

## GUIDELINES HUNTING WITH DOGS

With acknowledgement to **Adv Charles Lloyd from the NPA** as well as to the **Provincial Stock Theft Prevention Forum** of Mpumalanga, the following useful guidelines to keep at hand:

How to handle cases where dogs are used for unlawful hunting, pursuing or searching for wild animals on public or private property.

**Dog hunting is a criminal offence.** It can only be done lawfully with the written permission of the property owner and or a permit issued by Nature Conservation.

A property owner may shoot a dog which is not under control out of necessity (protecting property) or in self defence.

### Definition:

Hunting' is defined as: to shoot at, to kill, to capture, to pursue, to search or to lie in wait for or use any other means, method or device with the intent to kill or to shoot, to disturb willfully or to collect or destroy the eggs of a bird or reptile.

Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act 10 of 1998.

### Dog hunting/Docket:

- ensure the eye witness statements explain exactly what each suspect was doing;
- A photo must be taken of each suspect and his dog;
- Dogs must be seized, documented and can then be handed back to the owner with the instruction to keep it until finalisation of the case. If the dog dies or anything happens to it then it must be reported to the I/O;
- all firearms and other weapons by suspects MUST be seized;
- Vehicles used to transport the dogs MUST be seized for forfeiture purposes;
- Obtain statement of the property own
- Obtain statement of Nature conservation;

For purpose of the Mpumalanga Nature conservation Act a police official is deemed a 'nature conservator'.  
NB:

Section 93(c) - a nature conservator may destroy a dog not used in lawful hunting and which is pursuing or searching, for a wild animal.

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