



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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PRESS RELEASE

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STATEMENT ON THE TRANSLOCATED LIONS TO N/A'NKUSE FARM

The Ministry wishes to clarify misconceptions created over the recent translocation of lions from the Erongo Region to the Khomas Region.

A pride of three (3) lions has been reported and observed to be causing problems in the Daures Area, Erongo region. Continued livestock losses has been reported by communities particularly near the white lady lodge.

Prior to the relocation, the Ministry has intervened by capturing and releasing the lions into the Skeleton Coast Park twice but they still came back to the area. We have noticed a strange behaviour in the lions that has made us to believe that the lions were fed by the people around the vicinity of the lodge. With this behaviour, the lions could come very close to people. This is a practice that we strongly discourage and condemn. The lions were close to the lodge most of the time and as a result has caused more livestock losses to communities.

Based on the above a decision was taken to capture and translocate the lions to areas where they will not cause any problems. Therefore, two (2) lionesses and (3) three cubs were translocated to a 9500 hector farm belonging to N/a'n ku se Foundation outside Windhoek. Unfortunately during the processes of capture, one male lion died from capture stress.

The translocated lions to N/a'n ku se Foundation will remain state property and will be translocated to a national park once the Ministry is satisfied with their behaviour. Human wildlife conflict prevention and mitigation interventions were put in place including collaring of the lions for monitoring purposes.

It should be noted that the Ministry's decisions are made for the best interest of conservation in the country contrary to the claims that suggest otherwise. This translocation is also in line with the Revised National Policy on Human Wildlife Conflict Management. We appeal to members of the public, partners and interested parties to ignore and shun advocacies that are aimed at tarnishing our reputable conservation.



Romeo Muyunda
MET Spokesperson

