

Current estimated animal numbers in Marloth Park and Lionspruit

At a meeting held on 23rd April 2010 with Mpumalanga Parks Board representatives to discuss the numbers and types of animals to be removed/culled from Marloth Park this season the following estimated current totals of animals presently in Marloth Park were agreed upon:

Impala – 420
Warthog – 130
Zebra – 78
Wildebeest – 53
Kudu – 31
Giraffe -23

These figures are based on the 2008 game count figures (there was no aerial survey done in 2009) and calculated taking into account the mortalities, animals removed/culled last year and by factoring in the accepted population growth averages for each species. This was done by the Parks Board experts.

Exact figures for each species of animal to be culled/removed was agreed upon at the meeting and these will be made public once the Nkomazi Municipality has been informed in writing and the necessary permits have been issued. The removals/culling operations are due to commence in May 2010.

Current estimated animal numbers for Lionspruit are:

Giraffe – 17
Kudu – 10
Buffalo – 33
Zebra – 12
Waterbuck – 1
Lions – 3
Rhinos – 5

It was agreed that no animals will be removed from Lionspruit this season and Parks Board have given us permission to introduce 12 Waterbuck and 12 Nyala – if we can get the Nkomazi Municipality to agree to it.

All culling and game capturing, etc will only be done on week days and none at all during school holidays, weekends or on public holidays. Our Municipal Rangers must always be in attendance as they are responsible for ensuring that things are done legally, properly and in as humane a manner as possible. Everyone's co-operation and assistance is requested. This is not a pleasant task which must be done in order to restore the condition of our veld so that all of our animals may survive.

23rd April 2010