

The Determination Of Water Resource Classes, Reserve And Resource Quality Objectives For Secondary Catchments (A5-A9) Within The Limpopo WMA And Secondary Catchment B9 in the Olifants WMA.

Public Meeting 2 & 3

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Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Presentation Content

- Legal Mandate
- Water Resource Classes
- Resource Quality Objectives (RQOS)
- Reserve
- Study Focus: Determination of Water Resource Classes (WRC), Reserve & Resource Quality Objectives (RQOs)
- Process: Classification of water resources, determination of the Reserve & Resource Quality Objectives
- Stakeholder Engagement

Legal Mandate

- Chapter 3 of the National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998), deals with the protection of water resources
- The measures for protection of water resources are:
 - Classification (**S13**)
 - Reserve (**S16**)
 - Resource Quality Objectives (**S13**)
- S12 requires the Minister to establish the Water Resource Classification System, (WRCS)
- WRCS was published as Regulation 810 in Government Gazette No. 33541 dated 17 September 2010
- The WRCS defines:
 - water resource classes and
 - the procedure to determine Class, RQOs and Reserve
- According to the NWA, once the WRCS has been gazetted all significant water resources must be classified, Reserve and Resource Quality Objectives determined

Water Resource Classes

	Description of use	Majority of ecological categories
Class I	Minimally used	A-B
Class II	Moderately used	C
Class III	Heavily used	D

Ecological Category (EC) - means the assigned ecological condition to a water resource . It is measured by determining how much the ecosystem has changed from natural (pre-development condition).

Resource Quality Objectives

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

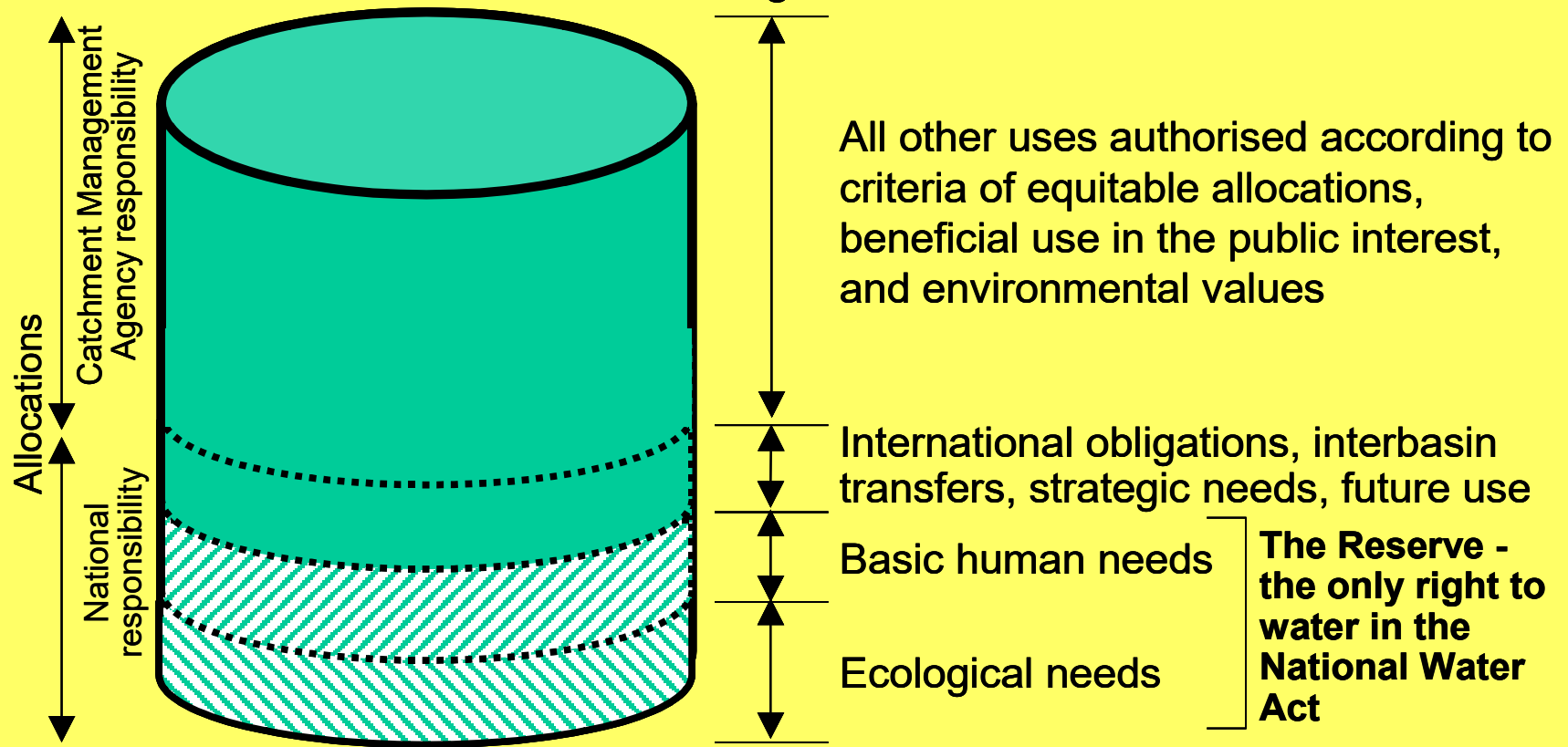
The objectives provide statements about:

- what the **quantity** of the water should be (water level, pattern, timing)
- what the water **quality** should be (physical, chemical and biological)
- what the condition of the instream and riparian (river bank) **habitat** should be
- what the condition of the aquatic (water) **animal and plant** life should be.

Reserve

Balancing equity with sustainability - the Reserve

If all the water in the country could be put into a bucket, the “Reserve” is the water that must always be left in the bucket for basic human needs and ecological needs.

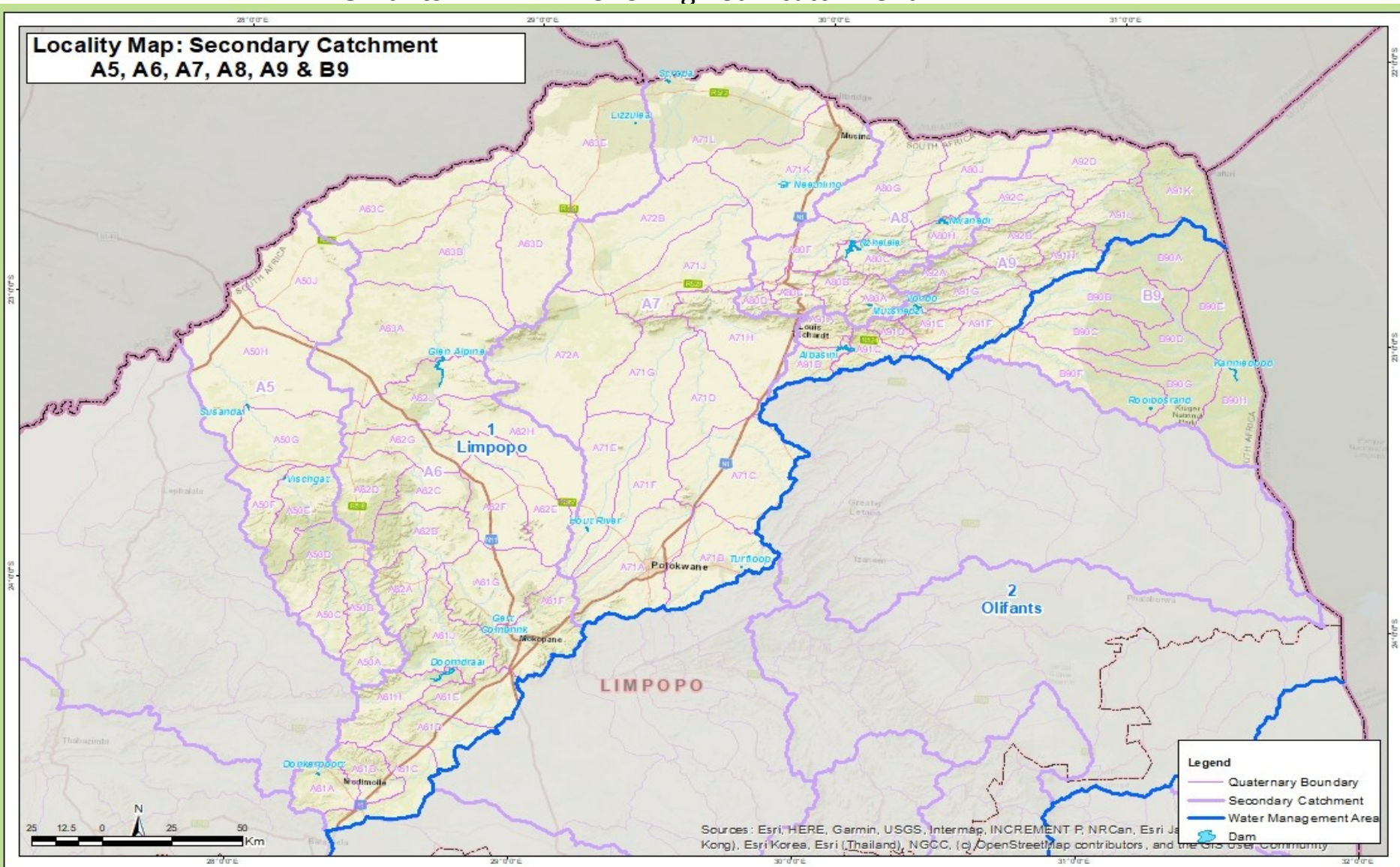


Study Focus: Determination of Water Resource Classes, Reserve and Resource Quality Objectives

- 52 Months project: from September 2021 to January 2026
- The main aim of the project is to determine:
 - Water Resource Classes;
 - Reserve
 - Resource Quality Objectives
- Water Resource Classes, Reserve and RQOs will be gazetted once approved by the Minister.

Study Area:


- **Limpopo WMA 1 : A5-A9** catchments (Lephalala, Mogalakwena, Sand, Nzhelele & Luvuvhu)
- **Olifants WMA 2: B9-** Shingwedzi catchment



Process: Determination of Water Resource Classes, Reserve and Resource Quality Objectives

In accordance with the gazetted steps and guidelines

1	Describe the status quo and delineate the study area into units of analysis (IUAs)	Stakeholder Engagement
2	Delineate and prioritise Resource Units (RUs) and select study sites	
3	Quantify the ecological water requirements (EWRs) & BHN	
4	Identify and evaluate scenarios within the IWRM process	
5	Determine Water Resource Classes based on catchment configurations	
6	Determine RQOs and provide implementation information	
7	Gazette Water Resource Classes, RQOs and the Reserve	



Progress thus far: Reserve & Classes

- 12 IUAs delineated.
- 75 nodes were identified. (19 EWR sites)
- Value and condition of water Resources linked.
- Ecological Water Requirements & BHN quantified.
- Various scenario identified & evaluated:
(Spatially targeted scenario taken forward)
- Classes set for 12 IUAs

Progress thus far: RQOs

- 75 River Resource Units were delineated & prioritised

For setting of RQOs:

- 30 Rivers
- 8 Dams
- 11 Wetland
- 20 Ground water

Stakeholder Engagement

Objectives of the Stakeholder Engagement

- To improve the management process of the project.
- To reduce the potential for future conflict.
- To enable the Department and stakeholders to share knowledge and expertise.

Stakeholder Engagement

Platforms	Stakeholder groups	Purpose
Project Steering Committee	Representatives from various Sectors	<p>To give strategic inputs to the project</p> <p>05 July 2022 (Status Quo & IUAs Delineation) 14 March 2024 (EWR Results) 22 October 2024 (Scenario Evaluation & Draft Water Resource Classes) 01 April 2025 (Draft RQOs)</p>
Technical Task team Meeting	Representatives from sectors with technical knowledge of study area and water resource management	<p>To source comments and inputs on technical aspects of the project</p> <p>21 November 2022 (Wetland Prioritisation) 09 June 2023 (Development of Operational Scenarios)</p>
Public Meeting	The broader public	<p>To announce the project & present the final results.</p> <p>12 May 2022</p>
Forums	Catchment management forums	Information sharing

Stakeholder Engagement

Platforms	Stakeholder groups	Purpose
Sectors	Different sectors e.g. Domestic, Agriculture, mining etc. (where necessary).	Information sharing 04 February 2025 (Conservation) 05 February 2025 (Agriculture)
RQOs Workshops	Representatives from sectors with technical knowledge of study area and water resource management	To give comments and inputs on technical aspects of the project 03 - 07 March 2025 (RU prioritization, selection of subcomponents & indicators, draft RQOs)

Contact Details

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<https://www.dws.gov.za/wem/WRCS/lvhv.aspx>

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LUVUVHU CLASSES, RESERVE AND RQOS ROJECT

Home

Structure

Current Studies

General Documents

Links

Contacts

1. General Project Documents

2. Project Reports

- [Status quo report](#) [PDF - 3.4 MB]
- [Appendix A - Groundwater Status Quo Trend Analysis](#) [PDF - 3.86 MB]
- [The Linking Value and Condition Report](#) [PDF - 1.82 MB]

EWR Reports

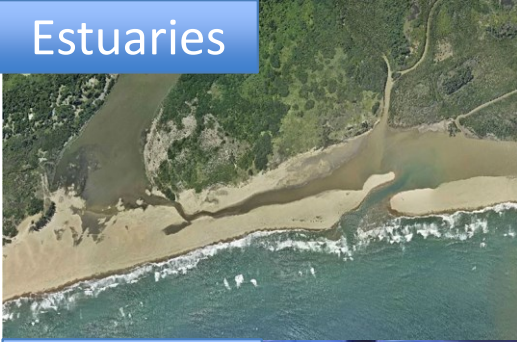
- [Limpopo WMA EWR Assessment Rivers Report](#) [PDF - 9 MB]
 - [River Assessment \(Vol2\) Data Collection and Analysis April 2024](#) [PDF - 48 MB]
 - [Basic Human Needs Report](#) [PDF - 1.89 MB]
 - [Eco Categorisation Rivers Report](#) [PDF - 3.35 MB]
 - [EcoStatus and Priority Wetlands Report](#) [PDF - 47.3 MB]
 - [Ground Reserve Report](#) [PDF - 3.83 MB]
 - [Wetland EWR Assessment \(Nylsvlei and Makuleke\)](#) [PDF - 12 MB]
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- [ESBC Report](#) [PDF - 3.12 MB]
 - [Scenario Evaluation & Draft Water Resource Classes Report](#) [PDF - 3.12 MB]

3. Stakeholder Engagements

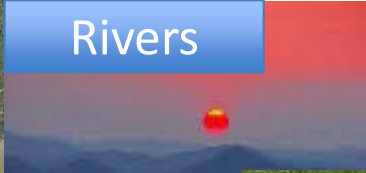
- 3.1 Project Management Committee (PMC) Meetings
- 3.2 Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meetings
 - PSC 1
 - [BID](#) [PDF - 588 KB]
 - [Technical Presentation](#) [PDF - 14.8 MB]
- 3.3 Public Meetings
 - Public meeting 1
 - [Background presentation](#) [PDF - 3.4 MB]
 - [Presentation Public meeting](#) [PDF - 3.86 MB]
- 3.4 Technical Task Group (TTG) Meetings

THANK YOU!

Estuaries



Rivers



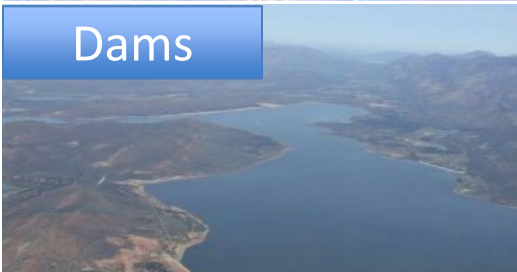
Wetlands



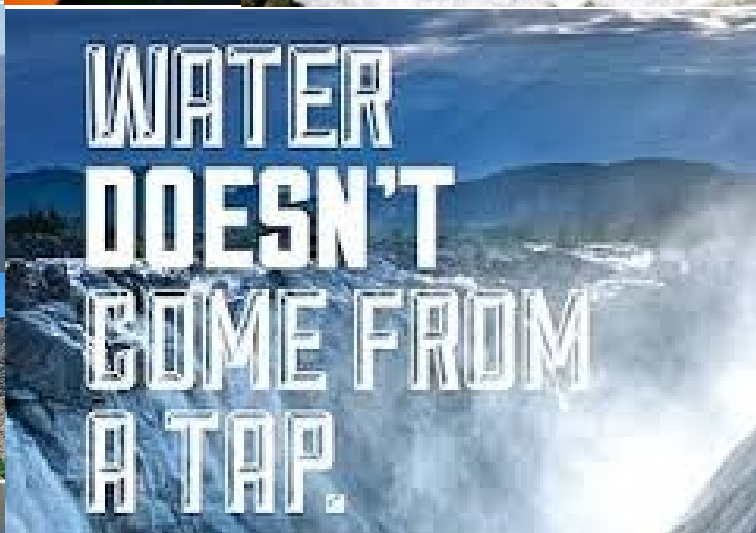
Groundwater



Dams



**WATER
DOESN'T
COME FROM
A TAP.**



Conserve



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