water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

WATER RESOURCES CLASSIFICATION AND RQOs DETERMINATION: BACKGROUND

TTG MEETING 2

Date: 28 August 2014
Venue: Bee-Eaters, Nelspruit

Presented by Mohlapa Sekoele

BACKGROUND

- Two year study; commenced April 2013
- Output:

i. Management Classes

Classes	Description of use
Class I	**Minimally used**
Class II	**Moderately used**
Class III	**Heavily used**

ii. Resource Quality Objectives

MCs & RQOs

- Management Class defines the desired state of the water resources
- Resource Quality Objectives: provide measurable goals to achieve the Management Class

➢ RQOs are numeric or descriptive statements of conditions which should be met in the receiving water resource;

➢ RQOs represent the requirements for water quantity, quality, and habitat and biotic integrity to be maintained in aquatic ecosystems.

➢ They are targets that can be measured/audited, and can be used as benchmarks to monitor a combined resource that may have several licensed users.

RQOs DETERMINATION PROCEDURE

Step	Description
1	Delineate the IUAs and RUs
2	Establish the vision for the catchment
3	Prioritise and select RUs
4	Prioritise sub-components for RQO determination, select indicators for monitoring
5	Develop draft RQOs and numerical limits
6	Agree on Rus, RQOs and numerical limits with stakeholders
7	Gazette RQOs

PURPOSE OF TECHNICAL TASK GROUP MEETING

i. To discuss river habitat and biota RQOs and user water quality RQOs

ii. To obtain specialist stakeholder input with reference to:

- Prioritising and selecting river Resource Units for RQO determination.
- Identifying the priority indicator components (ecological and user water quality) to be addressed at each priority river Resource Unit.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

- Identification of RUs that are important from a user perspective (cultural services, support livelihoods, strategic requirements/international obligations, supporting & regulating services, activities contributing to economy)

- Identification of RUs that are important from an ecological perspective (high/v high EIS, A/B PES, NFEPAs, priority in conservation plans)

- Identification of sub-components that may be important to either users or the environment

THANK YOU