



MINUTES OF VANDERKLOOF FISHERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 26 JULY 2018

MEETING INFORMATION

Date: 26 July 2018
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Boardroom at DWS Building, Vanderkloof

AGENDA

Welcome by Chairperson (DALRRD)

Welcoming of AG members by Mr. Tinus Jonker (DALRRD)

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Apologies: No formal apologies were received

Attendance:

- Attendance register in Appendix 1.
- Mr. David Paulse's inputs were conveyed to the meeting.

Approval and/or corrections of Previous Minutes

Minutes of previous meeting (18 January 2018) approved.

Record of Decisions

1. Rhodes University gave a progress report and confirmed they are ready to start the project. Mr. Tinus Jonker gave DALRRD's approval and stated the experimental fishery project could commence Ntsako Nomvela, the new fishery officer did a presentation explaining the various functions of the team and that most procurement was done and necessary equipment and materials were received. The crew has been going out on the boat and used the different nets with different mesh sizes to catch fish. He explained how the data collection will be approached and that water depth, temperature, water clarity etc. will be recorded. The fish will be weighed and measured and

different stages of gonadal development will be recorded. If a largemouth yellowfish or a moggel is caught in the nets and found alive, it will be released. Fish caught will be sold to the Kraal fishers. The income received from the selling of fish will be recorded in a triplicate receipt book where reconciling can be done to balance the money. The money will then be banked into a special allocated account; Rhodes cannot accept the money as they are a NPO. Strict processes will be put in place to account for the money that will be paid back to the department. (DALRRD)

A name for the boat has been chosen, the name is *RICARDO*. In honor of the deceased crew member. A color in competition was arranged at the local primary school in Keurtjieskloof and 3 winners were chosen. This also helped to get the community involved.

Mr. Rouhani stated that as the experimental progressed it may be necessary to make changes, for example the gillnet mesh sizes and that this would be discussed with the relevant government departments and in consultation with the AG.

2. Aidan Wood made some recommendations to improve safety on the boat. This was accepted and his inputs would be sent to Rhodes University together with Recommendations for setting up a permanent mooring for the boat.
3. A suggestion was made for Dr Leon Barkhuizen to accompany the crew to evaluate the use of the Fyke nets.
4. The pricing of the fish is an ongoing process; a lot of research has gone into establishing fair prices. Ongoing meetings with the Kraal Fishers will determine prices going forward. The prices will increase as the project becomes more successful. Consideration must be given to the cost of catching the fish. Break even analysis must be done and by checking the market on an ongoing basis. It was mentioned that we are formalizing something that was informal before, the input of the Kraal Fishers are vital.
5. The issues with regards to the permit application with DENC (for the kraals and to sell fish) will be taken up by DALRRD. However, the *status quo*, which is that the Kraal Fishers can fish in the kraal and sell their fish, will continue.
6. The DEA permit to Rhodes (for the experimental fishery), is in the process of being renewed. Rhodes is in discussion with DENC and DALRRD to try and find a solution to deal with the permit issues for the Kraal fishery.
7. DALRRD will meet with DENC to address an issue raised by the Kraal Fishers on how best to dispose the fish guts.
8. Some of the kraals were damaged or destroyed by the flood waters and the fishers sought permission to rebuild them, it was pointed out that as long as they were reconstructed in accordance with the mapped Kraals in the FMP there would be no problem. Aidan Wood requested that the Fishers ensure the "escape" pipe at the base of the Kraal be repaired or replaced as well.
9. A request was made by the Kraal Fishers to "move" one of the kraals so that when they release small fish caught in the kraals, it is released directly back into the river and do not end up on the rocks. There was a reminder that for this to happen, it would need the consensus amongst the fishers, and it would require the input from DENC and for it to come to the AG.
10. Aidan Wood requested confirmation that the monthly limit of 20 Largemouth Yellowfish (LMY) would be specified in the renewed DEA permit for the dam

fishery. Mr. Rouhani confirmed this but stated the issue surrounding the sale of LMY was still being resolved as the recipients would require a separate permit. It was also confirmed that Mr. Henry Pampier from DENC would be conducting regular monitoring of the fishery to ensure compliance.

11. Aidan Wood made a further two requests, namely that catch data from the fishery be made available a few weeks before the next scheduled AG meeting so that the members have time to review and prepare comments; and that catch data from the trail runs conducted already be made available as soon as possible – Mr. Nomvela undertook to provide this information.
12. Several additional issues were raised by the Kraal fishers, including the need for toilets and water at the Kraal site, perceived interference with the election of representatives, the baiting of the Kraals and the desire for larger fish from the dam fishery.

The meeting was closed at 13:00, The chairman thanked everyone for their time and for some members who travelled very far to attend the meeting.

Next AG meeting scheduled for the 29th of November 2018