



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

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

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 1615 {NW1941E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2022

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

With reference to her department's press release of 25 February 2022, (a) how was the figure of 418 000 persons employed by the biodiversity economy in 2019 arrived at and (b) what (i) is the breakdown of the figure in terms of the relevant economic categories and (ii) number of the persons were employed directly in the hunting sector?

1615. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(a) The figure of approximately 418 000 persons employed is in the 2018 National Biodiversity Assessment Report, which was produced by SANBI based on extensive research conducted over a period of five years and consultation with stakeholders.

(b) (i) The subcategories of biodiversity-based employment were defined as follows:

20 376 jobs are directly linked with protecting and managing biodiversity assets, both ecosystems and species. This includes the management of protected areas and

conservation areas, efforts to conserve particular species and the mainstreaming of biodiversity into planning and decision-making outside the protected area network.

36 440 jobs are linked to restoring and maintaining ecological infrastructure:

Jobs aimed at restoring the functioning of ecosystems to improve their ability to generate and deliver valuable services to people. This includes a range of natural resource management and catchment management activities that contribute to maintaining healthy ecosystems, such as removing invasive alien plants to improve water supply, or restoring wetlands to improve water quality and prevent flooding.

15 193 jobs are linked to research and professional services related to biodiversity:

Jobs that contribute to knowledge of biodiversity, forming the foundation for the effective management of biodiversity, as well as innovation in the management and sustainable use of biodiversity. This includes the work of universities, other research institutions, biodiversity consulting services and biodiversity information management.

90 252 jobs are linked to the non-consumptive use of biodiversity:

Jobs that depend on the enjoyment of biodiversity, but do not involve the extraction or consumption of the underlying biodiversity asset and can, therefore, be sustained on a long-term basis. This includes nature-based tourism, some adventure sports and the production of media and art related to biodiversity.

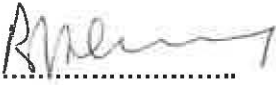
256 298 jobs are linked to the extractive use of biodiversity:

Jobs that depend on the direct extraction or consumption of biodiversity, either for profit or subsistence. This includes game ranching and hunting, rangeland agriculture, the harvesting of wild indigenous resources, biotrade, the cultivation of indigenous species, the processing or manufacturing of products based on indigenous resources, and bioprospecting. Some of these activities can, at least in principle, be compatible with the long-term persistence of biodiversity if they are appropriately managed.

- (ii) According to Van der Merwe et al. (2017), the research conducted in three of the top hunting provinces, namely the Northern Cape, the Free State and Limpopo, showed that hunting created approximately 31 500 jobs in these three provinces, namely

17 806 jobs created in Limpopo, 9 072 in the Northern Cape and 4 558 in the Free State during the hunting season.

Regards



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

DATE: 9/5/2022