



# **POLICY DOCUMENT**

CapeNature  
BIODIVERSITY SUPPORT SERVICES

## **Consolidation of Policy on the Importation and Translocation of Mammals into and within the Western Cape Province**

**August 2009**

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&  
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<b>CONSOLIDATION OF POLICY ON THE IMPORTATION AND TRANSLOCATION OF MAMMALS INTO AND WITHIN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</b>	
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**CONSOLIDATION OF POLICY ON THE IMPORTATION AND TRANSLOCATION OF  
 MAMMALS INTO AND WITHIN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

**1. Glossary of terms and acronyms used in this policy document**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Adequately enclosed	In relation to land means enclosed by— (a) any fence, wall or obstruction of any kind whatsoever forming all enclosure from which any wild animal of a species specified in a certificate of adequate enclosure issued in terms of section 35(4)(b) of the Ordinance is unable to escape without breaking it; (b) any natural boundary through or over which any wild animal of a species so specified will under normal circumstances not pass, or (c) any combination of fences, walls, obstructions or boundaries referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) so that any wild animal of a species so specified cannot escape from such land; (See Section 2 of Ordinance 19 of 1974)
Alien species	(a) a species that is not an indigenous species; or (b) an indigenous species translocated or intended to be translocated to a place outside its natural distribution range in nature, but not an indigenous species that has extended its natural distribution range by natural means of migration or dispersal without human intervention; (Read with “extralimital”) (See Section 1 of NEMBA)
Breeding facility	Facility undertaking breeding of mammals for reintroduction into appropriate historic distribution range
Captivity	In relation to any wild animal means the keeping within an enclosure by means of any fence, wall or obstruction of any kind whatsoever in such a way that such wild animal is unable to maintain itself by natural means; (See Section 2 of Ordinance 19 of 1974)
Certificate of Adequate Enclosure	A document issued in terms of section 35 of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1974, for protected wild animals listed on the certificate
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Washington, 1973;
Ecotype	Discrete populations below the level of subspecies which can be recognised on genetic, phenotypic or zoogeographic grounds;
Endemic	Any taxon confined to, or exclusive to, a particular specified area within the Western Cape Province;
Extralimital	Indigenous species outside its historic natural distribution range;
Invasive species	Any species whose establishment and spread outside of its natural distribution range— (a) threaten ecosystems, habitats or other species or have demonstrable potential to threaten ecosystems, habitats or other species; and (b) may result in economic or environmental harm or harm to human health; (See Section 1 of NEMBA)
Mammal	Any wild animal (See Section 2 of Ordinance 19 of 1974) of the Class Mammalia;
Natural distribution range	The area within which a species or other taxon occurs naturally or occurred naturally in historic times, and includes range extensions by means of natural migration or dispersal without human intervention, as described in the maps attached in Appendix Two;
Origin	When used for the purpose of differentiating between taxa (including ecotypes), refers to the habitat from which individuals of that taxon occurred in a wild state, and “originate” bears a corresponding meaning;
Protected area	Includes special nature reserves, nature reserves (including wilderness areas), protected environments, world heritage sites, specially protected forest areas, forest nature reserves and forest wilderness areas declared in terms of the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998), and mountain catchment areas declared in terms of the Mountain Catchment Areas Act, 1970 (Act No. 63 of 1970) (See Sections 1 and 9 of NEM:PAA)
Species	A kind of animal that does not normally interbreed with individuals of another kind, and includes any sub-species, geographic race, strain, hybrid or geographically separate population; (See Section 1 of NEMBA)
Taxon	A taxonomic group, whatever its rank, and taxa refers to the plural thereof;

Translocation	The deliberate artificial movement of any wild animal from one locality to another, which includes capturing and holding in temporary captivity;
Zoological institution	A permanent legal establishment registered as an institutional member of PAAZAB, or registered by a statutory body, and compliant with the standards of PAAZAB or such statutory body for the purpose of keeping wild animals; and “zoological garden” and “zoological facility” bear the same meaning;

## **2. Introduction**

Nature conservation in South Africa, including the Western Cape Province (“WCP”), has been associated with private and communal landowners throughout our recorded history. Long before it became a statutory responsibility of the State, “nature conservation”, as we know it today, was in the hands of these landowners, or at least some of them. Tribal hunting grounds basically protected areas where “sustainable utilisation” was practised and subsequently elsewhere some of the settler farmers began to protect certain species from indiscriminate hunting with the assistance of the government of the day.

In fact, without the efforts of private landowners, nature conservation today would have been in a far poorer state. Simple examples of animals that were effectively saved from extinction by private landowners include the bontebok, the black wildebeest, and the Cape mountain zebra, not to mention many other examples of other taxa. Thus some small pockets of rarer mammals survived, which provided source material for re-establishment elsewhere in their natural ranges.

As capture and transport techniques developed during the 1950s and 1960s it became possible during the 1970s and later to translocate wild mammals safely over large distances facilitating their widespread re-establishment.

Unfortunately, however, such techniques have also had drawbacks when used injudiciously. One result has been the widespread introduction of taxa into areas in which they never previously occurred. The three main problems resulting from such inappropriate translocations are harmful genetic changes, introduction and spread of dangerous diseases, and damage to the natural environment and its ecosystems.

Furthermore, legislation and international conventions have placed more and more obligations on conservation authorities to ensure that our biodiversity is protected against such thoughtless translocation of mammals.

In order to prevent further biodiversity losses it is therefore essential to establish appropriate guidelines, principles, and procedures that need to be followed for the translocation of mammals within our own province particularly since it is internationally recognised as one of the most important and most threatened biodiversity ‘hotspots’ in the world. It is also important to try and facilitate applications for the translocation of those indigenous species which were originally widespread, which are still fairly common elsewhere, are of reasonable importance to the game industry, and for which genetic, pathogenic and ecological threats are limited. Such a list of species has been prepared, as well as a list of indigenous species which face or pose a variety of threats and which need to be evaluated individually depending on various factors, such as their natural distribution ranges, their fencing requirements, their habitat requirements, *etc.* A third list of alien and extralimital species which have been introduced to the province, or for which applications to import are regularly received, is also provided, with an indication of whether or not they can be considered at all, and if so, under what conditions.

The intention of this policy is thus **to consolidate all existing policy documents**, and to provide appropriate guidelines, principles, standards and procedures to regulate the translocation of mammals within the WCP in terms of provincial legislation, within the context of broader national legislation and policy. The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board, in implementing this policy, aims to provide a professional and scientifically based service to all relevant stakeholders.

This policy is dedicated, amongst others, to the late Hannes Stadler, whose tireless efforts over more than twenty years' service, had an impact throughout conservation circles in South Africa, which will be sorely missed.

### **3. Policy Statement and Guidelines**

#### **3.1 Purpose**

This policy is drafted in terms of Section 16(1)(e) of the Ordinance and seeks to achieve the objectives and purposes of the Ordinance. Furthermore, this policy has the following purpose, namely:

1. to consolidate all existing policy documents in one formal document for use on a corporate basis;
2. to provide, within the national context, fixed guidelines to ensure consistent decision-making, in order to exercise control over mammalian translocations in the WCP;
3. to ensure that the processes as described in this policy take place in accordance with regulations proclaimed in terms of National Environmental Management legislation;
4. to protect the genetic integrity of endemic mammals through effective regulation of translocation and management;
5. to afford endemic mammals priority protection and to promote these mammals within the natural distribution range;
6. to ensure that local mammal populations will not be displaced through inappropriate translocations;
7. to ensure that translocation does not negatively impact on the zoogeography of a region;
8. to prevent the introduction of mammals to unsuitable habitat;
9. to regulate the exportation of endemic mammals to other countries / provinces;
10. to prevent negative impacts on local environments and habitats;
11. to prevent the introduction of foreign diseases and parasites to new and/or susceptible host populations;
12. to minimise the risks to source populations;
13. to introduce and apply the "polluter pays principle", whereby responsibility for rectification of proven negative environmental impacts arising from translocations, lies with the owner of the translocated mammals;
14. to introduce and apply the "precautionary principle" in considering the translocation of mammals;
15. to introduce and apply the "duty of care principle" with respect to habitat management as it relates to the translocation of mammals;
16. to set out the conditions and authorisations required (*i.e.* permits, *etc.*);
17. to clarify the various related processes and other responsibilities; and
18. to identify the critical information required for making decisions regarding mammalian translocations.

### 3.2 Scope

This policy includes all applications for the importation, exportation, and transportation (translocation) of mammals into and within the WCP. Where applicable, this policy must be read in conjunction with all regulations proclaimed in terms of National Environmental Management legislation, all published national norms, standards, codes, and any listed or other relevant policies, whether at national or provincial level.

### 3.3 Applicability

- This policy shall be applicable to all importation, exportation, and transportation (translocation) of mammals to any land, including all statutory and other protected areas (including all land under management of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board, stewardship sites, and state-owned or privately-owned land), within the boundaries of the WCP.
- The export of mammals from the WCP is not prohibited by the provisions of this policy. However, in the case of mammals whose distribution range is restricted to the WCP (*e.g.* bontebok), export of the relevant mammals from the WCP should not generally be permitted and such translocation applications should be actively discouraged.
- This policy does not necessarily prohibit the importation or transportation of mammals which are ultimately destined to be kept in captivity by scientific and academic institutions, zoological gardens, or circuses.
- This policy has no effect on any existing restrictions on the import, transport or export of mammals imposed in terms of National legislation or required by CITES.
- This policy requires compliance with all transport, import or export permit conditions required for administrative, veterinary or any other purposes.
- The administration of this policy must take place in accordance with the requirements of Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 (see Appendix 1 for Promotion of Administrative Justice Act procedure).

### 3.4 Other Applicable Legislation, Policies and Conventions

This section provides a list of the most relevant legislation, policies and international conventions. This list is, however, not exhaustive.

#### International Conventions and Policies:

- CITES
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- IUCN World Conservation Strategy; "Caring for the earth: a strategy for sustainable living"
- IUCN SSC Reintroduction Specialist Group "Guidelines for reintroductions"
- Other relevant IUCN SSC Specialist Group recommendations

#### National Legislation:

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996
- National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 ("NEMA"), as amended
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 ("NEMBA"), as amended
  - Threatened or Protected Species Regulations, R. No 152 of 23 February 2007, as amended, "TOPS"

- Other relevant regulations as may be promulgated in terms of NEMBA
- National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 (“NEMPAA”), as amended
- Genetically Modified Organisms Act 15 of 1997
- Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 (“PAJA”)
- Animal Diseases Act 35 of 1984
- Game Theft Act 105 of 1991
- Agricultural Pests Act 36 of 1983
- Performing Animals Protection Act 24 of 1935
- Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962

**Provincial Legislation:**

- Nature Conservation Ordinance, Ordinance 19 of 1974 (“the Ordinance”)
- Proclamation 955 of 1975

**Other Applicable Documents (e.g. policies, moratoria, etc.):**

- Moratorium on import and translocation of roan antelope.
- Policy guidelines and procedures for the management of bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) in the WCP.
- Minimum specifications for keeping of buffaloes and rhinoceroses in the WCP.
- Policy with respect to private game auctions
- Policy on certificates of adequate enclosure
- National Norms and Standards for the Management of Elephants in South Africa (“ENS”)
- National Norms and Standards for the Translocation of Mammalian Herbivores in South Africa
- SABS Code of Practice for the Translocation of Certain Species of Wild Herbivore, SABS 0331

**4. Principles**

South Africa has an obligation with respect to a number of international conventions to ensure the conservation of its biodiversity. According to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the WCP is obliged to adhere to and implement the principles of these conventions. This warrants the implementation of a policy focussing on ethical and conservation-orientated principles and procedures.

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board will not promote any actions or activities that may pose any threat to biodiversity within the Western Cape provincial boundaries or elsewhere. The translocation and management of mammalian taxa in the WCP will be subject to the following general guiding principles, except where this policy makes provision for specific exceptions.

1. Only historically-occurring mammals may be reintroduced, using the attached natural / historic distribution range maps (see Appendix 2) as a basis for informed decision-making.

2. Where the proposed translocation of mammals may present a threat of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity, the “duty of care” in terms of NEMA requires that the precautionary principle be applied and the threat should be avoided.
3. No alien mammals may be imported into or translocated within the WCP, unless they are destined for a breeding or zoological facility, or overwhelming biodiversity evidence exists to justify such translocation. These facilities remain subject to the permitting system of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board.
4. Populations of alien mammals currently legally in the province may potentially be allowed to remain on the current properties, but incentives will be sought to encourage landowners to phase out or to move these mammals to a breeding or zoological facility or else to export the mammals to the country / province of origin legally.
5. Alien mammals that are not moved to a breeding or zoological facility, or exported to the country / province of origin, may not leave the property in a living state.
6. No further alien / extralimital mammals may be translocated in order to supplement existing legal populations for breeding purposes.
7. Conservation principles must not be compromised by economic considerations.
8. Genetic integrity at subspecies / ecotype level, based on existing taxonomic data, must be preserved.
9. All translocations are subject to applicable legislation as contained in paragraph 3.4 of this policy.
10. Mammals that can potentially hybridise, particularly when outside their natural distribution range, may not be translocated to properties / camps adjacent to those on which closely related taxa occur naturally or due to introduction, in order to protect the genetic integrity of the mammals concerned (*e.g.* bontebok and blesbok). This does not necessarily preclude the translocation of such taxa in the short term to temporary transit facilities.
11. No crossbreeding of species / subspecies / ecotypes will be allowed and no hybrids may be translocated alive.
12. The selective breeding of mammalian taxa for abnormal colour variations is not supported and should be firmly discouraged.
13. Endemic mammals must be afforded priority protection and their conservation must be promoted within the natural distribution range (*e.g.* bontebok).
14. Commercial exportation, particularly of endemic mammals, to other countries / provinces will be regulated.
15. Source populations for all translocations must originate from approved sources.
16. Re-introduced mammals must originate from genetically appropriate populations.
17. Specialist input, in the form of extra documentation, may be requested during the process of evaluating permit applications.
18. Control over translocations must be exercised consistently.
19. No mammalian species may be translocated and / or released unconditionally.
20. Mammals should only be moved to areas where adequate habitat / veld type exists for their specific requirements (even within the known natural distribution range).
21. Mammals that occur naturally in an area should not be displaced by any re-introduced or introduced mammals.

22. Neither the environment nor the specific habitat of naturally occurring fauna and flora may be detrimentally affected by re-introduced or introduced mammals.
23. In mammalian species where the occurrence of ecotypes is recognised, no mixing of ecotypes may occur.
24. The “polluter pays” principle will apply, whereby responsibility for rectification of proven negative environmental impacts arising from translocations, lies with the owner of the translocated animals in terms of NEMA and / or NEMBA.
25. Translocated taxa must not introduce foreign diseases or parasites to host populations. Mammals originating from captivity may only be released into the wild after a veterinary screening process.
26. Translocations should not result in serious agricultural damage, create health problems or have negative economic consequences.
27. Source populations providing animals for a translocation must not be put at risk by any such translocation.

## **5. Negative Impacts of Injudicious Mammal Translocations**

A result of the growth of the game industry has been the introduction of taxa to areas in which they had never previously occurred naturally. As previously indicated, the three main results of such translocations are potentially negative genetic consequences, potentially dangerous pathogenic consequences, and potentially harmful ecological consequences.

### **5.1 Genetic Impacts**

The genetic issue is mostly attributable to the direct hybridisation of closely related taxa. Until relatively recently there was more concern about hybridising different subspecies, than there was about hybrids between species or between different ecotypes. It has, however, become apparent that many interspecific hybrids (within a genus) are as fertile as intraspecific hybrids (within a species), particularly amongst several of the Bovidae.

Several genera in the Bovidae consist of several species and in many of these genera the chromosome numbers are the same for all species, or differ by only a Robertsonian fusion or two, allowing complete allelic compatibility. Generally in the wild these species would either occur allopatrically (different distribution ranges) or if they occurred sympatrically (overlapping distribution ranges) they would be separated by behavioural differences or differing ecological requirements which would lead to niche separation. However, when taken out of their natural habitats, such animals find themselves in situations where they are effectively forced into contact with one another, and when these areas are relatively small, the chances of such hybridisation become that much greater. This is particularly true for the genera *Kobus* (e.g. common waterbuck), *Tragelaphus* (e.g. kudu), *Connochaetes* (e.g. wildebeest), and *Damaliscus* (e.g. bontebok), amongst others (Gray, 1972). Recent evidence suggests that it is also true of the genus *Hippotragus* (e.g. sable antelope). In these cases the fertility of most of the hybrids is assured.

However, there are also instances of intergeneric (between genera) and intrageneric (interspecific) hybrids with varying degrees of fertility. Furthermore, ecotypical hybridisation is also of considerable concern to conservation authorities especially since recent and current genetic research is increasingly demonstrating that there is considerable genetic variation in many species associated with geographic distribution, and these local adaptations need to be conserved wherever possible.

For example, anyone who has seen bushbuck in both Zululand and in the southern Cape will appreciate that they look very different from one another, in much the same way that blesbok look different from bontebok. However, it is also true that grey rhebuck from the Bontebok National Park, the Karoo National Park and the Mountain Zebra National Park all look very similar, but

genetic evaluation of mitochondrial DNA shows that they differ from one another by roughly as much as do bontebok and blesbok from one another.

## 5.2 Pathogenic Impacts

The pathogenic issue is probably best known in terms of diseases which are present in wild animals without being lethal, because of various levels of immunity, but which can be fatal when transferred to domestic and other wild animals. Well-known diseases transferred from indigenous wild animals to domestic stock include foot-and-mouth disease, corridor disease, rabies, bovine malignant catarrh (snotsiekte), *etc.*, often with catastrophic results. Similarly, diseases such as tuberculosis and bovine sarcoid virus are known to have been transferred from domestic stock to wild animals. The transfer of endemic diseases, such that they become epidemic, can also result from injudicious translocations and can have disastrous effects on the new species to which these diseases have been exposed, due to the lack of immunity. Similarly parasites can also be artificially distributed as a result of a lack of caution when translocating animals.

## 5.3 Ecological Impacts

Ecological damage, other than that of a genetic or pathogenic nature, is often as a result of an animal managing to escape from rigid confinement and entering and surviving even in relatively isolated, or even seemingly hostile, environments where detection is limited and where the attributes of the escaped animal are such that it has a potential competitive advantage over locally-occurring species/taxa. For example, it might have an ability to utilize a wide range of food plants whilst locally-occurring taxa have a more specialized diet. The advantage could also be a physical one, inasmuch as it could, for example, be out of reach of local predators due to its size or mobility, *etc.* Typical examples would include the Himalayan tahr on Table Mountain; nyala introduced into bushbuck habitat in areas where they never previously occurred; impala introduced into Little Karoo catchments dominated by suitable browsing species such as *Acacia karroo*; impala introduced into prime reedbuck habitats in the Eastern Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal, *etc.*

There are also examples of alien taxa which have been repeatedly introduced into new areas without any apparent negative effects, until a point is reached where the cumulative effect crosses a threshold beyond which the introduced taxon rapidly starts proliferating. An example of such an introduction would be fallow deer.

Furthermore, negative ecological impacts can also be due to the overstocking of wild animals (whether they be alien, extralimital or even local) with the associated negative impacts on plant populations and soil condition resulting from excessively selective over-grazing and trampling. In almost all such cases, it is the local environments or the local species which suffer while the introduced taxon thrives at their expense.

## 6. Translocation Permit Application Criteria

**Any application for a permit to translocate mammals must conform to the following procedures.**

For the purpose of a uniform corporate approach to processing applications, all applications should be submitted to Law Administration.

- All applications for the translocation of mammals must be in writing. No verbal applications will be accepted, *e.g.* as in the case of a telephonic “application”, where the officer handling the call completes the *pro-forma* application form (see Appendix 3) on the client’s behalf.
- The application form must be dated and signed by the applicant.
- The application form should preferably be completed by the person who is in possession of the mammals at the time of the application. All other parties participating in the transaction must complete the “Third Party Form” (see Appendix 4) confirming their participation in the transaction. Any application that does not contain relevant Third Party information will be

deemed to be incomplete and will not be considered. The applicant must be informed in writing and required to provide the relevant information within a reasonable period of time.

- The applicant should complete a *pro-forma* application form. Failing this, the applicant must provide a written document containing all relevant details required for the consideration of the application.
- All applications must be accompanied by the relevant supporting documentation (including, but not limited to, a list of game mammals already occurring on the destination / recipient property and all adjacent properties, corresponding permits, management plans, certificates of adequate enclosure, habitat assessments, written permission from the relevant local authority, letters of no objection from adjacent landowners, etc.). Any application that is not accompanied by all relevant supporting documentation will be deemed to be incomplete and will not be considered. Said applicant must be informed of the shortcomings and requiring the applicant to rectify said shortcomings within a reasonable period of time.

### **6.1 Background Information**

- Before any transport/import/export permit can be issued / recommended, it must be ascertained whether the supplier of the game obtained the species in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance.
- It must be ascertained what related mammals occur naturally on adjacent properties or have been re-introduced or introduced, and whether said adjacent properties are adequately enclosed with respect to those mammals occurring on those properties.
- It must be confirmed that the recipient of the animals has appropriately enclosed facilities with regard to general fencing/special enclosure requirements for the species he wishes to re-establish/establish.
- The Conservation Services Manager (“CSM”) in the area where the game is to be delivered must be contacted to ascertain whether he/she would recommend the translocation of the mammals. Where appropriate, the local Biodiversity Crime Unit (“BCU”) representative should be contacted for information regarding pending investigations relating to any of the individuals involved in the application.
- No hint, guarantee or any other indication may be given to an applicant during the application process (*i.e.* when the applicant submits an application or during inspection) that the application will eventually be approved or receive a positive or favourable response from the eventual decision-making point.
- No indication may be given to an applicant that a favourable recommendation/report is a guarantee of a successful application and that the rest of the process is a mere formality.
- Translocation permits remain subject to additional permit conditions which may be determined / required by the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board (see Appendix 5).

### **6.2 General factors that need to be taken into account prior to considering an application.**

The following general criteria must be taken into account when evaluating an application to translocate mammals.

- The natural current and historical distribution of the taxa;
- the origin of the source population, and in the case of auctions, the source prior to auction;
- the possibility of hybridisation;
- the potential competition between the taxa specified in the application and other naturally-occurring mammals on the property;

- the behaviour and characteristics of mammals specified in the application (*e.g.* burrower, jumper, cryptic, *etc.*);
- consideration of other effects on the mammals occurring on neighbouring properties (*e.g.* disease, social behaviour transformation, *etc.*);
- the suitability of the habitat;
- the size of the property;
- compliance with all appropriate fencing requirements;
- compliance with all veterinary requirements;
- relevant legislation and policy other than the Ordinance (*e.g.* TOPS, CITES, ENS, *etc.*)
- whether the property of the applicant falls within the domain of any conservation initiatives in terms of NEM:PAA (*e.g.* mountain catchment areas, landscape conservation initiatives, *etc.*);

### **6.3 Special criteria to be considered when considering applications for translocation of mammals to certain sensitive areas.**

When considering applications for the translocation of mammals to sensitive areas, the following specific criteria should be taken into account.

- whether the translocation could pose a further threat to threatened plants or plant communities; to sensitive ecosystems or any of their components; or to threatened vegetation types; and
- whether the translocation could pose further threats to the following habitats:
  - (a) any habitat identified as a Critical Biodiversity Habitat by a published bioregional plan;
  - (b) any sensitive or important habitat identified by a relevant fine-scale conservation plan;
  - (c) any Critically Endangered or Endangered habitat in terms of the most recent National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment; and
  - (d) any special habitats identified by a conservation official or biodiversity specialist, in which case the property must have an ongoing management plan that maintains stocking rates below thresholds which may cause negative impacts (where such stocking rates are unclear, the rate of <1 Large Stock Unit per 50ha should be used).

All properties comprised of natural vegetation ranging between 200 ha and 1000 ha in extent, on which locally extinct taxa are proposed for re-establishment, will need to be evaluated on the basis of a comprehensive ecological assessment. This ecological assessment must specify the possible effects of such re-establishment, particularly on rarer existing taxa but also on threatened biological communities. Such assessment must be undertaken by a competent and independent ecological evaluator. For example, properties of less than 200 ha of natural vegetation should not be considered for re-establishment of locally extinct taxa within fynbos or renosterveld ecosystems. Applications for re-establishment / establishment on less than 200 ha of transformed land will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

### **6.4 Additional information for consideration**

Despite the fact that errors of judgment may have been made in the past, no further populations of extralimital wild taxa will be permitted unconditionally within the WCP. Such “errors of judgment” provide no grounds for perpetuating such practices. Where existing populations of extralimital wild taxa have been established in accordance with the Ordinance (*i.e.* legally), these will be strictly managed, or the relevant landowners should be encouraged to dispose of them. This will be

achieved by offering those landowners who would qualify appropriate incentives to get rid of said extralimital taxa in recognition of their contribution in jointly conserving the biodiversity of the WCP. In the case of landowners who do not wish to dispose of these inappropriate taxa, strict management will be enforced. Illegally established populations will be dealt with according to law.

It should also be borne in mind that the original intention of so-called “certificates of adequate enclosure” was to afford landowners a form of ownership over the protected wild animals listed on such certificate, through the use of appropriate fencing material. Certificates of Adequate Enclosure were thus never intended to be used as a mechanism to promote the introduction or the management of extralimital taxa.

As has been adequately demonstrated both in practice and in the literature, fences are no guarantee against animals escaping. However, if these animals occur naturally in the landscape, or did so historically, in most cases escaped animals will not be ecologically troublesome. In the case of alien or extralimital species, however, the resulting consequences can be extremely harmful to the environment; in many cases, irreversibly so.

## **7. Procedures to be followed when considering permit applications**

### **7.1 Procedure to be followed for mammals indigenous to the WCP which may be translocated throughout the province**

The following mammals may be recommended for translocation throughout the WCP, due to the fact that historically they occurred throughout most of the WCP in appropriate habitat:

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. plains zebra (“Burchell’s zebra”) ( <i>Equus quagga antiquorum</i> )* | (See Map 5) |
| 2. Cape buffalo ( <i>Syncerus caffer</i> )*                              | (See Map 6) |
| 3. Cape eland ( <i>Tragelaphus oryx</i> )                                | (See Map 7) |
| 4. red hartebeest ( <i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i> )                       | (See Map 8) |
| 5. springbok ( <i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i> )                           | (See Map 9) |

Source populations for these five species may only originate within the boundaries of Namibia, Botswana or South Africa.

However, in the case of Cape buffalo and plains zebra, marked with an asterisk (refer to Appendix 6), some further documentation needs to be provided and certain procedures need to be followed depending on the species the applicant wishes to establish. These documents could be one or more of the following depending on the species.

- Veterinary documents (permits).
- Ecological management plans (see Appendix 7).
- Written permission of the adjacent landowners.
- Insurance against injury to persons and damage to property.
- Documentation that proves that the holding facilities are appropriate.

Note that those marked with an asterisk require written veterinary approval.

**For the above-mentioned five game species, only the following basic guidelines / criteria really need to be followed.**

- a) **Suitability of the habitat** – suitable habitat will have sufficient shelter, water and food to sustain the animals.
- b) **Size of property** – the size of the enclosed land will ultimately determine the number of individuals of any specific species that the property can support, based on the ecological carrying capacity of the veld. Population viability should also be taken into consideration, as this will influence the size of the founder population (the number of animals to be introduced initially).
- c) **Fencing** – consult Appendix 8 with regard to fence height requirements for the species. Cognisance must also be taken of enclosure / camp specifications according to other

relevant policies: for example elephants may only be released on adequately enclosed land with a continuous size of 1 500 ha.

- d) **Landscape Conservation Initiatives (e.g. GRI, GCBC, ABI and GI)** – the applicants and concerned game farmers should be made aware of the large scale landscape initiatives, e.g. the establishment of corridors to facilitate, amongst other things, the improved mobility of indigenous wildlife of the WCP.
- e) **Comments approved by relevant manager** – the relevant officer must comment on the application, attach all the necessary documents, and pass it on to the CSM for recommendation and, if necessary, to the Business Unit Manager (“B.U.M.”) for approval.
- f) **Proof of legal origin for mammals** – the application must include documentary proof of the legal origin of the mammals specified in the application.

## 7.2 Procedure to be followed for translocation applications for all other mammalian taxa indigenous to the WCP

For the species listed in this section permits may only be issued after referral of the application to the relevant B.U.M., the Programme Manager: Wildlife Management, the Programme Manager: Biodiversity Crime Unit, and Scientific Services or, in complex cases, the Wildlife Advisory Committee, for final recommendation (see Appendix 9). In cases where species listed in this section are to be translocated between existing legal populations outside their natural distribution range, all applications are to be forwarded to the Wildlife Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendation.

It is also important to take note of the fact that additional documentation needs to be provided and certain procedures need to be followed depending on the species the applicant wishes to establish. These documents could be one or more of the following depending on the species.

- Veterinary documents (permits).
- Ecological management plans.
- Written permission of the adjacent landowners.
- Written permission of the local authority, where appropriate.
- Insurance against injury to persons and damage to property.
- Documentation that indicates that the holding facilities are appropriate.

The following are the mammals for which transport / import permits can only be conditionally issued after comment has been received and evaluated after referral to the relevant B.U.M., Programme Manager: Wildlife Management, Programme Manager: Biodiversity Crime Unit, Scientific Services and / or, if necessary, the Wildlife Advisory Committee:

1. African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) †
2. hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*)
3. black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) †
4. Cape mountain zebra (*Equus zebra zebra*) †
5. bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) †
6. blesbok (*Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi*) (extremely limited natural occurrence, if at all)
7. black wildebeest (*Connochaetes gnou*) (extremely limited natural occurrence, if at all) †
8. mountain reedbuck (*Redunca fulvorufula*) (limited natural occurrence)
9. oryx / gemsbok (*Oryx gazella*)
10. klipspringer (*Oreotragus oreotragus*)
11. steenbok (*Raphicerus campestris*)
12. Cape grysbok (*Raphicerus melanotis*)
13. grey rhebuck (*Pelea capreolus*)
14. grey / common duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*)
15. blue duiker (*Philantomba monticola*) †
16. bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*)
17. kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*)

18. all members, indigenous to the WCP, of the orders Carnivora (carnivores), Rodentia (rodents), Afrosoricida (golden moles), Macroscelidea (elephant shrews), Hyracoidea (dassies (hyraxes)), Lagomorpha (hares and rabbits), Primates (baboons and monkeys), Eulipotyphla (shrews), Chiroptera (bats), Suiformes (pigs), and Tubulidentata (aardvark).

Please note that those species / taxa marked with a cross represent some of those affected by the national list of Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS). When considering applications for such species, the requirements of the TOPS regulations must be taken into account before issuing a permit to translocate such species. This is especially applicable to applications for the translocation of TOPS-listed mammals to extensive wildlife systems which are protected areas and are located outside the natural distribution range of the mammal concerned.

#### **African elephant †**

(See Map 10)

In the case of the African elephant (1), because of their perceived dangerous status, there is a need to meet minimum fencing requirements. Furthermore, the requirements of the ENS must be taken into account in considering applications for the translocation of African elephants. Where applicable, the recommendations of the Elephant Management and Owners Association (EMOA), Elephant Tourism Association (ETA) and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) should be taken into account.

*Magisterial Districts: All*

#### **Hippopotamus and black rhinoceros †**

(See Map 11 and 12a & 12b)

In the case of the hippopotamus (2), and the black rhinoceros (3), as stated earlier, because of their perceived dangerous status, there is also a need to meet minimum fencing requirements. In the case of black rhinoceroses, the guidelines for re-establishment, prepared by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Rhino Management Group (RMG) should be followed.

*Magisterial Districts: Hippopotamus = All*

*South-central black rhinoceros = Not found in 1 – 4, 6, 8 – 9*

*South-western black rhinoceros = Natural distribution range = 1 – 4, 6, 8 – 9*

#### **Cape mountain zebra †**

(See Map 13)

In the case of Cape mountain zebra (4), the recommendations of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Species Survival Commission (IUCN SSC) Equid Specialist Group (ESG) and the Mountain Zebra Working Group (MZWG) need to be adhered to, which means that translocations may only take place within the natural distribution range of Cape mountain zebra on properties with appropriate and sufficient habitat to maintain a population of, ultimately, at least 25 animals. Applications for the initial reintroduction of Cape mountain zebra to a property may only be considered if the application is for the establishment of a minimum of 14 animals in committed phases over a period not exceeding three years (e.g. five animals in year 1, five animals in year two and four animals in year 3). The destination property must exceed the minimum accepted size as recommended by the MZWG. No further introductions of Hartmann's mountain zebra (*Equus zebra hartmannae*) will be permitted within the WCP and owners of stocks obtained in accordance with the Ordinance in the WCP will be offered incentives to dispose of them in an appropriate and responsible manner. All applications for the translocation of Cape mountain zebra will be evaluated by the Wildlife Advisory Committee. No permits for Cape mountain zebra may be issued in "emergency situations" without telephonic consultation with Wildlife Advisory Committee members.

*Magisterial Districts: All*

#### **Bontebok †**

(See Map 14)

In the case of applications to translocate bontebok (5) originating from registered herds, officers must first acquaint themselves with the animals occurring on neighbouring properties, whether obtained in terms of the Ordinance or not, which could compromise such an application. If neighbouring properties have blesbok, bontebok translocation applications will not be approved. This excludes the translocation of animals to and from approved temporary transit facilities.

Permits for bontebok can only be considered and issued if the application is in line with the requirements of TOPS and the policy for the registration of bontebok herds as "pure herds". Such registration should be regularly updated. According to this policy, only bontebok from a registered

herd may be purchased and translocated, which means that landowners in the WCP cannot buy animals from a herd that is not registered and no permits will be issued for the translocation of unregistered bontebok. In essence, new applications for the establishment of bontebok will only be supported for properties in the natural distribution range of bontebok and therefore no new applications for the establishment of bontebok on properties outside the natural distribution range within the WCP will be considered. Translocation between existing registered herds of bontebok within the WCP may still be considered.

*Magisterial Districts: Natural distribution range = 24, 28, 34, 35, 41, 42*

### **Blesbok**

(See Map 15)

In the case of blesbok (6), due to the risks of hybridisation with bontebok, new permit applications will only be considered if said translocations take place within the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts; see distribution map in Appendix 2). Said permit applications must comply with the conditions prescribed for blesbok in section 7.3.

*Magisterial Districts: Permissible in 3 - 4*

### **Black wildebeest †**

(See Map 16)

In the case of black wildebeest (7), due to the risks of hybridisation with blue wildebeest and the threat of disease transfer, new applications for the establishment of black wildebeest will only be considered if said translocations take place within the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts; see distribution map in Appendix 2). All applications for the translocation of black wildebeest (whether establishing new populations within the range indicated on the map in Appendix 2, or between existing extralimital populations) must comply with the following conditions. See also section 7.3 of this policy

- There are no-objection letters from neighbouring farmers, a State veterinarian, and the local agricultural union;
- the property or camp is adequately enclosed for black wildebeest;
- there are no legal or illegal blue wildebeest populations on the applicant's farm or any neighbouring farms, unless a suitable buffer exists to separate the populations;

Permits will not be issued for the live translocation of black wildebeest which occurred on any property on which blue wildebeest also occur.

The translocation of any form of live hybrid between black and blue wildebeest is strictly prohibited.

*Magisterial Districts: Permissible in 3 - 4*

### **Mountain reedbuck**

(See Map 17)

In the case of mountain reedbuck (8), which are also alien / extralimital to the most of the WCP, permit applications will only be considered if said translocations take place within the north-eastern parts of the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts) and the eastern parts of the Uniondale Magisterial District. See also section 7.3 of this policy.

*Magisterial Districts: Permissible in 3 - 4, 18*

### **Oryx / gemsbok**

(See Map 18)

In the case of oryx (gemsbok) (9), applications will be dealt with on merit and in terms of the map provided (See distribution map in Appendix 2). In essence, new applications for the establishment of oryx will only be supported for properties in the natural distribution range of oryx and therefore no new applications for the establishment of oryx on properties outside the natural distribution range within the WCP will be considered. Translocation between existing legal populations of oryx may still be considered.

*Magisterial Districts: Natural distribution range = 1 - 13, 15, 19*

### **Klipspringer, steenbok, grey duiker, grey rhebuck, Cape grysbok, blue duiker and bushbuck †**

(See Maps 19 - 23)

In the case of klipspringer (10), steenbok (11), grey duiker (12), grey rhebuck (13), Cape grysbok (14), blue duiker (15), and bushbuck (16), translocation application decisions will be determined by the "ecotypical" maps provided.

## Kudu

(See Map 24)

In the case of kudu (17), applications will be dealt with on merit and in terms of the map provided (See distribution map in Appendix 3). New applications for the establishment of kudu will only be supported for properties in the natural distribution range of kudu and therefore no new applications for the establishment of kudu on properties outside the natural distribution range within the WCP will be considered. Translocation between existing legal populations of kudu may still be considered.

*Magisterial Districts: Natural distribution range = 3 – 4, 5 – 6, 16 – 19*

## All other cases

In all cases of applications for the translocation of other indigenous Western Cape species (18) within the orders Carnivora (carnivores), Rodentia (rodents), Afrosoricida (golden moles), Macroscelidea (elephant shrews), Hyracoidea (dassies (hyraxes)), Lagomorpha (hares and rabbits), Primates (baboons and monkeys), Eulipotyphla (shrews), Chiroptera (bats), Suiformes (pigs), and Tubulidentata (aardvark), these will be referred to the Wildlife Advisory Committee for a recommendation.

It must also be re-emphasized that veterinary requirements need to be met for a variety of species; e.g. no zebra species may be translocated in an area with African horse sickness without veterinary permission. The same applies to Cape buffalo in areas where corridor disease, or foot-and-mouth disease, or tuberculosis have been recorded. Similarly, veterinary approval is required for wildebeest translocations.

### 7.3 Procedure to be followed for translocation applications for extralimital (South African) and alien (non-South African) taxa within the WCP

For the purpose of this section, extralimital refers to mammals that are indigenous to South Africa, but not to the WCP, and alien refers to mammals that are not indigenous to South Africa.

The mammals referred to in this section include several species of interest to the game industry, whether or not these species were legally introduced into the WCP. However, all are considered to be problematic for a variety of reasons and are therefore undesirable in the WCP. Some will be permitted conditionally and others will not be permitted at all. Landowners who are in possession of certain of these in accordance with the Ordinance could come into consideration for being offered incentives to dispose of these taxa.

The mammals listed in this category include extralimital taxa such as:

1. Hartmann's mountain zebra (*Equus zebra hartmannae*) † (See Map 25)
2. white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*) † (See Map 26)
3. giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) (See Map 27)
4. nyala (*Tragelaphus angasii*) (See Map 28)
5. sable antelope (*Hippotragus niger*) (See Map 29)
6. roan antelope (*Hippotragus equinus*) † (See Map 30)
7. common waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) † (See Map 31)
8. common reedbuck (*Redunca arundinum*) † (See Map 32)
9. mountain reedbuck (*Redunca fulvorufula*) (See Map 17)
10. impala (*Aepyceros melampus*) (See Map 33)
11. blue wildebeest (*Connochaetes taurinus*) (See Map 34)
12. black wildebeest (*Connochaetes gnou*) † (See Map 16)
13. tsessebe (*Damaliscus lunatus*) † (See Map 35)
14. blesbok (*Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi*) (See Map 15)
15. all other South African taxa extralimital to the WCP

and alien taxa such as:

16. Lichtenstein's hartebeest (*Alcelaphus (Sigmoceros) lichtensteinii*)
17. red lechwe (*Kobus leche*)
18. fallow deer (*Cervus (Dama) dama*)
19. all other alien taxa

## 20. feral animals

Please note that those species / taxa marked with a cross represent some of those affected by the national list of Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS). When considering applications for such species, the requirements of the TOPS and other relevant regulations must be taken into account before issuing a permit to translocate such species. This is especially applicable to applications for the translocation of TOPS-listed mammals to extensive wildlife systems which are protected areas and are located outside the natural distribution range of the mammal concerned.

### **Extralimital (South African) taxa**

#### **Hartmann's mountain zebra †** (See Map 25)

Hartmann's mountain zebras (1) are extralimital within the WCP. In the case of legally established populations of Hartmann's mountain zebra occurring in the WCP on properties with habitat suitable for Cape mountain zebra (*Equus zebra zebra*), consideration will be given to providing landowners with incentives to dispose of their Hartmann's mountain zebras. No further permits will be approved except in the case of transportation for export. Because of the threat posed by fertile hybridisation with Cape mountain zebra, all landowners with Hartmann's mountain zebras within the WCP should, therefore, be encouraged to dispose of them. Illegally established populations will be dealt with according to the law.

#### **White rhinoceros †** (See Map 26)

In the case of white rhinoceroses (2), which are extralimital within the WCP, certain landowners who currently possess these animals in accordance with the Ordinance, *may* be permitted to keep them, on condition that an ecological management plan for their sound management is submitted. No new applications for the establishment of white rhinoceros on properties within the WCP will be considered. Applicants who plan to obtain rhinoceroses should be encouraged to obtain black rhinoceros instead of white rhinoceros. Translocation between existing legal populations of white rhinoceros may still be considered.

#### **Giraffe** (See Map 27)

In the case of giraffe (3), which is extralimital within the WCP, certain landowners who currently possess these animals in accordance with the Ordinance, may be permitted to keep them, on condition that an ecological management plan for their sound management is submitted and an exit contract is negotiated and concluded. No new applications for the establishment of giraffe on properties within the WCP will be considered unless the following conditions are met.

- There are no-objection letters from neighbouring farmers;
- the property is adequately enclosed for giraffe;
- there is sufficient suitable habitat for giraffe;
- there is an ecological management plan for the proper management of giraffe on the relevant property;
- the property does not incorporate threatened vegetation types, sensitive ecosystems or components of sensitive ecosystems;
- the property does not fall within a protected area and / or one of the Landscape Conservation Initiatives; and
- an exit contract has been negotiated.

#### **Nyala** (See Map 28)

In the case of nyala (4), this species is extralimital within the WCP and presents a threat to local populations of bushbuck through competition and / or hybridisation. Due to their shy reclusive nature, nyala are difficult to control should they escape from the properties where they have been introduced. No further permit applications will be approved, unless nyala are being exported from the WCP. In the case of properties where nyala occur in terms of the Ordinance, an exit contract should be negotiated through the use of incentives as a priority, particularly to prevent future potential hybridisation and competition complications.

**Sable**

(See Map 29)

In the case of sable antelope (5), which are extralimital within the WCP, no further permit applications will be approved unless sable are being exported from the WCP. Negotiations for their removal through an incentive system should also be seen as priority, especially in light of the fact that there are so few populations in the WCP which were established in terms of the Ordinance. No new applications for the establishment of sable on properties within the WCP will be considered.

**Roan antelope**

(See Map 30)

In the case of roan antelope (6), no permit applications will be approved since they are extralimital within the WCP and there are no legal populations within the province. Furthermore, roan antelope may potentially hybridise with sable antelope resulting in fertile hybrid offspring, as was reported during an episode of 50/50 broadcast on SABC2 during September 2007.

**Common waterbuck**

(See Map 31)

In the case of common waterbuck (7), this species is extralimital within the WCP and no further permit applications will be approved, unless the animals concerned are to be exported from the WCP. Furthermore, this species is closely related to common reedbuck and mountain reedbuck, and even more closely related to all the other species in the genus *Kobus*, all of which are known to produce fertile hybrids when crossed with one another. Landowners that are in possession of waterbuck in terms of the Ordinance must be encouraged to dispose of them.

**Common reedbuck**

(See Map 32)

In the case of common or true reedbuck (8), which are extralimital within the WCP, these animals pose a genetic threat to mountain reedbuck populations, being in the same genus and no further permit applications will be approved, unless the animals concerned are to be exported from the WCP. Where common reedbuck legally occur on properties in the WCP, landowners must be encouraged to dispose of them.

**Mountain reedbuck**

(See Map 17)

In the case of mountain reedbuck (9), which are extralimital within the most of the WCP, permit applications will only be considered if said translocations take place within the north-eastern parts of the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts) and the eastern parts of the Uniondale Magisterial District (see distribution map in Appendix 3). In cases where mountain reedbuck have been established on properties outside the above-mentioned areas in accordance with the Ordinance, exit contracts should be negotiated with those landowners by means of which the mountain reedbuck are removed from those properties. No new applications for the establishment of mountain reedbuck on properties outside their natural distribution range within the WCP will be considered.

**Impala**

(See Map 33)

In the case of impala (10), which are extralimital to the WCP, they pose an ecological threat in this province. Impala are prolific breeders and invade riverine habitats. They are also highly mobile and are able to jump over high fences. No further permit applications will be approved unless impala are being exported from the WCP. In the case of legally established impala populations occurring within the larger conservation initiatives or protected areas, an exit contract must be negotiated through the use of incentives.

**Blue wildebeest**

(See Map 34)

In the case of blue wildebeest (11), no further permit applications, other than those for export, will be approved. Blue wildebeest did not occur historically in the WCP and are thus extralimital. In cases where blue wildebeest already occur on a property in accordance with the Ordinance, an exit contract must be negotiated with the relevant landowner by means of which the animals are removed from the property. Permits will not be issued for the live translocation of blue wildebeest which occurred on any property on which black wildebeest also occur.

The translocation of any form of live hybrid between blue and black wildebeest is strictly prohibited.

### **Black wildebeest †**

(See Map 16)

In the case of applications for black wildebeest (12), the species is probably extralimital to the WCP. As a result, new applications for the establishment of black wildebeest will only be considered if said translocations take place within the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts; see distribution map in Appendix 3). Applications for the translocation of black wildebeest between legal populations elsewhere in the WCP must comply with the following conditions:

- there are no-objection letters from neighbouring farmers, a State veterinarian, and the local agricultural union;
- the property is adequately enclosed for black wildebeest;
- there are no legal or illegal blue wildebeest populations on the applicant's farm or any neighbouring farms;

as well as:

- the submission of an ecological management plan for the proper management of black wildebeest on the relevant property;
- the presence of an existing legally established population of black wildebeest;
- the property must not incorporate threatened vegetation types, sensitive ecosystems or components of sensitive ecosystems; and
- the property must not fall within a protected area and / or one of the Landscape Conservation Initiatives;

These measures are required since black and blue wildebeest are known to hybridise freely, with some of the hybrids very difficult to identify, and because the two species are both implicated in the transmission of bovine malignant catarrh to domestic cattle, usually with fatal consequences. Permits will not be issued for the live translocation of black wildebeest which occurred on any property on which blue wildebeest also occur.

The translocation of any form of live hybrid between blue and black wildebeest is strictly prohibited.

### **Tsessebe**

(See Map 35)

In the case of tsessebe (13), no permit applications will be approved since there are no legal populations within the WCP. They were never part of the Western Cape fauna and they represent a genetic threat to bontebok and blesbok, as well as to other alcelaphine antelope.

### **Blesbok**

(See Map 15)

In the case of blesbok (14), the species is probably extralimital to the WCP. As a result, new applications for the establishment of blesbok will only be considered if said translocation will take place within the Central Karoo (Beaufort West and Murraysburg Magisterial Districts; see distribution map in Appendix 3). Said permit applications must comply with the following conditions:

- there are no-objection letters from neighbouring farmers and the local agricultural union;
- the property is adequately enclosed for blesbok;
- there are no legal or illegal bontebok populations on the applicant's farm or any neighbouring farms;
- there is an ecological management plan for the proper management of blesbok on the relevant property;
- the property must not incorporate threatened vegetation types, sensitive ecosystems or components of sensitive ecosystems; and
- the property must not fall within a protected area and / or one of the Landscape Conservation Initiatives;

In cases where blesbok legally occur on properties outside the above-mentioned areas, exit contracts must be negotiated with those landowners by means of which the blesbok are removed from those properties.

Permits will not be issued for the live translocation of blesbok which occurred on any property on which bontebok also occur.

### **Other extralimital species**

In the case of any other indigenous species (15) legally in the WCP, but extralimital to the WCP, no further permits allowing their introduction will be approved, nor for any other extralimital species not yet in the WCP. Landowners that are in possession of such other extralimital species in accordance with the Ordinance must be encouraged to dispose of them.

### **Alien (non South African) taxa**

#### **Lichtenstein's hartebeest**

In the case of the alien Lichtenstein's hartebeest (16) no permit applications will be approved since there are no legal populations within the WCP. They were never part of the Western Cape fauna and it is currently generally accepted that they never occurred naturally in South Africa. They represent a genetic threat to red hartebeest and other alcelaphine antelope.

#### **Red lechwe**

In the case of the alien red lechwe (17), no further permit applications will be approved, unless the animals concerned are to be exported from the WCP. Red lechwe are alien to South Africa and are also listed in CITES Appendix II. Red lechwe are also members of the genus *Kobus*, and represent a genetic threat to all other members of the genus *Kobus* and *vice versa*. Red lechwe never occurred naturally in the WCP. The removal of red lechwe must be seen as a priority in terms of offering incentives for their disposal.

#### **Fallow deer**

Fallow deer (18) are alien to South Africa and, therefore, to the WCP. No further permit applications will be approved. Fallow deer are increasingly invading natural, as opposed to transformed, vegetation types. In cases where fallow deer currently occur in accordance with the Ordinance, no permits will be issued for the live translocation of fallow deer and landowners must be encouraged to dispose of existing populations.

#### **Other alien species**

In the case of all other wild alien species (19) no further permit applications will be approved for those which are resident on properties in the WCP in accordance with the Ordinance and consideration must be given to providing incentives to landowners to dispose of such animals. No new applications for the establishment of any other alien species in the WCP will be considered.

#### **Feral animals**

In the case of feral animals (20), the live translocation of feral animals is strictly prohibited.

### **7.4 Exemptions**

The only exemptions from restrictions in terms of this Policy would be *bona fide* zoological gardens and institutions involved with registered research projects, formal educational projects or formal display purposes involving animals for which permit applications would not otherwise be approved. Pet species and laboratory animals listed in Appendix 10 are also exempt from restrictions in terms of this Policy.

### **7.5 General**

In the case of properties falling within the large-scale biodiversity initiatives, namely the Garden Route Initiative (GRI), the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor (GCBC), the Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative (ABI), the Gouritz Initiative (GI), the Greater Anysberg, and the Kouga Baviaanskloof Megapark, the applicants and other landowners should be made fully aware of these initiatives and their goals, *e.g.* the establishment of corridors so that the historically or currently appropriate wildlife taxa of the WCP can move freely over large areas and in so doing contribute to re-establishing important ecological processes. Should certain extralimital species be considered, applicants would preferably need to enter into a contractual arrangement, with specific conditions applicable in each case, *e.g.* exit clauses to be enacted over time.

It must be emphasised that, when evaluating permit applications, officials must acquaint themselves with the animals occurring on neighbouring properties which could compromise any proposed translocation, especially through hybridisation. It must be remembered that the hybridisation of taxa is not permitted and that no permission will be granted for the import, export, or transport of live hybrid mammals. Their only economic value will be as venison.

## **8. General Procedures**

### **8.1. General procedure to be followed when exporting animals**

- a) **The importing province/country must confirm in writing that the export may take place** – an import permit must be issued first.
- b) **In cases where species are to be delivered outside their historic natural distribution range, it is important to mention this fact to the importing province/country, according to the Biodiversity Act** – *e.g.* bontebok are not known to have occurred anywhere else other than a small portion of the WCP.
- c) **The BU must recommend the permit** – upon receipt of a completed application it should be referred to the BU for recommendation.
- d) **If the above steps have been completed, a permit can be issued / recommended.**
- e) **It is a standard condition of ALL export permits that the permit is subject to the legal acquisition of an import permit from the issuing authority of the importing country/province, should one be required.** Over and above this condition, the permit holder must verify (in writing) with the issuing authority of the importing country/province if any import permit is required BEFORE any translocation takes place.

### **8.2. General procedure to be followed when importing animals**

**Any import application must be evaluated according to the above-mentioned categories within which the species is listed.**

- a) Import permits for game from another province/country will only be considered if the applicant can produce written communication from the issuing authority of the country/province indicating that the supplier of the animals has them legally in his/her possession and the issuing authority has no objection to the export of the mammals.
- b) **Recommendation by BU** – if all the necessary documents, *e.g.* the administration fee payment, *etc.* have been attached to the application, it should be referred to the BU for recommendation.
- c) If all the above steps have been completed, the permit can be issued.
- d) If we as the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board **refuse to issue an import permit** to the applicant, it is imperative that we **inform the exporting province/country of our decision and reasons for such decision so that they can cancel the export permit.**

### **8.3. General procedures applicable to the translocation of mammals where the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board is the supplier or recipient of the animals**

#### **Applicability**

This procedure and all appropriate national norms and standards are applicable to the translocation (including import, export or transport) of mammals for whatever purpose (including the removal of so-called problem or damage-causing animals), within the geographical boundary of the WCP, and to and from statutory protected areas managed by the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board or such other statutory conservation management body.

**Procedure:**

1. Conservation or reserve managers who wish to apply for translocations which form part of the longer term reserve management planning process (for example, a completed game re-introduction programme for a specific reserve), must submit formal applications to their BUM for consideration (see attached application form).
2. If the application is recommended by the BUM, he / she will forward the application to the Wildlife Advisory Committee (WAC) for consideration and further recommendation. Urgent applications will be processed by at least three permanent members of the WAC and the Programme Manager: Wildlife Management on an *ad hoc* basis. Recommendations for the issuing of the relevant permit(s) must then be forwarded to the Director: Operations.
3. Should the Director: Operations grant approval, a permit will then be issued by the Law Administration section at Head Office.

**9. Capture of game for translocation in the Western Cape Province**

In order to promote the conservation of mammals indigenous to, and free-ranging throughout, the landscape in the WCP, game capture operations will only be allowed on properties which are covered by a certificate of adequate enclosure and specifically for those species listed on that certificate.

The following exceptions may be considered on condition that the relevant permits are issued by the Board.

1. The removal of extralimital or alien species from properties which are not adequately enclosed.
2. The removal of animals from properties which are not adequately enclosed, for purely ecological reasons. Applications based on ecological grounds are subject to a proper habitat assessment by an independent, qualified person or a physical inspection by the local CSM or suitably experienced officer.

In the above-mentioned cases, the following conditions will be applicable.

- The landowner must provide proof of legal origin of the animals involved.
- All adjacent landowners must be informed of the proposed game capture and written permission must be obtained from said adjacent landowners and included in the relevant application.
- A fence inspection must be performed.

Finally, in order to promote ethical and humane practices in the game industry, a game capture season will be instituted. In terms of this, game capture operations should only take place during the period from 1 April of a year to 31 October of the same year. This is to ensure that game capture operations do not take place during hot summer months due to the negative effects on the game being captured and / or transported. Any applications for game capture operations taking place outside this time period must be properly motivated and can only be authorised on unanimous recommendation by the Wildlife Advisory Committee.

Notwithstanding any of the above, the issuing of permits with regard to all the above-mentioned examples remains at the discretion of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board.

## **10. Conclusion**

To enhance better decision-making regarding the issuing of permits for the translocation of game within the Western Cape, an appeal is directed to all personnel dealing with permit applications not to deviate from the abovementioned procedures under any circumstances.

Any decision taken contrary to the dictates of this policy, by any employee of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board, including any member of the Executive and any member of the Board, shall be accompanied by a written motivation which shall also be endorsed by a prior or subsequent written confirmation of such decision by a full sitting (all members or their proxies) of the Wildlife Advisory Committee of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board.

If any uncertainty exists regarding specific applications, please contact the Programme Manager: Wildlife Management and/or Scientific Services immediately.

**This policy may be modified from time to time as new information becomes available or as national legislation may prescribe.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE  
(Rank)

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE:

## **11. Bibliography**

The following publications were consulted during the drafting of this policy. The list is by no means exhaustive.

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## **Appendix 1**

### **Requirements of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act 3 of 2000**

1. All applications must be processed as quickly and as professionally as possible. Any incomplete applications must be returned to the applicant with a covering letter indicating the shortcomings.
  - 1.1. In the case of mammals discussed in 7.1. and 7.2. of the Policy, all applications must be submitted to Law Administration for further processing. If any application is to be denied, it must be referred to the Wildlife Advisory Committee for a recommendation.
  - 1.2. In the case of mammals discussed in 7.3. of the Policy, all applications must be submitted to Law Administration section for processing. All applications must also be referred to the Wildlife Advisory Committee for a recommendation.
2. If, after due consideration, an application for a permit is to be granted, the permit must be issued.
3. However, if after due consideration an application is to be denied, the applicant must be informed in writing that the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board is considering denying the application in terms of Section 3(2)(b)(i) of PAJA, and the applicant must be given 30 days in terms of Section 3(2)(b)(ii) of PAJA to motivate why the application should be approved and the permit be issued.
4. If the applicant either fails to provide a motivation for the approval of the application, or the motivation provided is not accepted, the applicant must be clearly informed in writing that the application has been denied in terms of Section 3(2)(b)(iii), and proper reasons, in terms of Section 3(2)(v) and Section 5 of PAJA, must be given for the denial of the application.
5. The applicant must also be informed in writing that he / she has the right to approach the relevant court for a judicial review of the decision in terms of Section 3(2)(b)(iv) and Section 6 of PAJA, and that said application for judicial review must be made within the time period specified in Section 7 of PAJA, namely within 180 days of the applicant becoming aware of the denial of an application for a permit.

**Appendix 2**

**MAPS AND MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT LIST**

Available electronically from the WAC Secretariat

**Appendix 3**

**PRO-FORMA APPLICATION FORM**

**\*APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO IMPORT / EXPORT / TRANSPORT WILD ANIMALS  
 AND TO SELL / DONATE / BUY / RECEIVE AS A DONATION  
 ENDANGERED / PROTECTED WILD ANIMALS**

Nature Conservation Ordinance, 1974 (Ordinance 19 of 1974) (section 44(1)(a) and (e))

**PLEASE COMPLETE IN FULL / USE CAPITAL LETTERS**

**APPLICANT: Name of \*Buyer / Seller / Agent:**

**ID No.:**

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**Postal address of \*Buyer / Seller / Agent:**

**Residential Address of \*Buyer / Seller / Agent**

Telephone (h):	Fax:
Telephone (w):	Email:
Cellphone:	Website:

**Species to be translocated:**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Number

**Property of Origin:**

<b>Name of Owner of Property:</b>		<b>ID No.:</b>
<b>Physical Address:</b>		
<b>If the property of origin is within the Western Cape, complete the following:</b>		
<b>Deed of Transfer No.:</b>		
<b>Certificate of Adequate Enclosure (CoAE) No.:</b>		<b>Expiry Date:</b>
Species listed on CoAE:	Common Name	Number
<b>In the case of species not listed on CoAE, complete the following:</b>		
<b>*Captivity / Transport permit No.:</b>		<b>Expiry Date:</b>
Species listed on *Captivity / Transport Permit	Common Name	Number

**RECIPIENT / Name of \*Buyer / Agent:**

**ID No.:**

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**Postal address of \*Buyer / Agent:**

**Residential Address of \*Buyer / Agent**

Telephone (h):	Fax:
Telephone (w):	Email:
Cellphone:	Website:

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE THIRD PARTY INFORMATION DOCUMENT MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED AND ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION

IN ORDER FOR THIS APPLICATION TO BE COMPLETE, PLEASE FILL IN ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM AND ATTACH ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU.

*\* Delete whichever is not applicable*

**Receiving Property:**

Name of Owner of Property:		ID No.:
Physical Address:		
If the receiving property is within the Western Cape, complete the following:		
Deed of Transfer No.:		
Size of Game Camp:		
Height of Fence:		
Species currently present on property:		
Certificate of Adequate Enclosure No.:		Expiry Date:
Species listed on Certificate	Common Name	Number
In the case of species not listed on Certificate, complete the following:		
*Captivity / Transport permit No.:		Expiry Date:
Species listed on *Captivity / Transport Permit	Common Name	Number

List of Neighbouring Farms adjacent to Game Camp:		
<b>Property 1:</b>	<b>Name of Landowner:</b>	<b>Species present on property / Land Use</b>
	Tel. No.:	
	*CoAE: Yes / No	
<b>Property 2:</b>	<b>Name of Landowner:</b>	<b>Species present on property / Land Use</b>
	Tel. No.:	
	*CoAE: Yes / No	
<b>Property 3:</b>	<b>Name of Landowner:</b>	<b>Species present on property / Land Use</b>
	Tel. No.:	
	*CoAE: Yes / No	
<b>Property 4:</b>	<b>Name of Landowner:</b>	<b>Species present on property / Land Use</b>
	Tel. No.:	
	*CoAE: Yes / No	

**Additional Documentation may be required, including (if attached, mark with an X):**

Ecological Management Plan		Insurance Documentation	
Export / Import Permit		Specialist Group Information	
Veterinary Permits / Certificates		Dangerous Animals Management Plan	
Letters from Neighbours		Farmer Association Letter	
Letter from Local Authority		Letter from State Veterinarian	
Bontebok Registration Certificate		Map of Property	

**I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION MENTIONED ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (Supplier)      Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (Recipient)      Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date:

*\* Delete whichever is not applicable*



**Appendix 4**

**THIRD PARTY INFORMATION DOCUMENT**  
**RECIPIENT / SUPPLIER / AGENT CONFIRMATION**

<b>Recipient</b>			
<b>Full Name</b>			
<b>ID No. / Passport No.</b>			
<b>Residential Address</b>			
<b>Farm name and Deed of transfer</b>			
<b>Postal Address</b>			
<b>Tel. No. (H)</b>		<b>Tel. No. (W)</b>	
<b>Fax. No.</b>		<b>Cell No.</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			
I, the undersigned, hereby confirm that I am a party to this transaction, and that I am willing to accept receipt of the wild animals listed in this application.			
Signature: _____		Date: ____ / ____ / ____	
Full Name (in block letters):			
<b>Supplier</b>			
<b>Full Name</b>			
<b>ID No. / Passport No.</b>			
<b>Residential Address</b>			
<b>Farm name and Deed of transfer</b>			
<b>Postal Address</b>			
<b>Tel. No. (H)</b>		<b>Tel. No. (W)</b>	
<b>Fax. No.</b>		<b>Cell No.</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			
I, the undersigned, hereby confirm that I am a party to this transaction, and that I am in possession of the wild animals listed in this application in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation.			
Signature: _____		Date: ____ / ____ / ____	
Full Name (in block letters):			

**APPLICATION FOR IMPORT / EXPORT / TRANSPORT PERMIT**  
**RECIPIENT / SUPPLIER / AGENT CONFIRMATION**

Agent			
<b>Full Name</b>			
<b>ID No. / Passport No.</b>			
<b>Residential Address</b>			
<b>Farm name and Deed of transfer</b>			
<b>Postal Address</b>			
<b>Tel. No. (H)</b>		<b>Tel. No. (W)</b>	
<b>Fax No.</b>		<b>Cell No.</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			
<b>Driver Name</b>			
<b>Driver ID No.</b>			
<b>Vehicle Registration No.</b>			
I, the undersigned, hereby confirm that I am a party to this transaction, and that I am facilitating this transaction / transporting the wild animals listed in this application.			
Signature: _____		Date: ____ / ____ / ____	
Full Name (in block letters):			

## **Appendix 5**

### **Further Permit Conditions for the Translocation of Mammals**

1. The mammals mentioned herein must be conveyed along the shortest possible route between supplier and destination.
2. The permit-holder and recipient must be made aware that the conditional translocation of currently permitted extralimital taxa is subject to periodic national and provincial review, and that he / she could potentially be held responsible for the removal of the animals from the WCP at his / her own cost.
3. No act of relaxation, or indulgence, or grace on the part of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board shall in any way be deemed to be a waiver by the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board of any of its rights to enforce stricter conditions, or measures relating to any term, condition or caveat contained in this permit if deemed necessary.
4. An accurate record of any mortalities that occur during or after translocation (if any) must be kept by the permit-holder and if any mortalities do occur then a copy of this record must be submitted to the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board before this permit expires.
5. Within two weeks of the expiry of a permit, the permit (or copy thereof) must be returned to Law Administration section at Head Office. The permit-holder must declare whether such translocation authorised by the permit took place or not, indicating the number and species of mammals transported in accordance with the permit, as well as the date on which the animals were transported, must be specified on the permit prior to the return thereof.
6. The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board reserves the right to withhold the issuance of future permits to translocate mammals if permits are not returned with the relevant declaration as indicated above.
7. The permit-holder and the recipient acknowledge that the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board does not regard the translocation of species outside their natural distribution range as consistent with sound conservation principles and biodiversity conservation. The recipient also acknowledges that by using this permit he may jeopardize the inclusion of his property in future conservation efforts.

## **Appendix 6**

### **State Veterinary Requirements**

It must be borne in mind that all translocations of animals across national borders may only take place in terms of documentation issued by relevant veterinary authorities.

Furthermore, it is important to take note and advise applicants who wish to translocate mammals to their properties within the WCP that veterinary documentation may be required.

The following mammals are subject to statutory veterinary requirements:

Cape buffalo  
All species of zebra

The following mammals, amongst others, may require veterinary documentation:

Both wildebeest species  
Warthog  
Bushpig

## **Appendix 7**

### **Ecological management plan**

For the purposes of this policy, an Ecological Management Plan is a document compiled by an independent, qualified person detailing the management of the receiving property and includes the following.

1. A habitat assessment, detailing the suitability of the receiving habitat for the species being considered;
2. a vegetation survey, indicating species present on the property as well as sensitive areas and ecosystems found on the property and including a vegetation map;
3. the ecological carrying capacity;
4. the size of the game camp(s);
5. the fence specifications;
6. a list of mammal species currently present on the property;
7. a list of mammal species on adjacent farms;
8. a list of species intended for re-introduction to the property in the future;
9. the origin of source populations;
10. an analysis of the ecological threats posed by the translocation of mammals to the property;
11. planned activities / developments; and
12. infrastructure.

A transport permit / certificate of adequate enclosure may then be issued to the applicant, subject to compliance with said ecological management plan.

## **Appendix 8**

### **Fencing Requirements for adequate enclosure**

***Please Note:***

This list of species includes taxa (indicated in brackets in italics) which are deemed to be undesirable in the WCP, but exist in populations legally introduced to the WCP by means of permits. The listing of these taxa does not imply that the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board will approve future translocations of said taxa into or within the WCP. This list merely serves to indicate which fence heights are applicable to legally established populations of various species on farms.

The accepted minimum requirement for adequate enclosure for legally established populations of eland (*and giraffe*) prior to the acceptance of this policy was 1.8m. The accepted minimum requirement for adequate enclosure for legally established populations of red hartebeest prior to the acceptance of this policy was 1.4m. The new minimum requirement for adequate enclosure eland (*and giraffe*) in terms of this policy is 2.4m and for red hartebeest the new minimum requirement is 1.8m. Landowners who are holders of valid Certificates of Adequate Enclosure with previous minimum requirements for these mammals will be required to upgrade the fencing by 31 December 2013. All new applications for Certificates of Adequate Enclosure for these mammals are subject to these new minimum requirements.

**Class 1 (2.4 m)**

Kudu, eland (*impala, giraffe, nyala, fallow deer*)

**Class 2 (1.8 m)**

Bushbuck, mountain reedbuck, grey rhebuck, red hartebeest (*red lechwe, waterbuck*).

**Class 3 (1.4 m)**

Blesbok, bontebok, blue duiker, plains zebra, Cape mountain zebra, common (or grey) duiker, oryx (gemsbok), grysbok, springbok, steenbok, black wildebeest, klipspringer, bushpig (*blue wildebeest, common reedbuck, sable antelope, Hartmann's mountain zebra, warthog*).

**Special Class**

Buffalo, hippopotamus, elephant, black rhinoceros (*white rhinoceros*).

## **Appendix 9**

### **Wildlife Advisory Committee –Terms of Reference, Composition, Operation**

1. Terms of Reference
  - 1.1 To advise on all Wildlife Management issues.
  - 1.2 To make recommendations on specific wildlife management issues to the Executive.
  - 1.3 To initiate proactive and reactive interventions with regard to wildlife issues.
  - 1.4 To advise on the development of relevant policies.
  - 1.5 To provide professional advice and recommendations to CapeNature, and not make executive decisions.
  
2. Composition of Committee
  - 2.1 At least three members of the Scientific Services Unit (the Senior Manager will chair the Committee).
  - 2.2 The Wildlife Management Programme Manager (Committee Secretariat).
  - 2.3 The Biodiversity Crime Unit Programme Manager.
  - 2.4 At least one member of the Law Administration section.
  - 2.5 The Director: Biodiversity (as co-opted member with an open invitation).
  - 2.6 Any co-opted personnel on an *ad hoc* basis, as and when required.
  
3. Operation of Committee
  - 3.1 Committee meetings are to be held once a quarter and meeting dates will be listed on the Corporate Calendar.
  - 3.2 Applications are to be forwarded to the Committee Secretariat via the relevant BUM.
  - 3.3 All relevant correspondence must be forwarded to the Law Support Unit to be placed on file.
  - 3.4 Minutes of meetings to be circulated to the Executive and BUM's.
  - 3.5 *Ad hoc* meetings may be held, should the need arise.

**Appendix 10**

**Provisional List of Recognised Pet Species and Laboratory Animals (\*)**

TAXON	SCIENTIFIC NAME
<p><b>Primates:</b></p> <p>Brown capuchin</p> <p>Squirrel monkey</p> <p>Cotton-top Tamarin</p> <p>White-eared marmoset or Common marmoset</p> <p>White-faced marmoset or Geoffroy's tufted-ear marmoset</p> <p>Golden lion marmoset or lion tamarin</p> <p>Bonnet macaque *</p> <p><b>Lagomorphs:</b></p> <p>European rabbit *</p> <p><b>Rodents:</b></p> <p>Golden hamster</p> <p>Black rat *</p> <p>Common rat *</p> <p>House mouse *</p> <p>Guinea pig *</p>	<p><b>Order Primates:</b></p> <p>Cebus apella</p> <p>Saimiri sciureus</p> <p>Saguinus oedipus</p> <p>Callithrix jacchus</p> <p>Callithrix geoffroyi</p> <p>Leontopithecus rosalia</p> <p>Macaca radiata</p> <p><b>Order Lagomorpha:</b></p> <p>Oryctolagus cuniculus</p> <p><b>Order Rodentia:</b></p> <p>Mesocricetus auratus</p> <p>Rattus rattus</p> <p>R. norvegicus</p> <p>Mus musculus</p> <p>Cavia porcellus</p>