
INVITATION NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT 2004 (ACT NO. 10 OF 2004) READ TOGETHER WITH THE THREATENED OR PROTECTED MARINE SPECIES REGULATIONS

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR PERMITS TO UNDERTAKE BOAT BASED WHALE AND DOLPHIN WATCHING AND WHITE SHARK CAGE DIVING OPERATIONS IN TERMS OF THE THREATENED OR PROTECTED MARINE SPECIES REGULATIONS

The Chief Director: Specialist Monitoring Services of the Department of Environmental Affairs hereby invites applications for permits to conduct a:

- White Shark Cage Diving (WSCD) operation; and/or
- Boat Based Whale and Dolphin Watching (BBWW) operation

The permits will be allocated in terms of National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) read together with the Threatened or Protected Marine Species Regulations in *Government Gazette* 40876 of 30 May 2017 as well as the following Policies:

- Policy for the Management of White Shark Cage Diving; and
- Policy on Boat Based Whale and Dolphin Watching in *Government Gazette* 40878 of 31 May 2017.

1. DISTRIBUTION

- 1.1. Application forms and Policy documents will be made available and distributed during the distribution process as indicated in the table below. The Policy documents, enacted regulations as well as a template of the application form can also be downloaded from the Department's website at www.environment.gov.za.

PROVINCE	VENUE	ADDRESS	TIME	DATE
Western Cape	Saldanha	Fisheries Compliance Office, Saldanha Bay Harbour. Saldanha	08h00 – 15h00	14 June 2017
	Cape Town	Muizenberg Civic Hall, Beach Rd, Muizenberg	08h00 - 15h00	12 - 13 June 2017
	Mossel Bay	Fisheries Compliance Office, 64 Bland Street, Searlor Manor, Mossel Bay	08h00 – 15h00	15 June 2017

Northern Cape	Port Nolloth	Port Nolloth City Hall (Stadsaal), Port Nolloth	08h00 – 15h00	13 June 2017
Eastern Cape	Port Elizabeth	Fisheries Compliance Office, 21 Stanley Street, Central Port Elizabeth	08h00 – 15h00	12 June 2017
	Port St Johns	Fisheries Compliance Office, 433 Bridge Street, Port St Johns	08h00 – 15h00	13 June 2017
Kwa-Zulu Natal	Durban	KZN Wildlife Office, 3 Elton Place, Congella KZN	08h00 – 15h00	12 June 2017
	Sodwana Bay	Mbazwana Library Auditorium, Main Road, Mbazwana	08h00 – 15h00	13 June 2017

N.B: Attendance to the distribution process is not mandatory and applicants who fail to or are unable to attend, will not be disqualified in this regard. Application forms may be available on request through the following corresponding email addresses: bbww@environment.gov.za and wscd@environment.gov.za before 16H00 Friday 16 June 2017.

Applicants who are unable to go to one of the distribution venues or who prefer to electronically receive an application form containing a unique application reference number must send an email to the following corresponding email addresses: bbww@environment.gov.za and wscd@environment.gov.za. Each application form contains a unique application reference number. Therefore the application form should not be shared.

- 1.2. Existing permit holders applying for a permit must register and collect the application form titled 'EXISTING PERMIT HOLDER'. All applicants who are not existing permit holders must apply using an application form titled 'NEW ENTRANT'.
- 1.3. All queries relating to the permit application process should be e-mailed to either bbww@environment.gov.za and/or wscd@environment.gov.za respectively Responses to queries will be published weekly on the Department's website (www.environment.gov.za) and e-mailed to all registered applicants during the application period. Queries received after close of business on Friday 14 July 2017 will not be dealt with.

2. AREAS AND NUMBER OF PERMITS

Areas	No. of permits
Boat-Based Whale Watching	
Port Nolloth	1
Lambert's Bay	1
St Helena Bay-Sandy Point	1
Saldanha Bay	1
Cape Town	1
Hout Bay	1
Cape Point- Kalkbaai	1
Gordons Bay	1
Hermanus	3
Gans Bay (Gansbaai)	1
Kleinbaai	2
Arniston and Struis Bay (Struisbaai)	1
Stilbaai	1
Mossel Bay	2
Knysna	1
Plettenberg Bay	2
Cape St Francis	1
Port Elizabeth	2
Kenton on Sea	1
Port Alfred	1
East London	1
Kei-Umgazi rivers	2
Umgazi-Umtanvuna rivers	2
Shelley Beach	2
Durban	3
Richards Bay	1
St Lucia	2
Sodwana Bay	1
White Shark Cage Diving	
Seal Island, False Bay	3
Dyer Island, Gansbaai	9
Quoin Rock, Quoin Point	2
Seal Island, Mossel Bay	1
Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth	2
N.B: WSCD Permit holders in the Seal Island, Mossel Bay and Quoin Point areas will not be allowed to operate from 1 December until 20 January of the next year due to school holidays.	

3. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS

- 3.1. Applications **must** be lodged before 15H00 on Thursday 20 July 2017 ("the closing date").
- 3.2. Applications for permits must only be lodged at the following times and places:

PROVINCE	VENUE	ADDRESS	TIME	DATE
Western Cape	Saldanha	Fisheries Compliance Office, Saldanha Bay Harbour. Saldanha	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017
	Cape Town	Muizenberg Civic Hall, Beach Rd, Muizenberg	08h00 - 15h00	20 July 2017
	Mossel Bay	Fisheries Compliance Office, 64 Bland Street, Searlor Manor, Mossel Bay	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017
Northern Cape	Port Nolloth	Port Nolloth City Hall (Stadsaal), Port Nolloth	08h00 – 14h00	20 July 2017
Eastern Cape	Port Elizabeth	Fisheries Compliance Office, 21 Stanley Street, Central Port Elizabeth	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017
	Port St Johns	Fisheries Compliance Office, 433 Bridge Street, Port St Johns	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017
Kwa-Zulu Natal	Durban	KZN Wildlife Office, 3 Elton Place, Congella KZN	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017
	Sodwana Bay	Mbazwana Library Auditorium, Main Road, Mbazwana	08h00 – 15h00	20 July 2017

3.3. Applications for a Boat Based Whale Watching Permit at St Lucia or Sodwana Bay

Applicants applying for a boat based whale and dolphin watching permit for St Lucia or Sodwana Bay must submit a separate application for a concession to operate within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. Application forms for the concession are obtainable from iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority by emailing bids@iSimangaliso.com. Applicants applying for BBWW permit for St Lucia or Sodwana Bay must submit applicable concession issued by the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority or proof of application for a concession to operate within the Park. Applications for a concession to operate within the park will be evaluated and assessed by the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority.

No white shark cage diving permits will be issued in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

Any application for a permit regardless of the area applied for will be distributed and accepted at all centres including Sodwana Bay. Applications for a concession to operate within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park will only be distributed and received by iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority.

3.4. Application Fees

Applicants will be required to pay an application fee of R9123.00.00 for a BBWW and/or WSCD application as indicated in the Threatened or Protected Marine Species Regulations. Application fees may only be paid by electronic deposit or transfer into the following bank account using the Reference Number: 06399420 (and the Company name):

Bank:	ABSA
Branch:	Pretoria
Branch Code:	632005
Account Name:	Department of Environmental Affairs
Account No:	4079816531
Account:	Cheque Account
Deposit Reference:	06399420 and the Company name

Applicants must quote their Company name as the reference number at the time of payment. Proof of payment must be attached to the application form when it is submitted. Application forms without a proof of payment attached will not be processed.

Applicants must submit a separate application form for each area applied for but will only be required to pay one application fee regardless of the number of applications submitted in a particular sector. Applicants applying for both BBWW and WSCD permits will be required to pay the application fee for each sector. Where more than one application is submitted in the same sector, the Company name must be quoted as a reference for payment.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION FEES FOR CONCESSION TO OPERATE WITHIN THE ISIMANGALISO WETLAND PARK WILL APPLY

APPLICATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

APPLICATION FORMS WILL ONLY BE DISTRIBUTED AND RECEIPTED AS STATED ABOVE.

IN THE CASE OF INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE ENGLISH, AFRIKAANS, ISIXHOSA AND ISIZULU TEXTS OF ANY POLICY, FORM OR OTHER DOCUMENT, THE ENGLISH TEXT PREVAILS.

ALL APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ENGLISH.