SASS5 AQUATIC BIOMONITORING TRAINING COURSE

29th August – 1st September 2016

Venue:
Africa Enterprise
1 Nonsuch Road, Montrose
Pietermaritzburg
PRESENTERS

- Dr Mark Graham (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
  Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited Regional KZN SASS5 Auditor
  Co-author of the standard SASS5 method (Dickens & Graham, 2002)
  Developer of the recent WRC SASS5 sampling method video

- Dr Vere Ross-Gillespie (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
  Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited SASS5 Practitioner

- Dr Christa Thirion (Department of Water & Sanitation)
  Department of Water & Sanitation - National SASS5 Auditor

- Juan Tedder (GroundTruth Water, Wetlands and Environmental Engineers)
  Department of Water & Sanitation Accredited Provincial KZN SASS5 Auditor

COURSE OUTLINE

The 4 day course (29th August – 1st September 2016) is designed to provide participants with
the basic skills necessary to conduct SASS5 aquatic biomonitoring techniques. The key elements of the training course offered include the following:

- Introduction and overview of biomonitoring
  - Principles, theory, advantages, disadvantages, limitations of the methods.
    Comparison with classical "wet chemistry" water quality monitoring.
    Alternative biomonitoring tools/methods. Correct/minimal sampling equipment. Safety associated with field work
  - Aquatic invertebrates. Adaptations to living in water. Sensitivity and adaptation to pollution. Aquatic ecoregions. Preservation of "live" samples - how, when, where. Site selection – characteristics of what constitutes a good aquatic biomonitoring sampling site. Reference and monitoring sites - the key differences and needs of both. Correct/standardised sampling procedures. Overview of using scientific/taxonomic keys. Theory and discussion about preservation of specimen samples. Labelling and curation of samples

- The various major aquatic orders likely to be found in the river systems, i.e. mayflies (Ephemeroptera), caddisflies (Trichoptera), aquatic beetles (Coleopterans), aquatic bugs (Hemipterans), dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata), flies (Dipterans), stoneflies (Plecopterans), and Crustaceans and Molluscs
The course includes a practical component comprising of comprehensive field work
  o  Allocated to the development of identification skill
  o  Calculation of SASS indices/metrics

Data interpretation and reporting
  o  Field data (Dallas bands, aquatic ecoregions)
  o  Methods and examples of different types of reports and monitoring

Design of a biomonitoring programme, key principles, frequency of monitoring / reporting

Understand and selecting reference and monitoring sites

Requirements for accreditation of practitioners
  o  Quality control

Please note that attending this course does not include or guarantee SASS5 accreditation.
**COST**

The cost of the course will be **R7 400 (excluding VAT)**. This includes all course material, a copy of the latest WRC standard SASS5 biomonitoring DVD, teas and lunches (excludes accommodation). All course material as well as all electronic data sheets will be provided, on a memory stick, to all delegates.

It is mandatory for delegates attending the course to have their own SASS equipment. This consists of a SASS net, sorting tray, magnifying glass, tweezers and a basic stopwatch. Please arrive with your own equipment otherwise this may be booked and is available at the course at a cost of **R1 698 (excluding VAT)**. We have experienced difficulty in previous courses with delegates not having this basic equipment and unable to fully participate in the practical training. Additional aquatic biomonitoring field resources, such as water clarity tubes and transparent velocity head rods (velocity plank), will be available to delegates should they require it.

Delegates must bring appropriate field clothing suitable for working in rivers. Ideally waders, but minimally gumboots (which are needed if working with SASS), or alternatively river shoes, a change of dry clothing, hat, and sun cream.

**ACCREDITATION**

For those people wishing to be re-accredited or for those delegates with previous SASS5 experience and clearly demonstrating adequate competency during the training, an accreditation day will be made available at an extra cost to the delegate.

Date: 2\(^{nd}\) September 2016

Cost: an additional cost of **R750 (excluding VAT)**.

Information regarding time and venue will be provided.
BOOKINGS

Interested delegates should complete the attached application form and email it to admin@groundtruth.co.za, or alternatively fax it to 086 599 2300, by no later than 19th August 2016.

Any delegates wishing to cancel their bookings, without a minimum of 14 days notice, are liable for a 50% cancellation fee.

ACCOMMODATION

Delegates must arrange their own accommodation as well as getting themselves to the training venue.

Accommodation options include the following:

- African Enterprise
  http://ae-centre.co.za/html/rooms_and_rates.html

- Fountains B&B
  http://www.safarinow.com/go/fountainsbnbmontrose/

Please note that GroundTruth reserves the right to cancel this course should there be insufficient numbers.
DIRECTIONS FROM AIRPORT TO VENUE

From: Pietermaritzburg Airport (29° 38' 32.37'' S; 30° 23’ 36.08” E)
To: Africa Enterprise conference venue (29° 19’ 34.20” S; 30° 19’ 11.55” E)

(1) On exiting the airport, turn right onto Oribi Rd.
(2) At the robot, turn right onto Washington Rd/R103
(3) Turn left at the next robot onto Market Rd.
(4) Merge onto the N3 via the ramp to Harrismith.
(5) After about 7 km, take exit 82 (Pietermaritzburg) for Armitage Road towards Sanctuary Road.

(6) At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Armitage Rd.
(7) At the next roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Chatterton Rd.
(8) Continue onto Town Bush Rd for about 4.5 km.
(9) Turn left onto Nonsuch Rd.
(10) Follow the narrow until you reach the African Enterprise entrance
SASS5 AQUATIC BIOMONITORING TRAINING COURSE
BOOKING FORM

Name of Delegate : __________________________________________
Company : _________________________________________________
Postal Address : ____________________________________________

Telephone Number : _________________________________________
Email Address : _____________________________________________
Fax Number : ______________________________________________
Company Vat Number : _______________________________________
Purchase Order Number : ____________________________________

_________________________________________________________ Date
Signature of Delegate

SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT

Name : ___________________________________________________
Postal Address : ____________________________________________

Telephone Number : _________________________________________
Email Address : _____________________________________________

Placement on the course will not be confirmed until such a time as we receive proof of payment or a copy of a purchase order.

_________________________________________________________ Date
Signature