



**MARINE RANGERS ACTIVITIES ON THE BERG
ESTUARY –
MARCH 2021**

NAME OF THE AREA:

Berg Estuary – From the Berg River mouth to Kersefontein bridge

REPORT PERIOD:

01/03/2021 to 31/03/2021

PLANNING FOR MARCH 2021:

As the Berg Estuary is our primary focus we, the Marine Rangers, plan our activities in and around the Berg Estuary. The activities cover compliance and enforcement, research monitoring and environmental education.

ACTIVITIES MARCH 2021:

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COMPLIANCE and LAW ENFORCEMENT	<p>Conduct slipway patrols at POMA and Rooibaai to inspect vessels, skippers licences and COF's.</p> <p>CN officials conduct high visibility patrol on the estuary. Follow up on complaint received of fish dumped in the estuary at a fisheries plant in Bokkomlaan.</p> <p>CN and DEFF officials conduct joint night operations on the estuary.</p> <p>CN Rangers conduct vehicle and slipway patrols check vessel COF's and skippers licences.</p>	<p>05/03/2021</p> <p>25/03/2021</p> <p>26/03/2021</p> <p>28/03/2021</p>
RESEARCH MONITORING	<p>Participate in SASS and Mini SASS tests, including salinity tests on the estuary to determine oxygen levels and e-coli present in the estuary with Ground Truth representative.</p> <p>Research on abundance of seagrass on the river, salinity and Ph tests.</p> <p>Water sampling with DEA&DP.</p>	<p>01/03/2021 And 31/03/2021</p> <p>08/03/2021</p> <p>16/03/2021</p>
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION	<p>Liaise with Berg River tourism and Velddrif Tourism regarding World Wetlands Day to share information to be utilised for environmental awareness through social media platforms – due to restriction of COVID-19, personal interactions to be kept at minimum.</p>	<p>08/03/2021</p>
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	<p>Attend Aids to Navigation workshop – navigation buoys to placed in the estuary for safe navigation – participate in launching of pilot program.</p> <p>Follow up complaint on reeds eradication through use of herbicides at Bokkomlaan – meet with Berg River</p>	<p>02/03/2021</p> <p>04/03/2021</p>



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	Municipality and Community member chariman at the site to inspect reeds and herbicide used – matter was reported on and reports distributed. Meet with Berg river Tourism, Berg River Municipality, Velddrif Toursim and Community member chairman to discuss tourism in Velddrif and how CN, BRM and Velddrif Tourism can work together to promote the area, including the estuary.	08/03/2021
TRAINING and DEVELOPMENT	Nothing to report this month	

IN CLOSING

The Berg team is currently displaying a high level of visibility on the ground and on the estuary.

The local community is aware of our presence as many of our patrols are aimed at being highly visible and taking action.

We are planning to continue this high degree of visibility especially with the Easter weekend coming.

The Rangers have participated and assisted researchers from Stellenbosch and Nelson Mandela University with projects. Water sampling with DEADP along the Berg Estuary.

DECLARATIONS

Prepared in collaboration with Berg River Estuary Marine Field Rangers:

Lauren Matthews – Marine Field Ranger

Ryan Marinus – Marine Field Ranger

Terence Coller – Conservation Officer (Rocherpan Nature Reserve)

Callum Beattie – Landscape Unit Manager (Cederberg Conservation Operations)

Date: 31 March 2021



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