Upstream CONSULTING







COMPANY PROFILE

AQUATIC ECOLOGY & WATER USE AUTHORISATION SPECIALISTS

OVERVIEW

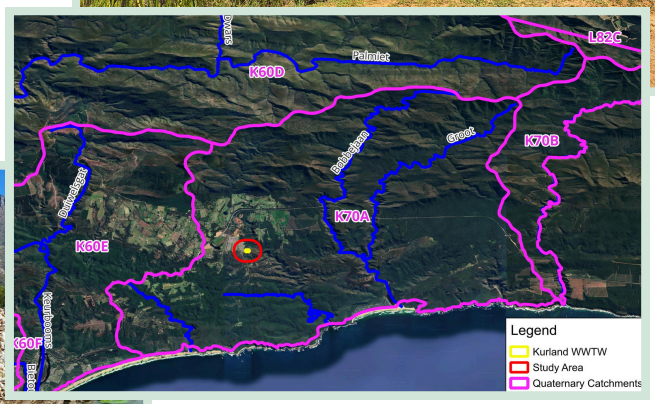
Upstream Consulting is an independent environmental consultancy specialising in aquatic biodiversity assessments, wetland and river studies, Water Use Licence Applications (WULAs), environmental compliance, and freshwater ecosystem management.

We help developers, engineers, environmental practitioners, municipalities, mining companies and government agencies identify aquatic constraints early, navigate environmental legislation, and obtain the approvals needed to move projects forward with confidence.

OUR MISSION

To provide scientifically robust, practical aquatic and water-resource advice that helps clients make informed decisions, meet regulatory requirements and manage environmental risks effectively.







OUR VISION

To be a trusted specialist consultancy recognised for high-quality aquatic science, reliable delivery and practical solutions across diverse projects and regions.

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Debbie: 072 444 8243
Colin: 072 123 4567

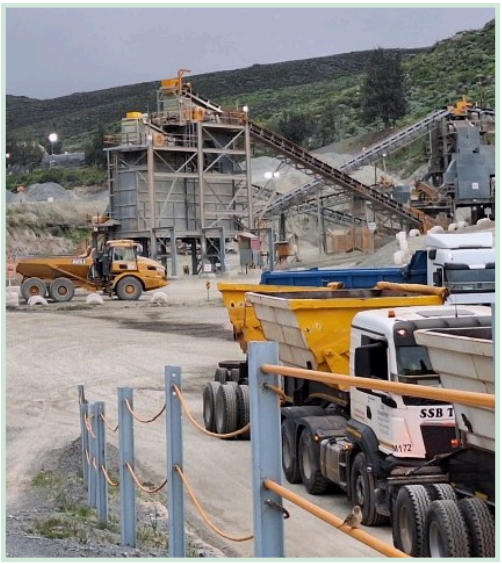
25 Blommekloof Street
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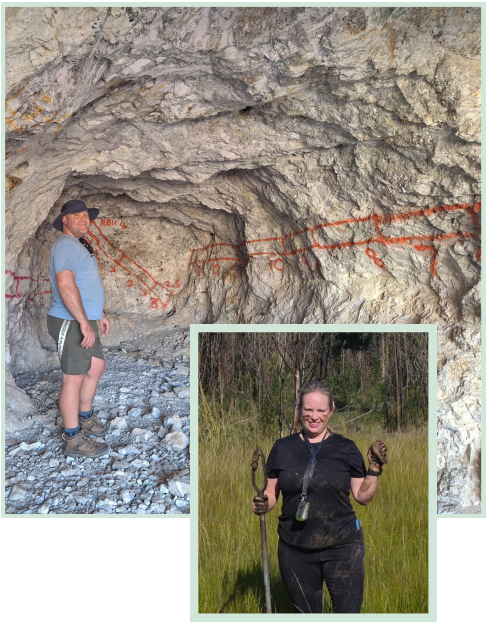
WHY UPSTREAM

Specialist Advice. Practical Solutions. Trusted Outcomes.

Environmental approvals depend on sound science, practical recommendations and a clear understanding of regulatory requirements.

Upstream Consulting provides specialist aquatic ecology, water use authorisation, and environmental assessment services that help clients identify environmental constraints early, reduce project risk and support efficient environmental approvals. Every assessment is tailored to the site, proposed activity and applicable legislation.





Advanced Geographic Information System (GIS) technology underpins all our spatial analysis, mapping, and reporting, ensuring accurate, data-driven results.

Why our clients choose Upstream Consulting

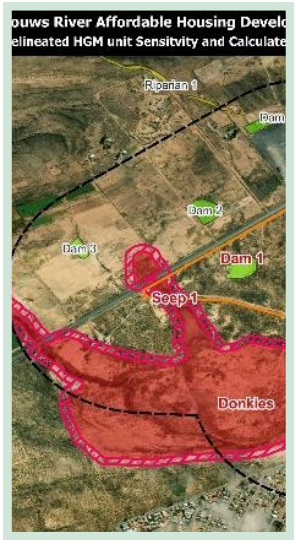
Clients trust Upstream because we deliver:

- Director-led expertise from project planning through to final reporting.
- Scientifically robust assessments that are practical, defensible and regulator-ready.
- Integrated solutions combining aquatic ecology and environmental assessment with regulatory requirements to produce technically sound and defensible submissions.
- Clear communication and realistic project timeframes.
- Practical recommendations that help projects move forward with confidence.

SERVICES

Specialist aquatic input across the full project cycle

Our aquatic services can be applied on a range of scales; from site specific river and wetland assessments for informing development applications to larger, regional/ catchment aquatic specialist studies to inform spatial planning and various types of biodiversity management plans. Our reports are of the highest scientific quality and produce practical solutions for effective implementation. Where multiple aquatic or regulatory components are required, these can be incorporated into a coordinated scope so that the client receives a complete and consistent body of work rather than a series of disconnected reports.





Aquatic Ecosystem Assessments
- Detailed river and wetland delineations
- Present Ecological State (PES) and Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS) evaluations
- Impact assessments with tailored mitigation strategies

Water Quality Monitoring & Ecological Monitoring
- Long-term water quality monitoring programs
- Ecological health monitoring for freshwater ecosystems

Water Use License Applications (WULA)
- Preparation of Risk Matrices and General Authorizations
- Comprehensive licensing and compliance submissions

Rehabilitation and Management Plans
- Restoration strategies for degraded aquatic ecosystems
- Development and implementation of monitoring protocols

Waste-water Treatment Works (WWTW)
- Aquatic impact assessments
- Water use authorisation, compliance, rehabilitation and monitoring support

Specialist Studies and Planning
- Buffer zone determinations for aquatic systems
- Estuary management plans
- Alien vegetation management strategies

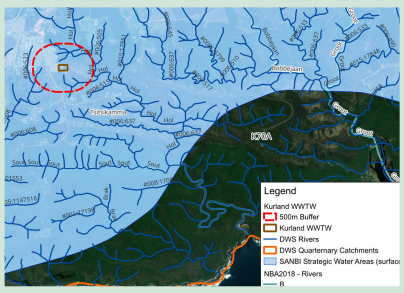
SPECIALIST ADVICE. PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS. TRUSTED OUTCOMES.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

1. Water & Sanitation Infrastructure

Gwaing WWTW, Kurland, Ratanda, Welbedacht WTP, Touws River, Herold's Bay Country Estate, Loerieheuwel and Umzamowethu Wastewater Treatment Works.







2. Development & Spatial Planning

George Bus Depot, Touws River Affordable Housing Development (approximately 900 units), Hoogeland mixed-use development (approximately 644 ha) and Hansmoeskraal.

3. River Rehabilitation, Flood Damage & Infrastructure Repair

Grobbelaars River, Oudtshoorn, Camfersdrift River flood-damage rehabilitation, Garden Route road and culvert replacements, Bokkeriviere crossing.

4. Renewable Energy

Prince Albert 5 MW Solar PV Plant & Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Overberg Wind Energy Farm, Groot Brak Wastewater Treatment Works Solar Development.



5. Mining & Quarrying

Coega Quarry, Driefontein, Brewelskloof and Kleyn Hagel Kraal Quarry, Gran Sasso Quarry

6. Industrial & Productive Water Use

Mooivallei Dairy, Vector Logistics, Ladismith Cheese Factory.

7. Aquatic Monitoring & Compliance

George Raw Water Balancing Dam, Schaapkop Rising Main Sewer Pipeline

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DIRECTORS



Pr.Sci.Nat.
Professional Wetland Scientist
Founding Director

Debbie Fordham is an aquatic ecologist and wetland specialist with over a decade of expertise in wetlands, rivers and estuaries, encompassing geomorphology, fluvial processes, ecological condition and sensitivity assessment, aquatic impact assessment, rehabilitation and offset analysis.

Her experience spans complex development, infrastructure, mining, agriculture and water-resource projects.

She also has strong working knowledge of water and environmental legislation and regularly undertakes and supports water use authorisation processes.

Debbie is a SACNASP-registered Professional Natural Scientist and an internationally certified Professional Wetland Scientist through the Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program.

Qualifications & Professional Credentials
M.Sc. Environmental Science (Water Resources)
B.A. Honours Environmental Science — Rhodes University
Professional Natural Scientist (SACNASP) — Reg. No. 119102
Professional Wetland Scientist (SWS PCP) — PWS No. 3683



Ecologist
Conservation Specialist
Director

Colin Fordham has two decades of experience in environmental consulting, ecological assessment, biodiversity planning, and conservation management.

His expertise includes ecological assessment and review, wetland, estuarine and riparian assessments, biodiversity planning, rehabilitation and management, GIS and spatial analysis, project coordination, and the development of practical environmental recommendations. He has extensive experience supporting projects across infrastructure, mining, agriculture, conservation and land-use planning.

Colin spent nine years with CapeNature as a Land Use Scientist and later Landscape Conservation Intelligence Manager. This experience gives him valuable insight into how environmental assessments are evaluated by regulators and decision-makers.

Qualifications & Professional Credentials
M.Sc. Entomology
B.Sc. Honours Botany — Environmental Management
B.Sc. Botany and Biochemistry
SACNASP-registered Professional Natural Scientist

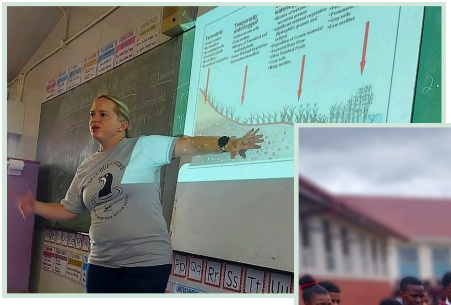
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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Complimentary Webinars

The webinars are provided on an invite-only, ad hoc basis and are aimed at educating invited stakeholders about the complexities of our field and the various scientific tools and methods we use. Invitees have included engineers, Environmental Assessment Practitioners, municipal officials & government officials.







School Outreach

On 2 February 2026, for World Wetlands Day, and in collaboration with GARDAG (Garden Route Dam Action Group), we undertook our annual school outreach activities. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands and the ecosystem services they provide to us all. The experience is as practical and outdoors as possible, rather than relying only on classroom presentations.

Professional Knowledge Sharing

Debbie and Colin regularly present at professional knowledge sharing events such as the National Wetlands Indaba and the Southern African Association of Geomorphologists' conferences.



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