

To develop and manage a system of national parks that represents the biodiversity, landscapes, and associated heritage assets of South Africa for the sustainable use and benefit of all.



22 July 2022

Mr Randolph Daames
Building Control
Knysna Municipality

Per email: building@knysna.gov.za

RE: COMMENT ON BUILDING PLAN DEPARTURE FOR ERF 12136 THESEN ISLAND (H21)

The original application for the following alternations: Installation of new gazebo above existing jetty, Extension of jetty towards embankment, Installation of new staircase leading to canal, Construction of new fire pit, Installation of new swimming pool (Departure) was approved by SANParks on 8 July 2022, except for the installation of the new staircase. The installation of a new staircase was not approved due to an increase in the footprint and subsequent environmental impact on the Knysna Estuary. SANParks requested that alternative designs should be considered for access to the canal.

On 19 July 2022, CMAI Architects submitted revised plans where the proposed new staircase had been removed. A subsequent phone call from CMAI Architects confirmed that the staircase will no longer be constructed as part of the plan and that access to the jetty will be by means of the existing staircase.



- addo elephant
- agulhas
- augrabies falls
- bontebok
- golden gate highlands
- karoo
- kgalagadi transfrontier
- knysna lake area
- kruger
- mapungubwe
- marakele
- mountain zebra
- namaqua
- table mountain
- tankwa-karoo
- tsitsikamma
- |ai-|ais/richtersveld
- vaalbos
- west coast
- wilderness

SANParks is therefore satisfied that none of the works in the revised plan will have an environmental impact on the estuary, provided that construction impact is managed. As with all work in close proximity to the waterways, contractors must ensure that hoardings

are erected along the affected areas adjacent to the waterways. A Maintenance Permit must be obtained from the SANParks Office on Thesen Island. SANParks have no objections to the departure application for location of the new swimming pool.

SANParks reserves the right to revise initial comments if additional information becomes available.

The above comments are made in line with the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (57/2003) and the Regulations for the Proper Administration of the Knysna Protected Environment (GN1175 of Dec 2009).

Yours sincerely



Megan Taplin
Park Manager
Knysna
Garden Route National Park

CC:	Maretha Alant	SANParks
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