NORTH WEST Noordwes **EXTRAORDINARY PROVINCIAL GAZETTE** BUITENGEWONE PROVINSIALE KOERANT Vol. 255 11 APRIL 2012 No. 6984

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GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 206 OF 2012

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION AND TOURISM

MANAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING OF PREDATORS

NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR KEEPING OF PREDATORS IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

I, Tebogo Modise, in my capacity as the Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism in the North West Province, by the powers vested in me under Section 102(M) of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 1983, (Ordinance 12 of 1983), Section 82(d), (e) of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 1974, (Ordinance 19 of 1974), and Section 29(f) of the Bophuthatswana Nature Conservation Act, 1973, hereby issue norms and standards pertaining to the development of management plans for keeping of predators in the North West Province as set out in schedule hereto:

Tebogo Modise

MEC for Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism

Date: 16 / 00 / 2013

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

- "bred in captivity" or "captive bred", in relation to a specimen of a listed threatened or protected animal species, means that the specimen was bred in a controlled environment;
- "captive breeding operation" means a facility where specimens of a listed threatened or protected animal species are bred in a controlled environment for
 - (a) conservation purposes; or
 - (b) commercial purposes;
- "listed large predator" means a specimen of any of the following listed threatened or protected species:
 - (a) Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus);
 - (b) Spotted hyaena (Crocuta crocuta);
 - (c) Brown hyaena (Parahyaena brunnea);
 - (d) Wild dog (Lycaon pictus);
 - (e) Lion (Panthera leo); or
 - (f) Leopard (Panthera pardus);
 - (g) Crocodile (Crocodylus niloticus)
- "listed threatened or protected species" means a species listed as a threatened or protected species in terms of section 56(1) of the Biodiversity Act;
- "management plan" in relation to a protected area, means a management plan referred to in section 41 of the Protected Areas Act;

- mark" means an indelible imprint, micro-chip or other recognized means of identifying a specimen, designed in such a way as to render the imitation thereof by unauthorized persons as difficult as possible;
- "risk assessment" means a risk assessment requested by an issuing authority in terms of section 89 of the Biodiversity Act

SECTION A FREE ROAMING PREDATORS

REQUIREMENTS OF AN ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

This must be compiled by an environmental practitioner

1. General

- 1.1 Farm name (including **all registered** farm names and portion numbers in the fenced area).
- 1.2 Coordinates of farm boundary corners.
- 1.3 Exact size of property (as indicated on title deed/s).
- 1.4 Names of owner/s and manager.
- 1.5 Postal address.
- 1.6 Telephone and fax numbers.
- 1.7 Name and qualifications of professional environmental practitioner (ecologist) who did the survey.
- 1.8 Description of the land uses and activities on all neighbouring properties.
- 1.9 Proximity to settlements, rural communities and tribal land.
- 1.10 Information as to whether there is potential for enlarging the property.
- 1.11 Specifications of the perimeter fence.
- 1.12 Road network
- 1.13 Objectives of enterprise.

2 Ecological

- 2.1 General climatic data (e.g. rainfall, temperatures).
- 2.2 General description of the geology.
- 2.3 General description of geohydrology, hydrology, drainage.
- 2.4 General description of the soils and land types.
- 2.5 Detailed description of the vegetation communities (types, patterns, units).
- 2.6 Carrying capacity for game (both grazing and browsing capacity).
- 2.7 Game numbers present on property.
- 2.8 A stocking rate model with all current game species in their respective feeding classes.
- 2.9 A stocking rate model with all proposed game species in their respective feeding classes.
- 2.10 Stocking rate model for proposed predators
- 2.11 Sensitive/threatened habitats and species, areas with bush encroachment and soil erosion.
- 2.12 All available water bodies and distribution thereof described.
- 2.13 Maps:
 - 2.13.1 Location map
 - 2.13.2 Topographic map of property (boundary, roads, water points, infrastructure, etc.).
 - 2.13.3 Vegetation communities.
 - 2.13.4 Bush encroachment
 - 2.13.5 Water bodies
 - 2.13.6 Soil map.

Ecological information should be collected and analysed by a professional environmental practitioner (ecologist). Methods used should be scientific and described in detail. The location map should be 1:50 000 topographical, all other maps relative to size of farm (1:5 000 - 1:10 000).

All Red Data species must be recorded and GPS co-ordinates of their localities must be provided.

Management Goals and Objectives

3 Habitat

- 3.1 Veld condition monitoring methods and time schedules.
- 3.2 Rehabilitation programme for degraded areas.
- 3.3 Fire management plan.
- 3.4 Water provision.
- 3.5 Population management of all wildlife species.
- 3.6 Feeding scheme in case of a **natural** food supply shortage (e.g. severe drought conditions, veld fires, etc).

Additional to the ecological management plan, the following risks as listed under section 16 of TOPS also needs to be addressed.

4. Risk assessment

- (1) If an issuing authority requests that a risk assessment be carried out, the assessment must, as the issuing authority may determine, include the following:
- (a) Information regarding the relevant listed threatened or protected species, including
 - (i) the taxonomy of the species, including the class, order, family, scientific name, scientific synonyms and common names of the species;
 - (ii) the national and provincial conservation status of the species, including IUCN Red List Status;
 - (iii) the population status and trends of the species, including
 - (aa) its national population status;
 - (bb) the size of its local population which will be affected by the restricted activity in respect of which application is made; and
 - (cc) its current national and local population trends;
 - (iv) the geographic distribution and trends of the species, including -
 - (aa) the distribution of the natural population;
 - (bb) the distribution of any translocated and introduced populations; and

- (cc) the geographic distribution trends;
- (v) the requirements of the species with respect to habitat and climate;
- (vi) the role of the species in its ecosystem, taking into account
 - (aa) whether the species is a keystone or indicator species;
 - (bb) the species' level in the food chain; and
 - (cc) the functions which the species performs in its ecosystem; and
- (vii) the major threats affecting the species nationally and locally;
- (b) information regarding the restricted activity in respect of which application is made,
 including
 - (i) the nature of the restricted activity;
 - (ii) the reason for the restricted activity;
 - (iii) where the restricted activity is to be carried out;
 - (iv) the gender, age and number of the specimens of the species involved; and
 - (v) the intended destination of the specimens, if they are to be translocated;
- (c) any regulations, policies, norms and standards or international agreements binding on the Republic which may be applicable to the application;
- (d) the potential risks associated with the restricted activity to the particular listed threatened or protected species and a specific population of such threatened or protected species or to any other species or ecosystems, including –
 - (i) degradation and fragmentation of a species' habitat;
 - (ii) creation of a significant change in an ecosystem caused by the removal or addition of keystone species;
 - (iii) over-exploitation of a species; and
 - (iv) hybridization of species;
- (e) evaluation of the risk identified under paragraph (d) in terms of
 - (i) the likelihood of the risk being realized; and
 - (ii) the severity of the risk and consequences of the realization of the risk for the particular species as well as for other species, habitats and ecosystems; and
- (f) options for minimizing potential risks;
- (g) management of potential risks; and
- (h) any other information as the issuing authority may determine.

- (2) An applicant must appoint an environmental assessment practitioner at own cost to provide the information required in regulation 15(1).
 - (3) The applicant must –
- (a) take all reasonable steps to verify whether the environmental assessment practitioner to be appointed complies with regulation 16(a) and (b); and
- (b) provide the environmental assessment practitioner with access to all information at the disposal of the applicant regarding the application, whether or not such information is favorable to the applicant.

5. General requirements for environmental assessment practitioner

An environmental assessment practitioner appointed in terms of regulation 15(2) of TOPS must -

- (a) be independent; and
- (b) have expertise in conducting risk assessments, including knowledge of the Biodiversity Act, these regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed application.

SECTION B

CAPTIVE BREEDING OPERATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FORMAT AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

This must be compiled by an environmental assessment practitioner

- 1.1 Farm name (including all registered farm names and portion numbers in the fenced area).
- 1.2 Coordinates of farm boundary corners.
- 1.3 Exact size of property (as indicated on title deed/s).
- 1.4 Names of owner/s and manager.

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1.5	Postal address.
1.6	Telephone and fax numbers.
1.7	Description of predator breeding site
1.8	Fence specifications
1.9	Diagrams of facilities / enclosures
1.10	Number of animals in facilities
1.11	Predator Species (common and scientific names)
1.12	Parental breeding stock
1.13	Legal acquisition
1.14	Current stock
1.15	Mortalities
1.16	Reproduction
1.17	Marking methods
1.18	Security measures
1.19	Food and water supply
1.20	Waste removal
1.21	Veterinary services
1.22	Capture & handling
1.23	Animal health

Compulsory conditions for the registration of captive breeding operations, commercial exhibition facilities and rehabilitation facilities

A registration certificate issued in respect of a captive breeding operation, rehabilitation facility and a commercial exhibition facility must be subject to a condition that the person to whom the registration certificate is granted to, must -

(a) prevent hybridization and or inbreeding;

Environment enrichment

Transport of predator

Public liability

- (b) keep a studbook, where appropriate;
- (c) provide information relating to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this regulation to the issuing authority within three months after the end of each calendar year.

2. Short Title and Commencement

These norms and standards pertaining to the development of management plans for keeping of predators in the North West Province are called Management Plan Guidelines for Keeping of Predators, 2012, and takes effect on date of signature by the MEC.