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**reference** Annual Hunting Notice 2021

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TO ALL CAPENATURE OFFICES, MUNICIPALITIES AND  
OTHER INTERESTED/AFFECTED PARTIES

**NATURE CONSERVATION ORDINANCE, 1974 (ORDINANCE 19 OF 1974): SPORT  
HUNTING NOTICE 2019**

1. The prevailing 2020 hunting seasons, daily bag limits and hunting by prohibited hunting methods in respect of specific species of wild animals, are embodied in Hunting Notice No.114/2019 of 15 November 2019. A copy is attached for your convenience. The contents are self-explanatory.
2. The draft hunting notice for 2020 is based largely on the contents of the 2019 proclamation. After having consulted your staff, local councils, agricultural unions, farmers' associations and other interested and affected parties in your area, respectively, please indicate in writing on or before **30 September 2020** whether or not the *status quo* in your area for 2021 can be maintained or if you would like to make changes / amendments to the 2021 hunting notice. **Requests for amending the current position must be biologically and ecologically motivated.** Requests, which are not fully motivated and that are received after the cut-off date of **30 September 2020**, will not be considered.
3. Please keep the following aspects in mind when formulating any proposed amendments:
  - 3.1 The Ordinance provides for daily bag limits only and therefore the Board may only promulgate such bag limits.
  - 3.2 The Ordinance provides for the promulgation of all hunting seasons for wild animals by means of a notice in the Provincial Gazette. There are consequently no hunting seasons in respect of any wild animals that are not mentioned in the hunting notice. Such wild animals for which a hunting season is needed must be specified and thorough motivations must be provided.
  - 3.3 Requests for the suspension of prohibited hunting methods (section 29 of the Ordinance) cannot simply be recommended to the Board. Any **new** requests in this regard must be properly motivated and submitted to CapeNature for consideration.
4. It is important that all comments and proposed amendments reach us on or before **30 September 2020** as the hunting notice is annually promulgated in December. The administrative process involved in preparing the draft notice for publishing does not allow for processing of amendments received after the return date.

5. The hunting notice is widely distributed to the public and any amendments to the original notice will only cause confusion and hamper law enforcement. For these reasons this Board is not willing to make any amendments after promulgation of the notice.
6. To refresh your memory the viewpoints on which the hunting notice is based are quoted below:
  - 6.1 That the average landowner in the Western Cape Province is a responsible person, aware of the importance of nature conservation and who is prepared to accept more responsibility with regard to managing the wild animals on his property.
  - 6.2 That due to economic realities landowners will refrain from over-exploiting the game on their land. Sound game management will ensure maximum financial gain in the long run, whereas over-exploitation will have considerable financial implications in terms of the cost of re-stocking.
  - 6.3 That the State's responsibility with regard to the utilisation of huntable types of wild animals lies in protection during sensitive periods in the reproductive cycle of such species and not in the bureaucratic restriction of the landowner's ability to manage the game population sensibly. Sensitive periods such as mating, breeding, lambing and calving seasons, periods when the young are suckling and the moulting season in the case of waterbirds are protected in this way on an ongoing basis.
  - 6.4 That in its legislation the State must not concentrate on the small percentage of "ruthless exploiters and swindlers", but must provide for sound game management within a prescribed framework by the majority of responsible landowners. Previously the rightful needs of such person were often addressed under a separate permit system.
  - 6.5 That there is no ecological reason for exploiting only one animal gender, except in specific cases where drastic reduction of populations is necessary as a result of environmental factors.
  - 6.6 That giving the landowner more responsibility for the game on his property makes him more positive towards wild animals and the State. Hopefully responsible landowners will be more willing to report "exploiters", which will make our task easier. Communicating these viewpoints to others will accomplish better understanding and your assistance would be highly appreciated.
  - 6.7 The sport hunting notice is not a tool to be used to control damage causing animals (e.g. baboon, bushpig, caracal and black-backed jackal).
7. I look forward, should you have any, to receiving your comment.

Yours faithfully,



**CAPABILITIES MANAGER  
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**