2028 Kirkham Conference

SSSA Soil Science Society of America

Expression of Interest

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) S774 Kirkham Conferences Committee is seeking Expressions of Interest from interested parties to host the 2028 Kirkham Conference. The Kirkham Conferences are small topical meetings to encourage scientists to make in-depth explorations of disciplinary and interdisciplinary subjects related to soil physics and to enable interactions in ways seldom possible at national and international meetings.

In preparation for the upcoming conference, the Committee seeks Expressions of Interest that can assist them in selecting the host for the 2028 Kirkham Conference.

We are requesting your Expression of Interest by **July 1, 2026**. The Expression of Interest should contain brief information on:

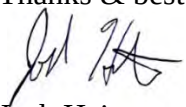
1. **Conference Theme**
2. **Location & Facility** (to promote exchange after the regular conference times, it is strongly desirable to accommodate all participants in one location)
3. **Proposed date and provisional program**
4. **Local Conference Organizing Committee**
5. **Credentials of Local Meeting Planner**
6. **Potential External Funding Support and a Draft Budget** (to complement resources from the Kirkham Fund & the van der Ploeg Fund of the Agronomic Science Foundation of the SSSA)

To assist in preparing your Expression of Interest, we have included two documents in the following pages: 1) a suggested draft budget template and 2) the Expression of Interests for hosting the 2022 conference in South Africa and the 2025 conference in Japan. These are only examples and we ask for your creativity and consideration of novel programs.

Additional information about the Kirkham Conferences can be found at: www.soils.org/membership/divisions/soil-physics-and-hydrology/kirkham-conferences. Following submission, the committee will meet with those submitting proposals to discuss and review the proposals.

Please reach out with any questions.

Thanks & best regards,



Josh Heitman, April 2, 2026
Chair, Kirkham Conference Committee

Please submit your Expression of Interest to both of the following: Josh Heitman, jlheitman@ncsu.edu AND Sara Uttech suttech@sciencesocieties.org

Kirkham Conference EoI Budget Template			
*Infrastructure (webpage, registration, abstract system) will be handled by SSSA headquarters.			
*Assume 60 attendees for overall costs (food/beverage)			
	Cost Estimates		
Item	Overall Cost	Per Person (assume 60 people)	Comments
Conference Facility Rental (if any)			
Audio/Visual Expenses			
Poster Boards (if applicable)			
Food/Beverage			
Opening Reception			
Morning Breaks (#days x $ per day)			
Afternoon Breaks (# days x $ per day)			
Dinners (number of evenings and price per person (include gratuity of 21% and tax)			
Tour Bus			
Tour Expenses (Lunch, other)			
Conference gifts (unless sponsored)			

Budget template may be accessed at:
www.soils.org/files/membership/awards/budget-template-for-expression-of-interest.xlsx

Expression of Interest (EOI) for hosting the 2025 Kirkham Conference in Fukushima, Japan

The Japanese Society of Soil Physics (JSSP), The Society of Resilience Agriculture (SRA), The Japanese Society of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition (JSSPN), The Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage, Reclamation Engineering (JSIDRE), The Japanese Association of Groundwater Hydrology (JAGH), The Japanese Geotechnical Society (JGS), and Fukushima Prefectural Government (FPG)

July 2023

1. Introduction

This document declares our interest in hosting the 2025 Kirkham Conference in Japan. Several Japanese soil physicists are academic grandchildren or great-grandchildren of Don Kirkham, and many at least once worked with soil physicists who are academic relatives of Don Kirkham. Yet no previous Kirkham conference has been held in Asia, including Japan. We organized a symposium entitled “Battles of soil scientists in Fukushima, Japan" at the SSSA meeting in 2013 to talk about environmental contamination caused by the radioactive fallout in Fukushima that happened in 2011 due to the smashed nuclear power plant by gigantic tsunamis. Many SSSA members attended the session to show their interest. In 2021, we again organized a symposium at the SSSA meeting on Fukushima entitled "Dealing with the fallout in Fukushima: 10 years of soil contamination.” Japanese soil physicists and their students have presented their work related to Fukushima at every SSSA meeting since 2011. We believe the Kirkham conference in Fukushima would be an excellent opportunity for many soil physicists and students to learn about the progress of radioactive decontamination processes and demolishing damaged nuclear reactors.

2. Conference Theme

The conference theme is designed to reflect the soil physics view on remediating contaminated farmlands by radiocesium fallout in Fukushima and the expected endeavors of scientists and engineers to accomplish recovery tasks in the future. However, the theme and sub-themes are open to modification and refinement over the next two years.

Main theme: Soil Physics for remediation and restoration of cesium-contaminated lands.

Subtheme 1: Future agricultural technologies

In most of Fukushima's farming communities that suffered from the radiocesium fallout, people returning home after the long-forced evacuation must restore or renovate their lives. Other farming communities in Japan face similar issues as declining farmers and extending abandoned farmlands. Adopting new technologies for farming may be the key to producing and supplying food for the coming decades.

Subtheme 2: Recovering soil nutrition

Government-led topsoil removal from the radiocesium-contaminated farmlands as decontamination activities left the nutrient-poor farmlands, resulting in new challenges for the farmers who returned home from the evacuation. To restore their lives in farming communities, quick recovery of soil nutrition should be achieved.

Subtheme 3: Regional hydrology and contaminant transport

Government-led decontamination activities were limited to housing, farmlands, and public properties such as roads and parks; thus, mountainous forest areas remained untouched. Since most areas that received radiocesium fallout are mountainous, people are concerned about radiocesium recontamination transported by surface runoff from the forest areas.

Subtheme 4: Modeling groundwater movement with treated water
Groundwater that flows through the damaged reactors receives neutrons, producing tritium-rich water and other radioactive materials. The processing plant built next to the damaged reactors removes most radioactive materials but tritium-rich water, which has been stored in tanks. Groundwater left over from the treatment or leakage from the storage and temporary storage facilities may flow into the ground.

3. Location and Facilities

The proposed location for the conference is J-Village near the damaged nuclear reactor site in the middle of Fukushima Prefecture (Figure 1). Access to J-Village from Tokyo International Airport (Narita and Haneda) has train services 17 times daily. The train ride takes about 4.5 hours from Tokyo Narita Airport and 3.5 hours from Tokyo Haneda Airport. J-Village was established as Japan's first National Training Center for football soccer in 1997. It facilitates a hotel, conference rooms, restaurants, a fitness gym, a swimming pool, and others. The facilities had been closed since the 2011 big earthquake, but they resumed being fully operational in 2017 and became a new symbol for rebuilding the suffering areas.

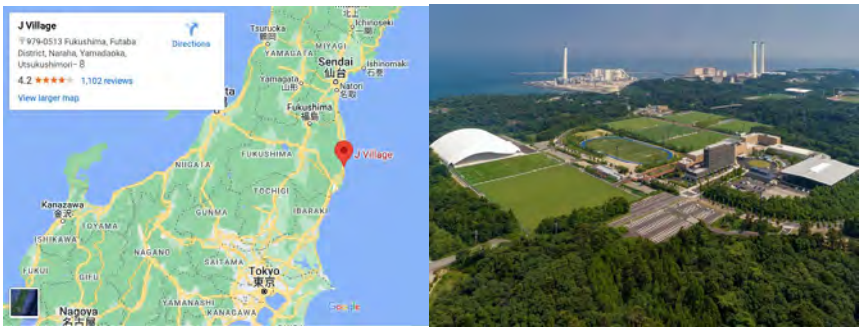


Figure 1. Location of J-Village in Fukushima Prefecture (left). The aerial view of J-Village (right). Tall chimneys by the ocean are for power plants with the integrated coal gasification combined cycle, not nuclear.

a. Conference Facility

All the sessions except the poster presentation will be held at the convention hall (Figure 2 left). The convention hall facilitates a screen, a projector, microphones, and free Wi-Fi. The poster session will be held at the Pacific Hall (Figure 2 right). This hall also facilitates free Wi-Fi.

b. Accommodation

Accommodation is also within J-Village. Single and twin bedrooms are available with a restaurant, a cafeteria, and a cafe. A single room per night will cost JPY13,000 (US$98.00) and a twin room per night per person will cost JPY12,000 (US$89.00).

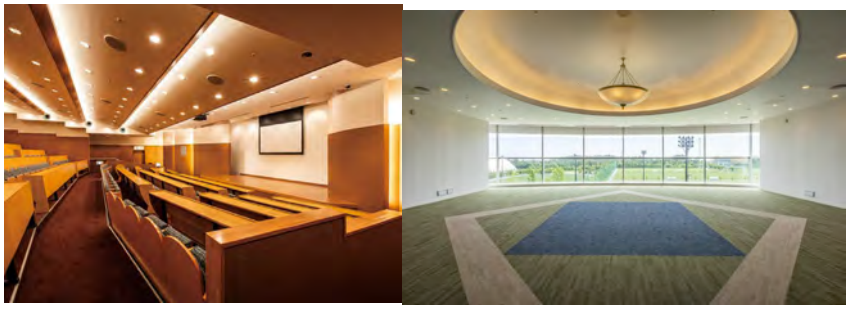


Figure 2. The convention hall for the sessions with 166 capacities (left). The Pacific Hall for the poster presentation with 201 m^2 floor area (right). Those two halls are located side by side.

Figure 3. A single bedroom (left). The Cafeteria Half Time with 210 capacities

4. Proposed Date and Provisional Program

The date would be better during the summer holiday season for the convenience of attendees. We propose a four-day program between August 19 and August 22, 2025, with a two-day excursion in Fukushima Prefecture. Two days are designed as a regular meeting with oral and poster presentations. The regular meetings will begin at 08:00 with a keynote speech as a starter, followed by two or three sessions with a 10-15 min coffee break before lunch at noon. The lunch break will be held for 1.5 hours. The afternoon session will start at 13:30 with two or three sessions, including poster presentations by mostly students and early career scientists. The afternoon session will end at 17:00. After the first-day session, a welcome party will

be held in the evening. The attendees will enjoy local Japanese food. The first excursion will start at 08:00 for a bus tour of the damaged nuclear reactors, the interim storage facilities, and the museums displaying the dismantling of the damaged nuclear reactors and the giant tsunami disasters. The second excursion will start at 08:00 for a bus tour to Iitate Village in northern Fukushima, where many scientists and engineers have worked to restore. In Iitate Village, the attendees will meet with farmers who returned to restart farming, new farmers who recently immigrated into the village, local government officials, and the NPO members.

The proposed schedule is as follows:

Day 1 Registration and Opening,
Morning Session 1: Theme 1
Morning Session 2: Theme 2
Afternoon Session 1: Theme 3
Afternoon Session 2: Theme 4
Afternoon Session 3: poster presentation
Evening: welcome party

Day 2 1st excursion: a bus tour to the damaged reactors, interim storage facilities, and museums

Day 3 2nd excursion: a bus tour to Iitate Village

Day 4 Morning Session 1: Themes 1, 2, 3&4
Morning Session 2: wrap-up session
Closing

5. Local Conference Organizing Committees

The local organizing committee comprises:

Co-ordinating Committee

Dr. Taku Nishimura	University of Tokyo (UT), JSSP
Dr. Hirotaka Saito	Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology (TUAT), JAGH
Dr. Masahiko Kato	Meiji University (MjU), JSSPN
Dr. Yuji Nitta	Fukushima University (FU), SRA
Dr. Shoichiro Hamamoto	Hokkaido University (HU), JGS
Dr. Masaru Sakai	Mie University (MiU), JSIDRE

Reviewers and Session convenors

Dr. Taku Nishimura	UT, JSSP
Dr. Hirotaka Saito	TUAT, JAGH
Dr. Shoichiro Hamamoto	HU, JGS
Dr. Yuki Kojima	Gifu University (GU), JSSP
Dr. Ieyasu Tokumoto	Saga University (SU), JSSP
Dr. Junko Nishiwaki	TUAT, JSSP
Dr. Masaru Mizoguchi	UT, SRA
Dr. Kosuke Noborio	MjU, JSSP

Advisory

Prof. Simon Lorentz	University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Dr. Kieth Bristaw	CSRIO, Australia

Local Logistics

Ms. Jun Yano	ZuZutto Soko, Ltd.

The committee will be responsible for arranging the venue, the conference schedule, and contents, advertising the conference, securing sponsorships, calling for and reviewing contributions, adding external reviewers, engaging Bob and Betty Kirkham Foundation, compiling proceedings, and other tasks assigned by the Committee 744 of the Soil Science Society of America for the event.

6. Draft Budget

A draft budget includes the venue, accommodation, conference dinners, and two-day excursions (Table 1 – not included in this example). No transportation from the Tokyo International Airports (Narita and Haneda) is included. The travel from the airports to the nearest train station, J-Village, of the venue is responsible for each attendee.

7. Advertising and External Funding Support

The co-sponsoring societies have many graduate students and professional members to advertise the conference. Fukushima Prefectural Government is interested in some financial support but still needs to be assured. Several private companies and government sectors may have display booths at the venue:

1. Meter Group Japan, Inc.
2. Taiyo Keiki, Inc.
3. Daiki Rika Kogyo, Inc.
4. Meidensha, Inc.
5. Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI)
6. Fukushima Prefectural Government

8. Conclusion

The local organizing committee proposes the Expression of Interest to be considered for hosting the 2025 Kirkham Conference in Fukushima, Japan. We would appreciate any suggestions and guidance from the SSSA Committee.

Expression of Interest (EoI) for hosting the 2020 Kirkham Conference: South Africa

University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), University of Pretoria (UP), University of the Free State (UFS), University of Stellenbosch (US), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Agricultural Research Council (ARC), South Africa Sugar Association (SASA), South African National Parks (SANParks), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO Aus.)

July 2017

7. Introduction

This document serves to motivate an Expression of Interest to host the 2020 Kirkham Conference in South Africa. While there are no records of any visits or association of Don Kirkham to South Africa, there has been widespread use of his work. Studies in the Sugar Industry in South Africa in 1968, refer to Kirkham's drainage theories (Coles, 1968). These and other theories of Kirkham's foundational contributions are still used in South Africa today (Reinders *et al.,* 2016).

Since soil-water-atmosphere interactions in southern Africa are critically dependant on soil hydraulics, the development of soil physics in South Africa has a long history, with South Africans contributing even to the foundation of porous media physics in the oil industry. With Agriculture, Ecology and now Mining heavily dependent on advances in soil physics, there is no doubt that the convening of eminent soil physicists in southern Africa would be welcomed and would benefit the region considerably.

This expression of interests provides a summary of the Conference Theme, designed to cover a wide range of applications, all critical in the region, while providing for more detailed sub-themes; a description of the proposed Location in the picturesque Kruger National Park, with world class conferencing facilities at the Skukuza rest camp; suggested Dates and Proposed Schedule; a listing of the convening Committee and their designations; a draft Budget and proposals for Financial Support.

8. Conference Theme

The conference theme is designed to attract a significant attendance from southern African delegates (SADAC region: Tanzania, southwards). Hence, a more general theme than usual is proposed, with sub-themes designed to address critical issues in the region. The Theme and Sub-themes are open to modification and refinement over the next two years. The proposed themes are listed and motivated below.

Main Theme: The Application of Advances in Soil Physics to Water and Waste Management.

Sub Theme 1: Soil Physics in Waste Management

Attention to mining, industrial and urban waste impacts on water resources has increased significantly, with recent legislation demanding more detailed and accurate assessment of the behaviour of waste materials, waste lining and cover systems and the fate of leachate in near surface soils. Soil physics applications to these assessments should be aimed at advancing the understanding of mechanisms and the quantification of fluxes of water and solute within and out of waste impoundments.

Sub Theme 2: Soil Physics in Irrigation, Agriculture, Forestry and Ecosystems

The Food-Energy-Water nexus in southern Africa has received much attention, particularly in the light of Global Change. In most of southern Africa the annual potential evapotranspiration exceeds rainfall by two to three fold. Actual losses from the soil and vegetation are therefore primarily controlled by soil hydraulics. This leads to delicate balances of vegetation sustainability and water supply and losses, which require the application of advanced soil physics principles. Contributions should highlight the use of advances in soil physics to address issues of sustainable water use in marginal environments.

Sub Theme 3: Scaling from Local Observations to Catchment Hydrology

Using local scale hydraulic characteristics to estimate hillslope or catchment scale hydrology is fraught with difficulty. The use of pedotransfer functions and response algorithms are examples of simulating the larger scale. Contributions should be aimed at advances in addressing scaling, heterogeneity and process mechanism problems.

9. Location and Facility

The proposed location is the Conference Facilities in the Skukuza camp of the Kruger National Park (now included in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park) in the north-eastern part of South Africa (Figure 1).

The Skukuza rest camp accommodates thousands of tourist from all around the world on an annual basis. The camp is accessed via the O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg. From here, travel to Skukuza is via road or air. The road trip is 500 km from the airport, while flights are available from OR Tambo to the Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport at Nelspruit or directly to the Skukuza Airport, itself. A shuttle service is proposed, to transport delegates from either of the local airports, to the Skukuza camp. Flights to Nelspruit are also available from Durban.

Skukuza is located in what is known as the lowveld region, which can become hot and humid and so the summer months should be avoided. Average maximum daily temperatures range from highs of +32^{o}C in Jan/Feb/Dec to lows of +26^{o}C in Jun/Jul. Average minimum daily temperatures range from highs of +21^{o}C in Jan to lows of +6^{o}C in Jun. Average monthly rainfall ranges from 96mm in Jan to 6mm in Aug. The Skukuza camp, situated on the banks of the Sabie river offers an ideal game spotting location and a wide variety of game can be observed in short road excursions from the camp.

Figure 1: Location of Skukuza in the Kruger National Park, South Africa

a. Conference Facility

Two suitable venues are available in the Skukuza rest camp. The first is the older Goldfields Theatre and the second the Nombolo Mdhluli Conference Centre, constructed in 2010. Details of both facilities are presented in Appendix A.

It is proposed to use the more modern facility (Figure 2), which has a main presentation room, which can accommodate over 250 delegates in a U-shaped seating arrangement, has four breakaway rooms, a useable foyer area and is adjacent to the camp restaurants. The main presentation room has modern automated presentation equipment and a large clear screen. The sound system is excellent. Many international conferences have been held in this facility since 2010, including the South African National Parks (SANParks) Annual Savanna Science Network Meeting, which attracts leading academics from throughout the world. A successful HYDRUS workshop, presented by Jirka Šimůnek, was held in this venue in 2010.

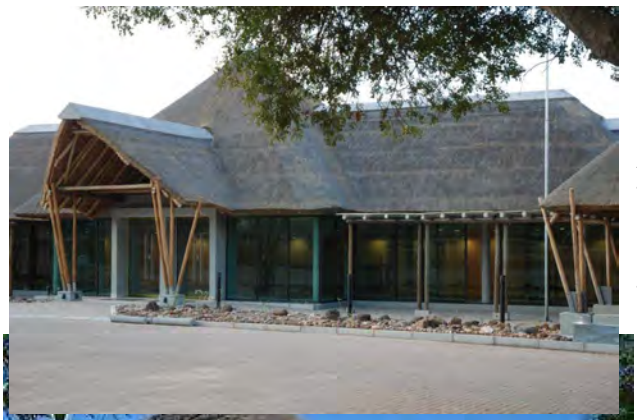


Figure 2: The Nombolo Mdhluli Conference Centre, Skukuza (Constructed 2010) accommodates up to 628 delegates.

b. Accommodation

Accommodation is also within the Skukuza rest camp security fencing and is within easy walking distance of shops, restaurants and the conference venue. Current accommodation is in the form of small bungalows with shower/toilets and are mostly for two or three persons to share (Figure 3). However, larger bungalows and cottages are available. In addition, some bungalows with small kitchenette facilities are available and there are also communal cooking facilities located throughout the rest camp. The costing estimate has been based on these units.

Figure 3: Typical hutted accommodation, Skukuza rest camp

A new accommodation facility is currently under construction in the Skukuza rest camp. This has been designed specifically to house conference attendees and is due for completion in 2018. There are currently no indications of the price range for units in this facility, but it is likely to be less than the individual hutted accommodation.

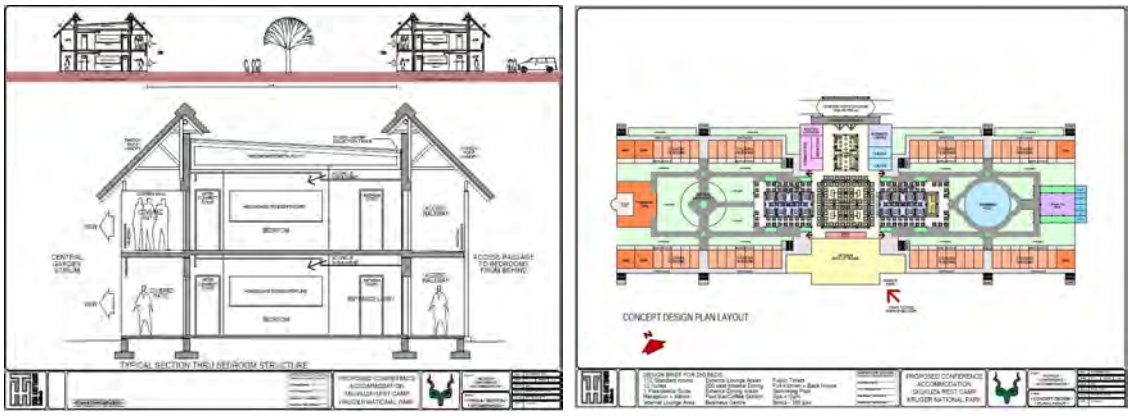


Figure 4: Typical section (left) and layout (right) of the proposed Conference Lodge, due for completion in 2018.

c. Access to the Venue

The camp is accessed via the O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg. From here, travel to Skukuza is via road or air. The road trip is 500 km from the airport, while flights are available from OR Tambo to the Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport at Nelspruit or directly to the Skukuza Airport, itself. A shuttle service is proposed, to transport delegates from either of the local airports (Nelspruit or Skukuza), to the Skukuza rest camp. Flights to Nelspruit are also available from Durban. Car rentals are available at the OR Tambo International Airport or from the Nelspruit Airport for delegates who wish to drive to the Skukuza rest camp.

10. Proposed date and provisional programme

Dates were sought to coincide with the cooler time of the year, outside the peak tourist period, but during typical northern and southern hemisphere breaks in semesters. The only realistic period would be in June or July, which conflicts directly with the International Conference of Hydropedology in Australia and is also a high volume period

for tourism in the KNP. The months proposed are late May or August or early September of 2010. These are subject to negotiation, however.
A five-day program is recommended, with a mid-week excursion in the Kruger National Park. Three days are typically designed to begin at 08:00, with three two and a half hour sessions. Two before lunch (08:00 – 10:30 and 11:00 to 13:30), with a short ten minute break in the session and a break for tea between sessions, and one session after the lunch break (14:30 to 17:00). The final day will comprise feed-back and discussion sessions in the morning, with a closing session prior to lunch. The proposed programme allows for a total of 63 presentations. Students will be encouraged to present their work in oral and poster formats. A poster display room would be included, where specific times will be allocated to the different themes for attendance at the posters. Sessions would typically comprise presentations of 15 minutes with 5 minutes for interaction. The camp gates open at 06:00 and so there would be time for a short morning site seeing drive before proceedings. Night drives are also offered by the KNP, at a cost. Teas and lunches have been included in the costs estimate and one conference dinner for the Thursday evening at the Skukuza Boma Braai, to introduce delegates to a South African barbeque.

The proposed schedule is as follows:

Day 1 Registration and Opening,
Morning Session 1: Theme 1
Morning Session 2: Theme 2
Afternoon Session: Theme 3

Day 2 Morning Session 1: Theme 1
Morning Session 2: Theme 2
Afternoon Session: Theme 3

Day 3 Tour of KNP and research catchments
A mid-week excursion is planned to allow for interaction in the group. This would require splitting into smaller groups of 10-15 persons. A route would be planned to include general game viewing as well as:

- stop-offs at locations of the KNP “Super Sites” research catchments in Granite and Basalt geologies. Here nested catchments in the two geologies in similar climate zones were observed in order to quantify differences in surface water-groundwater interaction mechanisms in primary, secondary and tertiary streams in pristine sub-catchments (Riddell, et al., 2014);
- stop-offs in full and partial exclosure experimental sites. The first, where all animals were excluded from access to large exclosure areas running from crest to riparian zones. Two similar areas were studied, one where only elephant (and giraffe) were excluded by exclosures of relatively low fencing and one where access was open to all browsers and grazers.
- visits to the burn plots. Here over 50 years of different annual burning regimes were applied to a selection of plots. Recent studies of these plots have included the effects of soil hydraulic properties in the different burn regimes.

Figure 5: Day-drive vehicles, Skukuza rest camp, KNP

Day 4 Morning Session 1: Theme 1
Morning Session 2: Theme 2
Afternoon Session: Theme 3
Evening Conference Dinner

Day 5 Feedback Session

Closing

Post Conference Tour

A post conference tour will be offered to include further game viewing and ecohydrology tour in the KNP, visits to irrigated sugar estates and subsistence small-scale farming outside the park, as well as visits to mine waste facilities at selected mines bordering the KNP. These costs would be over and above those estimated for the conference.

11. Local Conference Organising Committee

The local organising committee comprises:

Co-ordinating Committee		
Prof Simon Lorentz	UKZN	Chairman
Prof John Annandale	UP	Vice Chairman
Dr Eddie Riddell	SANParks	Logistics
Dr Aidan Senzanje	UKZN	Papers co-ordinator
Dr Johan van Tol	UFS	Finance
Prof Graham Jewitt	UKZN	Student co-ordinator and WaterNet liaison
Reviewers and Session Convenors		
Dr Rian van Antwerpen	SASA	
Dr Nebo Jovanovic	CSIR	
Prof Leon van Rensburg	UFS	
Dr Michael van der Laan	UP	
Prof Eduard Hoffman	US	
Mr Felix Reinders	ARC	
Advisory		
Prof Keith Bristow	CSIRO (Australia)	
Prof Naftali Lazarovitch	Ben-Gurion University (Israel)	
Local Logistics		
Mrs Jackey Deacon	Mpumalanga Promotion Events	

The committee will be responsible for arranging the venue, advertising the conference, securing sponsorships, calling for and reviewing contributions, adding external reviewers, engaging Mpumulanga Promotion Events, liaising with the v.d Ploeg and Bob and Betty Kirkham Foundations, compiling proceedings and other tasks assigned by the Committee 744 of the Soil Science Society of America for the event. Mrs Jackey Deacon has organised many international conferences at the Skukuza venue and is well acquainted with the KNP booking system, conference facility and food and beverage providers. Administrative support will be provided through the respective Universities and Research Institutes, particularly UKZN, UP and UFS.

The committee will also arrange for the Conference to be rated for Continued Professional Development points, as required by the South African Council for Engineers and the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions.

12. Draft Budget

A draft budget has been prepared to include transport from local airports, the venue, accommodation, conference dinner and mid-week excursion (Table 1). While efforts to reduce this cost per person, through sponsorships and in-country support, it is nevertheless submitted that the cost per delegate is already reasonable for the package. Table 1: Summary of Costs - Redacted

13. Advertising and External Funding Support

Several sources of sponsorship have been identified and contacted. No fixed commitments are in hand at the time of submission of this EoI. The main potential sources of in-country support and sponsorship include:

- WaterNet - WaterNet is a regional network of university departments and research and training institutes specialising in water and servicing Southern and East Africa. The WaterNet secretariat manager in Harare, Zimbabwe, Dr Jean-Marie Onema, has been approached to support the conference financially and in advertising the conference to member institutions. The WaterNet network is able to reach large numbers of post-graduate and post-doctoral students within the region.
- The Agricultural Research Council, Institute for Soil, Climate and Water
- The Agricultural Research Council, Institute for Agricultural Engineering
- The Water Research Commission

- The Chamber of Mines
- The South African National Research Foundation
- The South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage
- The Water Institute of South Africa (WISA)
- The Soil Science Society of South Africa

In addition, sponsorships will be secured from suppliers who wish to have display booths at the venue. In South Africa the following have been identified:

- Campbell Scientific, Africa
- Calafrica-South Africa
- Eijkelkamp Distributor in South Africa (Starplex) and others.

14. Conclusion

The committee offers the proposed Expression of Interest for consideration and is quite prepared to alter or improve the details based on reasonable suggestion and guidance from the SSSA Committee.

References

Coles, ED. 1968. Some Notes on Drainage Design Procedure. Proc. South African Sugar Technologists Association, April 1968.

Reinders FB, Oosthuizen H, Senzanje A, Smithers JC, van der Merwe RJ, van der Stoep I and Van Rensburg L. 2016. Development of technical and financial norms and standards for drainage of irrigated lands: Volume 3: Guidance for the Implementation of Surface and Sub-surface Drainage Projects in South Africa. Water Research Commission Research Report No.TT 655/15, WRC, Pretoria, South Africa.

Riddell ES., Nel J., Fundisi D., Jumbi F., van Niekerk A. and Lorentz SA. 2014. Ephemeral Hydrological Processes in Savannas. WRC report No. TT 619/14. Water Research Commission, Pretoria.

APPENDIX A

CONFERENCE FACILITIES AT SKUKUZA, KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA

Conference Facility 1 (Goldfields Auditorium)

Equipment:

- Rear projection facilities
- Projector room
- 2 Translation booths
- Microphones
- Screens
- Flip chart and stand
- Slide & overhead projectors
- TV & Video

Seating

- Theatre - Max 158

Conference Facility 2 - Nombolo Mdhluli Conference Centre

Makings of the Centre

The conference has been built as part of SANParks' commercialisation strategy which was adopted in 2001 and which also included the need to diversify the product offering. The main target market for the conference facility is the South African business sector.

This state of the art facility which consists of a main hall and 4 breakaway rooms offers facilities for up to 500 people. It is set in the heart of Skukuza rest camp and is accessible by road via the Paul Kruger Gate. It presents a unique opportunity for a relaxed conferencing atmosphere with its own ambience.

Naming of the Centre

The conference centre as a whole is named after Corporal Nombolo Mdhluli who served the Kruger National Park during the period from 1919 until his retirement in 1958 (nearly 40 years of service). His exact age was unknown, even to himself. He started working for the Kruger National Park (then still known as the Sabi Game Reserve) at the old Rolle ranger post, which was a railway halt on the old Selati railway line some 55 km north-west of Skukuza. The Main Hall and the four breakaway rooms are named after the Big 5. The breakaway rooms are alll the same size and two of the breakway rooms can be joined together and used as one venue.

- Main Hall - Ndlopfu
  Breakaway room 1 - Ingwe
  Breakaway room 2 - Ndau
  Breakaway room 3 - Mhelembe
  Breakaway room 4 - Nari

Equipment

- Data Projector
- Screen
- PA System with lapel and handheld microphones
- Air conditioning
- Translation booth
- DVD
- Conference pads and pens

****Please note the PA System is only complimentary in the main conference room (Ndlopfu) if a PA system is required in the breakaway room there will be an additional cost.*

Sitting Arrangements	**Ndlopfu**	Ingwe, Ndau, Mhelembe & Nari	Ingwe & Mhelembe	Ndau & Nari	Foyer
U-Shape 250	250	30	57	57	-
School Room	500	32	64	64	-
Theatre/Cinema	750	80	160	160	-
Banquet – R10	560	60	120	120	120
Banquet – R8	448	48	96	96	96
Cocktail	600	80	160	160	300