

Postal PO Box 26, Porterville, 6810
Physical 72 Voortrekker Street, Porterville, 6810
Website www.capenature.co.za
Enquiries Ismat Adams
Telephone 0870873188
Email iadams@capenature.co.za
Reference SSD14/2/6/1/4/N_141-Morningstar_N7 Vissershok weighbridge
Date 16 March 2026

Sharples Environmental Services CC

Via email: betsy@sesc.net

Attention: Betsy Ditcham

Dear Betsy

RE: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE N7 VISSERSHOK WEIGHBRIDGE ON FARM 153 VISSERSHOK OUTSPAN, MORNING STAR 25/141 AND MORNING STAR RE/141 (CI038: UPGRADING OF TRI1/1), CITY OF CAPE TOWN MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

DEA&DP ref: 16/3/3/1/A1/41/3042/25

Herewith comment on this application.

1. It is understood that site alternatives 2 and 3 as per the botanical assessment and faunal statement correspond to site alternatives 6 and 7 as per the BAR. It is understood that further site alternatives (2 and 3) have been considered to avoid encroaching the protected area on farm 153 and to avoid further fragmenting an east-west corridor running from this protected area.
2. Site alternatives 2 and 3 are clearly more suitable from a biodiversity perspective as the degraded fynbos vegetation near to alternative 1 will completely be avoided including the identified species of conservation concern, and avoiding alternative 1 will also eliminate the need for development on the eastern side of the N7 that would have encroached the protected area on farm 153. The botanical and faunal specialists have confirmed the modified nature of alternatives 2 and 3 and assessed low ecological sensitivity, with sensitive faunal species likely only to utilise these sites occasionally. The updated botanical assessment and faunal and avifaunal assessment are supported. It is strongly recommended that either alternative 2 or alternative 3 be utilised.
3. It is noted that the botanical specialist recommends formally conserving the high sensitivity fynbos areas around alternative 1. Complete avoidance of alternative 1 means the biodiversity sensitivities as groundtruthed would be avoided. In such case conservation of the high sensitivity areas around alternative 1 would be considered completely voluntary and not related or required because of development activity. Should the proponent wish to proactively formally conserve the patches of high sensitivity vegetation then the proponent is welcome to engage CapeNature in this regard – Ms Khungeka Beda (kbeda@capenature.co.za).

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Kind regards,

Land-Use Scientist: Landscape West
Conservation Operations