



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. 1616 {NW1942E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2022

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 29 April 2022

Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

With reference to trophy hunting which was originally a colonialist activity responsible for the decimation of Africa's wildlife and is now conducted mainly by affluent citizens from the United States of America, how can trophy hunting be considered to be part of the heritage and culture of the Republic as referred to in her department's press release of 25 February 2022?

1616. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The press release of February 2022 emphasised that hunting of the wild fauna and flora has been part of South Africa's heritage. This statement also affirms the notion that the hunting culture has been part of the history and heritage of the South African population and has been passed from generation to generation, before the arrival of the colonialists in the 16th and 17th centuries. South Africa's population like elsewhere around the globe, relied on a subsistence lifestyle for survival and livelihood through hunting animals, fishing and foraging for wild vegetation and other nutrients. Khoi and San groups, as

well as other indigenous communities in South Africa, still employ some pre-colonial methods for hunting wild game for their protein and livelihood to this day.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2016 - updated 2019), trophy hunting provides incentives for landowners (government, private individuals or communities) to protect and restore wildlife habitat and populations, remove livestock, invest in monitoring and management, and carry out anti-poaching activities.¹ It also provides incentives to reduce retaliatory killing and local poaching among communities living with wildlife that imposes serious costs on local people, such as loss of crops and livestock or human injury and death. It further generates revenue for wildlife management and conservation, including anti-poaching activities, for government, private and communal landholders.

Regards



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

DATE: 13 MAY 2022

¹ International Union for the Conservation of Nature, *Informing Decisions on Trophy Hunting*, Briefing paper, September 2016, updated April 2019