

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 6555

29 August 2025

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT,
2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008)

REVISED DRAFT ORANGE RIVER MOUTH ESTUARINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

I, Dion Travers George, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby invite members of the public to comment on the revised draft Orange River Mouth Estuary Management Plan (EMP) in terms of section 34(1)(a) read with section 53(1)(c) of the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008 (Act No. 24 of 2008) (ICM Act). Copies of the draft EMP can be downloaded from the website: https://www.dffe.gov.za/legislation/gazetted_notices or can be obtained electronically upon request by email to ygalada@dffe.gov.za.

On 30 July 2017 the former Minister of Environmental Affairs formally approved the Orange River Mouth EMP for implementation. This EMP established measures aimed at improving the functionality of the estuary and is an integrated management planning tool used to understand the ecological health conditions of estuaries, as well as conservation and biodiversity aspects, and key pressures experienced. Its primary intention is to coordinate the implementation of the identified management actions to improve the estuary's ecological health status and ensure goods and services are maintained to support socio-economic benefits.

In 2023 the Department, in partnership with Orange River Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM), initiated the process of reviewing the EMP to determine its effectiveness in meeting its objectives. The revised draft EMP seeks to facilitate cooperative management by key sector departments and relevant stakeholders through the implementation of a shared vision and objectives to improve the overall state of the Orange River Mouth Estuary.

Members of the public are invited to submit written representations or objections on the revised draft EMP, within 30 (thirty) days after the publication of this notice in the *Gazette*, or newspaper whichever is the later date. Written representations on or objections on the revised draft EMP received after this time may be disregarded. All representations and comments must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Director-General of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Branch: Oceans and Coasts.

By hand: The Deputy Director-General
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Attention: Yolokazi Galada
Branch: Oceans and Coasts
2 East Pier Building, East Pier Road
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town
By e-mail to: ygalada@dffe.gov.za

By post to: The Deputy Director-General
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Yolokazi Galada
Branch: Oceans and Coasts
PO Box X4390
CAPE TOWN
8000

Any queries relating to the EMP or this process can be directed to Ms. Yelokazi Galada at 021 493 7063 or via email at ygalada@dffe.gov.za.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dion Travers George', with a stylized flourish at the end.

DR DION TRAVERS GEORGE
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT