

DEVELOPMENT OF A RECONCILIATION STRATEGY FOR THE OLIFANTS RIVER WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Work done up to the end of April 2011

PHASE 1:

Study Planning and Process Initiation

The initial planning and process initiation is complete and the Inception report was approved and signed off.

Further planning was done after DWA requested work that was out of scope. An application for a variation order is currently under consideration.

PHASE 2:

Task 1: Summary of Current and Previous studies

Completed. Report still needs to be signed off.

Task 2 : Preliminary Screening Workshop and Reconnaissance Study Tour

Completed. Report finally approved by Study Manager but still needs to be signed off.

Task 3: Current and Future Water Requirements and Return Flows

The yield assessment of De Hoop and Flag Boshielo Dams is complete and the report has been signed off.

The Water Requirements and Water Availability Report has been completed and after being edited internally by the PSP, is now ready for client acceptance review.

WRYM Model set-up was changed to include Massingir Dam as requested by DWA.

Task 4: Water Conservation and Demand Management

A first draft report has been completed and a first peer review has been done.

Information on Polokwane is outstanding and this is delaying completion of this report. It appears as if the All Towns Study have not produced a report on Polokwane. Submission to the client is expected by end May 2011.

Task 5: Opportunities for Water Re-Use

A first draft report has been completed and peer reviewed for the first time. The second peer review still needs to be done. Submission to the client is expected by middle June 2011.

Task 6: Invasive Alien Plants

This task is complete and the report has been peer reviewed by Mr Dirk Versfeld. Final review by study leader has also been done. This report has been submitted to client for client acceptance review.

Task 8: Water Quality

The draft report is ready for peer review within the next month. Submission to the client is expected middle June 2011. Knowing the conclusion of the report, there is no other task that is dependent on this report. This specific task is therefore no longer on the critical path.

Task 9: Reserve Requirement Scenarios and Scheme Yields

A workshop was held at which all Reserve scenarios were developed and modelled. The following scenarios have been completed. These are:

- Present day situation. Evaluate to what extent the reserve is not met. Output from this scenario is flow duration curves at Reserve sites which will be evaluated by the ecologists.
- Re-evaluation of the yield of all dams if the Reserve, as signed off, is fully met.
- Re-evaluation of the yield of all dams if the Reserve is met with the revised classes.
- Re-evaluation of the yield of all dams if the Reserve with flood stripped out (current classes).
- Re-evaluation of the yield of all dams if the Reserve with flood stripped out (alternative classes).
- Scenario without De Hoop Dam

In addition to these scenarios, the 'Present Day' scenario was updated to match the knowledge of ecologists. Important new information was forthcoming from this process. For all the above scenarios, the ecologists were provided with duration curves of flows at all EWR sites.

Reporting on these scenarios is in progress.

Task 10: Groundwater

The draft Groundwater Report is complete. It is currently being peer reviewed. Delivery target date for submission to client is middle June 2011.

Task 11: Review Schemes and Update Cost Estimates

The report on possible scheme options and their cost estimates is in progress.

Task 12 : Review or Assess Social and Environmental Impacts

No work done so far. This task is dependent of Tasks 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11.

Task 13 : Assembly of Information and Formulation of Scenarios

The draft Preliminary Strategy Report was finalised and submitted to the client for acceptance review. A presentation was made to the D: NWRP on 3 May 2011. Report to be signed off.

Task 14: Final Screening Workshop

This workshop is only scheduled towards the end of the study.

Task 15: Public Participation


The DWA website was provided.

The 1st Newsletter had been completed and was distributed to the Stakeholders and placed on the website.

The 2nd Newsletter (which will replace the public participation meeting which was scheduled for 23 February 2011) is almost complete and will be distributed at the SSC meeting on 25 May 2011.

Task 16: Project Management

- SMT Meeting was held on 2 March 2011.
- The minutes of the SMT meeting were prepared and submitted.
- The application letter for a CVO for the requested additional work was submitted.


J. Beumer
Study Leader


Date