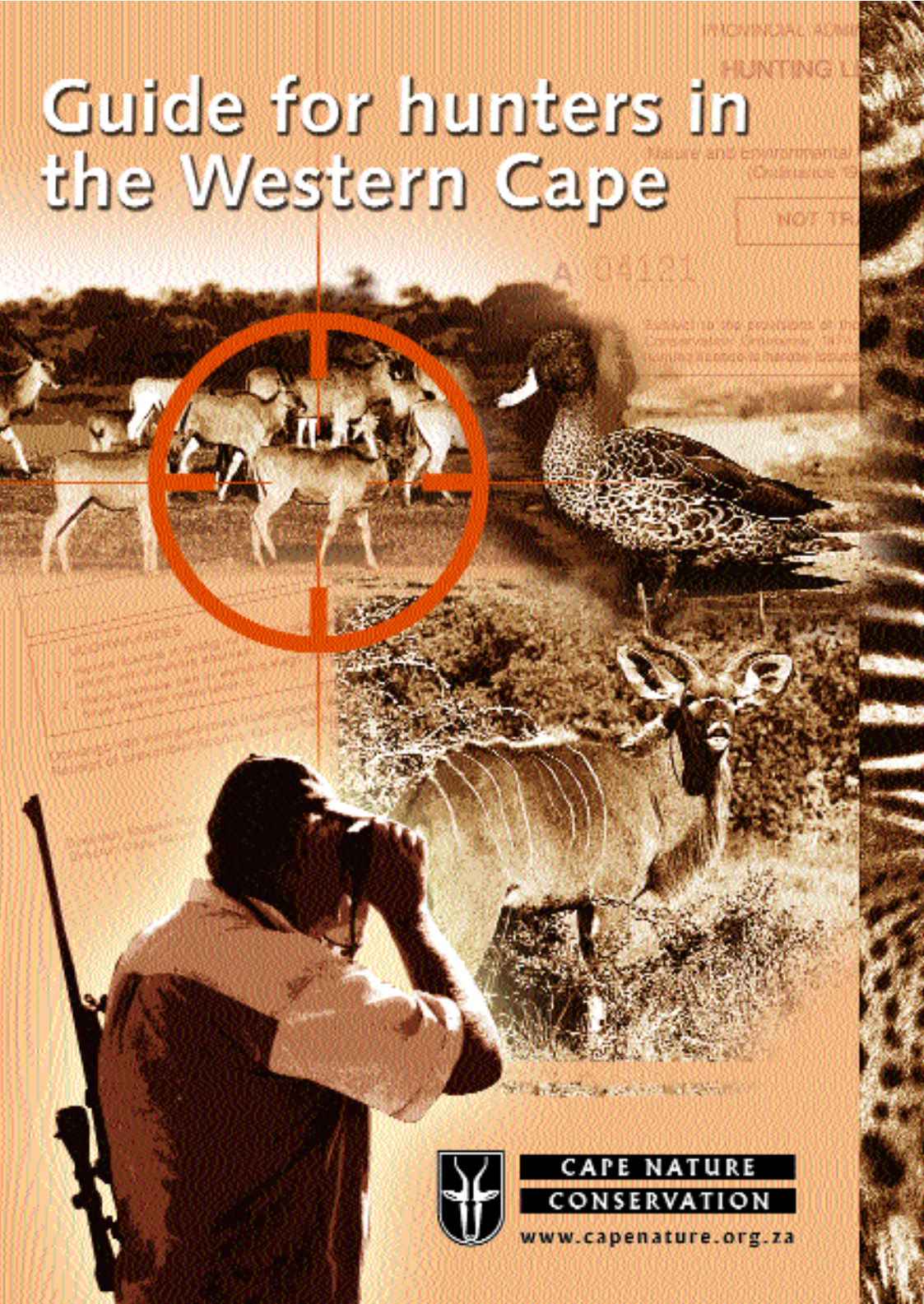
Guide for hunters in the Western Cape



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Guide for hunters in the Western Cape

Every province has its own do's and don'ts when it comes to hunters. This guide specifically highlights the most important information regarding legislation and regulations relevant to the hunting of game in the Western Cape. In particular it focuses on people who hunt with guns.

Remember, it remains your responsibility as hunter to make sure you hunt legally. If you keep up to date with all the provisions pertaining to the legal hunting of wild animals in the province, you will not only practise this pastime within the requirements of the law, but you will also contribute to the sustainable utilisation of the Western Cape's natural heritage.



Laws? Why and which ones?

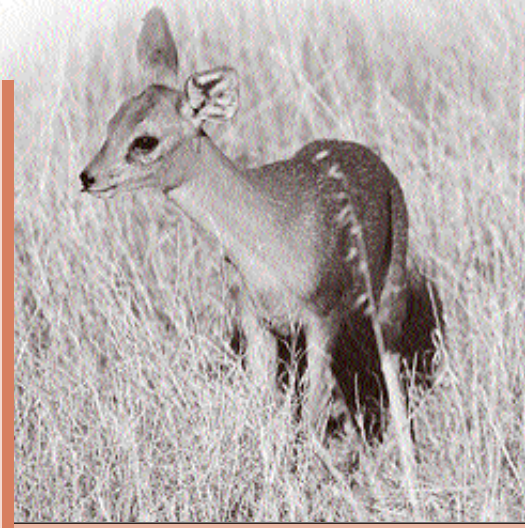
The legislation that governs hunting has been drawn up according to the principle of conservation through utilisation in order to protect wild animals against possible over-utilisation and exploitation. It helps authorities and management bodies to control the hunting community and their activities, to the advantage of nature and the greater community.

Just like the other provinces, the Western Cape issues an updated hunting proclamation annually that takes into account the changes in population dynamics of different game species. Therefore it is important to study it carefully prior to every hunting season.

The following legislation is enforced in the Western Cape:

- **Hunting of wild animals** – Ordinance on Nature Conservation, No. 19 (1974), as amended.
- **Control of problem animals** – Problem Animal Control Ordinance, No. 26 (1957) as amended by Ordinance No. 19 (1984) (In the process of being revised).
- **The use of poison for the control of problem animals** – Regulations in Provincial Notice No. 750 (1968) (In the process of being revised).

The hunting proclamation works like a quota system that determines which species of game may be hunted, how many of each species may be shot per day (the so-called "daily bag limit"), and when and in which districts it is legal to hunt them.



Hunting - **the act of employing various means in order to search for, kill, capture, attempt to kill or capture, or to pursue, follow, or drive any wild animal with the intent of killing or capturing it. Hunting also includes all attempts to shoot at, poison, lie in wait for or wilfully disturb wild animals.**

Trap - **a device or method used for, or adapted for use in, catching a wild animal. Examples are spring traps, gin traps, snares, cages, nets, pitfalls, or birdlimes.**

Into what groups are wild animals divided?

All living mammals, reptiles, birds, fish or frogs (therefore any vertebrate or invertebrate animal) that you see in nature or captivity, are grouped together as wild animals. This, however, does not include domestic animals such as dogs, cats, or horses, or ostriches used for farming purposes.

Protected, unprotected, endangered. These terms are used much too readily to describe wild animals, without people really understanding what they mean. They refer to the conservation status assigned by legislation to various groups of wild animals.

According to legislation wild animals have been divided into four groups:

1. **Endangered wild animals**
2. **Protected wild animals**
3. **Unprotected wild animals** (all the animal species that do not belong in any of the other groups)
4. **Declared problem animals**

There are approximately 280 mammal species in South Africa. In comparison with the other eight provinces in our country, the Western Cape is generally regarded as a region that is not the home of many game species. This is because the Western Cape - which is predominantly a winter rainfall area - is compared to the adjoining summer rainfall region of the rest of South Africa, where you will find some of the world's greatest game populations. Although the carrying capacity of the nutrient poor, predominantly fynbos vegetation is low, altogether 57% (or 160) of all South Africa's mammal species is found in the Western Cape. This compares well with Western Europe, which is much larger and where the same number of species is found.

This categorization is done according to the extent which an animal species is endangered, and the extent to which its distribution is restricted. The population numbers of certain animal species, like the Cape mountain zebra and the bontebok, have drastically declined over the years due to the destruction of their natural habitat and low natural population growth.

Endangered wild animals include among others the riverine rabbit, white and black rhinoceros, cheetah, Cape mountain zebra and the geometric tortoise. The numbers of these endangered animals are so low that focussed attempts such as conservation projects and breeding programmes have to be run to make sure that they do not disappear from the globe entirely. Hunters must remember that these animal species are strictly controlled and that they may not

be shot without a special permit from Cape Nature Conservation.

Protected wild animals include guinea fowl, leopards, lions, birds of prey, bat-eared foxes, Cape foxes, aardvark, badgers, aardwolves and spotted hyenas. Hunters who are in possession of a valid hunting licence may only hunt these protected game species within specified hunting seasons, and in accordance with a daily bag limit. The seasons closed for hunting coincide with "sensitive" periods in the reproduction cycle of game animals, like mating time, lambing and lactation time, or when water birds are moulting. The bag limit determines the number of animals of a specific species that a hunter is allowed to shoot in one day during the allocated hunting seasons.

Six of the Western Cape's game species are found nowhere else in the world.

All animal species that do not fall within any of the above-mentioned groups, are regarded as **unprotected wild species** because they have healthy populations. They receive general protection under nature conservation legislation. Generally these animals can be hunted throughout the year. In the hunting proclamation, however, hunting seasons stretching from 1 January to 31 December (therefore, throughout the year) are specified for certain species at which hunters often take aim, such as black-backed jackal, rock dassie, bush pig, Cape sparrow, Cape weaver, red bishop and the three indigenous crow species.

Fifty animal species in the Western Cape appear on the IUCN's Red Data List of Endangered Species. Eleven species have become extinct in the Western Cape over the past few centuries, but are still found elsewhere in the country. Five species have so far been successfully resettled here.

To hunt game species such as porcupine, genet, feral pig or rock rabbit no hunting licence is required, but hunters do need written permission from the owner of the property on which they are hunted. Most introduced species, like the grey squirrel, are also seen as unprotected wild animals.

Three animal species are regarded as declared animals that do damage (also known as "**problem animals**") in the Western Cape: stray dogs that wander onto another person's land without the supervision of their owners, caracal and black-backed jackal.

The blue antelope and quagga have completely disappeared from the planet.



Although these animals have more relevance to landowners than sport hunters, they are included in this guide for the sake of completeness.



By employing efficient management measures such as adequate fencing, poison collars or shepherds, farmers can limit the damage these animals could do, particularly to herds of livestock. Control measures such as the setting of traps, must be employed as selectively and as efficiently as possible to target the individual animal responsible for the damage and not members of the species in general.

For this, sound knowledge of nature is essential. Before control measures are implemented, landowners must ask themselves the following questions: Are these methods ecologically acceptable and not harmful to nature in general? Is it humane? Is it cost-effective in relation to the damage done? Is it permitted by the legislation around these control measures? (Legislation is currently being revised).



Specific permits

Landowners may, in exceptional cases, apply to Cape Nature Conservation for a permit to **hunt protected wild animals**, or a permit to use **prohibited hunting methods.** It is only issued in exceptional cases, for instance when a member of a specific protected wild animal species such as leopard, for which there is no hunting season, is to be hunted because it may have done damage to herds of livestock. A permit to use prohibited hunting methods may also be used in such cases in order to allow a landowner to hunt by night and to use a spotlight. The landowner may also request that another person do the hunting on his behalf.



The bontebok, which only lives in the lowland fynbos areas of the south-western Cape, was saved from complete extinction thanks to the foresight of farmers from the Bredasdorp area. In the 1930's when the Van der Byls set aside a section of their farm, Nacht Wacht, for their conservation, there were only 27 of these stately antelope left. The Bontebok National Park was founded in 1931, and today bontebok numbers are around 1500. The bontebok is the logo of Cape Nature Conservation, and symbolises the success that can be achieved when conservationists and the agriculture and game industries work together.



What hunting methods may you not use?

Certain hunting methods are prohibited, because they are not selective, are unethical and do not allow an animal a reasonable chance of survival. Your skill as a hunter is not tested when you chase after an animal in a vehicle and then shoot it when it stands transfixed by a blinding light.

Prohibited locations and times

- You may not hunt at night, from one hour after sundown until one hour before sunrise, because the light is so poor that you can only shoot unselectively. In such conditions you will not be able to see when you are aiming at a pregnant doe;
- You may not hunt on or alongside a public road, or use a weapon in a public place within the boundaries of an urban area, as this constitutes a danger to other people.

Prohibited hunting methods and weapons

- Poison or fire;
- Any trap;
- A fire-arm which discharges a rim-fire cartridge of a calibre less than 5,6 mm, like a .22 rifle;
- A fire-arm of a calibre less than 6,5 mm (.256 inch) may not be used for hunting red hartebeest, gemsbok, blue and black wildebeest, kudu, and buffalo;
- A fire-arm that fires more than two shots without it having to be manually reloaded;
- Bow and arrow;
- A set gun;
- A device which injects an intoxicating or a narcotic agent or poison into an animal.

Prohibited hunting means

- Dogs;
- Boats for chasing or killing birds in or on inland waters;
- Artificial lighting;
- Motor vehicles or aeroplanes.

A few exceptions to these rules

- Dogs may be used for hunting birds in the hunting season for them, and for following and searching for wounded animals;
- A hunting light and dogs may be used at night for the hunting of declared problem animals and rodents, like porcupines and springhares;
- A fire-arm that fires a rim-fire cartridge of 5,6 mm (e.g. a .22 rifle), may be used for hunting any bird in its hunting season, or for hunting any unprotected wild animal;
- Landowners may use a vehicle for hunting on their own land.





What are my rights as landowner?

Are you a landowner in a rural area who wants to hunt game on your property?

- You may hunt unprotected wild animals without a permit or licence throughout the year, using any accepted hunting method.
- If you are not in possesion of a Certificate of Adequate Enclosure, you may only hunt protected wild animals according to specified hunting seasons and daily bag limits, which are set out in the annual hunting proclamation. For this, you do not need a licence or permit. You do, however, need a permit to hunt protected wild animals outside of the prescribed hunting seasons, and in excess of the daily bag limit.
- If you are in possession of a Certificate of Adequate Enclosure, you may hunt the protected wild animals specified on the CoAE, at

any time of the year, even outside the prescribed hunting season, using any method (other than fire and poison) and in excess of the daily bag limit. You do not need a licence or permit.

What are the benefits of a CoAE?

It is to the advantage of game farmers in particular, to qualify for a Certificate of Adequate Enclosure (CoAE), as it declares them the legal owners of the specifically listed game on their land, and gives them the right to manage and hunt the game. Such a certificate states that the particular area of land is adequately fenced in such a way as to keep in especially game that are known to jump fences. Therefore, the fencing curbs possible stock loss to the landowner.

The requirements, heights, and types of material for an efficient game fence are determined by the game species to be fenced in, the type of terrain, availability of materials, and financial considerations.

The CoAE grants certain exemptions to landowners. They, their relatives and full-time employees have the right to hunt the protected game species that are specified on the CoAE, without a hunting permit – even outside the hunting season. They may use any hunting method, except fire or poison. They may also sell the carcasses.



Make sure that you are hunting legally on another's land

Are you not the owner of the land on which you are hunting?

It is important to remember that different rules apply to hunting on land that are certified by a CoAE, than hunting on a farm that is not adequately enclosed to prevent specified game from moving from one property to another.

Hunting on land with a CoAE

- Make sure that the CoAE is indeed valid – it has to be renewed every three years.
- You may hunt specified protected game outside of their hunting season.
- You may exceed the daily bag limit of species specified on the CoAE.
- You may use any accepted hunting method, except for fire and poison.

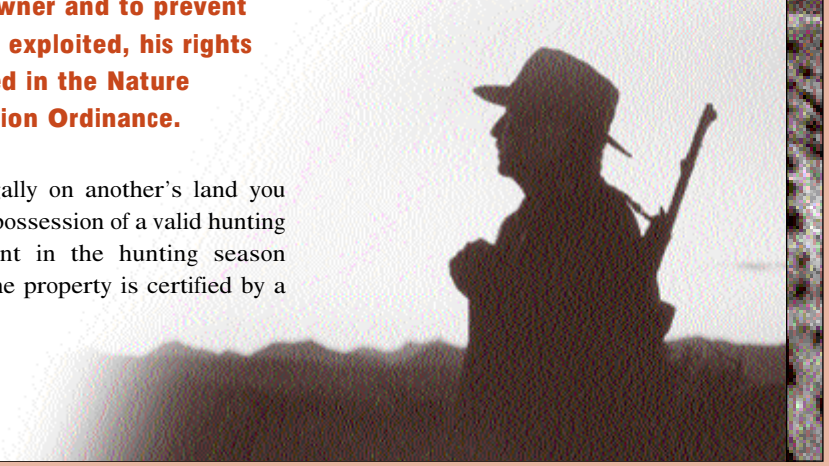
Hunting on land that does not have a CoAE

- You must be in possession of a valid hunting licence at all times.
- Stick to the hunting seasons for specified protected animal species that are proclaimed annually by the individual provinces in their hunting proclamations.
- Unprotected game, which is not protected by a specified hunting season, may be hunted throughout the year.
- Make sure that you keep to the daily bag limit for each species of game.
- Make sure that the landowner grants you written permission (see example on page 10) to hunt on his land, and also written permission to remove any part of an animal carcass, even if only the horns, from his farm.
- You may only use accepted hunting methods.

What does written permission from the landowner entail?

Being allowed to hunt game, especially on land that does not belong to you, is a privilege. In order to protect the rights of the landowner and to prevent him being exploited, his rights are defined in the Nature Conservation Ordinance.

To hunt legally on another's land you must be in possession of a valid hunting licence, hunt in the hunting season (except if the property is certified by a CoAE) and use approved hunting methods. You also need written permission from the landowner that specifies when, where and what may be hunted. If any part of the hunted animal carcass is to be removed from the land, the landowner must also grant written permission for it. This is applicable even if the carcass is his gift to someone who did not hunt himself, or even if the hunter only takes the horns or the hide with him.



An example of a letter of permission from a landowner

HUNTING PERMISSION GRANTED BY LANDOWNER TO OTHER PERSONS FOR HUNTING WILD ANIMALS ON HIS PROPERTY *AND/OR PERMISSION FOR THE REMOVAL OF *CARCASS/ES (In terms of Sections 39 & 41 of Ordinance 19 of 1974)

Landowner:

I (Full Names of Owner):.....

Permanent Address of Owner:.....

Hereby declare that I **am in possession of / *am not in possession of a valid Certificate of Adequate Enclosure regarding the wild animals named in this document:

(CoAE Number:..... Expiry Date:.....)

Permission has been granted to the following person to hunt on my property:

Full Names of Hunter:.....

Address of Hunter:.....

Period for which Hunting Permission is valid: From ..... to .....

*Number/s and species of wild animals that may be hunted:

SPECIES	SEX	NUMBER	REMOVE *CARCASS/ES
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....

*Property/-ies to which this permission applies: .....

....

NAME IN PRINT SIGNATURE DATE

* DELETE THAT WHICH IS NOT APPLICABLE

1 REMEMBER THAT THIS LETTER AND YOUR HUNTING LICENCE SHOULD BE IN YOUR POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES DURING THE HUNT

2 THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETAINED FOR AT LEAST TWO MONTHS OR FOR AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THE CARCASS IN YOUR POSSESSION

Hunting licences – your contribution to conservation

A hunting licence makes you a legal hunter. By law, you must in most cases be in possession of such a permit before you go off on a hunt.

This applies not only to those who are doing the actual shooting, but also to all members of a hunting party who take hunting rifles along in the veld.

Like vehicle licences, hunting licences cannot be carried over from one person to another, and therefore all members of a hunting party need their own licence.

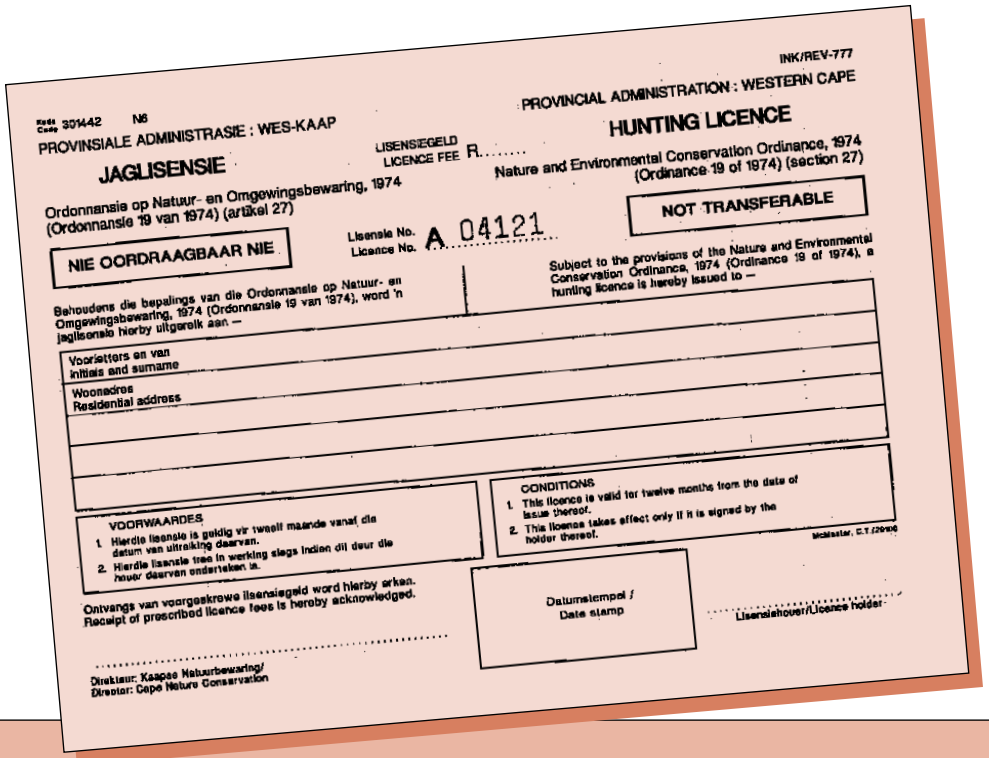
Hunting licences help to regulate hunting, to reduce unnecessary game poaching, and to safeguard landowners against people who want to shoot their game on sight and without permission.

"Why pay the state for a hunting licence if the game belongs to the landowner on whose farm you are hunting?" "Unaffordable." "More expensive than other provinces." These are the types of remarks that are heard regularly at the beginning of the hunting season, when hunters are expected to obtain a once-off hunting licence, valid for one year.

The money you pay does not just disappear into state coffers. Since Cape Nature Conservation became a Board in 2001, all moneys paid to us, have been used directly for the general conservation of biodiversity in the Western Cape. By

Visit
www.capenature.org.za/permits/agents.html
for a list of hunting clubs, businesses and sports shops who act on behalf of Cape Nature Conservation in selling hunting licences, or contact any of the following Cape Nature Conservation offices:

Porterville	-	**(022) 931-2900**
Vanrhynsdorp	-	**(027) 219-1480**
Oudtshoorn	-	**(044) 279-1739**
George	-	**(044) 874-2160**
Onrus	-	**(028) 316-3338**
Bellville	-	**(021) 945-4701**
Stellenbosch	-	**(021) 866-1560**
Robertson	-	**(023) 625-1621**
Cape Town	-	**(021) 426-0723**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Kode Code 301442 N6

PROVINSIALE ADMINISTRASIE : WES-KAAP

JAGLISENSIE

LISENSIEGELD
LICENCE FEE R.....

Ordonnansie op Natuur- en Omgewingsbewaring, 1974
(Ordonnansie 19 van 1974) (artikel 27)

NIE OORDRAAGBAAR NIE

Lisensie No.
Licence No. A 04121

Behoudens die bepalings van die Ordonnansie op Natuur- en Omgewingsbewaring, 1974 (Ordonnansie 19 van 1974), word 'n jaglisensie hierby uitgereik aan —

Voorletters en van
Initials and surname

Woonadres
Residential address

VOORWAARDES
1. Hierdie lisensie is geldig vir twaalf maande vanaf die datum van uitreiking daarvan.
2. Hierdie lisensie tree in werking slegs indien dit deur die houer daarvan onderteken is.

Ontvangs van voorgeskrewe lisensiegeld word hierby erken.
Receipt of prescribed licence fees is hereby acknowledged.

Direkteur: Kaapse Natuurbewaring/
Director: Cape Nature Conservation

PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION : WESTERN CAPE

HUNTING LICENCE

Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance, 1974
(Ordinance 19 of 1974) (section 27)

NOT TRANSFERABLE

Subject to the provisions of the Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance, 1974 (Ordinance 19 of 1974), a hunting licence is hereby issued to —

CONDITIONS
1. This licence is valid for twelve months from the date of issue thereof.
2. This licence takes effect only if it is signed by the holder thereof.

McMaster, C.T./2900

Datumstempel /
Date stamp

Lisensiehouer/Licence holder

paying your hunting licence you therefore make a contribution to the conservation of wildlife in the Western Cape. It aids the funding of conservation and research projects, and helps pay the administrators and experts who are involved with setting up guidelines. This helps to place the game industry in the Western Cape on a firm, conservation-friendly footing. In addition, it enables more conservation services staff to guide landowners on issues such as the management of animals that do damage, the resettlement of game, and the erection of game fences.

By building a database of hunters, it becomes easier to give accurate information about the state of the game industry in the Western Cape.

Get involved, join a club

Hunting associations do much to train their members and to keep them up to date on hunting techniques, ethics, and the latest developments in the hunting industry:

Cape Hunters' and Conservation Association:
(021) 913-0290 or kaapjag@xsinet.co.za

Southern Cape Hunters' Association:
(044) 696-6269

South African Wingshooters Association:
(012) 346-1220 or
admin@wingshooters.co.za

Hunting around on the internet

- **Visit the Cape Nature Conservation website for a copy of the latest hunting proclamation or an electronic version of this guide – www.capenature.org.za – and click on "Info & Edu".**
- **Do you want to apply for a permit, or want to know where to obtain a hunting licence? Visit the permit section at www.capenature.org.za/permits/ parent_template.html**
- **Visit the SA Hunters Association at www.sahunt.co.za**
- **Read the magazine Game&Hunt at www.wildlifehunt.co.za**
- **Learn more about game bird hunting at www.wingshooters.co.za**

Can the game industry be reconciled with nature conservation?

According to Cape Nature Conservation, certain practices within the game industry need attention because they ultimately undermine nature conservation principles and the economic viability of the game industry. For too long, provincial conservationists have placed other factors ahead of environmental principles. New schools of thoughts in conservation circles are now debating to find positive and workable solutions to these problems.

The Western Cape is not a leader in the game industry, but the province has it own unique environmental features that have to be conserved and utilised for their own sake. Unwanted game practices game are found throughout the country, not only in this province

Conservation problems in the game industry

There are dangers of hybridisation, inbreeding, destruction of the habitat, or even abnormal defects when game is resettled outside their natural distribution areas on private property. Springbok, for example, of the southern West Coast, where they do not occur historically, regularly contract "foot-rot" due to the more wet conditions. Unnatural hoof growth has been observed amg Cape mountain zebra in the West Coast dune lands, because the sandy substratum does not sufficiently wear away their hooves.

This practice can also lead to competition between species. Bushbuck and nyala, for instance, are found together in



certain parts of the country, but there is no natural overlap in the Western Cape. Where nyala are artificially introduced to bushbuck habitat in this province, nyala act as intruders that tend to drive out the bushbuck from their natural habitat. Impala, blue or black wildebeest, blesbok, mountain reedbuck, waterbuck, lechwe, reedbuck and giraffe are increasingly introduced to the Western Cape outside of their natural area of distribution.

The settling of gemsbok for example, in conservation areas in the succulent Karoo on the fringes of their natural area of distribution in greater numbers than they have occurred historically may have a significantly negative impact on sensitive habitat, such as renosterveld and quartzite patches. Gemsbok tends to dig out succulents and eat them, especially during dry periods. Undesirable alien intruder species such as the Himalayan tahr may also have a negative influence on the natural environment, which in turn results in such animals ultimately having to be exterminated at great cost.

The greatest threat to the Western Cape's game species is not hunters but the constant loss and change of habitat due to development, agricultural activities, and alien animals and vegetation. The species living in the renosterveld in particular, are very sensitive to any change in their natural habitat.

Although it endangers the genetic purity of species, it has become financially viable for many game farmers to deliberately crossbreed or hybridise closely related game species. Because the more sought-after bontebok can cost up to ten times more, blesbok are sometimes crossbred with a bontebok ram and offered to tourists and other trophy hunters as thoroughbred bontebok. This especially threatens the genetic purity of the rare Cape and Hartmann's mountain zebra, black wildebeest and bontebok.

Another disconcerting tendency is for game breeders to buy "bigger" springbok rams at game auctions in the northern provinces to breed "bigger" animals from the smaller southern ones as trophies. These practices of deliberate genetic manipulation serve no purpose on the long term, as the dominant gene in the population determines the size of individuals.

Colour variations or recessive colour deviations, that occur in practically all forms of life, have become sought after among game farmers and trophy hunters, and are becoming a lucrative industry. Conservationists are concerned about the breeding of manipulated freak animals like black impala, black and white springbok or red wildebeest. This establishes the wrong messages with ignorant trophy hunters or tourists, and harms the image of the game industry. Such animals do not normally survive in nature, and unnatural or weak features may emerge should they be used for breeding.



White springbok do not blend into their habitat as well as their multi-coloured cousins do.

The breeding of rare game species like roan and bontebok for trophy purposes by inexperienced people without acceptable zoological principles may lead to undesirable levels of inbreeding. Conservation authorities and the game industry should discourage this.

With the increased interest in game in the Western Cape certain game farmers are changing natural fynbos into grassland with regular burning or by cutting down the veld with a bush cutter. This is a temporary solution to keep a greater variety of game exotic to fynbos. Because fynbos soil types are nutrient-poor, these animals will ultimately depend on supplementary feeding for their survival.

The unregulated relocation of animals, without the required permits, or without the co-operation of the responsible conservation bodies, is always a problem. Naturally not everybody in the game industry is guilty, but everybody is indeed eager to do business under the conservation banner.

Joint solutions

Conservation bodies are partly responsible. There are no uniform game management policy and only certain provinces possess a translocation policy. The game industry receives little information about these matter. Although several precedents already exist, it does not justify an unqualified perpetuation of these practices.

Conservation bodies in South Africa will have to get their own "homes" in order with a uniform and applied national policy and management guidelines on the translocation and introduction of game species, to prevent the dangers of genetic hybridisation, transmission of parasites and diseases, and possible ecological damage.

Uniform national policy is urgently needed regarding undesirable practices such as the crossbreeding or hybridisation of subspecies and species, the keeping of intruder species, the breeding of recessive colour variants or rare species, solely for trade or tourism. It should lay down guidelines to combat possible pathological consequences.

A SABS system and conservation accreditation of game farms and facilities for keeping animals could be considered. The highest category for instance, will have private nature reserve status, while the lowest categories could represent zoological gardens or breeding facilities with

educational and commercial value, but little or no conservation value.

Incentives ought to be developed that makes it economically and ethically attractive for the game industry to aim at the highest possible category. This will ensure prospective tourists or trophy hunters that accepted standards are being maintained.

Little information is available on the state of game farming in the Western Cape, or the country as a whole. A comprehensive survey on among other things, the variety of game, numbers, origin of breeding herds and utilisation is essential for good game management.

It is particularly heartening that the Confederation of Hunters Associations of South



Africa (C.H.A.S.A.) only recognises hunting trophies that come from indigenous game species which "were hunted under normal circumstances according to ethical norms in its normal area of distribution", in compliance with all statutory requirements. C.H.A.S.A., who has become an important conservation partner, also sees most of the above mentioned "problems" as "undesirable".

Cape Nature Conservation believes that all conservation bodies should support the stance of C.H.A.S.A.

Official appeals to Safari Club International (S.C.I.) and the Roland Ward administration is needed to find support from them, because they can play an important part in ending the trade in freak trophies that threatens the ethics of the game industry.

The road ahead

These solutions are not enforceable and are primarily dependent on positive partnerships, effective communication and good information systems about sustainable management between conservation authorities and all facets of the game industry.

Furthermore, practically achievable incentives will offer a workable alternative to render this industry sustainable as well as beneficial to nature conservation. Cape Nature Conservation is committed towards providing a professional service to the game industry and all its affiliations to the best of their ability.



Photo's:
Cape Nature Conservation, Herman Jonker, Martin Harvey, South African Wingshooters Association

© Cape Nature Conservation 6/2003

Code for Hunters

Hunting cannot be controlled by laws and regulations alone. The conduct of hunters, and the recognition of their own code of ethics, could make all the difference in the veld.

As a responsible hunter you help to conserve nature by:

- respecting nature, being courteous to other hunters, and recognising the rights of the landowner on whose property you are hunting;
- hunting only by day;
- not attempting to shoot an animal from too great a distance;
- aiming at a particular animal, and not just shooting aimlessly at a herd;
- selecting a target on the animal's body that would ensure instant death when it is shot;
- always first following and finding a wounded animal, before continuing your hunt;
- killing a wounded animal as quickly as possible;
- hunting on foot, rather than from a vehicle;
- using all the meat of the animals you hunt, and therefore shooting only what you can use;
- reporting incidents to Cape Nature Conservation when people hunt out of season, take more than their daily bag limit, or employ illegal hunting methods;
- cooperating with landowners and conservationists to ensure that there will also be game for your children to appreciate;
- leaving no trace of your presence in the veld - in other words, taking with you every cap and cartridge, any cans or rubbish, and not damaging plants, ant heaps and other natural phenomena in the veld unnecessarily.

