EMOZ – Environmental Management Overlay Zones

Purpose: To provide a mechanism for land use management, additional to existing statutory land use controls, whereby Council may give effect to specific guidelines in a spatial development framework or policy plan or address a specific management issue

SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OVERLAY ZONE REGULATIONS

Protected Area Buffer EMOZ -- See Plan 3 for the current areas so identified.

Rationale to reduce pressure on the core protected area. Gives special attention to eliminating alien vegetation invasion and special consideration for fire management protocols and to limit inappropriate land use

**It is proposed that the Protected Area Buffer EMOZ, Plan 3 should be extended to include all of Rooiels, including the urban footprint, as part of the Buffer zone EMOZ** in recognition of its importance as a refuge to the natural flora and fynbos in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve**.**

Alternatively to declare all of Rooiels an Urban Conservation EMOZ and so add on a Plan 5.17 that would show Rooiels as an urban EMOZ

**The Rationale for including Rooiels into an identified EMOZ:**

Rooiels is one of the few areas of coastal plain within the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve that is still dominated by indigenous vegetation. The other areas are either significantly altered by urban footprint and/or by alien vegetation (Kogelbay beach, Pringle Bay, Hangklip and Betty’s Bay). This makes Rooiels and the adjacent smallholdings very important in linking the mountains to the sea and in preserving the biodiversity of the coastal fynbos.

Rooiels, with its natural fynbos also plays an important “refuge” role acting as a seed bank and as habitat for insects and all fauna. It supports the core protected area of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve.

Rooiels is able to play a valuable role in understanding how to reduce conflicts between human development and the environment. It is a small settlement that has demonstrated its commitment to nature and with its still existing natural vegetation and animals, it can act as a living laboratory.

Rooiels is a settlement where the residents have committed to taking their own measures to reduce baboon/human conflict by implementing strict waste management guidelines and by educating residents and visitors on appropriate mitigation and adaptation mechanisms. This reduces pressure on the municipality to provide services to manage human/baboon conflict and ensure that the baboons still have access to play their important role in the ecology of coastal fynbos.