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date	7 May 2025

Ms Pickover
Executive Director
EMS Foundation

Via e-mail: michele@emsfoundation.org.za

Dear Ms Pickover

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF PERMIT

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 May 2025. We have considered the points raised in the following discussion.

CapeNature has several years of experience in regulating baboon management across several municipalities. There are often various views and allegations regarding approaches to and methods of baboon management. Across these management localities and perspectives, animal well-being remains a consideration to CapeNature as is evident in the permit processes and permits conditions.

CapeNature's management of human wildlife conflict, including the regulatory management of human activities involving wildlife strive to achieve overarching conservation outcomes aimed at negating detrimental impacts at population, species and ecosystem level., The administrative processes involved are similarly aimed at ensuring responsible (including humane) and ecologically sustainable practices by people in relation to wildlife.

Any allegations of non-compliance with permit conditions or the contravention of any conservation legislation, which could result in a fine and/or criminal investigation by law enforcement officials or any form of administrative enforcement (e.g. withdrawal or suspension of a permit), are to be

substantive and informed by evidence that meet the required standards, including sworn statements, factual and empirical documentation.

For an official investigation to be lodged, an investigating officer must be equipped with the evidence, based on which, they will engage the alleged offender. Should you wish for CapeNature to pursue an investigation, kindly furnish CapeNature with the evidence as described above and in your preceding letters (i.e. first hand/eyewitness sworn statements (affidavit) and supporting videos, photos etc.).

Details in all witness statements must include to the extent possible (and is not limited to):

- Date and time of incident.
- Full name, surname, date of birth, and ID number of deponent (witness).
- Who committed the offence? Describe the person(s) in detail.
- Where did the offence take place? Street address, ERF number, farm name.
- Were baboons present? How many? Approximate age category e.g. infant, adult? Explain in detail where the baboons were and what they were doing.
- Explain in detail where the offender came from, moved to and the action he/she carried out.
- What actions did you take during the event?
- How did the offence affect the baboons?
- Explain in detail what you witnessed after the offence took place.
- Are there any photos or videos which can support your statement and are these photos and videos available?
- State what action you took after witnessing the incident.
- Are there any other witnesses?

Engagement with EMS Foundation on a holistic management approach to human wildlife conflict should not involve exchanges and discussions of evidence or potential merits of a criminal investigation to be conducted by law enforcement officials. Such discussions on potential investigations may potentially prejudice any such investigation. CapeNature will assign an appropriate investigating officer, and the process may involve the South African Police Service, depending on the nature of the reported offence.

For the reasons above and in the spirit of cooperation and intergovernmental relations, CapeNature is willing to engage both the EMS Foundation and Overstrand Municipality collectively, either following the conclusion of an investigation or prior to such investigation in the interest of finding a mutually acceptable mediation or remedial action.

It is important to note that a meeting between CapeNature and EMS Foundation cannot replace any stakeholder engagement or co-management process underway or planned by Overstrand Municipality as the Municipality plays the primary role of baboon management.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Naidoo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Ashley Naidoo
Chief Executive Officer