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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (For written reply)

QUESTION NO.

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 47 of 2020

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

What (a)(i) was the date of the last rhino census in each national park and (ii) are the results thereof, (b) are the results of the rhino census in each specified national park in (i) 2017, (ii) 2018 and (iii) 2019 and (c) are the rhino poaching statistics for 2020 in each national park?

2704. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(a) & (b) SANParks is home to key populations of white rhinos and the two sub-species of black rhinos. As part of checking the status of rhinos, SANParks obtains estimates of rhinos in various parks on an annual basis. SANParks makes use of various techniques to obtain these estimates and uses these to reflect on trends in rhino numbers. The Department does not publish this information because it poses a risk in terms of our conservation efforts.

(b) The national rhino poaching statistics are released every six months. From January to June 2020, a total of 166 rhino were poached across South Africa. Of this total figure, 90 were

poached in two of the national parks (88 in the Kruger National Park and 2 in Marakele National Park).

Regards

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