

SANDTON SPCA
INSPECTOR REPORT

IIER14475

Complaint Reference No.

Building: ABBINGTON COMPLEX
Street: 5 PETROY DRIVE
Suburb: MAGALIESSIG
Postal Code:
Inspector: XOLANE MNCUBE
Date of Inspection: 2026-05-28
Time of Inspection: 13:00

RESPONDENT'S DETAILS

Name:
Company:
Identification:
Email:
Tel 1:
Tel 2:

REPORT

Access Granted By: STEPHEN
Comment:
Were Animals Seen on the Property: Yes
Relationship to Property Owner: Worker
Captured By: XOLANE MNCUBE 2026-06-02 12:47

CHECKLISTS

CONFINEMENT OF ANIMALS	Free roaming - in property
ADEQUATE SPACE AVAILABLE	Yes
CLEAN LIVING ENVIRONMENT	Yes
WATER AVAILABLE	Yes
ADEQUATE SHELTER AVAILABLE	Yes
ANIMALS IN GOOD CONDITION	Yes
VETERINARY PROBLEMS / HEALTH CO	No

General Report Comments: I observed workers removing dry bulrushes from sections of the man-made dam. I also noted that the water level in the dam had decreased significantly.

During the inspection, I spoke with the Estate Manager, who advised that the purpose of the ongoing maintenance work was not to eradicate bird nests or harm wildlife, but rather to improve and maintain the dam as an animal-friendly environment. I observed several measures that support this objective, including the installation of artificial rock structures that provide shelter and enrichment opportunities for birds and other wildlife. In addition certain areas of bulrushes were intentionally left undisturbed to allow birds to continue nesting naturally. I also observed several owl nesting boxes installed around the complex as part of the estate's wildlife conservation efforts.

The Estate Manager further explained that regular maintenance of the man-made dam is necessary to ensure a healthy and sustainable habitat for the various species that depend on it. Based on my observations during the inspection, I found no evidence that animals or birds were being harmed as a result of the maintenance activities.

The removal of dry bulrushes appears to be a necessary management measure, particularly given the reduced water levels and the increased fire risk associated with dry vegetation. During the winter season, dry bulrushes can easily ignite and contribute to the rapid spread of fires, posing a significant threat to wildlife and their habitat.

The dam is situated adjacent to recreational and picnic areas frequently used by residents. There is a possibility that discarded cigarette butts could accidentally ignite dry vegetation. Furthermore, braai facilities located near the dam create an additional risk, as uncontrolled or escaping flames could spread to surrounding dry bulrushes and vegetation.

Another potential fire hazard is the reflection and concentration of sunlight through residential windows which may under certain conditions generate sufficient heat to ignite extremely dry plant material.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that the removal of dry bulrushes and other dead vegetation is a necessary and responsible maintenance practice & part of their disaster management plan. These actions help reduce fire hazards, improve the overall cleanliness and health of the dam ecosystem, and contribute to creating a safer and more sustainable environment for birds and other wildlife. Based on my observations during the inspection, the maintenance activities appeared to be aimed at habitat management and fire prevention rather than the destruction of bird nests or harm to animals. No animals being harmed.

ACTIONS

NO ACTION REQUIRED

REPORT OUTCOMES

No welfare concerns found - NFA

INSPECTION ANIMALS

Description:

NIL