



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

REHABILITATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR WATER RESOURCES

PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) MEETING 1 MINUTES

Date: 10 November 2021

Venue: MS Teams (Virtual)

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

No	Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome & Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The Chairperson, Ms Ndileka Mohapi, opened the meeting, welcomed all the attendees and thanked them for their attendance. She highlighted that this is the Inaugural Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting for the Rehabilitation Management Guidelines and explained that this is one of the projects that the Department is undertaking internally without the assistance of Professional Service Providers. She further elaborated that meeting objectives to introduce the project and share progress to date; and to discuss the Draft Inception Report.◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi gave all the attendees an opportunity to introduce themselves and indicate their organizations and respective interests in the project. Due to network related problems, she requested Ms Tovhowani Nyamande to standby to assist where necessary.
2.	Attendance & Apologies	List of Attendees: Ms Ndileka Mohapi - DWS Water Ecosystems Management (Chairperson) Ms Tovhowani Nyamande - DWS Sources Directed Studies (Project Leader) Ms Mmaphefo Thwala - DWS Sources Directed Studies (Project Manager) Mr Kgotso Mahlahlane - DWS Sources Directed Studies (Project Coordinator) Ms Jenifer Zungu - South African National Biodiversity Institute Dr Andrew Wood - SRK Consulting Pty Ltd Mr Matome Makwela - Minerals Council of South Africa Mr Reginald Mabalane - Minerals Council of South Africa Mr Dhiraj Rama - Association of Cementitious Material Producers (ACMP) Dr Eddie Riddell - South African National Parks (SANParks) Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni - Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) Mr Phil McLean - Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Ms Busisiwe Mahlangu - Inkomati-Usuthu CMA Ms Caroline Shai - DWS Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Ms Elkerine Rossouw - Breede-Gouritz CMA

		<p>Mr Samkele Mnyango - DWS Sources Directed Studies Mr Pieter Ackerman - DWS Water Abstraction and Instream-Use Ms Melissa Lintnaar-Strauss - DWS Water Resource Protection Mr Yakeen Atwaru - DWS Reserve Determination Ms Mahadi Mofokeng - DWS Strategy Ms Thembisa Torch - DWS Berg Olifants CMA Ms Abashoni Nefale - DWS Compliance Monitoring: Irrigation Ms Anet Muir - DWS Bulk Potable Water Pricing Regulation Dr Stanley Nzama - DWS Reserve Determination: Groundwater Ms Rachel Mpe - DWS Planning and Information Ms Ntombizanele Bila-Mupariwa - DWS Water Abstraction and Instream-Use Ms Jeanette Nyama - DWS Institutional Management-Water Resource Management Ms Esther Lekalake - DWS Water Resource Classification Dr Mampolelo Photolo - DWS Resource Quality Information Services Ms Joyce Thapelo Machaba - DWS Reserve Determination: Surface Mr Washington Tunha - DWS Implementation Support Mr Kwazikwakhe Majola - DWS Reserve Determination: Groundwater Mr Tendamudzimu Rasikhanya - DWS Policy Ms Khumbuzile Moyo - DWS Water Use Efficiency Mr Elijah Mogakabe - DWS Resource Quality Information Services Mr William Mosefowa - DWS Resource Protection & Waste Mr Molefi Mazibuko - DWS Reserve Determination: Surface Mr Pieter Viljoen – DWS Water Quality Planning</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Mr Bonani Madikizela - Water Research Commission - WRC Mr Ntsikelelo Dlulane - Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Dr Christa Thirion - DWS Resource Quality Information Services Ms Jacqueline Jay - DWS Water Resource Management Planning Ms Lebogang Matlala - DWS Water Resource Classification Mr Sazi Mthembu - DWS Resource Quality Information Services Dr Wietsche Roets - DWS Water Abstraction and Instream-Use Ms Baloyi Dikeledi - DWS Mine and Industrial Water Quality Regulation Ms Adaora Okonkwo - DWS Water Resource Classification Ms Thivhafuni Nemataheni - DWS Water Use Efficiency Mr Musawenkosi Kunene - DWS Strategy</p>
3.	Acceptance of Agenda	The agenda of the meeting was adopted with no additions.
4.	Meeting Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Chairperson opened the floor for Ms Tovhowani Nyamande to share the meeting objectives. ◆ Ms Tovhowani Nyamande gave a presentation on the Meeting Objectives and covered the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles and responsibilities of the PSC Members; • PSC Membership representation to date; and • Way forward. ◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi expressed her appreciation for additional information provided on the presentation pertaining to all the stakeholders who were invited to the meeting. She invited the meeting members to provide additional names and organizations that might have been left out of the list.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Dr Andrew Wood recommended invitation extension to World Wide Fund (WWF) for nature as the organization has done a great deal of work on watercourse rehabilitation programmes, particularly in the Berg River Catchment and have sat on the Water Research Commission (WRC) workshop the previous week. In addition, the WWF is doing a lot of work on water stewardship and wetland rehabilitation that could add value to the current project. ◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi added that the WWF is doing collaborative work with our sister Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) in terms of protection of water resources. She further elaborated on the work that the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) is doing – particularly the LandCare Programme which focuses on assisting in the management of soil erosion which has some impacts on our water resources. ◆ Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni recommended the Institute of Natural Resources to become part of the PSC. He indicated they are a relevant stakeholder in the project since they were very much involved in the Strategic Water Source Areas Project and in the development of the State of Strategic Water Sources. ◆ Mr Elijah Mogakabe acknowledged that Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni is representing DFFE, but he recommended that it would be beneficial to extend an invitation to representative directly involved in Working for Water and Working for Wetland for rehabilitation of invasive alien species and wetlands respectively.
5.	Project Introduction and Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mr Kgotso Mahlahlane gave a presentation on the Project Introduction and Progress. The following were covered as part of his presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project background and introduction; • Project deliverables and progress; and • Stakeholder engagement (levels and frequency). ◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi opened the floor for discussion after the presentation given and there were no inputs and comments received.
6.	Inception Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ms Mmaphefo Thwala gave a presentation on the Project Inception Report and covered the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past related initiatives; • Project objectives; • Scope of work, expected outputs and project inception approach followed; • Water resource themes; • Stakeholder engagement; • Capacity building; and • Project reporting. ◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi opened the floor for discussions after the presentation given. The following inputs and comments were received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Eddie Riddell apologized for only perusing the Inception Report in the morning. He mentioned that that the literature review and contextualization components draws very heavily on only the SA context. He therefore requested that consideration must be given to providing some context where these guidelines can draw some experience from the international literature and

demonstrate how the SA watercourse rehabilitation guidelines conform to the international practice.

- In response, **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** indicated that this will be considered by the Project Management Team.
- **Ms Anet Muir** asked which target audience/users the guidelines are intended for? **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** responded that the DWS has a shared responsibility with DFFE and SANBI to rehabilitate water resources, therefore the guidelines to be developed will have to address and cater for both internal and external stakeholders.
- **Mr Kwazikwakhe Majola** asked how the External Reviewer is envisaged to be involved in the project? At which point during the project will the external review be conducted?
- In response, **Ms Mmaphefo Thwala** explained that the first platform for external review of the project outputs would be the PSC Members and then once the products are ready the DWS will source an Independent Reviewer. She indicated that the matter on whether external review takes place at the completion of each output or at the end for all the outputs is a thought for consideration. She further indicated that it will be discussed and decided internally by the Project Management Team.
- **Ms Mohapi Ndileka** added that this is an in-house project, so therefore since we have external members as part of the PSC Membership, they are considered as reviewers. They will review our deliverables throughout the project. The Independent Reviewer will be appointed at a later stage to review considering that the DWS does not have sufficient budget to have a reviewer on standby.
- **Dr Andrew Wood** added to the question asked by **Mr Kwazikwakhe Majola** and shared his experience on various projects whereby the external review was left for too late and the inputs and comments (new ideas) that were received required a number of the project components to be re-developed. He suggested that we must ensure that the External Reviewer only fine tunes the product and not re-work it. The document to be reviewed must at least be 99% complete before it goes to the External Reviewer.
- **Mr Washington Tunha** asked to what extent is the project going to address the discharge of poor effluent from Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTWs) into the watercourse resulting in poor/deterioration of water quality? Whist putting rehabilitation measures, to what extent will the project address poor effluent from the WWTWs operated by the Municipalities?
- **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** responded by indicating that we must be able to separate between regulations vs. rehabilitation. Discharge from the WWTWs is a regulatory matter that needs to be dealt with by the relevant offices within the Department. With that being said, because of lagging in terms of the regulation, we are in a situation whereby most of our water resources are polluted therefore requiring intervention in terms rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is therefore a situation we have to look into resources see if we can put measure and improve the quality of the water resources. Regulation is part and parcel of the initial stages and we need to manage regulation upfront but when it comes to rehabilitation, the main focus will mainly be on the water resources in order to bring them back to a better status in terms of water quality.

- **Mr Washington Tunha** indicated that he is partially happy with the answer because when doing rehabilitation on watercourses that have been already polluted, we still have the discharge of poor effluent still going on. He therefore indicated that he is not sure whether the project will be implemented in isolation to the activities that the regulation section is carrying out at the moment.
- **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** indicated that we are missing the point because the project at hand aims to developing guidelines for rehabilitation and not implementation. Therefore, once the guidelines are developed, the two parties (the DWS and Municipalities) will have to talk to each other.
- **Ms Anet Muir** indicated that a thought just came to her mind that there are pollution incidents such as spillages and also discharge from WWTWs that has been previously raised. Therefore, will the rehabilitation guidelines consider those or it will just generally focus on water courses?
- **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** indicated these will be general guidelines. Therefore, there are processes that will have to be followed for remediation. It is the responsibility of the perpetrator to remediate due to the costs that are attached to this. This is part of the work that has been looked at and moving forward we will have to consider what form and shape must the guidelines take whilst focussing on already polluted water resources;
- **Ms Elkerine Rossouw** provided the following inputs and comments:
 - The current project that SANBI and Catchment Management Agencies (CMAs) is working on is reviewing the River Maintenance Management Plans in terms of the DFFE legislation that has been recommended and approved for Berg and Breede CMAs to see how they have evolved over time and to see how to improve – The Project Team must consider this study for rehabilitation
 - Estuaries – Breede Estuary already have Estuary Management Plans – The Project Team must look at the study and draw some lessons;
 - Theme 5 – The team must consider zooming into the polluted and contained groundwater due to inland mining and gas fracking coming up;
 - The team must consider the WWF study on the Titus Rivers Catchment in the Ceres Basin and have a look at the rehabilitation groundwater use to recharge back into the system and minimize over-abstraction in the Gouritz-Breede.
- **Ms Ndileka Mohapi** indicated that the Project Team must note all the above studies and consider them for the project.
- **Ms Jennifer Zungu** agreed with **Ms Elkerine Rossouw** and encouraged the team to consider the River Maintenance Management Plans to draw and input what comes from there into the Situation Analysis. She also suggested the team must be explicit on the various terminology such as rehabilitation, maintenance, restoration etc.
- **Ms Mmaphefo Thwala** requested to touch base with **Ms Elkerine Rossouw** and share the documents she made reference to. She also explained that definitions will be considered and define extensively in the Situation Assessment Report. She indicated that the reason for excluding them in the Inception Report was to avoid creating confusion to the reader.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Ndileka Mohapi requested the Project Management Team to extend the due date for inputs and comments on the Inception Report by one (1) week. She indicated that this is to afford the likes of Dr Eddie Riddell enough time to review the report.
8.	Any other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No other business was discussed during the meeting. ◆ Ms Ndileka Mohapi proposed that this item must be excluded from the agenda of our future meetings because it tends to bring various issues that are outside the meeting scope.
9.	Way Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mr Kgotso Mahlahlane summarized the way forward as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He thanked everyone for making time for the meeting and providing their meaningful contributions, inputs and comments; • He indicated the way forward as per the agreement in the meeting which is to extend of the PSC Members inputs and comments by 1 week; • It is envisaged that PSC Meetings will be schedule as and when project outcomes are completed during the course of the project. Therefore, the date of next meeting will be communicated in due course by the Project Team depending on the milestone/deliverables. ◆ Ms Mmaphefo Thwala expressed appreciation for everyone's attendance and participation and indicate she will touch base and follow-up on relevant and complementary work, case studies, initiatives etc. which will be incorporated in the Situation Assessment Report.
9.	Date of Next Meeting	Date of next meeting will be communicated in due course.
10.	Closure	Ms Mohapi Ndileka thanked everyone their continuous participation and adjourned the meeting

MEETING ACTION LIST

Agenda Item No.	Actions	Responsible Official (s)	Action Date	Progress to date
1.	<p>PSC Membership invitation to be extended to following organizations/institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Wide Fund (WWF) for nature DFFE Working for Water and Working for Wetland respectively Institute of Natural Resources Agricultural Research Council (ARC) South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) Coaltech Erik Botha (application on Breede River Estuary Advisory Forum) erik@erikbotha.co.za and Carmen.VanUys@westerncape.gov.za 	Mr Kgotso Mahlahlane & Ms Mmaphefo Thwala	15 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done Dr Klaudia Schachtschneider - Programme Manager: Water Stewardship, WWF-SA accepted the invitation Done Mr Andre Beegte and Ms Esmeralda Ramburran accepted the invitation through Ms Mathabiso Letsaba. Done Mr Theolin Naidoo accepted the invitation On-going Awaiting response from Dr Althea Grundling Done The team could not source a representative from SAIAB but opted for other institutions such as SACLAP and ILASA. Done Dr Dhiraj Rama from the Association of Cementitious Material Producers (ACMP) was invited and accepted the invitation through Mr Matome Makwela Done The reports were accessed directly from the internet and not requested from the provided contact details
4.	To request information from Ms Elkerine Rossouw on the following projects:	Ms Thwala Mmaphefo	15 December 2021	Done Reports were well received i.e., River

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project that SANBI and Catchment Management Agencies (CMAs) is working on is reviewing the River Maintenance Management Plans Estuaries – Breede Estuary already have Estuary Management Plans; Theme 5 – polluted and contained groundwater due to inland mining and gas fracking coming up; WWF study on the Titus Rivers Catchment in the Ceres Basin and have a look at the rehabilitation groundwater use to recharge 	& Mr Kgotsso Mahlahlane		Maintenance Plans, WWF Report etc.
6.	Project Management Team to extend the due date for inputs and comments on the Inception Report by one (1) week.	Ms Mmaphefo Thwala & Mr Kgotsso Mahlahlane	19 November 2021	Done
7.	<p>Chatbox:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CARA enforcement should also be included in this process as they have another method of getting land use on board What role does Citizen Based Science play in this project... we should include something in that line to incorporate our "private partners". Agriculture/LandCare Division 	Directorate: Sources Directed Studies	19 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done Done. The question was addressed in the chatbox by Ms Tovhowani Nyamande Ms Martha Khwene from DALRRD was invited. Upon following her up she requested the invitation to be forwarded to her Director Ms Lydia Bosoga who did not respond.

<p>Compiled by:</p>  <p>_____</p> <p>Mr Kgotsso Mahlahlane (Project Coordinator) Production Scientist: SDS Department of Water and Sanitation Date: 19 May 2023</p>	<p>Approved by:</p>  <p>_____</p> <p>Ms Tovhowani Nyamande (Project Leader) Director: SDS Department of Water and Sanitation Date: 19 May 2023</p>
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