
GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT, 2004 (ACT 10 OF 2004)

NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES

I, Marthinus Christoffel Johannes van Schalkwyk, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, hereby publish the Norms and Standards for Biodiversity Management Plans for Species in terms of section 9(1)(a)(i) and 43 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act no 10 of 2004), as contained in the Schedule.



MARTHINUS VAN SCHALKWYK
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

SCHEDULE

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ACRONYMS

AEWA	African Eurasian Migratory Waterfowl Agreement
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BMP-S	Biodiversity Management Plan for species
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CITES	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora
DEAT	Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
IDP	Integrated Development Plans
IUCN	World Conservation Union
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
NEM: BA	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004)
NBF	National Biodiversity Framework
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998)

CHAPTER 1

INTERPRETATION AND THE PURPOSE OF THESE NORMS AND STANDARDS

Definitions

1. (1) In these Norms and Standards, unless the context indicates otherwise, a word or expression defined in the Biodiversity Act or Protected Areas Act has the same meaning, and—

“Biological diversity or biodiversity” means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part and also includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

“Ex-situ or ‘off-site’ conservation” means the conservation of genetic resources and of wild animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms off-site or outside their natural habitats.

“Indigenous species” means a species that occurs, or has historically occurred, naturally in a free state in nature within the borders of the Republic, but excludes a species that has been introduced in the Republic as a result of human activity.

“In-situ - “on-site” conservation” means the conservation of biodiversity in the wild through the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats, and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings.

“IUCN Red Data List” means a global or national list providing information on a species' risk of extinction (usually by taxonomic group), and prepared under the auspices of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

“Long-term survival” means to ensure the survival of a species until the next human generation, approximately 30 years.

“Migratory species” means an entire population or any geographically separate part of the population of any species or lower tax on of wild animals, a significant proportion of whose members cyclically and predictably cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries.

“Stakeholder” means a natural or juristic person(s) that has an interest in, or may be affected by, a particular obligation or decision or activity, relating to or resulting from a management plan, either as individuals or representatives of a group, and include landowners where appropriate.

“Species” means a kind of animal, plant or other organism that does not normally interbreed with individuals of another kind, and includes any sub-species, cultivar, variety, geographic race, strain, hybrid or geographically separate population.

“Threat” means any action that causes a decline and compromises the future survival of a species or anything that has a detrimental effect on a species. Threats can be human induced or natural. BMP-S should focus on mitigating human induced threats to species.

“Viable” in relation to a species or population means the ability to survive or persist and develop or multiply over multiple generations or a long time period.

- (2) In this document, unless the context indicates otherwise, a word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), (hereinafter “The Act”), has the same meaning.

Purpose and application

2. (1) In terms of Section 9(1) of the Biodiversity Act, the Minister may, by notice in the *Gazette*—
- (a) issue norms and standards for the achievement of any of the objectives of this Act, including for the -
 - (i) management and conservation of South Africa's biological diversity and its components;

- (ii) restriction of activities which impact on biodiversity and its components; and
 - (b) set indicators to measure compliance with those norms and standards.
- (2) The purpose of these Norms and Standards is to provide a national approach and minimum standards for the development of biodiversity management plans for species.

CHAPTER 2

INTRODUCTION TO BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES AND TO THESE NORMS AND STANDARDS

Biodiversity Management Plans

- 3. (1) A biodiversity management plan must –
 - (a) be aimed at ensuring the long-term survival in nature of the species to which the plan relates;
 - (b) provide for the responsible person, organisation or organ of state to monitor and report on progress with implementation of the plan; and
 - (c) be consistent with –
 - (i) The Act;
 - (ii) The national environmental management principles;
 - (iii) The national biodiversity framework;
 - (iv) Any applicable bioregional plan;
 - (v) Any plans issued in terms of Chapter 3 of the NEMA;
 - (vi) Any municipal integrated development plans;
 - (vii) Any other plans prepared in terms of national or provincial legislation that is affected; or
 - (viii) Any relevant international agreements binding on the Republic.