

E. KARST LANDFORMS

Field note E6b. Wankoe Formation – Karst Pinnacles in the Salt River Gorge



Pinnacles on the southern bank of the Salt River Gorge.

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A cluster of several karst pinnacles on the Wankoe Formation is situated between Koleskloof and Gwanogatekloof (Figures 1 to 3). It is a unique feature of the Salt River Gorge, as no such cluster has been located anywhere on the Hard Dunes.



Figure 1. Topography map (top) and satellite image (bottom) of the Salt River Gorge. Arrow points to the pinnacles.



Figure 2. View from the northern bank of the Salt River Gorge across the Salt River Marsh on the pinnacles (yellow arrow), Gewanogatekloof (black arrow) and the Rooikrans (white arrow).



Figure 3. Pinnacles on the hillslope between Koleskloof and Gewanogatekloof.

Some pinnacles are 4-5 m high (Figures 4 and 5).



Fig 4. Top and bottom: some pinnacles attain heights of up to 5 m. The dry marsh floor is blooming.



Figure 5. Pinnacle, 5 m high.



Some pinnacles are partly hollowed out by erosion (Figures 6 and 7).



Figure 6. Hollowed-out pinnacle.



Figure 7. Top and bottom: eroded pinnacle bases.

Read on other pinnacles in Chapters E, O and P.