



LEGAL NOTICE



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS:

GWAING-, SCHAAPKOP- AND MEULEN RIVER INTERGRATED RIVER MANAGEMENT PLANS (RMPs) (INCLUSIVE OF MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLANS (MMPs))

George Municipality (GM) appointed Zutari (Pty) Ltd to develop integrated River Management Plans (RMPs) for the following river systems:

- Gwaing River
- Schaapkop River
- Meulen River

Project Proposal: The George Municipality (GM) has taken a proactive step towards the sustainable management of its watercourses by aiming to develop separate integrated River Management Plans (RMPs) for the three key river systems listed above. An essential element of the RMPs is the inclusion of a Maintenance Management Plan (MMP), which acknowledges the importance of preserving functional infrastructure while ensuring the ecological health of the river systems is protected.

The overarching objectives of the RMPs are two-fold:

1. To facilitate efficient maintenance of existing infrastructure along the watercourses; and
2. To improve the ecological functioning of the watercourses and enhance ecosystem services benefits that the watercourses provide through targeted interventions.

Legal Framework: The RMPs (inclusive of MMPs) have been developed to seek authorisation for maintenance related activities in terms of the National Environment Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended). The project will additionally also seek General Authorisation (GA) in terms of the National Water Act (NWA, No. 36 of 1998), specifically GN R4167 of December 2023. The final RMPs (following conclusion of the public engagement process) will be submitted to the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) for decision-making.

Available Information: The Draft RMP for each river system is being made publicly available for a **30-day review and comment period from 15 August 2025 to 15 September 2025**.

The reports can be accessed at the following locations:

- Online at:
 - **Gwaing RMP:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WYJSvK614Tk9ZumcoICXozV-JCmxqReB?usp=sharing>
 - **Schaapkop RMP:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1K8sPSBXG0IbN2OKv948Si2heu8bxHzKv?usp=sharing>
 - **Meulen RMP:** https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wpzDa0tEWAs-UyDTpBV8206SuwBi6__o?usp=sharing
- Hard copies of the RMPs are available at:
 - George Public Library, Caledon Street, George
 - First Floor Reception, GM: Planning and Development Offices, 46 Market Street

Opportunity to Participate: Notice is hereby given of the commencement of the Public Participation Process (PPP) for the Draft RMPs. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register their interest in the project, review the Draft RMP/s and submit written comments to Zutari (details below) within the prescribed comment period. Requests to register as an I&AP and any comments must be submitted in writing together with your full contact details. Future correspondence relating to the RMPs' approval process will be distributed to registered I&APs only.

OPEN DAY PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Date & Time:	28 August 2025: 08:30 to 15:30 Presentation at 11:00	Venue:	George Municipal Offices Training Room (Ground Floor) 46 Market Street George
All are welcome to visit the venue during the abovementioned timeslot for engagement and discussions about the project.			

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Disclaimer: Zutari places a high premium on the privacy & personal information of our stakeholders. Please note that, as a Registered I&AP in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, your personal details including your name, contact details and address is recorded into a register. The processing of personal information is subject to the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), Act No. 4 of 2013, which came into effect on the 1st of July 2021.