

**FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE UPGRADE OF TEN RIVER CROSSINGS SITUATED ALONG THE SKOENMAKERS RIVER, EASTERN CAPE**  
**COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT**

COMMENTS, ISSUES AND SUGGESTIONS RAISED	COMMENTATER	ORGANISATION/ COMMUNITY	DATE	SOURCE	RESPONSE
<b>GENERAL CONCERNS</b>					
How long will it take to build the Coffe dams?	Mr Rocco Gouws	Willem Greeff W D E S Greef Family Trust Boerlaagte 245 (Bridge 11) Portion 7	15 April 2015	Public Open House	The dam will take approximately two to three months to build.
Please try to arrange for it to be built during winter					Yes, we also see this as the best time taking into consideration the rainfall patterns in the area.
Will the height of the Bridges more or less remain the same?					We tried to keep the height the same there are some of the bridges that are slightly higher.
If the Bridges remain the same height, it is wider?					Yes, it is wider.
How wide will the servitudes be?	Mr Bernardus Beyers	Fonteins Plaats 246 (Bridge 10) Portion 6			It will be approximately 80meters wide.
How far outside the servitude lines is DWS (Department of Water Affairs) planning to do this work					It has not been confirmed how far outside of the servitude lines where the river would be, since it still has to be discussed and that will be done about it.
A major problem is that we believe that the servitudes lines have been washed away. DWS will have to ensure that new servitudes applied for.					(Presented on a map) Both 100 year and 50year flood line studies were done for each affected landowner. If we look at where the river runs currently; we are able to see that there are very few places where the river falls outside of the servitude lines. This is at approximately six places where it falls outside of the servitude.
There is a major problem on the river banks. It will not be long before the wall is completely destroyed. If one looks at the current river banks, it will not be long before outside of the servitude. As a result of the river having changed its course over the past few years, since the then DWS implemented the transfer scheme, water has been flooding my lands rendering the area mushy. I originally had 60 Ha of which I now can only use 40 Ha. The flooded land lies beyond the servitude originally negotiated with my Dad. This is resulting in a devaluation of my property. My concern is not with the construction of the bridges but about my land use. There is a reduction in value of land/property therefore DWS need to make the servitudes bigger or rehabilitate the affected portions for me to use that portion of land.					The additional water which flows beyond the servitude is additional run-off and is not the result of the transfer scheme. This would have flooded your property in any case during major rains.
The bridge blocked the water, causing the soil is waterlogged under the masses of water. This causes the river is affected further and soil from being washed away.					It will be reported to DWS. They will have to be notified, although this does not impact on the bridge.