



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 2229 {NW2533E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 22 of 2021

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

- (1) How (a) was the target for poached rhinos derived (details furnished) and (b) is the target considered acceptable;
- (2) whether it is ethical to set acceptable targets for criminal activity; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether the target will be reconsidered taking into consideration the impact on the rhino population; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

2229. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

1)

- (a) SANParks does not set rhino poaching targets. SANParks sets annual targets to systematically reduce poaching at Kruger National Park (KNP). The setting of the target to reduce poaching takes into account current poaching trends, the poaching compound effect, birth disruptions, diseases and droughts. Ultimately, we aim to eliminate rhino poaching in KNP and other national parks.

(b) Yes, the target to reduce poaching is considered acceptable given the current realities and has helped to direct and better coordinate our anti-poaching efforts.

2) There is no target for criminal activity. There is a target to **reduce criminal activity**.

3) Yes, the targets are continuously reviewed and revised and using new information to adapt management responses for improved performance outcomes. See attached annexure A, detailing the decline in rhino poaching in South Africa between 2014 and 2020.

Regards



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

DATE: 23/09/21

ANNEXURE A

RHINOS POACHED IN SOUTH AFRICA – 2014-2020

