

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 – Followup Questions
Date question : April 21, 2022
Sender : R. Leerdam
Date answer : **(within 15 days)**
Responsible Com./Gov.Com. : M. A. U. Francis
Responsible editor :

Reacting to your answers to my questions of March 7, 2022 on this same topic, I submit these follow-up questions.

QUESTIONS:

1. Is the local fisheries committee the body that will advise government on permit requests? If yes, will local fishermen have a permanent seat in this committee?
2. The island council values very much the protection of local fishermen's rights and would like to see the implementation policy regulating the issuing of permits and establishing quotas etc., be subject to the approval of the island council. Are you in agreement with this approach? If not, why not?
3. You state in Q3 of the previous questions the ministry is busy preparing changes to the law that will allow local permitting. What specifically will this law permit? When do you expect this change to be ready?
4. What are the requirements for a federal fishing permit as you describe it? Can we get copies of these?
5. Is it the intention that quotas put in place are reviewed periodically? If yes, how often? Similarly, what would be the standard duration of a permit issued for either, fish, lobster, or conch?
6. You mention there is a 'free for all' for smaller unregulated boats from e.g. St. Kitts and St. Maarten fishing in our local waters. Is there not an official sea border between St. Eustatius/Saba (Kingdom of the Netherlands) and St. Kitts? If so, why are St. Kitts fishermen allowed to cross this international border to fish (free for all) in local waters of another state (because of the size of their boat)?
7. What penalty options are foreseen for fishermen exceeding their catch limit?
8. Are (meeting) reports of the federal fishing commission made available to the island governments? Can these also be made available to the island council?
9. Has government sat with animal owners to discuss the contours of a potential sustainable commercial animal industry and how many animals can be supported or how many animals the owners would require to sustain their business model ('verdienmodel').
10. What is the status of the donkey sanctuary at Zeelandia and how does this fit in the plans of government for sustainable animal care? Does government support this program financially in any way? If not, why not? If yes, what is the level of support? What role can donkeys play in the commercial, tourism, or other sectors?
11. Is there a report from STENAPA on the state of the reforestation program? If yes, can this be shared with the council? What was the budget allotted thus far for the (various) reforestation project(s) and how many trees have been planted thus far?
12. In support of the proposed 'food forest' do you agree there should be an educational program in the media and in the schools on the various fruits and vegetables and their

importance and nutritional value? Do you agree this information and knowledge is needed in the community.

ANSWERS: