

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION

NO. 3141

10 March 2023

NATIONAL WATER ACT, 1998

**WATER RESOURCE CLASSES AND RESOURCE QUALITY
OBJECTIVES FOR THUKELA CATCHMENTS IN THE PONGOLA-
MTAMVUNA WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

I, Senzo Mchunu, in my capacity as Minister of Water and Sanitation, and duly authorised in terms of section 13(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), hereby determine the classes of water resources and the associated resource quality objectives, as set out in the Schedule hereto.



MR SENZO MCHUNU

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE:

02/12/22

SCHEDULE

WATER RESOURCE CLASSES AND RESOURCE QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR THUKELA CATCHMENTS IN THE PONGOLA-MTAMVUNA WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

DEFINITIONS

1. In this Schedule any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned and, unless the context indicates otherwise—

“Class I water resource” means a water resource in which the configuration of ecological categories of the water resources within a catchment, results in an overall condition of that water resource that is minimally altered from its pre-development condition, and as defined in the Water Resource Classification System Regulations;

“Class II water resource” means a water resource in which the configuration of ecological categories of the water resources within a catchment, results in an overall condition of that water resource that is moderately altered from its pre-development condition, and as defined in the Water Resource Classification System Regulations;

“Class III water resource” means a water resource in which the configuration of ecological categories of the water resources within a catchment, results in an overall condition of that water resource that is significantly altered from its pre-development condition, and as defined in the Water Resource Classification System Regulations;

“Ecological category” means the ecological condition of that water resource in terms of the deviation of its biophysical components from a predevelopment condition;

“Ecological water requirements” in relation to a water resource, means the quantity and quality of water of that resource that is required to maintain the said water resource in its ecological category;

“Integrated unit of analysis” means a water resource catchment that incorporates a socio-economic zone, but is defined by a watershed;

“Percentile” means the non-exceedance probability i.e. at the 95th percentile, 95 percent of values must be less than or equal to the value; and at 50th percentile 50, percent of values must be less than or equal to the value;

“Present ecological state” means the current health or integrity of various biological attributes of the resource, compared to the natural or close to natural reference conditions;

“Recommended ecological category” means a category indicating the ecological management target for a water resource based on the eco-classification that should be attained, where values range from Category A (unmodified, natural) to Category D (largely modified);

“Resource quality objectives” means descriptive qualitative statements and numerical values for the biological, physical and chemical attributes of the significant water resources throughout the catchments;

“Resource unit” means a basic unit of a water resource to which resource quality objectives will apply;

“Target ecological category” means the ultimate target to achieve a sustainable system both ecologically and economically, considering the Present ecological state and Recommended ecological category; and

“Water Resource Classification System Regulations” means the Regulations for the Establishment of the Classification System, 2010, as prescribed in Government Notice No. R. 810 of 17 September 2010.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WATER RESOURCE

2. The water resource classes and resource quality objectives are determined for all or part of every significant water resource as set out below:

Water Management Area:	Pongola-Mtamvuna
Drainage Region:	V Primary Drainage Region
River(s):	Thukela River System

DETERMINATION OF CLASSES OF WATER RESOURCES

3. (1) The water resource classes according to the overall class per Integrated unit of analysis for the Thukela Catchment are listed in Table 1 of the Annexure and indicated in Figure 1 of the Annexure.

(2) The Integrated unit of analysis boundaries of the Thukela Catchment are indicated in Figure 2 of the Annexure.

(3) The water resources within an Integrated unit of analysis are classified in terms of their extent of permissible utilisation and protection as either—

- (a) Class I water resource: indicating higher ecological protection and minimal utilisation;
- (b) Class II water resource: indicating moderate protection and moderate utilisation;
or
- (c) Class III water resource: indicating sustainable minimal protection and high utilisation.

(4) Table 1 of the Annexure provides the Integrated unit analysis, its water resource class and its respective catchment configuration.

(5) The catchment configuration consists of a number of biophysical nodes representing river reaches or Resource units, and the Target ecological category for some Resource units in the Integrated unit of analysis is provided.

DETERMINATION OF RESOURCE QUALITY OBJECTIVES

4. (1) Resource quality objectives are defined for each prioritised Resource unit for every Integrated unit of analysis in terms of water quantity, habitat and biota, and water quality.

(2) Figure 3 of the Annexure represents the Resource unit boundaries of the Thukela Catchment.

(3) Table 2 to Table 16 of the Annexure provide the Resource quality objectives for RIVERS AND DAMS in priority Resource units.

(4) Table 17 of the Annexure represents the Resource quality objectives for PRIORITY WETLAND CLUSTERS AND SYSTEMS in selected Resource units.

(5) Table 18 to Table 32 of the Annexure represent Regional and Resource units specific Resource quality objectives for GROUNDWATER in priority groundwater Resource units.

(6) Table 33 of the Annexure represents Resource quality objectives for the THUKELA ESTUARY in priority Resource units.

COMMENCEMENT

5. The Notice shall come into operation on the date of publication hereof.

The Annexure to this Notice, containing Water resource classes and Resource quality objectives, can be accessed from:

<https://www.dws.gov.za/rdm/WRCS/default.aspx>

or requested from:

Director: Water Resource Classification
Attention: Ms Lebogang Matlala
Department of Water and Sanitation
Ndinaye Building 5046
178 Francis Baard Street
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Pretoria
0001
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ISAZISO SOMPHAKATHI**UMNYANGO WEZAMANZI NOKUTHUTHWA KWENDLE****UMTHETHO WEZAMANZI KAZWELONKE, 1998****UKUHLELWA KWEZINHLOBO ZAMAZINGA EMITHOMBO YAMANZI
NEQOPHELO LAMANZI EZINDAWENI ZOKUSINGATHWA KWAMANZI
EZINGAPHANSI KOTHUKELA EZISUKELA OPHONGOLO KUYA
EMTHAVUMA**

Mina, Senzo Mchunu, ngokwesikhundla sami njengoNgqongqoshe Wezamanzi Nokuthuthwa Kwendle, futhi ngokugunyazwa yisigaba 13(1) soMthetho Wezamanzi kaZwelonke ka 1998 (uMthetho No. 36 ka 1998), lapha nginquma izinhlobo namazinga emithombo yamanzi kanjalo nezindlela zokubheka amazinga amanzi ezihambisana nalokho, njengoba kubekwe kwiSheduli engezansi.

**MNU SENZO MCHUNU****UNGQONGQOSHE WEZAMANZI NOKUTHUTHWA KWENDLE****USUKU:** 02/12/22

ISHEDULI

UHLELO LOKUBEKWA KWAMAZINGA EMITHOMBO YAMANZI NEQOPHELO LAMANZI EZINDAWENI ZOKUGCINA AMANZI EZINGAPHANSI KOTHUKELA EZISUKELA OPHONGOLO KUYA EMTAMVUNA

IZINCAZELO

1. Kule Sheduli noma yiliphi igama noma isisho esinikeziwe incazelo eMthethweni siyoba naleyo ncazelo futhi, ngaphandle uma ingqikithi isho okwehlukile —

“Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni I” kushiwo umthombo wamanzi lapho lapho isimo semvelo somthombo kuleyo ndawo okumi khona amanzi singashintshiwe, okwenza ukuthi kuma kwendawo yomthombo wamanzi kuhlale kunjengoba kunjalo, kufane nangesikhathi indawo ibingakathuthukiswa, njengoba kuchazwe kwiMithethonqubo Yohlelo Lokuhlukaniswa Kwamazinga Emithombo Yamanzi;

“Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni II” kushiwo umthombo wamanzi lapho isimo semvelo somthombo kuleyo ndawo okumi khona amanzi sishintshiwe ngandlela thile, okwenza ukuthi isimo sendawo okugcinwe kuyona amanzi sishintshe ngandlela thile kuleso simo esasiyisona ngaphambi kokuthuthukiswa kwayo, njengoba kuchazwe kwiMithethonqubo Yohlelo Lokuhlukaniswa Kwamazinga Emithombo Yamanzi;

“Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni III” kushiwo umthombo wamanzi lapho isimo semvelo somthombo kuleyo ndawo okumi khona amanzi siqalwe phansi, okwenza ukuthi isimo sendawo okugcinwe kuyona amanzi sehluke kakhulu ukunalokhu esasiyikhona ngaphambi kokuthuthukiswa kwayo, njengoba kuchazwe kwiMithethonqubo Yohlelo Lokuhlukaniswa Kwamazinga Emithombo Yamanzi;

“Umkhakha wesimo semvelo” kushiwo isimo semvelo salowo mthombo wamanzi ngandlela esesehluke ngayo ngokwendlela esesime ngayo uma kuqhathaniswa nangaphambi kokuqalwa kwentuthuko;

“Izidingo zamanzi ezingokwesimo semvelo” mayelana nomthombo wamanzi, kushiwo umthamo nezinga lamanzi lowo mthombo okudingeka uligcine kuleyo ndawo okuyona ngokwemvelo;

“Ukuhlaziywa Ngokuhlanganiswa kwamayunithi” ushiwo indawo ewuthombo yokugcina amanzi ehlanganisa indawo yomphakathi yezomnotho, kodwa ebhekwa ngokwendawo ekhona enamanzi;

“i-Percentile” kushiwo isilinganiso okungamele kweqiwe kusona uma kukalwa, njengokuthi u-95th Percentile, usho ukuthi umthamo noma isilinganiso sokukalwayo akumele seqe kumaphesenti angu-95 wamaphesenti; futhi u-50th percentile usho ukuthi akumele kweqiwe kwisilinganiso samaphesenti awu-50;

“Isimo samanje sendawo” kushiwo isimo sempilo nokuma kwendawo ewumthombo nezinto zemvelo ezitholakala kuyona, uma kuqhathaniswa nezimo ezejwayelekile zemvelo okubukelwa kuzona;

“Umkhakha wesimo semvelo onconywayo” kushiwo umkhakha okhomba izinjongo zokunakekelwa kwemvelo zalowo mthombo wamanzi ngokususela ekuhlukanisweni kwemikhakha ngokwesimo semvelo okumele sikhale sikhona, lapho amazinga esikela eMkhakheni A (indawo engashintshiwe, eyimvelo) kuya eMkhakheni D (indawo eshintshwe kakhulu);

“Izinhloso zezinga lomthombo” kushiwo ulwazi ulicacisayo ngezinga nezinombolo ezichaza kabanzi ngobungako bemvelo, izinto namakhemikhali angaba khona kulowo mthobo wamanzi kuyona yonke indawo egcine amanzi;

“Iyunithi lomthombo” kushiwo iyunithi elejwayelekile lamanzi atholakala emthonjeni wamanzi okuyosetshenziswa lona ngenhloso yokubheka amanzi;

“Umkhakha wezemvelo oyinjongo” kushiwo injongo ehloswe ukufezekiswa ukuze uhlelo luhambisane ngokwemvelo nangokwezomnotho, kubhekelelwa kakhulu izimo sangaleso sikhathi semvelo nesimo esinconywayo somkhakha wemvelo; futhi

“iMithethonqubo Yohlelo Lokuhlukaniswa Kwamazinga Emithombo Yamanzi” kushiwo iMithethonqubo yokuSungungulwa koHlelo Lokuhlukanisa Amazinga, ka 2010, njengoba ibhalwe kwiSaziso sikaHulumeni No. R. 810 sika-17 kuMandulo 2010.

UKUCHAZWA KOMTHOMBO WAMANZI

2. Lapha kunqunywa izinhlobo zemithombo yamanzi nezinjongo zokubekwa zamazinga emithombo yamanzi, kuyo yonke noma ingxenye yale mithombo yamanzi ebalulekile eshiwo ngezansi:

Indawo Elawulwayo Yamanzi:	UPhongolo kuya eMtamvuna
Isifunda Sokudonsa Amanzi:	Isifunda Sokudonsa Amanzi esiyi-V Primary
Umfula:	Uhlelo Lomfula uThukela

UKUNQUNYWA KWAMAZINGA EMITHOMBO YAMANZI

3. (1) Izinhlobo zamazinga emithombo yamanzi uma kubhekwa lonke uhlelo lokucwaninwa kwamayunithi amanzi esewonke eNdaweni yamanzi yasoThukela zikluliswe kwiThebula 1 leSithasiselo futhi zikhonjiswe kuMdwebho 1 weSithasiselo.

(2) Imigcele yokucwaningwa kwamayunithi amanzi sekukonke endaweni yamanzi yasoThukela kukhonjiswe kuMdwebho 2 weSithasiselo.

(3) Imithombo yamanzi engaphakathi kwendawo ecwaningwayo ngokwamayunithi esewonke ihlukaniswe ngokobungako bezindlela amanzi angasetshenziselwa futhi avikelwe zona ngale ndlela —

- (a) Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni I: lapho kuvikelwe kakhulu imvelo futhi amanzi esetshenziswa kancane;
- (b) Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni II: lapho imvelo ivikelwe okungatheni namanzi esetshenziswa okungatheni; noma
- (c) Umthombo wamanzi oseZingeni III: lapho imvelo ivikelwe kancane futhi amanzi esetshenziswa kakhulu.

(4) UThebula 1 leSithasiselo lihlinzeka ucwaningo lwamayunithi esewonke, izinga lomthombo wamanzi nezilinganiso zaleyo ndawo egcine amanzi.

(5) Izilinganiso zendawo okugcinwe kuyona amanzi zihlanganisa izindawo eziningi ezibonakalayo zemvelo ezikhombisa lapho kuhamba noma kufinyelela khona imifula noma amayunithi emithombo, futhi kuhlinzekwa umkhakha olindelekile wesimo semvelo emthonjeni ngamunye ngokocwaningo lweyunithi ngayinye yamanzi kulowo mthombo uwonke.

UKUBEKWA KWEZINHLOSO ZAMAZINGA EMITHOMBO YAMANZI

4. (1) Kubekwe izinhloso zamazinga emithombo yamanzi zomkhakha ngamunye weyunithi lomthombo wamanzi emkhakheni ngamunye ocwaningwayo weyunithi lamanzi lapho kubhekwa khona umthamo wamanzi, izinto ezihlala emanzini nokuyimvelo okutholakala emanzini, nezinga lamanzi.

(2) Umdwebho 3 weSithasiselo ukhombisa imingcele yezindawo zemithombo yaManzi zasoThukela.

(3) IThebula 2 kuya kwiThebula 16 leSithasiselo likhombisa izinhloso zokubekwa kwamazinga emithombo yamanzi ZEMIFULA NAMADAMU kumayunithi emithombo yamanzi abalulekile.

(4) IThebula 17 leSithasiselo likhombisa izinhloso zokubekwa kwamazinga lemithombo yamanzi EZINCAWENI EZIHLANGENE EZINGAMACHIBI NEZIYIMIHOSHA kumayunithi emithombo amanzi athile.

(5) IThebula 18 kuya kwiThebula 32 leSithasiselo likhombisa izinhloso zokubekwa kwamazinga emithombo yamanzi ZAMANZI ANGAPHANSI KOMHLABA ngokwamayunithi emithombo yamanzi abalulekile.

(6) IThebula 33 leSithasiselo limele izinhloso zamazinga emithombo yamanzi OZALWENI LOTHUKELA ngokwamayunithi emithombo yamanzi abalulekile.

UKUQALA KOKUSEBENZA KOMTHETHO

5. Isaziso siyoqala ukusebenza ngosuku esiyoshicilelwa ngalo.

Isithasiselo salesi Saziso, esiqukethe amakilasi emithombo yamanzi kanye nezinhloso zekhwalthi yemithombo, singafinyelelwa ku:

<https://www.dws.gov.za/rdm/WRCS/default.aspx>

noma kucelwe ku:

Director: Water Resource Classification
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