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SIAKA STEVENS, President.



No. 27

1972

# The Wild Life Conservation Act, 1972

Sierra Leone

Short title,

Being an Act to Make Further and Better Provisions for the Control of Fauna and Flora of Sierra Leone and to give effect to the "International Convention Relating to the Protection of Fauna and Flora in such Natural State—1933" as Amended by the "International Convention for the Protection of Fauna and Flora of Africa of 1953."

[

, 1972.] Date of commencement.

## PART I-PRELIMINARY

1. This Act shall come into operation on such date as the Commence-President may by Order in the *Gazette* appoint. Interpretation.

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- 2. In this Act, unless a contrary intention appears-
  - "animal" means any vertebrate or invertebrate other than domestic animals, dead or alive or any part thereof, (and includes birds, reptiles, fishes and nosts, eggs and egg shells, skins and plumage thereof);
  - "authorised officer" means any person charged with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of this Act under section 66 or appointed by the Minister for the purpose of the carrying out of such provisions under section 69;
  - "capture" includes any act immediately directed at the taking of any animal and the taking of the nest, eggs or young of any animal;
  - "Chief Conservator of Forests" means the professional head of the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources appointed as such by the Public Service Commission;
  - " close season ", in relation to any game animal and any area, means any period which is not open season in respect of that animal and that area;
  - " controlled hunting area " means an area of land declared to be a controlled hunting area under the provisions of section 27;
  - " court " means a magistrate's court or any local court on which jurisdiction has been conferred in accordance with the Local Courts Act, 1963;
  - "dangerous animal" means any animal specified in the Sixth Schedule;
  - " department " means the Forestrv Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- "employee of the department" means a person employed in the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- "firearms" means any lethal or other weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile or explosive can be discharged, or any part thereof;
- " game " and " game animal " mean any animal specified in the Fourth Schedule;
- "Game Reserve" means an area of land constituted as such under section 10;
- "Game Sanctuary" means an area of land declared as such under section 21;
- "government trophy" means anything which under this Act is declared to be a Government trophy;
- "horn "includes a rhinocerous horn;

"hunt" means ---

(a) kill, capture, take, attempt to kill, capture, take, injure shoot at, follow or search for;

- (b) wilfully disturb or molest by any method; or
- (c) lie in wait for with intent to kill, capture, take, injure or shoot at; and
- " hunting " has the like meaning;
- "immature elephant" means an elephant, the tusks of which when weighed together do not exceed twenty-two pounds in weight;
- "ivory" means elephant ivory but not any article manufactured therefrom;
- "licence" means a licence issued in accordance with this Act;
- "Licensing Officer" means a person appointed by the Minister to be a licensing officer for the purpose of this Act;
- " meat" includes the fat, blood and flesh of any animal fresh, dried, tinned or otherwise preserved;
- "mature elephant" means an elephant, the tusks of which when weighed together exceed twenty-two pounds in weight;
- "Minister " means the Minister for the time being charged with responsibility for matters relating to Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- "National Park" means a National Park constituted as such under section 5;
- "night" means the period of time from six o'clock in the evening to six o'clock in the morning;
- "non-hunting forest reserve " means forest reserve declared as such or an area of land delcared to be a non-hunting forest reserve by or under this Act;
- " occupier" in relation to land means the person in actual lawful occupation of the land who has the right to exercise general control over such land and actually resides thereon;
- "open season", in relation to any game animal and any area, means the period declared by the Minister under section 41 as the period during which such game animal may lawfully be hunted in such area;
- " owner ", in relation to land, means-
  - (a) in the case of private land, the person in whose name such land is registered in a deeds register;
  - (b) in the case of land vested in a municipal or town council, the person appointed for the purpose by the municipal or town council as the case may be;
  - (c) in the case of Crown land, the Minister;

Cap. 189.

- (d) in the case of land which is under the provisions of any law deemed to be Protected Forest or Forest Reserve as defined in the Forestry Act, the Minister;
- (e) in the case of land in the Provinces, the Paramount Chief or family or other person or authority as the case may be who has the right by customary law to exercise general control over such land;
- "permit" means a permit granted in accordance with this Act or the Regulations made hereunder;
- "prohibited animal" means any animal specified in the Second Schedule;
- "protected animal" means any animal specified in the Third Schedule;
- " purchase " includes barter or exchange;
- " sell " means sell, barter, exchange, hawk, offer or expose for sale and sale has the like meaning;
- "Strict Natural Reserve" means a Strict Natural Reserve constituted as such under section 3;
- "trophy" means any horn, ivory, tooth, tusk, bone, claw, hoof, hide, skin, hair, feather, egg or other durable portion whatsoever of any prohibited, protected or game animal, whether processed or not, which is recognisable as a durable portion of such animal;
- "trophy dealer" means a person who engages in the purchase, sale or processing of trophies;
- "vermin" means any animal specified in the Seventh Schedule;
- "Veterinary Officer" means a Veterinary Officer appointed in the Veterinary Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- "wild animal" means any animal not normally found in a domesticated state;
- " wild bird " means any bird which occurs in the wild state except any such bird as has been bred in captivity;
- "Wildlife Conservation Officer" means an officer so specially designated and authorised by the Minister to enforce the provisions of this Act and any Regulations made hereunder and the Chief Conservator of Forests and Officers of the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- "wire snare" means a snare made of wire in any form whether covered or otherwise and whether plaited, twisted or otherwise.

## Part II

# CONSTITUTION OF STRICT NATURAL RESERVES, NATIONAL PARKS, ETC.

3. Subject to the provisions of section 11, the Minister may Constitution by Order published in the *Gazette* constitute any area of land to be a of Strict Na-Strict Natural Reserve except that where such area of land is situated tural Reanywhere in the Provinces he shall only exercise this power after serve. consultation with the Chiefdom Council concerned.

4. A Strict Natural Reserve shall be kept and maintained Purpose of for the purpose of protecting the land, fauna and flora therein from Strict Natural Reserve.

5. Subject to the provisions of section 11, the Minister may, Constitution with the consent of the House of Representatives, by Proclamation of National in the *Gazette* constitute any area of land to be a National Park. Park.

6. A National Park shall be maintained for the purposes of Purpose propagating, conserving and managing wild animal life and wild of National vegetation, and protecting sites, landscapes or geological formations <sup>Park</sup>. of scientific or aesthetic value for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.

7. No person shall in any National Park, Strict Natural Acts prohibi-Reserve or Game Reserve unless otherwise authorised to do so ted in Naunder this Act or by Regulations made hereunder—

- (a) hunt or take possession of any wild animal;
- (b) take any forest produce as defined in the Forestry Act; Cap. 189.
- (c) uproot, burn, strip the bark or leaves from, or otherwise damage any tree;
- (d) set fire to any grass or herbage or kindle a fire without taking due precautions to prevent its spreading;
- (e) permit any domestic animal to enter or trespass;
- (f) do any act connected with forestry, agriculture or mining, excavate or prospect, drill or level the ground or construct or perform any work involving the alteration of the configuration of the soil or the character of the vegetation;
- (g) do any act likely to injure or disturb the flora or fauna;
- (h) reside in or erect any building or make any camp;
- (i) fish or attempt to kill fish;
- (j) set any snare, net, trap or other instrument for the purpose of catching or killing animals or likely to catch, kill or injure any animals;
- (k) introduce any species of fauna and flora, whether indigenous or imported, wild or domesticated;
- (1) construct any dam or weir across any river or stream or otherwise obstruct the channel of any river or stream:
- (m) enter, traverse or camp.

Intermediate 8 The area of land one mile in width surrounding each Strict zone. Natural Reserve and each National Park shall be an intermediate zone within which no person shall hunt, kill or capture any animals except with the written permission of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Claim of owner to lapse after certain time. 9. No person who becomes an owner, tenant or occupier of land in any intermediate zone, after the day on which such intermediate zone comes into being shall have any claim against the Government in respect of any damage caused by animals to his property situated within such intermediate zone.

Constitution 10. Subject to the provisions of section 11, the Minister may of Game Re- by Order published in the *Gazette* constitute any area of land a game reserve in respect of animals of any species, variety, specimen or sex as he may specify in the Order.

Notice of intention to create a publish a Notice in the *Gazette*—

Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve.

- (a) specifying the situation and limits of the area of land which it is proposed to constitute a Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve as the case may be;
- (b) appointing by name an officer to be a Reserve Settlement Officer for the proposed Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve as the case may be;
- (c) inviting all persons who lawfully enjoy any rights within the area specified in the notice to submit their claims to the exercise of such rights to the Reserve Settlement Officer; and
- (d) appointing a date, not earlier than thirty days after the date of the publication of the Notice, and a place for the hearing by the Reserve Settlement Officer of all claims to right in, over or affecting the lands specified in the Notice.

(2) No Order under section 3 or 10 or Proclamation under section 5 shall be made before the expiration of ninety days after the date of publication of the Notice to which such Order or Proclamation relates.

Duties of the Reserve Settlement Officer. 12. (1) The Reserve Settlement Officer shall—

- (a) inquire into the situation and limits of the area specified in the Notice published under section 11;
- (b) inquire into the substance of all claims to the exercise of rights within such area and determine whether auch rights are admitted or not.

(2) Upon the completion of his inquiry, the Reserve Settlement Officer shall deliver his findings in which he shall—

(a) determine-

(i) the situation and limits of the area of land specified in the Notice published under section 11 (with all such particulars as he may consider necessary to define the nature, incidents and limits of such land)

- (ii) all claims to the exercise of rights brought in accordance with section 11, admitting or rejecting them wholly or partly;
- (b) submit to the Minister a report showing whether any claim he has admitted wholly or partly in accordance with paragraph (a) would in his opinion---
  - (i) defeat the purpose of any Strict Natural Reserve National Park or Game Reserve as the case may be, or
  - (ii) seriously hinder the efficient working of any such Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve,

and in each case he shall also state in his report whether any right so claimed and admitted could be extinguished with appropriate monetary compensation or by grant in exchange of similar rights on other similarly situated land, or could be confined or restricted to certain areas within the area of land specified in the Notice or to a certain time of year, without undue hardship to the persons claiming the rights.

(3) For the purpose of an inquiry held under this section, the Reserve Settlement Officer shall have the powers of a Magistrate.

13. The Reserve Settlement Officer shall also send to each Publication person whose claim of right has been inquired into under section 12, of report. a certified copy of the report not later than fourteen days after the day on which he submits such report to the Minister.

14. Any person aggrieved with a decision of the Reserve Appeals. Settlement Officer to admit or reject a claim of right may, within three months of the date of his receipt of the copy of the report submitted by the Reserve Settlement Officer to the Minister, appeal to the Supreme Court against such decision and may further appeal to the Court of Appeal against the decision of the Supreme Court.

15. (1) After considering the report of the Reserve Settlement Minister Officer, if he is of the opinion that any claim of right admitted may extinwholly or partly would— guish rights,

(a) defeat the purposes of the Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve; or

(b) seriously hinder the efficient working of such Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve,

the Minister may-

- (i) extinguish any such rights with appropriate monetary compensation;
- (ii) confine or restrict the rights to certain areas either within or without the Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve as the case may be or restrict the exercise of such rights to certain times of the year only; or

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(iii)-adopt wholly or in part any one or any combination of the above methods in dealing with the matter.

(2) The Minister shall, in all cases where rights are extinguished or in any way restricted, grant appropriate monetary compensation to any persons lawfully claiming such rights.

Further powers affecting rights. **16.** The Minister may, in any Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve, close any right of way or water-course where in his opinion another right of way or water-course equally convenient already exists or is provided.

Extinguishment of rights. 17. Subject to any right to compensation, every right in or over land in respect of which no claim shall have been made to the Reserve Settlement Officer, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, shall be extinguished.

Extinguishment of right by non-use. 18. If any right within a Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve shall not have been exercised for a period of ten years or more it shall be deemed to have been extinguished.

Rights not to be alien- in a Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve, by ated without sale, mortgage or transfer without the written consent of the Minister consent of Minister. first had and obtained and such sale, mortgage or transfer effected without such consent shall be null and void for all purposes.

Acts prohibited in pro- of the Notice referred to in section 11 and the date of publication of posed National Park or Game Reserve. 10 as the case may be—

- (a) no person shall acquire any right within the lands specified in the Notice otherwise than by succession, or under a grant or contract in writing entered into with the approval of the Minister; and
- (b) save as hereinafter provided, no person shall within the lands specified in the notice—
  - (1) erect any new buildings;
  - (11) clear any new lands for farming or cultivation;
  - (m) cut any tree;
  - (iv) hunt, capture or kill any wild animal.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) shall be deemed to prohibit any act done with the permission in writing of a Wildlife Conservation Officer.

Declaration of Game Sancuary. 21. A Chiefdom Council may, with the approval of the Minister, declare any area to be a Game Sanctuary or declare that any game sanctuary shall cease to be a Game Sanctuary.

Huntung in 22. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, or any Regulations Game Sanctuary prohi-made hereunder, no person shall hunt any wild animal within the bired limits of a Game Sanctuary

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23. Each of the areas defined in the First Schedule is hereby Non-huntdeclared to be a non-hunting forest reserve.

Schedule.

24. No person shall hunt or capture any animal in a non-Prohibition hunting forest reserve except under and in accordance with the of hunting in non-hunting terms and conditions of a permit issued by the Chief Conservator forest resorve, serve,

25. No person shall hunt any elephant in any forest reserve Hunting of constituted as such under the provisions of the Forestry Act without elephant prothe written permission of the Chief Conservator of Forests. Cap. 189.

26. The Chief Conservator of Forests or any person acting Persons perupon his instructions may perform within a National Park, Strict mitted to Natural Reserve or Game Reserve, any of the acts prohibited in perform certain prohibited act in the dest in the section 7.

ted act in National Park, etc.

27. The Minister may by Notice in the *Gazette* declare any Controlled area of land to be a controlled hunting area and may in like manner hunting areas. revoke such Notice or alter the limits of any such area.

28. No person shall hunt or capture any animal in a controlled Hunting in hunting area except—

- (a) in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be areas prohiprescribed by Regulations for that area; or bited.
- (b) under an order in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

#### Part III

# HUNTING OF ANIMALS GENERALLY, LICENCES AND PERMITS

#### A-LICENCES

29. (1) The birds specified under series A of the Second Sche- Declaration dule and the mammals and reptiles specified under series B of that Second Schedule are hereby declared to be prohibited animals. Schedule,

(2) The animals specified in the Third Schedule are hereby Third declared to be protected animals. Schedule.

(3) The birds and animals specified in the first column of Fourth the Fourth Schedule are hereby declared game animals which may be Schedule. hunted only to the extent specified in the second column of that Schedule.

(4) The animals specified in the Fifth Schedule are hereby Fifth declared to be animals the destruction of which must be reported. Schedule.

(5) The animals specified in the Sixth Schedule are hereby Sixth declared to be dangerous animals. Schedule.

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Seventh Schedule. (6) The animals specified in the first column of the Seventh Schedule are declared to be vermin in respect of the areas specified in the second column.

Eighth (7) The animals specified in the first column of the Eighth Schedule. Schedule are hereby declared to be game animals, which shall not be hunted by weapons other than those specified in the second column.

Power to 30. The President may by Order revoke, amend, or in any vary Schedules. other way vary any of the Schedules to this Act:

Provided always that an Order made under the provisions of this section shall be laid before the House of Representatives.

Prohibition 31. (1) No person shall hunt or be in possession of any proof hunting or hibited animal.

prohibited animals.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable—

(a) if the contravention is in respect of any mammal or reptile specified in series B in the Second Schedule—

- (i) on a first conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred leones or to imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment;
- (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred and fifty leones or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment;
- (b) if the contravention is in respect of any bird specified in Series A in the Second Schedule, to a fine not exceeding twenty leones or to imprisonment not exceeding two months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Licence to 32. (1) No person shall hunt or be in possession of any prohunt protected animal except in accordance with the terms and conditions of ted animals. a licence issued under this section.

> (2) The Minister may grant a licence in such form and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, to any person to hunt or be in possession of any protected animal.

Licence to hunt game animals. 33. No person shall with firearms hunt any game animal except by virtue of a licence issued in accordance with prescribed Regulations.

Hunting of 34. No non-citizen shall hunt any wild animal except by virtue wild animals of a licence issued in accordance with precsribed Regulations. by non-citi-

zens.

Penalty for 35. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of offence under section 33 or 34 shall be guilty of an offence and liable—

and 34. (a) if the contravention is in respect of any birds specified in Part A of the Fourth Schedule—

- (i) on a first conviction, to a fine not exceeding eight leones; or in default of payment, imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month;
- (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding twenty leones or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two months or to both such fine and imprisonment;
- (b) if the contravention is in respect of any game animal which he would have been entitled to hunt had he been the holder of a game licence—
  - (i) on a first conviction, to a fine not exceeding forty leones, or in default of payment, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding four months;
  - (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding eighty leones or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding eight months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

36. (1) Any permit in writing or licence issued under the Permission provisions of this Act shall cover in addition to the holder of such or licences to permit or licence, any other person employed by him to assist him cover assist in hunting.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), no person employed to assist the holder of a permit or a licence under this Act shall discharge any firearm in the hunting of the animal in respect of which such a permit or licence is issued.

#### B—PERMITS

37. Notwithstanding anything in this Act contained, the Permits Minister may grant permits authorising the holder thereof to— which may

be granted

- (a) kill or capture any animal or to take the eggs of any by the bird, whether or not such animal or bird is specified Minister. in any Schedule, for the purpose inter alia of—
  - (i) education or scientific research;
  - (ii) providing specimens for museums, zoological gardens and similar institutions;
- (b) kill or drive animals for the purpose of controlling any disease;
- (c) kill animals, if the Minister is satisfied that the killing of such animals is in the interests of the conservation, management, control or utilization of wild life;
- (d) sell animals killed or captured under the authority of a permit granted in terms of this section and to sell the meat, hides or skins obtained from such animals, but

servator of

grant.

Forests may

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Provided that the Minister shall not grant a permit authorising the killing or capture of any animal in a Strict Natural Reserve, National Park or Game Reserve unless such killing or capture is necessary for—

- (1) scientific purposes;
- (ii) purposes connected with the management; or
- (iii) control of disease.

Permits 38. The Chief Conservator of Forests may grant permits which the authorising— Chief Con-

 (a) the capture of animals whether or not specified in any Schedule, for the purpose of domestication, breeding or farming;

- (b) the killing of animals for the protection of live stock, crops, water installations or fences;
- (c) the killing, capture, sale or purchase of wild birds for-
  - (i) confinement in aviaries for display or breeding purposes;
  - (ii) scientific or educational purposes;
  - (iii) such other purposes as the Minister may approve.

Refusal to 39. The Minister or the Chief Conservator of Forests, as the issue permit. case may be, may, without assigning any reason therefor refuse to grant any permit under this Act.

Conditions applicable to permits. 40. (1) Every permit issued in terms of this Act or the Regulaas may be prescribed by Regulations and to such other terms, conditions and requirements as the Minister or Chief Conservator of Forests, as the case may be, may deem fit to impose in each case.

> (2) The applicant for any permit which may be issued in terms of this Act or the Regulations made hereunder shall pay such fees as may be prescribed by Regulations, but the Minister may in any particular case for good reason grant exemption from the payment of such fees.

> (3) The Minister may at any time without assigning any reason therefor cancel, amend or modify any permit issued under the provisions of this Act or the Regulations made hereunder

(4) Where the Minister decides to exercise any of the powers conferred upon him by subsection (3), he shall forthwith inform the holder of the permit and such holder shall return such permit to the Minister for cancellation, amendment or modification, as the case may be within twenty-one days from the date of his being informed.

(5) Any holder of a permit who is required under the provisions of subsection (4) to return such permit and who fails to do so within the period specified shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty leones, or, in default of payment to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month.

41. (1) The Minister may, by Notice in the Gazette, in relation Declaration to the whole country or to any defined part thereof, declare any of open seaperiod an open season during which it shall be lawful to hunt any son. game animal.

(2) Such Notice may make different provisions in respect of different areas, different species of such game animals or in respect of one or other sex of any species of such game animal.

(3) The Minister may in like manner revoke or amend any such Notice.

- 42. (1) No person other than-Penalty for
  - hunting dur-(a) the holder of a valid permit granted under the provisions ing close sea-
  - of this Act or Regulations made hereunder (which son. authorise the holder to kill or capture any game animal during the close season); or
  - (b) any person acting in accordance with the provisions of sections 44 or 45,

shall hunt any animal during the close season.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding four hundred leones or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding twelve months or both.

#### **C**-GENERAL

43. (1) The Minister may by Notice in the Gazette prohibit Minister may 43. (1) The Minister may by Nouce in the Gazene prohibit cer-for a period not exceeding twelve months at a time, the hunting of any tain activities animal or any species, specimen or sex of any animal in any defined in certain area or areas and the removal of any animal from any defined area areas. or areas for all or any of the following purposes-

- (a) the control of the spread of diseases;
- (b) the protection of life and property;
- (c) the conservation of wild life;

and the Minister may in like manner cancel or amend any such prohibition.

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(2) No person shall in any such defined area hunt any animal or any species, specimen or sex of any animal the hunting of which is so prohibited and no person shall remove or cause to be removed any animal or any part of any animal from any such area or areas, the removal of which is so prohibited.

Destruction 44. (1) Notwithstanding anything in this Act contained, it of animals in shall be lawful for any person to kill, capture or injure any animal in self-defence. etc. defence of himself or of any other person, or any crops, cattle, building or other property which he has an interest or duty to protect.

> (2) The burden of proving that any animal has been killed or injured in accordance with the provisions of this section shall lie upon the person who killed or injured such animal.

45. Where any game animal is killed in accordance with the Killing by unauthoprovisions of subsection (1) of section 44 by any person who is not rised person the holder of a licence or permit entitling or authorising him to kill to be resuch animal, such animal shall be a government trophy and such ported, etc. person shall as soon as possible report the killing thereof at the nearest convenient police station or Chiefdom Council Office or to a Wildlife Conservation Officer and shall, if so directed by a police officer in charge of the station or chiefdom clerk or a Wildlife Conservation Officer, as the case may be, deliver the animal or such parts thereof as may be specified by such police officer, chiefdom clerk or Wildlife Conservation Officer at such police station or Chiefdom Council Office or to such Wildlife Conservation Officer as the case may be.

No hunting — 46. Any person seen or found in any Strict Natural Reserve in National National Park, Game Reserve, Game Sanctuary or non-hunting Parks, Game forest reserve in possession of any firearm or any weapon capable non-hunting of killing any animal by the discharge of any missile or any poisoned Forest Rebait, poisoned weapon, bird lime, net, gin, trap or snare, or with a serve without permis-

> (a) that he had a valid licence to enter upon such land for the purpose of hunting or capturing animals; or

(b) that he was not upon such land for that purpose.

Vermin.

sion.

47. It shall be lawful to hunt, without licence or permit, any vermin within any area in relation to which it has been declared to be vermin in the Seventh Schedule:

Provided that nothing in this section contained shall be construed as permitting the hunting of any such vermin within any National Park, Strict Natural Reserve, Game Reserve, Non-hunting Forest Reserves or Game Sanctuary.

Wounding, etc. 48. (1) Any person who in any circumstances, wounds but does not kill a dangerous animal, shall make a report thereof at the nearest convenient police station or Chiefdom Council Office or to a Wildlife Conservation Officer at the earliest opportunity after his failure to kill such animal and such report shall specify the animal wounded, the date and place at which it was wounded, the efforts made to kill the animal after it was wounded, the time and place at which the animal wastost and any other information likely to be of use in locating or identifying the animal. In addition, such person shall give the name of any other person (if any) who witnessed the wounding of the animal or who participated in the efforts made to destroy it.

(2) Any person who while hunting witnesses the wounding of a dangerous animal shall make a report thereof at the nearest convenient police station or Chiefdom Council Office or to a Wildlife Conservation Officer at the earliest opportunity after witnessing the event, stating the name of the person who inflicted the wound.

(3) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding forty leones, or, in default of payment, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months

(4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a Wildlife Conservation Officer who wounds a dangerous animal in the course of carrying out his official duties:

Provided that if he wounds such animal on private land he shall inform the owner or occupier of the land immediately.

49. Licences to hunt animals shall be of such kinds and subject Licences to to such conditions as may be prescribed by Regulations made hunt anihereunder.

#### PART IV-TROPHIES

50. (1) No person shall possess any trophy or manufacture Possession anything from any trophy unless such trophy shall have been of trophy. lawfully obtained in accordance with the provisions of this Act or Regulations made hereunder and shall have been registered as a trophy in accordance with Regulations or unless otherwise specifically authorised in writing by the Minister or such officer as may be appointed by him for this purpose.

(2) Every person possessing a trophy shall pay a trophy fee as prescribed by Regulations made hereunder.

51. The onus of proof that any trophy was lawfully obtained Onus of shall lie on the possessor thereof.

52. (1) Any person who finds the carcass or remains of an Finding the elephant or rhinoceros with the tusk or horn intact shall, within remains of two weeks of such finding report the find to a Wildlife Conservation elephants or rhinoceros.

(2) The Minister may direct the payment of a reward to any person who reports a find in accordance with subsection (1).

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(3) If the person reporting the find in accordance with subsection (1) is holder of a licence to hunt any elephant or rhinoceros he may take possession of the tusk or horn, as the case may be, as if he had killed the animal from which such horn or tusk is taken by virtue of such licence.

Finding the remains of any person who finds the remains of any prohibited animal other than an elephant or rhinoceros may, if he wishes other special- to take possession thereof, report the find to a Wildlife Conservation Officer and, provided that the officer to whom the report is made shall be satisfied that the circumstances of the finding do not constitute an offence, the Wildlife Conservation Officer may dispose of the remains to such person on payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

Sale and manufacture of articles from trophies. 54. (1) No person shall—

(a) manufacture any article from any trophy which has not been obtained from an animal lawfully killed or captured in Sierra Leone; or

(b) sell or otherwise deal in any such article or trophy.

(2) No person shall manufacture from trophies articles for sale or carry on the business of a trophy dealer except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a trophy dealer's licence.

Trophy dealer's licence. 55. A trophy dealer's licence in such form and subject to such in his discretion, upon application made in writing, in such form as may be prescribed, and such licence shall entitle the holder thereof to carry on the business of a trophy dealer upon the premises specified in the licence:

> Provided that nothing in this section contained shall be construed as exempting the holder of such licence from compliance with the provisions of any other law relating to any other business or to any other licence.

56. The Minister may, in respect of any trophy declared to be a waive right of Government trophy under Regulations made hereunder direct Government that such trophy shall not be regarded as the property of the to any Government.

trophy.

#### PART V-EVIDENCE, PENALTIES AND FORFEITURE

Evidence and 57. (1) Any person charged with doing any act which is an offence under this Act or Regulations made hereunder if done without a licence, permit, or authority, shall be presumed to have done such an act without such licence, permit, or authority, as the case may be, unless he proves that he was in possession of such licence, permit, or authority, as the case may be, when he performed the act in question.

(2) Whenever in any prosecution under the provisions of this Act or Regulations made hereunder, it is alleged in any charge, indictment or summons that the person charged has failed to report any matter or to deliver any article or thing at the nearest convenient police station or Chiefdom Council Office or to a Wildlife Conservation Officer it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that such person has so failed to report such matter or to deliver such article, as the case may be.

(3) If the driver of any vehicle fails to stop when required or signalled to do so by any person authorised thereto under this Act it shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed that the person in whose name such vehicle is registered was the driver thereof at the time.

58. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in Magistrate's any law relating to Magistrates' Courts, a Magistrate's Court may Court speimpose summarily the maximum penalty provided in this Act cial jurisdicfor any contravention of the provisions of this Act or Regulations tion. made hereunder.

59. Where any person is charged with contravening any Competent particular provision of this Act or Regulations made hereunder verdict on and the evidence discloses that he was not guilty of contravening charge of that provision but was guilty of contravening another provision ing particuo of this Act or Regulations made hereunder, such person may be lar provision found guilty of contravening such other provision, notwithstanding of this Act the fact that he was not charged with contravening such last men- or Regulations.

60. Any person guilty of any offence against this Act for which Penalties. no special penalty is provided shall be liable on summary conviction in respect of each offence to a fine not exceeding one hundred leones or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment, and any trophy in respect of which a conviction shall have been recorded shall be forfeited.

61. In addition to any penalty provided in this Act, where any Forfeiture. person is convicted of an offence against this Act or Regulations made hereunder, the court may order that any article or thing by means of which or in respect of which the offence has been committed, shall be forfeited to the Government and in addition cancel any licence, permit, or authority issued or granted under the provisions of this Act or the Regulations made hereunder and anything so forfeited may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of, or dealt with as the Court may direct.

62. Where the Court has reasonable cause to believe that any Search person has been guilty of an offence against this Act or Regulations Warrant. made hereunder, the Court may issue a warrant authorising the officer named therein to search any baggage, package, wagons, tents,

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buildings or caravans belonging to such person, and if the officer shall find any animal, whether dead or alive, or any trophy, he shall seize and take the same before the Court to be dealt with according to law.

Reward to informers. 63 Every informer on whose information any person is prosecuted to conviction under this Act or Regulations made hereunder, shall receive out of every penalty recovered in consequence of such prosecution such sum, not exceeding one moiety of such penalty, as the Minister shall determine and the remainder of such penalty shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund:

Provided that the Minister may, at any time, at his discretion disallow any payment under this section to an informer.

Power to prosecute. 64. In any proceeding for an offence against this Act or any Regulations made hereunder, the prosecution may be represented by a Wildlife Conservation Officer.

Limitation of 65 No offence against this Act or Regulations made hereunder, prosecutions, shall be prosecuted after a period of one year from the date of the commission of the offence.

#### PART VI-GENERAL

Execution of the Act. 66. The Chief Conservator of Forests and the officers and employees of the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and more particularly the officers and employees of the Wildlife Conservation Branch are charged with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions of this Act and Regulations made hereunder and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are conferred and imposed upon them by this Act and such Regulations.

Power to demarcate and Forestry Division to enter, demarcate and survey any land for the survey. purpose of constituting such land as a National Park or Strict Natural Reserve or Game Reserve or Game Sanctuary.

Officers and 68. (1) Any Wildlife Conservation Officer may, on the employees instructions of the Chief Conservator of Forests and with the of the De- consent of the owner or occupier of land, destroy any animal partment which—

may destroy animals in certain cases.

- (a) has caused or is causing or is likely to cause damage to any livestock, crops, water, installation or fence;
- (b) is likely to be dangerous to human life;
- (c) he has been directed to destroy as part of his official duty on such land:

Provided that—

 (i) in the case of a dangerous animal which has been previously wounded or otherwise injured so as to

make it a potential source of danger to human life, any such officer or employee of the department may follow such animal with the intention of killing it on any land notwithstanding the fact that the consent of the owner or occupier of such land has not been first obtained;

(ii) any such officer or employee of the department who follows any such animal on to such land shall as soon as possible inform the owner or occupier of such land of the fact that he followed such animal on to such land and whether he was successful in killing the animal or not.

69. (1) The Minister may by Notice in the Gazette appoint Honorary fit and proper persons to be honorary officers of the department officers. for the purpose of assisting in the carrying out of the provisions of this Act and Regulations made hereunder.

(2) An honorary officer shall exercise such powers as may be prescribed by Regulations so however that such powers shall not be greater than the powers conferred upon a Wildlife Conservation Officer by this Act and Regulations made hereunder.

(3) An honorary officer shall hold office for a period of three years unless the appointment be sooner revoked.

70. A Wildlife Conservation Officer may arrest without a Power to warrant any person whom he reasonably suspects to have been arrest withconcerned in any offence punishable under this Act, if such person out warrants. refuses to give his name and address or gives a name and address which the Wildlife Conservation Officer reasonably believes to be false, or if the Wildlife Conservation Officer has reason to believe that such person will abscond:

Provided that any person so arrested shall be taken before a Magistrate without any unnecessary delay.

71. No action shall lie against any public officer in respect Indemnity of any act done by him in good faith in the execution or intended done in good execution of his duties or powers under this Act or Regulations faith. made hereunder.

72. (1) The holder of a valid licence or permit who is lawfully Power of ny land in pursuit of game may require any other person found holder of lion any land in pursuit of game may require any other person found cence or perby him apparently in pursuit of game upon such land to produce the mit to delicence, permit or authority or permission authorising him to be on mand licence or permit of such land or to furnish him with his full name and address.

other persons.

tion of officers.

(2) Any person who, upon being requested to do so under the provisions of subsection (1) fails to produce any such licence, permit, authority or permission, or gives a false or incomplete name and address shall be gulty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred leones or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months or both.

Impersona- 73. Any person who-

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- (a) falsely represents himself to be the Chief Conservator of Forests or an officer or employee of the department or an honorary officer; or
- (b) without lawful excuse, wears any uniform or carries or displays any badge or letter or other document of appointment authorised or required under the provisions of this Act or by the Chief Conservator of Forests to be worn or carried by an officer or employee of the department or by an honorary officer or so nearly resembling any such uniform, badge, letter or other document as to be calculated to deceive;

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred leones or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both such fine and imprisonment.

Regulations. 74. (1) The Minister may make such Regulations as he may consider necessary for giving force and effect to the provisions of this Act.

(2) Without derogation from the generality of the provisions of subsection (1) such Regulations may provide for the following matters—

- (a) any matters which this Act specially provides may be prescribed;
- (b) prescribing forms of applications, licences, permits, certificates, registers, returns and other forms that may be required for the purposes of this Act or the Regulations;
- (c) providing for-
  - (i) the administration of National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves, non-hunting Forest Reserve or any other such reserve;
  - (ii) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of entry into, passage through or sojourning in such National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or part thereof.

- (iii) the control of persons who, or animals (including domestic animals) which are in such National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or part thereof either permanently or temporarily;
- (iv) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation, or the introduction into, passage or conveyance through or keeping within such National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or part thereof of any domestic animal;
- (v) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of the burning of vegetation or the felling, cutting and removal of timber in or from such National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or part thereof;
- (vi) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of the searching for, and removal of, honey from National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or part thereof;
- (vii) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of fishing in National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any other such reserve or any part thereof;
- (viii) the prohibition, restriction, control or regulation of the carrying or possession of weapons in National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves or any such reserve or any part thereof;
- (ix) the fees, if any, to be paid by persons entering such National Parks, Game Reserves, or any part thereof, or to be paid in respect of the doing of any specified thing therein or the use of any article or facility provided therein;
- (d) providing for—
  - (i) the administration of controlled hunting areas or any other such area or any part thereof;
  - (ii) the restriction, control or regulation of the hunting or capture of animals in such areas or part thereof and the terms and conditions under which animals may be hunted or captured therein;
  - (iii) the fees to be paid for such hunting or capture or in respect of the doing of any specified thing therein or the use of any article or facility provided therein;
- (e) prescribing the terms and conditions to be complied with by the holder of any licence or permit;

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- (f) fixing and altering the fees to be paid for any permit including the fixing of different fees to be paid by persons resident in Sierra Leone and persons not so resident;
- (g) providing for the payment of royalties by holders of permits, for the circumstances in which such royalties shall be paid and fixing and altering such royalties, including the fixing of different royalties to be paid by persons resident in Sierra Leone and persons not so resident;
- (h) prohibiting, restricting, controlling or regulating the coursing of animals with dogs or the driving of animals with beaters;
- (i) providing for the care and handling during and after capture of animals captured under the authority of a permit, the stabling and feeding of such animals and the conditions under which such animals may be transported;
- (j) providing for the treatment of animals before export and the requisition and control of import and export of animals and trophies;
- (k) the declaration of government trophies and the regulation of possession and disposal of trophies;
- providing for the payment of rewards to persons finding and surrendering trophies generally or particular trophies, the amount of such rewards and the conditions subject to which such rewards shall be paid;
- (m) providing for the payment of the costs of transport of trophies generally or particular trophies surrendered or delivered to the nearest Government office and the manner of calculating the amounts to be paid;
- (n) providing for the wearing of uniforms or badges by officers or employees of the department and the type or description of such uniforms or badges;
- (o) the protection and reservation of National Parks, Game Reserves, Strict Natural Reserves, non-hunting forest reserves, Game Sanctuaries and the animals therein;
- (p) the regulation and control of the manufacture of articles from trophies;
- (q) the prohibition of hunting or killing young elephants, and the prescribing of a weight under which elephant tusks may not be sold or bartered, or attempted to be sold or bartered, and the confiscation of tusks sold, bartered, or attempted to be sold or bartered, of less than the prescribed weight:

- (r) the application of measures for preventing the transmission of contagious diseases from domestic to wild animals;
- (s) the destruction of the eggs of crocodiles, poisonous snakes and pythons;
- (t) notification and returns to be made of animals killed, and the persons by whom the same are to be made;
- (u) prohibiting, restricting, controlling or regulating the sale of any net, gin, trap, snare or similar contrivance which may be used in the trapping, snaring or capture of animals;
- (v) providing for the payment of reward for the destruction of vermin, the amount of such rewards and the conditions subject to which such rewards shall be paid.

(3) Different Regulations may be made as respects different animals or classes or species of animals or as respects the same animals or class or species of animals in different circumstances or as respects different areas or particular areas.

75. Any Regulations may provide penalties for any breach Penalties for thereof, and may also provide different penalties in case of successive breaches of or continuous breaches, but no such penalty shall exceed a fine of Regulations. one hundred leones or imprisonment for a period of six months or both.

76. The Wild Animals, Birds and Fish Preservation Act is Repeal of hereby repealed except that any Order, Rules or Regulations made Cap. 194 and or any thing done under the repealed Act shall be deemed to have been saving. made or done under the corresponding provisions of this Act as the case may be.

## PART VII FIRST SCHEDULE (Sec. 23)

## NON-HUNTING FOREST RESERVES

- 1. Loma Mountain Forest Reserve
- 2. Tingi Hills Forest Reserve
- 3. Western Area Forest Reserve
- 4. Kangari Hills Forest Reserve

## SECOND SCHEDULE (Sec. 29 (1))

## PROHIBITED ANIMALS

### Series A—BIRDS

- 1. Birds used in the plumage trade, not specifically mentioned in another Schedule.
- 2. Egrets, Herons, Bitterns.
- 3. Marabou—Leptoptilos crumeniferus
- 4. Owls
- 5. Secretary Bird-Sagittarius serpentarius
- 6. Crested or Crowned Cranes.
- 7. Bald headed Ibis or Waldrapp—Comatibis eremita
- 8. White breasted Guinea Fowl-Agelastes meleagrides
- 9. Bare headed Rock Fowl (Picarthartes gymnocephalus)
- 10. The Vulture
- 11. Pelicans
- 12. White Stork-Ciconia ciconia

## Series B-MAMMALS AND REPTILES

- 1. Colobid Monkeys-Colobus procolobus
- 2. Senegal Hartebeest-Damaliscus
- 3. Elephant—Loxodonta species—with tusk below a total weight of 5 kilogrammes
- 4. Royal Antelope-Neotragus
- 5. Water Chevrotain-Hyemoschus aquaticus
- 6. Manatee—Trichecus senegalensis
- 7. Buffons Kob-Adenota kob
- 8. Golden Cat-Felis aurata
- 9. Banded Duiker-Cephalophula doriae
- 10. Pygmy Hippo-Choeropsis liberiensis
- 11. Bongo-Boocercus eryceros
- 12. Monitor Lizards-Varanus (all species)
- 13. Cheetah—Acinonyx jubatus

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- 14. Pangolin-Manis temminckii et M. gigantea
- 15. Cobus Antelope
- 16. Red Colobus Monkey-Colobus polykomos

# THIRD SCHEDULE PROTECTED ANIMALS

(Sec. 29(2))

## Genera of which the young are specifically protected.

- 1. Antelopes, Gazelles, Duikers, Buck and Buffalo
- 2. All Pholidont pangolins of the genus Manis (*=Uromanis phataginus*)
- 3. All Cercopithecoid Monkeys with the exception of the Baboon-Papio
- 4. Chimpanzee
- 5. Hyaena-Crocuta crocuta

# FOURTH SCHEDULE

(Sec. 29(3))

## GAME ANIMALS

Part A

			1 1 1 1 1 1			
	First Colum Birds	n		Nut		cond Column that may be hunted
1.	Ducks and Teal			•••	•••	'Unlimited
2.	Geese	•••				Unlimited
3.	Snipe				•••	Unlimited
4.	Francolins	•••		•••	•••	Unlimited
5.	Guinea fowls		•••	•••	•••	Unlimited
6.	Sandgrouse					Unlimited
7.	Quails			•••	•••	Unlimited
8.	Other birds not in	ncluded	in Secon	d Schedule	•••	Unlimited

## PART B

Maximum No.

1.	CARNIVORA:			
	(a) Ratel or Honey Badger-Me	elivora		2 for each person
	(b) Clawless Otter—Anonyx	•••		2 for each person
	(c) Serval Cat — Leptailurus	•••	•••	2 for each person
	(d) Wild Cat—Profelis	•••	•••	2 for each person
	(e) Genet spp	•••	•••	5 for each person
	(f) Civet—Viverra		•••	5 for each person

# 2. PRIMATES:

Animals

(a) Lorisiformes of the genera

(i) Galago—Bush Babies	•••	2
(ii) Perodictus-Potto		2

	(b) Monkeys of the genera	
	(i) Cereopithecus—Diana, Spotnosed,	
	Mona	Unlimited
	(ii) Erythrocebus Patas	Unlimited
	(iii) Cercocebus-Mangabey	Unlimited
	(c) Pan troglodytes-Chimpanzee	2
3.	Pholidonta-Pangoline of the genus Manis excluding Manis temminckii and Manis	
	gigantea	4

## 4. GLIVES:

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Rodents of the genera		
(i) Anomalurus-Flying squirrels	· · ·	Unlimited
(ii) Hystrix—Crested Porcupine	• • •	Unlimited
(iii) Atherura-Bush Tailed Porcupine	•••	Unlimited

## 5. UNGULATA:

(a) Paraxonia-Suiformes

(i) Phacochoerus—Wart Hog 2	
(ii) Potamochoerus—Bushpig 2	
(b)Paraxonia—Ruminantia—Bovoidea	
(i) Tragelaphus-Bush Buck 1	
(ii) Cephalophus-Black, Bay, Red Flank	
Duikers etc 4	
(iii) Sylvicapra—Crowned Duiker 4	
(iv) Philantomba-Maxwell Duiker 4	
(v) Redunca—Reedbuck 1	
(vi) Alcelaphus—Hartebeeste 1	
(vii) Ourebia-Oribi 1	
(viii) Adenota kob-Buffon's kob 1	
(ix) Python—Python Unlin	nited

# PART C

Syncerus—Bush Cow (Buffalo)	•••	•••	•••	1
Hippopotamus—Huppopotamus				2
Panthera-Leopard		•••		1
Kobus-Water buck	•••	•••		1
Hippotragus-Roan antelope	•••	•••		1
Crocodilus-Crocodile	•••			10

Animals Maximum No. Elephant ... 2 ••• ••• \*\*\*

#### FIFTH SCHEDULE (Sec. 29 (4)) ANIMALS DESTRUCTION OF WHICH MUST BE REPORTED

Elephant-Loxodonta africana

Waterbuck-Kobus ellipsiprymnus

Hippopotamus-Hippopotamus amphibius

Roan antelope-Hippotragus equinas

# SIXTH SCHEDULE DANGEROUS ANIMALS

(Sec. 29 (5))

Buffalo-Syncerus caffer Elephant-Loxodonta africana Hippopotamus-Hippopotamus amphibius Leopard-Panthera pardus Crocodile-Crocodilus

		SEVEN	TH SC VERMI	HEDULI N	В	(Sec	c. 29 (6))
	Anim	al				A	rea
1.	Baboon (Papio sp	p.)		•••	wl	hole co	untry
2.	Cutting grass	•••	•••		***	,,	**
3.	Harmful monkey	s:					
	Green	***	•••	•••		,,	,,
	Mangabey		•••	***	•••	11	**
4.	Large birds of pro	ey except t	the follow	wing:			
	(a) the Vulture				•••	,,	,,
	(b) the Secretary	Bird	•••			,,	**
	(c) the Owl		• • •			,,	
	(d) The Kites, H	lawks and	l Eagles		•••	,,	99
5.	Poisonous snake	S			•••	,,	

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# EIGHTH SCHEDULE (Sec. 29 (7)) RESTRICTION OF WEAPONS FOR HUNTING GAME ANIMALS

Item	First Column Animals	S <b>ec</b> ond Column Weapons specified
1.	Buffalo—Syncerus caffer	Rifle and nitro-proofed breech load- ing weapon of a calibre of .375 of one inch (or 9.5 millimetres) cham- bered to take magnum nitro express
2.	Elephant-Loxodonta africana	cartridge or rifle and nitro- proofed breech loading weapon of a
3.	Rhinoceros— <i>Diceros Bicor-</i> nis and <i>Diceros simus</i>	calibre larger than .375 of one inch (or 9.5 millimetres) with nitro-express catridge.
4.	Duiker—Sylvicapra grimmia	12-bore shot gun or shot gun larger than 12 bore or rifle breech loading
5.	Leopard—Panthera pardus	weapon of a calibre larger than .23 of one inch (or 5.85 millimetres).
6.	All game animals specified in Fourth Schedule other than the animals specified in items 1 to 5 in this Schedule.	Rifle breech loading weapon of a calibre larger than .23 of one inch (or 5.85 millimetres).
7.	Birds	Smooth bore weapon or rifle of a calibre of .23 of one inch (or 5.58 millimetres) or less.

Passed in Parliament this 28th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two.

J. W. E. DAVIES, Clerk of Parliament.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed Parliament and found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

J. W. E. DAVIES, Clerk of Parliament.

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