



**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. 81 {NW84E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 1 OF 2024

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 8 FEBRUARY 2024

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

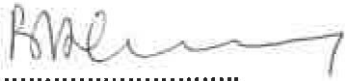
With reference to her reply to question 3473 on 10 November 2023, wherein mention is made of 16 elephants and two hippos that were culled because they were damage-causing animals, what other options were explored regarding the 16 elephants prior to their culling, considering that culling is a last resort in terms of elephant management?

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

Several non-lethal deterrent mechanisms were implemented in various attempts to deter the elephants from causing further damage to the fence. Six beehives were installed in areas where the elephants had broken the Skukuza Airport fence in an attempt to use bees as a deterrent mechanism against elephants, which had no impact.

A new "porcupine"-type electric fence was installed in sections of the Skukuza Airport, which assisted somewhat in reducing breakages. Camera traps were set up around areas of the Skukuza Airport where elephants were breaking fences to identify individual culprits in terms of repeated breakages.

In addition, multiple helicopter flights were conducted to chase the elephants away from the Skukuza Airport space and out of neighbouring communities. Therefore, culling was used as a last resort, as per the provisions of the Elephant Management Norms and Standards.



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

DATE: 16/2/2020