



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. 1854 {NW2105E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 18 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 19 May 2023

Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether she will furnish Mr D W Bryant with the details of the marine protection and/or anti-poaching vessels in service with her department, including the numbers of sea-hours for which each vessel was utilised in the period (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021 and (d) 2022; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what number of successful apprehensions and/or arrests were conducted by each vessel in the specified period;
- (3) whether she will furnish Mr D W Bryant with the (a) numbers and (b) species of all animals removed and/or managed through lethal means for population control and/or any other purposes from SANParks parks and/or managed facilities in each park and/or facility and purpose of such management in the period (i) 2020, (ii) 2021 and (iii) 2022?

1854. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

- (1) The Fisheries Branch has four large Fisheries Protection Vessels (FPVs), namely the Sarah Baartman, Lillian Ngoyi, Ruth First, and Victoria Mxenge. The Fisheries Branch also has several smaller crafts named the Deat Patrol, Silent Hunter, Lallandi, Steenbras, and Sword Fish.

The number of hours per vessel is outlined in the table below:

Name of Vessel	(a) 2019	(b) 2020	(c) 2021	(d) 2022
Sarah Baartman	936 hrs	576 hrs	912 hrs	1 752 hrs
Lillian Ngoyi	1 200 hrs	1 896 hrs	1 560 hrs	1 176 hrs
Ruth First	2 136 hrs	1 824 hrs	1 704 hrs	2 664 hrs
Victoria Mxenge	888 hrs	2 568 hrs	1 824 hrs	1 848 hrs
Deat Patrol	10 hrs	14 hrs	24 hrs	13 hrs
Silent Hunter	6 hrs	repairs	15 hrs	55 hrs
Lallandi	179 hrs	68 hrs	2 300 hrs	2 458 hrs
Steenbras	2 550 hrs	1 400 hrs	85 hrs	147 hrs
Sword Fish	19 hrs	27 hrs	sold	N/A

- (2) A total of 139 arrests were made. When arrests are made, they are not linked to the vessel that was utilised by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) as sometimes more than one vessel is utilised when making an arrest and, therefore, the DFFE does no record arrests by linking them to a specific vessel.
- (3) Culling is an accepted conservation practice used to prevent habitat degradation and maintain overall sustainability of the ecosystem in land-based parks. Culling also helps to manage animal populations where such animals are without natural predators or where animals are extralimital (i.e. outside its natural distribution range) to maintain, restore or mimic ecological processes. Parks establish culling quotas based on a formula which includes the maximum viable

population that can be supported by suitable habitats in varying ecological processes across space and time.



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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATE:1/6/2023