MEDIA RELEASE - 2 August 2002

Flower season opens in Namaqua National Park

Kamieskroon, Namaqualand, Northern Cape. The Skilpad section of the Namaqua National Park is ablaze with colour as the annual spring flowers begin to bloom. Above average winter rains have resulted in spectacular displays that are expected to last through until late September or even early October. According to the Namaqua National Park manager, Mr. Matthew Norval, the current season is expected to be one of the best in years and large numbers of visitors are anticipated. The Namaqua National Park is situated 21 kilometres from Kamieskroon in North- Western Namaqualand and 500 kilometres north of Cape Town.

The park is South Africa's newest national park and covers an area of 60 000 hectares. The park is still in a developmental phase and although some areas are not accessible to tourists at this stage, current activities and facilities within the Skilpad section include: a 5-kilometre circular drive, two short walking trails, an information centre, picnic area and ablutions. Light refreshments are also available at the farm stall adjoining the park.

- Entrance fees: Adults - R15,00
- Children under 12 - R8,00
- Buses pay an additional R100,00 per bus.

The park does not have any tourist accommodation, but visitors looking for accommodation can direct enquiries to the Springbok Tourism Office at telephone no.: 027 718 2985.

Photographic credits:

Skilpad section, Namaqua National Park - 1 Aug 2002 - Carlo van Tonder	Skilpad section, Namaqua National Park - 1 Aug 2002 - Matthew Norval

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