

# **MALAGAS RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION**

## **DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN**

(Amended – November 2023)

### **Area of Responsibility**

West bank of the Breede River from Plot No. 1 in Area 1, seawards up to the border of Infanta at Kontiki, Area 7.

### **Breakdown of the Area of Responsibility**

- Area 1: Nuyshoek (or Area 1)  
Includes Plots 1 to 60, Brakfontein Farm and Homestead.
- Area 2: Malagas (may also be referred to as Area 2)  
Includes Plots 94 to 182(436).
- Area 3: Lemoentuin (may also be referred to as Area 3)  
Includes Plots 179 to 324.
- Area 4: Matjieskloof (may also be referred to as Area 4)  
Includes Plots 325 to 378.
- Area 5: Diepkloof (may also be referred to as Area 5)  
Includes Plots 379 to 421 and 444, 494/1 to 494/10.
- Area 6: Riverine  
Includes 63 homes; Also Plots 494/3, 492/1 to 516/56 being the “larger farm type plots” between Riverine and Kontiki.
- Area 7: Kontiki  
Includes Plots 107 to 226, and 516/36, 516/74, 516/434 and 516/77.
- Area 8: **Excluding** Infanta  
Includes all properties as well as Infanta Park.

### **Access Roads to the various areas**

These roads will be identified and clearly marked. E.g. the road to Lemoentuin is “I 29 LMTN”, followed by a sign saying Lemoentuin and indicating Plots 179 to 324. Branch roads will show breakdown of plot numbers. The “I” of “I 29” refers to the Infanta road off the N2.

### **List of Plots / Small Holdings and Property Owners Details**

As per POPIA, not able to share publically. The ‘Disaster Management’ Whatsapp group contains most owners

### **Communication**

**Disaster Management WhatsApp Group :** Rene White: 082 658 2725

**Head of Disaster Management Centre:** Reinard Geldenhuys, Bredasdorp.  
(also known as the Joint Operations Centre – JOC)

**028 425 1157 (o)**

**Forward Control Point (FCP): Greenleaf Olive Farm**

**FCP Controller:** Rene White : 082 658 2725

**Assisted by** DM Volunteer Group

**Conservancy Rangers:** LBRCT : 028 537 1296 / 064 774 3862

**An Incident / or Disaster** is defined as anything that occurs which threatens life and property. From floods, fire, vehicle or river accidents. An Incident becomes a Disaster when it really is a “Disaster”.

Reaction to any Incident will only succeed if the Plan is **User Friendly and Uncomplicated.**

### **Permanent Residents :**

To ensure good liaison and information flow between areas, a communication link between permanent residents in the various areas, should be established and maintained; together with good liaison with the Conservancy Rangers and with the Forward Control Point Controller. A **Disaster Management WhatsApp Group** has been created to be the communication link.

### **Advanced Warning of Flood or Increased Water Levels :**

A list of cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses is held at the FCP. Water levels of the Breede River are monitored and the FCP Controller will be alerted of any dangerous rising water levels. The FCP Controller will also monitor this early-warning system and take what action deemed necessary. Any enquiries should be directed to the FCP Controller. To avoid confusion arising from assumptions or decisions of other parties, affected persons should **ONLY** react to decisions made by the FCP Controller, who has total control of any situation arising.

### **Radio Communications :**

The Forward Control Point will have a base radio enabling radio communication with the SAPS Swellendam, and with repeater range stretching from Potberg to Suurbraak.

### **Safe Houses :**

A list of Safe Houses will be kept at the FCP. Information regarding access to any particular safe house can be obtained from the FCP Controller, so that anyone who is in danger of their houses being flooded can be housed in a safe house. **Proposed:** Area WhatsApp Groups have been created for this purpose. It is a database of direct neighbours within each area that can assist one another during a time of disaster with appointed Area Managers to assist.

### **Control :**

To avoid confusion arising from assumptions or decisions of other parties, it is an absolute necessity that the FCP Controller has total control of any situation that may arise. He/She will be responsible for all decisions made from the FC Point. In the absence of the FCP Controller, the deputy will be responsible for taking control and making the necessary decisions. All decisions will be made in liaison with the responding authorities to ensure the necessary support and backup is available. Enquiries should be directed to the FCP Controller/Assistants.

### **Fire Response**

Property Owners are encouraged to get together with your neighbours and talk about possible fire dangers. You are your own first line of defense. A local Fire Unit/Skid can be located in (or close to) each area as designated by FCP. At current 6 Fire Units/Skids have been strategically placed in each area, stretching from Area 1 – Area 6. The designated local disaster team consists of volunteers and is the front-line response team dealing with the initial call-out whilst the provincial and other appointed organisations arrives.

- Water availability and access points should be clearly marked.
- Access roads should be wide enough for fire-fighting vehicles and turning circles made available. Locked gates will be forcibly opened if necessary, if keys are not available. Homeowners must be aware that a disaster team may forcibly enter a property to prevent and fight the disaster. Members of the association cannot be held liable for reasonable damage caused by responding teams.
- Your neighbour should know where your pump is and how to start it.
- Do you have fire extinguishers and where are they kept? Do you and your family know how to operate a fire extinguisher?
- Have your gas pipes and fittings checked regularly for leaks and wear and tear. Ensure your braai coals are extinguished.

### **Action Home Owners need to take :**

- Identify your property and jetty
- Make sure your contact details are up to date with the MRRA and FCP Controller
- Store valuables above the last flood line
- Where possible ensure home is safe from veld fires
- Observe safety rules whilst boating on the River
- Every member of the household should be aware what to do in the event of an emergency
- Report should be made on the Disaster Management WhatsApp Group from where the relevant reaction team can be deployed

# SUMMARY

## Key Contacts

- FCP Controller: Rene White – 082 658 2725 (Greenleaf Olive Farm)
- Disaster Management WhatsApp Group (primary alert channel)
- JOC Bredasdorp: Reinard Geldenhuys – 028 425 1157
- Conservancy Rangers: 028 537 1296 / 064 774 3862

## Control Rule

- FCP Controller has full authority. Act ONLY on FCP instructions.

## WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN

Prepare early – Leave early

### 1. Property Preparation (Ongoing)

- Clear gutters & roof of debris
- 10–30 m defensible space: no vegetation touching house
- Mark water points & pumps; share start instructions with neighbours
- Keep hoses & portable pump ready
- Service fire extinguishers; train family
- Keep gates unlocked or keys with Area Manager

### 2. Grab-and-Go Bag (Keep in house & car)

- Water/food (3 days), charger + power bank, radio + torch, first-aid & meds, ID/insurance copies, cash, clothing + blanket, whistle.

### 3. Stay Informed

- Only official sources: Disaster WhatsApp Group, FCP alerts, CapeTalk 567 / KFM 94.5 / SAfm. Ignore rumours.

### 4. Fire Stages & Actions

- **Stage 1 – Fire distant**
  - Monitor WhatsApp
  - Final gutter check, fill water containers, prepare go-bag
- **Stage 2 – Smoke/ash/embers visible (Prepare to Leave)**
  - Load pets & go-bags, park car facing out
  - Long cotton clothing, sturdy shoes, mask
  - Close windows/doors (leave unlocked), turn off gas
  - Fill gutters & containers, wet down house & decks
  - Move flammables indoors
- **Stage 3 – Evacuation ordered**
  - LEAVE IMMEDIATELY to assembly point announced on WhatsApp.
  - Do not return until FCP declares safe.

### 5. If Staying to Stay & Defend (only if safe & able)

- Never stay after evacuation order.
- Patrol & extinguish embers. Remain vigilant for hours after fire passes.

## 6. If Trapped

- Shelter in room furthest from fire, doors closed but unlocked, stay low, call for help.

## 7. After the Fire

- Return only on FCP all-clear. Watch hot spots, photograph damage, help neighbours.

## 8. Reporting a Fire

- WhatsApp/call Disaster Group immediately with: your name/plot, fire location, wind direction.

### Resources

- 6 skid units placed Areas 1–6 (locations with Area Managers)
- Local volunteers = first response
- Locked gates may be forced – no liability for reasonable damage

### Core Message

- Embers travel kilometres and ignite houses long before the flame front.
- When in doubt – get out. Things can be replaced, lives cannot.
- Plan kept current by MRA Disaster Risk Subcommittee.
- Latest copy from your Area Manager or FCP Controller.
- Stay prepared. Stay safe.



**MRRRA**  
Malagas Ratepayers &  
Residents' Association