



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For oral reply)

QUESTION NO. 2914 {NO3364E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 32 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 15 September 2023

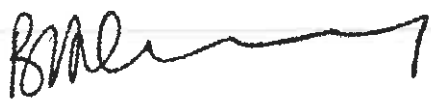
#### **Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

What assistance is being offered by her department to black-owned small-scale mussel farmers on the West Coast of the Western Cape, who experienced serious setbacks during COVID-19, to ensure that their ventures become viable and successful?

#### **2914. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), in collaboration with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC); the Provincial Department of Agriculture; the Department of Small Business Development and its two implementation agencies, namely the Small Enterprise Development Agency and Small Enterprise Funding Agency, have provided support to the mussel sector on the West Coast of the Western Cape. Through the Comprehensive Agriculture Support programme and the Aquaculture Development and Enhancement programme, the DFFE supports the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and the DTIC, which are the responsible departments for providing funding to the sector. The DFFE conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment to establish the Saldanha Bay Aquaculture Development Zone to open up space for farmers in Saldanha.

The DFFE has also set up support structures for the zone and supports it through the Saldanha Bay Aquaculture Management Committee which comprises all government stakeholders who have a role in the management of the zone.



MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 14/09/2023