



## YWG Newsletter - Jan. 2010

Dear All,

We trust that those of you with internet facilities had no trouble with the link to this newsletter. We did consider testing this system prior to the change-over but on reflection there seemed to be little point in burdening everyone with yet another email when in theory the system is very simple.

### Other News

1. With regard to the 2010 conference at Willem Pretorius on 16-17 April we have still to hear from those who wish to present papers. Those who wish to present must contact Peter Mills at [peterjm@mweb.co.za](mailto:peterjm@mweb.co.za). However, as flyfishers release virtually all yellowfish they catch we have decided to include a session on Catch & Release (or is it Catch & Revive?). Remember we start after lunch on the Friday with the provincial reports and on the Saturday morning the other papers are presented with the workshop immediately after lunch thus finishing about 15h00.

The cost is R500, 00 per head for the food and accommodation which also includes the hire of the hall and the restaurant. To make your booking please pay into the 'FOSAF' Nedbank Hyde Park Account 1972112031 and branch code 197-205. Use your name as reference and advise me by email of your payment.

2. In response to a query from a member regarding hawkers who sell yellows on the side of the road Pierre de Villiers has advised that this is illegal as they are not classified as commercial species. A permit would then be required by the seller to catch and sell yellows.
3. Johan Nesor has updated us on the slimes dam that was being constructed on the banks of the Vaal at Stilfontein. According to him concerned parties have obtained a High Court order preventing Simmer & Jack from continuing with construction of the dam.
4. Recently the YWG has registered as an Interested & Affected Party for two proposed developments. The first is for a development at Maloney's Eye (source of the Magalies) which includes a retirement village, hotel, golf centre, water bottling plant and an aquatic centre for breeding exotic fish. The second is for the proposed siting of a sewage works fairly close to the Vaal near the N1 bridge linking Gauteng with the Free State. The EIA for the controversial proposed hotel on islands in the Vaal may be viewed on the website <http://www.agesdocs.co.za/login.php>. User name is [parryshotel@ages-group.com](mailto:parryshotel@ages-group.com). Password is **parryshotel**.
5. From KZN Rob Karssing reports that he fished the uMgeni below Midmar twice over the festive season. The first time it appeared that the water released from the dam was set at the minimum rate relative to the ecological reserve and few large fish were seen. On the flip side there were plenty of juveniles 50 – 75 mm which indicated successful breeding despite the nasty pollution event of November 2008. The second time was after Midmar started to overflow and the extra flow seemed to have invigorated the system and plenty of large fish were present. But since then Midmar has ceased to overflow and the low flow conditions might be in force again as it is suspected that Umgeni Water are holding back water in anticipation of a dry late season. Rob will be seeking clarification at the next uMgeni CMF meeting.

Regards,  
Peter