



# forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Ref: O2/1/5/2

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 3472 {NW4609E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 27 October 2023

**Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- 1) On what date will the revised (a) Threatened or Protected Species and (b) Elephant Norms and Standards be issued;
- 2) Whether there will be a public participation process; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

### **3472. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- 1) (a) The draft Threatened or Protected Species Regulations (revised TOPS Regulations) and species list were republished in the *Government Gazette* for public comments in GN 49469. It was published on 12 October 2023 and advertised in nationally distributed newspapers on 22 October 2023. The closing date for the submission of comments and inputs by members of the public is 21 November 2023.

(b) The revised Norms and Standards for the Management of Elephants in South Africa (Elephant Norms and Standards) are envisaged to come into effect together with the revised TOPS Regulations and species list once the TOPS Regulations have been published for implementation due to overlapping concepts.

2) Physical and online public participation, including the submission of comments by email, will close on 21 November 2023. The public participation process for the draft revised Elephant Norms and Standards was followed in 2018. The norms and standards were published for implementation on 3 February 2023 and then withdrawn on 31 March 2023. No new issues were raised during roadshows held in March 2023 in respect of the Elephant Norms and Standards.



MS B D CREECY, MP  
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
DATE: 7.11.2023