

Stakeholder	Comment	Response
Mr P Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must also register ER, MJ & JT Steele owners of Erf 2176 Knysna (further details contained in submission document – not included here into the POPIA Regulations). • Concern about prima facie contraventions during the commenting period window on the MMP along Howard Street, the central river channel off Howard Street, the intersection of the main stream central channel, under road culverts on 2 November 2023; • Concerned about tender published by Knysna Municipality for a freshwater consultant to be appointed for the removal of silt/thinning of reeds between Howard Street and Wilson Street according to a S30A Directive; • Concern about the conflict of interest, legality of the MMP, contraventions of NEMA regulations (including listed activities as advertised), the EAP practice pursuant to the procedural requirements inclusive of the PPP content and practice prerequisites; • Concern about reference being made to 'silt' in above-mentioned tender without an assigned volume and the MMP does not refer to any soil/silt; • Concern about the tender being published with a scope of works already assigned before the end of the commenting period, as such the ability to provide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request contact details for the Steele / owners of Erf 2176 (not received at the time of final submission); • The perceived contraventions are actions the Municipality took in accordance with a Section 30A Directive obtained by the Municipality as a standalone action separate from the EMMP, to alleviate emergency flooding following heavy rainfalls. • Tender associated with the works linked to the S30A Directive. • The EMMP is intended for long-term maintenance and is not linked to the emergency works that were undertaken into the S30A Directive. • MMP specifically refers to silt and the removal thereof to alleviate flooding/blockages. • Tender associated with the works linked to the S30A Directive not the EMMP. • The EAP approached Knysna Municipality who provided a copy of the S30A Directive as proof of the separate process the Municipality followed for emergency works.

	<p>valid bona fide commentary has been denied to I&APs;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request (the EAP) to investigate these comment and to practice legality doctrine in attending to the recorded issues and made apparent the necessary disclosures. 	
Dr J Olivier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest that a committee (Bigai Committee) must be established with members consisting of residents around the wetland, the golf club, the municipality and SanParks; • The committee must be autonomous in order to make decisions into management/maintenance of the system; • Funding for the committee to operate must be provided for by the Municipality through its budget; • Sewage entering the system is shocking and an indication of municipal infrastructural deterioration. The Municipality must take responsibility for maintenance on the sewage infrastructure to prevent raw sewage from entering the wetland system; • The mismanagement of the infrastructure/maintenance is as a result of municipal failure, therefore the Municipality must not be the (alone) responsible party for effective management of the Bigai wetland system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Knysna Municipality (via Mrs Pam Booth) indicated that they have no objection to the forming of a committee to assist with overseeing long-term maintenance of the Bigai wetland system in accordance with the EMMP. • Recommendation of a committee submitted to the Municipality. • Recommendation of a committee submitted to the Municipality. • Noted and brought to the attention of the Municipality by the aquatic specialist (through the MMP) as well as the comment submission. • Recommendation of a committee submitted to the Municipality.

BOCMA	General Authorisation (GA) issued for all of the prescribed maintenance activities in the Bigai Wetland system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Authorisation included with the Final MMP and the Municipality must adhere to the conditions thereof.
Coastal Management (Provincial)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provincial Coastal Management Programme (endorsed 27 March 2023) includes estuary management (Provincial Estuarine Management Plan in the process of being approved); • Bigai wetland system feeds into the Knysna Estuary which provides an important function of providing freshwater to the estuary but this function is being compromised by blockages in the wetland system; • It is noted that no new structures are proposed. • The estuarine functional zone (EFZ) has been adequately considered and the DEADP 2013 Lidar survey data for coastal areas has been considered as well. • The MMP adequately considers critical biodiversity and ecological support areas in accordance with the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (2017). • The proposed mitigation measures as stipulated in the MMP are appropriate and practical. These measures must be strictly adhered to. • The Coastal Management directorate therefore does not object to the MMP of the Bigai wetland system. • The Municipality is reminded of their General Duty of Care and the remediation of environmental 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted. The MMP is aligned in support of the PCMP; • Knysna Estuary is the most important wetland system in RSA and will benefit from additional freshwater entering the system through improved maintenance of the Bigai wetland system. • This MMP only covers maintenance of existing structures/infrastructure. No new structure/infrastructure or expansion of structures/infrastructure is permitted without prior EA. • Noted. • Noted. • Implementation of the MMP must be monitored by an appointed environmental control officer (ECO) who must report to the DFFE through reporting on a monthly basis. • Noted. • Noted.

	<p>damage which also refers to one's duty to avoid causing adverse effects on the coastal environment.</p>	
<p>DFFE IEM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final EMMP must be correctly dated. • The MMP refers to hand work and the use of small excavator (and does not involve construction or installation of new structures or infrastructure) – should there be a need to consider new structures or infrastructure it can result in additional impacts that may trigger 'listed activities' in which case the MMP must be amended and published for comments for a further 30-day commenting period prior to submission of the final report for review and decision-making. • The MMP must include specific thresholds of materials to be excavated/removed as well as vegetation to be cleared in the description of the proposed project and a sub-activity 19a, b etc and this information must be included in the listed activities applicable to the maintenance. • Ensure that other maintenance and remedial work activities to be undertaken must remain within and must not result in any expansion of the existing footprints of the affected relevant structures. • Should any revision of the MMP trigger any listed activities without the exclusion (for maintenance management plans) an application for Environmental Authorisation must be lodged with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EMMP has been updated with the latest comments received end of 2023 and the report dates updated accordingly. • This MMP only covers maintenance of existing structures/infrastructure. No new structure/infrastructure or expansion of structures/infrastructure is permitted without prior EA. • Thresholds provided along with the listed activities, however visual inspection of the structures/infrastructure is not accurate and volumes/areas are therefore best estimates considering that the depth (of silt/material) and the extent of blockage of some culverts could not be determined due to overgrown vegetation completely blocking these structures and since the removal of vegetation constitutes a listed activity that must first be authorised into this MMP, estimates had to be made for the purposes of this MMP. • Noted and stipulated in this MMP. • Noted and stipulated in this MMP. • Noted and stipulated in this MMP.

	<p>the Competent Authority prior to the undertaking of such activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specialist studies must comply with the Specialist Protocols (refer to the Screening Tool) and specialists must be SACNASP registered.• The final MMP must include proof of notification of the availability of the draft MMP including the Department's comments.• All comments obtained from I&APs must be taken into consideration in compiling the final MMP.• Comments & Response Report of all comments received, must be submitted with the final MMP. The report must incorporate all comments for the proposed maintenance.• The MMP must distinguish between impact management actions and impact management outcomes as required by Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations as amended.	
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