



## Project Sheet

### Classification of Significant Water Resources (Rivers, wetlands, Groundwater and Lakes) in the Upper, Middle and Lower Vaal Water Management areas (WMA 8,9 &10)

**LOCATION:** Vaal River Basin, South Africa

**CUSTOMER:** Department of Water Affairs

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**STATUS:** Ongoing **DURATION:** October 2010 – September 2012

**OBJECTIVE:** The main objective of the study is to determine the Management Class of the significant water resources in the three Vaal WMAs over a period of 24 months. The study area comprises of the water resource of the Vaal River System which includes the catchments of the Upper, Middle and the Lower Vaal Water Management Areas. Other sub-systems that also form part of Integrated Vaal River System or are linked to Vaal River System will be included in the water resource system analysis (either directly or indirectly) to ensure the Management Class is determined in an integrated manner. The seven step procedure for determining the water resource class and the associated guideline documentation were used to formulate the specific methodologies applicable to the Vaal River System.

#### DESCRIPTION

- Delineation of the units of analysis and description of the status quo of the water resource.
- Link value and condition (Determination of an analysis scoring system accounting for social wellbeing, ecosystem health and economic prosperity).
- Quantify Ecological Water Requirements (EWRs) and changes in non-water quality Ecosystem Goods, Services and Attributes.
- Set Ecological Sustainable Base Condition scenarios.
- Evaluate scenarios within the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) process.
- Stakeholder consultation and engagement.
- Provide training and capacity building.
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#### RESULTS

A management class for all the significant water resources in the Upper, Middle and Lower Vaal WMAs.

