



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **DWS to host public consultation on draft regulations relating to access and usage of Government Waterworks for recreational purposes**

30 August 2023

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) will host public consultations on draft regulations relating to access and usage of Government Waterworks for recreational purposes across the length and breadth of the Western Cape Province.

Ms Ntombizanele Bila-Mupariwa, DWS Western Cape Provincial Head says DWS owns numerous Government Waterworks (GWWs) and state dams that are distributed widely across the country.

The water storage components of these GWWs comprise the dam basin and a defined dam boundary line of the surrounding state-owned land.

Section 113 of the National Water Act provides that the water and surrounding state-owned land of a GWW may be made available for recreational purposes.

The proposed regulations are aimed at:

- Meeting the needs to ensure compatibility of recreational water use with other water uses.
- Ensuring the safety of recreational water users; and
- Minimizing risks associated with use of government water works. To meet the need to protect the biodiversity of aquatic and associated ecosystems and to minimize pollution of these water resources.

The public consultation will kick-start with a virtual session with the Government sector scheduled for 06 September 2023 followed by the engagement of other stakeholders on 10 and 11 October 2023.

All the stakeholders are requested to use this opportunity to provide inputs to the draft regulations.

While water is essential for growth and development DWS firmly believes that stakeholder engagement is paramount for transparency and inclusive decision making.

“ Water is Life, Sanitation is Dignity”

**Malusi Rayi**

**SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER SCARCE COUNTRY**

