



Citrus development in NMB will create 70 permanent jobs

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The expansion of the existing citrus cultivation of the farm Olifantsbos will create an estimated 70 additional permanent and 300 seasonal employment opportunities.

The Basic Assessment Report that has now been submitted to the De-partment of Economic Development Environmental Affairs and Tourism for a Record of Decision states that the employment opportunities will generate about R8 million a year.

Labour will be sourced locally – the farm is within the Nelson Mandela Metro although the nearest town is Addo – from communities in both the Metro and Sundays River Valley Municipality.

In its analysis of the potential positive and negative impacts of the development, the Report notes that employment generation and skills development during the construction period are considered positive and can be “enhanced to High Positive by employing local labour and service providers”.

The Report states that the potential impact on the Sundays River ecological corridor is considered Medium Negative, but adds that if the vegetation along the bank is restored to Sunday Spekboom Thicket the project “can be seen to have a Medium Positive impact on the functioning of this corridor”.

The removal of exotic and alien vegetation is also regarded as positive while the potation impact from waste generation and pollution can be reduced to Very Low Negative.

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