

WEST COAST NATIONAL PARKS

WORKING for the COAST



QUINTON PIETERSE



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- West Coast National Park Boundary** - 16mile beach in Yzerfontein to Portnet Boundary in Langebaan
- Communities involved** - Langebaan
Vredenburg

Working for the Coast is an Expanded Public Works Programme project, implemented by South African National Parks (Biodiversity and social Projects) and funded by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

- Key organisations are:
- Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)
- Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
- South African National Parks (SANParks)
- Saldanha Bay Municipality and Swartland Municipality (SBM and SM)
- West Coast District Municipality (WCDM)
- Biodiversity Social Projects (BSP)



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Aim of Working for the Coast

- Working for the coast was established to assist in the implementation of No. 24 of 2008: National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008. It works in conjunction with the municipality's and conservation agencies to manage the coastline that falls within the parks boundaries to ensure the sustainable use of the coast's natural resources. With this being said the Working for the Coast projects are not limited to SANParks alone there are private implementers as well.
- Working for the Coast creates a platform and a means for DEA to create jobs and alleviate poverty. This in turn creates the opportunity for SANParks to get work done.
- The aim of the project is to maintain a clean and safe coastal environment; it does this through providing jobs and training for the unemployed previously disadvantaged people in the adjacent communities, known as beneficiaries



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- The projects are responsible for the coastal clean ups and rehabilitation, which are known as Deliverables; These can then be sub-divided into project specific activities e.g. Hiking Trails; boardwalks; dune rehabilitation; beach clean-up etc...
- The projects run for a cycle of two years according to an Annual Plan of Operations (APO) which runs hand in hand with the business plan. These plans are made up and approved before the project cycle commences.
- Project Management and Implementation Manager draw up business plans which includes all the activities for each individual park, this then gets submitted to DEA to be approved. Once the plan has been approved there is Annual plan of operation known as the (APO) which gets drafted.
- The projects goals and objectives are to employ the local unemployed beneficiaries into the project to create a good work ethic; provide skills through training and to develop non-skilled workers into skilled workers; as well as maintain a healthy coastal environment. It does this with the aid of several documents and liaising with several stake holders.



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Health and safety in the project

- Two Health and Safety representatives need to be appointed per team. The contractor may not work on site if there is no First aider and Health & Safety rep.
- General Health and Safety rules:
 - Before the contract vehicle comes to work the health and safety rep; contractor and driver need to do a vehicle inspection each day.
 - Wearing the correct PPE to suit the task at hand
 - Use correct tools for the application
 - Tools need to be handled safely
 - Only trained personnel can use machinery e.g. Brushcutter operators
 - Safe work distances
 - Correct sanitation and availability thereof
 - Drinking water needs to be available and clearly marked
 - Hazardous areas on site need to be identified and indicated with danger tape
 - Tools need to be demarcated
 - Smoking areas need demarcating
 - Food and water need to be stored separately from tools and equipment.



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- If applicable the correct fire extinguisher needs to be on site
- It is important that each vehicle has a 1.5kg dry powder fire extinguisher
- Health and safety representative on site at all times.
- Report or record any incidents or near hit on site
- No alcohol or drug abuse
- Identify fire hazards
- Trained First Aider on site with valid certificate
- First Aid Supplies used must be written down
- First Aid kit needs to be fully stocked at all-times
- There need to be two Peer educators per team; a male and a female
- The Peer educators are in the teams to assist the peers with arising personal problems, it is important to know that they are not trained professionals; however they are able to refer them to trained practitioners.



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- Safety on Vehicles:
 - All vehicles need to be roadworthy and licenced
 - Drivers need to have a valid licence to the vehicle used for transportation and a PDP
 - Vehicle needs to meet the project standards for the number of passengers being transported
 - Tools and equipment need to be transported separately from passengers
 - All vehicle need fire extinguishers
 - Tyre pressure needs to be checked each morning as well as remaining tread
 - Canopy or railing need to be suitably secured
 - Benches on the back of pick-ups need to be secured properly
 - Trailer needs to be roadworthy and hitch secured
 - Drivers need to adhere to project speed limits (e.g. 60km/h gravel road and 80km/h on tarred roads)



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- Toolbox talk to be carried out in the mornings and include the following:
 - Vehicle check lists
 - Hazards Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA)
 - Emergency Evacuation Plan
 - Incidents recall and corrective actions thereto
 - PPE
 - Discuss the plan of action for the day so that each team member understands his/her task for the day
 - Toolbox topic e.g. HIV/AIDS awareness
 - All team members to sign an attendance register



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Training in the project

What types of training is there?

- Non-Accredited and essential Training
- Accredited training dependent on DEA

Non-Accredited and essential Training

- Induction
- Health and Safety
- First Aid
- Peer Education
- Other Trainings
- These are the main training that needs to take place before work commences however there is other non-accredited and essential training available, which will be carried out through the cycle. For example Contractor Development; Business Finance etc...



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Continued...

- **What does the Non-Accredited and Essential Training Involve?**
- Induction
 - Explanation of the project
 - Park's specific Code of Conduct
- Health and safety (This entails health and safety in the work environment)
 - Health and safety training (2 days course)
- First Aid
- Level one First Aid
- 3 day course
- Peer Education
- 5 day course
- Raining days training (e.g. Written Safe Work Procedures; educational and awareness presentations etc...)



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Conclusion

- Working for the coast is a diverse Project covering various aspects and it benefits many people, the core function is to keep the coast line clean and maintain the surrounding infrastructure. The projects goals and objectives are to employ the local unemployed beneficiaries into the project to create a good work ethic; provide skills through training and to develop non-skilled workers into skilled workers; as well as maintain a healthy coastal environment. It does this with the aid of several documents and liaising with several stake holders.



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Beach Clean up



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Recycling after Clean up



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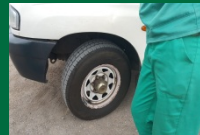
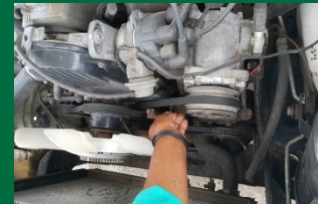
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Vehicle Inspections



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THANK YOU