

BREDE-GOURITZ

Catchment Management Agency
Opvanggebied Bestuursagentskap
I-Arhente yoLawulo lomMandla nokungqongileyo

Dear Water User

In terms of regulation 3(b) of Regulation 1352 dated 12 November 1999, a person who uses water as contemplated in Section 21 of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) must register their water use when called upon by the responsible authority to do so.

The request for the registration of water use in the Gouritz Water Management Area (WMA) was published under Notice 515 of the Government Gazette, Number 21215 of 26 May 2000. The registration process required that all water users had to be registered. An extension of the registration deadline to 30 June 2001 was later published under Notice 334 of the Government Gazette 22201 of 6 April 2001.

The validation and verification of registered water use is critical in the management and control of water resources. Without this process, there could be unreasonable and/or unsubstantiated claims to water entitlements due to over-allocation, or an unfair or disproportionate use of water from a resource. **Validation** is the process where the extent of water use and the registration information is checked for correctness; **Verification** is the process where the lawfulness, or legal entitlement, to this use is established.

The Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) has appointed the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to assist them with the validation and verification of water uses in the Gouritz WMA (please see table at the end of the document for contact details of key project personnel).

Unlawful water use, specifically the taking and storing of water and commercial afforestation, will come to light through the verification process. Should a situation of uncontrolled unlawful water use prevail, existing lawful and new applications for water use will be prejudiced. It is this reason all unlawful water use must be curtailed.

Geagte Waterverbruiker

In terme van regulasie 3(b) van Regulasie 1352 gedateer 12 November 1999, moet 'n persoon wat water verbruik soos uiteengesit in Artikel 21 van die Nasionale Waterwet (Wet Nr. 36 van 1998) sy/haar waterverbruik registreer wanneer die verantwoordelike owerheid dit verlang.

Die versoek vir die registrasie van waterverbruik in die Gouritz Waterbestuursgebied is onder Kennisgewing 515 van die Staatskoerant, Nr 21215 van 26 Mei 2000 gepubliseer. Die registrasieproses vereis dat alle watergebruike geregistreer moet word. Die sluitsdatum vir registrasie tot 30 Junie 2001 was later verander onder Kennisgewing 334 van die Staatskoerant , Nr 22201 van 6 April 2001.

Die geldige verklaring en verifiëring van geregistreerde watergebruik is krities in die bestuur en beheer van waterbronne. Sonder hierdie proses kan daar onredelike en/of ongegronde eise ten opsigte van water gemaak word weens die oortoenning, onregverdige of oorgebruik van 'n waterbron. **Geldigverklaring** is die proses waar watergebruik en die registreringsinligting nagegaan word om te sien of dit korrek is. **Verifiëring** is die proses waar die wettigheid of geregtigheid van hierdie gebruik vasgestel word.

Die Breede-Gouritz Opvanggebied Bestuursagentskap (BGCMA) het die Wetenskaplike Nywerheids Navorsingsraad (WNNR) aangestel om te help met die geldigverklaring en verifiëring van geregistreerde watergebruik in die Gouritz Waterbestuursgebied (kyk asseblief na die tabel aan die einde van die dokument vir projek kontak inligting).

Onwettige watergebruik, spesifiek die ontrekking en opdam van water, sal in die meeste gevalle gedurende die verifiëeringsproses aan die lig kom. As ongekontroleerde en onwettige gebruik van water die norm word, dan sal bestaande wettige verbruikers en nuwe aansoeke vir water benadeel word. Daarom moet die onwettige gebruik van water onmiddellik gestaak word.

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There are instances where water users did not register their use (**no registration**), just as there were those who correctly registered their use (**correct registration**). In addition, there are cases where existing users use more water than they have registered (**under-registration**); as well as those who use less than what was registered (**over-registration**). Lastly, there are cases where non-existent or fictitious water uses were registered (**false registration**). These will all come to light during the validation and verification process. Information obtained from the registration process is used to bill water users for such use and billing will become more efficient and accurate following the completion of this project.

During the validation of water use, various sources of information will be used to determine the preliminary extent and lawfulness of such use and to identify unregistered water uses. Some of these sources include:

- (a) restrictions and proclamations;
- (b) existing water rights (including Water Court orders);
- (c) permits and other authorisations;
- (d) field survey data;
- (e) aerial photography and satellite images;
- (f) water use registration information; and,
- (g) direct contact with water users.

The BGCMA recognises that some water uses, especially irrigation practices, may have changed since the date of first registration. Therefore, in order to eliminate unnecessary disputes during later stages of the project and to address potential discrepancies, **communication and interaction with water users is of utmost importance** during the validation process. The project team will make direct contact with individual water users to confirm or gather additional information relating to their specific water uses.

Local meetings will be held in convenient locations for ease of accessibility to water users. The meetings will constitute formal contact sessions during which the water users will have the opportunity to confer with the project team on a one-on-one basis to confirm the details of the available information. **The dates and venues of individual contact sessions and public meetings will be published in due course giving all interested and affected parties timeous notification of these events** (NB: Water users registered on the DWS WARMS database will also be informed of these sessions by post and email).

Please note that where there are Water User Associations or Irrigation Boards, contact with its member water users will be facilitated and arranged through the association or board management structures.

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Daar is gevalle waar waterverbruikers nie hul watergebruik geregistreer het nie (**geen registrasie**) en daar is die wat hul watergebruik korrek geregistreer het (**korrekte registrasie**). Dan is daar ook gevalle waar waterverbruikers meer gebruik as wat hulle geregistreer het (**onder-registrasie**), asook dié wat minder gebruik as wat hulle geregistreer het (**oor-registrasie**). Laastens is daar gevalle waar vals water verbruik, of 'n verbruiking wat glad nie bestaan nie, geregistreer is (**vals registrasie**). Dit sal alles aan die lig kom tydens die geldigverklarings- en verifiëringsprosesse. Inligting wat gedurende die registrasieproses verkry word is gebruik om rekeninge aan waterverbruikers te stuur en die hele proses sal meer doeltreffend en akkuraat word.

Gedurende die geldingverklaringsproses van watergebruik sal verskeie inligtingsbronne gebruik word om die voorlopige omvang en wettigheid van sulke gebruike te bepaal asook om onwettige waterverbruikers te identifiseer. Van hierdie bronne sluit in:

- (a) beperkings en afkondigings;
- (b) bestaande waterregte (insluitende besluite van die Waterhof);
- (c) permitte en ander magtigings;
- (d) veldopnames;
- (e) lugfotografie en satellietbeelde;
- (f) watergebruikregistrasie inligting; en
- (g) direkte kontak met waterverbruikers.

Die BGCMA erken dat sekere watergebruike, vernaamlik besproeiing, verander het sedert die datum van registrasie toe verbruikers hul watergebruik geregistreer het. Dus, om onnodige geskille gedurende die volgende fases van die projek uit die weg te ruim en om moontlike teenstrydighede aan te spreek, is **kommunikasie en interaksie van uiterse belang**. Gedurende die geldigverklaringsproses sal dit noodsaaklik wees vir die projekspan om direkte kontak met individuele waterverbruikers te maak om bykomende inligting rakende hul spesifieke watergebruike in te samel.

Vergaderings sal gehou word in die betrokke gebiede wat binne bereik van die waterverbruikers sal wees. Die vergaderings sal bestaan uit formele sessies waar waterverbruikers een-vir-een met die projekspan kan vergader sodat bevestig kan word dat alle inligting aangaande watergebruik korrek is. **Die datum en plekke vir hierdie sessies sal gepubliseer word om almal betyds kennisgewing te gee** (NB – Water verbruikers wat op die DWS se WARMS databasis geregistreer is, sal ook per pos en e-pos na hierdie sessies uitgenooi word).

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There will be on-going communication on project progress and developments during the course of the project in the form of workshops, meetings, information brochures, documents, newsletters and on the BGCMA website. The project programme spans the period from 01 November 2017 to 31 October 2019.

Contact details of key project team members are as follows:

Role	BGCMA Project Manager	CSIR Project Leader
Name	Jan van Staden	Ashwin Seetal
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South Africa's scarce water resources are under ever-increasing pressure. We will have to use them efficiently, effectively and wisely if we wish to build a sustainable future. The BGCMA would like to take this opportunity to thank water users in advance for their assistance, support and cooperation during the course of this project.

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Gedurende die afloop van die projek sal daar voortgaande kommunikasie oor projekvordering en ontwikkelings in die vorm van werksinkels, vergaderings, inligtingsbrosjures, dokumente, nuusbriewe en op die BGCMA webwerf geskied. Die looptyd van die projek is 01 November 2017 tot 31 Oktober 2019.

Kontakbesonderhede van die belangrikste lede van projekspan is soos volg:

Rol	BGCMA Projekbestuurder	WNNR Projekleier
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Kontak Besonderhede	Tel: (023) 346 8000 Fax: (023) 347 2012 E-pos: jstaden@bgcma.co.za	Tel: (012) 841 3477 Fax: (012) 841 2689 E-pos: aseetal@csir.co.za
	<i>Projek E-Pos:</i>	BGCMAVV@csir.co.za

Suid-Afrika se skaars waterbronne is toenemend onder druk. Ons moet hierdie bronne doeltreffend en verstandig gebruik as ons 'n volhoubare toekoms wil bou. Die BGCMA bedank all waterverbruikers by voorbaat vir hul ondersteuning en samewerking gedurende hierdie projek.