

25. ORGANISATIONS OFFERING SUPPORT FOR THE RHP

- \$ DWAF - National. Dr Henk van Vliet is chairperson of RHP National Coordinating Committee and can be contacted regarding major policy issues.
- \$ DWAF - IWQS. For expert advice and training. On site training in SASS and IHAS and preliminary site selection can be arranged with the IWQS staff. They can also offer advice on equipment issues, sampling and other practicalities. The IWQS water quality laboratory has capacity for chemical analysis of water samples, including heavy metals. Ms Annelize Gerber and Ms Mary-Jean Gabriel have produced a SASS colour pictorial guide to identifying invertebrates in the field. Dr Neels Kleynhans has spearheaded the research and development of the Fish Assemblage Integrity Index (FAII) as well as the Index of Habitat Integrity (IHI).
- \$ DWAF - Cape Town. Ms Toni Belcher is the Western Cape RHP Champion. Various initiatives are currently taking place such as training, customising of RHP indices and applying the Rivers Database.
- \$ DEAT. Dr Geoff Cowan is currently the DEAT representative on the RHP NCC and is involved with the national wetlands initiative.
- \$ WRC. Dr Steve Mitchell is the WRC representative on the RHP NCC who is responsible for the coordination of RHP training requirements. He can also be contacted for RHP research and funding issues.
- \$ CSIR. Dr Dirk Roux for general assistance regarding the design and implementation of the RHP and coordination of the programme as well as NCT matters. Ms Anna Ballance is compiling the State-of Rivers reports for several Mpumalanga rivers.
- \$ NFHR Consulting. Ms Nomsa Ntshingila for training and capacity building requirements of provincial RHP initiatives.
- \$ Umgeni Water. Dr Chris Dickens and his team have considerable experience in biomonitoring programmes (especially SASS) and implementation of the KwaZulu-Natal RHP.
- \$ Provincial Environmental Affairs Depts - particularly Mpumalanga Parks and Tourism Board. The Mpumalanga RHP was the first provincial RHP and is now well established in many rivers. Dr Johan Engelbrecht and his biomonitoring team have considerable experience in applying the Fish Assemblage Integrity Index (FAII), SASS and Riparian Vegetation Index (RVI). Mr Mick Angliss of the Northern Province Dept of Agriculture, Environment and Land Affairs has been involved with applying and developing the FAII and the RHP is well established in the province. Mr Pierre de Villiers of the Free State Dept of Agriculture, Environment and Conservation has been using the FAII and launching the provincial RHP. Mr Piet Muller of the Gauteng Dept of Agriculture, Environment and Conservation has taken command of the Gauteng provincial RHP. Dr Margaret Kalule-Sabiti and Mr Stuart Mangold of North West Dept of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment have conducted initial site surveys and training in selected rivers in the province.

- \$ The RHP National Coordinating Team should be your starting point to support your local RHP. Dr Dirk Roux, Ms Liesl Hill and Ms Vassie Maharaj can be contacted for more information on the various aspects of the RHP.
- \$ Southern Waters Ecological Research and Consulting. This organisation can be contacted for information about the Rivers Database and aquatic ecological surveys and general RHP issues. Also Dr Helen Dallas for assistance with the establishment of ecological reference conditions for riverine macroinvertebrates. This organisation has been involved with the RHP from its inception.
- \$ Institute for Water Research (IWR), Rhodes University. Prof. Jay O'Keeffe, Dr Patsy Sherman and Dr Nikite Muller. IWR offers a comprehensive biomonitoring training course twice per year. IWR has also been involved with various aspects of the RHP from its inception.
- \$ Dept of Freshwater Invertebrates (FWI), Albany Museum, Grahamstown . FWI can be consulted for specialist identification of freshwater invertebrates and initial baseline surveys of freshwater invertebrates in selected rivers and housing of aquatic invertebrate collections and biodiversity research. In collaboration with the WRC, FWI is developing a series of invertebrate guides with keys to most groups. Contact Dr Ferdy de Moor and Ms Helen James.
- \$ Dept of Freshwater Fishes, Albany Museum, Grahamstown . Dr Jim Cambray can be contacted for initial baseline surveys of freshwater fishes in selected rivers and housing of fish collections and biodiversity research.
- \$ AfriDev Consultants. This company does ecological assessments, catchment management studies, community consultation and participation and runs SASS training courses. Dr Mark Chutter developed SASS for South African conditions. Dr Rob Palmer has developed criteria for RHP quality control.
- \$ Manyaka Greyling (Pty) Ltd - for communication and promotion of the RHP as well as public participation and liaison issues. They are the editors of the RHP Newsletter. Contact Ms Vassie Maharaj.
- \$ Catchem Biomonitoring. This company specialises in making biomonitoring equipment, particularly SASS nets and SASS sampling kits. Contact George Johnstone.