

World Cetacean Alliance Studio 3, Lower Promenade Madeira Drive Brighton BN2 1ET

25th November 2013

To whom it may concern,

Algoa Bay Conservation supports the application for a Whale Heritage Site in Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

The conservation of the Algoa Bay's biodiversity is one of our key objectives. Algoa Bay Conservation is actively involved in the protection of our natural environment. We do this by raising awareness of activities that have the potential of damaging or even destroying our biodiversity. We create awareness through posts on social and printed media, videos, meetings and by co-operating with communities, industry and other environmental groups [1].

We are the coordinators of the Save our Sharks in South Africa petition which attracted over 25000 supporters. This level of support resulted in the establishment of a review panel whose task is to evaluate shark conservation in South Africa [2].

We are also spearheading a request for Ship to Ship Bunkering to be stopped in Algoa Bay. Another Heavy Fuel Oil leak will potentially destroy the majority, if not all, plant and animal life in the Addo Marine Protected Area. We have already had two spills since Bunkering started in 2016 [3].

Algoa Bay Conservation believe in the co-existence between Homo sapiens and all other organisms who inhabit this planet. We believe eco-tourism to be a win-win solution. It provides individuals with the ability to earn a living while protecting our biodiversity.

The various species of whales, both residents as well as visitors, form a major part of this biodiversity and add to the uniqueness of Algoa Bay. The whale migration through Algoa Bay is one of the highlights of the year. We have participated in the Algoa Bay Whale Festival for the last two years. The festival celebrates the arrival of the whales in Algoa Bay.

Algoa Bay Conservation has been involved with the application for the Whale Heritage Site from the start of the project. The declaration of Algoa Bay as a Whale Heritage Site will help to ensure that our ocean biodiversity will be safeguarded for future generations.

With gratitude,

Ronelle Friend António Bastos

Biodiversity Project Co-ordinator Information, Education and Training



References and Links:

[1]

An Introduction to Algoa Bay Conservation (Video) https://www.youtube.com/embed/x4U2DX5ipaw

Algoa Bay Conservation Facebook https://web.facebook.com/ourNMB/

Algoa Bay Conservation YouTube Channel https://youtube.com/channel/UCWvPb6BzFV9I4dGC9Icxa5A

[2]

South African Sharks Plight (YouTube playlist)
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKoLJt1-4qg7d1zW7wZYF5cvnuAyhSm2L

Save our Sharks in South Africa (Petition) http://chng.it/LKCvMRrZ

[3]

STS Bunkering, Gambling with the Biodiversity of Nelson Mandela Bay (Video) https://www.youtube.com/embed/J7cZ41Qjl M

STS Bunkering Public Concern - Lack of readiness to deal with oil spills at sea (Video) https://www.youtube.com/embed/5pnEk-4kogg

Potential Damage to the Biodiversity and to Humans. Is It Worth Taking the Risk? (Video) https://www.youtube.com/embed/hDyQcLDU2LQ

Protect our Penguins in Algoa Bay - Prevent an Oil spill disaster in Algoa Bay. Stop Ship-to-Ship Bunkering Now! (Petition) http://chng.it/Xq9JWVdZsQ