



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

---

Ref: 02/1/5/2

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

#### QUESTION NO. 182

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 2 of 2014 NW188E

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 21 February 2014

#### **Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

Whether she intends to introduce legislation that will prohibit trophy hunting of canned white lions and golden lions carrying the white lion gene *panthera leo tsau* in their natural habitat of the greater Timbavati region or held in captivity anywhere in South Africa; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?NW188E

**182. THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:**

No. Section 56 of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act 10 of 2004) (NEMBA) provides for the listing of species as threatened or protected. The species, African lion (*Panthera leo*), is listed as Vulnerable in terms of Section 56 of NEMBA. The term “**species**” means a kind of animal, plant or other organism that does not normally interbreed with individuals of another kind, and includes any sub-species, cultivar, variety, geographic race, strain, hybrid or geographically separate population. There is therefore no need to list specific sub-species of African lion in terms of NEMBA, since all indigenous sub-species will be regulated in the same manner (i.e. permits are required to authorize the carrying out of restricted activities involving the species).

A permit is required in terms of NEMBA if a person intends to carry out any restricted activity involving lion; including the hunting of the lion. The permit system is regulated through the Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS) Regulations (2007), which have been promulgated in terms of NEMBA. It is prohibited to hunt lion in a small enclosure or while it is under the influence of a tranquilizer. It is further prohibited to hunt lion by means of any luring method (smell, sound or bait), by using poison, traps, snares, weapons not suitable for hunting or flood lights. Lions may further not be hunted from a motorized vehicle or an aircraft.

---oOo---