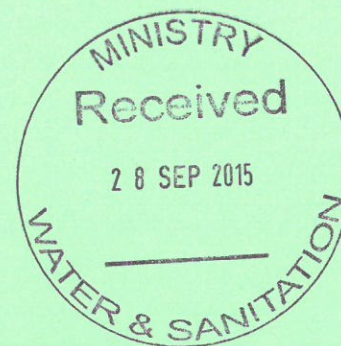




water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: AB Singh
Telephone: 012 336 7531
Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3162 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mrs Z B N Balindlela (DA) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

22/9/12

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE:

05.10.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 3162

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 21 AUGUST 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 32)

3162. Mrs Z B N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) On what date was the most recent biomonitoring report compiled for (a) Mvoti River, (b) Slang River, (c) Tugela River, (d) Mooi River, (e) Mhlathuze River, (f) Hluhluwe River and (g) Nkomati River;
- (2) what was the water quality of each specified river as reflected in the report;
- (3) on what date was the sample for each specified river taken;
- (4) what was the geographical location where each of the samples were taken?

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REPLY:

- (1) The biomonitoring reports are compiled on a quarterly basis and are adapted to coincide with the different seasons. The latest available reports are therefore, for the period between April – June 2015. With regards to the Nkomati River, the August 2015 report was finalised.
- (2) Refer to the table below for the response on the water quality of each river:

Name of the River	South African Scoring System (SASS) Scores	Average Score Per Taxa (ASPT)	Class
a. Mvoti River	99	5.5	Fair
	25	3.13	Poor
b. Slang River	170	6.54	Good/Natural
c. Tugela River	69	6.23	Good
	Too deep to sample- in flood		N/A
d. Mooi River	120	6.32	Good
e. Mhlathuze River	118	6.21	Good
f. Hluhluwe River	No sampling done – the river had stopped flowing, broken to several pools of water.		N/A
g. Nkomati River	The river is largely fair with 3 monitoring sites showing poor quality and 5 monitoring sites out of 31 monitoring sites showing pristine to good quality water and it is moderately impacted		

Please note that in some cases low flows (due to drought) have affected the water quality or ecological state of the rivers.

- (3) Refer to the table below for the response on the date of sampling for each river:

Name of the River	Date of Sampling
a. Mvoti River	3-Jun-2015
	15-Jun-2015
b. Slang River	30-May-2015
c. Tugela River	1-Jun-2015
	15-Jun-2015
d. Mooi River	10-Jun-2015
e. Mhlathuze River	25-May-2015
f. Hluhluwe River	28-May-2015 (No sampling possible)
g. Nkomati River	July/August 2014 (dry season) and February/March 2015 (wet season)

- (4) Refer to the table below for the response on the geographical location of the rivers:

Name of the River	Coordinates	
	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
a. Mvoti River	-29.159860	30.628690
	-29.370004	31.304341
b. Slang River	-27.420670	30.296810
c. Tugela River	-28.756331	30.150376
	-29.172622	31.391921
d. Mooi River	-29.380814	39.660522
e. Mhlathuze River	-28.746950	31.747450
f. Hluhluwe River	-28.138560	32.019950

The geographical location where samples were taken for Nkomatiriver are as follows:

Vlakfontein 418 JT, Waterval 424 JT, Ndubazi Ranch 413 JT, Winkelhaak 723 JT, Tjakadstad 730 JT, Hooggenoeg 162 IT, Laaggenoeg 158IT, Nooitgezien 3 IU, Fig Tree 503 JU, Lebombo 186 JU.

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