- vi. If an active nest with eggs or nestlings is present, the person must seek the assistance of a CapeNature permitted raptor rehabilitator in removing the eggs or nestlings. The rehabilitator is then responsible for handling them properly.
- 8. This policy will be administered in accordance with the provisions of the PAJA.

## 4 Policy Objectives

This policy is drafted in terms of Section 16(1)(e) of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1974 ("the Ordinance") and section 11(2)(p) of the Western Cape Biodiversity Act, Act 6 of 2021 (the WCBA) and seeks to achieve the objectives and purposes of the Ordinance. This policy has the following objectives, namely to:

- 1. conserve indigenous raptors.
- 2. ensure the responsible, sustainable, and equitable use of raptors.
- 3. provide for best practice management and utilisation of raptors.
- 4. where relevant, provide for the conservation breeding of indigenous raptors and conservation translocation as part of conservation breeding projects/programmes.
- 5. ensure that the reintroduction and other conservation translocations of indigenous raptors does not pose a risk to any wild raptor, any other species or the receiving environment or ecosystem.
- 6. consolidate and replace all existing policy documents and guidelines relating to raptors and to clarify the various related processes and other responsibilities regarding the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities in the WCP.
- 7. confirm CapeNature's legal mandate to administer the subject matter of the policy.
- 8. formulate guidelines against which permit applications must be considered.
- protect the biodiversity of the WCP against the unforeseen and foreseen impacts which may result from the import, translocation, keeping in captivity and utilisation of alien and extralimital raptor species.
- 10. ensure that extra-limital and alien raptor species pose no, or as little risk as possible, to the biodiversity of the WCP.
- II. mitigate and reduce any impact posed by extra-limital and alien raptor species to the biodiversity of the WCP.
- 12. collate information relating to the implementation of this policy and utilise this information to improve this policy and decision-making.

**CAPENATURE POLICY** 

13. introduce and implement the "polluter pays", "duty of care", "cradle-to-grave responsibility"

and "precautionary" principles with respect to biodiversity in the WCP as it relates to the

translocation and utilisation of raptors; and

14. prevent the establishment of any alien or hybridised raptor species in the WCP.

5 Policy Statement

CapeNature aims to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of raptors in support of the

objectives, activities, and governance of provincial, national and international conservation obligations

and in a manner that will at no time threaten any raptor species, its genetic integrity or its associated

habitat while yielding positive conservation benefits and outcomes.

6 Policy Principles

South Africa has an obligation with respect to several international conventions to ensure the

conservation of its biodiversity. According to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the

WCP is obliged to adhere to and implement the principles of these conventions. This warrants the

implementation of policies focusing on ethical and conservation-orientated principles and procedures.

CapeNature recognises that certain raptor species pose either an ecological, genetic, or pathogenic

risk to the receiving environment and, in principle, will not promote any actions or activities that may

pose any threat to biodiversity and/or the environment within the Western Cape provincial

boundaries. Therefore, in consultation with key role-players in the environmental sphere and the

raptor fraternity, CapeNature, through this policy, introduces the framework within which permit

applications must be considered and the implementation of a system to responsibly manage the

translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation

activities in the WCP.

This system is intended to promote sound ecological management and self-regulation amongst any

person in their private or professional capacity, as well as any association or institution who/which

wishes to translocate or utilise any raptor in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation

activities in the WCP, and a close, co-operative relationship with CapeNature. This is also intended

to promote co-responsibility for raptor and environmental management and conservation between

the authorities and the raptor fraternity.

The principles of this policy are to:

- I. support and ultimately ensure the conservation and long-term survival of all raptor species in their natural habitats.
- 2. allow for the sustainable and equitable utilisation of raptors in support of the objectives, activities, and governance of national and international conservation obligations.
- 3. ensure that the utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities yield positive conservation benefits and outcomes.
- 4. promote and facilitate the conservation of natural populations of indigenous raptor species and their associated habitats.
- 5. ensure that any utilisation of raptors is carried out in a responsible and sustainable manner that will at no time threaten any species, their genetic integrity, or their associated habitat.
- 6. conserve indigenous raptor populations based on the best scientific data available, best conservation management practices and the precautionary principle.
- 7. prevent the intentional or unintentional release of raptors outside their natural distribution ranges.
- 8. ensure that the "polluter pays", "duty of care", "cradle-to-grave responsibility" and "precautionary" principles are adhered to with respect to biodiversity in the WCP as it relates to the translocation and utilisation of raptors.
- 9. ensure that any translocation and utilisation of a raptor in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities are in accordance with all relevant legislation, policies, international conventions, norms and standards and best practice guidelines applicable thereto; and
- ensure the consistent application and associated enforcement of this policy and the applicable legislation in the WCP.

## 7 Relationship with Other Legislative

### Frameworks and Policies

This section provides a list of the most relevant legislation, policies, and international conventions applicable to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities in the WCP. This list is, however, not exhaustive. The statutes are relevant to the implementation of this policy and include all amendments to these pieces of legislation (and any regulations promulgated thereunder), policies, conventions, and documents.

# 7.1 International Conventions, Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Guidance

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- International Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU)
- IUCN World Conservation Strategy; "Caring for the earth: a strategy for sustainable living".
- IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Reintroduction Specialist Group "Guidelines for reintroductions"
- Other relevant IUCN SSC Specialist Group recommendations

#### 7.2 National Legislation

- Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996
- National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA)
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 (NEM:BA)
- Threatened or Protected Species Regulations, as amended (TOPS)
- National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 (NEM: PAA)
- Genetically Modified Organisms Act 15 of 1997 (GMOA)
- Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 (PAJA)
- Animal Diseases Act 35 of 1984
- Agricultural Pests Act 36 of 1983
- Performing Animals Protection Act 24 of 1935 (PAPA)
- Animal Protection Act 71 of 1962 (APA)

#### 7.3 Provincial Legislation

- Nature Conservation Ordinance, 1974, Ordinance 19 of 1974 (NCO)
- Western Cape Biodiversity Act, Act 6 of 2021 (WCBA)
- Western Cape Nature Conservation Act, Act 15 of 1998 (WCNCA)
- Proclamation 955 of 1975

#### 7.4 Local Authority By-laws

- City of Cape Town Animal Keeping By-law 2021
- Any other applicable local authority by-laws regulating the keeping of animals in captivity

#### 7.5 Other applicable policies and documents

The latest approved versions of applicable standard operating procedures ("SOPs") and standard operating guidelines ("SOGs"), including SOPs applicable to the administration of Biodiversity Authorisations and SOGs applicable to inspections for captivity of wild animals.

## 8 Policy Regulatory Framework

- I. No person may keep a raptor in private captivity i.e., as a pet or prestige item or for any other reason than for permitted sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities.
- No person may keep a raptor in captivity for any reason (including for sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation purposes) unless specifically authorised by a permit.
- 3. CapeNature may consider a permit application for the translocation of a confirmed damagecausing raptor if there is a real risk that the raptor may be destroyed if not translocated.
- 4. Permit(s) for the translocation or utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities will only be issued to persons who are members in good standing of a recognized Western Cape falconry club where and if applicable.
- 5. Only an internationally accepted apprenticeship and grading system for falconers that is prescribed/endorsed by the relevant Western Cape falconry club will be recognized by CapeNature. Refer to Appendix 2.
- 6. All permit holders with permit(s) for the translocation or utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities must adhere to *inter alia* the IAF, SAFA, BAASA and relevant Western Cape falconry club codes of conduct, norms and standards and international best practice where applicable and appropriate.
- 7. Except for raptors held in temporary captivity for rehabilitation purposes, all raptors that are I) kept in captivity, whether permanently or temporarily or 2) imported into the WCP must be permanently marked. Refer to Appendix 3.
- 8. All raptors that are I) kept in captivity, whether permanently or temporarily or 2) imported into the WCP must originate from a legal source.
- 9. The breeding of raptors in captivity is prohibited unless specifically authorised by a permit.

- 10. A wild raptor may not be banded with a seamless leg band.
- II. No person may intentionally release or cause the negligent release of any specimen of a captive-bred, hybrid, alien or extra-limital raptor species into the wild in the Western Cape.
- 12. Captive-bred, hybrid, alien or extra-limital raptor species specimens may not be put out at hack or hacked back in the Western Cape unless specifically authorised by a permit.
- 13. Exotic, extra-limital or hybrid raptors must always be flown with two transmitters.
- 14. Should an exotic, hybrid, imprinted or extra-limital raptor escape, the permit holder must notify CapeNature immediately. The permit holder must make every reasonable effort to recover the raptor as soon as possible. Should the specific raptor be deemed to pose an unacceptable risk to indigenous biodiversity, human health and safety or private property (including livestock) or is likely to suffer unnecessarily and have not been recovered within two days, the raptor must be humanely destroyed as soon as possible at the cost of the permit holder.
- 15. The management of all raptors in captivity must comply with international best practice.
- 16. Any person that has a reasonable suspicion, that another person has committed, is committing or may commit any criminal activity involving a raptor, must immediately inform CapeNature.
- 17. CapeNature has the authority and reserves the right to suspend or revoke a permit for the translocation or utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities. Failure by any permit holder or sub-permittee to adhere to the requirements of this policy, any permit conditions or the successful conviction of a permit holder or sub-permittee for a contravention of any applicable environmental legislation pertaining to raptors (including the unlawful translocation, utilization, trade etc.) or their carcasses may result in the suspension or revocation of a permit and exclude the permit holder or sub-permittee (either for a determined exclusion period or permanently) from qualifying for a subsequent permit to translocate or utilise a raptor in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition or rehabilitation activities in the WCP.
- 18. CapeNature has the authority and reserves the right to enforce *inter alia* policies, guidelines or standards relating to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities in the WCP that may be more restrictive than national requirements but may not be less restrictive.

# 8.1 Sport Hunting (including associated Wild Harvesting and Captive Breeding of Raptors)

The following applies additionally to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting activities.

- I. No person may possess/keep in captivity any raptor for sport hunting activities unless the raptor is being trained or is trained in the pursuit of wild game and is actively utilised for sport hunting. Refer to Appendix 4, 10, 11 and 12.
- 2. Only a Western Cape falconry club recognised by CapeNature may apply for an annual permit to translocate or utilise raptors in sport hunting activities. For the purposes of regulation, individual falconers may only be authorized as a sub-permittee on one recognised Western Cape falconry club's annual permit to translocate or utilise raptors in sport hunting activities at any one time.
- 3. Only raptor species that are considered appropriate for sport hunting activities in the WCP may be possessed/kept in captivity for this purpose. Refer to Appendix 5. Other species may be considered by CapeNature under exceptional circumstances dependent on sufficient motivation from the applicable Western Cape falconry club. This motivation must include the submission of the proposed game (suitable naturally occurring wild animal species) that will be hunted and why the need cannot be realistically met with a specimen or specimens of a species considered appropriate for sport hunting activities in the WCP. A comprehensive scientifically based risk assessment compiled by a suitably qualified and experienced party may be requested to be included in the submission of the permit application by the applicant.
- 4. Falconers may only hunt with raptors appropriate to their grading and for which they hold the required permit(s).
- 5. Falconers visiting the WCP from other provinces within South Africa with raptors will be subject to the usual prescribed permitting process of CapeNature. The only exemption will be for official SAFA meets in which case the temporary import, subsequent export, transport, keeping in temporary captivity and sport hunting with the raptor in the WCP will be authorized under the permit issued to SAFA for this purpose subject to the permit conditions of said permit. Falconers visiting the WCP from outside South Africa with raptors will be subject to the usual prescribed permitting process of CapeNature (including CITES permits).
- 6. When translocating or utilising raptors in sport hunting activities permit holders must carry their club-issued laminated identification cards containing their full name, surname, identity number and grading and certified copies of their permit(s) with applicable addendums in their

- immediate possession to prove that he/she is authorised to translocate or utilise the specific raptor(s) in his/her possession for falconry purposes in sport hunting activities.
- 7. Falconers must follow the principles of ethical hunting, including the principles of fair chase and sustainable use.
- 8. Falconers may only keep raptors in captivity for which they hold a valid captivity permit authorising the specific species/specimen and purpose for which the raptor is being kept in captivity.
- 9. The wilful/intentional hunting of any wild animal by use of a raptor that is not in accordance with the annual hunting notice (species, daily bag limit and hunting season) is prohibited unless the falconer is in possession of a valid permit authorising the hunting of the particular species, quantity (daily bag limit) and time of the hunt.
- 10. No person may on land of which he or she is not the owner hunt any wild animal or remove any such animal or the carcass of such animal from such land without the written permission of the landowner granted in terms of section 39 and containing the full name, surname and address of both the hunter and the landowner, the quantity and species of wild animal(s) that may be hunted and/or the carcass(es) of which may be removed, the date(s) and the details of the land (property) in respect of which the permission is granted. The permit holder must retain these written permissions for two years to be available for inspection upon the request of CapeNature.
- 11. The hunting of any wild animal in a protected area is prohibited unless authorised by a permit.
- 12. With the aim of protecting certain potential prey species of conservation concern and/or Important Bird Areas (IBAs), CapeNature may declare certain areas that fall outside of protected areas in the Western Cape Province as closed (no-go) for the purposes of sport hunting with raptors. Refer to Appendix 6.

#### 8.2 Wild Harvesting of Raptors for Sport Hunting

I. CapeNature may consider permit applications from recognized permitted Western Cape falconry clubs for the wild harvesting of a determined quota of raptors solely for the purpose of utilising the harvested raptor(s) in sport hunting activities. Refer to Appendix 7. The sole motivation for considering allowing the wild harvesting of raptors to be utilised for sport hunting activities in the Western Cape Province are I) to limit/discourage the utilisation of exotic and extra-limital raptor species in sport hunting activities, 2) to limit the need for the captive breeding of sport hunting raptors and to 3) discourage the trade in exotic and extra-limital raptor species for sport hunting purposes in the WCP.

- CapeNature may only consider permit applications for the harvesting of passage raptors. The wild harvesting of nestlings/eyasses, eggs or adults are prohibited.
- 3. Breeding with any wild harvested raptor is prohibited unless specifically authorised by a permit.
- 4. Any offspring produced by a wild-harvested raptor will be regarded as a raptor of wild origin.
- 5. Permit holders must adhere to the IAF, SAFA and relevant Western Cape falconry club codes of conduct, norms and standards and best practice guidelines where applicable as it relates to the methods used to capture/trap wild raptors.
- 6. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be placed in captivity for commercial display, exhibition or breeding purposes unless specifically authorised by CapeNature.
- 7. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be used in abatement activities.
- 8. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be traded/sold.
- 9. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin originating from within the WCP may not be permanently exported out of the WCP. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin being exported out of the WCP for sport hunting activities in another province within South Africa must be returned to the WCP within three months of the date of issuance of the export permit.
- 10. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be exported out of the WCP to any destination outside South Africa unless permitted for a specific SAFA-endorsed meet on condition that the raptor returns to the WCP within one month of the date of export with the necessary CITES permits.
- II. Only recognized permitted Western Cape falconry clubs may apply for annual permits to harvest raptors from the wild for the purpose of utilising the harvested raptor(s) in sport hunting activities in the WCP.
- 12. Only A-grade falconers may be listed on Western Cape falconry clubs' annual permits to harvest raptors from the wild for the purpose of utilising the harvested raptors in sport hunting activities.
- 13. B-grade falconers may be listed on Western Cape falconry clubs' annual permits to harvest raptors from the wild for the purpose of utilising the harvested raptors in sport hunting activities as sub-permittees to assist A-grade falconers only.
- 14. CapeNature may consider an application from a recognized permitted Western Cape falconry club to harvest raptors from the wild after documenting *inter alia* the following:
  - the relevant Western Cape falconry club's need for the specific raptor species and quantities being applied for and motivation ensuring that the specific raptors will be actively utilised for sport hunting activities.

- the A-grade falconer's, and if applicable, the B-grade falconer's experience in the live capture of raptors, including information about the species he/she has experience in trapping, the type and duration of the activity in which he/she has gained the experience etc.;
- written endorsement to live capture and/or collect the specified species for sport hunting activities from the Western Cape falconry club of which the A-grade falconer is a member in good standing (endorsement for the B-grade falconer included if applicable);
- at least two letters of reference from people with experience capturing and/or collecting the specific species of raptor(s) being applied for; each letter must contain a concise history of the author's raptor capture and/or collection experience with the specific species of raptor(s), which can include, but is not limited to, scientific studies or monitoring projects endorsed by accredited academic institutions or relevant government departments/institutions; and
- that the A-grade falconer has the necessary trapping and/or collection equipment, mews and/or weathering facilities to meet CapeNature's and the applicable Western Cape falconry club's minimum requirements during an inspection for the keeping in captivity and transporting of raptors.
- 15. No person may on land of which he or she is not the owner, hunt (including capture or attempt to capture) any wild animal (including a raptor) or remove any such animal from such land without the written permission of the landowner granted in terms of section 39 and containing the full name, surname and address of both the hunter and the landowner, the quantity and species of wild animal(s) that may be hunted and/or the carcass(es) of which may be removed, the date(s) and the details of the land (property) in respect of which the permission is granted. The permit holder must retain these written permissions for two years to be available for inspection upon the request of CapeNature.
- 16. The wilful/intentional hunting (including disturbance or capture) of any actively breeding raptors are prohibited.
- 17. Permit holders must immediately release any non-target raptor and/or raptor specimen that is not authorised under the permit. If the non-target raptor and/or raptor specimen that is not authorised under the permit cannot be released due to an injury sustained during the capture process, the raptor must immediately be transferred to the nearest suitable permitted raptor rehabilitation permit holder and CapeNature must be notified of such. The relevant Western Cape falconry club will be responsible for all costs of care, rehabilitation, and release of the raptor back to the wild.

- 18. The hunting of any wild animal (including the capturing of wild raptors) in a protected area is prohibited unless specifically authorised by a permit.
- 19. With the aim of protecting certain species of conservation concern and/or Important Bird Areas (IBAs), CapeNature may declare certain areas that fall outside of protected areas in the Western Cape Province as closed (no-go) for the purposes of wild harvesting raptors. Refer to Appendix 8.
- 20. All raptors harvested under a permit to harvest raptors from the wild for the purpose of utilising the harvested raptor in sport hunting activities remain under the custodianship of CapeNature.

#### 8.3 Captive Breeding of Raptors for Sport Hunting

- 1. CapeNature may consider permit applications from recognized permitted Western Cape falconry clubs for the breeding of raptors in captivity for utilising the captive-bred offspring in sport hunting activities in the WCP. The sole motivation for considering allowing the captive breeding of raptors to be utilised for sport hunting activities in the WCP are to satisfy a demonstratable need for a specific sport hunting application that cannot realistically be met by any other means.
- The captive breeding of indigenous species of wild animals poses an inherent genetic risk to
  the species and may thus only be considered in exceptional circumstances for the purpose of
  utilising the offspring for sport hunting activities.
- Unless as part of a conservation breeding programme endorsed by all stakeholders and aligned with any non-detriment finding or Biodiversity Management Plan for the relevant species, the captive breeding of wild raptors or the release of captive-bred raptors into the wild is prohibited.
- 4. The hybridization of raptor species that occur naturally anywhere in Africa for the purpose of utilising the offspring in sport hunting activities is prohibited. Such hybrids must be disposed of (humanely destroyed or exported out of the WCP) with the necessary permits where applicable.
- 5. The establishment of any raptor captive breeding facility is subject to the consideration and approval by CapeNature of a formal application from the relevant Western Cape falconry club and a management plan which addresses the full complement of management objectives, actions and contingencies required to fulfil the needs and requirements of raptors in captivity, including, but not limited to, their physiological and psychological welfare and needs, the potential conservation value of offspring and legal effect. The management plan must comply

with CapeNature's Standard Operating Procedures and Standard Operating Guidelines in this regard. A comprehensive scientifically based risk assessment compiled by a suitably qualified and experienced party may be requested to be included in the submission of the permit application by the applicant. Only A-grade falconers will be considered for listing as subpermittees in applications for permit(s) for the breeding of raptors for the purposes of utilising the raptors for sport hunting activities.

- 6. The applicant must consider all other applicable legislation and/or by laws as it pertains to the establishment of such a breeding facility, including rezoning, local authority approval, NEMA: Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, health and safety, animal welfare etc.
- 7. The acquisition and/or utilisation of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen for captive breeding purposes aimed at utilising the captive-bred offspring in sport hunting activities are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific acquisition and a prior permit authorising the breeding of raptors in captivity for utilising the captive-bred offspring in sport hunting activities in the WCP.
- 8. The disposal of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen held for or produced during the captive breeding activities are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific disposal.
- 9. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as those for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and/or NEM:BA, may also affect breeding-related activities and must be additionally adhered to (e.g., the registration of facilities that breed CITES I listed animal species in captivity).
- 10. The sale/trade in wild raptors or raptors of wild origin, their eggs or semen is prohibited.
- II. Any offspring, egg or semen produced by a wild-harvested raptor will be regarded as originating from the wild.
- 12. CapeNature may require that a raptor breeding facility submit DNA samples (blood and/or feathers) from breeding stock and offspring for the purposes of DNA-banking/studbooking to ensure the accurate determination and record-keeping of parentage of any raptor held and/or produced in a raptor breeding facility at the permit holder's cost.

#### 8.4 Abatement (including associated captive breeding of raptors)

The following applies additionally to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in abatement activities.

- I. Abatement permit holders may be paid for providing abatement services.
- 2. To obtain an abatement permit the applicant must be an A-grade falconer.

- 3. To obtain an abatement permit the applicant and all sub-permittees, where applicable, must be endorsed for abatement activities by their Western Cape falconry club and any other applicable governing body as required by CapeNature. Refer to Appendix 9.
- 4. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as those of the Performing Animals Protection Act, may also affect abatement activities and must be additionally adhered to.
- 5. A B-grade falconer may be listed on an A-grade falconer's abatement permit as a subpermittee.
- 6. A falconer holding a permit to utilise raptors in sport hunting activities may apply to use his/her sport hunting raptors on an abatement permit on the condition that the raptor is not of wild origin. Raptors of wild origin may not be used in abatement activities.
- 7. Abatement permit holders must adhere to the IAF, their relevant Western Cape falconry club and any other applicable governing body as required by CapeNature's codes of conduct, norms and standards and best practice guidelines where applicable as it relates to the use of raptors in abatement activities (refer to Appendix 9).
- 8. Abatement permit holders must carry their club-issued laminated identification cards containing their full name, surname, identity number and grading and certified copies of their permit(s) with applicable addendums in their immediate possession to prove that he/she is authorised to translocate or utilise the specific raptor(s) in his/her possession for abatement activities.
- 9. Abatement permit holders must assess and address any risks, impacts and implications posed by the deterrent and/or population management/reduction of nuisance or damage-causing animals to indigenous biodiversity prior to any capture, hazing or killing activities being carried out under the abatement permit so as to avoid, minimize and mitigate any risks posed to indigenous biodiversity and to ensure that conservation best practice and a holistic approach to nuisance and/or damage causing animal management is achieved.
- 10. Should any enquiries or complaints be received from the public about any population management/control of nuisance or damage causing animals with an abatement permit, the onus is on the permit holder (service provider) and/or landowner (service provider's client) to explain/inform the member(s) of the general public of the management/control programme.
- 11. Abatement permit holders must keep a register to record the outcomes of all hunts (whether successful or not); this register must include the date of each hunt, the location of each hunt (physical address and GPS location) and the species and quantity of individuals hunted. This register must be submitted to CapeNature upon the application for a renewal of the permit

- and must be retained to be available for CapeNature's inspection upon request. Refer to Appendix II and I2.
- 12. No person may on land of which he or she is not the owner hunt any wild animal or remove any such animal or the carcass of such animal from such land without the written permission of the landowner granted in terms of section 39 and containing the full name, surname and address of both the hunter and the landowner, the quantity and species of wild animal(s) that may be hunted and/or the carcass(es) of which may be removed, the date(s) and the details of the land (property) in respect of which the permission is granted. The permit holder must retain these written permissions for two years to be available for inspection upon the request of CapeNature.

#### 8.5 Captive Breeding of Raptors for Abatement

- I. CapeNature may consider permit applications from recognized permitted Western Cape falconry clubs for the breeding of raptors in captivity for utilising the captive-bred offspring in abatement activities in the WCP. The sole motivation for considering allowing the captive breeding of raptors to be utilised for abatement activities in the WCP are to satisfy a demonstratable need for a specific abatement application that cannot realistically be met by any other means.
- The captive breeding of indigenous species of wild animals poses an inherent genetic risk to
  the species and may thus only be considered in exceptional circumstances for the purpose of
  utilising the offspring for abatement activities.
- 3. Unless as part of a conservation breeding programme endorsed by all stakeholders and aligned with any non-detriment finding or Biodiversity Management Plan for the relevant species, the captive breeding of wild raptors or the release of captive-bred raptors into the wild is prohibited.
- 4. The hybridization of raptor species that occur naturally anywhere in Africa for the purpose of utilising the offspring in abatement activities is prohibited. Such hybrids must be disposed of (humanely destroyed or exported out of the WCP) with the necessary permits where applicable.
- 5. The establishment of any raptor captive breeding facility is subject to the consideration and approval by CapeNature of a formal application from the relevant Western Cape falconry club and a management plan which addresses the full complement of management objectives, actions and contingencies required to fulfil the needs and requirements of raptors in captivity, including, but not limited to, their physiological and psychological welfare and needs, the

potential conservation value of offspring and legal effect. The management plan must comply with CapeNature's Standard Operating Procedures and Standard Operating Guidelines in this regard. A comprehensive scientifically based risk assessment compiled by a suitably qualified and experienced party may be requested to be included in the submission of the permit application by the applicant. Only A-grade falconers will be considered for listing as subpermittees in applications for permit(s) for the breeding of raptors for the purposes of utilising the raptors for abatement activities.

- 6. The applicant must consider all other applicable legislation and/or by laws as it pertains to the establishment of such a breeding facility, including rezoning, local authority approval, NEMA: Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, health and safety, animal welfare etc.
- 7. The acquisition and/or utilisation of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen for captive breeding purposes aimed at utilising the captive-bred offspring in abatement activities are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific acquisition and a prior permit authorising the breeding of raptors in captivity for utilising the captive-bred offspring in abatement activities in the WCP.
- 8. The disposal of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen held for or produced during the captive breeding activities are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific disposal.
- 9. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as those for the CITES and/or NEM:BA, may also affect breeding-related activities and must be additionally adhered to (e.g., the registration of facilities that breed CITES I listed animal species in captivity).
- 10. The sale/trade in wild raptors or raptors of wild origin, their eggs or semen is prohibited.
- II. Any offspring, egg or semen produced by a wild-harvested raptor will be regarded as originating from the wild.
- 12. CapeNature may require that a raptor breeding facility submit DNA samples (blood and/or feathers) from breeding stock and offspring for the purposes of DNA-banking/studbooking to ensure the accurate determination and record-keeping of parentage of any raptor held and/or produced in a raptor breeding facility at the permit holder's cost.

#### 8.6 Exhibition

The following applies additionally to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in exhibition activities.

I. The establishment of any raptor exhibition facility is subject to the consideration and approval by CapeNature of a formal application and a management plan which addresses the full complement of management objectives, actions and contingencies required to fulfil the needs

and requirements of raptors in captivity, including, but not limited to, their physiological and psychological welfare and needs, the potential conservation value of exhibits, public safety, and legal effect. The management plan must comply with CapeNature's Standard Operating Protocols and Standard Operating Guidelines in this regard.

- The applicant must consider all other applicable legislation and/or by laws as it pertains to the
  establishment of such a facility, including rezoning, local authority approval, NEMA:
  Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, health and safety, animal welfare, performing
  animals etc.
- 3. Subject to an approved management plan, the consideration of a formal application and a valid permit(s), CapeNature will consider allowing the placement of raptors of captive origin into another captive facility for exhibition purposes. This includes the import into, export from or transport within the WCP.
- 4. To obtain a raptor exhibition permit the applicant must be an A-grade falconer.
- 5. A B-grade falconer may be listed on an A-grade falconer's exhibition permit as a subpermittee.
- 6. To obtain an exhibition permit the applicant and all sub-permittees, where applicable, must be endorsed for exhibition activities by their Western Cape falconry club.
- 7. CapeNature may consider exempting raptor exhibition permit applicants from the requirements of points 8.6.4 and 8.6.6 if the raptors are to be held for static display or exhibition purposes only (i.e., no flight demonstrations or off-site display or exhibition).
- 8. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be placed in captivity for commercial display or exhibition purposes. Under exceptional circumstances, CapeNature may consider the permanent housing of a wild raptor or a raptor of wild origin in a sanctuary or exhibition facility and will be guided by, amongst other instruments the provincial protocol on the disposal of injured, orphaned, confiscated, or surrendered wild animals and the IUCN and CITES guidelines on the placement of confiscated wild animals. The conservation benefits of such placement must outweigh all potential associated risks thereof (including the risks of the stimulation of illegal possession and/or trade, welfare concerns etc.) subject to the specific raptor adapting successfully (both physically and psychologically) to a life in captivity.
- 9. CapeNature may consider permitting raptor exhibition facilities to breed raptors in captivity. A comprehensive scientifically based risk assessment compiled by a suitably qualified and experienced party may be requested to be included in the submission of the permit application by the applicant.
- 10. The captive breeding of indigenous species of wild animals poses an inherent genetic risk to the species and may thus only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

- II. Unless as part of a conservation breeding programme endorsed by all stakeholders and aligned with any non-detriment finding or Biodiversity Management Plan for the relevant species, CapeNature will not allow the captive breeding of wild raptors or the release of raptors of captive origin into the wild.
- 12. The hybridization of raptor species that occur naturally anywhere in Africa is prohibited. Such hybrids must be disposed of (humanely destroyed or exported out of the WCP) with the necessary permits where applicable.
- 13. The acquisition and/or utilisation of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific acquisition and a prior permit authorising the breeding of raptors in captivity.
- 14. The disposal of any raptor, raptor egg, or raptor semen held for or produced are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific disposal.
- 15. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as those for the CITES and/or NEM:BA, may also affect breeding-related activities and must be additionally adhered to (e.g., the registration of facilities that breed CITES I listed animal species in captivity).
- 16. The sale/trade in wild raptors or raptors of wild origin, their eggs or semen is prohibited.
- 17. Any offspring, egg or semen produced by a wild-harvested raptor will be regarded as originating from the wild.
- 18. CapeNature may require that a raptor exhibition facility that is authorised to breed raptors in captivity submit DNA samples (blood and/or feathers) from breeding stock and offspring for the purposes of DNA-banking/studbooking to ensure the accurate determination and record-keeping of parentage of any raptor held and/or produced in such facility at the permit holder's cost.
- 19. The management of all raptors in captivity must comply with international best practice.
- 20. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as those of the Performing Animals Protection Act, may also affect exhibition activities and must be additionally adhered to.
- 21. CapeNature does not support, condone nor encourage any non-essential wild animal-human physical contact or interaction. CapeNature regards such activity as highly irresponsible, undesirable, and potentially dangerous, and urges permit-holders to refrain therefrom at all times. By signing the exhibition permit application, the applicant takes note of CapeNature's position statement in this regard and indemnifies CapeNature fully against any claim.

#### 8.7 Rehabilitation

The following applies additionally to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in rehabilitation activities.

- I. The establishment of any raptor rehabilitation facility is subject to the consideration and approval by CapeNature of a formal application and a management plan which addresses the full complement of management objectives, actions and contingencies required to fulfil the needs and requirements of raptor rehabilitation and the keeping of raptors in temporary captivity, including, but not limited to, their physiological and psychological welfare and needs, the conservation value of rehabilitation, public safety, and legal effect. The management plan must comply with CapeNature's Standard Operating Protocols and Standard Operating Guidelines in this regard.
- 2. The applicant must consider all other applicable legislation and/or by laws as it pertains to the establishment of such a facility, including rezoning, local authority approval, NEMA: Environmental Impact Assessment regulations, health and safety, animal welfare etc.
- 3. Subject to an approved management plan, the consideration of a formal application and a valid permit(s), CapeNature will consider allowing the temporary placement of raptors originating from outside the WCP into rehabilitation facilities in the WCP for the purposes of rehabilitation. This includes the import into, export from or transport within the WCP.
- 4. To obtain a raptor rehabilitation permit the applicant must be an A-grade falconer.
- 5. To obtain a rehabilitation permit the applicant and all sub-permittees, where applicable, must be endorsed for rehabilitation activities by their Western Cape falconry club.
- 6. CapeNature may consider exempting raptor rehabilitation permit applicants from the requirements of points 8.7.4 and 8.7.5 if the specific physical requirements and behavioural traits of particular raptor species does not require rehabilitation techniques that involve falconry (e.g., raptors that are perch hunters).
- 7. CapeNature may place restrictions on the species of raptors a permit applicant is authorised to rehabilitate, based on inter alia the experience and facilities of the permit applicant as well as on the specific physical requirements and behavioural traits of particular raptor species.
- 8. The rehabilitation of exotic, extra-limital or hybrid raptors are prohibited unless the species/specific specimen is specifically authorised by a permit.
- 9. Where a raptor cannot be successfully rehabilitated for whatever reason, CapeNature must be notified to issue an instruction on the disposal of the raptor. Wild raptors or raptors of wild origin may not be transferred to commercial display or exhibition facilities. Under exceptional circumstances CapeNature may consider the permanent housing of a wild raptor

or a raptor of wild origin in a sanctuary or exhibition facility and will be guided by, amongst other instruments the provincial protocol on the disposal of injured, orphaned, confiscated, or surrendered wild animals and the IUCN and CITES guidelines on the placement of confiscated wild animals. The conservation benefits of such placement must outweigh all potential associated risks thereof (including the risks of the stimulation of illegal possession and/or trade, welfare concerns etc.) subject to the specific raptor adapting successfully (both physically and psychologically) to a life in captivity.

- 10. The commercial display or exhibition of raptors held for rehabilitation is prohibited.
- II. Unless by release back to the wild, the disposal of any raptor or raptor egg acquired during rehabilitation activities are subject to a prior permit authorising the specific disposal.
- 12. Where applicable, other regulatory requirements, such as the NEM:BA, may also affect rehabilitation activities and must be additionally adhered to.
- 13. The sale/trade in wild raptors or raptors of wild origin, their eggs or semen is prohibited.
- 14. Any offspring or egg produced by a wild raptor will be regarded as originating from the wild.
- 15. Permit holders must take every precaution to avoid imprinting or habituating raptors to humans. If a bird becomes imprinted to humans while under the care of a permit holder, the permit holder will be required to transfer or dispose of the raptor as directed by CapeNature.
- 16. A raptor rehabilitation permit does not confer ownership of any raptor. All raptors held under a raptor rehabilitation permit remain under the custodianship of CapeNature.

## 9 Relationship with other Regulatory

#### **Frameworks**

This policy will be implemented under the auspices of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, 19 of 1974 as amended with its associated Regulations, any applicable Standard Operating Protocols, Standard Operating Guidelines, international and national legislation, policies, international conventions, norms and standards and best practice guidelines. This policy has no effect on any existing restrictions on the translocation or utilisation of raptors imposed in terms of national legislation or required by CITES.

#### 10 Enforcement

If the requirements of this policy are not met, it will result in non-compliance and permits for activities relating to the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities will not be issued or issued permits will be revoked or suspended. The exercising of said activities without the prescribed permits or non-adherence to permit conditions would render that activity a criminal offence which could result in prosecution in terms of the Ordinance and any other applicable national environmental legislation.

As such, non-compliance with the policy requirements will be dealt with by the full suite of legislative tools available to CapeNature.

## **11 Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed every five years and/or when required as new information becomes available or new legislation may prescribe.

## 12 Inception Date

This policy comes into effect on the approval date with immediate effect and will remain in force unless revised or amended in writing and approved. The "Policy and regulations for falconry in the Western Cape", as revised June 2004 is repealed upon the approval date of this policy. This policy will be known by its short title as the "CapeNature Raptor Policy".

#### Transitional provisions

- a) Permit holders of existing, valid permits or a pending permit, which are currently in the process of renewal (at the date that this policy is signed and comes into effect), for the translocation and utilisation of raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition or rehabilitation activities, will be granted a transitional period of one year (12 months) from the date that this policy is signed and comes into effect or upon expiry of their existing permit, whichever is the longer period, to comply with any new requirements contained in this policy.
- b) Any pending application for a new permit or any new application for a permit to translocate and utilise raptors in sport hunting, abatement, exhibition, or rehabilitation activities at the