



## 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. 1601 {NW1807E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2021

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 28 May 2021

**Ms A M M Weber (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) With reference to her replies to questions (a) 1994 on 11 September 2020 and (b) 2622 on 20 November 2020, on what date will the 2021 quota for the export of lion bones be established;
- (2) whether the 2021 quota will include backdated quotas for 2019 and 2020; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**1601. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

(1)(a) and (b)

As mentioned in the reply to Parliamentary Question 1994 (11 September 2020), the Minister is required to consider welfare issues relating to lions in captivity when determining the quota. Furthermore, the High-level Panel (HLP) recommendations are an important aspect of the Ministers' decision on the 2021 quota.

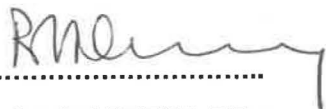
The recommendations contained in the report of the HLP (an advisory committee that was appointed to review policies, regulatory measures, practices and policy positions that are related to hunting, trade, captive keeping, management and handling of elephant, lion, leopard and rhinoceros) highlighted the following:

- “Minister to put in place a process to halt and reverse the domestication of our iconic lions, through captive lion keeping, breeding, and commercial use, putting in place ethical and humane procedures for euthanasia of existing captive lions”; and
- “Minister to put in place policy decisions for an immediate halt to (1) the sale of captive lion derivatives, including the appropriate disposal of existing lion bone stockpiles and lion bone from euthanised lions, (2) the hunting of captive bred lions, and (3) tourist interactions with captive lions, including, so-called, ‘volun-tourism’, cub petting”.

The Minister is currently consulting on the implementation of the Panel’s recommendations. The Panel gave specific direction as to how the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) can support the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) in ensuring the welfare and wellbeing of wildlife. The DFFE will be working closely with the DALRRD and other departments in this regard.

(2) See 1 (a) and (b) above.

**Regards**



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

DATE: 11/6/2021