

M. SALT RIVER GORGE

Field note M4e. Morphology – Pinnacles



Pinnacles on the southern bank of the Salt River Gorge.

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[The formation of karst pinnacles on the Hard Dunes is discussed in Chapter E].

A cluster of several karst pinnacles on the Wankoe Formation is situated between Koleskloof and Ghwanogatekloof (Figures 1 to 4). It is a unique feature of the Salt River Gorge, as no such cluster has been located anywhere on the Hard Dunes. (A couple of pinnacles are present on the Hard Dunes east of the Potberg Office of the DHNR - see Chapter E).

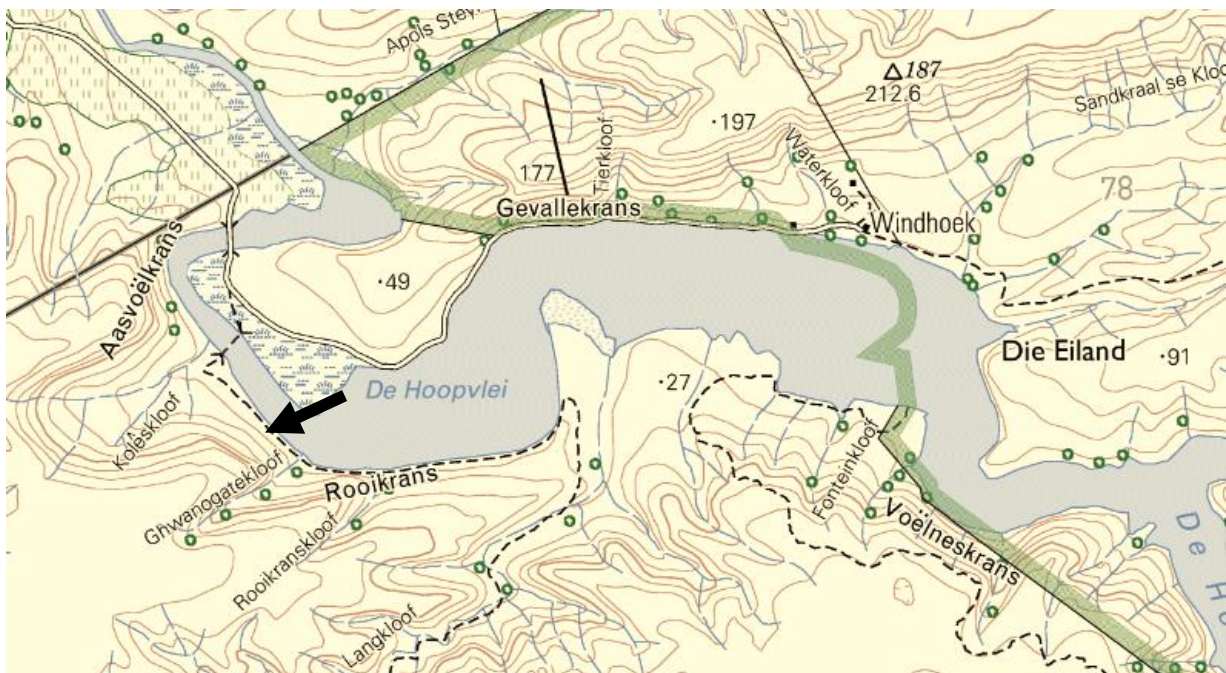


Figure 1. Topography map (top) and satellite image (bottom) of the Salt River Gorge. Arrow points to the pinnacles.



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



Figure 3. Pinnacles on the slope between Koleskloof and Ghwanogatekloof.



Figure 4. Top and bottom - pinnacles on the slope between Koleskloof and Ghwanogatekloof.

Some pinnacles are 4-5 m high (Figures 5 and 6).



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



Figure 6. Pinnacle, 5 m high.

Some pinnacles are partly hollowed out by erosion (Figures 7 and 8).



Figure 7. Hollowed-out pinnacle.



Figure 8. Top and bottom: eroded pinnacle bases.

Most of the pinnacles are 'sliced' horizontally or nearly horizontally (Figure 9).



Figure 9. 'Sliced' pinnacles. See Figures 4 and 6.

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