



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

February 2023

CLEARING THE WATERWAYS OF ALGAE (ULVA):

Fortunately, the growing season for Ulva in the waterways is slowly drawing to a close. The growth this year has been very high, and the barge has been making multiple trips each day to remove the excess. Clients' attention is drawn to the fact that ONLY floating Ulva may be cleared, and we are prohibited from dislodging actively growing material attached to the bottom of the waterways.

We also request clients to understand that the crew responsible for cleaning the waterways operates under rather difficult conditions. Some clients want the crew to get onto their jetty to clean all around the boat while other clients become abusive and have threatened to lay charges of trespass against the crew if the barge comes anywhere near their boats or they get onto their jetty to clean. The crew have been given instruction NOT to go on private jetties without specific instructions from the Marina Manager. If, after routine cleaning you require additional work to be done around your jetty, please make arrangements with the office and the team will do their best to accommodate you.

ELECTRICAL UPGRADE:

The work to upgrade the electrical supply infrastructure on the Juliette jetties has been fully completed and a certificate of compliance has been issued. Additionally, a number of the individual jetty switchboxes have been upgraded and the balance will be upgraded over the next few months.

DREDGING:

As everyone knows, all the necessary permits to allow us to dredge issued in late October 2022 and as a consequence the dredging system was recommissioned, and test dredging was done successfully in early December. When the permits were issued it became clear that they were conditional upon POMA implementing a very detailed environmental monitoring system before during and after the dredging. Amongst these conditions were:

1. Tightly restricted times when dredging could take place i.e., ONLY when the flow rate of the river a threshold level on an outgoing tide. This rate of flow is only achieved during times of the month when the tide is especially high. Additionally, we are only allowed to dredge during daylight hours on weekdays. No dredging on weekends and public holidays. These restrictions mean we have between 40 and 70 hours of dredging time per month, and for 8 months of the year.
2. In addition, close monitoring of water quality is required during operations to ensure that the environmental impact of dredging is measured and minimised. This environmental monitoring is to be carried out under the supervision of an independent "Environmental Control Officer" (ECO) who must be paid by POMA. The parameters to be monitored are not easily measured in the field and several of them are typically carried out in a remote laboratory and may take

DIRECTORS

I Mackintosh (Chairman); D Robinson; A J Uys; J Moolman; B Van Rensburg; AT Focé
H Lambrechts (Alt); P Viljoen (Alt); J de Meillon (Alt)

days or weeks to be concluded. The requirement to measure these parameters in real-time meant we had to scour the world (quite literally) to find suitable instruments. We found only one supplier of a suitable instrument and that this needed to be manufactured to order, was extremely costly and had a 12-week lead time to delivery. The instrument is called “Proteus” and is supplied from the UK. Fortunately, we were able to “rent” one of these instruments from the supplier and the machine is now on hand.

Dredging has thus commenced, albeit slowly and on a limited scale, as the dredging team get to grips with the new requirements and procedures. We are confident that, as the dredging programme progresses, the team will become more familiar with the equipment and procedures and that the project will achieve an excellent result.

DIRECTORY:

It is important that everyone in a community becomes involved in managing issues that affect that community. One way to become constructively involved is to report violations of rules and regulations or incidents where potentially harmful pollution or offensive emissions are noticed. The directory below is provided to assist clients to identify and report incidents to the appropriate authority.

POMA Marina Manager (John Titterton)	manager@poma.co.za	076 362 2991
POMA Administrator (Elaine Visser)	poma@poma.co.za	022 783 0943
Pollution incidents (Lauren Mathews)	lmathews@capenature.co.za	
Complaints in respect of contraventions of environmental legislation e.g.: Trampling of salt marsh, vessels speeding, use of jet ski's in prohibited areas etc.		084 387 0682
Odour and emissions complaints: West Coast District Municipality Air Quality Management Office and WCDM Environmental Health Dept.	cgbain@wcdm.co.za	022 713 5950
	cjminnaar@wcdm.co.za	
	cjkotze@wcdm.co.za mmeyers@wcdm.co.za	083 609 8051 074 733 9670
Illegal netting and fishing (Mathew Mahola)	mmahola@dffe.gov.za	084 635 3092
Any concerns relating to the marine rangers	tcoller@capenature.co.za	082784 1752
	cbeattie@capenature.co.za	+27 282729829 082 070 1873 087 158 2080
Marine Rangers		084 387 0682

As we go into the “secret season” on the West Coast when the weather is particularly good, there will be many opportunities to enjoy the waterways and the river but remember to take care out there and be safe.

Regards,

Ian Mac