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**Boat Launch Site Monitoring System (BLSMS):
2020 Annual Report**

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. PROGRESS.....	4
2.1 Distribution of registers	4
2.2 Receipt of launch data	4
2.3 Data capture	4
2.4 Analysis of 2020 data – overall trends	5
2.5 Analysis of 2020 data – site specific trends	9
2.6 Biases associated with BLSMS data	10
3. LAUNCH SITE COMPLIANCE	10
3.1 Compliance with register completion.....	10
3.2 Compliance with management conditions.....	10
4. BLSMS OUTPUT	10
4.1 2020 Publications featuring the KZN BLSMS	11
5. EVALUATION OF THE SYSTEM	11
6. ACTIVITIES OF THE BOAT LAUNCH SITE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (BLSTC).....	11
7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	11
8. REFERENCES CITED.....	11
SITE-SPECIFIC FEED-BACKS.....	12-49

Page numbering for site-specific feedbacks for each participating boat launch site in KwaZulu-Natal during 2020 (sites arranged in order of latitude from north to south).

Launch site	Page	Launch site	Page
Mabibi ¹	12	Neptune Angling Club ²	31
Sodwana Bay ¹	13	Bluff Yacht Club ²	32
Cape Vidal ¹	14	Bobbies Angling Club ²	33
St Lucia ¹	15	Fynnlands Angling Club ²	34
Meerensee Skiboat Club ²	16	Pompano Angling Club ²	35
R. Bay Skiboat Club ²	17	Isipingo/Reunion	36
Umlalazi/Mtunzini ³	18	Chain Rocks	37
Thukela Mouth	19	Warner Beach	38
Zinkwazi	20	Umkomaas (all sites)	39
Blythedale/Umvoti	21	Scottburgh	40
Tinley Manor/Umhlali	22	Rocky Bay	41
Salmon Bay/Ballito	23	Pennington	42
Westbrook	24	Bazley/Mac Nicol's	43
Umdloti	25	Mtwalume	44
Umhlanga/Granny's Pool	26	Hibberdene	45
Vetch's Pier, Durban ²	27	Injambili/Pumula	46
Rod & Reel Club ²	28	Shelly Beach	47
Point Yacht Club ²	29	Ramsgate	48
Public Slipway ²	30	Port Edward	49

¹Sites in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, ²Sites in Richards Bay and Durban Harbours (Transnet), ³Sites in Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Protected Areas

HIGHLIGHTS

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) has a large marine recreational and commercial boating industry that includes line-fishing, scuba diving and other activities. Many of the vessels used in this industry are relatively small craft (less than 10 m in length) and are capable of being launched directly through the surf from specially demarcated beach launch sites. Control over these sites is vested in the provincial government in terms of Government Gazette No. 37761 of 27 June 2014 – Management of Public Launch Sites in the Coastal Zone Regulations in terms of Section 83 (1)(d)(i) and (o) of the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act (Act No. 24 of 2008). This control includes, inter alia, the maintenance of a daily launch register. Stakeholders in these launch sites include KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Oceanographic Research Institute, Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife, KZN Sharks Board, South African Maritime Safety Authority, National Sea Rescue Institute, Transnet National Ports Authority, iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, and, launch site licence holders (mainly municipalities), launch site operators (mainly ski-boat clubs) and boat users themselves. Collaboration between the various stakeholders in KZN has resulted in the development of a Boat Launch Site Monitoring System (BLSMS) that generates unique and comprehensive launch statistics and information about associated activities. This innovative system is a province-wide monitoring initiative for launch sites and is an example of unique, mutually beneficial cooperation between different stakeholders towards the common goal of improved management of small craft launch sites in KZN. Good participation by most launch site users has ensured the continued success of the project to date. This report presents all stakeholders with an overview of project progress during 2020 in the interests of maintaining good cooperation.

- In addition to 21 currently listed boat launch sites, 17 other launch sites within the jurisdiction of Transnet National Ports Authority (i.e. Richards Bay and Durban harbours), Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority, participated in the BLSMS during 2020.
- A total of 36 258 individual marine launch records were received and captured for 2020, with lower numbers because of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated national lockdown.
- Ski-boats were the most common type of vessel used for launching (68% of launches).
- The highest number of launches were recorded during summer (January and December), whilst the lowest number of launches were recorded during the national lockdown (April-May).
- Durban Harbour and Vetch's Beach (21%), Richards Bay Harbour (15%), Sodwana Bay (13%), Shelly Beach (8%) and Umkomaas (7%) were the launch sites with the highest number of recorded launches.
- Recreational fishing (55% of recorded launches), charter scuba diving (14%), charter fishing (6%) and traditional commercial line-fishing (5%) were the most common reasons for launching in 2020.
- 27 launch sites were used infrequently (<50% of available days) and 8 sites were regularly utilised (>60% of available days).
- In most participating registered launch sites, daily usage levels were generally well below the respective official daily launch limits stipulated, except for special events such as fishing competitions.
- Average provincial launch frequencies varied from 86 launches per day on weekdays to 133 launches per day on weekend days.
- Usage of boat launch sites was overwhelmingly a daytime activity with less than 1.5% of recorded outings occurring at night.
- A total of 49 965 fish from 120 different species was recorded caught by recreational and charter fishers (line-fishing and spearfishing). Slinger (15%), dorado (13%), tuna species (9%), santer/soldier (9%), cuda/king mackerel (7%) and rockcod species (7%) were the most commonly reported fish by number (note that commercial fishers are not required to complete the catch return part of the launch register).
- The level of compliance in terms of the completion of the launch register fields during 2020 was generally good, although completion of the targeting and catch return fields was still poor.

1. INTRODUCTION

Access to the offshore marine resources of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) has traditionally been facilitated by using off-road vehicles to launch small vessels into the sea, a procedure which can have an impact on the coastal and marine environment. In 2002, regulations were promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) to limit the use of off-road vehicles in the coastal zone (Government Gazette No. 22960). Simultaneously, the launching of vessels from designated beach launch sites was also placed under stricter control with the obligatory licensing of these launch sites. In June 2014 regulations for the management of public launch sites in the coastal zone were promulgated (Government Gazette No. 37761) in terms of Section 83 (1)(d)(i) and (o) of the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act (Act No. 24 of 2008). In terms of these regulations, all marine and coastal public launch sites in South Africa (excluding those inside the boundaries of a protected area or within an operational harbour area that has already been physically modified from its original natural state) must be registered and listed in the Provincial Gazette. Twenty-five public launch sites were finally gazetted in KZN in May 2021 (Provincial Gazette No. 2285).

Historically, management of launch sites in KZN was based on safety and logistic considerations with little or no consideration for environmental factors (Town & Regional Planning Commission 1988). The new regulations place greater emphasis on the environment, a task that was delegated to the Coastal and Biodiversity Management Unit (CBMU) of the provincial Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) in 2003. Through extensive stakeholder participation, this licensing initiative introduced a mandatory launch and catch register system as a condition of the Environmental Authorisation issued for each successfully licensed small craft launch site. This development presented an opportunity for the province's coastal zone managers to obtain useful information on the usage of launch sites and to further the ecological understanding of the use of offshore marine resources accessed through boat launching. The diverse activities of small craft in the coastal zone of KZN represent an important socio-economic and natural resource asset that requires careful management through monitoring, assessment, and protection.

The primary purpose of this report is to provide feedback to all stakeholders on the progress and relevant results of the Boat Launch Site Monitoring System (BLSMS) during 2020. The report only presents data on marine launches (including launches made in estuaries and harbours with the intention of travelling to sea) and it does not provide a comprehensive comparison with data from previous years as inter-annual trends are the subject of a separate publication (Mann *et al.* 2015). Readers should note that the BLSMS is a multi-stakeholder project relying on the cooperation of the EDTEA, the Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), boat launch site licence holders and their delegated operators, as well as launch site users. As of the 1 August 2016, Ezemvelo staff (except within coastal protected areas) were withdrawn from the coast and replaced by fisheries control officers (FCOs) from the Fisheries Branch of the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). DFFE FCOs are primarily responsible for the implementation of the Marine Living Resources Act (Act No. 18 of 1998) and its associated regulations and have not been involved in the implementation of BLSMS since their deployment in the province.

2. PROGRESS

2.1 Distribution of registers

A total of 100 register books, each book allowing for the capture of 800 launches, were printed by ORI in February 2020. Distribution and collection of boat launch register data from participating boat launch sites is undertaken by ORI technical staff on a quarterly basis (Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec).

2.2 Receipt of launch data

A total of ~44 000 individual boat launches were recorded during 2020. Of these, 36 258 individual marine launch records have been captured onto the BLSMS database. The remaining ~8 000 were estuarine outings, where vessels did not go to sea. While estuarine boat launch data are captured onto the BLSMS database, these data are not presented in this report.

2.3 Data capture

Capture of data onto the BLSMS database was undertaken by three data capture technicians based at ORI during 2020/21. The large amounts of data that need to be captured and validated, as well as the delay in collection and submission of the launch records to ORI, results in a time lag of 6-9 months before analysis and reporting can be completed. A two-month delay in receiving the 2020 data from the iSimangaliso Wetland Park held up the preparation of this report.

2.4 Analysis of 2020 data – overall trends

The analyses of 2020 launch records are based on data extracted from the BLSMS database on the 15 November 2021. Any 2020 launch records received by ORI after this date have been omitted from the report. Furthermore, the report does not include launches that indicated an estuary or within a harbour as the launch-specific destination (i.e. estuarine outings) but does include offshore-destined outings that originated in estuaries and harbours (i.e. launch into estuary/harbour and proceed to sea via the mouth). Every effort was made to collect all completed boat launch data along the entire KZN coast. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, some of these data are misplaced from time to time. For example, although launch data were received from Glenmore Ski-boat Club these were not accessible on the system. Unfortunately, such omissions tend to bias the overall results.

A total of 36 258 individual marine launch records from 38 different launch sites was received and captured onto the BLSMS database for 2020 (Table 1). This is a 15% decrease from the 42 867 launches received in 2019. This decrease was largely because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated national lockdown. During the strict lockdown between April and May 2020 only commercial fishing vessels and other vessels deemed as essential services were allowed to launch. The most heavily used launch sites were Durban Harbour and Vetch's Beach (21.0%), Richards Bay Harbour (14.8%), Sodwana Bay (13.4%), Shelly Beach (8.4%) and Umkomaas (7.0%). Vessel types used for launching included ski-boats (67.6%), inflatable vessels (20.5%), jet-skis (7.2%), paddle-craft (0.7%) and unspecified vessel type (4.1%) (Table 1).

Launching effort (in terms of the total number of launches recorded) was not evenly distributed throughout all months of the year during 2020. The highest number of launches were recorded in January (12.6%) and December (20.6%), while the lowest number were recorded during April (0.2%) and May (0.3%) during the strict national lockdown (Table 2). This trend is to be expected given that the main holiday period (e.g. Christmas) occurs during December/January and because a seasonal abundance of gamefish is normally associated with the summer months.

The voluntary participation in the BLSMS of launch sites within the jurisdiction of Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA), Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (EKZNW) and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park continued during 2020. Almost all the boat launch sites under these respective authorities are now actively supporting the BLSMS, resulting in the system providing province-wide coverage of small craft launching activities along the KZN coast. As paddle-craft, also known as fishing-skis, do not have to be launched at licensed launch sites (except within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park), outings by these vessels are under-reported in the BLSMS (Mann et al. 2012). Paddle-craft are also generally not considered as part of the daily launch limit specified for licensed KZN boat launch sites as a vehicle and trailer do not have to be driven on to the beach to launch these craft.

Line-fishing and spearfishing (from all boat-based sectors) remained the dominant activity (68.5% of recorded launches) reported by launch site users in 2020 (Tables 1 & 3), followed by scuba diving (14.5%). More specifically, private recreational fishing (55.1% of launches) was the most specified activity, followed by charter scuba diving (14.3%), charter line-fishing (5.8%) and traditional commercial line-fishing (4.7%) (Table 3).

More than half (58.5%) of the launches recorded in 2020 were undertaken for private purposes (Tables 1 & 3), followed by charter (21.6%) and commercial fishing launches (4.7%). However, as charter activities are also of a commercial nature (i.e. charter fishing, charter scuba diving and charter whale watching, etc.), commercial motivation can be regarded as the reason for at least 26.3% of the boat launches recorded along the KZN coast during 2020.

Table 1. Inventory of 2020 data captured onto the BLSMS database showing the total number of launches recorded and the percentage contribution by vessel type (inflatables, paddle-craft, jet-skis, ski-boats) and by launching purpose (private fishing, charter scuba diving, etc.). Launch sites are arranged in alphabetical order by name.

Launch site	Total	Vessel type (%)					Purpose of launch (%)											
		Inflatable	Paddle-craft	Jet-ski	Ski-boat	Unspecified	Charter fishing	Charter pleasure	Charter SCUBA	Charter shark diving	Charter whale watching	Commercial fishing	Practice and testing	Private fishing	Private pleasure trip	Private SCUBA	Private spearfishing	Other
Bazley/MacNichols	14	0.0	0.0	85.7	14.3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	0	7	29
Cape Vidal ²	2464	3.2	3.1	10.6	80.1	3.1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	9	14
Chain Rocks/Amanzimtoti	279	7.2	0.0	2.2	90.3	0.4	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	78	0	0	6	4
Durban harbour - Bluff Yacht Club ¹	164	0.6	0.0	0.0	79.3	20.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	1	0	0	51
Durban harbour - Bobbies Angling Club ¹	405	2.5	0.7	0.3	93.8	2.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	2	48
Durban harbour - Fynnlands Angling Club ¹	639	1.7	0.0	0.6	92.9	4.7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	0	1	11
Durban harbour - Neptune Angling Club ¹	325	1.9	0.0	0.6	90.5	7.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	1	0	0	33
Durban harbour - Point Yacht Club ¹	426	7.8	1.2	0.0	86.8	4.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	1	0	0	16
Durban harbour - Pompano Angling Club ¹	115	0.0	0.0	0.0	97.4	2.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	3	0	4	9
Durban harbour - Public Slipway ¹	578	9.2	0.0	0.9	78.9	11.1	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	48	2	0	0	43
Durban harbour - Rod & Reel Club ¹	863	2.3	0.0	0.0	89.5	8.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	1	0	0	16
Durban Vetch's Pier ¹	4116	12.0	0.8	9.3	74.8	3.2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	70	0	0	6	20
Granny's Pool/Umhlanga	321	8.4	0.0	25.9	64.5	1.2	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	0	0	1	11
Hibberdene	661	8.3	0.0	0.9	88.5	2.3	2	2	0	0	0	11	0	70	2	0	3	10
Injambili/Pumula	134	7.5	0.0	5.2	87.3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	0	0	1	5
Mabibi ²	53	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	30	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mtwalume	16	0.0	68.8	0.0	31.3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
Pennington	281	4.6	0.4	3.6	88.9	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	0	0	0	19
Port Edward	701	5.3	0.0	8.1	84.9	1.7	4	4	0	0	0	42	0	40	0	0	2	8
Ramsgate/Hibiscus	302	12.6	0.7	10.3	75.5	1.0	2	0	0	0	0	18	0	69	3	3	4	1
Reunion/Isipingo	16	12.5	0.0	18.8	68.7	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	81	0	0	0	0
Richards Bay Meerensee SBC ¹	2300	0.7	0.0	0.6	95.5	3.2	8	0	0	0	0	8	0	67	0	0	4	13
Richards Bay Skiboat Club ¹	3083	2.2	0.6	3.4	89.2	4.6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	0	0	0	20
Rocky Bay/Park Rynie	817	23.1	0.0	3.4	72.6	0.9	25	2	3	11	0	23	0	19	0	0	6	12
Salmon Bay/Ballito	1147	8.0	0.1	54.9	32.4	4.6	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	78	0	0	1	16
Scottburgh	700	94.1	0.0	0.6	5.0	0.3	0	8	75	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	10
Sodwana Bay ²	4864	71.2	0.1	1.4	24.1	3.1	2	0	67	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	1	9
Sonny Evans/Shelly Beach	3051	17.6	0.0	2.1	74.6	5.8	23	6	9	0	0	9	3	36	0	0	1	13
St Lucia ²	1756	1.3	0.0	8.7	81.5	8.5	24	0	0	0	2	5	0	59	0	0	1	9
Thukela River North Bank	46	0.0	0.0	2.2	97.8	0.0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	0	0	0	0
Umdloti	256	12.5	0.8	14.1	49.6	23.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	30	56
Umhlati/Tinley Manor	885	1.9	11.4	3.6	81.7	1.4	10	2	0	0	0	21	0	52	1	0	5	9
Umkomaas (includes four launch sites)	2520	49.4	0.0	10.6	36.4	3.5	0	1	40	0	0	0	1	39	1	0	4	13
Umlalazi/Mtunzini ³	350	15.4	0.0	33.7	44.0	6.9	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	79	0	0	0	13
Umvoti/Blythdale	367	1.1	0.0	28.3	70.3	0.3	10	0	0	0	0	42	0	45	0	0	1	2
Warner Beach/Warnadoone	408	8.6	0.0	4.2	84.6	2.7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	0	0	3	38
Westbrook	280	3.9	0.0	18.6	75.4	2.1	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	0	0	5	5
Zinkwazi	555	1.1	0.2	5.2	90.8	2.7	2	0	0	0	0	17	0	72	1	0	2	6
Total/Average	36258	20.5	0.7	7.2	67.6	4.1	5.8	1.1	14.3	0.2	0.1	4.7	0.4	55.1	0.4	0.1	2.9	14.8

Table 2. Overall and per-site monthly number of launches received and captured for 2020. Launch sites are arranged in alphabetical order by name.

Launch site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Bazley/MacNichols	1	0	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	5	14
Cape Vidal ²	365	383	422	0	0	96	61	56	82	46	405	548	2464
Chain Rocks/Amanzimtoti	19	6	8	0	0	14	17	8	12	4	74	117	279
Durban harbour - Bluff Yacht Club ¹	29	17	14	0	0	19	21	10	6	4	12	32	164
Durban harbour - Bobbies Angling Club ¹	49	22	27	1	0	63	50	53	41	19	27	54	406
Durban harbour - Fynlands Angling Club ¹	76	35	31	1	2	136	83	64	39	28	42	102	639
Durban harbour - Neptune Angling Club ¹	28	22	24	0	2	47	43	40	30	18	33	38	325
Durban harbour - Point Yacht Club ¹	44	31	35	0	0	61	50	48	17	10	43	87	426
Durban harbour - Pompano Angling Club ¹	10	7	7	0	0	17	14	15	11	5	10	19	115
Durban harbour - Public Slipway ¹	122	84	92	11	13	194	64	0	0	0	0	0	580
Durban harbour - Rod & Reel Club ¹	87	64	20	0	1	130	115	97	75	51	92	131	863
Durban Vetch's Pier ¹	498	347	303	11	9	626	405	369	245	204	359	740	4116
Granny's Pool/Umhlanga	52	35	33	1	0	34	20	24	12	10	24	76	321
Hibberdene	66	61	44	0	0	93	54	68	44	31	48	152	661
Injambili/Pumula	10	2	9	0	0	23	0	14	9	12	4	51	134
Mabibi ²	30	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53
Mtwalume	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Pennington	30	26	10	0	0	47	18	24	9	5	13	99	281
Port Edward	56	32	61	26	31	108	79	72	47	35	50	104	701
Ramsgate/Hibiscus	33	22	28	1	0	29	35	28	17	11	24	74	302
Reunion/Isipingo	1	3	8	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	16
Richards Bay Meerensee SBC ¹	259	172	230	18	27	190	337	141	119	76	287	444	2300
Richards Bay Ski-boat Club ¹	420	291	324	0	0	203	268	237	183	194	284	679	3083
Rocky Bay/Park Rynie	150	97	110	0	0	0	0	6	74	59	89	232	817
Salmon Bay/Ballito	125	68	120	0	0	123	78	97	95	76	108	257	1147
Scottburgh	109	101	61	0	0	14	16	38	94	53	62	152	700
Sodwana Bay ²	703	459	150	0	0	68	145	115	513	597	950	1170	4870
Sonny Evans/Shelly Beach	407	268	298	0	0	184	213	213	280	192	253	743	3051
St Lucia ²	142	82	119	0	0	125	162	106	169	206	246	401	1758
Thukela River North Bank	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	4	3	11	15	46
Umdloti	26	20	23	0	0	41	36	16	7	9	26	52	256
Umhlali/Tinley Manor	171	126	27	0	0	72	85	87	44	29	67	177	885
Umkomaas (includes four launch sites)	116	268	276	0	0	368	245	169	257	156	247	419	2521
Umlalazi/Mtunzini ³	83	39	14	0	0	0	60	40	32	8	13	61	350
Umvoti/Blythdale	82	30	18	0	0	0	29	47	28	24	45	64	367
Warner Beach/Warnadoone	13	47	24	0	7	78	104	56	40	32	7	0	408
Westbrook	44	41	37	0	0	39	23	12	8	1	19	56	280
Zinkwazi	81	33	3	5	2	131	78	51	37	8	25	101	555
Total	4553	3369	3012	75	94	3379	3015	2425	2680	2216	4000	7452	36258

These sites are under the jurisdiction of ¹ Transnet National Ports Authority, ² iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority and ³ Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife and are consequently exempt from mandatory participation in the BLSMS.

Table 3. The most commonly recorded outing purposes for 2020. Data from all participating KZN launch sites.

Purpose of launch	No. of launches	Proportion (%)
Charter fishing	2113	5.8%
Charter pleasure trip	383	1.1%
Charter SCUBA	5202	14.3%
Charter shark diving	86	0.2%
Charter whale watching	49	0.1%
Commercial fishing	1696	4.7%
Practice and testing	134	0.4%
Private recreational fishing	19969	55.1%
Private pleasure trip	141	0.4%
Private SCUBA	46	0.1%
Private spearfishing	1067	2.9%
Other	5372	14.8%
Total	36258	

On a provincial basis, an average of 99 launches per day (week and weekend days combined) were recorded. During weekdays, there was an average of 86 launches per day, while weekend days experienced much greater launching effort with an average of 134 launches per day.

Usage of specific launch sites ranged from 2% to 76% of the available 365 days in 2020, averaging 39% of days. More than half of the launch sites (27 of the 38 sites) were used on less than 50% of days in 2020, with only eight sites being used regularly (on >60% of available days). The sites that recorded highest usage levels (in terms of days when launching took place) included Vetch's Beach (76%), Richards Bay Harbour (69%) and Sodwana (67%). Readers are reminded that these levels of usage do not consider bad weather days (i.e. days when environmental conditions prevented launching such as strong winds, large surf, etc.) or the two-month national lockdown. If these days were considered and excluded as potential launching days, then relative launch site usage levels would be considerably higher.

Of the 21 participating launch sites outside the jurisdiction of the TNPA, EKZNW and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority, six sites exceeded their daily launch limit (DLL) on at least one day in 2020. However, the frequency of exceeding the DLL was relatively low and occurred on less than four days at most of these sites except at Zinkwazi (DLL exceeded on 6 days) and Chain Rocks (DLL exceeded on 13 days). Readers are reminded that the BLSMS does not provide a true reflection of actual adherence levels to daily launch limits for the following reasons:

- Multiple launches (e.g. a charter scuba vessel making several launches during the same day, etc.) are recorded as individual, separate launches in the BLSMS (in order to reflect actual effort levels for research purposes). However, in terms of DLLs, such multiple launches are considered as a single launch.¹
- Under-reporting of launches is not accounted for in the BLSMS. As such, recorded launches may represent less than the actual launch effort levels at some launch sites.² The BLSMS may therefore not always present an accurate indication of actual usage levels at all sites (Maggs et al. 2012).
- The BLSMS does not account for daily launch limit exemptions such as those granted for specific ski-boat fishing competitions.³

Consequently, BLSMS data cannot be used for compliance purposes in terms of daily launch limit violations.

¹ Skippers are encouraged to obtain clarity from their respective Boat Launch Site Operators on what officially constitutes a "launch" but DLLs are set based on a vehicle, trailer and vessel entering the coastal zone for the purpose of launching.

² Assessments conducted by ORI comparing BLSMS data from six boat launch sites with independent observer-based trailer count data revealed that launches recorded in the BLSMS register are generally not substantially underestimated (see 2011 BLSMS Annual Report).

³ Exemptions to exceed daily launch limits on special occasions (e.g. fishing competitions) are issued by the Coastal and Biodiversity Management Unit of the KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

A total of 49 965 fish from 120 species was recorded caught during 23 149 non-commercial fishing outings (i.e. private recreational fishing, charter fishing and spearfishing). From these outings, only 32% of boat skippers took the time to report their catches (note that if no catch was taken this should still be recorded as such in the launch site register by indicating “none” or “zero” in the catch return). This was similar to that recorded in 2019 (Table 4) and this relatively poor level of compliance results in inaccurate estimates of catch rates where total number of fish caught is simply divided by the total number of boats reported to be fishing (see site-specific feedbacks). The most commonly caught fish by number were slinger (15%), dorado (13%), tuna species (9%), santer/soldier (9%), cuda/king mackerel (7%) and rockcod species (7%). Compared to numbers reported during 2019, catches of yellowfin tuna declined, while catches of cuda/king mackerel and dorado/dolphinfish increased substantially (Figure 1).

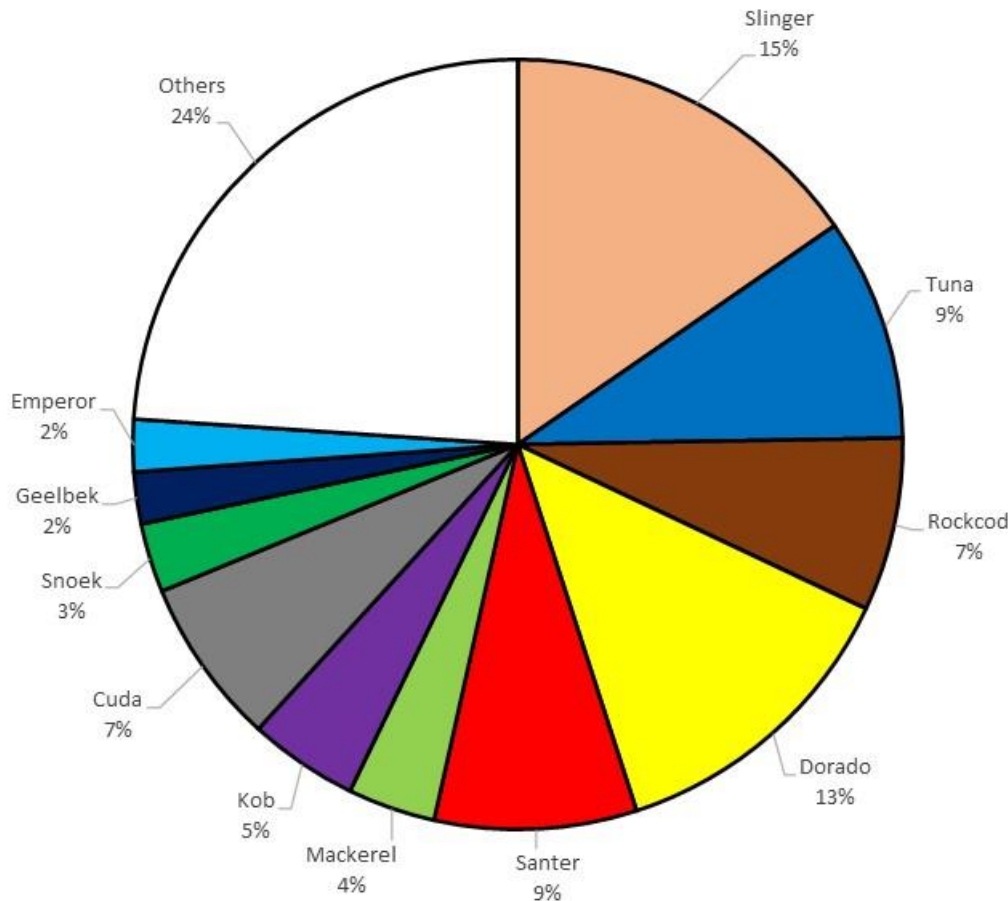


Figure 1. Species composition by number of the top line-fish species recorded in recreational catches on the BLSMS register in KwaZulu-Natal during 2020.

Gamefish (targeted in 51% of outing hours) and bottomfish (targeted in 35% of outing hours) were by far the most popular targets for non-commercial line-fishers, with baitfish being targeted during 12% of outing hours. Billfish and sharks were only targeted in approximately 1.4% and 0.5% of recreational fishing outing hours, respectively. There was still generally poor compliance regarding completion of the targeting field in the launch registers (i.e. only 15.8% of anglers filled it in – see Table 4).

2.5 Analysis of 2020 data – site specific trends

Readers are reminded that the above-mentioned demographics of launch site usage show high site-specificity. Readers should therefore consult the individual launch site feedbacks for site-specific details (see pages 12-49). No 2020 launch data were received from Island Rock (site closed), Mapelane, Amatikulu (site closed), Durban Commercial Mooring, Wilson’s Wharf and KZN Light Tackle Boat Club launch sites. In the case of Mapelane, most launches have been recorded under St Lucia as many St Lucia boats were towed along the beach and launched at Mapelane as a safer option (note the St Lucia mouth was only breached in January 2021). In the case of Wilson’s Wharf, the South African Police Services office on site simply refused to manage the launch register.

2.6 Biases associated with BLSMS data

It is imperative that readers realise the inherent biases associated with monitoring initiatives such as the BLSMS, and the potential implications for the interpretation of data. For detailed information on the typical biases found in BLSMS data and the potential effects thereof, it is recommended that readers consult the 2004 BLSMS Annual Report (Pradervand *et al.* 2005). The major biases listed include *unknown coverage* (i.e. not all launches are recorded in the register) and *prestige bias* (i.e. successful anglers are more likely to complete the catch return section of the register than unsuccessful anglers thereby exaggerating catch rate estimates). Readers should be aware of such biases prior to making any inferences from the data or the results and trends presented in this report.

3. LAUNCH SITE COMPLIANCE

3.1 Compliance with register completion

The level of compliance in the completion of the register fields by users in 2020 was similar to that recorded in 2019 (Table 4). The generally high levels of field-specific compliance was not only a result of the continued responsible input from boat skippers, but also due to the ability of the ORI data capturers who, when possible, completed register fields omitted by skippers (providing enough data existed to enable informed choices to be made in this regard). For example, destinations given by name instead of the grid map co-ordinates were converted (e.g. Aliwal Shoal → K-46), omitted vessel types (ski-boat, inflatable, etc.) were assigned based on previous fully completed launch records for those specific vessels, etc. However, the completion of “targeting of effort” and “catch return” fields in the register remained very poor (Table 4).

Table 4. Annual percentage compliance with various fields in the launch register by all participating KZN launch sites during the period 2005–2020 (fields arranged in order of appearance in register).

Register field	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Boat name*	90.0	87.0	82.0	82.0	83.0	83.0	86.0	86.2	88.5	90.6	91.7	92.3	100.0	100.0	100.0
Boat number*	99.0	98.0	99.0	99.0	99.6	99.8	99.6	99.4	99.0	98.4	98.4	98.9	99.9	100.0	100.0
Number of persons	96.0	95.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	96.8	96.8	95.3	96.5	97.0	97.2
Vessel type	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	96.4	96.0	95.7	95.9	94.7	96.0	95.9
Type of outing	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.7	99.6	99.2	89.4	73.6	89.4	97.5
Purpose	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.6	99.8	99.9	99.9	86.3	87.9	88.0	86.4	83.9	86.5	87.4
Destination	72.0	71.0	75.0	72.0	73.0	73.0	71.0	70.1	67.6	67.6	65.2	62.8	62.6	61.8	61.1
Launch time	86.0	94.0	98.0	97.0	97.0	98.0	98.0	97.5	97.0	97.2	97.7	96.4	96.2	96.4	96.0
Return time	80.0	84.0	80.0	83.0	91.0	95.0	95.0	95.7	94.2	94.7	95.1	93.2	92.9	93.3	92.3
Targeting of effort**	26.0	21.0	11.0	7.0	15.0	15.0	19.0	19.3	17.7	16.1	14.9	16.7	16.8	16.9	15.8
Catch return**	42.0	37.0	36.0	32.0	30.0	31.0	34.0	34.1	32.1	32.9	31.6	32.1	31.0	33.4	32.4

* excluding jet-skis and paddle-craft

** expressed in terms of non-commercial line-fishing and spearfishing outings only

3.2 Compliance with management conditions

During periodic launch site visits undertaken by ORI technical staff to collect launch register data, a brief checklist is compiled and photographs are taken to enable general monitoring of each launch site’s compliance with their respective management conditions. This information is captured on to a database and forwarded to EDTEA to assess compliance for licensing purposes. It is important to note that launching and beaching of vessels at open surf launch sites after dusk and before dawn is strictly prohibited for safety reasons.

4. BLSMS OUTPUT

Only one request was received for BLSMS data during the period 01 January – 31 December 2020 (Table 5). However, the system continued to be used for both management decision-making and research purposes. A comprehensive BLSMS Annual Report (2019 data analysis) was produced, and electronic copies of the report were distributed to all stakeholders.

Table 5. Summary of requests made for BLSMS data during 2020.

Date	Requesting agency	Subject	Reason
Apr 2020	ORI	Billfish catches in KZN 2004-2019	Research

4.1 2020 Publications featuring the KZN BLSMS

Data reports

Daly R, Mann BQ. 2020. Boat Launch Site Monitoring System: KwaZulu-Natal recreational billfish catch data 2004-2019. Unpublished Data Report, Oceanographic Research Institute, Durban, 2020_03: 7pp.

Unpublished reports

Mann BQ, Khumalo D, Daly R, Els M, Mselegu X. 2020. Boat Launch Site Monitoring System (BLSMS): 2019 Annual Report. *Unpublished Report, Oceanographic Research Institute, Durban* 355: 53pp.

5. EVALUATION OF THE SYSTEM

Progress of the BLSMS has yet again been reasonably good despite the challenges introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns. Distribution and collection of launch register data by ORI technical staff progressed well and no serious problems were encountered. No launch data were received from six launch sites during 2020. Although launch data were received from Glenmore, this could not be accessed at the time of preparing this report. Except for poor reporting of targeting and catch returns (see Section 3 on compliance), most stakeholders fulfilled their respective functions during the reporting period, and the system once again generated a substantial quantity of data which has improved the knowledge base available to users, coastal zone managers and decision-makers in KZN. Ultimately, the BLSMS has led to the improved management of launch sites in KZN and is a model which could potentially be rolled out in other coastal provinces of South Africa and further afield.

6. ACTIVITIES OF THE BOAT LAUNCH SITE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (BLSTC)

The KZN BLSTC is comprised of members from EDTEA, ORI, EKZNW, KZNSB, SAMSA, NSRI and DFFE. Although no formal BLSTC meetings were held during 2020, the committee was requested to comment on various COVID-19 regulations and protocols developed for boat launch sites, as well as scrutinise applications for special events such as fishing competitions applied for by various launch site operators/ski-boat clubs.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The KZN Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) and the South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR) are gratefully acknowledged for providing funding and logistical support for this important monitoring project. All participating boat launch site licence holders and operators - especially those from exempted launch sites - are thanked for their continued support. Finally, individual skippers and other users of launch sites who took the time to complete the BLSMS registers are thanked for their on-going cooperation.

8. REFERENCES CITED

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BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Mabibi

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 2

Management Authority
iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	30	23											
Jet-ski														
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat														
Unspecified														
Purpose	Charter fishing													
	Charter pleasure	9	7											16
	Charter scuba	21	16											37
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing													
	Private fishing													
	Private pleasure													
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing													
	Other/ unspecified													
Total launches	30	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	1
	Launches/weekday ²	1
	Launches/weekend day ²	2
	% days launched	10%
	No. days limit exceeded	3
	Persons on vessel ²	5
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	2
	Popular destination	AI-10
71%		

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	N/A	
	Diversity	N/A	
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A
	N/A		N/A

Entries Completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	100%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	0%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	100%
	No. persons	100%	Return time	100%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	N/A
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	N/A

Comments The Mabibi launch site near Tonga Lodge only submitted data for two months during 2020 (Jan and Feb). This is a concession launch site primarily used for pleasure trips and scuba diving charters. The adjacent concession launch site at Island Rock was closed during 2020. Both sites are not accessible to private operators. Compliance with register completion was good except for destination which needs to be completed in future.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Sodwana Bay

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 100

Management Authority
iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	548	365	79				9	29	58	411	491	610	865
Jet-ski	5		4					18	5	7	4	6	20	69
Paddle-craft													4	4
Ski-boat	124	75	67				46	87	47	83	92	310	243	1174
Unspecified	26	19					13	11	5	12	10	24	38	158
Purpose	Charter fishing	16	29	4			1	1		1	1	13	24	90
	Charter pleasure	1	1											2
	Charter scuba	512	318	74			1	21	48	391	476	581	818	3240
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing							1					1	2
	Private fishing	110	55	54			46	95	45	89	86	258	225	1063
	Private pleasure	1		1							2		3	7
	Private scuba		2				2			1	3	1	3	12
	Private spearfishing	3	2	2			1	5	3	1	6	5	3	31
	Other/ unspecified	60	52	15			17	22	19	30	23	92	93	423
Total launches	703	459	150	0	0	68	145	115	513	597	950	1170	4870	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	20
	Launches/weekday ²	20
	Launches/weekend day ²	20
	% days launched	67%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	6
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	2.7
Popular destination	AH-13	
	47%	

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	92% gamefish	
		6% billfish	
	Diversity	16 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Cuda/king mackerel	95	27.1%
	Dorado	69	19.7%
	Maasbanker	35	10%
	Yellowfin tuna	32	9.1%
	Unspecified fish	29	8.2%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.3 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	94%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	68%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	91%
	No. persons	95%	Return time	84%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	8%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	9%

Comments Sodwana launch site was busy except during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdown. Moderate to high level of site usage (used on 67% of days in 2020). Charter scuba diving was the main activity (67% of launches), followed by private recreational fishing (22%). Catches of cuda/king mackerel improved substantially during 2020. Good completion of register fields except targeting and catch returns which continued to be poorly reported. Launch register needs to be made available before and after working hours.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Cape Vidal

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 40

Management Authority
iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	16	19	5				1			3	3	23	8
Jet-ski	44	27	43				3	4	5	23	7	53	51	260
Paddle-craft	12	11	23				1	1	2	3	4	12	8	77
Ski-boat	276	320	335				88	55	48	53	31	299	468	1973
Unspecified	17	6	16				3	1	1		1	18	13	76
Purpose	Charter fishing	4	8	2						2			1	17
	Charter pleasure												1	1
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing													
	Private fishing	307	271	342			70	36	38	49	30	308	420	1871
	Private pleasure			1										1
	Private scuba		4											4
	Private spearfishing	18	31	21			19	18	14	17	13	25	37	213
	Other/ unspecified	36	69	56			7	7	4	14	3	72	89	357
Total launches	365	383	422	0	0	96	61	56	82	46	405	548	2464	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	11
	Launches/weekday ²	10
	Launches/weekend day ²	13
	% days launched	63%
	No. days limit exceeded	2
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.9
Popular destination	AF-20	
	51%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	89% gamefish		
		6% baitfish		
	Diversity	18 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Cuda/king mackerel	976	52.8%	
	Dorado	530	28.7%	
	Unspecified tuna	116	6.2%	
	Eastern little tuna	68	3.6%	
	Unspecified fish	37	2%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
0.9 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	86%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	69%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	94%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	13%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	26%

Comments Low number of launches from April to October due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and associated lockdown. Moderate to high site usage (used on 63% of days in 2020). Private recreational fishing (76%) was the main reason for launching. Catch composition was dominated by cuda/king mackerel and dorado. Good completion of register fields except targeting and catch returns which should be improved.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site:	St Lucia
Feedback period:	Jan – Dec 2020
Daily launch limit:	40

Management Authority
iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable									1	4	1	6	10	22
Jet-ski		18	9	11			6	14	4	36	11	16	28	153	
Paddle-craft															
Ski-boat		118	73	108			116	136	88	115	169	192	317	1432	
Unspecified		6					3	12	13	14	25	32	46	151	
Purpose	Charter fishing	58	29	51			23	18	24	22	50	70	74	419	
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹	2	1						4	13	8		11	39	
	Commercial fishing	13	10	14			6	5	4	8	19	11	1	91	
	Private fishing	68	40	52			94	117	56	89	114	143	255	1028	
	Private pleasure							1	1					2	
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing						1	2	4	3	1				11
	Other/ unspecified	1	2	2			1	19	13	34	14	22	60	168	
Total launches		142	82	119	0	0	125	162	106	169	206	246	401	1758	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	7
	Launches/weekday ²	7
	Launches/weekend day ²	9
	% days launched	66%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.4
Popular destination	AE-22	
	0.8%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	91% gamefish		
		6% baitfish		
	Diversity	33 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Cuda/king mackerel	1338	34.6%	
	Unspecified tuna	1081	28%	
	Dorado	847	21.9%	
	Unspecified fish	106	2.7%	
	Eastern little tuna	95	2.4%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
2.6 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	93%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	3%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	91%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	83%
	Vessel type	92%	Targeting	14%
	Outing type	97%	Catch return	57%

Comments	No launching between April and May because of the lockdown. Moderate to high site usage level (site used on 66% of days in 2020). Private recreational fishing (58%) and charter fishing (24%) were the main activities specified. Low number of whale-watching launches (2%). Catch composition was dominated by good catches of cuda/king mackerel, unspecified tuna species and dorado. Reasonable completion of the launch register but continued poor compliance with the destination and targeting fields.
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BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Meerensee SBC

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority
– Richards Bay

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	8						1	1	2				5
Jet-ski	3						1			1		5	3	13
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	241	169	225	18	27	180	319	136	115	70	276	421	2197	
Unspecified	7	3	5			8	17	3	3	6	6	15	73	
Purpose	Charter fishing	33	15	23			5	11	7	11	15	29	29	178
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing	3	15	14	18	27	22	23	13	16	14	14	4	183
	Private fishing	178	111	160			119	245	93	80	31	189	338	1544
	Private pleasure	1					2	1	2		1	1		8
	Private scuba											1		1
	Private spearfishing	8	10	13			15	16	3	2	1	5	8	81
	Other/ unspecified	36	21	20			27	41	23	10	14	48	65	305
Total launches	259	172	230	18	27	190	337	141	119	76	287	444	2300	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	9
	Launches/weekday ²	7
	Launches/weekend day ²	12
	% days launched	71%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	5%
	Proportion night beachings	8%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	7.6
Popular destination	Y-29	
	39%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	41% bottomfish	
		48% gamefish	
	Diversity	34 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	177	29%
	Queen mackerel	160	26.2%
	Dorado	62	10.1%
	Unspecified fish	40	6.5%
	Unspecified kob	40	6.5%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	0.3 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	87%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	97%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	98%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	5%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	5%

Comments Low site usage between April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate to high level of site usage (used on 71% of days during 2020). Private recreational fishing was the main activity specified (67%). Reasonable catches of queen mackerel/Natal snoek and dorado reported. Good completion of launch register fields except targeting and catch returns which continue to be very poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Richards Bay Ski-boat Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority – Richards Bay

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	12	4	7				3	6	6	10	7	4	9
Jet-ski	13	21	9				2	3	7	4	14	6	26	105
Paddle-craft	2	2	2				1	2	1			2	5	17
Ski-boat	378	257	288				192	241	211	156	164	263	600	2750
Unspecified	15	7	18				5	16	12	13	9	9	39	143

Purpose	Charter fishing	17	11	9				5	3	5	5		13	68
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing		1				1							2
	Private fishing	349	219	253			154	213	188	144	136	230	491	2377
	Private pleasure	1								1		2	10	14
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing	1	1				1	2	1			1	1	8
	Other/ unspecified	52	59	62			47	48	45	33	53	51	164	614
	Total launches	420	291	324	0	0	203	268	237	183	194	284	679	3083

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	13
	Launches/weekday ²	10
	Launches/weekend day ²	19
	% days launched	67%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	2%
	Proportion night beachings	4%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	7.3
	Popular destination	AB-27 34%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	51% bottomfish		
		37% gamefish		
	Diversity	71 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Slinger	1243	25.5%	
	Unspecified kob	531	10.9%	
	Dorado	444	9.1%	
	Unspecified rockcod	387	7.9%	
	Queen mackerel	275	5.6%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
2.0 fish/outing				

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	81%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	95%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	98%
	Vessel type	95%	Targeting	15%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	26%

Comments No launching in April and May because of the lockdown. Moderate to high level of site usage (used on 67% of days during 2020). Private recreational fishing remained the main activity (77% of launches). Catch composition was dominated by bottom fish such as slinger and unspecified kob species but good catches of dorado were reported. Good compliance with completion of most register fields except targeting and catch return fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Umlalazi/Mtunzini

Launch Site Licence Holder
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 30 (offshore)

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	6	5	3					12	7	4	2	3	12
Jet-ski	33	7	1					24	11	14	3	1	24	118
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	39	25	5					21	21	13	3	7	20	154
Unspecified	5	2	5					3	1	1		2	5	24
Purpose	Charter fishing	3	1	2				3	1	1	1		1	13
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing	7						5			2			14
	Private fishing	63	35	9				49	34	26	5	11	44	276
	Private pleasure								1					1
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing													
	Other/ unspecified	10	3	3				3	4	5		2	16	46
Total launches	83	39	14	0	0	0	60	40	32	8	13	61	350	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	30%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	2%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.2
Popular destination	W-30	
	40%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	67% bottomfish		
		30% gamefish		
	Diversity	21 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Unspecified kob	328	44.9%	
	Slinger	191	26.2%	
	Queen mackerel	38	5.2%	
	Shad	21	2.8%	
	Unspecified tuna	21	2.8%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
2.5 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	87%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	63%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	97%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	93%	Targeting	18%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	39%

Comments No launching between April and June because of the lockdown. Low level of site usage (used on only 30% of days in 2020). Private recreational fishing (79%) was the main reason given for launching. Catch composition was dominated by bottomfish species such as unspecified kob and slinger. Poor compliance with targeting and catch return fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Thukela mouth

Launch Site Licence Holder
Mandeni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable													
Jet-ski		1												1
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		4						5	3	4	3	11	15	45
Unspecified														
Charter fishing		2							1				4	7
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing														
Private fishing		3						5	2	4	3	11	11	39
Private pleasure														
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing														
Other/ unspecified														
Total launches		5	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	4	3	11	15	46

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results		
Launches/ day ²		1
Launches/ weekday ²		2
Launches/ weekend day ²		1
% days launched		8%
No. days limit exceeded		0
Persons on vessel ²		3
Proportion night launches		0%
Proportion night beachings		0%
Duration of outing (hours) ²		7.5
Popular destination		S-33
		89%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns			
Targeting		90% bottomfish	
		8% gamefish	
Diversity		17 species	
		Main catch composition	
		Unspecified kob	300 36.8%
		Slinger	158 19.3%
		Unspecified rockcod	148 18.1%
		Unspecified redfish	83 10.1%
		Unspecified grunter	53 6.5%
		Catch rate (retained fish)	
		17.7 fish/outing	

Entries completed				
Date		100%		Outing purpose
Boat name		100%		Destination
Boat No.		100%		Launch time
No. persons		100%		Return time
Vessel type		100%		Targeting
Outing type		100%		Catch return

Comments	Extremely low level of site use with launching only occurring on 8% of available days during 2020. Private recreational fishing (85%) and charter fishing (15%) were the main reasons for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish species. Poor fish identification but generally good compliance with completion of all launch register fields.
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BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Zinkwazi

Launch Site Licence Holder
KwaDukuza Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 15

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	1						1		1				3
Jet-ski	7	1					4	6	6			1	4	29
Paddle-craft													1	1
Ski-boat	71	29	3	5	2	126	72	40	35	8	24	89	504	
Unspecified	2	3						4	2				4	15

Purpose		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Charter fishing	7									1		2	1
Charter pleasure		1												1
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing	16	7	1	5	2	12	9	6	12	3	12	10	95	
Private fishing	53	21	2			109	65	41	20	3	8	77	399	
Private pleasure	2											2	4	
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing	1					3	2		1		3	3	13	
Other/ unspecified	2	4				7	2	4	3	2		8	32	
Total launches	81	33	3	5	2	131	78	51	37	8	25	101	555	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	4
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	5
	% days launched	42%
	No. days limit exceeded	6
	Persons on vessel	2
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beaching	1%
	Duration of outing (hours)	6.4
	Popular destination	R-34 47%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	44% gamefish	
		49% bottomfish	
	Diversity	44 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Unspecified kob	305	17.2%
	Cuda/king mackerel	277	15.6%
	Unspecified rockcod	224	12.6%
	Slinger	191	10.7%
	Dorado	187	10.5%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	4.2 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	95%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	83%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	39%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	68%

Comments Moderate use of launch site being used on 42% of available days in 2020. Daily launch limit exceeded on 6 days. Private recreational fishing (72%) and commercial fishing (17%) were the main reasons for launching. Catches dominated by bottom fish species, but good catches of cuda/king mackerel and dorado were reported. Good compliance with completion of most register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Blythedale/Umvoti

Launch Site Licence Holder
KwaDukuza Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 15

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable		1							3					4
Jet-ski		25	7	4				10	14	4	3	11	26	104	
Paddle-craft															
Ski-boat		56	23	14				19	30	24	21	34	37	258	
Unspecified													1	1	
Purpose	Charter fishing								3	5	7	9	11	35	
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing		39	18	9			14	21	11	10	16	17	155	
	Private fishing		40	11	9			15	22	8	6	18	36	165	
	Private pleasure										1			1	
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing		3	1					1						5
	Other/ unspecified									4		2			6
Total launches		82	30	18	0	0	0	29	47	28	24	45	64	367	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	31%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	2%
	Proportion night beachings	10%
	Duration of outing (hours)	7.7
Popular destination	Q-36	
	46%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	32% gamefish		
		54% bottomfish		
	Diversity	25 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Santer/soldier	47	16.2%	
	Unspecified rockcod	44	15.2%	
	Dorado	35	12.1%	
	Geelbek	26	8.9%	
	Slinger	19	6.5%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
1.4 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	98%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	97%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	100%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	100%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	14%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	34%

Comments
No launching between April and June because of the lockdown. Low usage of launch site (used on 31% of available days). Private recreational fishing (45%) and commercial fishing (42%) were the main reasons for launching. Catches were dominated by bottomfish species, but reasonable catches of dorado were reported. Good compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Tinley Manor/Umhlali

Launch Site Licence Holder
KwaDukuza Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 30

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	1	4	2									1	9
Jet-ski	7	7	1				2	4	2	1		2	6	32
Paddle-craft	28	20	4				15	6	1	2		6	19	101
Ski-boat	134	93	20				55	71	84	40	28	57	141	723
Unspecified	1	2						4		1	1	1	2	12
Purpose	Charter fishing	32	12	4				4	4	1	1	5	22	85
	Charter pleasure	13										4	1	18
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing	25	18	4			9	16	27	24	15	23	26	187
	Private fishing	69	73	15			48	51	44	17	10	29	105	461
	Private pleasure	2					1	1	1	1				6
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing	12	6	1			8	2	4		1	3	7	44
	Other/ unspecified	18	17	3			6	11	7	1	2	3	16	84
Total launches	171	126	27	0	0	72	85	87	44	29	67	177	885	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	5
	Launches/weekday ²	4
	Launches/weekend day ²	7
	% days launched	47%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	1%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.4
Popular destination	P-36	
	21%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	69% gamefish		
		25% bottomfish		
	Diversity	43 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Dorado	397	20.9%	
	Unspecified rockcod	310	16.3%	
	Santer/soldier	268	14.1%	
	Queen mackerel	214	11.2%	
	Unspecified redfish	143	7.5%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
3.2 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	91%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	41%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	95%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	99%	Targeting	29%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	58%

Comments No launching in April and May because of the lockdown. Moderate use of launch site (used on 47% of days). Private recreational fishing (52%) and commercial fishing (21%) were the main reasons for launching. Good catches of dorado reported but reduced catches of tuna. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Salmon Bay/Ballito

Launch Site Licence Holder
KwaDukuza Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	3	2	8				15	9	12	19	11	11	2
Jet-ski	86	34	83				65	47	44	50	25	37	159	630
Paddle-craft	1													1
Ski-boat	30	32	28				33	16	37	24	32	50	89	371
Unspecified	5		1				10	6	4	2	8	10	7	53
Purpose	Charter fishing	9	2				1	1	4	6	5	3	14	45
	Charter pleasure	1								6	3	1	2	13
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹		1	1					7	1				10
	Commercial fishing													
	Private fishing	91	58	103			91	57	71	70	60	90	199	890
	Private pleasure						1					2		3
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing		1				2		2				1	6
	Other/ unspecified	24	6	16	0	0	28	20	13	12	8	12	41	180
Total launches	125	68	120	0	0	123	78	97	95	76	108	257	1147	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	6
	Launches/weekday ²	5
	Launches/weekend day ²	7
	% days launched	54%
	No. days limit exceeded	3
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.3
Popular destination	P-36	
	16%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	56% gamefish	
		24% bottomfish	
	Diversity	49 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Dorado	588	21.7%
	Shad	500	18.4%
	Unspecified redfish	272	10%
	Maasbanker/mozzies	196	7.2%
	Unspecified rockcod	167	6.1%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	2.9 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	85%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	52%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	91%	Return time	96%
	Vessel type	95%	Targeting	24%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	48%

Comments
No launches recorded during April and May due to the lockdown. High percentage (55%) of jet-ski launches. Moderate launching effort (used on 54% of days). Launch limit exceeded on three days. Private recreational fishing (78%) was the main reason for launching. Good catches of dorado and shad reported. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Westbrook

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	2	1	1				1	2		1			3
Jet-ski	5	9	8				5	3	3	2	1	3	13	52
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	34	30	28				32	18	9	5		16	39	211
Unspecified	3	1					1						1	6
Purpose	Charter fishing	18	14	7									10	49
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing			1										1
	Private fishing	23	23	27			29	21	10	8	1	15	45	202
	Private pleasure													
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing	1					6	2	1			2	1	13
	Other/ unspecified	2	4	2			4		1			2		15
Total launches	44	41	37	0	0	39	23	12	8	1	19	56	280	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	28%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.9
Popular destination	Q-38	
	39%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	21% bottomfish		
		61% gamefish		
	Diversity	32 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Dorado	414	37.6%	
	Unspecified redfish	100	9%	
	Slinger	73	6.6%	
	Santer/soldier	71	6.4%	
	Queen mackerel	63	5.7%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
4.2 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	95%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	70%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	98%
	Vessel type	98%	Targeting	57%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	73%

Comments
No launching in April and May because of the lockdown. Relatively low use of launch site (used on 28% of days). Private recreational fishing (72%) was the main purpose for launching. Good catches of dorado reported. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Umdloti

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 10

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable			4	2			4	4	5			2	11
Jet-ski		4	1	3			8	8	1	1		3	7	36
Paddle-craft		1		1										2
Ski-boat		8	13	15			20	17	3	4	6	14	27	127
Unspecified		13	2	2			9	7	7	2	3	7	7	59

Purpose														
	Charter fishing													
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing														
Private fishing	3	1	1				3		1		1	6	19	35
Private pleasure											1			1
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing	5	2	1				6	9	2	4	6	15	26	76
Other/ unspecified	18	17	21				32	27	13	3	1	5	7	144
Total launches	26	20	23	0	0		41	36	16	7	9	26	52	256

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	31%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	1
	Proportion night launches	2%
	Proportion night beachings	2%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	4.4
	Popular destination	O-38 34%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	45% gamefish	
		44% baitfish	
	Diversity	11 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Queen mackerel	27	40.2%
	Cuda/king mackerel	19	28.3%
	Unspecified fish	7	10.4%
	Unspecified tuna	3	4.4%
	Bronze bream	2	2.9%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	0.6 fish/outing		

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	78%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	43%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	91%
	No. persons	92%	Return time	82%
	Vessel type	77%	Targeting	5%
	Outing type	56%	Catch return	21%

Comments
No outings in April and May due to the lockdown. Relatively low site usage (used on 31% of days). Spearfishing (30%) and recreational line-fishing (14%) and were the main reasons for launching but many unspecified launches. Catch composition dominated by species taken by spearfishing. Generally poor completion of launch register fields especially destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Umhlanga/Granny's Pool

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 10

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable	3	2	3				4	2	1	2		1	9	27
Jet-ski	13	15	11				11	4	8	3	4	7	7	83	
Paddle-craft															
Ski-boat	35	17	19	1			19	14	15	7	6	15	59	207	
Unspecified	1	1										1	1	4	
Purpose	Charter fishing	22	3	2						1	2	2	30	62	
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing	23	28	30	1		32	17	21	8	5	19	35	219	
	Private pleasure														
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing	1						1						2	4
	Other/ unspecified	6	4	1			2	2	3	3	3	3	9	36	
Total launches	52	35	33	1	0	34	20	24	12	10	24	76	321		

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	32%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2.5
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	1%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	4.4
Popular destination	N-39	
		13%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	51% gamefish		
		38% bottomfish		
	Diversity	30 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Dorado	220	32.6%	
	Santer/soldier	87	12.9%	
	Unspecified redfish	71	10.5%	
	Unspecified tuna	55	8.1%	
	Unspecified rockcod	45	6.6%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
2.4 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	90%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	12%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	95%
	No. persons	93%	Return time	92%
	Vessel type	99%	Targeting	22%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	46%

Comments Low launch effort (site used on 32% of days). Private recreational fishing (68%) and charter fishing (19%) were the main reasons for launching. Good catches of dorado reported. Identification of fish species caught should be improved. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Vetch's Pier, Durban

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	57	52	39				58	44	43	33	25	46	98
Jet-ski	48	25	22				46	44	33	16	19	46	84	383
Paddle-craft	3						23			1			4	31
Ski-boat	375	253	229	11	9		476	304	283	192	153	260	532	3077
Unspecified	15	17	13				23	13	10	3	7	7	22	130
Purpose														
Charter fishing		3	2				3	1		2				11
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba		11	14	6				1	8	7	5	12	15	79
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing		5	4	1	11	8	2	3	9	7	6	4		60
Private fishing		368	230	216			465	282	248	156	131	242	547	2885
Private pleasure			2					1	2	1	1	2	3	12
Private scuba		1					2	1	1				1	6
Private spearfishing		16	18	17			43	35	31	25	18	14	29	246
Other/ unspecified		94	77	63		1	111	81	70	47	43	85	145	817
Total launches		498	347	303	11	9	626	405	369	245	204	359	740	4116

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	15
	Launches/weekday ²	12
	Launches/weekend day ²	22
	% days launched	76%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	2%
	Proportion night beachings	4%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.6
	Popular destination	N-41
	4%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	59% gamefish	
		22% bottomfish	
	Diversity	61 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Dorado	955	34.2%
	Santer/soldier	282	10.1%
	Queen mackerel	135	4.8%
	Geelbek	128	4.5%
	Unspecified rockcod	125	4.4%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	0.9 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	81%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	21%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	97%
	No. persons	97%	Return time	95%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	14%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	24%

Comments Low launch effort during April and May due to the lockdown. High site usage (used on 76% of days). Ski-boats were the main type of vessel used for launching (75%) and private recreational fishing (70%) was the main activity specified. Catch composition included both gamefish and bottomfish, with good catches of dorado reported. Reasonable compliance with launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns which continued to be poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Rod 'n Reel Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction
Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable		1					2		1	3	4	3	6
Jet-ski														
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		81	58	19		1	124	103	88	61	38	81	118	772
Unspecified		5	6	1			4	12	8	11	9	8	7	71

Purpose														
	Charter fishing													
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing									1					1
Private fishing	73	52	12			1	112	90	87	58	37	78	112	712
Private pleasure									1	1	2	1		5
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing									1		1	1		3
Other/ unspecified	14	12	8				18	25	7	16	11	12	19	142
Total launches	87	64	20	0	1	130	115	97	75	51	92	131	863	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	5
	Launches/weekday ²	4
	Launches/weekend day ²	7
	% days launched	48%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	3%
	Proportion night beachings	16%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	11.5
	Popular destination	M-42 8%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	26% gamefish		
		49% bottomfish		
	Diversity	39 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Unspecified redfish	595	22.1%	
	Santer/soldier	381	14.1%	
	Unspecified rockcod	346	12.8%	
	Geelbek	333	12.3%	
	Dorado	314	11.6%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
3.8 fish/outing				

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	84%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	4%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	95%
	Vessel type	92%	Targeting	18%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	57%

Comments
Low launch effort during April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate level of site usage (used on 48% of days). Relatively high proportion of night outings. Private recreational fishing (83%) was the main reason given for launching. Catches dominated by bottomfish species in terms of number but with good catches of dorado reported. Reasonable completion of launch register fields except destination and targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site:	Point Yacht Club
Feedback period:	Jan – Dec 2020
Daily launch limit:	Not stipulated

Jurisdiction
Transnet National Ports Authority – Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable	3	5	1				5	5	5	1		2	6	33
Jet-ski															
Paddle-craft							1	2	2					5	
Ski-boat	39	26	34				55	39	40	11	9	40	77	370	
Unspecified	2							4	1	5	1	1	4	18	
Purpose	Charter fishing														
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing	37	21	33			53	41	37	11	10	39	71	353	
	Private pleasure							1	1	1				3	
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing								1						1
	Other/ unspecified	7	10	2			8	8	9	5		4	16	69	
Total launches	44	31	35	0	0	61	50	48	17	10	43	87	426		

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	38%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	5%
	Proportion night beachings	14%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6
	Popular destination	N-41 12%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	33% bottomfish 51% gamefish	
	Diversity	21 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Dorado	113	31.7%
	Unspecified redfish	75	21%
	Mackerel	50	14%
	Geelbek	31	8.7%
	Unspecified kob	15	4.2%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	1.0 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	84%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	17%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	97%	Return time	98%
	Vessel type	96%	Targeting	18%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	24%

Comments
No launching during April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate to low level of site usage (used on 38% of days). Relatively high proportion of night outings. Private recreational fishing (83%) was the main reason given for launching. Good catches of dorado reported otherwise catches were dominated by bottomfish. Reasonable completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Public slipway

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction
Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable		9	9	7			23	5					
Jet-ski			2	2			1							5
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		102	62	75	9	13	145	50						456
Unspecified		11	11	8	2		25	9						66
Purpose	Charter fishing		4	1				1						6
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba			1										1
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing					9	11	6	5					31
	Private fishing		68	38	44		1	95	30					276
	Private pleasure		2	4	5			1						12
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing							1						1
	Other/ unspecified		48	40	43	2	1	90	29					253
Total launches		122	84	92	11	13	194	64	0	0	0	0	0	580

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	5
	Launches/weekday ²	4
	Launches/weekend day ²	7
	% days launched	32%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	5%
	Proportion night beachings	7%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	2.4
Popular destination		N-41
		3%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	34% bottomfish		
		32% gamefish		
	Diversity	15 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Mackerel	30	30.3%	
	Dorado	28	28.2%	
	Bonito	8	8%	
	Unspecified tuna	8	8%	
	Unspecified redfish	5	5%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
0.4 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	57%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	20%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	96%
	No. persons	100%	Return time	92%
	Vessel type	89%	Targeting	10%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	8%

Comments
No launch data received from August to December. Low level of site usage (used on 32% of days). Relatively high percentage of night launches. Private recreational fishing (48%) was the main reason given for launching. Catch composition dominated by baitfish and gamefish species. Poor completion of launch register fields including outing purpose, destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Neptune Angling Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	1							2				1	2
Jet-ski				1			1							2
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	25	21	21			2	40	36	37	29	17	31	35	294
Unspecified	2	1	2				6	5	3	1	1	1	1	23

Purpose	Charter fishing														
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing	4	3	17			2	35	31	31	25	13	32	23	216
	Private pleasure		1									1			2
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing														
	Other/ unspecified	24	18	7				12	12	9	5	4	1	15	107
	Total launches	28	22	24	0	2	47	43	40	30	18	33	38	325	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	38%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	10%
	Proportion night beachings	15%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	7
	Popular destination	N-40 67%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	61% bottomfish	
		18% baitfish	
	Diversity	13 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	70	38%
	Unspecified redfish	40	22%
	Unspecified rockcod	31	17%
	Santer/soldier	14	8%
	Geelbek	8	4%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.9 fish/outing			

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	80%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	7%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	92%
	Vessel type	93%	Targeting	3%
	Outing type	85%	Catch return	10%

Comments Limited launches during April and May due to the lockdown. Low level of launching effort (site used on 38% of days). Private recreational fishing was the main activity specified (66%). Relatively high proportion of night launches. Catches were dominated by bottomfish species. Reasonable completion of the launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns which continued to be very poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Bluff Yacht Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable								1					
Jet-ski														
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		22	11	13			18	18	7	4	4	10	23	130
Unspecified		7	6	1			1	2	3	2		2	9	33

Purpose	Charter fishing														
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing		10	6	8			13	16	5	5	3	5	9	80
	Private pleasure												1		1
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing														
	Other/ unspecified		19	11	6			6	5	5	1	1	6	23	83
	Total launches		29	17	14	0	0	19	21	10	6	4	12	32	164

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	2
	% days launched	26%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	9%
	Proportion night beachings	7%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.2
	Popular destination	M-42 13%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	Not specified	
		Not specified	
	Diversity	3 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Dorado	6	60%
	Geelbek	3	30%
	Yellowfin tuna	1	10%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.1 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	62%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	13%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	90%
	No. persons	94%	Return time	77%
	Vessel type	80%	Targeting	0%
	Outing type	68%	Catch return	8%

Comments No launches in April and May due to the lockdown. Low usage of site (used on only 26% of days). Relatively high proportion of night launches. Private recreational fishing (49%) was the main reason specified for launching. Catches were very poorly reported. Poor completion of launch register fields especially destination, targeting and catch returns, which continued to be very poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Bobbies Angling Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction
Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable		1		1			1	1	2				4	10
Jet-ski		1												1	
Paddle-craft										1			2	3	
Ski-boat		46	21	26	1		59	48	51	38	17	27	46	380	
Unspecified		1	1				3	1		2	2		2	12	
Purpose	Charter fishing						1							1	
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing		1											1	
	Private fishing		29	10	14	1		46	29	20	11	7	12	20	199
	Private pleasure														
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing		1					7					1	1	10
	Other/ unspecified		18	12	13			9	21	33	30	12	14	33	195
Total launches		49	22	27	1	0	63	50	53	41	19	27	54	406	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	38%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	5%
	Proportion night beachings	31%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.8
	Popular destination	N-41 3%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	73% bottomfish	
		22% baitfish	
	Diversity	25 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Geelbek	108	23.4%
	Unspecified redfish	63	13.6%
	Dorado	58	12.5%
	Santer/soldier	55	11.9%
	Slinger	26	5.6%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	2.2 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	87%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	27%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	91%
	No. persons	96%	Return time	93%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	5%
	Outing type	58%	Catch return	46%

Comments
Low number of launches during April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate to low usage of site (used on 38% of days). High proportion of night launches. Private recreational fishing (49%) was the main reason for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish with good catches of geelbek reported. Reasonable completion of launch register except destination, targeting and catch return fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Fynnlands Angling Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction
Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable				2	1	2	3			2			1
Jet-ski								1			1	1	1	4
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		73	34	27			130	78	62	37	26	40	87	594
Unspecified		3	1	2			3	4	2		1	1	13	30

Purpose														Total
	Charter fishing				1			3	1	1				1
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing							2							2
Private fishing	64	28	24				119	73	57	33	26	37	90	551
Private pleasure												1		1
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing	1							2		1			1	5
Other/ unspecified	11	7	6	1	2	12	12	7	6	5	2	4	10	73
Total launches	76	35	31	1	2	136	136	83	64	39	28	42	102	639

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	4
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	6
	% days launched	44%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	3%
	Proportion night beachings	8%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	7
	Popular destination	L-43 7%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	54% bottomfish	
		25% baitfish	
	Diversity	43 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Santer/soldier	207	22.8%
	Unspecified redfish	134	14.7%
	Dorado	123	13.5%
	Geelbek	99	10.9%
	Shad	68	7.4%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	1.6 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	90%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	51%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	99%
	Vessel type	95%	Targeting	7%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	27%

Comments
Low number of launches in April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate usage of site (used on 44% of days). Relatively high proportion of night outings. Private recreational fishing (86%) was the main reason specified for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish but with good catches of dorado reported. Reasonable completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Pompano Angling Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: Not stipulated

Jurisdiction

Transnet National Ports Authority
– Durban Harbour

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable													
Jet-ski														
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	10	6	7				16	13	15	11	5	10	19	112
Unspecified		1					1	1						3

Purpose	Charter fishing														
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing	6	4	4				16	12	15	9	4	10	17	97
	Private pleasure								1					2	3
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing		1	2				1	1						5
	Other/ unspecified	4	2	1							2	1			10
	Total launches	10	7	7	0	0		17	14	15	11	5	10	19	115

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	1
	Launches/weekday ²	1
	Launches/weekend day ²	2
	% days launched	22%
	No. days limit exceeded	N/A
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	6%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.4
Popular destination	M-42	
	9%	

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	30% baitfish	
		41% gamefish	
	Diversity	19 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Unspecified redfish	24	20.3%
	Dorado	23	19.4%
	Shad	20	16.9%
	Santer/soldier	14	11.8%
	Unspecified rockcod	6	5%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
1.2 fish/outing			

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	91%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	35%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	100%
	No. persons	100%	Return time	96%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	27%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	31%

Comments No launches during April and May due to the lockdown. Low site usage (used on 22% of days). Relatively high percentage of night launches. Private recreational fishing (84%) was the main reason specified for launching. Catches dominated by bottomfish but good catches of dorado reported. Reasonable completion of launch register fields except destination, targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Reunion/Isipingo

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 15

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable				2									
Jet-ski			2	1										3
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		1	1	5			3		1					11
Unspecified														

Purpose														
	Charter fishing													
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing														
Private fishing	1	3	5				3		1					13
Private pleasure														
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing														
Other/ unspecified				3										3
Total launches	1	3	8	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	16

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	1
	Launches/weekend day ²	2
	% days launched	3%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.3
	Popular destination	M-42 69%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	69% bottomfish		
		28% baitfish		
	Diversity	7 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Slinger	33	39.2%	
	Santer/soldier	29	34.5%	
	Unspecified rockcod	11	13%	
	Englishman	9	10.7%	
	Eastern little tuna	1	1.1%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
6.5 fish/outing				

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	100%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	69%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	100%
	No. persons	94%	Return time	100%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	62%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	77%

Comments
No launches in April and May due to the lockdown and between September and December. Reported launching effort continued to be very low (only used on 3% of days). Private recreational fishing (81%) was the main reason for launching. Catches dominated by bottom fish. Reasonable completion of all launch register fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Chain Rocks

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 6

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total	
	Inflatable		3					5	1	1			4	6	20
Jet-ski													6	6	
Paddle-craft															
Ski-boat		16	6	8			9	16	7	12	4	70	104	252	
Unspecified													1	1	
Purpose	Charter fishing						1					9	21	31	
	Charter pleasure														
	Charter scuba														
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing		17	6	8			9	13	8	12	4	59	83	219
	Private pleasure												1	1	
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing		2					4	2				4	5	17
	Other/ unspecified								2				2	7	11
Total launches		19	6	8	0	0	14	17	8	12	4	74	117	279	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	28%
	No. days limit exceeded	13
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	25%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.4
	Popular destination	L-43 82%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	47% bottomfish	
		28% baitfish	
	Diversity	49 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Unspecified redfish	428	24.9%
	Dorado	333	19.3%
	Santer/soldier	182	10.5%
	Unspecified kob	170	9.8%
	Mackerel	82	4.7%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	6.4 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	97%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	93%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	97%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	33%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	87%

Comments
No site usage in April and May due to the lockdown. Low level of site usage (used on 28% of available days). Daily launch limit exceeded on 13 days. High proportion of night beachings. Private recreational fishing (78%) was the main reason given for launching. Catch composition included bottomfish and gamefish with good catches of dorado reported. Good compliance with completion of all launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Warner Beach

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	1	2				1	6	10	8	5	2		
Jet-ski		2					6	4	4		1			17
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	11	40	24			6	65	84	44	35	29	7		345
Unspecified	1	3					1	6						11
Purpose	Charter fishing		7	2				1			4			14
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing						1							1
	Private fishing	9	25	11		5	30	45	43	27	23	5		223
	Private pleasure						1	1						2
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing						2	1	1	1	5	2		12
	Other/ unspecified	4	15	11		2	44	56	12	12				156
	Total launches	13	47	24	0	7	78	104	56	40	32	7	0	408

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	34%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	1%
	Proportion night beachings	14%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.5
	Popular destination	L-43 63%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	61% bottomfish	
		24% baitfish	
	Diversity	36 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Santer/soldier	410	19.4%
	Unspecified redfish	368	17.4%
	Slinger	312	14.7%
	Mackerel	306	14.4%
	Unspecified kob	100	4.7%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	8.5 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	93%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	72%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	97%	Targeting	15%
	Outing type	67%	Catch return	80%

Comments Low launch effort in April and May due to the lockdown and no launches recorded in December. Moderate to low level of site usage (used on 34% of days). Relatively high number of boats beaching at night. Private recreational fishing (55%) was the main reason given for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish species with good catches of santer/soldier reported. Good compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Umkomaas (all sites)

Launch Site Licence Holder
eThekweni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 50

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	73	197	162				51	52	64	162	102	131	252
Jet-ski	7	17	25				80	50	18	16	9	21	25	268
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	34	51	84				225	120	77	71	40	86	129	917
Unspecified	2	3	5				12	23	10	8	5	9	13	90

Purpose	Charter fishing	1		1				3	4				1	10
	Charter pleasure		1	3				3	2	2	5	3	7	26
	Charter scuba	68	182	140			6	20	41	149	85	109	219	1019
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing						2	1						3
	Private fishing	37	62	102			251	146	71	60	33	89	137	988
	Private pleasure			1			7	5	3			1	1	18
	Private scuba	2					4	2	2			1		11
	Private spearfishing	2	1	2			35	16	11	11	10	10	15	113
	Other/ unspecified	6	22	27			63	49	35	35	23	34	39	333
	Total launches	116	268	276	0	0	368	245	169	257	156	247	419	2521

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	11
	Launches/weekday ²	9
	Launches/weekend day ²	14
	% days launched	65%
	No. days limit exceeded	1
	Persons on vessel	4
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	1%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	4.2
	Popular destination	J-46 57%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	83% gamefish	
		13% baitfish	
	Diversity	30 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Unspecified tuna	162	21.7%
	Cuda/king mackerel	152	20.4%
	Queen mackerel	126	16.9%
	Dorado	83	11.1%
	Eastern little tuna	59	7.9%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.7 fish/outing			

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	88%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	93%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	96%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	92%
	Vessel type	96%	Targeting	7%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	19%

Comments No launching in April and May due to the lockdown. A large percentage of the launches were made by inflatable vessels (49%). High level of site usage (site used on 65% of days). Launch limit exceeded on one day. Charter scuba diving (40%) and private recreational fishing (39%) were the main reasons for launching. Catches comprised mainly gamefish species as required by the MPA regulations. Good completion of launch register fields except targeting and catch returns which were poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Scottburgh

Launch Site Licence Holder

uMdoni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 12

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	105	98	59				5	12	35	88	53	59	145
Jet-ski	1						1	1		1				4
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	2	3	2				8	3	3	4		3	7	35
Unspecified	1									1				2

Purpose	Charter fishing														
	Charter pleasure	8							2	16	4	4	21	55	
	Charter scuba	76	78	48				7	31	69	45	55	116	525	
	Charter whale/dol. ¹														
	Commercial fishing														
	Private fishing	1		1				7	4		5	1	1	22	
	Private pleasure										1			1	
	Private scuba														
	Private spearfishing	1		2				6	4	5	3		1	6	28
	Other/ unspecified	23	23	10				1	1		1	2	1	7	69
Total launches	109	101	61	0	0	0	14	16	38	94	53	62	152	700	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	55%
	No. days limit exceeded	4
	Persons on vessel ²	8
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	2.4
Popular destination	J-46	
	68%	

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	100% gamefish	
	Diversity	5 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Cuda/king mackerel	12	60%
	Unspecified rockcod	5	25%
	Dorado	1	5%
	Queen mackerel	1	5%
	Unspecified tuna	1	5%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.4 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	91%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	92%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	96%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	6%
	Outing type	94%	Catch return	14%

Comments	No launches in April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate level of site usage (used on 55% of days). Mainly inflatable vessels used to launch at this site (94%). Charter scuba diving (75%) was the main reason given for launching. Only a few fish were recorded caught at this site, but these included bottomfish which are prohibited in terms of the MPA regulations. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting and catch returns.
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BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Rocky Bay

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 30

Launch Site Licence Holder
uMdoni Municipality

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	42	27	23						1	5	9	16	66
Jet-ski	11	2	3							3	2	2	5	28
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	92	67	84						5	66	48	70	161	593
Unspecified	5	1										1		7

Purpose	Charter fishing	37	19	23					1	22	17	16	67	202
	Charter pleasure											1	19	20
	Charter scuba	1							1	2		1	18	23
	Charter shark diving	17	17	16						2	8	8	18	86
	Commercial fishing	23	30	29					4	32	15	25	26	184
	Private fishing	34	12	19						10	9	23	46	153
	Private pleasure													
	Private scuba		1											1
	Private spearfishing	4	10	8							6	3	16	47
	Other/ unspecified	34	8	15						6	4	12	22	101
Total launches	150	97	110	0	0	0	0	6	74	59	89	232	817	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	5
	Launches/weekday ²	5
	Launches/weekend day ²	5
	% days launched	42%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	5
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	3%
	Duration of outings (hours)	6.8
	Popular destination	J-46 58%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	59% bottomfish	
		35% gamefish	
	Diversity	54 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	2217	35.6%
	Santer/soldier	743	11.9%
	Unspecified emperor	616	9.9%
	Unspecified fish	449	7.2%
	Trawl soldier/blueskin	396	6.3%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
15.4 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	89%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	74%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	96%
	No. persons	93%	Return time	95%
	Vessel type	99%	Targeting	29%
	Outing type	99%	Catch return	75%

Comments No launches recorded between April and July 2020. Moderate level of site usage (used on 46% of days). Charter fishing (25%), commercial fishing (23%) and private recreational fishing (19%) were the main reasons given for launching. Catches were dominated by bottomfish species such as slinger and santer/soldier. Good compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Pennington

Launch Site Licence Holder
uMdoni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 15

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable				2			1	4	3			1	2
Jet-ski		2					1	2	2				3	10
Paddle-craft													1	1
Ski-boat		28	24	8			44	12	19	9	5	11	90	250
Unspecified			2				1					1	3	7

Purpose	Charter fishing													
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing													
	Private fishing	23	14	8			29	14	16	8	5	13	97	227
	Private pleasure													
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing													
	Other/ unspecified	7	12	2			18	4	8	1			2	54
Total launches	30	26	10	0	0	47	18	24	9	5	13	99	281	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	25%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Person on vessel	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.1
	Popular destination	J-47 80%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	62% gamefish	
		29% baitfish	
	Diversity	25 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Dorado	108	16.5%
	Unspecified redfish	103	15.8%
	Trawl soldier/blueskin	82	12.5%
	Unspecified tuna	58	8.9%
	Unspecified fish	50	7.6%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
2.9 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	95%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	87%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	98%
	Vessel type	98%	Targeting	18%
	Outing type	85%	Catch return	60%

Comments
No launches recorded in April and May due to the lockdown. Low level of site usage (used on 25% of days). Private recreational fishing (81%) was the main reason given for launching. Most fishing effort was directed at gamefish and good catches of dorado were reported. Better identification of fish species is required. Good compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Bazley/Mac Nicol's

Launch Site Licence Holder
uMdoni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 5

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable													
Jet-ski		1		2			1	2				1	5	12
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat							2							2
Unspecified														

Purpose														
	Charter fishing													
Charter pleasure														
Charter scuba														
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing														
Private fishing		1					1	1				1	5	9
Private pleasure														
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing							1							1
Other/ unspecified				2			1	1						4
Total launches		1	0	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	5	14

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	1
	Launches/weekday ²	1
	Launches/weekend day ²	1
	% days launched	3%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Person on vessel	1.5
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	5.5
	Popular destination	1-48 64%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	Not specified	
	Diversity	2 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Unspecified tuna	1	50%
	Dorado	1	50%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	0.2 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	71%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	64%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	79%
	No. persons	100%	Return time	93%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	0%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	20%

Comments
Very low launching effort throughout the year with site only used on 3% of days. Jet-skis were the main type of vessel used for launching (86%). Private recreational fishing was the main reason given for launching (64%). Catches poorly reported. Good completion of the launch register except targeting and catch returns.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Mtwalume

Launch Site Licence Holder
uMdoni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 10

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable													
Jet-ski														
Paddle-craft	8	3												11
Ski-boat	3	2												5
Unspecified														
Purpose	Charter fishing													
	Charter pleasure													
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing													
	Private fishing	11	5											16
	Private pleasure													
	Private scuba													
	Private spearfishing													
	Other/ unspecified													
Total launches	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	1
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	2%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	1
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours)	5.3
	Popular destination	H-49 100%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	12% bottomfish 85% gamefish		
	Diversity	10 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Queen mackerel	27	33.3%	
	Slinger	13	16%	
	Unspecified fish	10	12.3%	
	Redeye sardine	10	12.3%	
	Yellowfin tuna	7	8.6%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
	5.1 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	100%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	0%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	100%
	No. persons	100%	Return time	100%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	88%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	100%

Comments
Extremely low level of site usage (used on only 2% of days). Fishing skis (paddle-craft) were the most common vessels (69%) recorded using this site. Private recreational fishing (100%) was the only reason given for launching. Good catches of queen mackerel reported. Good compliance with completion of all launch register fields except destination.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Hibberdene

Launch Site Licence Holder
Ray Nkonyeni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable		3	5	4			10	5	7	3	2	5	11
Jet-ski									1			1	4	6
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		61	52	38			82	48	59	40	29	42	134	585
Unspecified		2	4	2			1	1	1	1			3	15

Purpose														
	Charter fishing								4	2	5			3
Charter pleasure			1					2	1	2		1	3	10
Charter scuba								1						1
Charter whale/dol. ¹														
Commercial fishing	6	6	3				11	8	9	7	4	5	15	74
Private fishing	46	31	22				64	33	52	27	26	38	121	460
Private pleasure	3	1	3				2	1	1					11
Private scuba														
Private spearfishing		2	1				2	3	2	2	1	2	8	23
Other/ unspecified	11	21	14				14	2	1	1		2	2	68
Total launches	66	61	44	0	0		93	54	68	44	31	48	152	661

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	4
	Launches/weekday ²	4
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	45%
	No. days limit exceeded	1
	Persons on vessel ²	3
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours)	6.4
	Popular destination	H-49 75%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	55% bottomfish	
		34% gamefish	
	Diversity	55 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	593	18.9%
	Mackerel	511	16.3%
	Santer/soldier	482	15.4%
	Unspecified rockcod	166	5.3%
	Unspecified tuna	150	4.8%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	6.3 fish/outing		

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	93%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	80%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	98%
	No. persons	98%	Return time	97%
	Vessel type	98%	Targeting	26%
	Outing type	94%	Catch return	61%

Comments
No launching in April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate level of site usage (used on 45% of days). Launch limit exceeded on one day. Private recreational fishing (70%) was the main reason given for launching. Catches dominated by bottomfish and baitfish species, with good catches of slinger and santer/soldier reported. Good compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Injambili/Pumula

Launch Site Licence Holder
Injambili Ski-boat Club

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 6

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable		1		2			3				1		3
Jet-ski			1				1						5	7
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat		9	1	7			19		14	9	11	4	43	117
Unspecified														

Purpose														Total	
	Charter fishing														
Charter pleasure															
Charter scuba															
Charter whale/dol. ¹															
Commercial fishing															
Private fishing	10	2	8				21		14	9	11	4	47	126	
Private pleasure															
Private scuba															
Private spearfishing													1	1	
Other/ unspecified			1				2				1		3	7	
Total launches	10	2	9	0	0	0	23	0	14	9	12	4	51	134	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	2
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	2
	% days launched	18%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	6.5
Popular destination	H-50	
	90%	

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	71% bottomfish	
		27% gamefish	
	Diversity	31 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	360	29.5%
	Santer/soldier	206	16.8%
	Englishman	86	7%
	Unspecified tuna	79	6.4%
	Dorado	66	5.4%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
9.6 fish/outing			

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	95%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	93%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	99%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	99%
	Vessel type	100%	Targeting	57%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	87%

Comments
No launching in April and May due to the lockdown. Low level of site usage (used on only 18% of days). Private recreational fishing (94%) was the main reason given for launching. Catches dominated by bottomfish and gamefish species, with good catches of tuna and dorado reported. Continued good compliance with completion of all launch register fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Shelly Beach/Sonny Evans

Launch Site Licence Holder
Ray Nkonyeni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 100

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	90	52	72				7	9	17	64	50	51	124
Jet-ski	7	2	4				5	3	8	10	2	2	21	64
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	275	200	209				166	195	178	190	131	182	549	2275
Unspecified	35	14	13				6	6	10	16	9	18	49	176
Purpose	Charter fishing	102	69	56			11	12	27	64	58	61	244	704
	Charter pleasure	24	8	16					1	34	25	17	71	196
	Charter scuba	58	42	48			1	8	12	22	17	27	42	277
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing	33	32	26			23	32	25	23	14	28	26	262
	Private fishing	128	71	107			120	119	102	78	36	76	249	1086
	Private pleasure	2	1	1				1		1	2		2	10
	Private scuba			1										1
	Private spearfishing	3	5	3			2	1	1	3	1	2	1	22
	Other/ unspecified	57	40	40			27	40	45	55	39	42	108	493
Total launches	407	268	298	0	0	184	213	213	280	192	253	743	3051	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	12
	Launches/weekday ²	11
	Launches/weekend day ²	16
	% days launched	67%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	5
	Proportion of night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	4.3
	Popular destination	G-53 52%
Recreational catch returns	Targeting	64% gamefish 25% bottomfish
	Diversity	46 species
	Main catch composition	
	Unspecified tuna	361 26.4%
	Slinger	240 17.6%
	Unspecified fish	87 6.3%
	Unspecified rockcod	64 4.6%
	Yellowfin tuna	64 4.6%
Catch rate (retained fish)		
0.8 fish/outing		

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	88%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	85%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	93%
	No. persons	99%	Return time	84%
	Vessel type	94%	Targeting	6%
	Outing type	98%	Catch return	9%

Comments No launching in April and May due to the lockdown. High level of site usage (used on 67% of days). Private recreational fishing (36%), charter fishing (23%) and charter scuba diving (9%) were the main reasons given for launching. More time was spent targeting gamefish and good catches of tuna were reported. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except targeting and catch returns which were poorly completed.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Ramsgate

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 20

Launch Site Licence Holder
Ray Nkonyeni Municipality

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable		1	4	3			3	5	4			3	15
Jet-ski		5	3	3			1	4	4	3	3		5	31
Paddle-craft				1									1	2
Ski-boat		27	14	21	1		25	25	20	14	8	21	52	228
Unspecified			1					1					1	3

Purpose															Total
	Charter fishing									2	1			4	7
Charter pleasure															
Charter scuba															
Charter whale/dol. ¹															
Commercial fishing	8	5	5	1			7	7	4	2	3	7	4	53	
Private fishing	18	16	16				19	23	16	13	8	16	64	209	
Private pleasure	3							2	2				2	9	
Private scuba	4		4					1						9	
Private spearfishing		1	2				2	2	4	1		1		13	
Other/ unspecified			1				1							2	
Total launches	33	22	28	1	0	29	35	28	17	11	24	74	302		

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	2
	Launches/weekend day ²	3
	% days launched	33%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	2
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	1%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	4.9
	Popular destination	E-53 72%

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	64% bottomfish		
		34% gamefish		
	Diversity	43 species		
	Main catch composition			
	Slinger	688	43.7%	
	Unspecified emperor	195	12.4%	
	Scotsman	127	8%	
	Unspecified rockcod	86	5.4%	
	Englishman	74	4.7%	
	Catch rate (retained fish)			
6.9 fish/outing				

2. In terms of averages

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	99%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	75%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	92%
	No. persons	95%	Return time	89%
	Vessel type	99%	Targeting	78%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	75%

Comments
Low launching effort in April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate to low level of site usage (used on 33% of days). Private recreational fishing (69%) and commercial fishing (18%) were the main reasons given for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish species with good catches of slinger and emperor reported. Continued good compliance with completion of all launch register fields.

BOAT LAUNCH SITE FEEDBACK

Boat launch site: Port Edward

Launch Site Licence Holder
Ray Nkonyeni Municipality

Feedback period: Jan – Dec 2020

Daily launch limit: 30

Vessel	No. of launches	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
	Inflatable	5		1				2	5	1	3	11	7	2
Jet-ski	3	1	6				8	5	6	7	4	2	15	57
Paddle-craft														
Ski-boat	44	31	52	26	31	97	68	63	37	20	41	85	595	
Unspecified	4		2			1	1	2				2	12	
Purpose	Charter fishing	1		4			4	7	7	2			2	27
	Charter pleasure	1		1				2		3	10	6	2	25
	Charter scuba													
	Charter whale/dol. ¹													
	Commercial fishing	23	21	25	26	31	37	33	18	16	14	25	25	294
	Private fishing	21	8	29			58	27	41	21	8	16	51	280
	Private pleasure	1					1							2
	Private scuba	1												1
	Private spearfishing						4	5	1	2		2		14
	Other/ unspecified	8	3	2			4	5	5	3	3	1	24	58
Total launches	56	32	61	26	31	108	79	72	47	35	50	104	701	

1. Charter whale/dolphin viewing

General results	Launches/day ²	3
	Launches/weekday ²	3
	Launches/weekend day ²	4
	% days launched	55%
	No. days limit exceeded	0
	Persons on vessel ²	5
	Proportion night launches	0%
	Proportion night beachings	0%
	Duration of outing (hours) ²	7.3
	Popular destination	D-55 5%

2. In terms of averages

Recreational catch returns	Targeting	62% bottomfish 23% baitfish	
	Diversity	39 species	
	Main catch composition		
	Slinger	516	29%
	Mackerel	206	11.5%
	Redeye sardine	150	8.4%
	Scotsman	139	7.8%
	Unspecified rockcod	103	5.7%
	Catch rate (retained fish)		
	5.5 fish/outing		

Entries completed	Date	100%	Outing purpose	93%
	Boat name	100%	Destination	7%
	Boat No.	100%	Launch time	96%
	No. persons	96%	Return time	95%
	Vessel type	98%	Targeting	32%
	Outing type	100%	Catch return	57%

Comments
Limited launching during April and May due to the lockdown. Moderate level of site usage (used on 55% of days). Commercial fishing (42%) and private recreational fishing (40%) were the main reasons given for launching. Catch composition dominated by bottomfish and baitfish species with good catches of slinger reported. Reasonable compliance with completion of launch register fields except destination and targeting.