



MINISTER  
FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Tel: (012) 399 8743

Ref: EDMS MCE229053

Chief Wayne aaaah Xammi Petersen  
Chairperson: Gaubase/Huhasib Agricultural Co-operation  
262 Booyce Street  
HUMANASDORP  
6300

Dear Chief Wayne aaaah Xammi Petersen

**REQUEST FOR A BIODIVERSITY STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT IN THE PURSUIT OF ESTABLISHING A BIODIVERSITY CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTRE**

Your email dated 31 March 2023 refers.

As the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment I have noted the matter brought to my attention.

Kindly be informed that the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and other responsible authorities dealing with all matters relating or connected to Biodiversity Stewardship Conservation within the Eastern Cape Province have had a preliminary engagement on the matter. The Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency (ECPTA) as the competent and relevant agency on behalf of the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism has informed the DFFE that the process to develop the **//Are-malleis Great Place, Nature Reserve and Biodiversity Centre** through the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement had been initiated in 2018 and, to date, the biodiversity assessment had been done and, subsequently, the management plan was developed.

Having considered the above facts, the department will coordinate further engagements with all parties involved to ensure there is an agreed way forward to this matter.

For any further assistance on the matter, please contact Ms Skumsa Ntshanga, Chief Director: Biodiversity Management and Permitting, on 012 399 9514, or through email: [sntshanga@dfpe.gov.za](mailto:sntshanga@dfpe.gov.za).

Yours sincerely

MS B D CREECY, MP  
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 16/5/2023

