

W Cape small-scale fishers' deadline extended

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has extended the Western Cape communities' deadline for their registration on the provisional list of small-scale fishers.



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The new deadline is 9 December 2016, Minister Senzeni Zokwana announced in a statement on Monday.

This decision follows a number of requests for the appeals process to be extended for Western Cape communities.

“[I] considered the request and accordingly wish to grant communities an extension to lodge their appeals on the provisional list. Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to use the process to submit their appeals,” the Minister said.

The massive registration of the fishing communities marks the official implementation of the small-scale fisheries policy, which was actioned after Minister Senzeni Zokwana published the regulations of the Amended Marine Living Resources Act in the government gazette on 8 March this year.

The promulgation of the Amended Marine Living Resources Act means that the small-scale fishing sector is now formally recognised. This is a critical development to redress the inequality of South Africa’s fisheries governance system.

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