

Environmentally responsible development update

Where do we stand? Attacq believes natural diversity in ecosystems has many benefits to the natural environment and humans. We also believe that indigenous plants are best adapted to local conditions and will be more resilient and use less scarce resources like water. Therefore Attacq not only supports and complies with relevant environmental and conservation legislation in its developments but strive to establish natural habitat and indigenous landscaping where practical. (EBD17)

In practice: An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is done by independent specialists prior to any development commencing. In the EIA possible impacts on the environment and biodiversity are identified. These impacts are qualified for each of the stages of the development (construction, commissioning and operations).

Environmental sensitive areas are identified and protected. Negative impacts on areas not identified as sensitive are minimised and mitigated, and offsets in other areas are also possible for negative impacts. **(EBD2)**

EIA results are published as a Record of Decision (an ROD), which is proclaimed in a government gazette. This information is publicly accessible for at least a 100 days. The ROD will identify all limitations to development. This will provide a good overview of risk. **(EBD5)**

Implications of the Record of Decision (ROD) will also be contained in the Conditions of Establishment for each development which will identify buffer areas where natural habitats, wet lands and biodiverse areas have to be protected. **(EBD8)**

All habitats will form part of the EIA. At Waterfall, city wide maps are also used to identify adjacent sensitive areas, and to ensure environmental connectivity. **(EBD6)**
An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is a critical part of every development by Attacq. The EMP will include the necessary elements of a Biodiversity Action Plan. Construction is monitored by environmental specialists doing bi-weekly site visits to assess and ensure compliance with the EMP. **(EBD6 and EBD 9)**

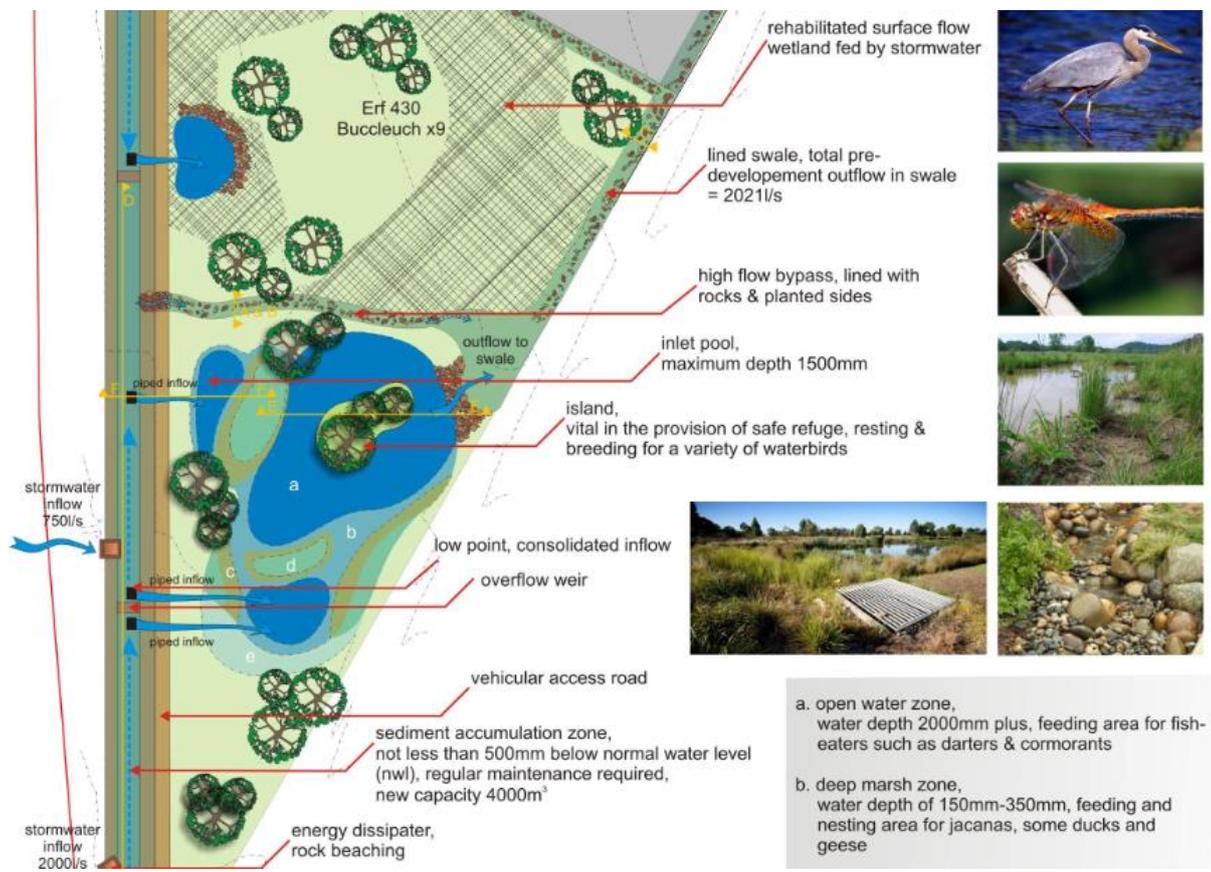
In addition, Waterfall, Attacq's largest and most important development, has environmentally friendly designs and indigenous landscaping entrenched in the Development Rights Agreement. The Development Rights Agreement for Waterfall specifies that “All landscaping will be in accordance with the design specifications ... using natural building materials, environmentally friendly designs and indigenous landscaping throughout”.

In a changing climate water is recognised as strategically important for Attacq. As a result, water consumption is being measured, monitored and managed with increasing

intensity within the Attacq portfolio to ensure water consumption does not grow at the rate of our portfolio and that we increase water efficiency in our properties to improve the resilience of properties.

Case study

Attacq's ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the open space and wetland areas, located on Buccleuch Extension 9, in the Waterfall development provides a current case study of how Attacq protects natural and biodiverse habitats like wet lands.



Source: NuLeaf Planning and Environmental, 2016

Attacq's goal in this instance is to ensure proper rehabilitation, protection and the sustainable use of these open areas, as part of the normal long-term operations in the Commercial Estate. This includes the brush cutting of vegetation prior to the wet season, in the naturally constructed attenuation ponds that have been created within the open space and wetland area, removal of alien invasive plants, storm-water management, erosion control, bioswale maintenance and the cleaning of litter and contaminants that might enter the wetland area.