



**forestry, fisheries  
& the environment**

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

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**Ref: O2/1/5/2**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 1071 {NW1181E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11 of 2023**


**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 24 March 2023**

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

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 2095 on 9 June 2022, she will furnish Ms H S Winkler with the relevant detailed criteria used by SANParks that were not provided in the reply; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what consideration was given by SANParks when evaluating and/or commenting on the proposed Associated Private Nature Reserves (APNRs) offtakes for 2021-22 to the fact that hunting does not take place evenly across the APNR and in some reserves less than 50 % of the land is hunted on, however offtakes are calculated on the full extent of the land area and accordingly include the count totals for the entire animal populations in the relevant APNR reserves in the calculation of offtakes;
- (3) what are the reasons that no adjustment has been made in the calculation of the offtakes to account for the fact that only portions of the APNRs are actually hunted on and (b) how did SANParks take into account the conclusions of the 2020 Elephants Alive Recommendations Concerning the Proposed Elephant Offtakes of the APNR in supporting and/or commenting on the proposed APNR Elephant offtake of 55 elephants (details furnished)?

**1071. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- (1) The off-takes of the Associated Private Nature Reserves (APNR) are evaluated by the APNR off-take committee which is not a South African National Parks (SANParks) structure. The off-take application requirements and the detailed supporting documentation can be requested from the APNR, the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) and Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) as regulatory conservation authorities to whom the off-takes are submitted for approval. Part of the supporting documentation for approval contains ecological information that may be perceived as sensitive from a rhino security perspective.
- (2) The APNR off-take committee discusses the off-takes, with specialists reviewing the quotas. The MTPA and LEDET, as mandated regulatory conservation authorities, review the quotas based on ecological sustainability before issuing permits. The APNR is viewed for an ecological purpose as a broader landscape rather than individual land parcels.
- (3) SANParks is not responsible for issuing off-take permits and, therefore, is unable to provide a response to how off-take calculations are made. The MTPA and LEDET are the mandated provincial conservation authorities that review the APNR off-take requests and are responsible for the final issuing of permits and the regulation of any off-takes. The MTPA and LEDET should be approached directly regarding information on off-take calculations.
  - b) The reports of Elephant Alive, together with other specialist reports, get considered by the APNR off-take committee before off-take recommendations are made. The off-takes were considered to be within the ecological sustainability threshold. The MTPA and LEDET should be directly approached in terms of what was approved for off-takes, with due consideration of all the reports and SANParks recommendations.



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

**DATE:** 1/4/2023