



**QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE
MILNERTON AREA**

**TABLE BAY NATURE RESERVE
-TBNR-**

**BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT
JANUARY – MARCH 2011
JACOBUS JOHANNES RETIEF**



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1. BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

- This is a **three month (quarter) report** and it will be covering all the activities for the period running from 1 January 2011 to 31 March 2011 within the Milnerton Area, one of the North District's management areas.
- Three sites are being considered for proclamation: **Rietvlei Wetland Reserve, Diep River Nature Reserve, and Milnerton Racecourse Nature Reserve**. Integrated Reserve Management Plans (IRMPs) were submitted for these sites. A public participation process for all 17 CCT nature reserves was launched from 2011/02/1-28. A public open day was held on 2011/02/04. Koos Retief attended the Good Hope and the Blaauwberg subcouncils (on 2011/02/14 & 17 respectively) to talk to Cliff Dorse's report on the public participation process. Comments from the public participation sparked the inclusion of Zoarvlei and amalgamation of all these areas into the concept of the **Table Bay Nature Reserve (TBNR)**. This proposal was accepted and the TBNR will therefore now cover the following management sections: Fynbos Corridor, Diep River, Rietvlei Wetlands, Coastal Section, Milnerton Lagoon, Milnerton Racecourse, and Zoarvlei. A new IRMP was drafted for the TBNR. The following items are still requirements in the proclamation process (see Table 1 below):

Table 1. Outstanding requirements in proclamation process of TBNR.

Site	Boundaries	Integrated Reserve Management Plan	Sensitivity analysis	Zonation plan	Conservation Development Framework (CDF)	Surveyor General Diagrams
Table Bay Nature Reserve	Completed.	Completed and submitted to Adele Pretorius.	Separate sections done, but needs to be combined by Arne Purves.	Separate sections done, but needs to be combined by Arne Purves.	None. Awaiting feedback from Adele Pretorius.	All SG diagrams to be obtained.

- The TBNR is covered by four sections on the **SA Biodiversity Database**. The statistics of species present in these sites is given below (see Table 2). A future intention is to be able to draw a combined report for the species present in the TBNR. See Figure 1 for a reptiles species list and Table 3 for a list of Red List species.

Table 2. Biodiversity Database statistics for TBNR (updated 2011/03/31)

CLASS	Rietvlei Wetlands	Diep River & Fynbos Corridor	Milnerton Racecourse	Zoarvlei
Plants	114 (up by 3)	0 (up by 0)	153 (up by 0)	1 (up by 0)
Mammals	11 (up by 4)	23 (up by 0)	13 (up by 0)	2 (up by 0)
Pisces (Fish)	9 (up by 0)	0 (up by 0)	0 (up by 0)	2 (up by 0)
Birds (Aves)	101 (up by 54)	49 (up by 41)	88 (up by 0)	3 (up by 0)
Reptilia	13 (up by 5)	2 (up by 0)	6 (up by 1)	0 (up by 0)
Amphibia	5 (up by 0)	1 (up by 0)	3 (up by 0)	0 (up by 0)
Insecta (Insects)	1 (up by 0)	0 (up by 0)	14 (up by 0)	0 (up by 0)



Figure 1. Rietvlei's reptile list consists of 13 species: (1) *Acontias meleagris* (Cape Legless Skink); (2) (see left) *Afrogecko porphyreus* (Marbled Leaf-toed Gecko); (3) *Bradypodion pumilum* (Cape Dwarf Chameleon); (4) *Chersina angulata* (Angulate Tortoise); (5) *Lycodonomorphus rufulus* (Common Brown Water Snake); (6) *Meroles knoxii* (Knox's Desert Lizard); (7) *Naja nivea* (Cape Cobra); (8) *Pelomedusa subrufa* (Marsh Terrapin); (9) *Pseudaspis cana* (Mole Snake); (10) *Scelotes bipes* (Silvery Dwarf Burrowing Skink); (11) *Trachylepis capensis* (Cape Skink); (12) *Trachylepis homalocephala* (Red-sided Skink); and (13) *Typhlosaurus caecus* (Cuvier's Blind Legless Skink).

Table 3. Red List species of the TBNR.

Scientific name	Common name	Sighting date	IUCN Conservation Category
<i>Myosorex varius</i>	Forest Shrew	15/10/2007	Data Deficient (DDD)
<i>Amietophrynus pantherinus</i>	Western Leopard Toad	30/08/2008	Endangered (EN)
<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>	Porcupine	15/04/2009	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Aonyx capensis</i>	Cape Clawless Otter	2011/04/01	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Galerella pulverulenta</i>	Small Grey Mongoose	21/08/2010	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>	Large Grey Mongoose	30/10/2007	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Mus minutoides</i>	Pygmy Mouse	2010/07/06	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Felis caracal</i>	Caracal	23/10/2010	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	Steenbok	2005/08/03	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Raphicerus melanotis</i>	Cape Grysbok	17/11/2010	Least Concern (LC)
<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Great White Pelican	2011/04/01	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	Maccoa Duck	15/01/2010	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	Greater Painted-snipe	19/12/2003	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	African Black Oystercatcher	2011/04/01	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	15/01/2010	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Sterna balaenarum</i>	Damara Tern	20/01/2006	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>	Crowned Cormorant	19/01/2007	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>	Cape Cormorant	2011/04/01	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Greater Flamingo	15/01/2010	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	Lesser Flamingo	27/10/2006	Near Threatened (NT)
<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	African Marsh-Harrier	19/10/2007	Vulnerable (VU)
<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>	Blue Crane	2002/11/02	Vulnerable (VU)

2 CONSERVATION

2.1 Flora Management

- The **Friends of Tygerberg Hills' Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers** (CREW) conducted a survey at Rietvlei on 2011/03/11. Results from this survey are still being awaited.

2.1.1 Invasive Species Management

- The Branch's allocated R100,000 for **invasive alien plant clearing contracts** in the Milnerton Area. Order number **4501622635** was generated for the two management blocks for alien clearing, comprising RTV03 (Table View boundary) and DRC04 (Diep River Fynbos Corridor). A predetermined amount of herbicide was given to the contractor who is responsible for signing a daily herbicide use register, as well as staff time sheet that are required with their invoice. Daily site inspections were carried out and these inspection reports were used for quality control as well as submission with the final invoices to prove quality of work. All the work was completed and the invoices paid out in full.
- The **Working for Wetlands team** cleared four hectares near the pump station in the Diep River section.
- The **Milnerton Team's alien clearing work** was primarily concentrated on Milnerton Ridge (see Figures 2 & 3) and Milnerton Lagoon, which was completed. The team then moved on to the Gie Road boundary at the Diep River.

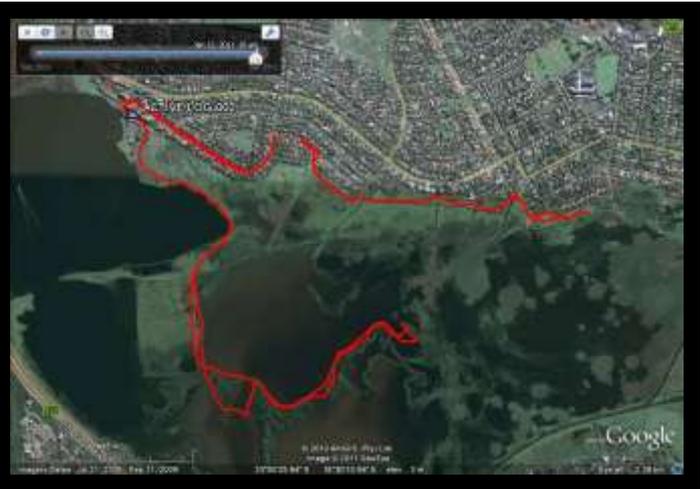
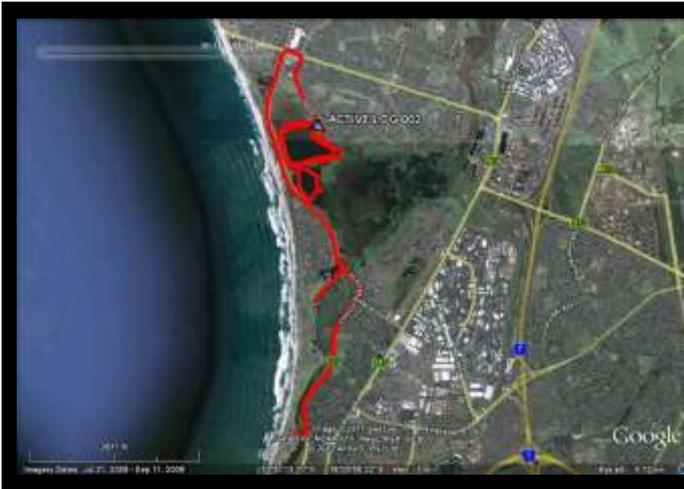


Figure 2. Team working in Milnerton Ridge



Figure 3. Milnerton Ridge

- Subcouncil 1 budgeted **ward allocations** totalling R129,000 for the 2011/2012 financial year in the Milnerton Area. These are two alien clearing projects, one at Rietvlei to the value of R99,000 and one in the Fynbos Corridor to the value of R30,000. The required control documents were signed and returned to the subcouncil manager. KR will be attended Project system training to be profiled on SAP in order to implement these projects.
- Two **early detection rapid response** (EDRR) surveys were conducted in the previous quarter. A supplementary survey was conducted during 2011/01/11-12. The survey tracks and two pictures from the field are given below (see Figures 4-7).



Figures 4 & 5. Survey tracks of the Early Detection Rapid Response (EDDR) Survey.



Figure 6. *Opuntia monacantha* (smooth prickly pear) containing cochineal beetle bio-control.



Figure 7. *Acacia saligna* (Port Jackson) and an unidentified palm tree.

2.2 Fauna Management

2.2.1 Invasive Alien Management

Table 4. Invasive animal management records.

Site	Type of Animal	Status	Sighted	Number
Diep River	Domestic cattle	Negotiations with herder	Christopher Singo	0
Rietvlei Wetland	Domestic cat	Captured and removed	Rifqah Johnson	1
Diep River	Domestic dogs	Animals causing problems (Destroying Wild Animals)	Christopher Singo	6

2.2.2 Monitoring of Wildlife: Game counts and sightings

- A **Coordinated Waterbird Count (CWAC)** was conducted at TBNR on 2011/02/24. A total of 1,838 water birds were surveyed, consisting of 36 species of water birds.

Table 5. Coordinated Waterbird Count data for TBNR.

Bird\site	TOTAL	Diep River	North Vlei	South Vlei	Central Pan	Dolphin Beach	Milnerton Channel	Lagoon North	Lagoon South	Zoarvlei North	Zoarvlei South
Greatcrested Grebe	4			2					2		
Dabchick	1	1									
White Pelican	109		9	100							
White-breasted Cormorant	38	1	15					22			
Reed Cormorant	62	3		32		2		24	1		
Darter	37	1	3	19				14			
Grey Heron	17		3	2		3		9			
Blackheaded Heron	5		1	2	1		1				
Purple Heron	6						3	3			
Little Egret	10							7	3		
Yellowbilled Egret	5			2				3			
Sacred Ibis	18			8				5			5
Glossy Ibis	2									2	
Hadeda Ibis	8							6			2
African Spoonbill	2			1		1					
Greater Flamingo	48			48							
Egyptian Goose	90	2	57	3			1	27			
Yellowbilled Duck	46	4	12			15		9			6
African Black Duck	22	8				14					
Cape Teal	2		2								
Spurw. Goose	18			15	3						
African Fish Eagle	1			1							
Moorhen	95	6				80	1	1		1	6
Redknobbed Coot	249	16	27			186					20
Afr. Black Oystercatcher	7		5					2			
Blacksmith Plover	63	2	15	2				37			7
Greenshank	13							13			
Avocet	28							28			
Kelp Gull	109		77			1		1	30		
Hartlaub's Gull	305	2	8			42		110	143		
Caspian Tern	2							2			
Swift Tern	69							13	56		
Common Tern	312			106	3			37	166		
Pied Kingfisher	7							7			
Cape Wagtail	27	1	15	9		1		1			
Mallard	1							1			
TOTALS	1,838	47	249	352	7	345	6	382	401	3	46
Additional Records											
Black Swan									2		
Rock Kestrel							2				
Small Grey Mongoose							1				
Bl. Sh. Kite							2				
Pampas Grass								1			
Palm Tree								5			
Otter Latrines								2			

- TBNR staff assisted a **fauna drive count** at the Witzands Aquifer Nature Reserve on 2011/02/23.

2.2.3 Mortality

Table 6. Mortality records for TBNR.

Site	Scientific Name	Common Name	Number	Status	Cause of Death
DR	<i>Georychus capensis</i>	Cape Mole Rat	1	Least Concern (LC)	Unknown

2.2.4 Translocations

Table 7. Translocation records for TBNR.

Site	Scientific Name	Common Name	Number	From	To
Diep River section	<i>Orphium frutescens</i>		30	Parklands	Diep River section
	<i>Athanasia dentate</i>		10	Parklands	Diep River section
	<i>Otholobium sp</i>		10	Parklands	Diep River section

2.2.5 Re-Introductions

Table 8. Re-introduction records for TBNR.

Site	Scientific Name	Common Name	Number	Status
-	-	-	-	-

2.2.6 Rehabilitation and Rearing

None

3 WATER MANAGEMENT

- **Water quality monitoring** was done at 15 points along the Diep River, Rietvlei, Milnerton Lagoon and Zoarvlei on 2011/01/25, 2011/02/22, and 2011/03/29.
- **Rainfall at Rietvlei in 2011** has been below average as the following graphs suggest (see Figures 8-11). To prevent the early onset of **dust problems** at Rietvlei, water was pumped onto the throughout this quarter.

	Ave	2011
January	11.173	10.00
February	6.3091	0.00
March	8.6182	7.00
April	30.718	
May	50.945	
June	62.559	
July	72.141	
August	64.45	
September	30.986	
October	27.068	
November	21.964	
December	10.691	
TOTAL		17.0

Figure 8. Rainfall at TBRN this quarter.

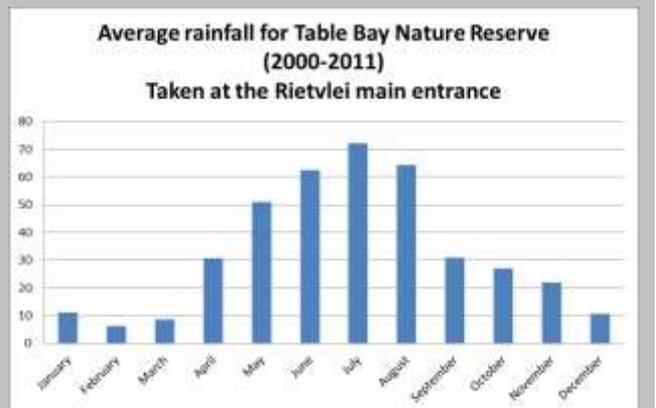


Figure 9. Average monthly rainfall at TBRN.

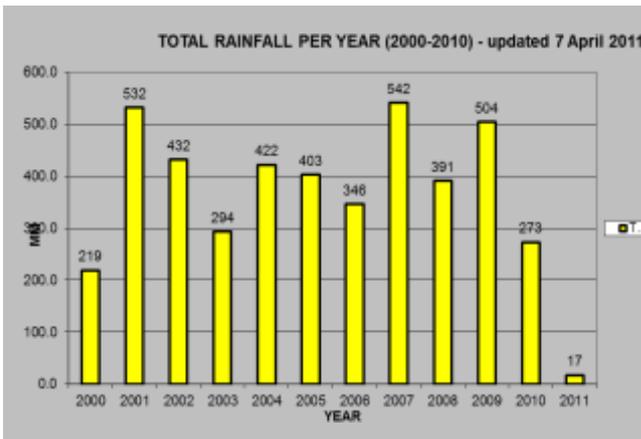


Figure 10. Total annual rainfall since 2000.

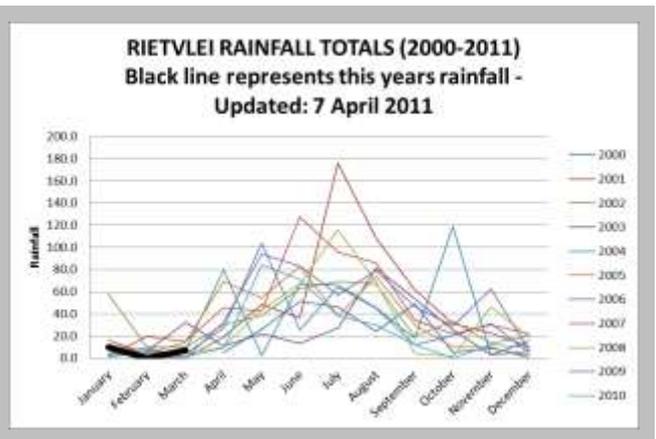


Figure 11. Annual rainfall trends at TBRN.

- The **dust control operation** started on 2010/12/28 and continued throughout this quarter. Though the pans were kept wet, a significant drop in the level of water in the permanent lakes was noticed. Due to there not being a water level meter in place at present, accurate levels could not be taken.

4 FIRE MANAGEMENT

Table 9. Fire records for the TBNR.

Reserve	Date	Hectares	Ignition Source
TBNR – Table View Boundary	2011/02/18	2	Unknown

- TBNR staff also assisted with a fire at the **eastern slopes of the Blaauwberg NR** on 2011/01/11-12 (see below figures 12 & 13).



Fig 12 & 13. Combined Biodiversity Management and Fire & Rescue Services teams battling the fires east of the BCA (2011/01/11-12)

- TBNR staff assisted with a **fire at La Paloma**, near the Blaauwberg NR, on 2011/01/20-21 (see below Figures 14-19).
- TBNR staff battled a small **fire at the Table View boundary** on 2011/02/18. Clinton Roux and Allan Gargan successfully controlled the fire with the Fire Department.
- TBNR staff assisted with a **controlled burn at Tygerberg NR** which subsequently ran out of control and had to be managed over 2001/03/14-16.
- TBNR staff assisted Simone Greveling with preparing the **Milnerton Racecourse** section's burn block 2 for a prescribed burn in 2012. This entailed the removal of alien vegetation as well as cutting firebreaks.



Figure 14. The site of the fire behind La Paloma.



Figure 15. Nissan Patrol being used in the field.



Figure 16. Sakhile Luhani and Simone Greveling putting out hotspots on the edge of the fire.

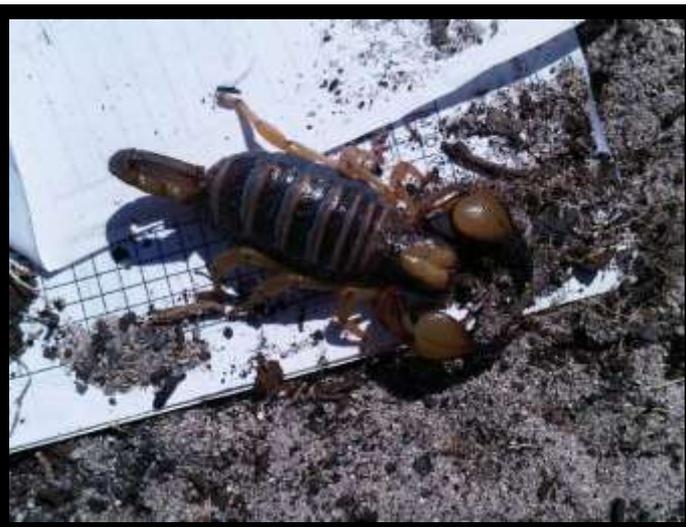


Figure 17. A pregnant *Opisththalmus capensis* (Cape Burrowing Scorpion) found alive on site.



Figure 18. Damage to the sidewall of a wheel on the Nissan Patrol fire fighting vehicle.



Figure 19. Repairs being carried out in the field.

5 PEOPLE AND CONSERVATION

5.1 Stakeholder Engagement (external meetings)

Table 10. Records of external stakeholder meeting relating to the TBNR.

Area	Date	Meeting/Workshop	Purpose
Milnerton	2011/01/20	Rietvlei Management Working Group (Koos Retief did not attend due to conducting interviews for internship positions)	Feedback
	2011/01/20	Milnerton Aquatic Club management committee	Representation
	2011/01/28	Milnerton Racecourse Environmental Management Committee	Feedback
	2011/02/15	MAC representatives regarding boating race without permission	Feedback
	2011/02/18	Zoarvlei Management Advisory Committee	Feedback
	2011/02/22	Parklands Environmental Liaison Committee, ASKA	Feedback
	2011/02/25	Milnerton Racecourse Environmental Management Committee	Feedback
	2011/02/28	C2C-appointed architects regarding cladding material for office construction at Rietvlei	Planning
	2011/03/02	Parklands Environmental Liaison Committee, ASKA	Feedback
	2011/03/06	Koos Retief and Chanelle Naidoo joined the Friends of Rietvlei on a Saturday afternoon outing to Durbanville NR	Partnerships
	2011/03/14	Ryan Purchase regarding objection to Rietvlei office construction	Negotiation
	2011/03/11	Chanelle Naidoo attending a meeting between CCT and SANCCOB	Planning
	2011/03/15	Rietvlei Management Working Group	Feedback
	2011/03/18	Economic Development Dept held a workshop at the Rietvlei Education Centre and 21 people went on a guided tour in Rietvlei	EE
	2011/03/25	Milnerton Racecourse Environmental Management Committee	Feedback
2011/03/29	Trevor Chute regarding objection to Rietvlei office construction	Negotiation	

- A report on the City of Cape Town **Draft Recreational Water Areas By-Law** as well as a **public participation plan**, detailing the process that will be followed, was approved in the previous quarter. The preparations for the public participation included translating the draft by-law into Afrikaans and isiXhosa, conducting field surveys with water users, creating a website to load the documents, creating a generic email account for comments, and creating an on-line commenting form. The public participation process went live from 2011/03/1-31. About 107 comments were received. Individual meetings with stakeholders will be held on an RSVP basis. All respondents were acknowledged for their comments and placed on a database of interested and affected parties. The database and comments now has to be attached to a report to the Planning and Environment Portfolio Committee of Council (PEPCO). Koos Retief is drafting this report. All 23 subcouncils also received a report on the public participation process, and their meetings will be held on the following dates during the next quarter: 2011/04/15, 18, 19 & 21.
- A site meeting at the **Diep River & Fynbos Corridor** was held with Onno Huyser (TMF), the Friends of Rietvlei, and officials from the CCT (see Figures 20-23 below).



Figure 20. Old well in Fynbos Corridor



Figure 21. Evidence of overflowing sewer in Diep River.



Figure 22. One of several uncovered manhole in Fynbos Corridor.



Figure 23. Evidence of resource collection for informal trading in the Diep River.

- The **Grape Escape Mountain Bike** race used a section of the Diep River for their course on 2011/03/04. TBNR staff assisted the race marshals to ensure that the race proceeds in an orderly fashion through the Diep River.
- Chanelle Naidoo is working with the Friends of Rietvlei and Alma Horn to design a new range of eight **interpretive information boards** for the Rietvlei wetlands.
- The media reported on various matters at the TBNR during this quarter. An article on **Egyptian geese moulting at Rietvlei**, as well as a picture of birds at Rietvlei, appeared in the TygerBurger of 2011/01/26 (see Figures 24-26). An article on the future **office construction** at Rietvlei appeared in the TygerBurger of 2011/02/23 (see Figure 27). An article on the proposed **Table Bay Nature Reserve** appeared in the TygerBurger of 2011/03/23 (see Figure 28).



Figure 24. Picture of Southern Red Bishops at Rietvlei in the TygerBurger 2011/01/26.

Woensdag 26 Januarie 2011 Nuus/News TygerBurger Milnerton Bladsy 7

Geese multiplying in CT

LEON STEENKAMP

HUNDREDS of Egyptian Geese are currently moulting at the Rietvlei wetlands reserve.

According to reserve manager Koos Retief this is a natural process where the birds discard their feathers which are then replaced by new ones.

"During the moulting period the geese are more exposed to attacks from their natural predators and therefore they spend more time on the open water," Retief said.

He added that Egyptian Geese (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*) are found in several of the reserves in and around Cape Town including Rietvlei, Rondevlei and Zeekoivlei.

"Egyptian Geese are indigenous to Africa and are generally found in huge numbers in areas where they can feed on green grass and grain seeds.

"Huge groups also occur in wetland areas during moulting."

Retief says that development in both rural and urban areas like golf courses, school fields, park lawns and farms have produced new food sources for these birds.

"Due to the increase in artificial-ly made habitats their numbers have increased significantly, but there is little proof that this has had a negative effect on other bird species.

"They are not aggressive towards other birds. The increase in their numbers is solely due to the favourable habitat that we have created for them," Retief said adding that this increase is observed particularly in agricultural lands and golf courses.

"As Egyptian geese are a harmless indigenous species, there is no programme in place to control their numbers," Retief said.



There is currently an abundance of bird life at Rietvlei. Seen here are Egyptian geese, Spurwing geese and pelicans.

Photo: Leon Steenkamp

Figure 25. Article that appeared in the TygerBurger (Coast and Milnerton eds) on 2011/01/26.



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Figure 26. Article that appeared in the TygerBurger (Coast and Milnerton eds) on 2011/01/26.

Admin office to open at Rietvlei

LEON STEENKAMP

The management of the Rietvlei Wetland Reserve will soon have a more hands-on approach following the building of administration offices on the premises.

According to Koos Retief from the City of Cape Town's Environmental Resource Management Department (ERMD), the building will accommodate a team consisting of biodiversity managers, environmental educators, field rangers and interns.

"This team's functions range from managing and monitoring the local biodiversity, building partnerships with stakeholders, and implementing policies and legislation designed to promote the protection and sustainable use of the nature reserve," says Retief, who is currently stationed at the Milpark Centre in Milnerton.

The building will also function as a walk-in centre for visitors interested in obtaining information regarding the unique biodiversity of Rietvlei, nature conservation and other environmental issues.

"Residents in the surrounding communities will be able to interact directly with the management team," he says.

Retief confirmed that the office is



Members of the City's biodiversity management branch will soon have an office building in the Rietvlei Wetland Reserve. The building is currently being constructed next to the clubhouse of the Milnerton Aquatics Club.

Photo: Leon Steenkamp

being constructed inside a pre-determined development footprint, on an already transformed area (so-called "grey area") next to the Milnerton Aquatic Club (MAC).

"This is to ensure that the local biodiversity is minimally affected by the construction work. The nature reserve entrance will also be revamped to be more informative

and welcoming to visitors," he says.

According to MAC commodore, Ross Cowing, the club will lose half of the area they used for storing their powerboats.

"But the ERMD has compensated us for it, in terms of allowing the club to extend two of our boundary walls by eight and six metres respectively," he said.

Other members were upset to see the removal of the alien Natal fig trees that had been growing on that piece of land.

Retief confirmed that the trees were not chopped down but pruned and dug out alive for replanting elsewhere.

Cowing said the club supports the City's effort to make the reserve a World Heritage Site.

The City is presently undertaking a public participation process around the boundaries and integrated management plans for 17 of its nature reserves. The Rietvlei Wetland Reserve forms part of this process.

Interested and affected parties are requested to comment on the boundaries and integrated management plans by no later than Monday 28 February. The information can be accessed at www.capetown.gov.za/reserveproclamation.

Once this process is completed, an application will be lodged with Cape Nature to acquire contract nature reserve status for these reserves in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act.

Figure 27. Article on the future office construction at Rietvlei (2011/02/23).

Woensdag 23 Maart 2011

Nuus

Nature reserve grows

A bigger Table Bay Nature Reserve could soon be a reality.

Blaauwberg Sub-council chair, Heather Brenner, announced at a recent sub-council meeting that applications have been made to add new areas to the reserve area.

"Good news coming from Koos Retief, head of our arm of the City's biodiversity unit is an application to Cape Nature to include Milnerton Racecourse in the combined proclamation of Table Bay Nature Reserve to include the following Blaauwberg areas: Zoarvlei (Paarden Island wetlands); Milner-

ton Lagoon; Milnerton Racecourse; Rietvlei wetlands; Rietvlei coastal section; Diep River and Parklands Fynbos Corridor," Brenner said.

She added: "As an ex-officio participant of some of the management meetings for these nature areas I am delighted with the progress being made in their preservation and fully support the proposal which will result in a 'string of pearls' of environmental significance in our Blaauwberg area that could eventually be linked to other bigger natural areas as is supported internationally as the way to go for sustainability."

Figure 28. Article in the TygerBurger on the proposed Table Bay Nature Reserve (2011/03/23).

1 | The Table Bay Nature Reserve's vision is to become an internationally recognisable natural feature in Cape Town.

5

5.2 Stakeholder Engagement (internal meetings)

Table 11. Records of internal stakeholder meetings relating to the TBNR.

Reserve	Date	Meeting/Workshop	Purpose
Milnerton	2011/01/14	Public Participation Office regarding recreational water areas by-law	Planning
	2011/01/19	TBNR staff information session regarding the TASK T1-T13 Job Description Signoff Process	Feedback
	2011/01/24	Individual Performance Management meeting with Regional Manager	Management
	2011/01/27	Meeting with two staff members about poor work performance	Management
	2011/02/24	TBNR staff meeting	Planning
	2011/02/25	Internship Awards Ceremony	Feedback
	2011/03/01	Internship Introductions	Feedback
	2011/03/03	Zoarvlei planning meeting with Cliff Dorse, Bongani Mnisi and David Curran from City Parks	Planning
	2011/03/07	Ame Purves regarding maps of the TBNR	Planning
	2011/03/14	Public Participation Office regarding recreational water areas by-law	Planning
	2011/03/31	Building Development regarding process for approvals of building plans for Rietvlei office construction	Planning
	2011/03/31	TBNR staff meeting	Planning

5.3 North District Meetings: Health and Safety, Monthly etc

Table 12. Records of district meeting relating to the TBNR.

Date	Venue	Type of Meeting (s)
2011/01/28	Rietvlei EE Centre	North Region Health & Safety Meeting
	Rietvlei EE Centre	North Region Management Meeting
2011/02/25	Eerstesteen	North Region Management Meeting

5.4 Environmental Resource Management Branch Meetings/Fun Days

Table 13. Records of branch meetings relating to the TBNR.

Date	Venue/Theme
2011/01/18	Branch Invasive Alien Species (IAS meeting)
2011/02/11	Branch gathering regarding Integrated Reserve Management Plans
2011/03/03	Branch Meeting: South Region (Kenilworth Racecourse)
2011/03/30	Student Presentations at Rondevlei Boma

6 Human Resource Management

6.1 Staff Establishment

Table 14. TBRN staff complement.

Area	Position	Purpose	Number	*P/CE
Milnerton	Area Manager	Functional / Operational Management	01	P
	Water Ranger	Gate Control/Visitor Management/Law Enfor	02	P
	Assistant Cons Off	Conservation Compliance – Diep River	01	P
	Small Plant Operator	Chainsaw/Brushcutter/weed eaters etc	01	P
	Foreman	Supervision of junior staff	01	P
	Senior Worker	Labour	04	P
	Students	Nature Conservation Diplomas	01	CE
	EE Intern	EE Programme Management	01	CE
TOTALS			12	

***P/C E: Permanent or Contract Employees**

- Staff were off duty on two **public holidays** (2011/01/01 and 2011/03/21), but Rietvlei was open to the public and visitor managers were on duty.
- The **TBRN team** performed the following functions:
 - invasive vegetation clearing in Rietvlei wetlands, Diep River, Fynbos Corridor, and Milnerton Ridge sections, as well as tree-felling at the main entrance gate and Manatoka clearing near SANCCOB;
 - cleaning of toilets, braai facilities and bird hides;
 - removal of broken water-sports infrastructure (tyres) from MAC;
 - litter clean-ups in Diep River sections;
 - path maintenance;
 - fence repairs in the Diep River section and fence patrols;
 - firebreak maintenance at Milnerton Racecourse section;
 - wildfire management at Rietvlei and Diep River sections, as well as Blaauwberg and Tygerberg NRs;
 - cleaning of illegal occupation sites at coastal section and Dolphin Beach;
- The new **nature conservation students** for the TBRN are Tammy Fallone and Griet Marx. They are both from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. They underwent an orientation week, received tetanus inoculations on 2011/01/05, and were given medical and driver's assessments to obtain authority to drive Council vehicles. They have also undergone their first Form A performance evaluation. Griet Marx's research topic is "**The influence of eutrophication on the biodiversity of algae at Rietvlei Nature Reserve**". Tammy Fallone's research topic is "**The Abundance and distribution of the Lepus species (Cape & Scrub hares) within Table Bay Nature Reserve.**"
- Koos Retief conducted interviews for 3 **Assistant Environmental Education internship** positions on 2011/01/20. One of these positions is located at the Rietvlei Education Centre. **Chanelle Naidoo** was selected for the Rietvlei internship and started her service on 2011/03/1. She will be in service until 2012/02/28.
- All staff went for **uniform fittings** at Maitland. New uniforms are yet to be ordered.
- Koos Retief was on **leave** from 2011/03/16-24.

6.2 Staff Training

Table 15. TBRN staff training records.

Area	Date	Type of Training	Attended Staff	Person Days
Milnerton	2011/02/28	Biodiversity Database	4	4
	2011/03/22-25	Internship Workshop	1	4
TOTALS			5	8

7 Tourism and Visitor Statistics

7.1 Summary of this quarter: January 2011-March 2011

Table 16. TBRN income for January 2011-March 2011.

Description	Jan	Feb	Mar	Cost	Quantity	Income	Total
Adult (13+)	318	190	224	R 10.00	732	R 7 320	R 29 860
Adult Annual	2	1		R 105.00	3	R 315	
Call out fee P/Hour				R 100.00	0	R 0	
Child (03 - 13 yer)	60	32	39	R 5.00	131	R 655	
Child (Under Age 03 yrs)	7	3	2	R 0.00	12	R 0	
Edu Booklet				R 7.00	0	R 0	
Family Annual	1			R 160.00	1	R 160	
Film 1 - 9 Persons				R 100.00	0	R 0	
Film 10 - 20 Persons				R 250.00	0	R 0	
Film 21 and above persons				R 500.00	0	R 0	
Fishing adult	167	96	130	R 34.00	393	R 13 362	
Fishing child	29	19	23	R 12.00	71	R 852	
Fishing senior	10	14	16	R 12.00	40	R 480	
Friends Free	23	19	10	R 0.00	52	R 0	
Information Booklet				R 23.00	0	R 0	
Learner (G FL School)				R 2.00	0	R 0	
Learner (Gov School)				R 0.00	0	R 0	
Learner Other			71	R 4.00	71	R 284	
Learner with Student Card				R 5.00	0	R 0	
Pensioner Annual				R 53.00	0	R 0	
Powerboat				R 40.00	0	R 0	
Powerboat Test				R 100.00	0	R 0	
Senior (60+)	30	59	23	R 5.00	112	R 560	
Trap Cage Hire P/Week				R 200.00	0	R 0	
Vehicles	140	99	128	R 16.00	367	R 5 872	
Wild Card	34	33	34	R 0.00	101	R 0	

- See Figures 29 – 30 for pie charts relating to the income at TBNR.

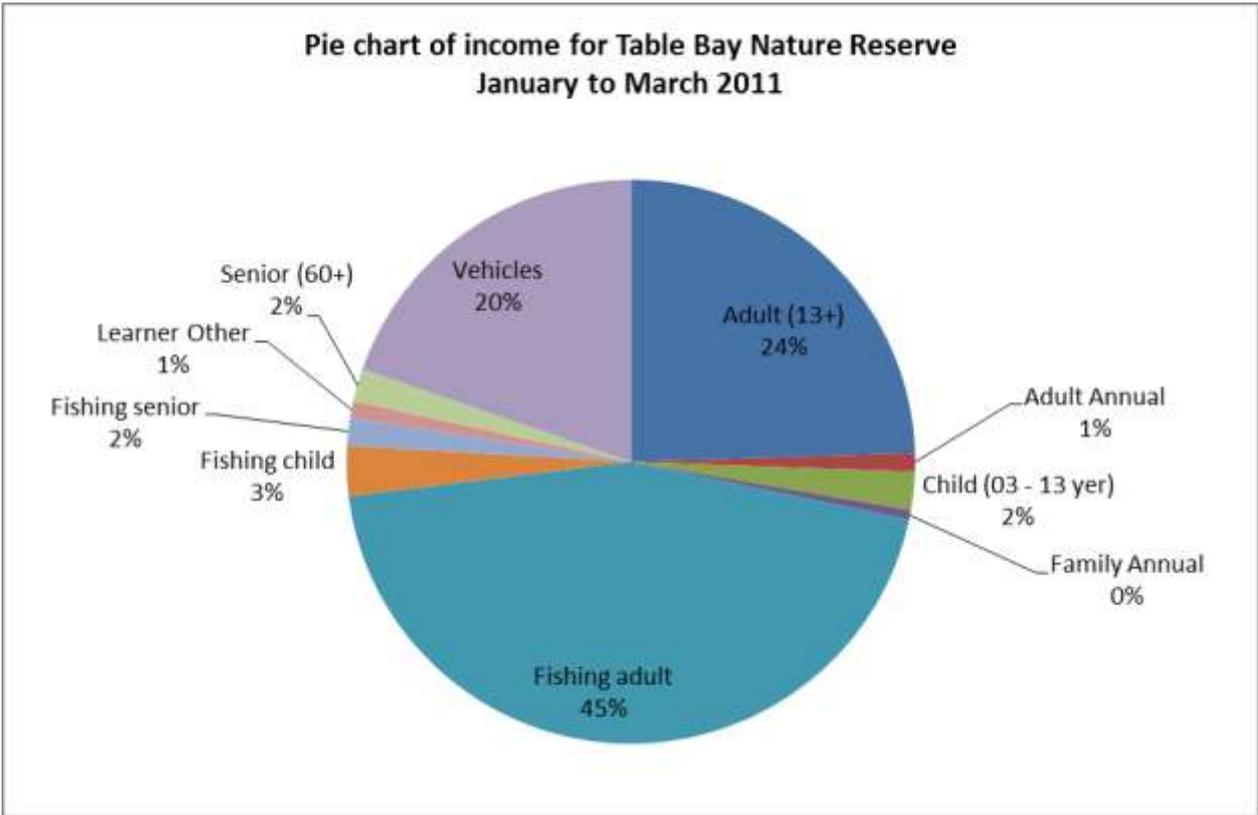


Figure 29. Pie chart of nicome for the TBNR this quarter.

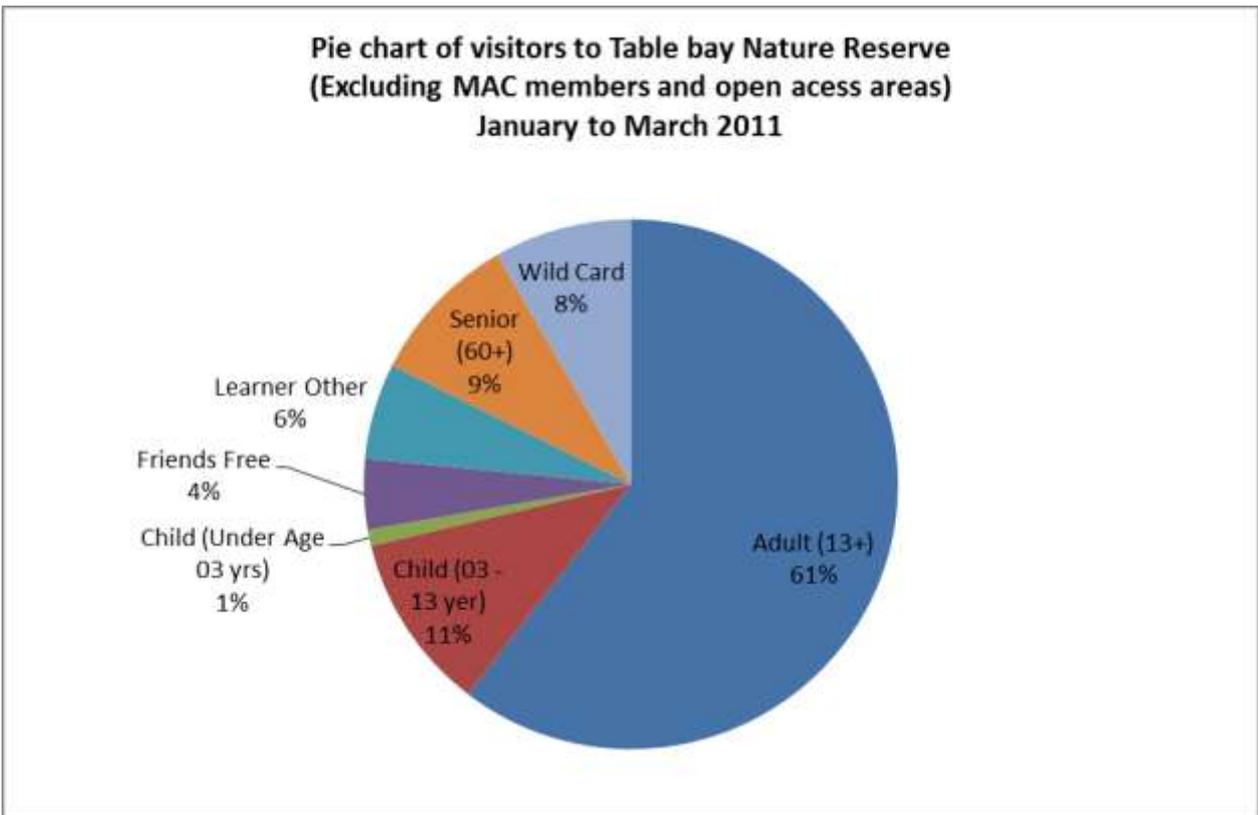


Figure 30. Pie chart of visitors to the TBNR this quarter

8 Law Enforcement

8.1 Figures

Table 17. Records of law enforcement interventions in the TBNR.

Area	Intervention (incident, case etc)	Number
Diep River	Dog hunter was found behind container depot and given verbal warning	1
	A religious group was instructed not to use the Diep River or drive through the area as they have no permission	1

- TBNR staff assisted with a clean-up around **illegal occupations** in the Theo Marais Park on 2011/02/02. There are also concerns over cast netting from the bridge in Milnerton Lagoon (see Figures 31 & 32), as well as dog hunting in the Diep River (see Figures 33 & 34).



Figure 31 & 32. Cast netting from Woodbridge Island's concrete bridge is illegal. The law enforcement team has to follow up about which legislation applies in this regard. (Photos by: Glen Eric Huysamer)



Figure 33. Dog hunter in Diep River.



Figure 34. Hunting dogs in Diep River.

9 Infrastructure

9.1 Repairs and Maintenance

Table 18. Repairs and maintenance records for the TBNR.

Reserve	Site	Description	Completed	Funding Source
Rietvlei	South Vlei	Second bird hide	50%	Milnerton Area Cost Centre
	North Vlei	Jetti at slipway	100%	Milnerton Area Cost Centre
Die River	Fence	Various fence repairs and maintenance in Diep River	100%	Milnerton Area Cost Centre

- The Diep River section experienced continued **vandalism**, with about 130 meters of fence line damaged, as well as five padlocks being stolen or broken, and one boom gate stolen.
- Koos Retief arranged an **all-hours emergency and standby phone number** for the TBNR. The number is **071 268 9637**. This phone will be held by the standby person according to the standby roster.
- Koos Retief arranged a **fax-to-mail number** which receives faxes to his work E-mail box. The number is **086 576 2237**.
- The **IS&T Department** advised all at the Milpark Centre that their access to accounts on the H:Drive will be closed down due to fears of the drive crashing and losing all the data. A new M:Drive was created for Koos Retief's documents on a new server at the Civic Center, next to the present location of the H:Drive. All documents from the H:Drive must be migrated to the M:Drive within 30 days.



Figure 35. Nails and staples in the driveways and parking areas that could lead to tyre punctures.



Figure 36. Washed up tyres from the MAC tyre barrier at the slalom ski lanes.



Figure 37. Broken jetti.



Figure 38. Jetti repaired.



Figure 39. Tractor that needs to be removed.



Figure 40. Recreational material of MAC being removed by the TBNR staff.

10 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

10.1 Capital Projects

Table 19. Records of CAPEX projects at TBNR.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	% SPENT	COMMENT
Maisel's Cottage Steel Palisade Fencing	Steel Palisade Fencing	R84,645,30	100	Icon Civils on Tender
Rietvlei office	Administrative complex development	R2,5 million		Tender process underway
Rietvlei office	Concrete opalisade wall movment	Unknown	0%	Contract generated and underway.

- **Rietvlei office construction (see Figures 41 – 45):**

- A **construction tender** was awarded to MSD Contractors. No objections were lodged in the 21-day period for objects.
- Five **Brazilian peppers trees** that were growing on the edge of the Milnerton Aquatic Club palisade wall were removed by the TBNR team, starting on 2001/02/01. These trees were killed with herbicide at the base.
- The **construction site clearance** was done by building a temporary parking area for the MAC power boats and moving the boats into that area. Then a tree felling contractor was used to clear seven large natal fig trees from the site. They used a low bed truck, a bull dozer, a crane truck, a team of chainsaw operators using rope access techniques, as well as transport truck to remove the trees. The trees were trimmed first, and the brush material chipped and removed. The remainder of the live tree material were excavated and transported alive off site.
- The **site hand over** to MSD Contractors took place on 2011/02/03. A site camp was established and work commenced with the digging of trenches and laying of foundations. The construction was however halted by two cease works orders from the Building Development Department when it was found that C2C Consultants (the consulting engineer for the project) have never submitted a consent use application or building plans for approval. C2C Consultants were supposed to obtain these approvals before construction started, but neglected to do that. A consent use application was then submitted to Town Planning and two objections were received.
- A request was submitted to IS&T Department to provide a costing for **connectivity** of the future office to the City of Cape Town network and internet. This quotation was received and forwarded to the Regional Manager for budgeting.
- The movement of the **palisade wall of the Milnerton Aquatic Club** required a procurement process within the City. A site meeting with prospective contractors was held on 2011/03/09.



Figure 41. Brazilian peppers being removed from office construction site.



Figure 42. Ficus natalensis trees being removed from office construction site.



Figure 43. Digging of trenches at office construction site.



Figure 44. Delivery of some materials to office construction site.

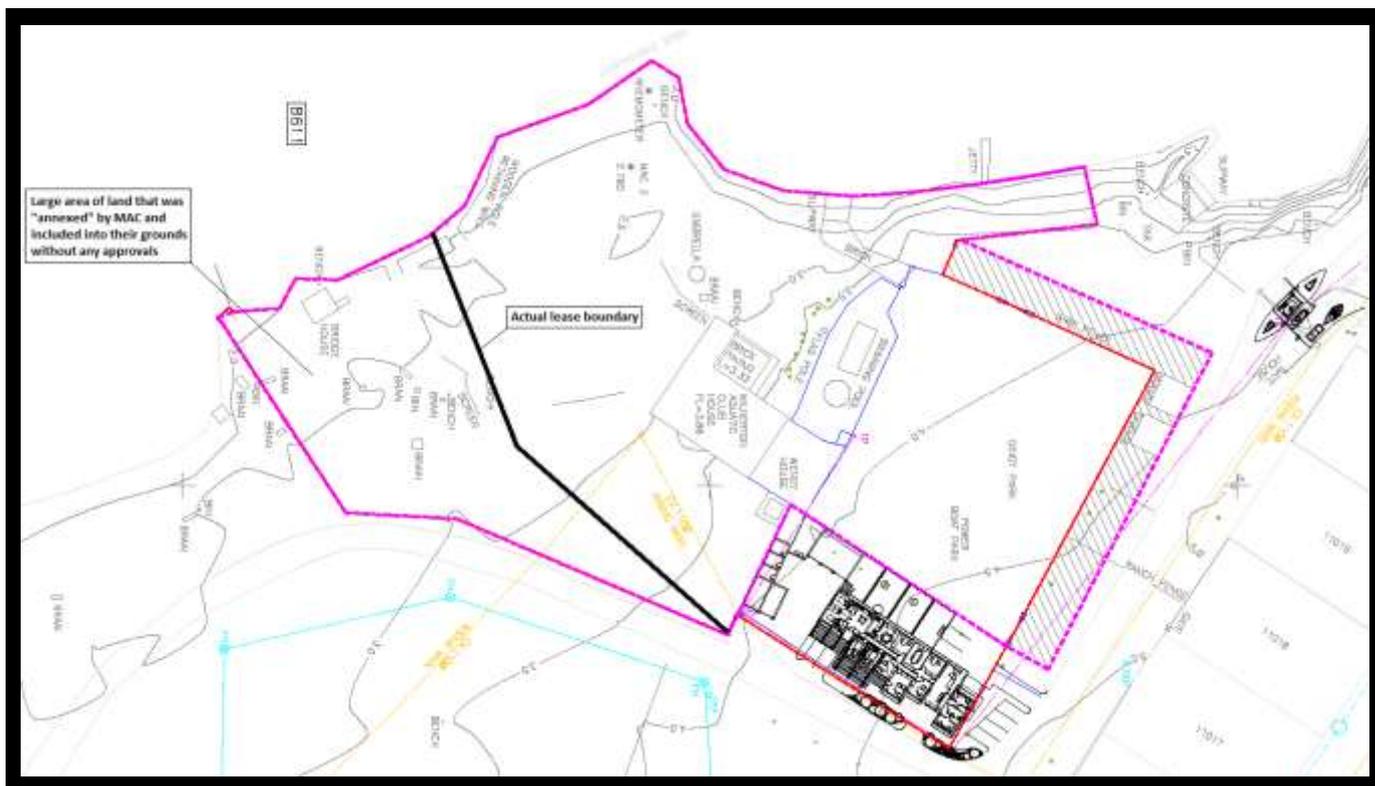


Figure 45. Location plan of the Milnerton Aquatic Club and proposed Rietvlei office.

11 Challenges and Highlights

11.1 Highlights

- The draft **Integrated Reserve Management Plan** for the Table Bay Nature Reserve was completed.
- The public participation plan for the **draft recreational water areas by-law** was conducted during 2011/03/1-31.

11.2 Challenges

- The **Rietvlei office construction** was halted by two cease works orders from Building Development Department, subject to consent use approvals and building plan approvals. C2C Consultants were supposed to obtain these approvals before construction started, but neglected to do that.

11.3 Priorities for next quarter

- Rietvlei **office construction** on site.
- **Recreational Water Areas By-Law** revision.

Koos Retief

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The Table Bay Nature Reserve's vision is to become an internationally recognisable natural feature in Cape Town.