APPENDIX III PROOF OF CONSULTATION

- A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT
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A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha South Traversing Concession

Proponent: Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd





Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Henriette Potgieter

September 2024

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Abbreviations

BID	Background Information Document
COC	Concession Operator Contract
DEA	Directorate Environmental Affairs
DWNP	Directorate Wildlife and National Parks
EC	Environmental Clearance
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
ENP	Etosha National Park
I&AP	Interested and/or Affected Party
JV	Joint Venture
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
OHT	Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (the Proponent)
THE CONCESSION	The Etosha South Traversing Concession + the Joint Venture
	Hai//om Concession = the !Gobaub Hai//om tourism activity
	and traversing concession

1 INTRODUCTION

Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (OHT) plans to develop and operate a 24-bed lodge and associated activities in the !Gobaub Hai//Om Tourism Activity and Traversing Concession.

1.1 Land use and ownership

The !Gobaub Hai//om Tourism Activity and Traversing Concession consists of two concession areas combined. It is defined in the Concession Operator Contract (COC) as follows:

i) The Etosha South Traversing Concession Area of approximately 632 m² is located in southeast Etosha National Park (ENP) (pink in Figure 1).

ii) The Joint Venture Traversing Concession Area (blue outline in Figure 1) is located on government land that encompasses farm Werda and farm Nuchas, collectively earmarked for tourism development facilities.

These two concession areas are jointly referred to as the !Gobaub Hai//om Tourism Activity and Traversing Concession, hereinafter called **the Concession**.

In line with Namibia's People and Parks policy, and reparations for the loss of their ancestral land the Etosha South Traversing Concession was given to the !Gobaub Hai//om Community Association in terms of a Head Concession Agreement in 2013, and a public tender for an operator took place in 2020.

OHT was appointed the preferred bidder and a COC was signed between the !Gobaub Hai//om Community Association as Concessionaire and OHT as the Operator. The contract has a duration of 25 years, after which the infrastructure and business will become the property of the community. The lodge and associated activities will be managed by a Joint Venture (JV) Management Committee consisting of representatives of OHT, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) and the !Gobaub Hai//om Community Association.

1.2 Purpose of this document

The Environmental Management Act, 2007, and its Regulations (January 2012) require listed activities to undergo an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) before starting the activity. Tourist accommodation is such a listed activity. An Application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Directorate Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

This Background Information Document (BID) provides an overview of the proposed infrastructure and activities of the project, explains the EIA process that will be followed in applying for EC, and invites comments and contributions from Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs). The BID also identifies key environmental issues associated with the lodge and its activities.

1.3 Public participation

Input from the public, relevant ministries, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), neighbours and other interested parties is sought during the EIA, and comments will be recorded, considered and addressed. You are invited to register as an I&AP, and to send your comments on the proposed lodge and associated activities in writing to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the project.

Henriette Potgieter Email: hoenspotgieter@gmail.com Deadline for submission of comments to be included in the EIA Scoping (including Impact Assessment) Report: 30 October 2024.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location

The location of The Concession east of Anderssons Gate in ENP is shown in

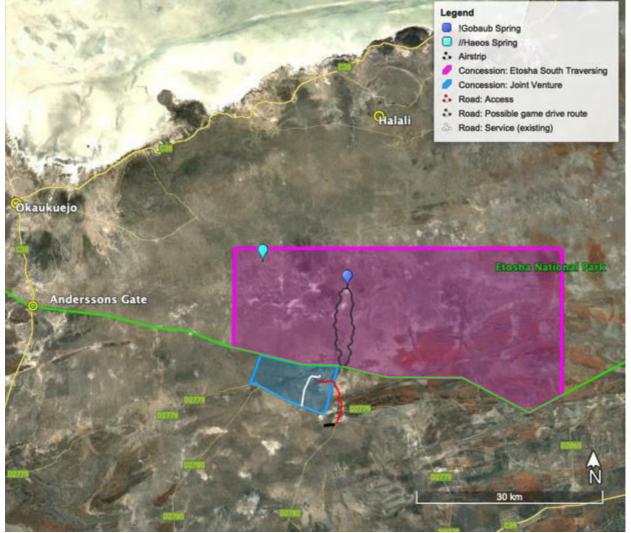


Figure 1.

The proponent has exclusive rights to enter ENP from a private gate on the northern border of farm Werda, exclusive access to the Etosha South Traversing Concession, and exclusive rights to construct and use a game viewing hide at !Gobaub spring, in accordance with the COC.

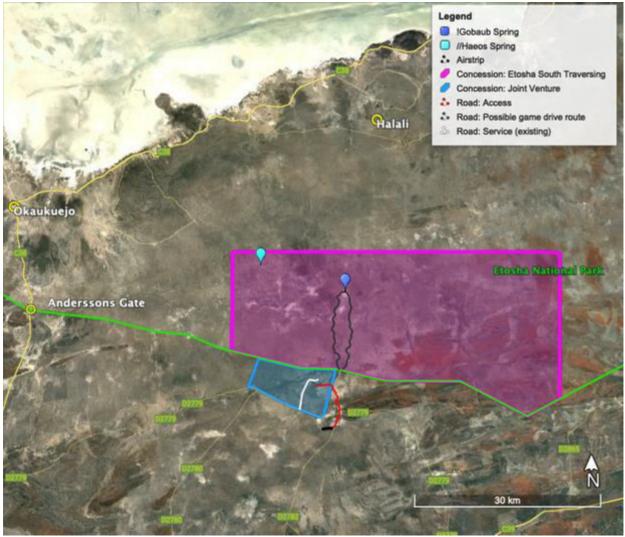


Figure 1. Location of the project.

The lodge will be built on farm Werda and its total footprint, including experience centre, staff village and support infrastructure, will be 13,400 m² (Figure 2).

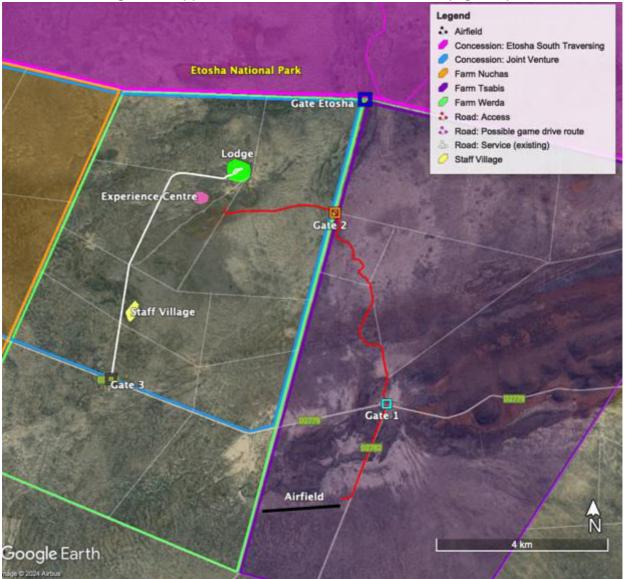


Figure 2. Layout of the project infrastructure on farm Werda.

The layout of the lodge main building, guest rooms, back of house and parking area is shown in Figure 3.

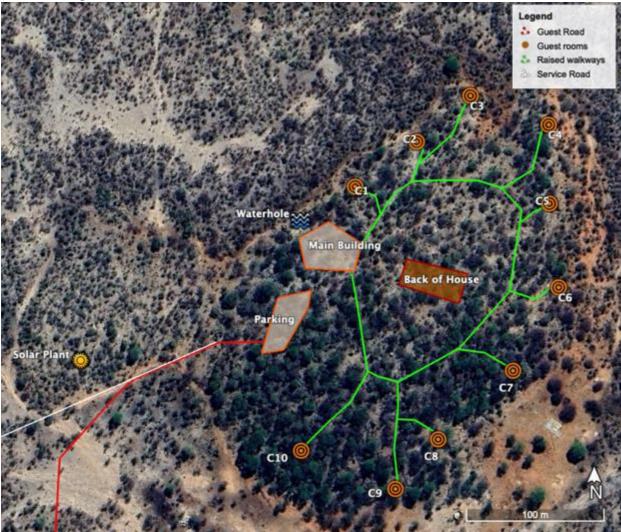


Figure 3. Layout of lodge infrastructure on a rocky outcrop.

2.2 Activities

The lodge will offer activities led by qualified, professional guides, including:

- Game drives in Etosha, including the Etosha South Traversing Concession (pink in Figure 1) to which the proponent has exclusive access.
- Game drives on Werda and Nuchas.
- Scenic helicopter flights over Werda and Nuchas.
- Cultural interaction. This activity may be developed in the future, and only with the willingness, approval and full cooperation of the Hai//om community.
- Spa treatments.

2.3 Infrastructure

The lodge, back of house, staff village, support services and other infrastructure will be built on farm Werda, as will a road and track network for service access and game drives (Figure 2). Access to the traversing concession and a game view road network to reach !Gobaub spring in ENP will be designed and constructed according to the COC and with the explicit permission of MEFT: DWNP. Brick and mortar will be used for the buildings, with concrete floors, composite decking, and steel roof structures. To maximise energy efficiency, additional insulation such as mineral wool, high-density expanded polystyrene and reflective foil will be used. Given the location on a dolomite hill, the main lodge and chalets will predominantly be built on raised steel structures, minimising their impact on the substrate. Raised walkways will connect the rooms, winding along the natural contours of the site. Wherever possible, competent labour will be sourced from the Hai//om Community and building materials will be sourced from Outjo and Tsumeb.

2.3.1 Main lodge area

- Arrivals space: reception, concierge area and guest washrooms.
- Main social area: indoor lounge, sitting, and dining areas, as wells as a bar, library, wine cellar and tasting room.
- Outdoor social area: pool with deck and storeroom, outdoor shower, lounge and dining areas, a sundowner fire pit and boma.

2.3.2 Guest experience centre

- A wellness centre with reception, 3 therapy rooms, a sauna, cold therapy room, gym and showers.
- Boutique & artisans corner, refreshment centre and lounge.
- Guides' area: storeroom and game drive prep kitchen.
- Guest interaction area: displays, curiosities and natural history information.
- Boardroom complex: 3 rooms for training, skills development and meetings.

2.3.3 Back of House

- Kitchen, scullery, walk-in fridge and freezer rooms, waiters' station connecting kitchen and dining area, offices.
- Storage rooms: food, beverages, linen, cleaning materials, housekeeping.
- Staff dining area, two staff washrooms.

2.3.4 Guest rooms

- 1-bedroom suites: 8 of 190 m²
- 2-bedroom suites: 2 of 420 m²
- En suite with shower, toilet, basins and bath. Each room will have an indoor sitting area, a veranda with plunge pool and an outdoor shower.

2.3.5 Pilot/guide rooms

- 6 of 36 m²
- En suite with shower, toilet and basin, and a veranda.

2.3.6 Staff accommodation

Staff accommodation near the lodge

- General manager: 1 house
- Supervisors: 2 houses
- Junior staff: 2 en suite rooms for on-duty staff

Staff village (yellow in Figure 2)

- Senior staff: 10 rooms, en suite and with kitchenette
- Junior staff: 60 rooms, en suite

- Trainees: 2 dormitories with 10 beds each and shared ablutions (male and female separate)
- Staff kitchen and dining area.
- Staff entertainment area, gym, swimming pool and a multi-sports synthetic turf field of 900 m².
- Staff rooms and facilities will have shade, hot water showers and electricity from a solar system.
- Sewerage: one biogas sewerage system.

2.3.7 Etosha National Park entrance

The exclusive entrance into Etosha National Park from farm Werda will feature three small offices and accommodation as specified by MEFT. Power will be supplied by solar energy and sewage will be managed with a biodigester system.

2.3.8 ENP activity concession

Developments in ENP will be constructed and managed strictly according to the provisions in the COC and with input and authorisation from MEFT.

A road network for game viewing will be developed by a specialist soil scientist, including a road to reach the closest public road in ENP and access to !Gobaub spring where the COC makes provision for a game viewing hide to be built. In view of the sensitivity of the site, mobile game viewing units (custom-built trailers) will be investigated as potential alternative to a fixed construction at the spring.

The impact of human movement and vehicles at !Gobaub will be assessed during the EIA, and the activities will be adjusted in time and space to ensure the minimum possible disturbance.

2.3.9 Access to the Hai//om Game Reserve

The Reserve boundaries will have electrified game-proof fences and will be accessible via 3 gates that will be controlled by the proponent. All guests, both driving and flying, will arrive at the airstrip from where they will be transferred to the lodge by the proponent.

Gate 3 (grey in Figure 2) will lead from road D2779 onto farm Werda to a service road that will be used for deliveries, staff movements between the lodge and staff village and maintenance.

Guests arriving from the airstrip will be taken to the lodge via road D2782 to Gate 1 (light blue in Figure 2) where they enter neighbouring farm Tsabis (an agreement has been reached with the farm owner) and from there via a proposed game viewing road access to the Hai//om Game Reserve is at Gate 2 (orange in Figure 2).

2.3.10 Airfield

- Located on neighbouring farm Tsabis in terms of an agreement with the owner.
- A runway of 1.3 km x 60 m with a turning pad on both sides and a helipad.
- Guest lounge, washrooms, shaded parking area for self-drive vehicles, car wash area and storeroom, 2 staff rooms, each with a toilet, basin and shower.
- Airfield structures total 250 m².

2.4 Services

2.4.1 Water supply and reticulation

Water for the lodge will be supplied from boreholes on farm Werda, fitted with submersible low-volume pumps that are powered by solar. Water will be abstracted from the boreholes to six 10,000 litre holding tanks from where it will flow via gravity to the lodge and water outlets.

2.4.2 Wastewater and sewage

A custom-made sewerage treatment plant will be installed at the lodge, another at the guest experience centre and one at the senior staff accommodation. The staff village will have a biogas plant, and the airstrip and ENP gate will each have a biodigester system.

2.4.3 Solid waste

Solid waste will be collected at fixed points at the lodge, guest experience centre, airfield and ENP gate and taken to a sorting and temporary storage depot at the staff village, where there will be an incinerator to burn a minimum amount of packaging material. Organic waste will be donated to surrounding farms as livestock feed. Recyclable waste will be separated at source and transported to a recycling facility in Windhoek.

2.4.4 Energy

- Complete off-grid energy supply.
- Five photovoltaic systems located at the lodge, guest experience centre, staff village, airfield and ENP gate.
- The lodge, guest experience centre and staff village will have a generator each to be used for back-up only.
- The staff village will have a biogas system for cooking and geysers.

2.4.5 Workshop

- A workshop for vehicle and general maintenance, located near the staff village.
- Workshop, storerooms, offices.
- Vehicles will be serviced on site by a visiting mechanic and when major repairs are needed, they will be taken to professional service centres in Outjo or Tsumeb. No major mechanical repairs will be done on site.
- Any used oils will be collected in sealed containers and disposed off-site

2.4.6 Laundry

The laundry and 5 storerooms will be in the workshop complex.

2.4.7 Fuel storage and dispensing

- Located at the staff village, fuel will be stored in above-ground tanks with a combined total capacity of 20,000 liters on an impermeable, bunded concrete floor.
- Refuelling will be done in a fuelling area with an impermeable, bunded concrete floor.

2.4.8 Roads and tracks

Game drive routes will be planned, designed and constructed in cooperation with MEFT: DWNP. The routes will be based on the outcome of the EIA and are dependent on soil, topographical, hydrological, archaeological and vegetation analyses. The road/track network and a game drive protocol will be developed by a soil scientist who specialises in preventing and/or minimising impacts caused by game viewing practices.

Annual road maintenance will be done by professional contractors. Erosion prevention and ad hoc maintenance will be done by hand by the project's maintenance team.

The project will have the following vehicles on site:

- 12 game viewing vehicles
- 3 maintenance and goods transfer vehicles
- 2 Land Cruisers for conservation work and patyrols
- 1 vehicle for staff transfers

3 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Potential environmental and socio-economic impacts that may result from the construction and operation of the lodge and its activities, taking the sensitivities of the area into account, are listed here. These aspects and further potential impacts identified during the EIA process will be assessed. Prevention, management and mitigation measures will be included in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to ensure the potential negative impacts are avoided or minimised, and potential positive impacts are enhanced if possible.

3.1 Potential positive impacts

- The Hai//om community, one of Namibia's three Highly Marginalized Communities, has long been disenfranchised. The Government of Namibia has prioritised this project and provided reparations in the form of resettlement farms close to their sacred Etosha waterhole, !Gobaub.
- The !Gobaub Hai//om Association will be the major beneficiary of this project, receiving 75% of the concession fees plus 8% profit share. Optimising the benefits they derive from the project will be addressed in the EIA. At the 25-year termination of the COC all the assets and the entire equity of the going concern will be transferred to the Hai//om community.
- Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI), including the Hai//om !Gobaub Association and the Hai//om Traditional Authority, have been granted one-third of OHT's equity.
- Employment opportunities: vacant positions will be offered to the communities surrounding the concession first, and only if no suitable candidate is found will the position be made available to other Namibians. All builders, contractors and employees will undergo security screening.
- Training raises the education level in the Hai//om community and may lead to opportunities for employment anywhere in Namibia.
- The Hai//om Reserve creates a buffer zone for southeast ENP, resulting in addional security through constant presence, anti-poaching patrols, CCTV monitoring and access control.

• Rehabilitation of Werda and Nuchas will aim to reverse negative impacts of previous land use and restore the integrity of ecosystems.

3.2 Potential negative impacts

Key potential negative impacts that will be assessed as part of the EIA include the following:

- Construction related impacts, including disturbance and destruction of plants, habitats and animals; noise, dust and visual pollution; destruction of archaeological sites and landscapes; impacts relating to contractors' staff living on site.
- Disturbance of animals in their daily movements and foraging caused by game drives, airstrip use, service vehicles and general human activities.
- Impacts to the Black Rhino population, including disturbance at !Gobaub during their prime drinking times and the general security of rhinos.
- Groundwater impacts include contamination from sewerage and hydrocarbon spillage, and a lowering of the water level due to abstracting from boreholes.
- Surface water: drainage patterns are altered by infrastructure and roads, causing erosion. Potential surface water contamination from hydrocarbon spillage, sewage and waste.
- Large amounts of solid waste are generated, leading to pollution, environmental degradation, visual impacts and biodiversity impacts.
- Off-road driving causes permanent damage to soils, leading to erosion and damage to vegetation.

4 THE EIA PROCESS

- 1. Registration of the project at MEFT: the office of the Environmental Commissioner.
- 2. Public consultation round 1: identify key stakeholders and share information with them via email, this BID, newspaper advertisements and site notices. Hold a public meeting and receive comments from I&APs. Comments are recorded in an Issues & Response Register.
- 3. Baseline description of the receiving environment, using specialist input on aspects such as socio-economical, archaeology, biodiversity, hydrology and soil.
- 4. Impact assessment and compilation of a draft EIA Scoping Report (including Impact Assessment). The development of management and mitigation measures and monitoring requirements in a draft EMP.
- 5. Public consultation round 2: The draft EMP, draft Scoping Report (including Impact Assessment) and Issues & Response Register are shared with I&APs for review and comments.
- 6. The documents are finalised and submitted to MEFT.
- 7. Review and decision by MEFT.

B. REGISTER OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION/DEPARTMENT	
Pre-identified I&APs notified via email with BID attached on 7 Oct 2024			
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM			
Mr Theofilus Ngithila	Executive Director	MEFT	
Mr Timoteus Mufeti	Environmental Commissioner	MEFT	
Mr Sebulon C. Chikalu	Director	Directorate Tourism and Gambling	
Mr Bennett Kahuure	Director	Directorate Wildlife and National Parks	
Mr Piet Beytell	National Rhino Coordinator	Directorate Wildlife and National Parks	
Mr Vitalis Mushongo	Chief Warden	Directorate Scientific Services: Concessions Unit	
Mrs Josephine Naambo lipinge	Deputy Director	Etosha National Park	
Mr Evaristo Nghilai	Control Warden	Etosha National Park	
Me Esther Ndapanda Nghipunya	Warden	Etosha National Park	
Mr Nahor Howoseb	Game Ranger Okaukuejo	Etosha National Park	
Mrs Taimi Dawid	Assistant Game Ranger	Etosha National Park	
Kaagwana Ambambi	Warden	CBNRM Kunene South	
Eliaser Naftali	Chief Warden	CBNRM Kunene Region	
Mr Andre Burger	Control Warden	Kunene Region	
Mr Christopher Munwela	Deputy Director	Northwest Region	
MINISTRY OF GENDER EQU	JALITY, POVERTY ERADICATIO	ON AND SOCIAL WELFARE	
Mr Nichlas Mbingeneeko	Acting Executive Director	MGEPESW	
Niitaa Ipinge	Director	MGEPESW	
Ms Rebekka Namwandi	Deputy Director	MGEPESW	
Mr Gerhard Auibeb	Regional Development Planner	MGEPESW	
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTUR	RE, WATER AND LAND REFORM	Л	
Ms Ndiyakupi Nghituwamata	Executive Director	MAWLR	
PA to the ED		MAWLR	
NAMIBIA TOURISM BOARD			
Ms Charmaine Matheus	Acting Chief Executive Officer	NTB	
Ms Sandra Shoopala	Secretary to the CEO	NTB	
NATIONAL HERITAGE COUNCIL			
Ms Lucia Namushinga	Administration officer	Heritage Management	
Ms Leni Engelbrecht	Archaeologist	Heritage Management	
KUNENE REGIONAL COUNCIL			
Hon Marius Sheya	Governor	Kunene Regional Council	
Mr Johannes Antsino	Outjo Constituency	Councillor	
HAI//OM-SAN TRADITIONAL	AUTHORITY. Notice & BID hand	d-delivered on 24 Sept 2024	
Chief Alfred //Khamuxab	Hai//om Chief		
John Haneb	Snr Councillor		

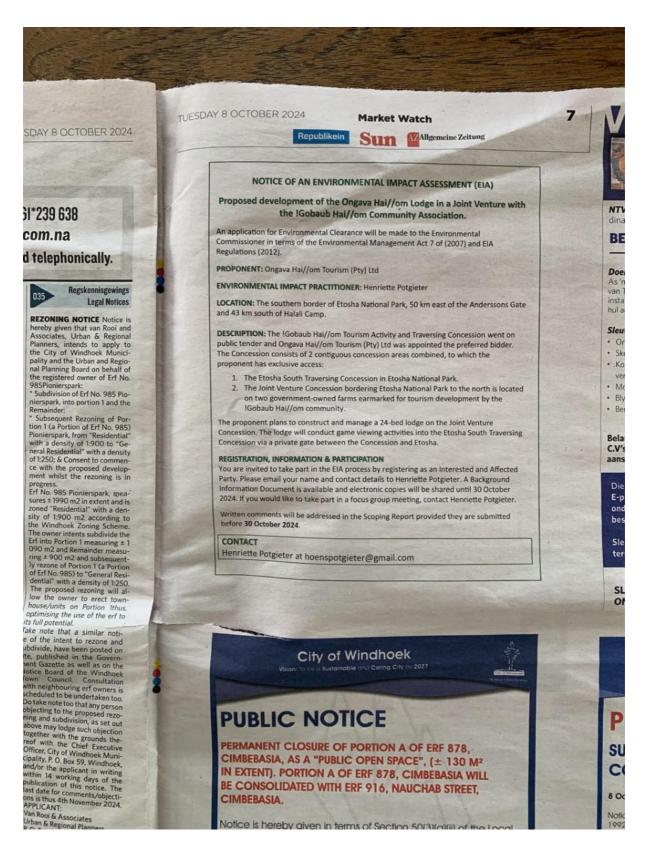
NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION/DEPARTMENT
Ludwiga Lambert	Secretary	
Petro Gamgaebeb	Snr Councillor	
Albert Aib	Snr Councillor	
Betrine Hanes	Snr Councillor	
Maria Guises	Snr Councillor	
Monica Horases	Snr Councillor	
Andreas Khaiseb	Snr Councillor	
Johannes Horaseb	Councillor	
Gerson Neibeb	Councillor	
Jerry Ameb	Councillor	
Petrus Komob	Councillor	
Theresia Ames	Councillor	
Bernadus Hanichab	Councillor	
Jakobus //Khamuxab	Councillor	
IGOBAUB HAI//OM COMMU	NITY ASSOCIATION	
Mr (Bon) Placidus G Nu-Eiseb	Chairperson	
Me Venessa Tsams	Secretary	
Mr Lukas Nanseb	Vice Chairperson	
Mr Metty G Thaniseb	Treasurer	
·	hand-delivered on 24 Sept 202	4
Me Sylvia Uises	Farm Representative	Farm Seringkop
Mr Througott Gamibeb	Farm Representative	Farm Nuchas
Mr Petrus Gam Gaebeb	Headman	Farm Werda
Mr Reinhardt Garab	Farm Representative	Farm Werda
Me Helga Kauses	Farm Representative	Farm Toevlug
Me Florensia Kamabes	Farm Representative	Farm Belallaika
Me Helga Kauses	Acting Farm Representative	Farm Mooiplaas
Mr Morné du Toit	Owner	Farm Sondernaam No. 467
Mr Pierre du Preez	Chief Operating Officer	African Wildlife Conservation Management (AWCT)
Mr Carl-Heinz Möller	Farm Manager	AWCT
NGOs		
Mr John Kasaona	Executive Director	IRDNC
Reception	Windhoek office	IRDNC
Ms Basilia Shivute	Operations Manager	IRDNC
Dr Juliane Zeidler	Country Director	WWF
Ms Martha Naanda	Director: CBNRM Governance and responsible stewardship	WWF
Ms Ginger Mauney	Public Relations	WWF
Mr Angus Middleton	Executive Director	Namibia Nature Foundation
Ms Steph Fennessy	Managing Director	Giraffe Conservation Foundation
Ms Maxi Louis	Director	NACSO

NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION/DEPARTMENT
Dr Chris Brown	CEO	NCE
Mr Ndelimona lipinge	EIA Tracker	NEWS
Mr Amos Shiyuka	Chairman	SRT
Mr Simson Uri//Khob	CEO	SRT
Mr Andrew Malherbe	СОО	SRT
Dr Rolf Becker	Executive Chairman	Ongava Research Centre
CLIENT		
Mr Derek Moore	Director	Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd
Mr Rob Moffett	Employee	Ongava Game Reserve (Pty) Ltd
Mr Rob Moffett	Trustee	AWCT
Registered I&APs. Scoping re	port & EMP emailed on 31 March	2025 מ
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMEN	IT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM	
Mr Theofilus Ngithila	Executive Director	
Mr Timoteus Mufeti	Environmental Commissioner	
Mr Bennett Kahuure	Director	Directorate Wildlife and National Parks
Mr Piet Beytell	National Rhino Coordinator	Directorate Wildlife and National Parks
Mr Vitalis Mushongo	Chief Warden	Directorate Scientific Services: Concessions Unit
Mrs Josephine Naambo lipinge	Deputy Director	Etosha National Park
MINISTRY OF GENDER EQU	JALITY, POVERTY ERADICATIO	ON AND SOCIAL WELFARE
Mr Nichlas Mbingeneeko	Acting Executive Director	MGEPESW
Niitaa Ipinge	Director	MGEPESW
Ms Rebekka Namwandi	Deputy Director	MGEPESW
Mr Gerhard Auibeb	Regional Development Planner	MGEPESW
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTUR	E, WATER AND LAND REFORM	1
Ms Ndiyakupi Nghituwamata	Executive Director	MAWLR
Dr Susan Simasiku	Outjo State Veterinarian	MAWLR
NATIONAL HERITAGE COU	NCIL	
Ms Lenishwa	Archaeology	Heritage Management
KUNENE REGIONAL COUN	CIL	
Hon Marius Sheya	Governor	Kunene Regional Council
Mr Johannes Antsino	Outjo Constituency	Councillor
TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY: Hai//om-San Traditional Authority		
Chief Alfred //Khamuxab	Hai//om Chief	
John Haneb	Snr Councillor	
IGOBAUB HAI//OM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION		
Mr (Bon) Placidus G Nu-Eiseb	Chairperson	Mooiplaas
Me Venessa Tsams	Secretary	Toevlug
NEIGHBOURS		

NAME	POSITION	ORGANISATION/DEPARTMENT
Mr Pierre du Preez	Chief Operating Officer	AWCT
Mr Carl-Heinz Möller	Farm Manager	AWCT
Mr Rob Moffett	Trustee	AWCT
Mr Amos Shiyuka	Shareholder	Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd
NGOs		
Ms Steph Fennessy	Managing Director	Giraffe Conservation Foundation
Mr Ndelimona lipinge	EIA Tracker	NEWS
Dr Rolf Becker	Executive Chairman	Ongava Research Centre
Mr Simson Uri//Khob	CEO	Save the Rhino Trust

C. NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

8 October 2024



15 October 2024



D. SITE NOTICE









E. NOTICE OF BID

Hand delivery to Traditional authority and !Gobaub Hai//om Tourism Association on 28 September 2024 at the occasion of their Annual General Meeting.

28 September 2024 Bock gaird information documents Actnowledgement Mr 1M5 Gerhand Aubeb II acknowledge, that I received documents from the investors on the 28. September 2024 ot form date of Nucheef Signature Date: 28.09.2024 Dott: 28.09,2024 Witness 2024 -09- 2 PO Box 63

28 September 2024 Back ground information document Actorelladgement I Mr/Ms ludwigg lambert adaption when I received documents from the intestors on the doke of 25/09/2024 at farm Nurses Date: 28/09/24 Signature Uart el-TA Secretary) Date: 28/00 Witness 2024 -09- 2 8 PO Box 631

28 September 2024 Back ground information document Actorelladgement I Mr/Ms ludwigg lambert adaption when I received documents from the intestors on the doke of 25/09/2024 at farm Nurses Date: 28/09/24 Signature Uart el-TA Secretary) Date: 28/00 Witness 2024 -09- 2 8 PO Box 631

28 September 2024 Bade ground information document Adrowledgement 1. I Mr/MSP. Nurited (chairperspectronulaction, that I received documents from the investors on the date of at Signature Date: 28-09-2024 Date: 28.09.2024 Witness moisis 2024 -09- 2 8

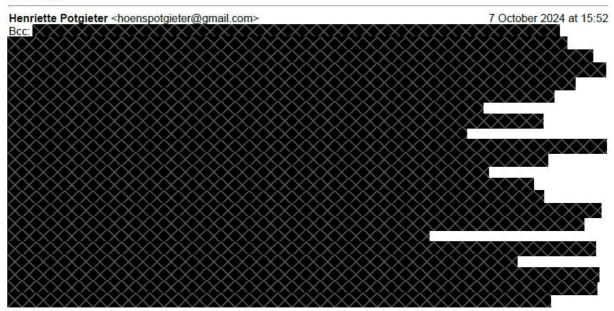
Background information 28 September 2024 Document Acknowledgement · I Mr/Ms Vervices M.C. TEams actionshedge that I received documents from the investors on the date of 28 September 2024 all Nuchas Association (Secretary) Signature Dabe _ 28-09-204 Witheas D Date 28-09-2024 THIOM 2024 -09- 2 8 PO Dox 63



Henriette Potgieter <hoenspotgieter@gmail.com>

Notice of an Environmental Impact Assessment: Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha Traversing rights

1 message



Dear stakeholder

Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (the proponent) intends to construct and manage a lodge and operate game drives into Etosha National Park in a Joint Venture with the Hai//om Community Association. You have been identified as a potential Interested and/or Affected Party for this project and a Background Information Document is attached here for your perusal.

The Environmental Management Act (7 of 2007) (EMA) and its EIA Regulations (2012) require an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for tourism and hospitality facilities. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be conducted by Henriette Potgieter (an independent environmental consultant) that will include public consultation and information sharing with stakeholders. To fulfil the requirements of the EMA and its regulations, an application for ECC will be made to the Environmental Commissioner by submitting a screening report (with impact assessment) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Should you have comments or concerns that you would like to be addressed in the screening report and EMP, please submit them to me in writing by 30 October 2024.

Kind regards,

Henriette Potgieter Environmental Assessment Practitioner Email hoenspotgieter@gmail.com Cell +264 81 312-1606

BID_Ongava_Haikom.pdf 496K



Henriette Potgieter <hoenspotgieter@gmail.com>

RE: Notice of an Environmental Impact Assessment: Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha Traversing rights

1 message

Morne <morne@apexnam.com> To: Henriette Potgieter <hoenspotgieter@gmail.com> 5 November 2024 at 10:54

More

Het alles mooi gelees. Alles lyk reg. ek dink nie ek het enige iets nie.

Kind Regards Morne du Toit 067/303796 0812553232



From: Henriette Potgieter [mailto:hoenspotgieter@gmail.com] Sent: 05 November 2024 10:11 AM To: Morne Subject: Re: Notice of an Environmental Impact Assessment: Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha Traversing rights

Goeiemôre Morne

Is jou vrae en kommentaar amper gereed om te bespreek?

Epos is goed sodat alles op skrif is, maar as 'n oproep jou dalk beter sal pas, kan ons gesels.

Groete,

Henriette Potgieter Environmental Assessment Practitioner Cell +264 81 312-1606

On Thu, 31 Oct 2024 at 14:53, Morne <morne@apexnam.com> wrote:

Middag Henriette

Baie dankie. As jy my net so dag of twee kans gee het ek so paar vrae vir jou as dit reg is.

Kind Regards Morne du Toit 067/303796 0812553232



From: Henriette Potgieter [mailto:hoenspotgieter@gmail.com]
Sent: 31 October 2024 01:54 PM
To: morne@apexnam.com
Subject: Notice of an Environmental Impact Assessment: Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha Traversing rights

Hello Mr Du Toit

The email below and attachment were sent to stakeholders on 7 October but I had the wrong telephone number for you and could not find your email address. Ignore the 30 October deadline and feel free to contact me if in writing you have any comments or questions, or if you would like to attend a focus group meeting.

Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (the proponent) intends to construct and manage a lodge and operate game drives into Etosha National Park in a Joint Venture with the Hai//om Community Association. You have been identified as a potential Interested and/or Affected Party for this project and a Background Information Document is attached here for your perusal.

The Environmental Management Act (7 of 2007) (EMA) and its EIA Regulations (2012) require an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for tourism and hospitality facilities. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be conducted by Henriette Potgieter (an independent environmental consultant) that will include public consultation and information sharing with stakeholders. To fulfil the requirements of the EMA and its regulations, an application for ECC will be made to the Environmental Commissioner by submitting a screening report (with impact assessment) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Should you have comments or concerns that you would like to be addressed in the screening report and EMP, please submit them to me in writing by 30 October 2024.

Kind regards,

Henriette Potgieter

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Email hoenspotgieter@gmail.com

Cell +264 81 312-1606

F. COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Comment & Response Register

COMMENT	RESPONSE
Etosha National Park (ENP) focus group: senior management, Okau	kuejo, 25-11-7
OHT may upgrade or rebuild the existing hide, but ENP needs	Agree
access for research and game counts.	
Ablution facilities for guests and ENP staff	Agree
No CCTV camera that links to the lodge where guests can watch	Agree
activity at the spring is allowed.	
No off-road driving will be allowed for any reason	Agree. Every OHT vehicle that enters the Park
	will be fitted with a satellite tracker. Tracker data
	for ENP movements will be made available to
	ENP on request
22h00 exit from the Park is not allowed, sunrise-sunset rules must	Agree
be followed.	
ENP advises that OHT should maintain and electrify the fence if	OHT commits to maintaining the fence because
they want to keep lions out.	their walking activities on the Joint Venture
	Concession are dependent on an absence of
	large predators
Consider a shop selling essential items to the community	It is on the agenda of the JMC
ENP do management burns, and bushfires are a potential danger	Communication between ENP and the lodge is
to tourist activities. ENP will notify OHT in advance of any planned	essential, and a solid working relationship
burns	
MEFT focus group: Dir Wildlife & National Parks, and Dir Scientific S	Fervices Windhoek 24-11-15
Rhino security is strategic and confidential. OHT and the Rhino	Agree
	Agree
Coordinator will draw up a confidential protocol for cooperation	
between the lodge and the ENP security clusters in the !Gobaub	
area.	The Construction was activable to a second of the second sec
Deviations from the current contractual allowance in the HCC and	The Scoping report will be amended to reflect
COC can be done only after re-negotiating these two contracts, i.e.	only one road (from Werda to !Goabub). No
no additional roads and no construction except game viewing	structures will be erected at the spring except a
hide.	game viewing hide with ablution facilities
Hai//om community information meeting, 25-1-30	
Graves are damaged by cattle and wildlife. Request that	No graves will be disturbed during construction
cemeteries be fenced.	or operations, and cemeteries on the JV
	concession will be fenced provided they are
	shown to the proponent before construction
	starts. Mr Bon Nu-Eiseb undertakes to go on a
	grave-finding mission with the elders who know
	where the graves are, and to communicate their
	locations to the proponent
Most people in the community do not have any schooling, how	The Association is talking to sponsors to send
can they be employed?	community members on hospitality training
	courses.
	OHT is committed to on the job training that will
	grow employees from unskilled (e.g. scullery,
	gardener) to semi-skilled (e.g. waiter,
	housekeeper) and skilled (e.g. guide,
	administrator) levels.
Will contractors from the community be considered for	There is no local contractor with the capacity to
construction work?	handle a project of this scope, but sub-
	contractors and unskilled labour will be sourced
	from the community.
Expand the lodge to !Gobaub and build rooms there to show that	The HCC and COC do not allow building at
Expand the lodge to !Gobaub and build rooms there to show that we have ownership of Etosha	The HCC and COC do not allow building at !Gobaub other than a game viewing hide.

COMMENT	RESPONSE
The Outjo office is responsible for maintenance of the veterinary	Agree
cordon fence and it is vital that we are kept informed. Direct all	
correspondence to the Executive Director and we will be briefed	
by her office.	

Response register for comments from the Deputy Director: Etosha National Park, Ms Naambo lipinge

Table 1. Responses to comments made in the EMP

EMP	Comment	Response
1.1	The scoping report makes reference to access to the !Gobaub waterhole with ENP, upgrade of the existing hide, and establishment of a new hide. However, no reference is made to the possible impact that these construction activities will have. There is no indication of how risks would be mitigated.	The impacts, mitigation of risks and management measures for construction activities are discussed in Section 4.1 "Planning and construction phase" and Table 3 "Management actions for the construction phase".
1.1	May you give reason/s as why the Decommissioning phase has not been addressed in the EMP? Is it because it is not significant for the project or why exactly?	Page 28, Section 4.3 "Closure and Decommissioning" states: "Tourism is a non-consumptive activity with an indefinite projected lifespan and after 25 years the business and immovable assets will become the property of the Hai//om Association, as stipulated in the HCC and the COC. There is no intention to cease operations or decommission Ongava Hai//om Tourism lodge."
1.2	Can the EMP give clear management plan to be conducted on the two combined Concessions: the Etosha South Traversing Concession Area and the Joint Venture Traversing Concession Area. Can there be brief explanation on the impacts that activities will have and how significant will	Management measures are given in section 4, tables 3, 4 and 5. Screening of the potential impacts in the scoping report (Section 7.2 and Table 10) shows that all the impacts can be prevented, mitigated or managed to low and very low significance by implementing the measures in the EMP. The bullet points in the EMP Section 1.2 were amended to include
	those impacts be on the environment.	reference to the impact assessment in the scoping report.
2.2 & 2.3	How about the Etosha South Traversing Concession Area, will there be no infrastructure?	New section added that describes Infrastructure at the gate, upgrading of the existing access track to !Gobaub, and upgrading of the existing hide.
2.4	Before finalizing this EMP, confirmation to be done with the Ministry of the support structure and management for this concession; and installation of CCTV camera and payment of park and conservation fees	The buildings at the gate will be designed in cooperation with ENP management, and approval from ENP management will be obtained at every step before any action is taken. The installation of cameras and payment of fees are considered operational matters that are not relevant to this EMP.
3.4	Can the EMP clearly stipulate the specific functions that will be foreseen by the ECO and also those that other stakeholders (i.e. Association, MEFT) will foresee and monitor.	Added: List of functions for the ECO. Section 4, Table 2 "Roles and Responsibilities" was expanded significantly.
4.1 Table 3	I suggest to a have a clear guideline on this, for instance the contractor should ensure the disinfectant of the material prior	Added: Inspection of deliveries and laydown areas.
3	transportation to site or something in that lane.	It is economically and practically not viable to treat such a large volume of construction materials to the extent that any coincidentally present seeds or seedlings are eliminated.
4.2 Table 4	Include adherence to park rules and regulations	Added: The rules and regulations of ENP will be followed by all lodge vehicles that enter the Park, and by all guides, guests and employees on these vehicles.

EMP	Comment	Response
4.2	Can we add the management of dust	Added to construction management measures, Table 3. Operational
Table	impacts on vegetation?	activities will not create significant levels of dust.
4		
4.3	Is it even possible and realistic or be	Roads and tracks in ENP that are integrated in the road network will
Table	integrated in the road network of ENP.??	not need rehabilitation. Tracks on the JV concession will be
5		rehabilitated "as required by MEFT".
		It is mentioned in this table to make provision for road rehab at
		concept level.
4.6.3	The relationship between the road	The road categories are described in Section 4.6.2.
Table	categories and classes is not clear and also	If ENP management would point out existing borrow pits in the Park to
7	clarify the source of gravel (borrow pits),	use for resurfacing the !Gobaub road, the proponent will take direction
	approval and rehabilitation thereof.	from ENP and work accordingly, including rehabilitation measures.

Table 2. Responses to the Feedback letter from Ms lipinge.

Ref	Comment	Response
1 a	Appendices V to IX in the Scoping Report were not shared, thus limiting the reader's understanding of the full assessment done. Of particular interest is the location of boreholes and borrow pits contained in the geohydrology and soil reports, respectively.	 Appendices shared on 24 April 2025. Scoping report, Section 6.5 "Hydrology" was amended by adding borehole locations: Fig 13 and Table 2 were added. The soil report does not refer to borrow pits. The proponent will take direction from ENP management in all respects for road upgrading work.
1 b	Roles and responsibilities are not clearly defined	EMP Section 4, Table 2 "Roles and Responsibilities" was expanded significantly.
1 c	Possible penalties for non-compliance are not indicated	EMP Section 3.3
2 a	Will the access road be upgraded and to what extent? Or will a new road be constructed? Where will gravel be obtained for filling any depressions in the road? Is any water needed for the upgrade? Where will the water be obtained?	Will be upgraded to category A (Scoping report Section 6.7 and EMP Section 2.2). If ENP management would point out existing borrow pits in the Park to use for resurfacing the !Gobaub road, the proponent will take direction from ENP and work accordingly, including rehabilitation measures. Water will be obtained from boreholes on the JV Concession.
2 b	To what extent will the current hide be upgraded? What are the possible impacts and how will these be mitigated?	Copied from Scoping report to EMP: Section 2.2. Impacts and mitigation are in EMP Section 4.1 and Table 3.
2 c	What are the impacts of constructing a semi- permanent hide/s? How far from the waterhole will the hide be located?	Construction impacts are mitigated in EMP Section 4.1 and Table 3. The hide will probably remain in its current location to prevent additional damage to the very sensitive soil, but that will depend on direction from ENP management during the planning phase.
2 d	Will there be ablution facilities at the hide? Where will it be located? Will there be running water? How will sewage and other solid waste be disposed of?	Copied from Scoping Report to EMP: Section 2.2
2 e	What mitigation measures will be put in place to minimise the risk of damage by wildlife?	The proponent will follow direction from ENP management during the planning phase.
3	Security threats: The influx of construction personnel and increased human activity could pose a security threat to protected species in the area, particularly poaching of wildlife for own consumption or commercial purposes. This risk should be addressed with stringent monitoring and security protocols. These protocols could include screening of all staff and fitting all vehicles with tracking devices to be monitored by ENP Management. How will the access gate be managed?	

Ref	Comment	Response
4	Collection of firewood, plants, and other forest	EMP Section 4.1 Table 3 and Section 4.2 Table 4.
	products: The possibility of unauthorized	
	harvesting of firewood, plants, and forest	
	products should be highlighted, with	
	recommendations for control measures to	
	prevent such activities	
5	Impacts on Wildlife Movement: The duration of	Assessed in Scoping report Section 7.2 Table 11.
	the construction activities may disrupt the	Mitigation in EMP Section 4.1 Table 3 and Section 4.2 Table 4.
	movement patterns of wildlife, particularly	Added to Table 4.1, Impact 3 "Biodiversity":
	migratory species. This should be assessed and	"Disturbance of individual animals in their daily foraging and
	mitigated appropriately	movement".
6	Risk of Road kills: Increased traffic during the	EMP Section 4.1 Table 3, Impact 1 and Impact 4.
	construction phase and thereafter increases the	
	potential for wildlife-vehicle collisions. Reducing	
	the speed limit to 40km/h should be enforced	
	to minimize this risk	

Feedback from the Deputy Director: Etosha National Park, Ms Naambo lipinge



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM DIRECTORATE OF WILDLIFE AND NATIONAL PARKS

Enquiries: C. Cloete cloete.claudine@meft.gov.na 067-229854 Etosha National Park P. O. Box 6 Okaukuejo via Outjo

16 April 2025

Feedback on the Environmental Scoping Report and the Environmental Management Plan for the Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha South Traversing Concession

The proposed construction of the Ongava Hai//om Lodge and the Etosha South Traversing Concession presents several positive impacts, including social and economic upliftment of the Hai//om community. However, the Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan do not adequately address the risks and the mitigation measures to be put in place to minimise these risks. Special attention is drawn to the following:

1. Missing information:

- a. Appendices V to IX in the Scoping Report were not shared, thus limiting the reader's understanding of the full assessment done. Of particular interest is the location of boreholes and borrow pits contained in the geohydrology and soil reports, respectively.
- b. Roles and responsibilities are not clearly defined.
- c. Possible penalties for non-compliance are not indicated.
- 2. **Etosha South Traversing Concession:** The EMP mainly addresses issues pertaining to the Joint Venture Concession. The potential impact on the ENP side with the traversing concession is not highlighted. Specific questions to be addressed:
 - a. Will the access road be upgraded and to what extent? Or will a new road be constructed? Where will gravel be obtained for filling any depressions in the road? Is any water needed for the upgrade? Where will the water be obtained?
 - b. To what extent will the current hide be upgraded? What are the possible impacts and how will these be mitigated?

- c. What are the impacts of constructing a semi-permanent hide/s? How far from the waterhole will the hide be located?
- d. Will there be ablution facilities at the hide? Where will it be located? Will there be running water? How will sewage and other solid waste be disposed of?
- e. What mitigation measures will be put in place to minimise the risk of damage by wildlife?
- 3. Security threats: The influx of construction personnel and increased human activity could pose a security threat to protected species in the area, particularly poaching of wildlife for own consumption or commercial purposes. This risk should be addressed with stringent monitoring and security protocols. These protocols could include screening of all staff and fitting all vehicles with tracking devices to be monitored by ENP Management. How will the access gate be managed?
- 4. **Collection of firewood, plants, and other forest products:** The possibility of unauthorized harvesting of firewood, plants, and forest products should be highlighted, with recommendations for control measures to prevent such activities.
- 5. **Impacts on Wildlife Movement**: The duration of the construction activities may disrupt the movement patterns of wildlife, particularly migratory species. This should be assessed and mitigated appropriately.
- Risk of Road kills: Increased traffic during the construction phase and thereafter increases the potential for wildlife-vehicle collisions. Reducing the speed limit to 40km/h should be enforced to minimize this risk.

Recommendation & Conclusion

It is recommended that the consultant appropriately addresses the identified gaps. Incorporating these additional measures will help ensure the project proceeds in an environmentally responsible manner, minimizing its impact on the sensitive ecosystems within Etosha National Park.

Minutes of Meetings

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION

Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha South traversing concession

7 Nov 2024 Okaukuejo

Attendance:

Mr Evaristo Nghilai (Control Warden Etosha National Park) (ENP) Mr Isai Simon (Park Warden, Namutoni) Mr Gabriel Shatumba (pilot) Ms Petrina Ndumbu (Chief Warden, Okaukuejo) Mr Jonas Lipopila (Conservation scientist) Mr Rob Moffett (Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (OHT), the Proponent) Ms Henriette Potgieter (EIA Practitioner)

Abbreviations

ENP Etosha National ParkJV Joint VentureOHT Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd, the Proponent

Evaristo opens the meeting, welcomes attendees and introduces the ENP management team. Apologies were received from Ms lipinge and Mr Hausiku.

Hide at !Gobaub

OHT may upgrade or rebuild the existing hide, but ENP needs access to the hide because it is used for research and game counts. If ENP plans a dangerous or sensitive operation for which they will use the hide, they will contact the lodge, and the lodge will have to stay away for the duration.

ENP recommends a multi-purpose hide with one or two levels for guests and a level for ENP, referring to the Mushara research hide that has 3 stories. The bottom level has to be protected against elephants because there is a significant risk of destruction.

OHT commits to providing ablution facilities for the guests and ENP staff. It will be aboveground and effluent will be removed by OHT and disposed of outside the Park.

CCTV camera at !Gobaub

ENP does not approve a CCTV camera that links to the lodge where guests can watch activity at the spring, stating security reasons: poachers may watch the tv at the lodge and communicate with their associates. The 24 hr camera at Okaukuejo waterhole is allowed because its location in Okaukuejo provides security through a constant presence of people and the proximity of ENP personnel and police.

Roads in ENP

This EIA includes only a game viewing route from farm Werda to !Gobaub. A larger game viewing network in the Etosha South traversing concession is planned for the future but a separate EIA will be commissioned for that development. The preliminary route indicated in the Background Information Document for this project is acceptable, but ENP requests kmz

files of the final location of the !Gobaub-Werda loop so it can be checked against ENP zonation. Henriette will provide as soon as OHT finalises the design.

Motivation for a more extensive road network

Having access to only one activity in Etosha, namely !Gobaub, is not an attractive proposition for OHT. To make the Etosha South Concession a better offering for their guests, they plan to develop a road and track network to access the entire concession area. This development will be done in close cooperation with ENP management, and the route planning and road design will be done by a specialist scientist, considering soil sensitivity, heritage resources, game congregations and movements, biodiversity and optimal game viewing among others.

Road planning and construction

The approach and departure at !Gobaub must be far enough from the water not to disturb animals drinking there, but there are graves north of the spring and the route must be located away from that site. The grave site must be an exclusion zone for both construction activities and during the operational phase. The firebreaks that run near !Gobaub should be used as much as possible.

Water runoff is a potential concern, and culverts encourage off-road driving in other parts of the Park when lions rest there and cars go to the side to watch them. Management measures agreed: the road will have a slight camber to prevent accumulation of water. The material that is removed to make side drains will be used to form a small embankment and raise the road slightly. Targeted measures will be taken to mitigate possible adverse effects of road use on soil quality and ecological balance such as drainage systems, vegetative buffers and restricted access during sensitive periods (closing certain routes during the wet season).

Width of the road: should be wide enough for two vehicles otherwise off-road driving may be encouraged when two vehicles meet on the road. Use the same width as the ENP service roads.

Road use

No off-road driving will be allowed for any reason. Every OHT vehicle that enters the Park will be fitted with a satellite tracker and if ENP units observe signs of off-road driving they can contact the lodge, and the vehicle and driver can be found. Tracker data for ENP movements will be made available to ENP upon request.

Gate

ENP regulations require that payment must be made on the day a visitor enters the Park. To avoid cash handling at the gate, the system currently in use for King Nehale lodge will be implemented for OHT. ENP gate staff confirm the number of people in the vehicle, fill in an entry permit, send the data to their Head Office, and then the lodge pays daily via EFT.

Facilities at the gate

Water, solar electricity and sewerage. Gate office and accommodation for ENP, Police and Ministry of Health, as stipulated in the COC.

22h00 exit from park

ENP management adamantly disapproved of this allowance. Security is a concern on three fronts: guests, rhinos and ENP. If animals are in the road the vehicle has to wait, and they may sit there for hours. Poachers pose a danger to tourists because they are active at night and when the Police, NDF and ENP see lights that they know are not their units, they may react according to their anti-poaching protocols.

ENP maintains that the Park rules must be followed, i.e. sunrise to sunset. Once the project is running and the OHT operations have been observed on the ground, how potential impacts are prevented and managed, whether the buffer zone is effective, etc. ENP may extend entry times.

Fence maintenance

Most of the Park waterholes are at least 10 km from the boundary. The proposed lodge waterhole is close to the fence and will attract animals. ENP advises that OHT should maintain and electrify the fence if they want to keep lions out.

OHT commits to maintaining the fence because their walking activities on the Joint Venture Concession are dependent on an absence of large predators.

Community

The constitution of the !Gobaub Hai//om Tourism Association states that people are considered part of the community if they are registered members of the Association and if they reside on the resettlement farms. This precludes benefits from the project going to Hai//om people who reside in Okaukuejo.

Regarding the well-being of the community, it was suggested that OHT consider a shop stocking essentials.

Game for the JV concession

Game donations for the JV concession may be considered. The game capture and relocation division handles this.

Fire risk

ENP do management burns and fires are a potential danger to tourist activities. ENP will notify OHT in advance of any planned burns.

Efficient communication

A cordial and stable working relationship with regular communications between ENP and OHT is essential.

An example was given of a past disagreement between ENP staff waiting for a helicopter and a lodge guide who insisted they leave. If ENP will be working in the area of OHT operations, the lodge will be informed in advance so that they either avoid the area or know to expect ENP staff . A clear channel of communication will be established between ENP and the lodge, most likely via the gate personnel.

One channel to raise and prevent potential challenges, and to build a working relationship at a management level is the Joint Management Committee (JMC) that meets every 3 months and consists of representatives of the Hai//om Association, OHT and MEFT (ENP).

Consultation with MEFT as part of the IEA process for the Ongava Hai//om Lodge and Etosha South traversing concession

Directorate of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) and Directorate of Scientific Services (DSS)

15 Nov 2024, MEFT head office

Attendance:

Mr Bennett Kahuure (Director: Wildlife and National Parks) Mr Piet Beytell (National Rhino Coordinator) Mr Vitalis Mushongo (Chief Warden: DWNP Concessions Unit) Mr Rob Moffett (Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd (OHT), the Proponent) Ms Henriette Potgieter (EIA Practitioner)

Bennett and Piet concur with the concerns raised by the Etosha National Park (ENP) management team on 7th November, and with the prevention and management measures agreed at that meeting.

Bennett: most of the current sensitivities relating to the project stem from a poaching threat, and the private sector is not a threat in this regard but rather provide additional security. The security plans for rhinos are strategic and confidential, and details are not to be shared in a public document such as the EIA. OHT should arrange a separate meeting with Piet dedicated to the technical aspects of rhino security. MEFT has a heavy presence in that area with their security clusters and they need to see how they and the proponent will work together with that.

The DWNP and DSS are the appropriate divisions to receive the EIA and make a recommendation. What they want is a project framework of what is practical in terms of the Head Concession Contract (HCC) and Concession Operator Contract (COC), and the EIA should indicate how the operations will be put in place and conducted. In the event of contradicting provisions in the HCC and COC, the HCC has precedence.

The current contractual allowance in the HCA and COC has to be followed and any deviation from that will hamper the process and delay the EIA. If there are aspects that the proponent wants to change and they are not provided in the HCA, e.g. adding more tracks in Etosha, it cannot be done without re-negotiating the HCA and COC.

!GOBAUB HAI//OM COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING

30 Jan 2025, Grensplaas

Attendance Total: 195 people

Henriette Potgieter, Environmental Assessment Practitioner Derek Moore, for the proponent

!Gobaub Hai//om Community Association + farm representatives

Placidus (Bon) Nu-Eiseb (chairman + Mooiplaas), Vanessa Tsams (secretary), Mettley Thaniseb (treasurer), Sylvia Uises (Seringkop), Florensia Kamabes (Belallaika), Helga Kauses (Toevlug), Througott Gamibeb (Nuchas), Reinhardt Garab (Werda)

Traditional Authority senior councillors

Pedro Gamgaebeb, Johannes Horaseb, Betrina Hanes, Andreas Khaiseb, Petrus Komob, Ludwiga Lambert

The complete attendance list is attached at the end of this document.

Discussion

Henriette explains the EIA process and her role in it. She does not work for Ongava nor the government, but she is here to make sure the environment is looked after. Important to know that the environment is not only nature ("die veld"), but also people and specifically this community, meaning those who are here today. The purpose of an EIA is to make sure that the project will not have a negative effect on the people, animals or plants, and to make sure that positive effects are enhanced, e.g. community development, employment and training. She explains that it is a Namibian law to do an EIA and to get an Environmental Clearance Certificate, and that building can only start after MEFT issues the Certificate.

The steps remaining in the EIA process are for her to finish the scoping report and make it available to the public for final review and comments. The public includes the Association and anyone else who asks to see it, and anyone in the community is welcome to comment on the report. Public review will take 3 weeks and then she will finish the report. The last step is to hand in the report to MEFT who will decide whether to issue an Environmental Clearance Certificate.

The lodge will open in December 2026, an announcement that was greeted with enthusiastic clapping.

Comments

1. Graves

Request that grave sites be fenced. The proponent undertakes to do this. Graves near !Gobaub will not be affected by the upgrading of the road or the game viewing hide. Graves on farm Werda and farm Nuchas will be pointed out by the elders in the coming weeks, and where it is appropriate, grave sites will be fenced to preserve them. No graves will be

disturbed during construction or operations, but they have to be identified to the proponent before construction starts.

Bon Nu-Eiseb undertakes to go on a grave-finding mission with the elders who know where the graves are, and to communicate their locations to the proponent.

1. Skills

Most of the people here do not have any schooling, how can they be employed? Reply: Bon Nu-Eiseb is currently in negotiations with sponsors to send community members for training in hospitality.

2. Construction labour

Derek Moore is asked whether local contractors are considered for construction. He replies that there is no local contractor with the capacity to handle a project of this size (more than N\$ 200 million) but that sub-contractors and unskilled labour would definitely be sourced from the community.

3. Expand to !Gobaub

Build a few rooms at !Gobaub to show that we still have ownership of Etosha because it belongs to us.

Reply: the Head Concession Contract has been signed and the proponent cannot change anything in the contract, meaning building at !Gobaub is not allowed.

Acknowledgements

Derek Moore, a shareholder in Ongava Hai//om Tourism (Pty) Ltd, thanked the community for attending and for their participation.

The community thanked Henriette and Derek, and excused them before continuing to discuss Association matters.

Toevhy.
Athentonce
1. Helop Kauses
2. Exercis Jumbe
3 Rules Junes
4. Bachila Netwart
a his 13 red
6 Elizabeth Hereces
7. Det Nonsch
8 Johanna Gorates
9. Japanogn Mockerg
10. Ruben Komas
V. Meiceline Chaises
12. Pieter Noneseb
13 Salame Hunibes
14 Johannes Outeb
15 Filimen Onemis
10 Julia Mothaus
A Jolly Nosse
18. Michael Ouseb
ja. Glachius Hunibeb
se William Coeseb
at Bernard Khamment
m Heilden Eileb
23 Alfred Octob
24 Imported Someo
25. Kloutos Musira
24 Tulius Cromarcis
or Twethy Makero
- Annias Hemenyes
and I awrend Eineld
30 Magdalon Dervies

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31. Juline Howard	
82. Manfred Willemse	
33. Elizabeth Sageus	
34. Paulus Shikwi	
35. Bernard Gaiseb	and the second
36. Petrus Cicluseb	3-3
37. Alisha Haraes	-041-
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