

DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

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DISCUSSION DOCUMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR THE HUNTING INDUSTRY

1. PURPOSE

- The purpose of the national norms and standards for hunting in South Africa shall be to develop a national standard for the activity of hunting that is pragmatic, implementable and encourages ethical hunting as a justifiable form of natural resource utilisation.
- The purpose of these Norms and Standards are not to create new permits but to create consistent national norms in terms of which current permits can be issued

These norms and standards shall:

- be implemented nationally,
- address all activities related to hunting,
- prescribe national norms and standards for the activity of hunting.

2. INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these norms and standards the hunting means:

“The killing or intent to kill any wild animal, exotic wild or feral animal by any means or method and includes the catching or killing of fish by any method other than by angling or netting.”

The following needs to be clearly defined:

- Wild animal
- Exotic wild animal
- Feral animal
- Angling
- Problem animal
- Rifle
- Handgun
- Muzzleloader
- Shotgun
- Air rifle
- Bow and arrow
- Wing shooting
- Professional hunter
- Hunting outfitter
- Hunting client
- Amateur hunter
- Trap
- Snare
- Poison
- Bait

3. CATEGORIES OF HUNTING

The activity defined as “hunting” is in most instances a very diverse and specialised activity and therefore the activity of hunting can be categorised as follows:

DRAFT NORMS & STANDARDS FOR THE HUNTING INDUSTRY

- by the specific animal species or groups of animals involved;
 - by using a specialised method, instrument or firearm;
 - by utilising an animal to hunt another animal;
 - by acting in a specialised profession for commercial purposes; or
 - by acting as an amateur hunter for either sport or own consumption
- (1) Species or Groups of Species
 - (a) Game Birds
 - (b) Damage causing animals / Problem animals
 - (2) Specialised instrument's or firearms
 - (a) Rifle
 - (i) Minimum calibres for hunting categories of game
 - (ii) Actions
 - (iii) Silencers
 - (b) Handgun
 - (i) Minimum calibres for hunting categories of game
 - (ii) Actions
 - (iii) Silencers
 - (c) Muzzleloader
 - (i) Traditional muzzleloaders
 - (ii) In-line muzzleloaders
 - (d) Shotgun
 - (i) Minimum bore/gauge
 - (ii) Actions
 - (e) Air rifle
 - (i) Restrictions
 - (f) Bow and arrow
 - (i) Categories of game and minimum draw weights
 - (ii) Broadhead's
 - (iii) Bow types
 - (iv) Arrows
 - (v) Competency / accreditation
 - (vi) Hunting of pachyderms
 - (3) Hunting by means of utilising an animal for hunting
 - (a) Falconry
 - (b) Dogs - Wing shooting
 - (i) Standard Default National Seasons
 - (ii) Bag limits
 - (iii) Game birds
 - (c) Dogs - Problem animals
 - (i) Pack registration
 - (ii) Hunting requirements

- (4) Hunting as a professional occupation (commercial purposes)
 - (a) Professional hunters and Outfitters
 - (i) Criteria
 - (b) Culling operators
 - (i) Criteria
 - (c) Problem animal hunters
 - (i) Criteria
- (5) Amateur hunting
 - (a) Competency
 - (b) Hunting organisations
 - (c) Self regulation
- (6) Hunting by land owners
 - (a) Exemption, Certificate of Adequate Enclosure and Game farms
 - (b) Prohibited methods and instruments allowed
 - (c) Minimum criteria for Fencing
 - (d) Competency

4. PROHIBITED HUNTING INSTRUMENTS, METHODS AND FIREARMS

It is furthermore of utmost importance to clearly define prohibited hunting instruments and methods for national uniformity. A summary of all the prohibited hunting methods or instruments as currently prohibited by the various provincial legislation are stated below.

(1) Prohibited Hunting methods, instruments and firearms.

Taking into consideration certain exemptions and subject to the conditions set out in the applicable permits, it is generally stated that no person may, unless he or she is the holder of a permit, hunt any wild animal -

- (a) by means of fire;
- (b) by means of poison;
- (c) by means of a vehicle or aircraft;
- (d) during the night;
- (e) with the aid of an artificial light, floodlight or spotlight;
- (f) by means of a trap cage;
- (g) by means of any trap or pitfall;
- (h) by means of a wire or rope snare or similar device;
- (i) by means of a spear, kierrie, stick or any similar device;
- (j) by means of a blowpipe, catapult or similar device;
- (k) by means of an air gun;
- (l) by means of a hundgun;
- (m) by means of a fire-arm which discharges a rim-fire cartridge of a 5.56mm (.22 inch) caliber or smaller caliber;
- (n) by means of a fire-arm which discharges more than two shots without being manually reloaded;
- (o) by means of a shotgun, except for the hunting of birds;

- (p) by means of a bow-and-arrow, cross-bow, speargun or similar device discharging an arrow or dart;
- (q) by means of a set gun, poison firing apparatus or any similar device;
- (r) by means of darting or any device which injects an intoxicating or a narcotic agent or poison into such animal;
- (s) which is kept in captivity, confined to a cage, in an enclosure or trapped against a fence where the animal does not have a fair chance of evading the hunter;
- (t) which is under the influence of any tranquilizing or narcotic immobilizing or similar agent;
- (u) by the use of a dog, except for the hunting, flashing, pointing or retrieving of birds, or for the purpose of searching or following the animal which has been wounded;
- (v) in the case of a bird, in or upon any aquatic systems, by the use of a boat for the purpose of chasing or killing the bird;
- (w) by means of setting a set trap or snare within 10 meters from a common boundary;
- (x) by luring or by means of a simulation or recording of the natural sound made by an animal or by means of bait or scent or any other induced luring method;
- (y) in an area smaller than the set standard of 400 hectares;
- (z) by any other device of which the use could result in injuring or killing an animal in a way which is not an acceptable humane hunting method;
- (aa) by means of any other animal or bird of prey for the sport of falconry; or
- (bb) by means of a firearm fitted with a silencer or similar noise-reduction device.

(2) Minimum Calibers for firearms:

It is generally prohibited that no person may, unless he or she is the holder of a permit -

- (a) use a fire-arm having a barrel with a caliber of less than 6.85 mm (.270 of an inch) to hunt eland, kudu, blue wildebeest, black wildebeest, gemsbok, red hartebeest, roan antelope, sable antelope, Burchell's zebra, Cape mountain zebra, Hartmann's mountain zebra, nyala, or water buck; or
- (b) use a fire-arm having a barrel with a caliber of less than 9.52 mm (.375 of an inch) to hunt buffalo, elephant, lion, leopard, rhinoceros, giraffe or hippopotamus.