



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
FORESTRY AND TOURISM



## PRESS RELEASE

29 October 2024

### MINISTRY INTERVENES TO IMPROVE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

We have noted the concern from tourists and tour operators visiting the park regarding the state of some roads in the park. The Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism wishes to assure our tourists and the Namibian people at large that the condition of the Etosha National Park roads is being addressed as matter of urgency.

Most concerns raised are in relation to the road from Okaukuejo to Namutoni which is in a poor condition. The deterioration is impacted by large traffic volumes experienced, resulting in loss of gravel, severe corrugations, potholes, and drainage problems. As an immediate remedy, the Ministry took a decision to urgently deploy three (3) graders to blade the roads from Halali to Namutoni, Okaukuejo to Halali and Namutoni to King Nehale Gate. We anticipate that this intervention will improve the road condition in the specified sections within a period of two weeks. Furthermore, as a long-term solution, the road upgrade from gravel to low-seal volume (tared road) will soon commence. The roads identified for upgrade is the stretch from Okaukuejo, Halali, Namutoni to King Nehale.

Since 2018, the Ministry has successfully rehabilitated the western section of the tourist road from Okaukuejo to Galton Gate, completing over 200 kilometers of road upgrade by March 2024.

We firmly believe that a quality road infrastructure is essential to ensure seamless travel for our visitors. Road infrastructure is crucial to the overall success of the tourism industry. Therefore, we prioritize the enhancement of road infrastructure to maintain accessibility and enjoyment of all tourist attractions within Namibia.

While the situation is being addressed, we encourage our visitors to consider alternative routes from Okaukuejo to Halali via Gemsbokvlakte, Olifantsbad, and Aus for a better travel experience. Finally, we wish to express our regret and render an apology for the inconvenience this situation may have caused, once again we assure tourists and the general public that the situation is receiving our attention.

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