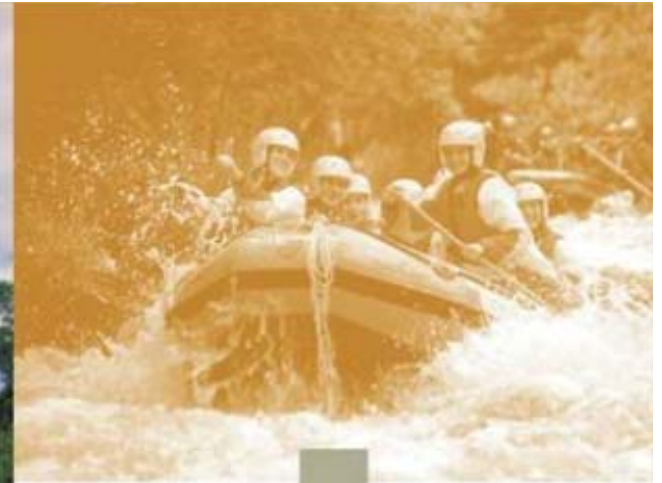


Operational Policy

'Using Water for Recreational Purposes'



water & forestry

Department:
Water Affairs & Forestry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

water

OPERATIONAL POLICY



Overview

- Setting the Scene
- Authority
- Principles
- Aim of Policy
- Policy Statements and Objectives
- Policy Implementation Framework



Setting the Scene

- Despite importance of water in recreation and related developments, Recreational Water Use (RWU) still reflects the inequities of the past
- Perceived as an elitist leisure activity
- RWU included in National Water Act (NWA) as a water use (Section 21(k) of the NWA) and is thus subject to the provisions and objectives of the NWA
- Legitimately contribute to redress and transformation
- Acknowledge importance of this use and its possible positive and negative impacts
- Managed and controlled to ensure sustained positive contributions towards attaining Government's objectives: sustainability, equity, resource protection



Setting the Scene (Continued)

- Defining RWU ('using water for recreational purposes'):

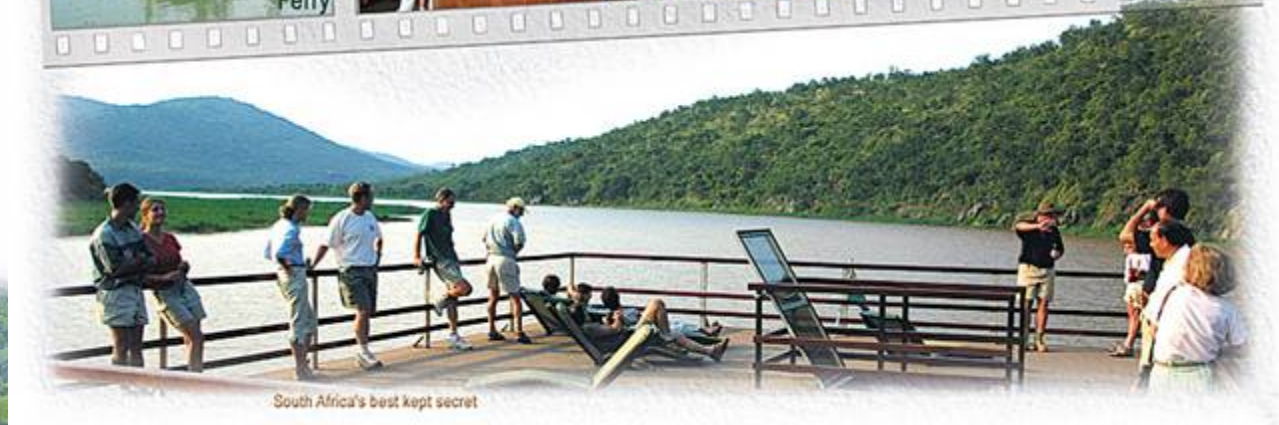
'...includes all activities that require the use of water, including the surface of water for-

- sport, tourism and leisure
- personal or commercial
- activities which contribute to the general health, well-being and skills development of individuals and society'

OPERATIONAL POLICY



OPERATIONAL POLICY



OPERATIONAL POLICY





Authority

- Section 3 of the National Water Act
- Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry is the public trustee of water resources with powers to regulate the manner, purpose and extent of water use

OPERATIONAL POLICY



Principles

- National Water Act
- National Environmental Management Act



Principles (Continued)

- Sustainability
- Equity
- Just administration
- Government providing an enabling framework
- Private sector driven development
- Community-based

OPERATIONAL POLICY



Aim

- Ensuring equitable and beneficial use of water for recreational purposes based on sound environmental principles
- Equitable community participation and beneficiation
- Meeting the needs of the user in a co-operative manner
- Just public administration and service delivery based on sound policy

OPERATIONAL POLICY



Policy Statements

1. *Water and associated resources* are protected, conserved, developed, managed, controlled and utilised in an environmentally sound and equitable manner based on integrated resource management plans developed in association with all stakeholders.
2. The use of water for recreational purposes will be *safe*, both from a resource as well as industry perspective.
3. The use of water for recreational purposes is appropriately *authorised*.
4. The use of water resources for recreational purposes shall *benefit* and contribute to the sustainable livelihood of *communities*.



Policy Statements (Continued)

5. The objectives of the NWA and the policy and implementation programme pertaining to the use of water for recreational purposes will be *communicated* and stakeholders appropriately empowered through *capacity building* initiatives.
6. Appropriate *institutions* are established and effective co-operative *linkages* developed to ensure among other the sustainable management of the use of water for recreational purposes.
7. The use of water for recreational purposes and its regulation comply with all relevant *legislative requirements*.
8. The use of water for recreational purposes is *monitored, evaluated and audited* in terms of both performance and compliance, and *information* pertaining to this use is *managed* in a user friendly and effective manner in order to promote the sustainable utilisation and management of water resources.

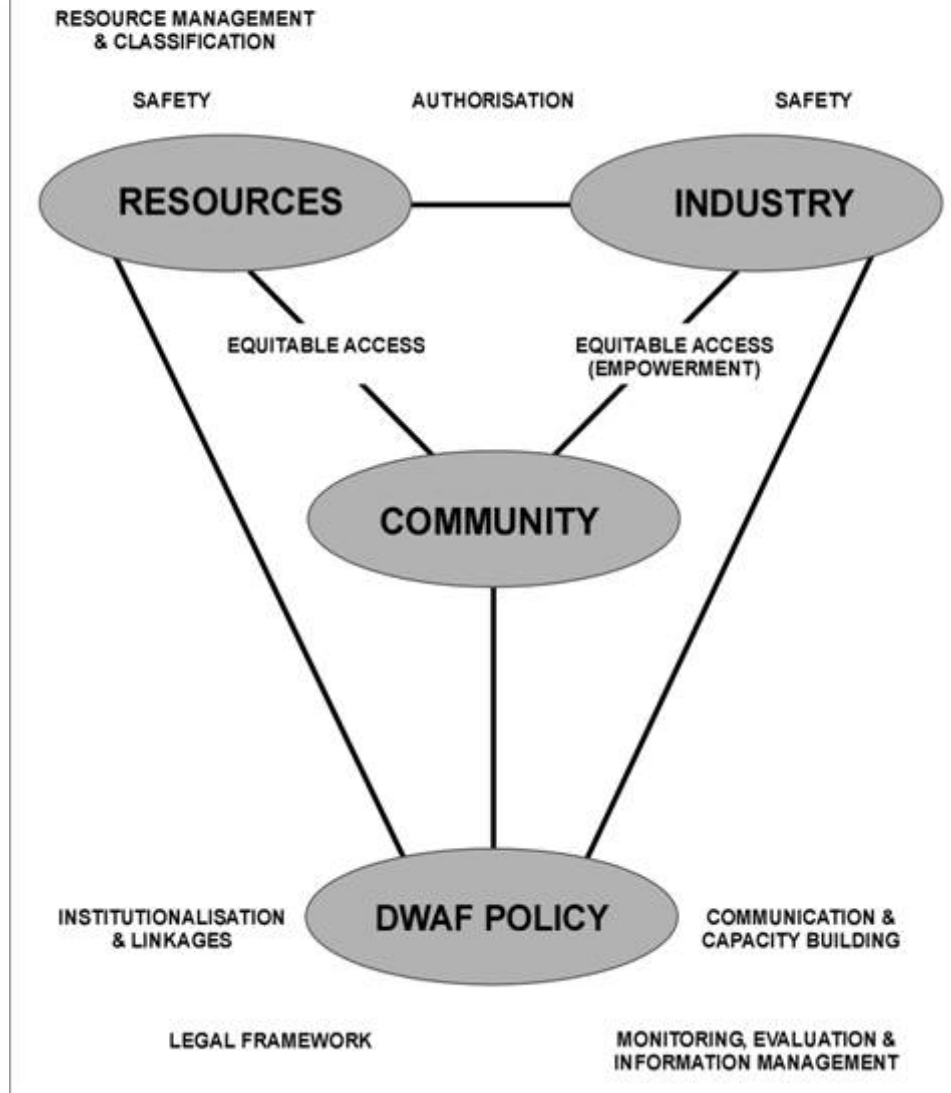


8 Policy Key Performance Areas

- the Resource
- the User (Industry)
- the Community
- Government (DWAF) Policy

IMPLEMENTATION POLICY: USING WATER FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

- Key Performance Areas -



OPERATIONAL POLICY



Policy Objectives

POLICY STATEMENT 1:

*Water and associated resources are protected, conserved, developed, managed, controlled and utilised in an environmentally sound and equitable manner based on integrated **resource management plans** developed in association with all stakeholders.*

OBJECTIVE 1: A planning and zonation framework for water resource planning and management is established and included in provincial and local planning frameworks.

OBJECTIVE 2: Resource management plans (RMPs) are compiled based on the principles underlying the recreational water resource management planning procedure.

OBJECTIVE 3: Based on RMPs water resources are classified and RMPs and classification are utilised as decision support tools.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 2

The use of water for recreational purposes will be safe, both from a resource as well as industry perspective.

OBJECTIVE 1: The manner, purpose and extent to which water resources are used safely are appropriately regulated, controlled and managed.

OBJECTIVE 2: Compliance with industry norms and standards is ensured.

OBJECTIVE 3: The safe use of water is promoted.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 3

The use of water for recreational purposes is appropriately authorised.

OBJECTIVE 1: Appropriate authorisation of the use of water for recreational purposes is ensured and facilitated.

OBJECTIVE 2: Appropriate management of entitlements is ensured.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 4

The use of water resources for recreational purposes shall benefit and contribute to the sustainable livelihood of communities.

OBJECTIVE 1: The rights of communities to physically access resources for recreational purposes are protected.

OBJECTIVE 2: Equitable access to the water-based recreation economy for communities is ensured.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 5

The objectives of the NWA and the policy and implementation programme pertaining to the use of water for recreational purposes will be communicated and stakeholders appropriately empowered through capacity building initiatives.

OBJECTIVE 1: Understanding and co-operation ensured by changing perceptions and attitudes through the promotion of the value of the use of water for recreational purposes.

OBJECTIVE 2: Stakeholders and role-players empowered by ensuring sufficient capacity regarding the use of water for recreational purposes.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 6

Appropriate institutions are established and effective co-operative linkages developed to ensure among other the sustainable management of the use of water for recreational purposes.

OBJECTIVE 1: Appropriate institutions established to manage recreational water use effectively.

OBJECTIVE 2: Functional linkages established to ensure co-operative governance and effective sharing of management responsibilities regarding the sustainable management of water resources for recreational purposes.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 7

The use of water for recreational purposes and its regulation comply with all relevant legislative requirements.

OBJECTIVE 1: Compliance with relevant legislative requirements ensured.

OBJECTIVE 2: The use of water for recreational purposes positioned as a strategic issue and DWAF as a strategic partner in the legal processes related to recreation, water use, and use and management of associated resources, etc.



Policy Objectives (Continued)

POLICY STATEMENT 8

The use of water for recreational purposes is monitored, evaluated and audited in terms of both performance and compliance, and information pertaining to this use is managed in a user friendly and effective manner in order to promote the sustainable utilisation and management of water resources.

OBJECTIVE 1: Performance and compliance regarding the use of water for recreational purposes monitored and evaluated.

OBJECTIVE 2: Information is managed and provided in a user friendly and effective manner to assist in decision-making regarding the use of water for recreational purposes.



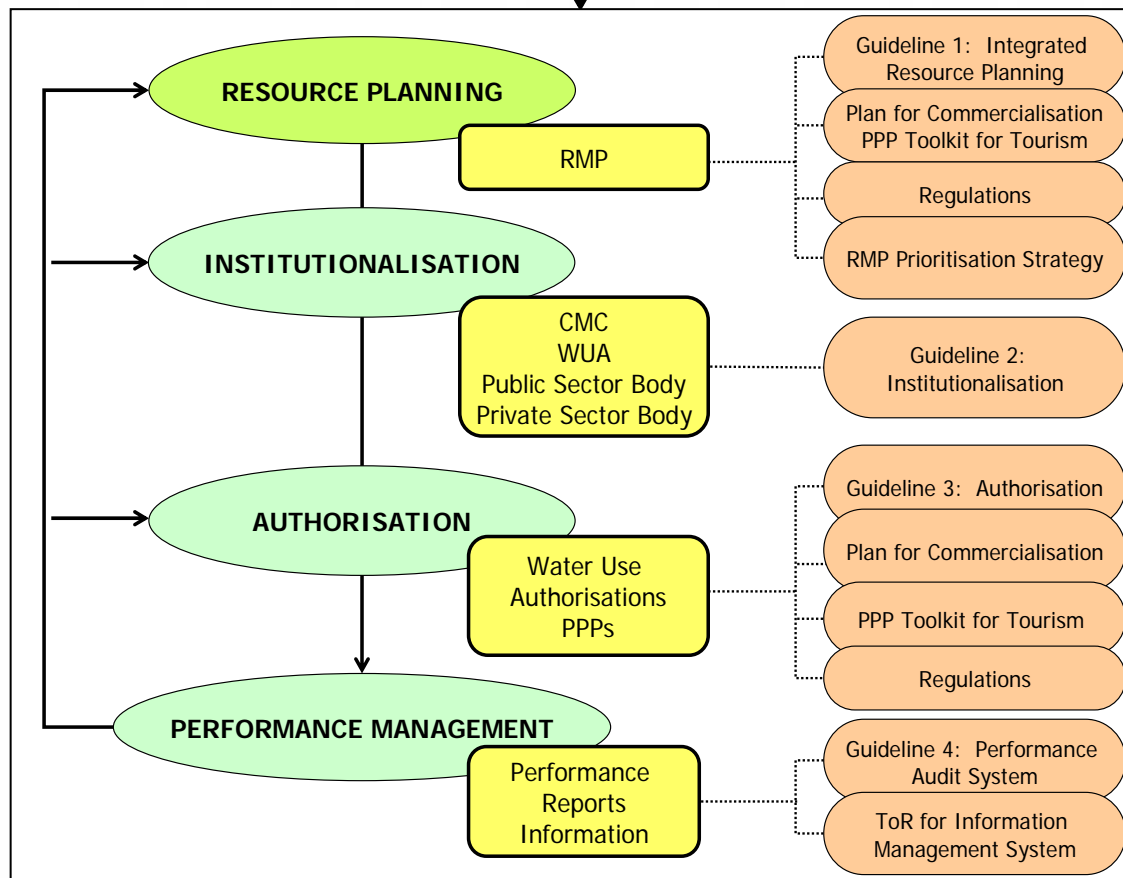
Policy Implementation Framework

- The importance of RMPs...?

NATIONAL WATER ACT
Chapter 4 and Section 113

**OPERATIONAL POLICY
FOR RECREATIONAL WATER USE**

POLICY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM





Policy Implementation Framework (Continue)

- The importance of RMPs...
- RMPs are the foundation for:
 - Institutionalising the management and regulation of RWU
 - Authorising RWU
 - Performance and compliance management re. RWU
 - **The implementation of the Policy for RWU...**