To develop and manage a system of national parks that represents the biodiversity, landscapes, and associated heritage assets of South Africa for the sustainable use and benefit of all.



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Residents of Natures Valley c/o Natures Valey Rate Payers Association

RE: Breaching of Groot River Estuary

This letter serves to inform you that SANParks, who is the managing authority of the Groot River will in future take drastic steps against residents of Natures Valley who takes matters into their own hands when it comes to the breaching of the Groot River Estuary.

This is a serious contravention in terms of the National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act 57/2003. A document has been drafted that serves as a guidline for when attempting to breach Estuaries and has specifically been compiled for Tsitsikamma. See attached copy of the document.

I believe the following aspects should be taken into consideration as documented in the Estuary Management Plan:

Preparation for breaching

"the preparatory channel may be constructed at any time prior to estuary breaching if deemed necessary by SANParks personnel to facilitate future breaching

Estuary Breaching

"the level at which the Groot Estaury may be mechanically breached is determined by authorised SANParks personnel".

"the breaching of the Groot Estuary will be undertaken by Bitou Municipality and SANParks, and, or under the direct supervision of authorised SANParks personnel".

We kindly request that residents abide by the prescribed law and by the content of this document. Should such residents fail to comply with existing law, they will be charged under the relevant legislation. We hope and trust that we will have your fullest cooperation and support in this matter.

Yours truly,

Assistant Section Ranger

25/03/2009