

Written questions members Island Council for the Executive Council/ Government Commissioners.
(art.159, lid 1 WolBES/ art. 46 RvO Islandcouncil)

Issue : Implementation processes Nature Ordinance
Date question : March 7, 2022
Sender : R. Leerdam
Date answer : **(within 15 days)**
Responsible Com./Gov.Com. : M. A. U. Francis
Responsible editor :

QUESTIONS:

1. When will the implementation policy relating to the Nature Ordinance be ready?
2. Does this implementation policy as is foreseen in the Nature Ordinance 2021 require prior approval of the Island Council?
3. What is the current procedure to apply for a permit or permission to fish for conch or lobster?
4. Are there special application forms for this? If yes, can we get copies of these forms?
5. Is the procedure to apply for a permit or permission to fish for conch or lobster the same in the new Nature Ordinance 2021?
6. If not the same what is the new procedure and can we receive copies of the new application forms?
7. What is the maximum period for applicant to receive a decision on a permit request?
8. Is there an appeal procedure if applicant does not agree with the decision made?
9. How is the amount of conch or lobster catch allowed by permit determined or is there a fixed amount per permit?
10. Can existing permit holders continue to catch according to their existing permit or will they be issued a new permit, or do they have to apply for a new permit under the new ordinance?
11. What is the policy for existing versus new applicants with respect to the amount of catch permitted?
12. Can each applicant request an amount he/she wishes to catch?
13. How is the allowed amount of catch compared with the current permitted amount as applicant has built a livelihood of assets and obligations based on current income?
14. Are permits for conch and lobster catch restricted to residents of Sint Eustatius? If not, what are the procedures for applications from non-residents?
15. Are there specific policies for catch of other species other than conch and lobster?
16. The law speaks of a Fishing Commission and a local committee; are such committees established on the island and if yes, who are the members and what are the guidelines for their functioning?
17. are animals in the hills on government land? If so, can we charge a grazing fee? This can be used to implement some basic facilities for the animals.
18. What is the Plan for the Donkeys? Can they be addressed in this Ordinance?
19. which types of trees, large trees, do we have on the island and how many? E.g. tamarind, gum, silk cotton, etc.
20. what is the overall health of these large trees and what can be done to improve their health?
21. which of these species are worth preserving, replanting, reforesting with, and why?
22. what is the utility/benefit of various trees/species apart from beautification and shade?

23. is there a reforestation goal of say planting minimum five hundred trees annually? How do we see the reforestation process and how best to execute this?
24. -should fruit trees be part of the reforestation process?
25. Is there a designated are for replanting?
26. Does Article 2 & 4 in the Yarari reserve have an adverse effect for fishing on the island?

ANSWERS: