

NEWSLETTER



May 2020

Calendar of Events 2020

IPPHC Meetings

8th July 2020

14th October 2020

Wildlife Forum Meetings

15 July 2020

12 November 2020

9 March 2021

The Conservation Symposium

4 to 8 November

24th – 27th NOVEMBER

CUSTODIANS 3rd ANNUAL CONVENIANT, AGM, GALA DINNER

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Exco Members:

Stewart Dorrington	Chairman
Paul Stones	Vice Chair
Rupert Brown	Treasurer
Hermann Meyeridricks	Legal
Mark de Wet	
Matthew Greeff	
Jacques Senekal	
Willem Theron	

Shadow Exco Members:

Alex McDonald
Clive Curtis
Craig Maartens
Dave Davenport
John Luyt
Sean Kelly

Chairmans Message

Dear Members

We have now endured over 50 days of lockdown and the scope of the Covid -19 is still revealing itself to us and the experts. Gladly there is a gradual move to easing of restriction, knowing that the crisis is far from its peak. Infections continue to accelerate and the predictions remain that we will peak in August/September.

I have been kept exceptionally busy keeping abreast with developments and coordinating inputs to government on de-risking hunting. I have been involved in meetings with all our industry leaders to coordinate our inputs to relevant government departments. This past week I have sat in Zoom meetings with the industry, prior to our Zoom meeting with the Minister on Tuesday. I have had 3 full days on the High-Level Panel and had had to prepare my submissions to the panel in the evening or weekends. I have sat in webinars with Tourism Business Council of SA as well as others I don't even remember! All these meetings continue unabated and with urgency at this time of crisis. I am also keeping our friends SCI and DSC in the loop of how things may unfold here and they are keeping me abreast of their developments.

There is some good news though. We are working well to resolve common problems with the rest of the industry. Government and the Minister appear to understand our dilemma and are very supportive of us. I feel we are building and strengthening our good relationships with government and some of the industry associations. The Game Meat Industry Forum has been busy making progress and we are pleased that we have 2 members actively involved on the forum. On Tuesday we had a Zoom meeting with Minister Creecy which was very positive. Although there is little, we can do for our international clients this year, it is refreshing to feel that the Minister understands and supports our industry. It makes me believe that she will take seriously the recommendations of the High-Level Panel.

This leads me to the next issue. We still need to make a submission on behalf of Custodians and our members to the HLP. We have requested inputs from our members but have yet received any. We should at least make submissions regarding the "hunting" of lion, elephant, rhino and leopard. Should you wish to include recommendations for the keeping, trade, handling and breeding of these species please submit some ideas, especially members who have these species on their properties or hunt them elsewhere in SA,

The dates of our AGM remain the same. Whether we have a virtual meeting or are allowed to have a get together remains to be seen. We will keep you all informed as things develop.

I know it's tough to stay positive in this time, but we have to cling to hope. I firmly believe that when we emerge from this crisis, the industry will be much more sustainable as much of what was vogue and fashionable will no longer be financially viable. Hunting and international hunters will be recognised for what they are, the main drivers of our wildlife economy and conservation in SA.

Please feel free to call me or Coira or any of the Exco members should you want to suggest or discuss matters that may benefit the association and its our members.

Stay healthy, stay positive.

Stewart

Industry News

20 MAY 2020: WILDLIFE INDUSTRY MEETING WITH MINISTER
CREECY

WILDBEDRYF VERGADERING MET MINISTER CREECY, 20 MEI
2020

Adri Kitshoff-Botha – CEO Wildlife Ranching South African

Good day All, [Lees Afrikaans hier onder]

I'm extremely excited to share this message with you today, which I have also shared via a voice note to members earlier today on WhatsApp.

Over the past two days, the South African wildlife industry did some amazing work. Eleven organisations within the wildlife industry had a virtual meeting on Monday afternoon, to discuss issues of importance or concern which we agreed to raise with the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Minister Barbara Creecy, during a virtual meeting with her which took place yesterday, Tuesday afternoon.

At the meeting with the Minister, the DDG and a Director of Environmental Affairs shared some details with us about the provisions as contained in the Alert Level 4 Directions for the Biodiversity Sector.

Just a note, if you haven't seen it yet, a copy of the Directions as well as a summary, is available on the WRSA website.

Minister Creecy then addressed us.

She shared her understanding about frustrations and concerns about economic losses with us. She acknowledged that there are indeed still areas which are very restrictive, but she also ensured us that they **are** trying to speed up the Level 3 process.

Minister Creecy also gave us something to hold on to: The Differentiated Approach, as referred to by President Ramaphosa in his address a while ago. After listening to her and participating in the hour and a half meeting with her, I realised that is certainly something that we can hold on to (the Differentiated Approach) as it might create some opportunities for our sector sooner than later.

And yes, you might think ... *Ah, just another politician talking.*

I want to give you the assurance today. Not one person or one organisation who participated in the meeting, left negatively. We were all very positive about the Minister's view on the importance of speeding up the process, and especially her understanding of our urgent request to open up hunting, and I'm referring to subsistence hunting.

WRSA is certainly proud to have been part of this amazing team effort in the wildlife industry.

The industry thanked the Minister for her and her department's efforts thus far and for everything within wildlife management that was already included in Alert Level 4, including culling, catching & capturing, transporting across provincial borders, auctions, etc.

However, we also told the Minister, of our industry's huge disappointment that hunting (subsistence hunting) is not allowed in Level 4.

We also told her that it would most probably be our biggest request for level three: for subsistence hunting to be allowed, understandably under strict health & safety measures.

The industry representatives who participated in the meeting, all had an opportunity to raise some of the issues we identified as a collective in our meeting the day before. These, included amongst others:

- Important information about the impact of the wildlife industry on the rural economies;
- The importance of problem animal control, and even the effect it has on food security, when one considers pigeons in crop fields, guinea fowl, feral pigs, etc.;
- We also touched on welfare feeding schemes; not only for the needy but also the current lack of carcasses for vulture restaurants;
- We, WRSA, touched on the restrictions under Level 4 to introduce new species to a game farm, the current hold-up with brucella and corridor disease tests and the fact that live animals, carcasses and game meat can only be transported as cargo and we were glad to hear that the Department will apply for an amendment to have the transport issue relaxed.

Other organisations addressed many of the other issues we identified the day before, including issues pertaining to professional hunting, taxidermy, a communication strategy for the national wildlife forum, and the nurseries which were negatively affected by stipulations in the Directions, which the Department will now also urgently address.

It was an hour and a half meeting, with quite a lot of things discussed.

At the end, the Minister reminded us to review the Directions again and consider all the measures already in place for the wildlife industry in terms of Level 4, and make use of that.

On that point, I want to remind you all of the Permit to perform permitted/essential services, which was published with the Directions. Since lockdown, WRSA has already assisted hundreds of our members with permits. Now the wildlife industry has its own biodiversity sector permits. Just give us a call and we will assist you.

The 11 participating organisations included us (as Wildlife Ranching South Africa), the African Game Ranchers Association, SA Predators Association, CHASA, SA Hunters & Game Conservation Association, Natshoot, PHASA, CPHC-SA, Wildlife Translocators, SA Taxidermy and Tannery Association and also the SA Nurseries Association.

So, on that positive note, I hope to have even better news within a week or so when we hopefully will have a better idea of what Alert Level 3 might hold for the South African wildlife industry!

Kind regards,

Adri

Goeiedag Almal,

Ek is werklik opgewonde om vandag hierdie boodskap aan u te kan stuur, wat ek ook vanoggend as 'n stemboodskap via WhatsApp na ons lede gestuur het.

Die afgelope twee dae het die Suid-Afrikaanse wildbedryf ongelooflike werk gedoen. Elf Organisasies het Maandagmiddag ontmoet, natuurlik tydens 'n virtuele vergadering, om belangrike kwessies te bespreek om gister met die minister van omgewingsake, minister Barbara Creecy, tydens 'n virtuele vergadering met haar op te neem. Tydens hierdie vergadering het die adjunk-direkteur-generaal en 'n direkteur van omgewingsake 'n paar besonderhede met ons gedeel oor die bepalings wat in die Vlak 4-direktiewe vir die biodiversiteitsektor vervat is.

Net 'n nota: As u dié direktiewe nog nie gesien het nie, is 'n kopie daarvan asook 'n opsomming op WRSA se webwerf beskikbaar.

Minister Creecy het ons toe toegesprek tydens die vergadering.

En sy het haar begrip van die frustrasies en kommer oor ekonomiese verliese met ons gedeel.

Sy het erken dat daar inderdaad steeds areas is wat nog baie beperkend is, maar sy het ons ook verseker dat hulle **wel** die vlak 3-proses probeer bespoedig.

Minister Creecy het ons ook iets gegee om aan vas te hou: die Gedifferensieerde Benadering waarna president Ramaphosa 'n ruk gelede in sy toespraak verwys het. Nadat ek na haar geluister en aan die uur en 'n half lange ontmoeting met haar deelgeneem het, het ek besef dat dit beslis iets is waaraan ons kan vashou (die Gedifferensieerde Benadering), aangesien dit dalk eerder gouer as later, vir ons sektor 'n paar geleenthede kan skep.

En ja, miskien dink u nou: *Ag net nog 'n politikus wat praat.*

Ek wil u vandag die versekering gee: Nie een persoon of een organisasie het negatief van die vergadering weggegaan nie. Ons was almal baie positief oor die minister se siening oor die belangrikheid van die bespoediging van die proses en veral haar begrip vir ons dringende versoek om jag oop te stel; en hier verwys ek na benuttingsjag.

WRSA is werklik trots om deel te kon wees van hierdie ongelooflike spanpoging in die wildbedryf.

Die bedryf het die minister bedank vir haar en haar departement se pogings tot dusver en vir alles wat reeds in Vlak 4 ingesluit is soos byvoorbeeld uitdunning, vang van wild en vervoer oor provinsiale grense heen, veilings, ens.

Ons het egter ook die minister ingelig oor ons bedryf se groot teleurstelling dat jag, benuttingsjag, nie gedurende Vlak 4 toegelaat is nie.

En ons het haar meegedeel dat ons grootste versoek vir Vlak 3 sal wees om benuttingsjag toe te laat, natuurlik onder streng gesondheids- en veiligheidsmaatreëls.

Die verteenwoordigers van die bedryf wat aan die vergadering deelgeneem het, het almal die geleentheid gehad om enkele van die kwessies wat ons die vorige dag gesamentlik geïdentifiseer het, tydens die vergadering met die Minister te bespreek. Dit sluit onder meer in:

- Belangrike inligting oor die impak van die wildbedryf op die landelike ekonomieë;

- Die belangrikheid van probleemdiërbeheer en selfs die effek wat dit het op voedselsekerheid wanneer ons duiwe in die oeslande, tarentale, wilde varke, ens. in aanmerking neem;

- Ons het ook aandag gegee aan welsynsvoedingskemas; nie net vir die behoeftiges nie, maar ook vir die huidige gebrek aan karkasse vir aasvoëlrestaurante.

- Ons, WRSA, het die beperkings onder Vlak 4 bespreek om nuwe spesies na 'n wildsplaas te bring, die huidige oonthoud van toetse vir brucella en korridorsiekte en die feit dat lewendige diere, karkasse en wildsvleis slegs as vrag vervoer kan word. Ons was bly om te hoor dat die departement gaan aansoek doen vir 'n wysiging om die beperkings in verband met "vervoer as goedere" te verslap.

Ander organisasies het etlike ander kwessies aangespreek wat ons die vorige dag geïdentifiseer het, insluitend kwessies oor professionele jag, taksidermie, 'n kommunikasie strategie vir die nasionale wildlewe forum en die kwekerye wat negatief geraak word deur bepalings in die direktiewe wat die departement nou ook dringend sal aanspreek.

Dit was 'n uur en 'n half lange vergadering waartydens heelwat sake bespreek is.

Aan die einde het die minister ons daaraan herinner om die direktiewe weer te lees en al die maatreëls wat reeds in plek is vir die wildbedryf in terme van vlak 4 in aanmerking te neem en dit te gebruik.

Op daardie punt wil ek u almal herinner aan die permit om toegelate/essensiële dienste te verrig wat saam met die direktiewe gepubliseer is. Sedert grendeltyd het WRSA reeds honderde van ons lede bygestaan met permitte. Nou het die wildbedryf sy eie biodiversiteitsektor permitte. Skakel ons net en ons sal u daarmee help.

Die organisasies wat aan die gesprekke deelgeneem het was ons (Wildbedryf Suid-Afrika), die African Game Ranchers Association, SA Predators Association, CHASA, SA Hunters & Game Conservation Association, Natshoot, PHASA, CPHC-SA, Wildlife Translocators, SA Taxidermy and Tannery Association asook die SA Nurseries Association.

So, op hierdie positiewe noot, sluit ek vir eers af en hoop om moontlik binne 'n week of so selfs beter nuus sal hê wanneer ons hopelik 'n beter idee het van wat Vlak 3 vir die Suid-Afrikaanse wildbedryf kan inhou!

Vriendelike groete,

Adri

Leopard Research



COLLABORATION

To whom it may concern,

Both NPC's, Singatha Conservation Research Fund (SingathaCRF) and Rhino Connect, operate within the wildlife industry in Southern Africa, through public participation and research projects. For the purpose of the Leopard Project 2019, Rhino Connect will act as legal and logistical governing body of the project, whereas SingathaCRF will be responsible for all science project activities and report writing. Get hold of us for the documents to better explain each companies profile and expertise. This collaboration allows us to be more efficient and have a wider reach during the project

~ Forging connections to promote conservation research ~

Mariska Nel

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Advertising

CPHC-SA are offering an annual advertising option, of 12 consecutive months starting in Jan

Please refer to our website for the different options and rate. www.cphc-sa.co.za

We request that Outfitters, PH's and our Associate members who own other business to notify our office if there are any vacancies available.

PH's who are looking for employment, and a registered member of Custodians, are more than welcome to send us their details to also be included in our newsletter.

and pro-rata if taken later in the year until Dec. As an example; R 100.00 per month starting in Jan of a particular year until Dec for one advertising slot would be 1,200, paid in full up front, or if taking a slot starting in June, would be 100.00 per month for 7 months paid in full up front for the remainder of the year, i.e. not a random slot for a month or two months etc., but an annual for the period of the remainder of the fiscal year only. You may change your ad as many times as required for any of the slots, however if a second or third advert slot was required to run concurrently, more slots would need to be purchased for each advert for the remainder of the year, all paid in full pro-rata for the remaining period for the rest of the year.

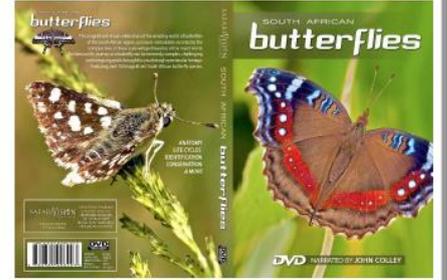
For e.g. to place two adverts (packages) in Jan, it would amount to R 2,400 for the year



Bushpig hunting DVDs R150 each excl. postage. Set of 3 R300 excl. postage

Butterfly DVD, R150 excl. postage.

Clive Curtis
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