# SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY

**EIA Reference number:** 

Project name: Renewstable Sivutse A

Project title: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWSTABLE ®SIVUTSE ON

THE FARM BERGVLIET 65HS AND REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM RIETFONTEIN 66HS, WITHIN THE DR PIXLEY KA ISAKA SEME LOCAL

MUNICIPALITY IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Date screening report generated: 26/06/2024 13:45:26

**Applicant:** Renewstable Sivutse

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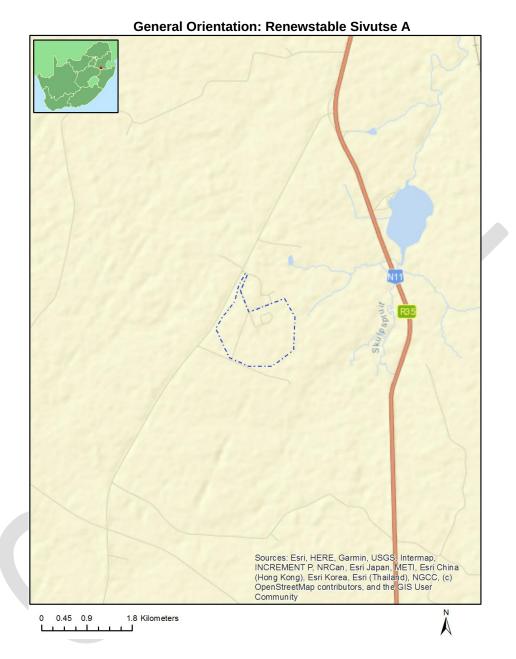
Application Category: Utilities Infrastructure | Electricity | Generation | Renewable | Solar | PV

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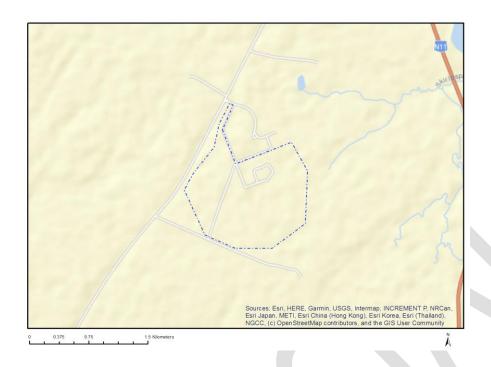
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## **Proposed Project Location**

## Orientation map 1: General location



## Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



#### Cadastral details of the proposed site

#### Property details:

| No | Farm Name | Farm/ Erf No | Portion | Latitude    | Longitude    | Property Type |
|----|-----------|--------------|---------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1  | BERBVLEIT | 65           | 0       | 27°5'11.33S | 29°52'33.6E  | Farm          |
| 2  |           | 262          | 0       | 27°5'55.33S | 29°49'36.33E | Farm          |
| 3  | WERDA     | 261          | 0       | 27°6'49.78S | 29°50'17.55E | Farm          |
| 4  | BERBVLEIT | 65           | 34      | 27°5'34.57S | 29°51'11.71E | Farm Portion  |
| 5  | BERBVLEIT | 65           | 6       | 27°6'5.14S  | 29°51'27.7E  | Farm Portion  |
| 6  | BERBVLEIT | 65           | 21      | 27°5'10.69S | 29°51'20.52E | Farm Portion  |
| 7  | WERDA     | 261          | 2       | 27°6'42.42S | 29°50'22.15E | Farm Portion  |
| 8  | BERBVLEIT | 65           | 31      | 27°5'49.39S | 29°50'41.76E | Farm Portion  |

Development footprint<sup>1</sup> vertices: No development footprint(s) specified.

Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

| No | EIA Reference | Classification | Status of   | Distance from proposed |
|----|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|
|    | No            |                | application | area (km)              |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and incudes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

| 1 | 14/12/16/3/3/2/752  | Solar PV | Approved | 5.9 |
|---|---------------------|----------|----------|-----|
| 2 | 14//12/16/3/3/2/752 | Solar PV | Approved | 5.9 |

#### Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application

No intersections with EMF areas found.

## Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is:

Utilities Infrastructure | Electricity | Generation | Renewable | Solar | PV.

#### Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

| Incentive, restriction or prohibition                                   | Implication  |
|---|--|
| Air Quality-Highveld<br>Priority Area                                   | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/HIGHVELD_PRIORITY_AREA_AQMP.pdf |
| Strategic Gas Pipeline<br>Corridors-Phase 3:<br>Richards Bay to Gauteng | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Combined_GAS.pdf                |
| Main Electricity Distribution Substation                                | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Distribution_Transmission.pdf   |

#### Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

| Theme                       | Very High   | High        | Medium      | Low         |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                             | sensitivity | sensitivity | sensitivity | sensitivity |
| Agriculture Theme           |             | Χ           |             |             |
| Animal Species Theme        |             | Χ           |             |             |
| Aquatic Biodiversity Theme  | Х           |             |             |             |
| Archaeological and Cultural |             |             |             | Х           |
| Heritage Theme              |             |             |             |             |
| Avian Theme                 |             |             |             | Х           |
| Civil Aviation (Solar PV)   |             |             | Х           |             |
| Theme                       |             |             |             |             |
| Defence Theme               |             |             |             | Х           |
| Landscape (Solar) Theme     | Х           |             |             |             |

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| Paleontology Theme             |   | Χ |   |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Plant Species Theme            |   | Χ |   |
| RFI Theme                      |   |   | Χ |
| Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme | Χ |   |   |

#### Specialist assessments identified

Based on the selected classification, and the known impacts associated with the proposed development, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

| No | Specialist                | Assessment Protocol   |
|----|---------------------------|---|
|    | assessment                |   |
| 1  | Agricultural Impact       | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Assessment                | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted WindAndSolar Agriculture Assessme          |
|    |                           | nt_Protocols.pdf  |
| 2  | Landscape/Visual Impact   | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Assessment                | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment P           |
|    |                           | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 3  | Archaeological and        | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Cultural Heritage Impact  | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment P           |
|    | Assessment                | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 4  | Palaeontology Impact      | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Assessment                | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment P           |
|    |                           | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 5  | Terrestrial Biodiversity  | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Impact Assessment         | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment        |
|    |                           | <u>Protocols.pdf</u>  |
| 6  | Aquatic Biodiversity      | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Impact Assessment         | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Pr         |
|    |                           | <u>otocols.pdf</u>  |
| 7  | Civil Aviation Assessment | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    |                           | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted Civil Aviation Installations Assessme      |
|    |                           | nt_Protocols.pdf  |
| 8  | Defense Assessment        | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    |                           | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted_Defence_Installations_Assessment_Pr        |
|    |                           | <u>otocols.pdf</u>  |
| 9  | RFI Assessment            | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    |                           | <u>ssmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_P</u>    |
|    |                           | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 10 | Geotechnical Assessment   | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    |                           | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_P           |
|    |                           | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 11 | Socio-Economic            | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    | Assessment                | <u>ssmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_P</u>    |
|    |                           | <u>rotocols.pdf</u>   |
| 12 | Plant Species Assessment  | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse        |
|    |                           | <u>ssmentProtocols/Gazetted_Plant_Species_Assessment_Protocols.</u> |
|    |                           | <u>pdf</u>  |

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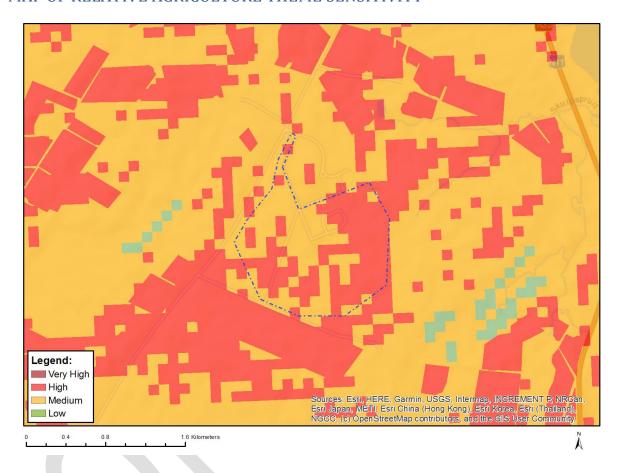
| 13 | Animal Species | https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/Asse |
|----|----------------|--|
|    | Assessment     | ssmentProtocols/Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protoco   |
|    |                | <u>ls.pdf</u>  |



## Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.

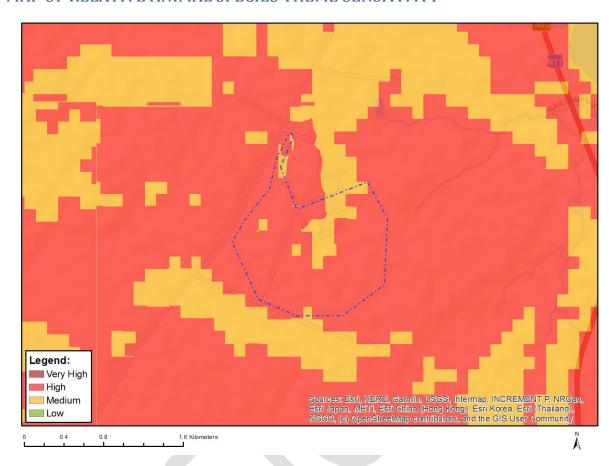
#### MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       | X                |                    |                 |

| Sensitivity Feature(s) |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|
| High                   | Land capability;09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-High            |  |
| Medium                 | Land capability;06. Low-Moderate/07. Low-Moderate/08. Moderate |  |

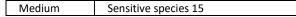
#### MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY



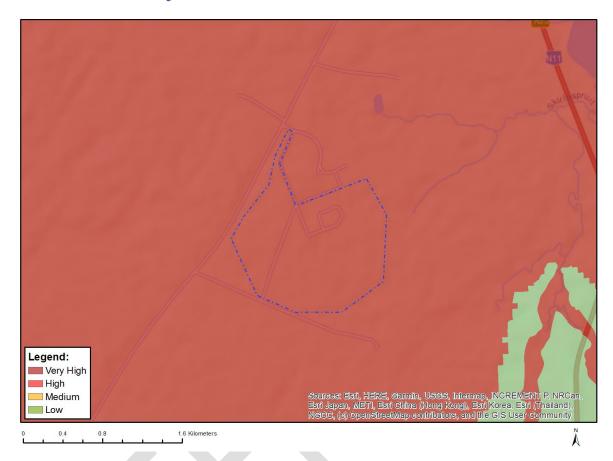
Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at <a href="mailto:eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za">eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za</a> listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       | X                |                    |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)                       |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| High        | Aves-Spizocorys fringillaris     |
| High        | Aves-Geronticus calvus           |
| High        | Sensitive species 15             |
| Medium      | Aves-Eupodotis senegalensis      |
| Medium      | Aves-Sagittarius serpentarius    |
| Medium      | Aves-Tyto capensis               |
| Medium      | Aves-Circus ranivorus            |
| Medium      | Aves-Neotis denhami              |
| Medium      | Aves-Balearica regulorum         |
| Medium      | Mammalia-Chrysospalax villosus   |
| Medium      | Mammalia-Crocidura maquassiensis |
| Medium      | Mammalia-Hydrictis maculicollis  |
| Medium      | Mammalia-Ourebia ourebi ourebi   |



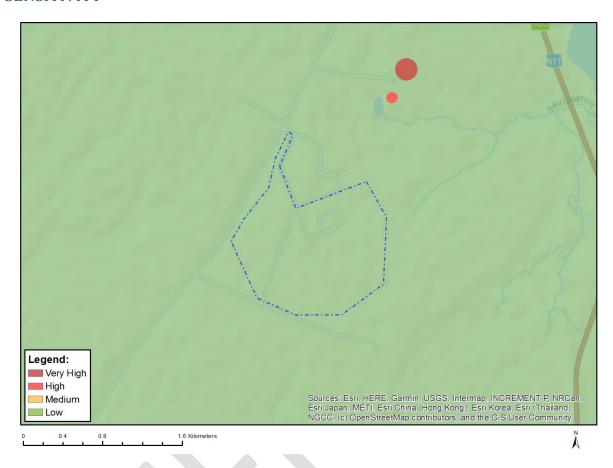
## MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| X                     |                  |                    |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)   |
|-------------|--|
| Very High   | ESA: Important subcatchments                       |
| Very High   | ESA: Wetlands                                      |
| Very High   | FEPA Subcatchment                                  |
| Very High   | Wetlands_Mesic Highveld Grassland Bioregion (Seep) |

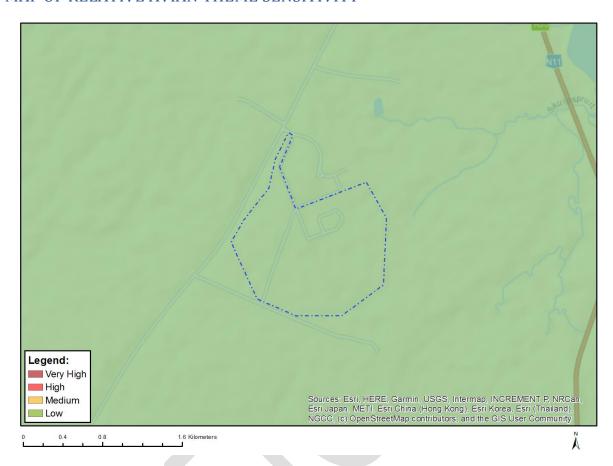
## MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  |                    | Χ               |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)      |  |
|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Low         | Low sensitivity |  |

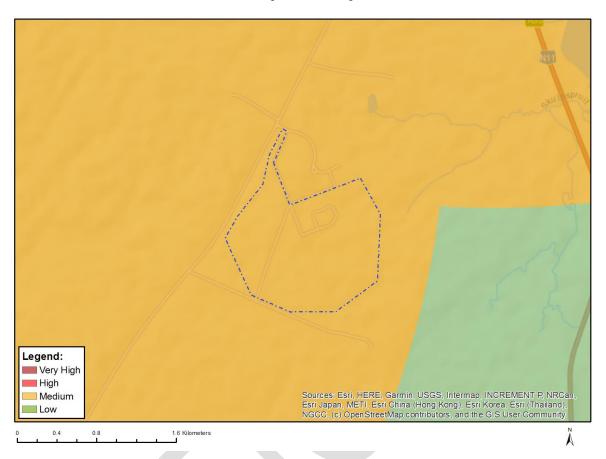
#### MAP OF RELATIVE AVIAN THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  |                    | Χ               |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)      |  |
|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Low         | Low Sensitivity |  |

## MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION (SOLAR PV) THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  | X                  |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)                                       |
|-------------|--|
| Medium      | Within 8 km of an other civil aviation aerodrome |

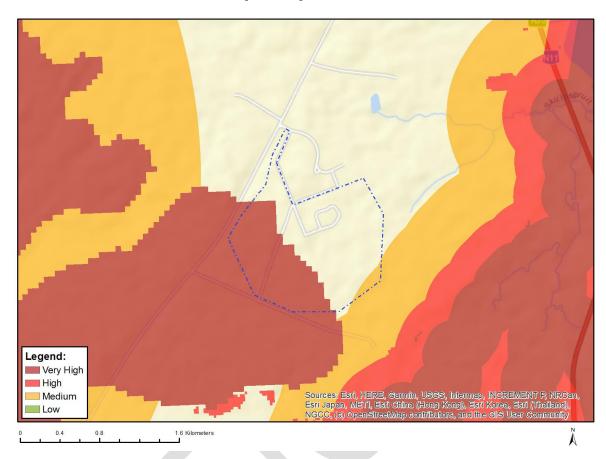
#### MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  |                    | X               |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)      |  |
|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Low         | Low sensitivity |  |

## MAP OF RELATIVE LANDSCAPE (SOLAR) THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| X                     |                  |                    |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)                    |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Medium      | Within 1000 m of a wetland    |
| Very High   | Mountain tops and high ridges |

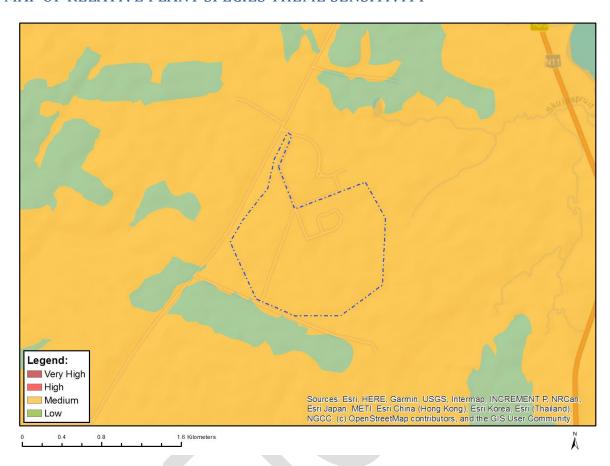
#### MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  | X                  |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)   |
|-------------|--|
| Medium      | Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity |

#### MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY

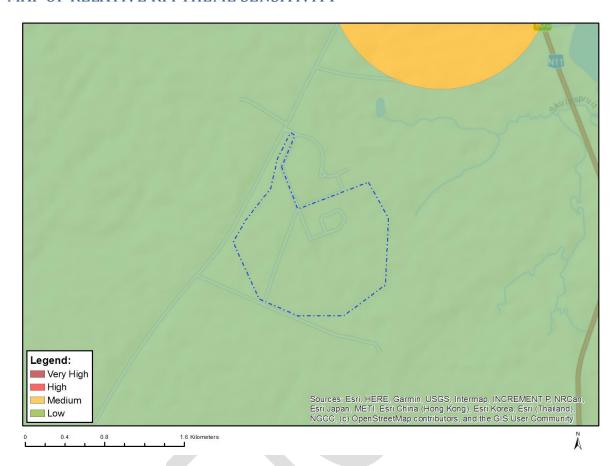


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| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  | X                  |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)            |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Low         | Low Sensitivity       |
| Medium      | Sensitive species 851 |

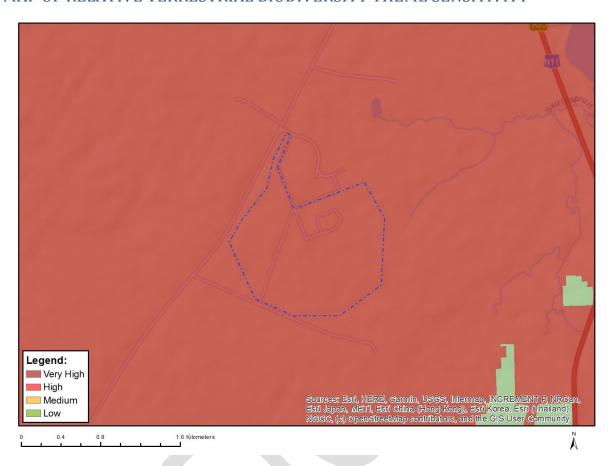
#### MAP OF RELATIVE RFI THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  |                    | Χ               |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)      |  |
|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Low         | Low sensitivity |  |

#### MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY



| Very High sensitivity | High sensitivity | Medium sensitivity | Low sensitivity |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| X                     |                  |                    |                 |

| Sensitivity | Feature(s)   |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| Very High   | CBA 1  |  |
| Very High   | FEPA Subcatchment                                  |  |
| Very High   | National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) |  |