



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. 1447 {NW1764E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 14 of 2022

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

With regard to the press release of her department on 25 February 2022, wherein it was stated that income generated by trophy hunting is especially critical for marginalised and impoverished rural communities, whereas it is given that almost all hunting in the Republic takes place on private land and/or poorly managed provincial reserves, (a) how does regulated and sustainable hunting incentivise communities to conserve valuable wildlife species when hunting rarely takes place on communal land and (b) what are the details of a supporting reference and/or studies for the figure of R1,4 billion which the press release claims the hunting sector conservatively contributed to the economy in 2019?

1447. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

- a) Hunting occurs on private lands, local communities benefit from job opportunities created within private facilities. Employees at these facilities are able to support their households and spend their income on goods and services in their areas of residence which ultimately contributes to growing the local economy.

A study by Professor Peet van der Merwe from the University of the Northwest (2018) has demonstrated how hunting creates jobs, particularly in rural areas where employment is most

needed. Research conducted in three of the top hunting provinces (Limpopo, Northern Cape and Free State) showed that hunting created close to 31 500 jobs in the three provinces (In Limpopo 17 806, in Northern Cape 9 072 and 4 558 jobs in the Free State during 2016/17 alone). Typical employment created directly includes guides, professional hunters, skimmers, trackers, catering, housekeeping, maintenance, conservation management, anti-poaching and taxidermy.

- (b) In order to ensure National uniformity in the co-ordination of all professional hunting matters in South Africa, the Inter-Provincial Professional Hunting Committee (IPPHC) was established as a sub-committee of the Intergovernmental forum called the Working Group 1. The IPPHC is Chaired by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), and its composition includes representatives from nine provincial conservation authorities that are directly involved in the implementation and enforcement of provincial legislation that regulates professional hunting.

Provincial hunting registers which are compiled when issuing permits to Professional Hunting Outfitters contain detailed hunting information about clients, the species hunted, the number of species hunted, including the number of days a particular species was hunted. Professional Hunting Outfitters also share information with their associations on revenue generated, including the revenue generated per species hunted during the hunting season.

Furthermore, a Global Ecology and Conservation Journal (Volume 16, October 2018) article written by Saayman M, van der Merwe P, Saayman A, entitled "The economic impact of trophy hunting in the South African", showed that Trophy hunters spend US\$250 million per annum in the country. It also detailed the impact of this spending on production in the economy is US\$341 million and that trophy hunting supports more than 17 000 employment opportunities.

Regards



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

DATE: 09/05/2022