



# forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1306 {NW1566E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 13 of 2022

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### Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What are the details of all research and/or management programmes related to the elephant that are conducted by the SA National Parks (a) currently in progress and (b) planned and/or proposed for (i) 2022, (ii) 2023 and (iii) 2024 in the (aa) Kruger National Park and (bb) Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park and Conservation Area?

### 1306. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(a) Registered elephant-related research projects in progress at SANParks are listed below:

Title	Parks
Management Trade-offs Programme: Strategic environmental optimisation risk and benefit assessment	Addo Elephant National Park, Agulhas National Park, Auwabies Falls National Park, Bontebok National Park, Golden Gate Highlands National Park, Karoo National Park, Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, Marakele National Park, Mountain Zebra National Park, Namaqua National Park, Table

Title	Parks
	Mountain National Park, Mokala National Park, Mapungubwe National Park; and Kruger National Park.
Management Interventions Programme: Responses by elephant	Garden Route, Addo Elephant National Park, Marakele National Park, Mountain Zebra National Park, Mokala National Park, Mapungubwe National Park; and Kruger National Park.
Management Interventions Programme: Risks associated with unintended consequences	Addo Elephant National Park, Karoo National Park, Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, Marakele National Park, Mountain Zebra National Park, Mokala National Park, Mapungubwe National Park; and Kruger National Park.
Transboundary Elephant Research Programme within the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, South Africa	Kruger National Park
Electrical impedance tomography (EIT) as an instant diagnostic tool for tuberculosis in African elephants ( <i>Loxodonta africana</i> )	Kruger National Park
Disease surveillance for mycobacterial infection ( <i>M. tuberculosis</i> , <i>M. bovis</i> ) in African Elephants	Kruger National Park

There are also several research projects, completed and ongoing, on vegetation responses with and without elephant presence

- (b) (i) The ongoing projects listed in the table under (a) above are projects that are taking place in 2022 and are multi-year in nature, thereby overlapping into 2023 and 2024. SANParks has a project proposal approval process that evaluates projects on an ongoing basis. Generally, there are more than 300 research projects taking place in national parks at any given year on a wide range of topics. These are conducted by staff and students from various local and international universities and research institutes. SANParks researchers also conduct research

on various topics and help synthesise research done by others for the benefit of national parks.

(ii) 2023 see the response to (a) above.

(iii) 2024 see the response to (a) above.

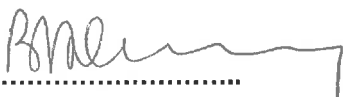
(aa)

see the response to (a) and (b) above.

(bb)

The Trilateral Technical Joint Management Board of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA), which encompasses Mozambican, South African and Zimbabwean Management authorities undertook the task to draft a GLTFCA Elephant Management Framework which seeks to provide a uniform framework for the management of elephants in the TFCA landscape. This framework must be approved by the GLTFCA governance structure. The Transboundary Elephant Research Programme within the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park is the only registered GLTFCA project on elephant research.

**Regards**



**MS B D CREECY, MP  
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

**DATE:** 12/4/2022