



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

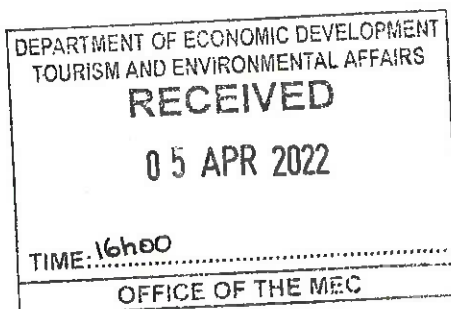
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**DEPARTMENTAL ROUTE FORM****SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PQ NO. 113/2022****FROM****NAME: MR N NKONTWANA****RANK: HEAD OF DEPARTMENT EDTEA****TEL NO: 033 246 2515****TO****MR R R PILLAY****RANK: MEC FOR EDTEA****TEL NO: 033 328 8000**

| MARK ROUTE WITH *                           |   | SIGNATURE   | DATE     | REMARKS                                      |
|---|---|---|----------|--|
| MR N NKONTWANA<br>HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: EDTEA | * |   | 5/4/2022 | The acting CEO should sign the PQ submission |
| MR R R PILLAY<br>MEC FOR EDTEA              | * |  | 5/4/22   |  |





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**The Honourable Ms. N Boyce**  
**Speaker of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature**  
**241 Langalibalele Street**  
**PIETERMARITZBURG**  
**3200**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**NO. 113/2022      MR H U DE BOER (DA) TO ASK THE MEC FOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
AFFAIRS:**

Rhino poaching remains a massive issue within KZN, seriously endangering the population of this endangered species.

**1. HOW MANY RHINO WERE POACHED IN EZEMVELO RESERVES IN 2021?**

Response: 97

**2. HOW MANY RHINO HAVE BEEN POACHED IN EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE  
RESERVES BETWEEN 1 JANUARY 2022 AND 25 MARCH 2022?**

Response: 61

**3. TO WHAT DOES EDTEA AND EZEMVELO ATTRIBUTE THESE POACHING  
INCIDENTS?**

Response: Ezemvelo attributes these poaching incidents to a number of reasons which include: capacity constraints, limited funding, adjacent community's vulnerability to being enticed to collude and more organized criminal networks.



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4. DOES EDTEA BELIEVE A LACK IN FILLING CRITICAL VACANCIES (SUCH AS GAME RANGERS) HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE CURRENT RHINO POACHING STATISTICS?




Response: Yes.

5. WHAT CONCRETE PLANS DOES EDTEA/EZEMVELO HAVE TO CURB THE ONGOING POACHING IN LIGHT OF STAGNANT BUDGETS?

Response:

Ezemvelo has put in place a turnaround strategy that is due to be presented at Provincial Executive Council which includes:

Motivation for increasing field ranger capacity, improving crime intelligence and linkages with other law enforcement entities, exploring dehorning potential, reviving provincial priority crime structures to improve on intelligence and data sharing, introducing other sophisticated tracking and tracing of criminals, their devices and movement.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>SUBMITTED BY:</b><br><br><b>MR. NTSIKELELO DLULANE</b><br><b>A/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER</b><br><b>EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE</b><br><b>DATE:</b> 04.04.2022 |   |
| <br><b>MR. N. NKONTWANA</b><br><b>HOD: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,</b><br><b>TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL</b><br><b>AFFAIRS</b><br><b>DATE:</b> 5/4/2022          | <b>MR. R. R. PILLAY, MPL</b><br><b>MEC FOR ECONOMIC</b><br><b>DEVELOPMENT,</b><br><b>TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL</b><br><b>AFFAIRS</b><br><b>DATE:</b> 5/4/22 |

