



NTSIKENI NATURE RESERVE

CULLING OPERATION 2025

SPECIFICATIONS

Introduction

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife is responsible for the management of the provincial protected area network within the province of KwaZulu-Natal. As part of its 2025 Animal Population Control programme, Ezemvelo intends to cull **180 Black Wildebeest** and **90 Blesbok** on Ntsikeni Nature Reserve.

The execution of the culling program must be guided by the terms and conditions as laid out in this document.

About Ntsikeni Nature Reserve

Ntsikeni Nature Reserve is in Southern KZN, between Underberg and Kokstad (under the uMzimkhulu Local Municipality, Harry Gwala District Municipality) and covers an area of 9 200ha. It has one of the largest high-altitude wetlands in South Africa and has been declared a Ramsar Site.

The reserve is an area of unique natural beauty with moist grassland vegetation and one of KwaZulu-Natal's priority wetlands. The natural habitat supports several globally threatened and endemic species, in particular bird species.

a. Conditions:

1. The appointed service provider shall undertake the cull in a manner to achieve the purpose of a cull.
2. No specific animals may be selected - the cull **MUST** be non-selective (randomly and aim to achieve a naturally occurring sex ratio removal of listed species).
3. Specific animals pointed out by the Officer in Charge or any other Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Official may not be culled.
4. The service provider **WILL** be accountable for any and all animals wounded or injured during the cull.
5. The service provider **WILL** be responsible for the animals as soon as the culling process begins, and mortalities during the ensuing chase are thus to be paid for as for culled animals.
6. Animals are to be dispatched as humanely as possible, preferably utilizing head shots.
7. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife reserves the right to suspend the cull or the participation of any member of the appointed service provider involved in the cull if Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife is of the opinion that conditions are not safe for the cull to continue, there is a high number of injured animals caused by the cull, the protected area Rules are not being adhered to, are for any reason that places people, the cull, operation of the protected area, safety of biodiversity at risk and any costs incurred by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife taking such action shall be for the account of the appointed service provider.
8. Ezemvelo reserves the right to kill/dispatch/euthanize any wounded animal. Should Ezemvelo determine that an injured animal is suffering, it retains the right to kill/dispatch/euthanize (not

drugs) such an animal on the service provider's account. The carcass remains the property of the service provider and the price for the animal remains unchanged.

9. Escaped wounded animals or any shot animal that is reasonably inaccessible may remain as part of scavenger support and the appointed service provider shall not derive any financial or other benefit from these escaped or inaccessible animals including but not limited to a concomitant reduction in the allocated quota.
10. Should any irregularities be witnessed by Ezemvelo during the cull, Ezemvelo retains the right to act against the service provider and to terminate the culling operation by the service provider.
11. The red offal (Heart, Lungs, Spleen, Liver and Kidneys) form part of the carcass, but shall not be added to the dressed carcass weight.
12. Both the carcass and the red offal must be tagged with the same identifying number in order for, *inter alia*, the State Veterinarian at the registered abattoir to do the final postmortem meat inspection and to declare the specific carcass suitable for human consumption.
13. All reasonable precautions MUST be taken by the successful service provider to avoid the disturbance of non-target animals, veld fires or any other disturbance to the protected area other than that directly associated with the cull.
14. The successful service provider may not sub-contract the cull without prior written agreement with Ezemvelo.
15. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife retains its right to at any reasonable time assess the skill and accuracy of any hunter that may participate in the culling of black wildebeest and reserves it right to exclude or prohibit any hunter that does not achieve a reasonable standard of skill and accuracy and any costs incurred by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife shall be for the account of the appointed service provider.
16. The service provider must ensure that the harvested meat is exposed/disposed/processed through a registered abattoir.
17. We strongly encourage the employment of the local community members for the Unskilled labour for loading/removal of guts/ etc, we are unable to give the number since we do not know how big the company.
18. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife reserves its right to sample each animal culled for but not limited to genetic monitoring and research, and the appointed service provider shall take every reasonable effort to ensure the necessary samples are collected by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife or a person or party specifically appointed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife to undertake the required monitoring and research.
19. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife reserves its right to augment or alter the above listed conditions having consulted the appointed service provider thereon.

b. Logistics:

1. Only roads identified by Ezemvelo may be used by the culling team.
2. The handling, storing and transport of the carcasses are for the service provider's account.
3. The service provider WILL be responsible for all logistical arrangements.
4. The service provider MUST provide all firearms, ammunition, suppressors and proof of calibrated scale equipment and vehicles for the culling.
5. **All ammunition used during the culling operation must be "lead-free" (mono metal).**
6. The successful service provider MUST supply a list of all equipment, vehicles and a list of personnel to the Officer in Charge/ Section Ranger before the cull commences.
7. The service provider MUST make their own arrangements for the processing of the carcasses. Slaughter facilities are not available on site, but a central point with running water will be provided.
8. The Service provide must be able to trap wastewater and remove off site.
9. Only light delivery vehicles (LDVs) WILL be allowed into the veld, and off-road driving will only be permitted with the approval of the Officer in charge.

10. **The Service provider will be responsible for digging a hole in a designated area for the purpose of disposing all heads, hooves and other animal products derived from the operation. The hole must be 5 meters long X 10 meters wide and must have a dept of 2 meters.**
11. All generated/solid waste, inclusive of animal parts, WILL be removed and disposed of from the Park by the successful service provider or special arrangements must be discussed with park management.
12. The liability of the aircraft, pilot and crew while operating in the Parks WILL be the responsibility of the service provider. (Obtain authority from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife to use aircraft).
13. Ezemvelo shall not be held accountable or responsible for any claim, loss or damage whatsoever arising after the operation of the helicopter, and the service provider hereby indemnifies Ezemvelo and holds it harmless against any claim in this regard.
14. All hired equipment necessary to set up required infrastructure is for the account of the service provider.
15. The successful service provider MUST acquire and **provide proof** of a combined 3rd Party and Public Liability Insurance Policy (Minimum of R 5 000 000 (per incident).

c. Firearms:

1. Reserve Management will inspect and if satisfied, approve each firearm and licence to be used for the culling operation.
2. The service provider MUST provide all firearms, ammunition.
3. **Rifles used during the culling operation must be used with “lead-free” (mono metal) ammunition only.**
4. **Shotguns used during the culling operation must be used with lead-free ammunition where possible.**
5. Service provider to discuss with the Officer in Charge the firearm sightings facility.

d. The successful service provider must ensure that he/she understands and adheres to the following:

1. Ensure that the correct prescribed legal minimum calibre firearms are utilized for the specific purpose:
2. The calibre must be suitable for the type of animal in the area for the specific purpose that the person will conduct duties (Must be prescribed in the contract);
3. It is recommended that all firearms utilized must be fitted with a suppressor/sound moderator;
4. All ammunition to be provided by the person/s /service provider;
5. All private firearms must be transported in a holster/holder/bag as prescribed by the Firearms Control Act (No firearms to be displayed/carried openly in public);
6. The person/s must abide by the approved policy and protocol regarding firearm management and control within Ezemvelo;
7. The private firearm must always be kept under his/her direct control; No safekeeping facilities will be provided by Ezemvelo for the storage of weapons after hours;
8. Good housekeeping principles must be adhered to – the service provider must as far as possible retrieve his/her empty cartridges that were used inside the Nature Reserve.
9. Ezemvelo is absolved from any liability relating to the loss of, or damage to the private firearm or any damage caused by use or misuse of the firearm;
10. Compliance with all provisions of the Firearms Control Act pertaining to private firearms;
11. Any person that possesses a private firearm or ammunition on Ezemvelo premises and fails to comply with the above instructions, may be subjected to criminal and disciplinary action.

e. Accommodation:

1. Accommodation inside the Park is managed by the Community and accommodation arrangements must be made with them.
2. It is advised that the service provider visit the Park beforehand to familiarize themselves with the terrain, access roads and distances from the closest towns.
3. The cost of accommodation, if used, is for the account of the service provider and the Community's standard tariffs will apply.
4. Should accommodation not be available inside the Park, the service provider may at its cost set up a camp if arranged with Ezemvelo inside the Park.
5. Rental of any ablution facility or chemical toilets will be for the account of the service provide

f. Permits/Authorisations:

1. General

- i The service provider **MUST** comply with all applicable legal provisions (Meat Safety Act, Act 40 of 2000), Firearms Control Act and Regulations (Act 60 of 2000) NEMPA and NEMBA, KZN Ordinance, RAMSA site.
- ii All licence / permit requirements are the responsibility of the successful service provider and **MUST** be made timeously through Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's Permit Office during normal office hours.
- iii Costs of these licences / permits are not part of the bid price and must be paid for separately.
- v. Compliance with the Meat Hygiene Act and Wildlife Meat Processing Guidelines must be adhered to.

2. TOPS Culling Licence

- i. Each member of the service providers culling team must apply for a TOPS culling licence.
- ii. The culling licence will be specific for the culling of Black Wildebeest.
- iii. Numbers of animals will be specified on the licence (as per culling tender).
- iv. The culling licence will be issued specific to Ntsikeni Nature Reserve. (Not valid for whole Province).
- v. The culling licence will only be valid for the duration of the cull (dates as per culling tender).
- vi. The culling license's must be available on site for inspection.
- vii. Service provider to apply and obtain the **Transport permit** for every truck leaving the reserve with the carcasses and total numbers to correspond.
- viii. If the animals are going outside the province, the service provided to apply and obtain the **export permit** before leaving the province.

g. Game Park Regulations / Authorisations

- The service provider must consult with Park Management and ensure all Ntsikeni Nature Reserve regulations and or authorisations are understood and adhered too.

h. Payment:

1. A deposit of **R 10 000,00** must be paid within 5 days after the closing of the auction. This will be off set against the invoices during the cull.
2. **Bids for the carcasses must be given per kilogram excluding VAT, skin intact, without head, hooves and intestines.**
3. **One bid price must be given for both species together at a per kilogram rate.**
4. The final weight will be confirmed by signing the removal schedule by both the service provider (representative) and an Ezemvelo representative.
5. Removal schedules **MUST** be completed and signed by representatives of both parties at the end of each day.
6. The full payment of the carcasses must be made within 24hours of them leaving the reserve via EFT.

Payment is to be made to: Standard Bank

Name of account holder: EZEMVELO KWAZULU NATAL WILDLIFE

Account Number: 051124238

Account Type: Business Current Account

Branch: Kingsmead

Branch Code: 040026

Branch Code (EFT): 051001

Ref no: 2029-806040

A copy of the deposit slip marked "Ntsikeni Culling" should be emailed to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife:-

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Rahman.Devduth@kznwildlife.com

Attention: - Mr R. Devduth

7. Ezemvelo is not registered for VAT.

i. Time Frame for the Project:

- This culling project must be completed by **31st May 2025. (Not negotiable)**

j. RESPONSIBILITIES OF EZEMVELO

1. The service provider will be notified in writing of sub-standard services. Ezemvelo reserves the right to terminate the contract should sub-standard services persist.
2. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife will close the Nature Reserve during the culling period.
3. Service provider must allow Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife staff to take Genetic samples.

k. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SERVICE PROVIDER

1. All staff will be required to wear relevant protective clothing/gear during the execution of the operation.
2. Services to be rendered according to accepted national cleaning standards for the safety of game meat.

3. Service provider to provide own protective clothing/gear (PPE).
4. Staff transport is at service provider's own cost.
5. Police clearance for all staff must be available on request within 72 hours.

I. MEETINGS AND/OR REPORTING

1. The Officer in charge or section ranger or a delegated official will be assigned to deal with the service provider.
2. Service provider(s) must familiarise themselves with the sites that need services in terms of geographical locations.

m. MEETINGS AND/OR REPORTING

1. The Officer-in-Charge or Section Ranger or a delegated official will be assigned to deal with the service provider.
 2. Service provider(s) must familiarise themselves with the sites that need services in terms of geographical locations.
- Kindly note Ezemvelo is NOT a VAT vendor. Therefore, prices offered must be excluding VAT.