



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Ref: O2/1/5/2

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 4121 {NW5401E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 48 of 2023

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**Ms T Breedt (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) With reference to vehicles speeding and resulting in associated animal mortalities in the Kruger National Park (KNP), including unethical behaviour by visitors and/or overcrowding at animal sightings, what (a) total number of (b) kind of species were killed by vehicles in the KNP in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021 and (iii) 2023;
- (2) Whether any regulations have been implemented and/or proposed to (a) control unethical behaviour by visitors to the KNP and (b) limit overcrowding at animal sightings in the KNP, as have recently been introduced in the Serengeti National Park; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

#### **4121. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- 1) a) The number of animals killed on Kruger National Park (KNP) roads is difficult to quantify accurately as most carcasses, especially those of smaller animals and birds, are scavenged quickly and disappear by the time the local ranger passes on the road. The total number of roadkills in the KNP during the specified period is 15 and the details are provided in Table 1 below.

b) **Table 1: Animals killed by vehicles in the Kruger National Park**

<b>Animals killed by vehicle</b>	<b>Sum of Count</b>
<b>(i) 2020</b>	<b>2</b>
Bateleur	1
Zebra	1
<b>(ii) 2021</b>	<b>5</b>
Impala	3
Lion	1
Zebra	1
<b>(iii) 2022</b>	<b>3</b>
Brown Hyaena	2
Impala	1
<b>(iv) 2023</b>	<b>5</b>
Brown Hyaena	1
Impala	1
Kudu	1
Spotted Hyaena	1
Steenbok	1
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>

2) a) All visitors to the KNP are given a copy of the Park Rules upon their entry in their permit where the speed limits and other rules are explained. The KNP has ten (10) Traffic Officers to manage visitor behaviour on the 2 775 km of tourist roads. Additional interventions include the following:

- Regular communication campaigns on the impacts of speeding in the KNP. This campaign includes information and awareness about the Park Rules and the consequences for breaking the rules. The communication campaign is also conducted through the South African National Parks (SANParks) social media sites to reach a wider audience.
- Redesign of road signage to make them more visible. Research has been conducted to identify the most effective road signs and high-risk points in the park.
- Continuous speed monitoring using “hotspot” camera trapping by KNP traffic officials.
- Speed-governing devices have been installed in almost 90% of official vehicles where fleet vehicles have a speed limit of 60 km/h. The only exceptions are emergency vehicles and some official ranger vehicles.
- Two processes have been launched to address the escalating problem of overgrown road verges. The first clearing programme is through the SANParks Honorary Rangers, and the second one is through a job fund application, which has made it through to the final round

of consideration. However, bush thickening on road verges is a matter that will require additional financial resources.

The KNP Management recognises unethical behaviour, speeding and roadkill as a serious matter and will continue to give it the fullest attention.

- b) Visitation to the KNP has grown exponentially over the years. The increased pressure on facilities and congestion on roads necessitated KNP Management to implement gate quotas. The gate quotas vary per entrance gate and are usually only reached on long weekends or during school holidays.



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

14/12/2023