



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. 1558 {NW1801E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 05 May 2023

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

- (1) With reference to her reply to question 621 on 3 March 2023 that approximately R8 million is required to fill all the unfunded ranger posts in the Kruger National Park (KNP), what are the reasons that the R9 million underspend for the period of six months as per the SA National Parks KNP 2023 second quarter report has not been used to fill the remaining unfilled ranger posts;
- (2) whether the three unfilled section ranger positions which were already budgeted for in the 2022-23 financial year have been filled; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of the progress made in filling the section ranger positions, including (a) how long each position has been vacant and (b) finalisation of the grievance process referred to?

1558. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

- (1) The funds (R9 million) could not be used to fill ranger posts because the funds were already committed to other SANParks operational requirements executed in the third and fourth quarter of the financial year.
- (2) The positions have not yet been filled due to delays in the finalisation of the collective grievance and appeal processes. Both processes have been finalised and the recruitment process has

resumed. The final round of interviews for the three positions will be held before the end of May 2023 and the target date for the finalisation of all recruitment processes is the end of June 2023.

- (a) For the Vlakteplaas Section, the position has been vacant since 19 January 2022;
For Woodlands Section, the position has been vacant since 27 January 2022; and
For the Nwanedzi Section, the position has been vacant since 30 August 2022.
- (b) The grievance process has been finalised and SANParks is currently finalising the recruitment process.



MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATE: 16/5/2023