



**environment, forestry
& fisheries**

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 526 {NW582E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 4 of 2021

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 26 February 2021

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

(a) What number of permits were issued for elephants to be shot by the Hluhluwe–Imfolozi Park authorities between 29 January 2021 and 31 January 2021, (b)(i) who issued the permits and (ii) under what conditions and (c) for what reason was darting and relocation not considered?

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

(a) These permits were not issued specifically for elephants but for all listed threatened or protected species, and are valid until March 2021.

In terms of section 87A(1)(a) of the National Environmental Management Laws Amendment Act, 2013 (NEMLA) the Minister is the issuing authority responsible for deciding an application for a permit for the carrying out of a restricted activity involving a specimen of a listed threatened or protected species—

- (i) in a national protected area;
- (ii) that is a marine species; or

(iii) applied for by an official, on behalf of—

- a provincial department or provincial organ of state responsible for the conservation of biodiversity in a province;
- a national protected area;
- the South African National Biodiversity Institute; or
- an organ of state in the national sphere of government;

Ezemvelo KwaZulu Natal Wildlife (EKZNW) is a provincial organ of state responsible for conservation of biodiversity in the KwaZulu Natal Province, hence the Department of Environment Forestry and Fisheries is the relevant issuing authority for issuing permits to EKZNW for threatened or protected species.

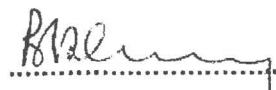
EKZNW is authorised to manage damage causing animals that falls within their area of jurisdiction in compliance with their damage causing animals permit issued with conditions as articulated in the above responses to the questions and also in adherence to relevant norms and standards applicable to the species. (permits attached herewith).

(b)

- (i) The DEFF issued EKZNW with two Standing TOPS permits indicated above;
- (ii) The permits were issued for the management of damage causing animals and for the management of protected areas.

(c) The information relating to the reasons for darting and relocation not being considered should be posed to the relevant MEC in the KwaZulu-Natal legislature as the executive authority responsible for EKZNW.

Regards



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

DATE: 11.3.2021