



## Republic of Namibia

### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

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**Press Release**  
**(For Immediate Release)**

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Editors and Journalists

#### **Male lion putdown for terrorizing communities.**

A male lion, approximately 8-10 years old, that has been terrorizing communities in the Sesfontein and Puros area was put down as a problem-causing animal in accordance with the Nature Conservation Ordinance no 4 of 1975.

The lion has been notorious for killing people's livestock since 2019; he has caught 12 cattle, 13 donkeys and 9 goats. The lion has on numerous times been observed moving into people's settlements at night posing a threat to their lives. He was also displaying traits that he was not scared of people.

The Ministry together with other conservation stakeholders in the area such as IRDNC and community conservancies had to put some preventative measures before the lion was declared problem causing animal. This includes, chasing the lion out of people's settlements and numerous occasions and translocating the lion further west of Sesfontein to the area called Gai!Ai, However the lion returned and continued to cause more problems.

Based on the above, communities in the area has on a continuously basis appealed to the Ministry to intervene before the lion causes more damages or in a worst case, attack a person. It is on this basis, the lion was declared a problem-causing animal, and was trophy hunted to generate funds for the affected communities through conservancies. The hunt generated an amount of N\$ 150 000 to which both Puros and Sesfontein conservancies got N\$ 65 000 each to assist in paying affected farmers. N\$ 20 000 is paid to the Game Product Trust Fund, to be reinvested in conservation.

It must be noted, this lion was collared, his movements were tracked which means the Ministry knows its full history.

Destruction of problem causing animals is part of our conservation methods, particularly in mitigating Human Wildlife Conflict. Communities who live with wildlife know how crucial this activity is in providing them with relief from destructive and dangerous animals.

We call upon Namibians to be wary of individuals and organization whose only interest is to discredit the Ministry. They have done very little to assist the communities or authorities to remedy this situation, they only wait for decisions to be taken, then find things to criticize.

**Issued by:**  
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