



# Port Owen Marina Authority (NPC)

Reg # 1999/010199/08

PO Box 506 Velddrif 7365 · Tel 022 783 0943 · Fax 0865462112  
E-mail: poma@poma.co.za

## POMA Newsletter: August 2019

### 1) Governance

#### 1.1) Berg River Municipality By-Laws, Boat licences:

- A POMA client asked me whether this was a “money making scheme?”. The simple answer is NO.
- The draft Berg Estuarine Management Plan (BEMP) has, as an objective, the aim of controlling boating activities on the river, which includes the elimination of illegal net fishing.
- BRM has contracted CapeNature to provide this service and committed to provide the funding for the employment of two fulltime Rangers. The licencing fees will be ring fenced to provide for this.
- A third Ranger, a boat and equipment will be funded from a private sponsorship obtained by CapeNature.

#### 1.2) Berg River Municipality By-Laws, Sale of Boat licences:

- There will be three “Outlets” where boat licences can be bought. These will be POMA, Riviera Hotel and Kliphoek River Resort. You will NOT be able to buy a licence at the Municipal Offices in Velddrif.
- These outlets will NOT be responsible for any checking of boats, equipment or any other law-enforcement duties.
- The sole responsibility of the outlets will be to ensure that the required form is filled in correctly and that a valid Certificate of Fitness or Local Safety Certificate (this is a requirement for commercial vessels) is provided and attached to the form.

#### 1.3) Will POMA make money from selling the Boating licences?

- Yes, POMA will retain a commission of 10% of sales.

#### 1.4) There is a public information meeting arranged by the Municipality and scheduled for 30 August 2019 at the Velddrif Library Hall. The meeting will start at 10h00. Please attend and get all your questions answered.

### DIRECTORS

A J Uys (Chairman); D Robinson; S Joubert; S Crafford; J Scudder  
B Van Rensburg (Alt); G Breeze (Alt); J de Meillon (Alt); H Lambrechts (Alt)

## 2) Dredging

2.1) We started with dredging operations on 5 August 2019. This work is done in terms of our 2018 Amended Authorisation.

- Very strong legal advice from Werksmans Inc. indicated that we do not need the Dumping- and Water Usage permits as alleged by DEA:O&C and DWS, provided we do not make use of the settling dams and pump fines directly into the river. We advised these two departments accordingly and has had no response from them to date.

2.2) What is the Plan?

2.2.1) Work started at the Western Entrance to clean it and secure a depth of at least 2 meters below mean sea level, and will then move to the Eastern Entrance and Loop. Report-back to clients on progress will follow on the website, so visit the site regularly if you are interested.

2.2.2) We continue with the joint project with the Berg River Municipality to obtain authorisation for the use of dredging spoils as filler/covering material and to repair eroded river banks. This is a long-term project, needing a full EIA and budget process. Berg River Municipality Manager, Adv. Hanlie Linde, has written to DEA:O&C, requesting an urgent meeting to clear up uncertainties and pave the way for the EIA process.

2.2.3) We continue with our efforts to ensure that the Marina Maintenance Plan becomes an integrated part of the Berg Estuarine Management Plan. Both DEA&DP and CapeNature representatives had agreed to this in February 2019 and asked for POMA and the Berg River Municipality to submit proposals to DEA&DP, which was done, but we have not received any specific responses from them apart from acknowledgement of receipt.

2.3) Clients may wonder why work at the dredging site seems to be intermittent. The conditions of the permit determine hours of work, and we wish to remind you of the following:

- We may only work when there is an outgoing tide of volume greater than 200m<sup>3</sup>/second.
- We may only work during daylight hours.
- We may only work during weekdays (public holidays excluded)
- We may dredge 12 months/year.

The above normally limits us to an average of only 28 hours per MONTH. As soon as operations have settled down, we intend to ask for tenders from suitable contractors to utilise the available hours better by having more pumps working at the same time.

### **3) Maintenance**

- 3.1) Electrical Systems on POMA jetties: Urgent maintenance work is required on the installations and power may be disrupted at short notice. The Marina Manager will communicate with berth holders at all times.
- 3.2) Embankment and Walkway maintenance is continuing as per our prioritisation listings.

### **4) General**

- 4.1) The POMA Website is active. Please visit the site for all the information you need. If you have comment or a need for additional features, please engage with Blommie Koen at the POMA office.
- 4.2) POMA can now accept payment by debit/credit card at the Office.

Spring is here, enjoy the weather, be aware of the dredging operations and be safe out there!

**Abe Uys**