

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 116

16 FEBRUARY 2018

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: INTEGRATED COASTAL
MANAGEMENT ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 24 OF 2008)****DRAFT BUFFALO RIVER MOUTH ESTUARINE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby invite members of the public to comment on the draft Buffalo River Mouth Estuarine 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 (No. 24 of 2008). Copies of the draft EMP can be downloaded from the website of the national Department of Environmental Affairs: www.environment.gov.za or can be obtained electronically upon request by email to estuaries@environment.gov.za.

The EMP is a planning and coordination document, with its primary intention to provide a plan for the actions of the various stakeholders who undertake operations inside the Buffalo River Mouth Estuary or those whose activities affect the estuary. The document seeks to coordinate those actions so that the estuary's environmental health can be improved.

EMPs are therefore used as a blueprint management planning tools to understand the ecological health conditions, conservation and biodiversity aspects and key pressures on estuaries. The purpose of the Buffalo River Mouth EMP is to facilitate cooperative management amongst key sectors departments and relevant stakeholders through the implementation of a shared vision and strategic objectives to improve its ecological health category taking into account the needs of the current and future generations. The EMP seeks to achieve greater harmony between ecological processes and human activities while accommodating orderly and balanced estuarine resource utilisation.

Members of the public are invited to submit written representations on, or objections to, the draft EMP within 30 (thirty) days from the date of the publication of this notice in the *Gazette*. Written representations or objections received after this time may not be considered. All representations and comments must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Director-General of the national Department of Environmental Affairs, Branch Oceans and Coasts:

By hand: The Deputy Director-General
Attention: Mrs F.P Angwenyi
National Department of Environmental Affairs
Branch: Oceans & Coasts
2 East Pier Building, East Pier Road
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town
By e-mail: estuaries@environment.gov.za

By post to: The Deputy Director-General
Attention: Mrs F.P Angwenyi
National Department of Environmental Affairs
Branch: Oceans & Coasts
P.O. Box / Private Bag x4390
Cape Town, 8002



BOMO EDNA EDITH MOLEWA
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS