

WRITTEN PERMISSION

As the hunter or capturer of wild animals on an exempted farm only requires the written permission from the exemption holder, it is important to note the following with regard this written permission.

- It should be **issued before** the actions authorized takes place.
- It should contain the **full name , ID number and residential address** of the person **granting** permission & the person **receiving** permission.
- It should include full details of the **property** and the exemption number.
- It should include full details of the **wild animals** to be hunted or captured: such as species, number & sex.
- It should include full details of the **date** the permission is granted & the dates the activity may take place.
- It should include the **signatures of both parties**.



Directorate:
Wildlife Trade & Regulation

Service Center Contact details

Waterberg

014 - 717 1055
Modimolle - 014 717 5383
Lephalale - 014 763 2886
Mokopane - 015 491 8010
Thabazimbi - 014 777 1539

Capricorn

015 - 297 3839
Polokwane - 015 297 3839
Dendron - 015 501 0893

Vhembe

015 - 962 4722
015 - 290 7085
Louis Trichardt - 015 - 516 0002
Musina - 015 - 534 2307

Mopane

015 - 812 0365
Klaserie - 015 793 2471
Phalaborwa - 015 769 1792
Tzaneen - 015 - 307 1195/6

Sekhukhune / Groblersdal

015-633 5169 / 015 297 3839
Lebowa Kgomo - 082 801 1495
Lebowa Kgomo - 082 801 1494

The information is supplied as detailed as possible within the limited space - if unsure about anything, please consult your local service center.
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DEPARTMENT OF:
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

EXEMPTIONS & EXEMPTED FARMS

What is it all about?



To the benefit of the public,
issued by:

Wildlife Trade & Regulation

“RES NULLIUS”

South African law is based on Roman / Dutch law system whereby wildlife is regarded as “**res nullius**”. A term that actually means the wildlife of the country does not belong to anybody but to the entire community. Even if you have bought it legally, you only have the rights entrusted to you by the specific legislation—in the form of permits.

For this reason government has the responsibility to make laws governing this situation. Through these legislation, government departments could grant permits to individuals on written application and on merit of each case. This is especially so since the development of the game farm industry. In this industry people are trading in wild animals similarly to trading in livestock. As result of this the need was born to grant such “owners” more control / “ownership” over the animals that they “control” by means of fenced areas.

EXEMPTION

The term exemption was thus implemented into the legislation and here it specifically **only** refers to land that is so fenced/ enclosed that certain species of specially protected wild animals, protected wild animals or game cannot enter or escape from that land.



Exemption is thus a permit that can be issued on application of an owner and exempts the holder thereof from the requirement to obtain certain other permits.

NOT AUTOMATIC

Obtaining an exemption is not automatic after enclosing / fencing land or buying a fenced property. The owner needs to submit an **application** accompanied by an ecological management plan, the department needs to do an inspection before the exemption permit can be issued on payment of the prescribed tariff.

NOT PERMANENT

As exemption is granted according to certain criteria such as the fence condition, management plan etc. it is only valid for **three years** or automatically expires when the land changes ownership / management.

BENEFITS

The main benefit of being granted an exemption lies with now having sort of “ownership” of the animals **specified** on the exemption. The animals indicated on the exemption permit may be **hunted, captured and traded** without any further permits. Hunters do not require hunting licenses but only the prior written permission of the exemption holder which also authorizes the conveyance of the carcass back home.

The land owner can request that the exemption be issued in the name of the manager making it easier when not permanently residing on the property. During illegal hunting, the benefits will include charges under the **Game Theft Act 1991, Act 105 of 1991**.



The fence of an exempted property must be properly maintained and inspected.

EXCLUSIONS

Having an exempted property does not authorize the following actions: These require specific permits:

- The captive keeping of animals for any purpose
- The capture of so-called damage causing animals in trap-cages, snares or gin-traps.
- The baiting or luring of any predator for the purpose of killing / hunting.
- The hunting with dogs (other species than birds)
- The hunting with prohibited weapons such as bow and arrows (unless included in exemption)
- The hunting of birds
- The captive breeding of animals
- The introduction of scarce species
- The capture of animals that escaped from the enclosed land—discuss with an officer.
- The presenting or arrangement of a hunt for a **client** (referring to a non SA citizen)

The information contained in this document is an abstract from the Limpopo Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2003.