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PROVINCIAL NOTICE

[No. 259 of 2012]

FREE STATE NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE 1969, (No. 8 of 1969)

THE HUNTING OF LIONS FOR TROPHY HUNTING PURPOSES AND THE EXPORTATION AND TRANSPORTATION OF SUCH HUNTING TROPHIES

By virtue of section 4(3) of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) ("PAJA"), I, M Qabathe, Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in the Province, hereby publish a policy regarding the hunting of lions for trophy hunting purposes and the exportation and transportation of such hunting trophies, for general comments, as contained in the Schedule hereto.

All interested persons are invited to furnish any comments thereon or any representations which they may wish to make in regard thereto. Such comments or representations must be submitted in writing to the following person within 30 days of the publication of this notice:

Ms M Qabathe

Office of the MEC

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Private Bag X20801

BLOEMFONTEIN

9300

3rd Floor Bojanala Building

Markgraaf Street

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Tel.: (051) 400 4851 or 082 789 4468

Fax: 086 622 1903

E-mail: boing@detea.fs.gov.za

Please note that any comments or representations that are received after 30 days of publication of this notice shall be disregarded.

SCHEDULE

- A.** The owner of the land must adhere to the following conditions -
- (i) The area where hunting takes place must first be approved by the Department;
 - (ii) Lion may not be released for hunting purposes in an area adjacent to a holding facility for large predators;
 - (iii) Hunting may only take place in an area of 1000 hectare or larger in size and this area must be fenced according to approved specifications;
 - (iv) A maximum of 10/ten lion may be released within the approved 1000ha enclosure;
 - (v) Lion must be released under the supervision of an official from this Department at least 30/thirty days before the hunt takes place;
 - (vi) All lion to be released must be micro-chipped and checked by an official of this Department. (Official must be in attendance when lion are released and micro-chips must be provided by the large predator breeder);
 - (vii) The official mentioned on the hunting permit must be contacted 48 hours before the hunt takes place in order that he/she can ensure that they are in attendance;
 - (viii) The land owner or the owner of the lion skeleton must acquire a permit from this Department to sell, transport or export the skeleton;
 - (ix) All listed large predator breeders and hunting areas must be registered in accordance with the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), Threatened and Protected Species Regulations, R152.
- B.** The Hunting Outfitter/ Professional Hunter must —
- (i) apply for the hunting permits on behalf of his or her client at least one month prior to the commencement of the hunt;
 - (ii) ensure that all permits for the transport and preparation of the trophy are in place;
 - (iii) ensure it that the trophy is sent to a Threatened and Protected Species Regulations approved taxidermist.

- C.** An official of the Department must be in attendance at every Lion hunt and the Department may request —
- (i) an interview with the client to verify the experience of the client to hunt large predators;
 - (ii) the client to undertake a shooting practice test to verify the client's readiness to hunt large predators.
- D.** A lion may not be hunted by a hunting client by means of or by the use of a bow and arrow or a dart to immobilize or tranquillise the animal or from a vehicle.
- E.** Two (2) species of game (Steenbok, Common Duiker, Warthog and Mountain Reedbuck excluded) must be available as prey species in the hunting camp at all times.
- F.** No lion, while in the hunting camp, may be fed with domestic animals, poultry or any game carcasses.
- G.** The death of a lion in a hunting camp must be reported to the Department within five (5) working days after the carcass has been found.
- H.** The fence of the hunting camp must be in good condition and the electrified strands must be effective and in working condition at all times. If not, the Department may withdraw the Standing Permit and Registration Certificate, regarding restricted activities where large predators (Lion) are involved, of the permit holder.

PROVINCIAL NOTICE

[No. 260 of 2012]

FREE STATE NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE 1969, (No. 8 of 1969)

THE HUNTING OF WHITE AND BLACK RHINOCEROS FOR TROPHY HUNTING PURPOSES AND THE EXPORTATION AND TRANSPORTATION OF SUCH HUNTING TROPHIES

By virtue of section 4(3) of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) ("PAJA"), I, M Qabathe, Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in the Province, hereby publish a policy regarding the hunting, for general comments, as contained in the Schedule hereto.

All interested persons are invited to furnish any comments thereon or any representations which they may wish to make in regard thereto. Such comments or representations must be submitted in writing to the following person within 30 days of the publication of this notice:

Ms M Qabathe

Office of the MEC

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Private Bag X20801

BLOEMFONTEIN

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SCHEDULE

- A.** The MEC may set annual provincial quotas for the hunting of white rhinoceros in the Free State Province.
- B.** The Hunting Outfitter must —
- (i) apply for the hunting permits on behalf of his or her client at least two months prior to the commencement of the hunt;
 - (ii) submit to the Department, together with the permit application, a written and signed *Curriculum Vitae* of the client indicating the hunter's experience in the hunting of large or dangerous mammals.
- C.** The Department may request —
- (i) an interview with the client to verify the experience of the client to hunt large or dangerous mammals;
 - (ii) the client to undertake a shooting practice test to verify the client's readiness and competency to hunt large or dangerous mammals.
- D.** Only personal sport hunted trophies of these species will be allowed for exportation to foreign countries.
- E.** For the purposes of this notice a hunting trophy for white and black rhino consist of either a full mount or shoulder mount in the case of a prepared hunting trophy or in the case of the exportation of the raw products of the full skin, skull and horns, feet and tail of such hunted white or black rhinoceros.
- F.** The minimum parts of a hunted trophy which may be exported are:
- (i) In the case of a prepared trophy, the shoulder-mount with the original micro-chipped horns;
 - (ii) In the case of a raw trophy, the original horns together with the cape.
- G.** Rhino hunts will take place under the supervision of a conservation official, preferably an environment management inspector.
- H.** A person will only be permitted to hunt 1/one rhino (white or black) within a period of 12/twelve calendar months.
- I.** It is prohibited to hunt a rhino cow with a calf.

- J.** When hunted by a foreign hunter, all parts of a rhino trophy, including the horns, after the necessary treatment at a taxidermist, must be consigned to a freight agent for export purposes.
- K.** Only 1/one rhino (white or black) may be hunted on a specific farm per day.
- L.** Anyone wanting to keep any rhino must firstly:
- Apply for a permit where after an ecologist from DETEA will do an ecological assessment and make such recommendations as may be applicable.
 - The owner wanting to keep rhino will be required to hand in proof of security measures which are in place in order to protect the animals.
 - Permits for any action regarding rhino are applicable.
 - Officials from the DETEA Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement must be in attendance at any action involving rhino. The appropriate official must be notified 48 Hours before any action takes place.
 - Any rhino mortalities must be reported to the appropriate official of the DETEA Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Directorate within 12 hours of the mortality.
 - All live rhino must be micro chipped with one chip in each horn and one in the body and all micro chip numbers must be included on any permit applications made to the Department.
 - DNA samples must be taken of all rhino by officials of the Department.

PROVINCIAL NOTICE

[No. 261 of 2012]

FREE STATE NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE 1969, (No. 8 of 1969)

NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR THE KEEPING AND MANAGEMENT OF BONTBOK (*DAMALISCUS PYGARGUS PYGARGUS*) IN THE FREE STATE

By virtue of section 4(3) of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) ("PAJA"), I, M Qabathe, Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in the Province, hereby publish a policy regarding the norms and standards for the keeping and management of Bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) in the Free State, for general comments, as contained in the Schedule hereto.

All interested persons are invited to furnish any comments thereon or any representations which they may wish to make in regard thereto. Such comments or representations must be submitted in writing to the following person within 30 days of the publication of this notice:

Ms M Qabathe

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Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

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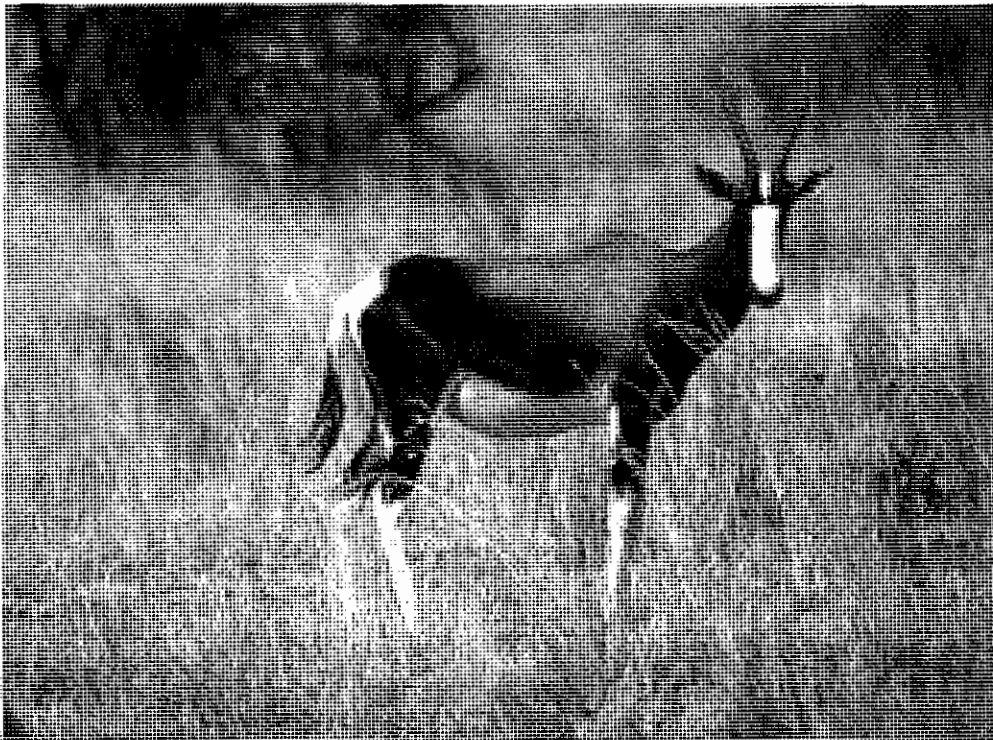
E-mail: boing@detea.fs.gov.za

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NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR THE KEEPING AND MANAGEMENT OF BONTEBOK IN THE FREE STATE





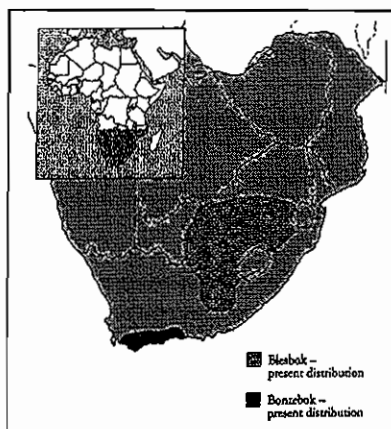
SCHEDULE

1. INTRODUCTION

Although the numbers of Bontebok are presently far higher than in the late 1800's, they are still classified as being vulnerable according to the IUCN Red Data Book. The Bontebok is also listed as a CITES (Convention on the International Trade In Endangered Species) Schedule II species, which means that Bontebok are not necessarily faced by extinction, but without proper control measures in place to conserve and manage these animals, this may well happen in future. Presently, also listed as a Threatened or Protected Species (see below)

Historically, Bontebok were restricted to an area in the South-Western Cape between Bredasdorp and Cape Augulhas. Initially, Bontebok had a wider natural distribution range that stretched from the Bot River to Mossel Bay and inland to the Sondereind and the Langeberg mountain ranges (Bigalke, 1955). Blesbok (*Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi*) on the other hand, occur on the open grass plains of central South Africa and were historically abundant in areas of the former Eastern Cape, Orange Free State, Southern Transvaal and Natal (Smithers, 1983).

Distribution Map





Bontebok – Blesbok natural distribution areas *Africa's vanishing Wildlife – Chris & Tilde Stuart. 1996*

The first Bontebok herd was introduced into the Free State Province during 1968 and was, over time, translocated to various private game farms throughout the Province. Because Bontebok and Blesbok are closely related (they are the same species, but are different sub-species) it is possible for them to cross-breed (Allardice & Gaigher, 1979). These hybrids are fertile and have the characteristics of both the Bontebok and Blesbok. It is not possible to determine whether these animals are hybrids on appearance alone.

Hybrids are in many instances sold as “pure-bred” Bontebok or Blesbok to uninformed game farmers and these animals are often incorporated into pure herds of Bontebok or Blesbok. This poses a serious threat to the conservation of both “pure” Bontebok and Blesbok herds in South Africa.

A photographic testing technique was developed to test the purity of Bontebok herds and has been used successfully by all conservation agencies since 1989 throughout South Africa (Fabricius, C., van Hensberger, H.J. and Zucchini, W., 1988).

According to the “*Threatened or Protected Species*” regulations that came into effect on 1st February 2008, the Bontebok is classified as a protected species and a permit is required for any restricted activity. These activities include hunting, transporting, importing or exporting of these animals.

According to the National Biodiversity Act, (Act 10 of 2004) section 1(1), an indigenous species is classified as being “alien” if it occurs outside of its natural distribution range, or is moved to outside of its natural range through human intervention. According to section 9 of this Act, a permit is needed when an animal is translocated to an area outside of its natural distribution range.

At all times all relevant legislation and conditions, that is applicable to this document, must be adhered to.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPORTING OF BONTEBOK INTO THE FREE STATE

- 2.1** No new Bontebok populations will be established in the Province.
- 2.2** No application for the importation of Bontebok from outside of the borders of the Free State will be considered and no import permits will be issued.



3. TRADING IN BONTEBOK

- 3.1** Free State Bontebok owners in possession of a valid *“Registration Certificate of Purenness”* may sell their animals to any buyer in any other province (pending an import permit from the relevant conservation authority) or to registered Bontebok owners inside the Free State. Permits are required for both these activities.
- 3.2** Escaped Bontebok must be culled immediately.
- 3.3** Bontebok may not be sold to, or released onto properties that are not registered for the keeping Bontebok or do not already have certified “pure” Bontebok on the property.
- 3.4** All individual animals to be sold from a certified “pure” population must be subjected to DNA testing before they are to be released on the buyer’s property. Only individuals that are pure may be released on the buyer’s property. The owner is responsible for the cost of the DNA tests.
- 3.5** No Bontebok may be displayed or sold at a game auction without a permit issued by DETEA. It is the responsibility of the auctioneer to apply for such a permit.
- 3.6** Only “pure” Bontebok originating from a registered farm in the Free State may be displayed or sold at a game auction. (with a permit as specified above).
- 3.7** All Bontebok to be auctioned at a game auction must undergo DNA tests before the game auction takes place. The landowner is responsible for the costs of the DNA tests.
- 3.8** Officials from the DETEA will collect samples for DNA testing, or samples can only be collected when officials from DETEA are present. The officials will ensure that the samples are delivered to the relevant laboratory responsible for the DNA testing.

4. CAPTURE, TRANSPORT AND RELEASE OF BONTEBOK

- 4.1** A TOPS capture permit is required for the capturing of Bontebok in the Free State.
- 4.2** Only tested Bontebok that are registered and which originate from registered private game farms within the Province, may be transported and released on properties that already house registered Bontebok herds within the Province. Bontebok may not be released on properties that are not registered for Bontebok.



- 4.3 Bontebok may only be transported within the Province once a transport permit has been issued. No applications will be considered if the Bontebok have not been tested and registered as being a “pure” Bontebok herd.
- 4.4 If the application is approved, the required permit fees must be paid before the transport permit is issued.
- 4.5 Bontebok may not be sold from any population that does not have a valid certificate of “purity”.
- 4.6 No Bontebok may be kept in the same camp as Blesbok (*Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi*) or Tsessebe (*Damaliscus lunatus*) and these two species may also not occur in adjacent camps on neighbouring farms.

5. FENCING SPECIFICATIONS

- 5.1 Bontebok may only be released in an area which has been fenced according to the Act on Game Theft (Act 105 of 1991) section 2(2) and complies with the Adequate Fencing requirements as specified by the Department.
- 5.2 Before any permits are issued, a complete inspection of the fence must be carried out.
- 5.3 The fencing certificate will be valid for a period of (3) three years from the date of issuance and will be issued after the necessary permit fees have been paid (As stated in the Game Theft Act No 105 of 1991, section 2(2)(b)).
- 5.4 The fence of an enclosure, where the registered Bontebok herd occurs, must be inspected on a regular basis and must be repaired immediately where necessary by the landowner.
- 5.5 The enclosure where Bontebok are to be kept, must not be less than the minimum size of **one hundred (100) hectares**.

6. REGISTRATION OF BONTEBOK

- 6.1 All Bontebok herds of more than ten (10) adult animals can be tested for “pureness” using the approved photographic method of testing (M-W-Test) or DNA testing for any number of animals.
- 6.2 Landowners can decide to have DNA tests done at their own expense to determine the genetic status of their Bontebok herds. A DETEA official must be present whenever samples are collected for DNA testing.



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- 6.3 The testing process will begin after the owner of the Bontebok has paid the approved fee for the testing (as approved by Provincial Treasury).
- 6.4 A "*Registration Certificate for pureness*" will only be issued once the animals have been tested and certified as being "pure". The registration certificate is valid for (3) three years. After the expiry date of the certificate, the owner must reapply to have the population retested.
- 6.5 Only officials that have been trained and possess a competency training certificate may conduct the photographic testing of Bontebok herds.

7. CITES PERMITS

CITES export permits (*Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*) will only be issued for Bontebok trophies originating from tested and registered herds. No CITES export permits will be issued for Bontebok X Blesbok or Bontebok X Tsessebe hybrid trophies.

8. BONTEBOK HYBRIDS

- 8.1 No capture or transport permits will be considered or issued for Bontebok x Blesbok or Bontebok x Tsessebe hybrids.
- 8.2 The owner of such a (potentially) hybrid population may launch an appeal on condition that DNA tests are conducted on every animal of the population (including both adult and juvenile animals). The individual animals to be tested will be identified by the relevant DETEA official(s). The owner is responsible to pay for the DNA tests. If the DNA tests indicate that the population is pure, a certificate of purity must be issued by the DETEA and the owner must be allowed to sell his animals as prescribed above.
- 8.3 No Bontebok hybrids may leave the property alive and the DETEA will issue a directive, with a reasonable time-frame, to farmers for the culling of such a population or individual animals that have been identified as hybrids using DNA testing.
- 8.4 DNA testing can only be conducted by accredited laboratories, that have been approved by DETEA.



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- 8.5** According to Ordinance No 8 of 1969, the MEC may authorize a person to enter upon land to hunt any animal (for example a Bontebok hybrid) in the interest of nature conservation, as this animal threatens the genetic integrity of the species.

9. KEEPING OF A REGISTER

The Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Free State Province, will keep a register of all "pure registered" Bontebok herds in the province.
