Government Gazette Staatskoerant

Vol. 517

Pretoria, 11 July 2008

No. 31239

CONTENTS · INHOUD

No.

GENERAL NOTICES

Page Gazette No. No.

Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Department of

General Notices

868	Introduction of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Amendment Bill, 2008	3	31239
869	Introduction of the National Environment Laws Amendment Bill, 2008	5	31239

GENERAL NOTICES

NOTICE 868 OF 2008

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism intends to introduce the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Amendment Bill, 2008, in the National Assembly shortly. The long title are hereby published in accordance with Rule 241(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Amendment Bill, 2008, proposes:

To amend the National Environment Management Act: Protected Area Act, 2003, to provide for a comprehensive list in the Schedule to the Act of all national parks; to provide for the assignment of national parks, special national parks and heritage sites to the South African National Parks; to make provision for flight corridors and permission of the management authority to fly over a special national park, national park or heritage site; to provide for specific areas to be available for training and testing of aircraft; to provide for increased measures of control over escaped animals; and to provide for the winding-up and dissolution of the South African National Parks.

Copies of the Bill can be obtained from:

- 1. The Government Printer Pretoria
- 2. Adv Vicky Beukes

Fedsure Forum Building

315 Pretorius Street

Pretoria

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E-mail: vbeukes@deat.gov.za

Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism

Private Bag X477

Pretoria

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NOTICE 869 OF 2008

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT LAWS AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism intends to introduce the National Environment Laws Amendment Bill, 2008, in the National Assembly shortly. The long title are hereby published in accordance with Rule 241(1)(c) of the Rules of the National Assembly.

The National Environment Laws Amendment Bill, 2008, proposes:

To provide for in the National Environment Management Act, 1998 and in specific environmental management Acts for the jurisdiction of the magistrate's court in the instances where the maximum fines have been increased and are higher than that of the usual jurisdiction of these courts; to insert certain definitions; to provide for the establishment of fora or advisory committees; to provide for a directive to a person who has admitted to committing an offence; to allow for the Minister or the MEC to issue a directive in the event that a person admitted to an offence; to make provision or increased powers of the courts; to remove the requirement that Environmental Management Inspectors must carry the notices of designation and the right to conduct routine inspections and to search vehicles; to remove the need in the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 to

publish directives in the *Gazette*; to provide for in the National Environment Management Act: Air Quality Act, 2004 for a processing fee to review a licence and to include directors or senior managers in a juristic person for the criteria for a fit and proper person; to provide for in the National Environment Management Act: Biodiversity Act, 2000 for general surveillance monitoring; further considerations for a biodiversity management plan; that an environment impact assessment must be obtained when genetically modified organisms are involved; to introduce a notification requirements in the discovery phase of a bioprospecting project; to take into consideration knowledge of specific individuals when issuing specific bioprospecting permits; to allow the Director-General or a trustee to manage the Bioprospecting Fund; to allow for the renewal or amendment of a permit; to amend the regulations to allow for hunting; and to effect certain textual alterations.

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