption permit in place which expires on 30 June 2028 (permit No: 806).

Table 5 gives an overview of the permits that are or might be required for the Project.

**Table 5 - Permit requirements.**

Permit, Licences or Registration	Relevant Authority	Project Bearing
<b>Water abstraction permits</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform	An abstraction permit is required for the abstraction of water from a borehole for commercial purposes. Part 11 (Sections 44 - 45) of the Water Resources Management Act, 2013 and Part 5 (Sections 44 - 45) of the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023).
<b>Effluent discharge or Sewage Permits</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform	Permits related to the sewage systems or effluent discharge should be obtained. Part 13 (sections 68 - 72) of the Water Resources Management Act No.11 of 2013 and Part 8 (Sections 66 - 68) of the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023).

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## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT

### 5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

This chapter provides a summary register of environmental risks and issues which identifies mitigation and mitigation measures as well as responsible party(ies). This chapter is subject to regular review by the Proponent and will be updated when necessary.

The Proponent will use this register to undertake monthly inspections to ensure the Project is compliant with the EMP.

### 5.2 REGISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND ISSUES

An environmental review of the Project has been completed and from this, a schedule of environmental commitments and risks has been produced which details deliverables including measures identified for the prevention of pollution or damage to the environment during the project's lifetime (Table 6).

Table 6 provides a register of environmental risks and issues, which identifies mitigation and monitoring measures, as well as the responsible persons.



**Table 6 - Environmental risks and issues, mitigations and monitoring measures**

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
<b>Job creation, skills development and business opportunities</b>	Beneficial socio-economic impacts on a local and regional scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Maximise local employment and local business opportunities;</li> <li>– Enhance the use of local labour and local skills as far as reasonably possible; and</li> <li>– Ensure that goods and services are sourced from the local and regional economy as far as reasonably possible.</li> </ul>	Monthly, annually	Lodge Manager Foreman
<b>Air quality</b>	Dust generation during construction /future maintenance activities.	<p>To minimise the potential for dust generation, the following management measures should be implemented, as required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Restrict speed of vehicles (&lt;40 km/h);</li> <li>– Vehicles and machinery should be maintained to limit exhaust fume emissions;</li> <li>– Dust-generating activities should be avoided during strong wind events;</li> <li>– Where an effect is profound, ensure dust suppression measures are in place; and</li> <li>– Employees should use and wear appropriate PPE (e.g. dust masks).</li> </ul>	Daily	Lodge Manager Foreman Employees
<b>Noise</b>	Noise generation from maintenance or new	The Labour Act No.11 of 2007 and Regulations relating to the Health and Safety of Employees at Work (GN 156/177)	Daily	Lodge Manager Foreman

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
	<p>construction activities leading to noise nuisance and potential hearing loss towards site-based employees and disturbance to biodiversity.</p>	<p>should be followed for occupational noise exposure (Chapter 6, section 197, sub-section 1-3). These sections state that no employee shall work in an environment where noise levels equal or exceed 85 dB.</p> <p>The following mitigation measures should be implemented, as required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Proponent should develop a healthy and safety management plan that considers noise generation;</li> <li>– Restrict noise-generating activities to day- time operations;</li> <li>– Appropriate PPE should be worn during noise-generating activities (i.e., earplugs, earmuffs, ear protective equipment);</li> <li>– Vehicles on site should be maintained regularly to exhaust noise levels; and</li> <li>– Ensure noise complaints are recorded and responded to timeously.</li> </ul>		<p>Employees</p>
<p><b>Occupational health and safety</b></p>	<p>Occupational health and safety concerns during the operational phase and potential</p>	<p>To promote a safe and conducive working environment, the following mitigation measures should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A health and safety management plan should be developed and implemented on-site by the Proponent;</li> </ul>	<p>Daily</p>	<p>Foreman</p>

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
	<p>future construction or maintenance phases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Proponent does have an emergency evacuation plan map in order as seen in <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b>;</li> <li>– The Labour Act No.11 of 2007 and Regulations relating to occupational health and safety should be adhered to;</li> <li>– Appropriate PPE should be worn by employees (e.g., safety boots, overalls, and gloves).</li> <li>– Conduct safety induction for employees and employees should be trained on weapon handling;</li> <li>– Appropriate safety/warning signs should be erected in areas considered to cause a certain degree of harm;</li> <li>– Risk assessment in the workplace must be done to identify facility areas that could cause some degree of impact and suitable prevention measures should be identified;</li> <li>– Regular medical check-ups should be conducted on personnel to ascertain fitness for work levels (where required);</li> <li>– Frequent maintenance of all equipment and machinery;</li> <li>– Occupational incidents and accidents on-site should be reported to the authorities (i.e., Occupational Safety &amp; Health (OSH) at the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation, by using form F.5;</li> </ul>		

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emergency contact details should be readily accessible or on display to contact relevant services in emergency situations;</li> <li>- No un-authorized use of equipment should be allowed;</li> <li>- In the unlikely event of a death occurring within site boundaries from occupational negligence or otherwise from a "freak accident event", the area should be secured, and all personnel removed from the scene;</li> <li>- A root cause analysis of the event should be undertaken as soon as practicably possible; and</li> <li>- Counselling should be provided to the witnesses and other personnel member who may have been impacted by the event.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Fire risks management</b></p>	<p>Potential risk of fire occurrences and veld fire leading to ecosystem breakdown.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of a fire management system through the process of risk identification and assessment;</li> <li>- Identify and signpost dedicated assembly points at the lodge area;</li> <li>- Developing site-specific work procedures as part of the fire management system;</li> <li>- Induction on fire prevention and toolbox talks;</li> <li>- Control and reduce the potential risk of fire by segregating and safe storage of flammable materials;</li> </ul>	<p>Weekly, monthly and yearly.</p>	<p>All staff</p>

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Avoid potential sources of ignition for example, by prohibiting smoking in and around areas where chemicals/fuel is stored;</li> <li>- Ensure suitable fire-extinguishing equipment is accessed immediately and conveniently whenever necessary. This can include pails of water, buckets of sand, or portable extinguishers;</li> <li>- For veld fires, appropriate firefighting equipment should be available on-site;</li> <li>- Emergency contact details should be readily available on-site; and</li> <li>- Ensure key personnel are trained to manage an emergency fire situation.</li> </ul>		
<b>Biodiversity Conservation</b>	The possibility of encountering and interacting with biodiversity on-site.	<p>The Nature Conservation Ordinance Act No. 4 of 1975 and its Regulations, Controlled Wildlife Products and Trade Act 9 of 2008 and the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 should be closely followed with regard to any encounters with wildlife within site boundaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wildlife encountered should be ethically treated;</li> <li>- No living organism should be removed from site boundaries by anyone other than by a professional/registered animal handler, pest control company, MEFT/MAWLR or relevant rehabilitation or wildlife organisations;</li> </ul>	Daily, monthly and yearly.	Lodge Manager and Foreman



Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibit illegal hunting, consumption and possession of game and game products (i.e., illicit trade of pangolins for scales);</li> <li>- Police and MEFT should be notified of any illegal hunting incident involving sensitive or protected species or if such an animal is found on someone within or surrounding site boundary;</li> <li>- All staff should be informed in writing about the consequences with regards to rules that are broken (i.e., possession of a firearm, illegal hunting, stock theft and removal of protected species etc.);</li> <li>- Nests discovered on infrastructure within site boundaries should not be removed or destroyed;</li> <li>- Pesticides and herbicides should not be used as far as reasonably possible;</li> <li>- If there is no other possibility, the relevant pesticides/herbicides/chemicals should be used by a professional/registered pest control company and the MSDS of the substance used should be followed closely;</li> <li>- Invasive plant species should be removed, and their spread should be prevented; and</li> <li>- Waste on-site should be well managed and removed from the site to prevent rodents, snakes and scorpions from breeding/living on-site.</li> </ul>		

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
	<p>There might be the potential removal of protected plant species during land clearing activities (i.e., In the case of expansion, maintenance or additional construction)</p>	<p>To counteract the potential risk of removing certain protected plant species, the following control management measures should be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Prior to any new land clearing event, a site inspection should be conducted to determine the presence of any unique plant species;</li> <li>– Protected plant species should not be removed, without the relevant permission or permits;</li> <li>– Large trees or shrubs should not be removed (could be essential for breeding birds);</li> <li>– Identify rare, endangered, threatened and protected species;</li> <li>– Conduct toolbox talks and inductions, highlighting the importance of protected plant species;</li> <li>– Where possible, rescue and relocate plants of significance;</li> <li>– Promote revegetation of cleared areas upon completion of construction activities;</li> <li>– All project equipment arriving on-site from elsewhere should have an internal weed and seed inspection completed before such equipment is used, this will prevent the introduction of invasive species;</li> <li>– Ensure contractors receive induction on preventing the spread of alien weed; and</li> </ul>	<p>Daily, monthly</p>	<p>Lodge Manager Foreman</p>

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ensure the correct removal of alien invasive vegetation and prevent the establishment and spread of alien invasive plants.</li> </ul>		
<b>Heritage</b>	Potential heritage discovery	<p>In case of discovering or unearthing undiscovered heritage sites, the following measures (chance-find procedure) shall be applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Works to cease and the area to be demarcated with appropriate tape by staff, and the lodge manager to be informed; and</li> <li>– Archaeological/heritage artefacts/graves are to remain undisturbed until an investigation is conducted.</li> </ul>	Daily	All staff members
<b>Soil pollution control</b>	Emergency incidents/ accidental release of hazardous substances leading to soil contamination.	<p>The following measures should be taken into consideration regarding storage, handling and spill management of fuel, chemicals or hazardous substances:</p> <p><b>Storage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Hazardous chemicals should be stored separately from non-hazardous chemicals;</li> <li>– Chemical containers should be labelled correctly- clear guidance on the compatibility of different chemicals can be obtained from the Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) which should be readily available;</li> </ul>	Daily, monthly and yearly	All staff members

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Store chemicals in a dedicated, enclosed, and secure facility with a roof and a paved/concrete floor;</li> <li>- Diesel tanks should be completely contained within secondary containment such as bundings (if applicable);</li> <li>- Consider the feasibility of substituting hazardous chemicals with less hazardous alternatives; and</li> <li>- Fuels, lubricants, and chemicals are to be stored within appropriately sized, impermeable bunds or trays with a capacity not less than 110% of the total volume of products stored.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spills</b> Spill kits with the following items as a minimum should be made available on-site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Absorbent materials;</li> <li>- Shovels;</li> <li>- Heavy-duty plastic bags;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Protective clothing (e.g., gloves and overalls);</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Major servicing of equipment shall be undertaken offsite or within appropriately equipped workshops;</li> <li>- For small repairs and required maintenance activities, all reasonable precautions to avoid oil and fuel spills must be taken (e.g., spill trays, impervious sheets);</li> </ul>		

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provision of adequate and frequent training on spill management, spill response and refuelling must be provided to all onsite staff;</li> <li>– No refuelling is to take place within 50 m (meters) of groundwater boreholes, surface water bodies or streams;</li> <li>– Vehicles and machinery are to be regularly serviced to minimise oil and fuel leaks; and</li> <li>– Should there be major petroleum product spills on site, (spill of more than 200 litres per spill) such incidences should be reported to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) on Form PP/11 titled “Reporting of major petroleum product spill”.</li> </ul> <p><b>The following points apply to all areas on site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Assess the situation for potential hazards;</li> <li>– Do not come into contact with the spilt substance until it has been characterised and necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided; and</li> <li>– Isolate the area as required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spill management procedures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Spills are to be stopped at the source as soon as possible (e.g., close valve or upright drum);</li> </ul>		



Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spilt material is to be contained to the smallest area possible using a combination of absorbent material, earthen bunds or other containment methods;</li> <li>- Spilt material is to be recovered as soon as possible using appropriate equipment. In most cases, it will be necessary to excavate the underlying soils until clean soils are encountered;</li> <li>- -All contaminated materials recovered after a spill, including soils, absorbent pads and sawdust, are to be disposed of at an appropriately licenced facility; and</li> <li>- -A written incident report must be submitted to the lodge manager.</li> </ul>		
<b>Groundwater pollution control</b>	Possible nutrient enrichment of groundwater due to leakage of sewage into the groundwater or the Okavango River. Potential risk associated with the discharge of wastewater into the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure compliance with the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023); Water Resources Management Act, 2013;</li> <li>- Specifically, Part 13 (sections 68 - 72) of the Water Resources Management Act No.11 of 2013 and Part 8 (Sections 66 - 68) of the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 of 2023);</li> <li>- Effluent waste discharge permits should be in place and permit conditions should be adhered to (if required);</li> <li>- The sewage treatment system needs to be well inspected for leakages at all times;</li> </ul>	Daily and weekly	Lodge Manager Foreman Employees

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effluent water should be tested yearly or as required, to ensure that it complies with relevant legislation and standards;</li> <li>- Effluent should not be discharged into a sensitive habitat/ area (i.e., dam, river or stream);</li> <li>- If a major pipe burst or leak has been discovered in the sewage system groundwater needs to be monitored and tested to ensure that there is no contamination; and</li> <li>- The kitchen fat trap should be well maintained and cleaned monthly or more regularly as required;</li> </ul>		
<b>Groundwater management</b>	Potential Decrease in water availability due to the abstraction of water from the Okavango River.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure compliance with the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023): Water Resources Management Act, 2013;</li> <li>- Specifically, part 11 (Sections 44 - 45) of the Water Resources Management Act, 2013 and Part 5 (Sections 44 - 45) of the Water Resources Management Regulations (No. 269 Of 2023).</li> <li>- Abstraction permits should be in place;</li> <li>- Turn off pumps when abstraction is not required;</li> <li>- Adopt a water-wise mindset on site;</li> <li>- Water leakages or pipe bursts should be reported and fixed as soon as possible;</li> <li>- Should there be a desire for ornamental plants on site, drought-resistant species should be considered;</li> </ul>	Daily and weekly	Lodge Manager Foreman Employees

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Eco-friendly and low water use equipment should be considered i.e. eco-friendly showerheads and taps (where possible); and</li> <li>– Activities that require a lot of water should be monitored to ensure water is used efficiently.</li> </ul>		
<b>Waste management</b>	Possible sewage discharge runs the risk of pathogen /disease transmissions and odours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ensure toilets are always clean and dry;</li> <li>– Provide adequate sanitary facilities, including clean water, soap, disposable paper towels;</li> <li>– Provide suitable personal protective equipment that may include waterproof/abrasion-resistant gloves, footwear, eye, and respiratory protection;</li> <li>– The monitoring of wastewater discharges should be conducted regularly (if applicable).</li> </ul>	Daily	All staff members
	Environmental pollution (littering and poor storage of solid waste)	<p>Waste management should follow the International Finance Corporation (IFC) standards as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implement a waste management plan (from “cradle to grave” methodology) covering all aspects of waste generated on-site;</li> <li>– Training and toolbox talk about the importance of waste management;</li> <li>– Ensure a high standard of housekeeping across/within site boundaries;</li> </ul>	Daily and weekly	All staff member

Aspect	Potential impacts	Management/mitigation measures	Monitoring requirements	Responsibility
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solid waste shall be stored in an appointed area in covered, tip-proof metal drums/skips for collection and disposal at an approved waste management site;</li> <li>- The waste storage areas shall always be kept clean and tidy;</li> <li>- The proposed compost site should always be inspected regularly;</li> <li>- Ensure solid wastes on site are removed timeously to ward off unwanted scavengers; and</li> <li>- Implement the waste management hierarchy across the site: Avoid, reuse, recycle, and then dispose.</li> </ul>		

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## 6 DECOMMISSIONING PHASE

In the event that the proponent plans to cease with lodge operation (and/or if ownership is transferred), the proponent and the new owner should mutually agree on the way ahead for the site and associated infrastructure. If the new owner intends not to use the infrastructure, the proponent will be responsible for removing all equipment, machinery, chemicals, fuel and any other element from the site. If infrastructure is removed at the decommissioning stage, it is recommended that the proponent implement a rehabilitation plan for the site to ensure that the site is returned to its natural state as feasibly possible and that no further degradation to the site is foreseen.



## **7 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMP**

The operations of Shametu River Lodge will be carried out in compliance with the relevant regulations. Minor to moderately significant impacts are anticipated, hence management and mitigation measures are in place to eliminate or reduce the severity of potential impacts.

This environmental management plan:

- A. Has been prepared according to a contract with the proponent;
- B. Has been prepared based on information provided to ECC up to November 2023;
- C. Is for the sole use of the proponent, for the sole purpose of an EMP
- D. Must not be used (1) by any person other than the proponent or (2) for any purpose other than an EMP;
- E. Must not be copied without the prior written permission of ECC.

## 8 REFERENCES

Bubenzer, O. (2002). Project E1 - Atlas of Namibia. [online] Available at: [http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas\\_namibia/e1\\_download\\_physical\\_geography\\_e.htm](http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/e1_download_physical_geography_e.htm).


meteoblue. (n.d.). Simulated historical climate & weather data for Popavalle. [online] Available at:

[https://www.meteoblue.com/en/weather/historyclimate/climatemodelled/popavalle\\_namibia\\_876914](https://www.meteoblue.com/en/weather/historyclimate/climatemodelled/popavalle_namibia_876914) [Accessed 21 Nov. 2023].

Mendelsohn, J., Jarvis, A., Roberts, C., & Robertson, T. (2002). Atlas of Namibia. A portrait of the land and its people. Cape Town: David Philip Publishers.

## APPENDIX A – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTERS

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 91103 Klein Windhoek Namibia  
info@eccenvironmental.com  
www.eccenvironmental.com  
+264 81 669 7608



ECC-144-484-LET-04-D  
17 January 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

**NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE TOURISM-RELATED ACTIVITIES AT THE EXISTING AND OPERATIONAL SHAMETU RIVER LODGE.**

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been contracted by Azalea Investments Five CC (trading as Shametu River Lodge), the Proponent, to develop an environmental management plan (EMP) and submit an Environmental Clearance Certificate application to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) in terms of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007. This application is for the tourism-related activities at the existing and operational Shametu River Lodge situated in the local authority area of Divundu on portion No. 1362, Kavango East Region, Namibia.

This notification is intended to inform the neighbours and stakeholders about this Project. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us or register as an interested and affected party (I&APs) via the following link: <https://eccenvironmental.com/download/the-operations-of-the-existing-shametu-river-lodge-kavango-east-region-namibia/>

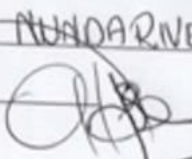
We kindly request neighbours and stakeholders to provide their contact information and sign this form to acknowledge receipt of this notification.

Owner or Lessee Name & surname: CAMERON Wilson

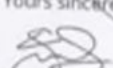
Farm Name & Number: NUNDA RIVER Lodge

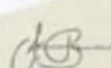
Cell phone number: 0811532800

Email address: NUNDA RIVER @iway.NA

Signature: 

Yours sincerely,

  
Stephan Bezuidenhout  
stephan@eccenvironmental.com

  
Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney  
jessica@eccenvironmental.com

no official stamp.

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd | Registration Number: 200221003

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PO Box 91103 Klein Windhoek Namibia  
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We kindly request neighbours and stakeholders to provide their contact information and sign this form to acknowledge receipt of this notification.

**Owner or Lessee Name & surname:** GIDEON DE WAAL

**Farm Name & Number:** RAINBOW RIVER LODGE

**Cell phone number:** +264 81 210 6678

**Email address:** RAINBOW@MWEB.COM.NA

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



Yours sincerely,



**Stephan Bezuidenhout**  
stephan@eccenvironmental.com



**Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney**  
jessica@eccenvironmental.com

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We kindly request neighbours and stakeholders to provide their contact information and sign this form to acknowledge receipt of this notification.

Owner or Lessee Name & surname: Karolina Shikesho

Farm Name & Number: Popa Falls NWK

Cell phone number: 081 297 3014

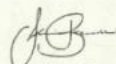
Email address: ksmkesho@nwr.com.na

Signature: K. Shikesho

Yours sincerely,



**Stephan Bezuidenhout**  
stephan@eccenvironmental.com



**Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney**  
jessica@eccenvironmental.com



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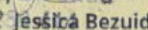
Owner or Lessee Name & surname: Shametu River Lodge  
Farm Name & Number: Townlands No. 1362, Divundu  
Cell phone number: 0811 451-526 / 081-2220042  
Email address: sthi.kusho@divundunc.com.na

Signature: 

Yours sincerely,

  
**Stephan Bezuidenhout**  
stephan@eccenvironmental.com

**DIVUNDU VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
23 JAN 2024  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
P.O. Box 5268, Divundu  
Tel: 066 - 23

  
**Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney**  
jessica@eccenvironmental.com

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd | Registration Number: 2022/0593

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We kindly request neighbours and stakeholders to provide their contact information and sign this form to acknowledge receipt of this notification.

Owner or Lessee Name & surname: Nel de Jager  
Farm Name & Number: Divava Okavango Resort & Spa.  
Cell phone number: +264 81 48 22217  
Email address: nel@divava.com  
Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Yours sincerely,

[Handwritten Signature]  
**Stephan Bezuidenhout**  
stephan@eccenvironmental.com

[Handwritten Signature]  
**Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney**  
jessica@eccenvironmental.com