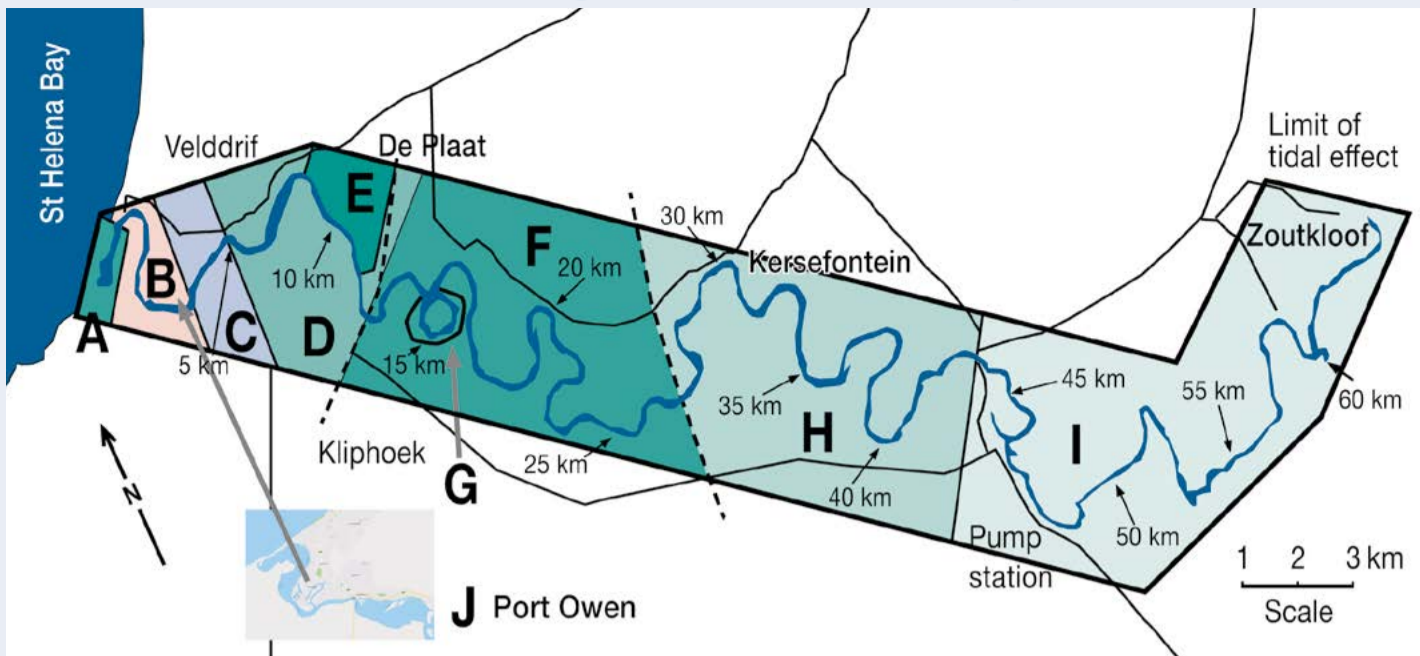




# Fishing Guide



## Zones of the Bergriver Estuary



- A Old Mouth Lagoon:** Prohibited entry area.
  - B Fishing Harbour:** Zone where fishing and bait collection is permitted; water skiing is not permitted; scuba diving is only allowed with permission from the harbour master.
  - C Carinus Multipurpose Recreation Area:** An area where all forms of water sport, fishing and bait collection are permitted; scuba diving is only allowed with permission from the harbour master.
  - D Conservation Area which includes Bokkomaan:** A zone where only sailing, canoeing, board sailing, swimming and fishing is permitted. Specifically prohibited in this area are kite boarding and water skiing as well as access to salt marshes and intertidal mudflats. Scuba diving is only allowed with permission from the harbour master.
  - E De Plaat Conservation Area:** Prohibited entry area.
  - F Kruispad Area:** An area where all forms of water sport and fishing, except for scuba diving as defined, is permitted.
  - G Kliphoek multipurpose Recreation Area:** An area where all forms of water sport, fishing and bait collection, except for scuba diving, are permitted.
  - H Kersefontein/Langrietvlei Recreation Area:** Fishing is only allowed with a permit from a registered licensed vessel and if from shore, with permission of the land owner.
- Port Owen Marina:** Is subject to POMA rules and regulations.
- Tidal Zones:** Access from all zones to the tidal zone that includes mud flats, salt marshes and sand banks is prohibited.



A unique museum in that it highlights the history of fishing on the Weskus from the whaling history to pelagic fishing and rock lobster catching.  
 De Villiers Street (Laaiplek Hotel)  
 022 783 2531 seaquiz@mweb.co.za  
 www.safisheriesmuseum.co.za

## Fishing



The lower Bergrivier is a rich source of a large variety of fish. The season is mainly divided into two, that of freshwater and that of salt water. The freshwater season occurs during winter, which commences around June and normally ends around the end of September.

Rainfall in the interior, during this period pushes the salt water downstream and out to sea, generally allowing for species such as Carp and Catfish to be caught.

In summer, the salt water season comes into play. After winter, the sea pushes up the lower ebb river, influencing the water as far as 35km upstream. This change ensures a large diversity of fish along with it. The species that may be caught are Elf, Steenbras, Garrick, Cod, Bar, Mulletts, and a few other varieties.

### The best time to catch fish:

Freshwater species can be caught early mornings and late afternoons.

Salt water species approximately 1 hour before and after the turn of tides, and well as before 10.00 and after 19.00.

### Where you may fish:

From a boat anywhere on the river, except in the red areas as indicated on the map, where fishing is prohibited. From the quayside at Laaiplek harbour there are numerous fishing spots. Further upstream along the river banks, but permission must first be obtained from the landowners.

### Tips:

Ensure you have enough sunscreen as you can suffer severe sunburn on or near the river. Wear a hat to protect your face. Take ample amounts of fluids to prevent dehydration, and a towel to help with cooling. Make sure you have fresh bait and all relevant equipment, including a measuring device to ensure that undersized fish are not taken.

### Rules for responsible angling

- 1 Adhere to regulations.** A responsible angler always has a valid recreational angling permit; adheres to regulations, uses legal roads and tracks when accessing fishing areas and reports illegal activities such as environmental damage and pollution.
- 2 Negate harm to fish.** A responsible angler handles all species in a way that ensures their best chance of survival; quickly and humanely kills retained fish to ensure the least amount of suffering and uses equipment and tackle that minimise stress and injury to fish.
- 3 Gather information.** A responsible angler seeks information on the status of marine resources and the impacts of angling on species, embraces recommendations from informed researchers and fishery managers and records details of their catch.
- 4 Leave the area in a better state.** A responsible angler disposes of fishing line and plastics appropriately, leaving the environment and fishing area in the same or a better condition than when he/she arrived.
- 5 Encourage best practice.** A responsible angler does not sell fish, collects bait with the minimum disturbance to the environment and acts responsibly when exposed to activities that will negatively affect the conservation of marine resources.
- 6 Role model to others.** A responsible angler is a role model to other anglers and leads by example and educates others – especially younger anglers – about sustainable fishing practices and is considerate of other legitimate marine users.



## Web references

- <https://www.daff.gov.za>
- <http://wwfsassi.co.za/a-guide-for-responsible-anglers>
- <http://wwfsassi.co.za/fish-detail>

## Conservation

- |                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Laaiplek Harbour         | 022 783 0447 |
| Rocherpan Nature Reserve | 079 203 1092 |

## Emergency Numbers

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ambulance                       | 022 713 4590 or 10177     |
| Medical Doctor                  | 022 783 0027/083 658 4056 |
| NSRI                            | 082 990 5966              |
| Police                          | 022 783 8025/8/0 or 10111 |
| Provincial Hospital, Vredenburg | 022 709 7200              |
| Private Hospital, Vredenburg    | 022 719 1030              |



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 w: [www.bergmun.org.za](http://www.bergmun.org.za)



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