



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PUBLIC NOTICE

MONDAY 27 DECEMBER 2021

For Immediate Release

RE-OPENING OF THE FRAP ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS TO AFFORD *ALL REGISTERED USERS* THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESUBMIT FRESH OR SUPPLEMENT CURRENT APPLICATIONS FOR RIGHTS TO UNDERTAKE COMMERCIAL FISHING OF DEMERSAL SHARK LONGLINE, HAKE DEEPSEA TRAWL, HAKE LONGLINE, KWAZULU-NATAL CRUSTACEAN PRAWN TRAWL, SMALL PELAGIC (SARDINES AND ANCHOVY), SOUTH COAST ROCK LOBSTER, SQUID, TRADITIONAL LINEFISH AND TUNA POLE-LINE IN TERMS OF SECTION 18 OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO 18 OF 1998).

By virtue of the delegated authority vested in me in terms of Section 18(2) of the Marine Living Resources Act 18 of 1998, by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, I Susan Clare Middleton, the Deputy Director-General of the Fisheries Management Branch, hereby re-open the FRAP online system to registered users only.

The re-opening of the FRAP Online System will allow all registered users and current applicants a further opportunity to resubmit fresh applications and/or to supplement their current applications with outstanding information and/or supporting documentation.

The online application process will be re-opened from 28 December 2021 until midnight on 28 January 2022. Applications received after the closing date and time being midnight on Friday 28 January 2022 will not be considered.

This decision is motivated by a call from various industry representatives and fishing associations who have agitated for the re-opening of the FRAP Online Application Process due to:

1. The numerous challenges presented to registered users acquainting themselves with a new FRAP Online Application System that was introduced for the very first time this year;
2. Since going live, the FRAP Online system was not user friendly. Applicants encountered various issues between 22 November 2021 to 7 December 2021 whilst attempting to complete and submit their applications electronically.
3. The three (3) day extension period from 8 to 10 December 2021 to accommodate the various challenges may have been insufficient resulting in many registered users not being able to successfully submit and/or upload their applications onto the FRAP online platform before the closing date of midnight on 10 December 2021.
4. A further difficulty raised by the industry is that the current FRAP Online Application Process does not afford registered users the opportunity to submit hard copy applications nor can applications be submitted manually.

In order to give effect to all the objectives of the Marine Living Resources Act, 18 of 1998, particularly the need to: (a) promote equitable access to marine living resources in a fair manner; (b) to encourage the transformation of the fishing industry; and (c) to inspire the involvement in all of its aspects, the Department has decided to re-open the FRAP Online Application Process.

During the initial screening process the respective assessment teams observed that a number of Exclusionary Criteria had not been complied with, which the Department attributes to the fact that the FRAP Online System may not have been user friendly. Therefore, all registered users and current applicants **must** ensure that their applications are compliant with all the Exclusionary criteria including but not limited to ensuring compliance with the improper lodgement and materially defective criteria. This requires that all electronic applications must include:

- Certified Company (CPIC) documents.
- Proof of payment for the full Application Fee relevant to the sector applied for must be made by the Applicant. Short or incorrect payments will not be accepted.
- Valid SARS documents: Tax Number and Pin number.
- Valid certified copies of ID's from applicants in the Traditional Linefish sector.
- Certified Authorisation letters nominating an authorised representative and certified copies of the ID Document of the authorised representative.
- Signed applications/Declarations indicated by clicking "Yes" on the electronic form.

- All blocks relevant to the respective applicant in the electronic form must be ticked.

In addition, all applicants must identify the way their applications have been changed (supplemented, amended, revised, varied, or deleted) by identifying: (a) how the resubmitted application has changed the nature and manner of the application already submitted, (b) which parts of the application has been revised, supplemented, or deleted; (c) what information in the application is new; (d) what new documentation is uploaded that was not previously uploaded; alternatively (e) that applicants' were unable to submit an initial application during the period 22 November 2021 to 10 December 2021 and that they are submitting a fresh application.

All applicants who intend supplementing their current application forms or resubmitting fresh applications **must** upload an annexure in the form of an affidavit indicating the way their application forms have been changed (supplemented, amended, revised, varied, or deleted) or whether it is a fresh application. This requirement will enable the Department to gauge and monitor the changes to the application form and documentation uploaded by each applicant.

Registered users and current applicants who intend supplementing their applications must as soon as possible direct an email to frapitsupport@navayugainfotech.com requesting that the status of their application forms be changed to “in progress” from the current “submitted” status, so that they can make the necessary changes required. This will not apply to registered users who intend submitting fresh or new applications.

Due to the FRAP2021 being exclusively online, no hard copy or manual applications will be accepted by the Department or any of the Delegated Authorities. All hard or manual copies submitted by applicants will not be considered. Applicants who submitted hard copy or manual applications are requested to resubmit fresh or updated electronic applications via the FRAP Online System.

The re-opening of the FRAP Online System will result in decisions on applications, in fishing sectors where the fishing season commences during January and/or February, not being made before the commencement of those fishing seasons. Therefore, an exemption will be granted to all current existing exemption holders to continue fishing pending the finalisation of the FRAP2021. Exemption holders will not be required to re-apply for permits but will be allowed to continue fishing on their existing permits during this exemption period.

It is expected that decisions on applications will be announced by 28 February 2022.

Decentralised Offices

Registered Applicants that require assistance with lodgement and/or completion of their application form, may visit one of the decentralised venues which will be available from 17 January 2022 until 28 January 2022 except the Howick, KZN and Mzamba, Port Edward which will only be available from 24 January 2022 until 28 January 2022. These venues are listed below:

Applicants that require assistance during the re-opening for submission of application forms of the FRAP2021 may visit the following Decentralised Support Centres on weekdays from 17 January 2022. These centres will be open from 08:00 to 16:00 except on Fridays, as well as the last day, 28 January 2022, when the centres will close at 13:00.

Fishery Compliance Office, Port Nolloth

Beach Road, Port Nolloth, 8280

Monitoring & Surveillance Office, Saldanha

Van Riebeeck Street, Saldanha

Customer Service Centre, Cape Town

Martin Hammerschlag Way, Foreshore, Cape Town

Fishery Compliance Office, Hermanus

248 Stilstraat, Nuwe Hawe, Hermanus, 7299

Fishery Compliance Office, Arniston

Harbour Road, Arniston, 7280

Research Office, Mossel Bay

86 Bland Street, Vincent Building, Mossel Bay, 6500

Marine Resource Management and MCS Office, East London

9 St Peters Roads, Southern Wood, East London, 5201

Fishery Compliance Office, Port Elizabeth

21 Stanley Street, Central, Port Elizabeth, 6000

Fishery Compliance Office, Mzamba, Port Edward

Lot 147, Ramsey Avenue, Port Edward, 4295

Midmar Environmental Programmes Office, Howick, KZN

Midmar Dam Wall, Howick, 3290

Applicants can access the online electronic system at <https://www.FRAP2021.co.za> using their registered passwords.

Applicants may request assistance with the application process by telephone: 021 402 3727 or 084 3040 170 or email to: FRAPeng_2020@environment.gov.za,

Applicants who require IT support must contact 010 5002323 / 0800 0145304 or email frapitsupport@navayugainfotech.com



Sue Middleton

Deputy Director-General: Fisheries Management

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment