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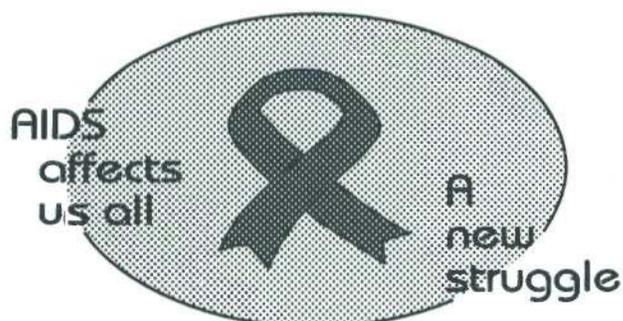
Government Gazette Staatskoerant

Vol. 419

PRETORIA, 19 MAY
MEI 2000

No. 21203

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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GENERAL NOTICES

NOTICE 1993 OF 2000

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT (ACT No.18 OF 1998)

PROPOSED DECLARATION OF A MARINE PROTECTED AREA TO SERVE AS A WHALE SANCTUARY

It is the intention of the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism under Section 43 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998), to declare an area of Walker Bay as a Marine Protected Area to serve as a Whale Sanctuary.

DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARIES OF PROPOSED WHALE SANCTUARY

The proposed Marine Protected Area is the area enclosed by joining the following points (the coordinates are based on the WGS 84 Spheroid) :

A point north of the Hermanus breakwater 34°25'.766S 19°13'.904E, then east along the coastline to a point north of the Gans Bay North breakwater 34°34'.681S 19°20'.628E to 34°33'.837S 19°18'.89E to 34°31'.677S 19°20'.773E to 34°30'.033S 19°20'.452E to north of the Hermanus breakwater 34°25'.766S 19°13'.904E.

The proposed declaration will apply from 1 July to 15 December each year.

In addition to the provisions of section 43 of the Act, regulation 58 of the Regulations published under Government Notice No. R 1111 of 2 September 1998 (Gazette No. 19205), which pertains to the protection of whales, will also be applied. Furthermore, no person shall operate any fishing boat, vessel, sail boat, jetski, kayak or craft of any kind within the Marine Protected Area without written permission, with the exception of any legally permitted boat based whale watching vessels, which may operate subject to the relevant permit conditions and the closed areas for boat based whale watching, as published in Government Notice No. 417 of 18 February 2000 (Gazette No.20877).

Comments on the above proposal are invited in writing from all interested and affected parties to reach the Chief Director: Marine and Coastal Management, Private Bag X2, Rogge Bay, 8012 (facsimile 021-4252920) within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE 1994 OF 2000**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM****PROPOSED REGULATIONS UNDER SECTION 24 OF THE ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION
ACT (ACT NO 73 OF 1989)**

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism intends making regulations under Section 24 (1) (a) and (k) of the Environment Conservation Act, (Act No 73 of 1989) as set out in the Schedule hereto. Interested Parties are requested to submit comments in connection with the proposed regulations within 3 months from the date of publication of this notice. Comments must be submitted to the Director-General, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Private Bag X447, Pretoria 0001.

All correspondence should be clearly marked for the attention of the Director: Integrated Pollution Prevention and Waste Management. Telephone (012) 310-3654; Fax (012) 322-1167; e-mail wscott@ozone.pwv.gov.za

**DR CRISPIAN OLVER
DIRECTOR-GENERAL: ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM**

SCHEDULE**PLASTIC BAG REGULATIONS****1. Definition**

In these regulations "the Act" means the Environment Conservation Act, (Act No 73 of 1989) and any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear the meaning so assigned to it in these regulations and, unless the context indicates otherwise –

- 1.1. "carry bag" means a plastic bag or a plastic packet which is distributed to a consumer.
- 1.2. "distribute" means making carry bags directly or indirectly available and without charge to consumers for the packaging or carrying of goods purchased by consumers and "distribution" has a corresponding meaning.
- 1.3. "supply" means distribution of or trading in carry bags.
- 1.4. "trading" means the sale of carry bags as a commodity to any person (including, but not limited to manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of goods).

2. Prohibition on the supply of carry bags

- 2.1. With effect from 1 January 2001 no person may supply carry bags of a thickness of less than 30 microns.
- 2.2. With effect from 1 June 2001 no person may supply carry bags of a thickness of less than 80 microns.

3. Offences and penalties

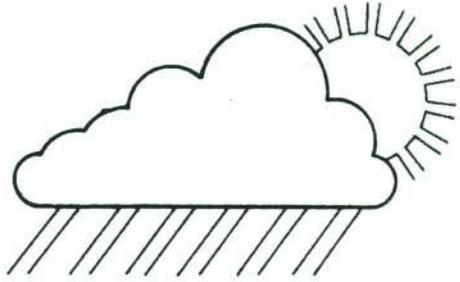
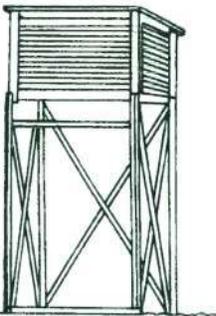
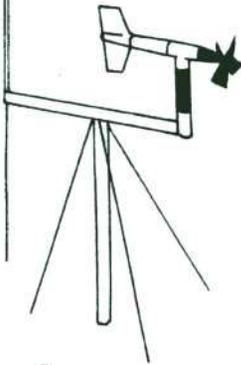
Any person who contravenes any provision of these regulations is guilty of an offence and liable, on a first conviction, to a fine not exceeding R10 000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or to both such fine and such imprisonment, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding R100 000 or to imprisonment not exceeding ten years or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The collection and disposal of plastic bags is a growing problem in South Africa. The use and free availability of plastic bags has increased significantly in recent years and large amounts of bags have resulted in pollution and degradation of the environment. Thin non-reusable bags are indiscriminately dumped and not collected for recycling or disposal since they have little commercial value. The problem is severe in low-income areas where waste collection services are inadequate. The aim of the regulations is to restrict the production of non-reusable plastic shopping bags and to promote re-use and recycling.

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Publications: Tel: (012) 334-4508, 334-4509, 334-4510
Advertisements: Tel: (012) 334-4673, 334-4674, 334-4504
Subscriptions: Tel: (012) 334-4735, 334-4736, 334-4737
Cape Town Branch: Tel: (021) 465-7531

Gedruk deur en verkrygbaar by die Staatsdrukker, Bosmanstraat, Privaatsak X85, Pretoria, 0001
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