



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. 3030 {NW4097E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 32 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 15 September 2023

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

With reference to her reply to question 219 on 3 May 2023, what are the relevant details contained in the database referred to therein?

3030. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The Minister appointed a Ministerial Task Team on 7 December 2022, in terms of section 3A of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act NO. 107 of 1998), to identify voluntary exit options and pathways for lion breeders from the captive lion industry. The task team was initially appointed from 7 December 2022 to 30 June 2023, with the provision that the Minister may require all or some of the task team members to continue with the work beyond 30 June 2023. The Minister published an extension of the task team tenure by a further period of six months from 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023, as published in Government Notice 3536, Government Gazette No. 48783 of 13 June 2023.

On 14 April 2023, the Minister published a Government Notice in the Government *Gazette* calling for the registration of participants who would consider voluntary exit from the captive lion industry, namely Government Notice No. 3284, Government *Gazette* No. 48423 of 14 April 2023. The closing date for registration was on 15 May 2023. On 22 May 2023, the task team further extended the call for registration with 60 days until 23 July 2023.

To date, the task team conducted provincial office visits for data verification in all nine provinces to verify the data received toward the national audits of captive lion facilities. The task team is currently analysing and consolidating all the data received from provincial authorities and will be aligned/compared with the national database.



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MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 25/9/2023