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PROCLAMATION

[No. 18 of 2022]

By virtue of the powers vested in me by section 4 of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, 1969 (Ordinance No. 8 of 1969), I, Makalo P. Mohale, Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in the Free State Province, hereby declare that any authorized person may hunt / capture game and specified fish as follows:

Free State Province Hunting Season	
Species	Period during which hunting or capture may take place.
Helmeted Guineafowl (<i>Numida meleagris</i>), All species of Spurfowl All species of Francolin except Red-winged Francolin (<i>Scleroptila levaillantii</i>) Common Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>). Egyptian Goose (<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>) Red-billed Teal (<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>) Red knobbed Coot (<i>Fulica cristata</i>) Spur-winged Goose (<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>) Yellow-billed Duck (<i>Anas undulata</i>)	15 th May up to and including 15 th September. A maximum of ten (10) terrestrial gamebirds, and ten (10) waterfowl per hunter per day (including wounded birds and those not retrieved). Hunters must remain aware that, depending on conditions, these game birds and waterfowl do occasionally breed in the Open Season and, apart from Swainson's Spurfowl (<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>) and Common Quail (<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>), may be hunted only if in flocks of five (5) or more.
South African Shelduck (<i>Tadorna cana</i>)	1 st January up to and including 30 th April 1 per hunter per day. May only be hunted when in groups of 10 or more birds.
African Buffalo (<i>Syncerus caffer</i>), Blesbok (<i>Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi</i>) Blue Wildebeest (<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>) Bushbuck (<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>) Eland (<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>) Gemsbok (<i>Oryx gazella</i>) Giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>) Impala (<i>Aepyceros melampus melampus</i>) Kudu (<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>) Plains Zebra (<i>Equus burchellii</i>) Red Hartebeest (<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>) Springbok (<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>) Waterbuck (<i>Kobus ellipsyrimus ellipsyrimus</i>)	1 st January up to and including 31 st December if the property has a valid Certificate of Adequate Fencing issued in terms of section 2(2)(a) of the Game Theft Act, 1991 (Act No. 105 of 1991) and that the species to be hunted is/are specified on the certificate. 1 st April up to and including 30 th September. Animals may only be hunted during this period on properties that do not have a valid Certificate of Adequate Fencing in terms of section 2(2)(a) of the Game Theft Act, 1991 (Act No. 105 of 1991).
Common Duiker (<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>) Klipspringer (<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>) Mountain Reedbuck (<i>Redunca fulvorufula</i>) Steenbok (<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>)	1 st January up to and including 31 st December if the property has a valid Certificate of Adequate Fencing issued in terms of section 2(2)(a) of the Game Theft Act, 1991 (Act No. 105 of 1991) and that the species to be hunted is/are specified on the certificate.
Bushpig (<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>) Warthog (<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>)	1 st January up to and including 31 st December on all properties in the province
Cape Hare (<i>Lepus capensis</i>) Scrub Hare (<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>)	1 st April up to and including 30 th September. A total of three (3) Cape Hare (<i>Lepus capensis</i>) or three (3) Scrub Hare (<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>) per hunter per day may be hunted.
Common Duiker (<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>) Eland (<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>) Klipspringer (<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>) Kudu (<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>) Steenbok (<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>)	May not be hunted at night.

Cape Hare (<i>Lepus capensis</i>) Scrub Hare (<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>)	
The following Protected Waterfowl and Sandgrouse species may be hunted, but a Protected Species hunting permit must be obtained in advance by the Hunter: Blue-billed Teal (<i>Spatula hottentota</i>) Cape Teal (<i>Anas capensis</i>) Cape Shoveller (<i>Anas smithii</i>) Fulvous Whistling Duck (<i>Dendrocyna bicolor</i>) Knob-billed duck (<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>) Southern Pochard (<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>) White-face Whistling duck (<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>) Namaqua Sandgrouse (<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>)	May only be hunted from 15th May up to and including 15th September) Only two (2) per species per hunter per year may be hunted. Namaqua Sandgrouse (<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>) may be hunted only if in flocks of 5 or more. Only five (5) Namaqua Sandgrouse per hunter per year may be hunted. Special Conditions: If hunted by foreign clients, all permits for the hunting of the listed Protected Bird Species must be in the name of the hunter and not the Landowner, Outfitter or Professional Hunter. No Protected Bird Species may be hunted at night.
Sable Antelope (<i>Hippotragus niger niger</i>)	Permits for hunting of Sable Antelope may be in the name of the landowner. The hunting period will be determined by the duration of validity of the permit. Copy/ies of the permit must be provided to all hunters prior to the commencement of the hunt
Black Wildebeest (<i>Connochaetes gnou</i>) Common Reedbuck (<i>Redunca arundinum</i>) Hartmann Zebra (<i>Equus hartmannae</i>) Tsessebe (<i>Damaliscus lunatus lunatus</i>)	In terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) Threatened or Protected Species Regulations and related amendments, additional permits are required to hunt these species, unless the Land Owner or Game Capturer is registered as a Threatened or Protected Species Regulations (TOPS) Game Farm or game capturer. Permits issued for the hunting of TOPS species may be in the name of the Landowner. Copy/ies of the permit must be provided to all hunters prior to the commencement of the hunt
Bontebok (<i>Damaliscus pygargus pygargus</i>) Roan Antelope (<i>Hippotragus equinus equinus</i>)	Additional hunting permits required if the owner is not registered in terms of the Threatened or Protected Species Regulations and related amendments. Permits for hunting of Bontebok and Roan Antelope may be in the name of the landowner. The hunting period will be determined by the duration of validity of the permit. Copy/ies of the permit must be provided to all hunters prior to the commencement of the hunt. Additional capture permits are required. DNA sampling must be done during all capture and/or translocation actions.

	Capturing is only allowed from 1 st April up to and including 15 th September.
Capture of all "Ordinary Game" species.	1 st March up to and including 15 th September.
Mountain Reedbuck Capture Special Condition	No mass capture (more than 5 animals) of Mountain Reedbuck (<i>Redunca fulvorufula</i>) is permitted on any properties in the Free State Province
"Ordinary Game" species not listed in this proclamation.	"Closed Season" and may not be captured or hunted without an additional permit
Smallmouth yellowfish (<i>Labeobarbus aeneus</i>)	For the purposes of Angling Competitions Only: 1. Smallmouth yellowfish (<i>Labeobarbus aeneus</i>) less than 45cm fork length but greater than 30cm fork length, may be kept in a separate holding net until weighed in. 2. Weighing of all smallmouth yellowfish must be done as soon as possible and the fish must be released into the water from which they were caught immediately thereafter. 3. Only smallmouth yellowfish in excess of 45cm may be kept by the angler, but it is recommended to also release these fish.
Largemouth yellowfish (<i>Labeobarbus kimberleyensis</i>)	Largemouth yellowfish (<i>Labeobarbus kimberleyensis</i>), if caught during an angling competition, MUST be released immediately into the water from which they were caught (catch and immediate release only). No largemouth yellowfish may be kept in a holding net nor by any angler.
This hunting proclamation is effective from the 1 st day of January 2023 and remains valid until such time that it is re-evaluated and amended by proclamation in the <i>Provincial Gazette</i>	

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND at BLOEMFONTEIN on THIS 31ST DAY of JANUARY 2023

Hon M.P. MOHALE, MPL

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: ECONOMIC, SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS