



Welcome to Edition 10 – 2025!

Hello Custodians,

We've hit double digits! Welcome to the 10th edition of our 2025 newsletter. As always, we're here to keep you in the loop with what's happening in and around the professional hunting world.

You will also note a brand-new section in our newsletter: *Get to Know Our Association*. Starting with this edition, we will publish excerpts from our Constitution and Association Rules, in an effort to provide our members with comprehensive insight and understanding of Custodians' identity, values, and governance matters.

We try our very best to keep the newsletter informative and engaging. Please share any noteworthy events or news for our Custodians communications. Enjoy the read, and thanks for being part of the journey!

– Adri & Nonkie,
Custodians Editorial Team

2025 CUSTODIANS CONFERENCE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - IT'S OFFICIAL!

The contract is signed, and the countdown has begun for the 2025 Custodians Conference! We're heading to the beautiful Goudini Spa near Rawsonville in the heart of the Western Cape.

We will be arriving in this beautiful setting from Sunday afternoon, November 16th to Wednesday morning, November 19th. The conference team is planning a refreshing program, during which we will showcase South Africa's uniqueness as a hunting destination.



The main program will commence with a networking event (including wine ofcourse!) on Sunday evening. Monday morning will offer multiple options for delegates to consider booking, followed by the Krieghoff shoot in the afternoon.

Everyone who joined us last year will remember the laughter and the all-out fun of our inaugural Monday night quiz – and yes, it's back! Get ready for **Custodians Quizz 201** – If at all possible, even better than last year!



Tuesday promises to be action-packed with the main conference, our Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the prestigious gala dinner. And guess what? The one and only Skotse Boertjie will be lighting up the stage again, bringing his signature flair to the evening, while Corne returns to lead our auction in a proper Corne-manner!



We've gone all out this year—hello luxury!

We've **exclusively reserved** the stunning Slanghoek Villas and conference centre, perched at the top of Goudini Spa with views (and vibes) for days! These fully furnished, self-catering villas are next-level comfy and stylish—each with 3 bedrooms (1 double bed + 2 rooms with twin singles), perfect for your dream team of conference companions. Yup, this year you get to choose who you share the magic with! The official booking forms are coming your way in the registration pack soon, but for now, get a sneak peek at your home-away-from-home here: <https://goudinispa.co.za/home/accommodation/villas/>

BACK TO DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS

Request for Proposals: Game Removals 2025/ 2026

The North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism invites all qualified game removal operators to submit proposals for the 2025/2026 Game Removals tender. This opportunity involves the sustainable off-take of game species from designated provincial protected areas, conducted under strict ecological and operational guidelines. Interested parties must demonstrate full compliance with legal, environmental, and ethical standards.


Tender opens 23 May.

Tender forms available on Government EPortal: www.etenders.gov.za



North West Parks & Tourism Board

TENDER INVITATION



REF: NWPTB/RFP/GAMEREDUC/001 /2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM PROSPECTIVE BUYERS (HUNTERS AND OUTFITTERS AND PROFESSIONAL CULLING TEAMS FOR GAME REDUCTION / REMOVAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

The North West Parks and Tourism Board would want to invite proposals from Prospective Buyers (Qualified Hunters, Outfitters and Professional Culling Teams), to buy Hunting and Culling Packages in selected Reserves in the North West Province. Suitably qualified and experienced buyers are hereby invited to submit bids.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: First level of Short-listing: Completion of all supporting documentation required and duly completed with the quotation, for Second level of Short-listing: Functionality, a minimum of 70 points scored. Final level of Short-listing: Price and empowerment score 80 points for price, 20 points for Specific Goals (to claim these points Service Providers must submit their supporting Documents as stated in SBD 6.1 form).

QUALIFYING CRITERIA: • Company Profile and proof of experience • Certified Copies of Company Registration Certificates • Certified Copies of ID Copies of Directors • Copies of the CVS • Central Supplier Database (CSD) Registration • Valid Original Tax Clearance Certificate • BBBEE- Certificate (Status Document) • SBD FORMS 4, 6.1 • Coida • Proof of Relevant Permits and Licenses • Proof of Professional Indemnity • Proof Registration with relevant regulatory Bodies • Reference Letters not older than three months.

TENDER DOCUMENTS: DOCUMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS FROM THE 23rd May 2025, on Government E. Portal, Provincial Tender Bulletin and from the Supply Chain Management during office hours: 08h00 to 16h30 Heritage House, Cookes Lake Mafikeng

TENDER DEPOSIT: A non-refundable deposit of R200-00 (cash only) is payable for this document.

TENDER CLOSING: 10th JUNE 2025 at 11:00am.

Technical queries may be directed to The **(Act) Senior Manager Reserves** on, 018 397 1500 or **Wseillhamo@nwptb.co.za** Procurement related queries may be directed to The Supply Chain Management, F. Lakey, E. Ngakantsi and R. Panana on 018 397 1500. Alternatively on **Flakey@nwptb.co.za**, during office hours.

Bid documents must be deposited in the Tender Box situated at the North West Parks and Tourism Board Head Office at Heritage House, Cookes Lake – Mahikeng (No fax or Email submissions will be accepted). No late submissions will be accepted. NWPTB reserves the right not to accept any Bid. NWPTB reserves the right to withdraw the Bid at its own discretion.

(North West Parks and Tourism Board supports the principle of Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment and same will be a consideration in tender adjudication. North West Parks and Tourism Board does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and does not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by a third party in the development/preparation of the tender proposal).

DO YOU ASPIRE TO OBTAINING DANGEROUS GAME STATUS : PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:

We've received enquiries recently regarding the procedure for obtaining Dangerous Game (DG) status. To ensure that all members are adequately informed, we are reiterating this information in the newsletter, as some may have missed the post on the WhatsApp group. To obtain or renew Dangerous Game (DG) status, professionals must meet official requirements to show proficiency, uphold safety standards, and ensure ethical hunting practices.

✓ Current Requirements:

Minimum of 60 Hunting Days

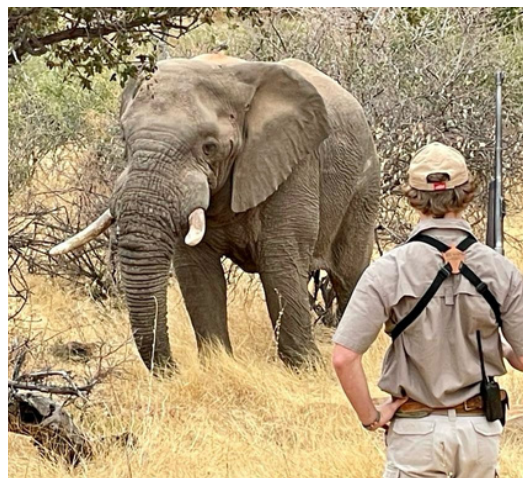
- No single hunt may count for more than 7 days.
- Must include at least 3 of the dangerous six (including hippo)

Verified Portfolio of Evidence (POE)

- Include letters from landowners, outfitters, or PHs involved in each hunt.
- Provide clear contact details for verification.
- Specify dates, locations, species, and outcomes of each hunt.

Supportive Material

- Photos and visuals are welcome but cannot be used on its own. It should support, not replace, written documentation.



If you're working towards obtaining DG status, it is advisable to start compiling your detailed records early to avoid delays.

✉ For more information or guidance, contact Adri at: ceo@thecustodians.co.za



OTHER INTERESTING NEWS

SAA Expands Route Network with New Domestic and Regional Services

South African Airways (SAA) is set to significantly broaden its route network with a series of new domestic and regional flights, reinforcing its growth strategy in both local and international markets.



**SOUTH
AFRICAN
AIRWAYS**

Speaking at Africa's Travel Indaba, SAA Chief Commercial Officer Tebogo Tsimane announced several exciting additions to the airline's schedule:

New Domestic Routes:

- Johannesburg–George: Scheduled to launch in **April 2026**
- Johannesburg–East London: Launch date **to be confirmed**
- Cape Town–Durban: Launch date **to be confirmed**
- **New Regional Routes:**
- Johannesburg–Gaborone: Launching in **October 2025**
- Cape Town–Mauritius (seasonal): Flights to begin in **November 2025**

These developments align with SAA's broader vision of re-establishing itself as a key player in the aviation sector, both on the continent and globally. The domestic and regional expansion complements SAA's previously announced long-haul plans, which include new routes to **Mumbai, India**, and **Guangzhou, China via South East Asia**, also slated for 2026.

Travellers can expect enhanced connectivity and more travel options as SAA continues to rebuild its footprint across Africa and beyond.

NEW NATURE RESERVE DECLARED IN KZN TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES

KwaZulu-Natal has declared the 5,657-hectare UmPhafa Private Nature Reserve near Colenso as a protected area. Home to giraffe, zebra, leopard, red hartebeest, and soon reintroduced cheetah, UmPhafa secures key habitats and contributes nearly 9% toward conserving the threatened KZN Highland Thornveld. It also protects local water sources and cultural heritage. A major win for biodiversity—thanks to Colchester Zoo SA, UmPhafa Conservation Trust, Conservation Outcomes, and WWF SA!

For more details, read the full article: [New nature reserve in KZN to protect endangered species](#)

GET TO KNOW OUR ASSOCIATION



Thank you to all members who recently participated in a poll on the WhatsApp group regarding the bi-weekly newsletter. Custodians were also invited to suggest information for inclusion in the newsletters. One suggestion was to share sections of our Constitution with members, so that Custodians members can have a complete understanding of the Custodians identity, values, and governance matters.

We'll start this week with paragraph 14.4.1 of our Constitution, and Annexure A to the Constitution:

14.4.1: Each Member of the Association shall conduct himself and his affairs in a manner that are in accordance with the letter and spirit of this Constitution, the Code of Conduct, the Member's Pledge and the Rules of the Association. The Members are bound to the undertakings and obligations embodied in each of these documents.

ANNEXURE A

CODE OF CONDUCT

Each member shall:

1. Conduct himself and his affairs in a manner that are in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the Association and this Code of Conduct.
2. Uphold to the highest standards of ethical and responsible hunting while in the field and promote the traditions of responsible hunting.
3. Act to promote and improve the image and integrity of professional hunting and hunting in general by supporting sound and socially acceptable hunting and conservation principles that generate incentives for conservation and social-economic benefits for wildlife stewards and people co-existing with wildlife.
4. Obey and comply with all laws and legal requirements pertaining to hunting in all countries where such member conducts, markets or sells hunts.
5. Obey and comply with all laws and legal requirements pertaining to the lawful and safe use of firearms.
6. Not misrepresent himself in any way to his clients and/or fellow members.
7. Not act as a professional hunter or hunting outfitter in any jurisdiction where he is not licensed to do so.
8. Not in any way be involved in the shooting of captive bred predators, either as professional hunter, hunting outfitter, guide, breeder, agent or client"
9. Not do anything that will bring the profession, the Association or Brand SA into disrepute.

WHY BELONG TO CUSTODIANS

A Professional Home for Ethical Hunters and Conservationists

Custodians is more than an association. It's a committed community of ethical hunters, outfitters, conservationists, and wildlife professionals who believe in sustainable use, high standards, and integrity in the hunting industry.

By joining Custodians, you gain:

Credibility & Recognition

Stand among South Africa's most respected professionals in the hunting and wildlife sector. Membership signals your commitment to ethical, legal, and conservation-aligned practices.

Support & Development

Access mentorship and career guidance through initiatives like the Custodians Apprenticeship Program, designed to support the next generation of PHs and outfitters.

Advocacy & Representation

Custodians gives you a voice. We actively represent members' interests with government, policymakers, and international conservation bodies—defending the rights of ethical, sustainable hunting.

Networking & Collaboration

Connect with a trusted network of peers, industry leaders, and service providers to exchange knowledge, collaborate on issues, and grow your professional reach.

Access to Information

Stay informed through exclusive updates, access to our research repository, policy briefings, and regular engagement on key industry developments.

EXCLUSIVE CUSTODIANS MEMBER BENEFITS

Section 16A Professional Hunter Status

Custodians is accredited under Section 16A of the Firearms Control Act to award Professional Hunter Status—a key benefit for professional hunters and firearm motivation endorsements.

This recognition simplifies compliance processes and helps members meet legal requirements for firearm ownership in the professional hunting industry.

WHY BELONG TO CUSTIANS

Endorsement of Firearm Licence Applications and/or Renewal Applications

Members can request official endorsements to support firearm licence or renewal applications, boosting approval chances by verifying professional use.

Registration of RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning)

Members have access to support for registering their Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), ensuring that years of practical field experience are formally acknowledged. This is particularly valuable for individuals seeking professional accreditation without duplicating training they've already mastered through hands-on expertise.

Badger Cargo Partnership

Support conservation with every permit application!

Badger Cargo manages interprovincial transport and export permits for Custodians members—and every transaction helps protect our wild heritage. Here's how:

- Full Service: Badger Cargo handles both your export and permits—R500 goes directly to the Custodians Conservation Fund.
- Permit Only: If you're using a different export agent, Badger can still handle just your permits—R500 still goes to the fund.



Toyota-SMG Member Discounts

Custodians members in good standing qualify for exclusive Toyota-SA discounts—on top of the standard dealer discount!

Even if the dealer discount is higher than the minimum, you still benefit from this additional offer.



SMG

BELOW IS A LIST OF OUR 2024 CONFERENCE SPONSORS AND DONORS.

WANT TO ADD YOUR NAME OR YOUR BUSINESS TO THE 2025 LIST?

CONTACT ADRI OR NONKIE

ceo@thecustodians.co.za or admin@thecustodians.co.za

We once again want to thank our 2024 sponsors and donors



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2024 SUPPORTERS

