

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 7090

6 February 2026

MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 18 OF 1998)

RECOGNITION OF A NEW ABALONE RANCHING CONCESSION AREA IN PAPENDORP, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING ABALONE RANCHING ACTIVITIES; AND AN INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A RIGHT TO CONDUCT ABALONE RANCHING IN THE NEWLY RECOGNISED ABALONE RANCHING CONCESSION AREA IN PAPENDORP, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

In April 2024, the Department received an application to engage in an abalone ranching pilot project in the Western Cape Province. This preferred area falls outside of the three original concession areas identified in the Western Cape in 2012 and outside the Doring Bay area identified in 2022. This area is situated North-West of Doring Bay, extending from a point south of MSR Tormin mine (31°35'20.00"S, 18°6'49.00"E) to a point 17 km North-West of Strandfontein (31°37'25.00"S; 18°7'50.00"E). The Department required an Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) to be undertaken prior to the consideration of this application, which was submitted on 20 September 2024. This ERA is accessible at the following link: www.dffe.gov.za/FisheriesManagementPublications

On 28 February 2025, a notice was published in the *Government Gazette* (Government Notice No. 5925 in *Government Gazette* 52199 of 28 February 2025) requesting the public to comment on the proposed new abalone ranching area at Papendorp, Western Cape Province. An advertisement was also published in the Sunday World weekly newspaper on 9 March 2025 mirroring the *Government Gazette* notice. A 30-day period was provided for public comments and expressions of interest. No comments were received in response to the publication of the notice and newspaper advertisement.

Recognition of new abalone ranching concession area

I, Willem Abraham Stephanus Aucamp, the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, accordingly, hereby recognise a new abalone ranching concession area, located north-west of Doring Bay in Papendorp, Western Cape Province. The area extends from a point south of the MSR Tormin Mine (coordinates: 31°35'20.00"S, 18°6'49.00"E) to a point approximately 17 km north-west of Strandfontein (coordinates: 31°37'25.00"S, 18°7'50.00"E). The location is indicated on a map contained in the schedule to this notice.

Invitation to submit formal applications for right to conduct abalone ranching in the newly recognised abalone ranching concession area in Papendorp, Western Cape

I further invite interested and eligible parties to submit formal applications as contemplated in section 18(2) of the MLRA, for a right to conduct abalone ranching activities within this newly recognised abalone ranching concession area. Details relating to the application process and criteria are set out in the schedule to this Notice.

All applications must be submitted by email within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the *Government Gazette* or notice in a newspaper, whichever date is later. Emails to be sent to Mr Mayizole Majangaza via email: **MMajangaza@dffe.gov.za**

Should the 30-day comment period overlap with the period from 15 December 2025 to 5 January 2026, this period will be excluded from the reckoning of days.

Applications received after the closing date or submitted in any form other than the approved application form will not be considered.

For any queries related to this notice, contact Mr Mayizole Majangaza on 066 471 1480 / 021 402 3116; or by email: **MMajangaza@dffe.gov.za**

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment comply with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) and will process all personal information in accordance with the applicable legislative framework.



MR WILLEM ABRAHAM STEPHANUS AUCAMP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE

Coordinates and Map of the Abalone Ranching Concession Area in Papendorp, Western Cape

- The map and table below indicate the location of the abalone ranching concession area in Papendorp, Western Cape.

Points		
A	31°35'20.00"S,	18°6'49.00"E
B	31°37'25.00"S;	18°7'50.00"E



Application process

- The application and evaluation process, including the exclusionary and balancing criteria, are governed by the following published documents:
 - Criteria for allocating rights for abalone ranching or stock enhancement pilot projects published in Government Notice No. 352 of Government Gazette 34241 dated 21 April 2011;
 - General Guidelines for Marine Ranching and Stock Enhancement in South Africa published in Government Notice No. 729 of Government Gazette 33470 dated 20 August 2010; and
 - Guidelines and Potential Areas for Marine Ranching and Stock Enhancement of Abalone (*Haliotis midae*) in South Africa published in Government Notice No. 729 of Government Gazette 33470 dated 20 August 2010.

The criteria and guidelines are available on the Department's website at https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201409/34241gon352.pdf

2. The application process will be undertaken in two phases, namely Phase 1 and Phase 2, as follows:

Phase 1 involves the submission of the application forms with the relevant documentation specified in the application form. During this phase, the application will be evaluated against the exclusionary criteria. After the initial screening of applications by the Department, the applicant will be informed on whether to proceed with Phase 2.

Phase 2 involves the submission of a full proposal as outlined in the invitation to apply for abalone ranching pilot projects and associated criteria for allocations as detailed in Government Notice No. 353 and 353 in *Government Gazette* 34241 of 21 April 2011. During this phase, the full proposal will be evaluated against the balancing criteria.

Submission of applications

3. The approved application form to be used to apply for a right to undertake abalone ranching in the area concerned can be obtained via email: **MMajangaza@dfre.gov.za**.
4. Applications must be submitted to the Department on the approved application form by email to **MMajangaza@dfre.gov.za**. Applications submitted in any form other than the approved application form will not be considered.
5. The Department will allocate one right to engage in a pilot project for abalone ranching for the specified concession area in Papendorp. The successful applicant can be one entity or a natural person.
6. No amendments, alterations or additions can be made to an application, except where such amendment, alteration or addition is in response to a specific request from the Department.
7. The Department, through the Sustainable Aquaculture Management Directorate, will undertake any relevant investigative measures to verify or ascertain information submitted in any application.
8. Applicants must note that in terms of section 28 of the MLRA, a right may be cancelled, suspended or revoked if any document presented or statement made to the Department or in the application was false or misleading.
9. It will be the responsibility of the applicant to remain informed of any additional information, changes, or developments, and to verify the accuracy of the information provided.
10. An application fee of R 9302.00 is charged for lodging an application for the right to engage in abalone ranching or stock enhancement pilot projects as determined in Schedule B of fees determined in terms of section 25(1) and (2) of the MLRA (published in Government Notice No. 1142 in *Government Gazette* 39417 of 16 November 2015).
11. All applicants are herewith informed that any application submitted without proof of payment of the stipulated fee at the time of lodgment will not be considered.
12. Monies must be paid to the Marine Living Resources Fund and proof of such a deposit, by way of deposit slip, must be attached to each application form.

BANKING DETAILS FOR THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES FUND

ACCOUNT NAME: **Marine Living Resources Fund - Deposit Account**
BANK: **First National Bank (FNB)**
BRANCH NAME: **Corporate Account Services Cape Town**
ACCOUNT NO: **62 123 256 382**
BRANCH CODE: **210651**
ACCOUNT TYPE: **Current**
PAYMENT REF.: **Party Number or *Invoice number**

***Invoice numbers will be generated by the Customer Service Centre after receiving the original application form and its supporting documentation from the applicant.
For general enquiries, please call 0860 003474**

13. Application fees are not refundable.
14. For any queries related to this matter, contact Mr Mayizole Majangaza, with contact details as follows:
Email: MMajangaza@dffe.gov.za
Telephone queries – 066 471 1480 or 021 402 3116