

The effect of conservation policies and regulations on the sustainable use of wildlife on private game ranches in South Africa.



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Wildlife economy potential



forestry, fisheries
& the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

National Biodiversity Economy Strategy

Goal 2: Consumptive use of game from extensive wildlife systems at scale that drives transformation and expanded sustainable conservation compatible land-use.

Action 2.1.: Increase the number of Big five animals available for fair-chase trophy hunting, especially in community owned areas and larger

Plan for expansion of big game hunting of big game implemented 5 new hunting destinations with value chains (10 planned)

“Increase the number of Big Five animals for trophy hunting”

Action 2.2.: Formalise and expand sustainable recreational hunting, including for traditional use, especially into community owned areas

Targets 2026
Plan for expansion of recreational hunting implemented 2% growth in recreational hunting

“Expand recreational hunting”

Action 2.3. Shift from informal to formal, large scale enterprises harvesting from extensive wildlife systems, including from substantial plains game on community owned land.

Implement Game Meat Strategy
5% growth in game meat production
5% growth in jobs

30% game production
30% g

“Implement the Game Meat Strategy”

production by 2036, jobs.

“Especially in community owned areas”

Wildlife economy market



16 Sep 2015 Share [social icons]

PIC: Magnificent Kudu bull named Hercules sold for record R9.4m 2015

Selene Brophy [Comments] [Bookmark]

Cape Town - If there's one thing we know for sure, South Africa is never boring when it comes to the business of setting records – like this most recent sale of a 12-year-old kudu bull.

Dries Visser Pure-Bred Game has made a record sale of R9.4m for the kudu bull known as Hercules.

Africa Geographic reports the animal had spiral horns of more than 1.7 metres long and was bought by a group of game farmers from the Thabazimbi area.

Why this 'superbuffalo' just sold for R168 million 2016



2024

\$ 5000

AFRICA HUNT LODGE

Sold out! Rhino for sale

RHINO FOR SALE

R450,000.00 2024

3x Rhino for sale

2x Young Bulls – 4-5 years & 2 years

1x Cow – 7 Years

@ R450 000.00 excluding Vat & Transport

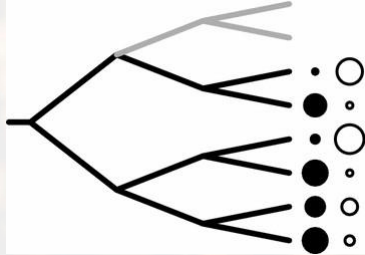
Thabazimbi area

2024

\$ 3350

Wildlife market prices: drivers

Evolutionary & ecologically relevant characteristics (e.g phylogenetic or functional diversity)



Changes in legislation (e.g. Game Theft Act 1991 in South Africa)



Tourism industry (increased demand for trophy & biltong hunting)

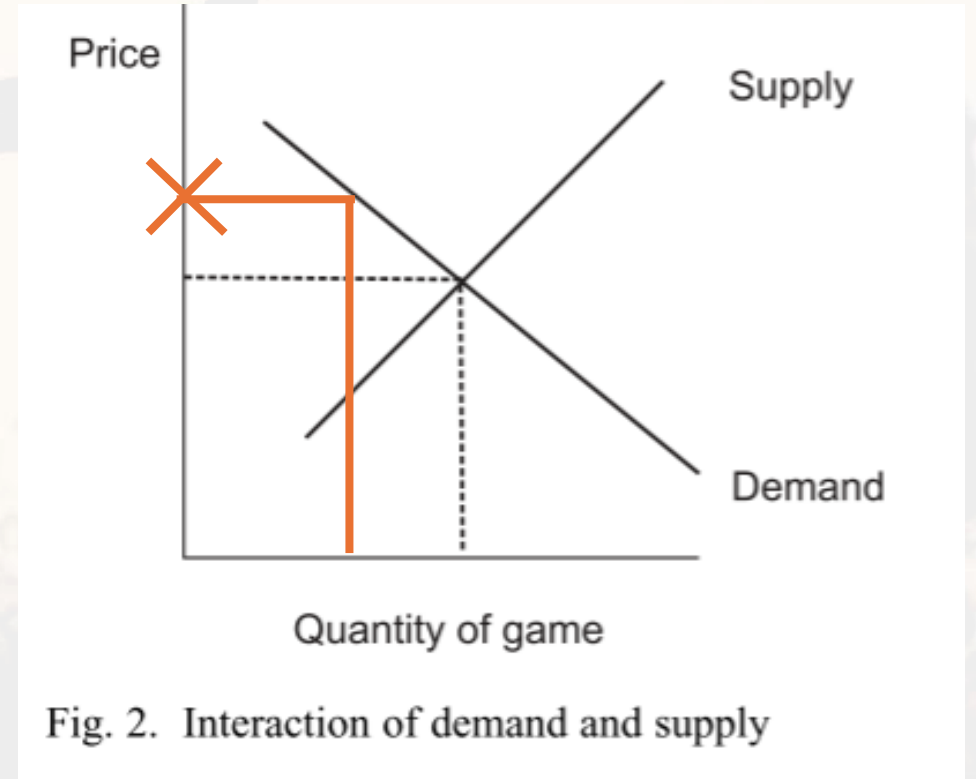


Scarcity/perceived rarity



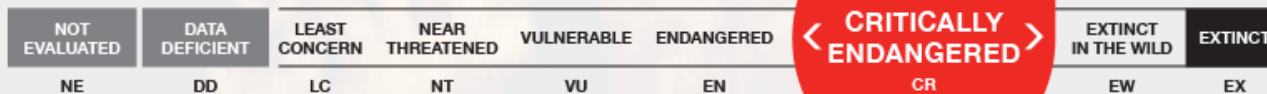
Perceived rarity

- Economic theory:
 - Supply: as the price rises, suppliers are willing to produce more.
 - Demand: at higher prices, consumers buy less.
- Conservation policies & regulations can cause perceived rarity in wildlife spp.



CITES
APPENDIX I

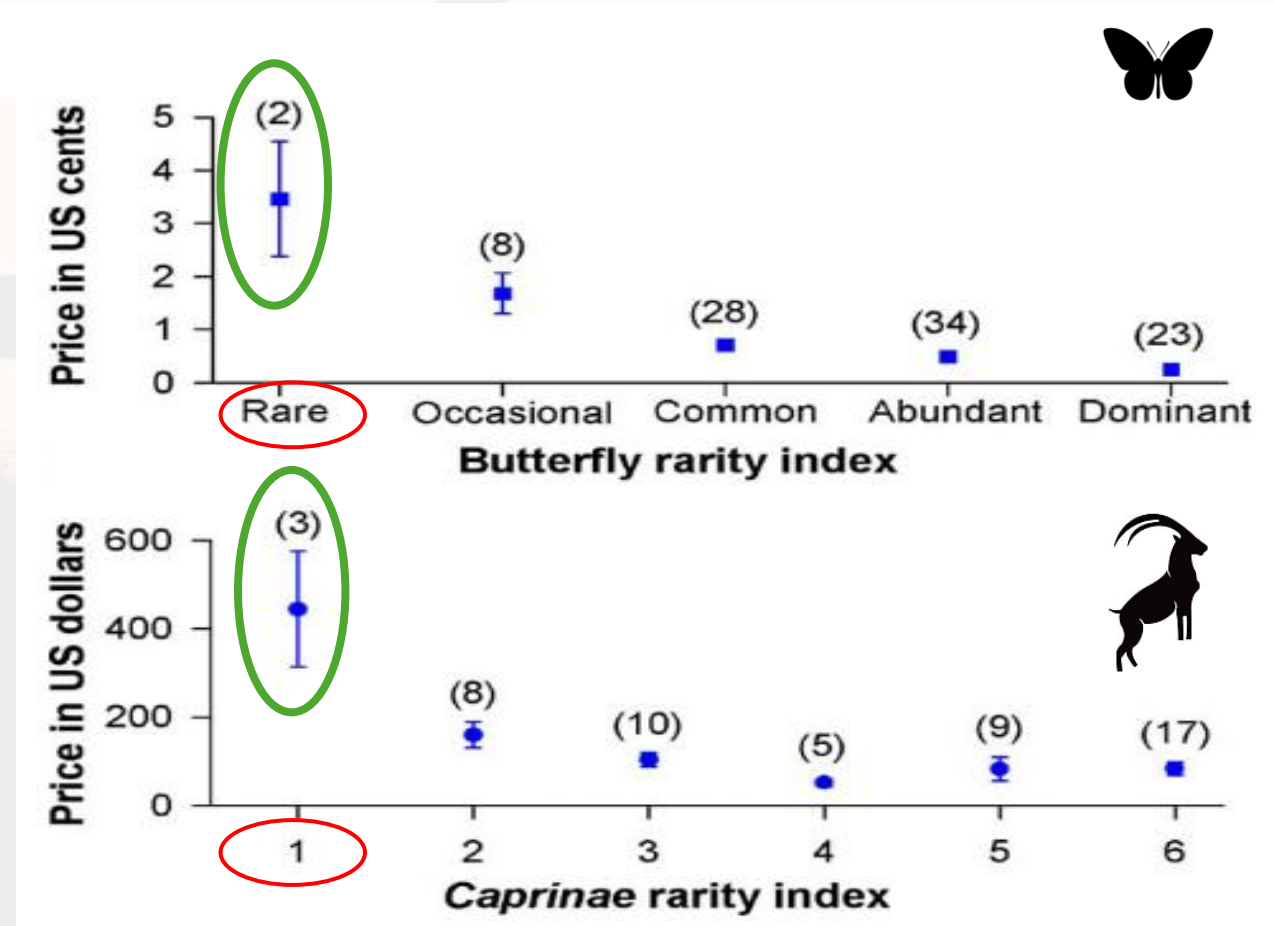
CITES
APPENDIX II



Perceived rarity

Courchamp *et al.* 2006:

- Rarity index developed from IUCN, CITES & local protection status.
- E.g. '**Endangered**' =1; '**Vulnerable**'=2; '**Appendix I**'=0; '**Appendix II**'=1; Local protection (yes=1; no=1).
- Low overall scores from rarity index indicate rarer taxons.
- **Rarer taxons have higher prices.**



Conservation policy in South Africa



**National Environmental
Management:
Biodiversity Act
(NEM:BA), 2004.**

**Threatened or
Protected Species
(ToPS)
Regulations, 2007.**

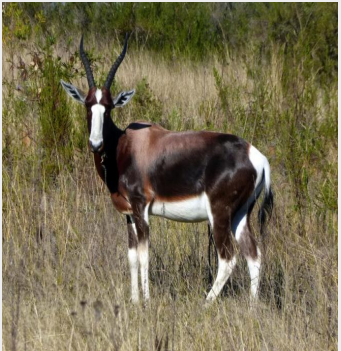


Critically Endangered

Endangered

Vulnerable

Protected



Market price analysis

1

Auction prices



2

Trophy hunting prices

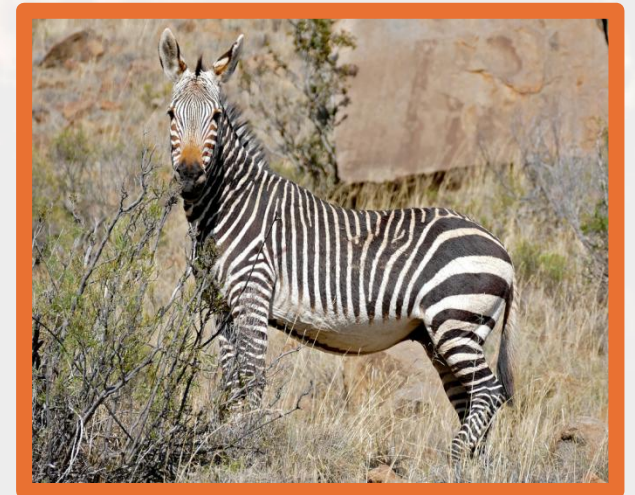
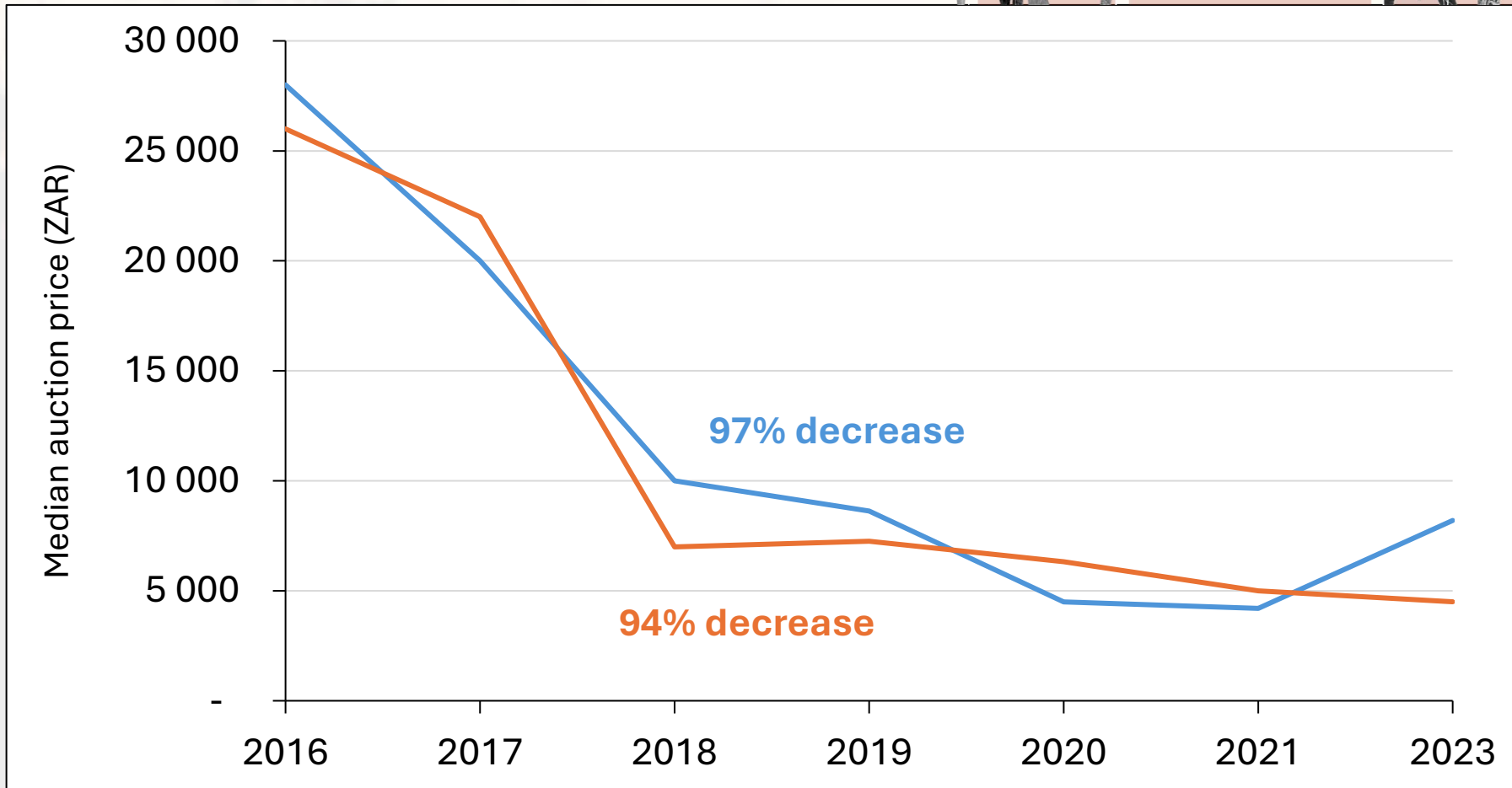


3

Trophy exports



National auction prices

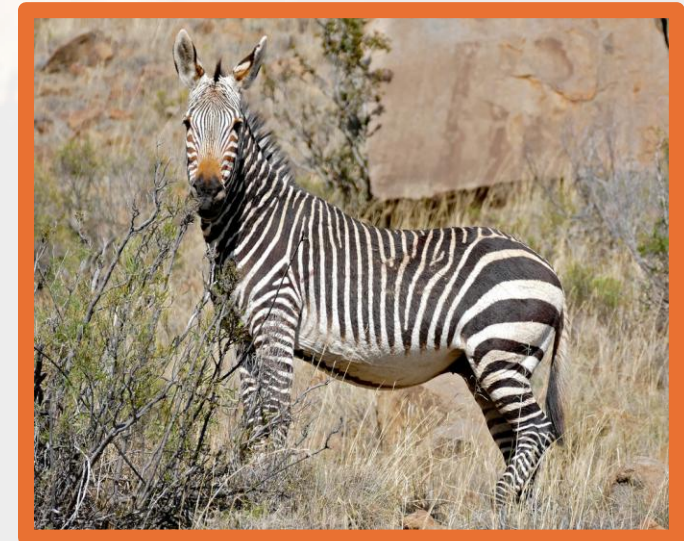
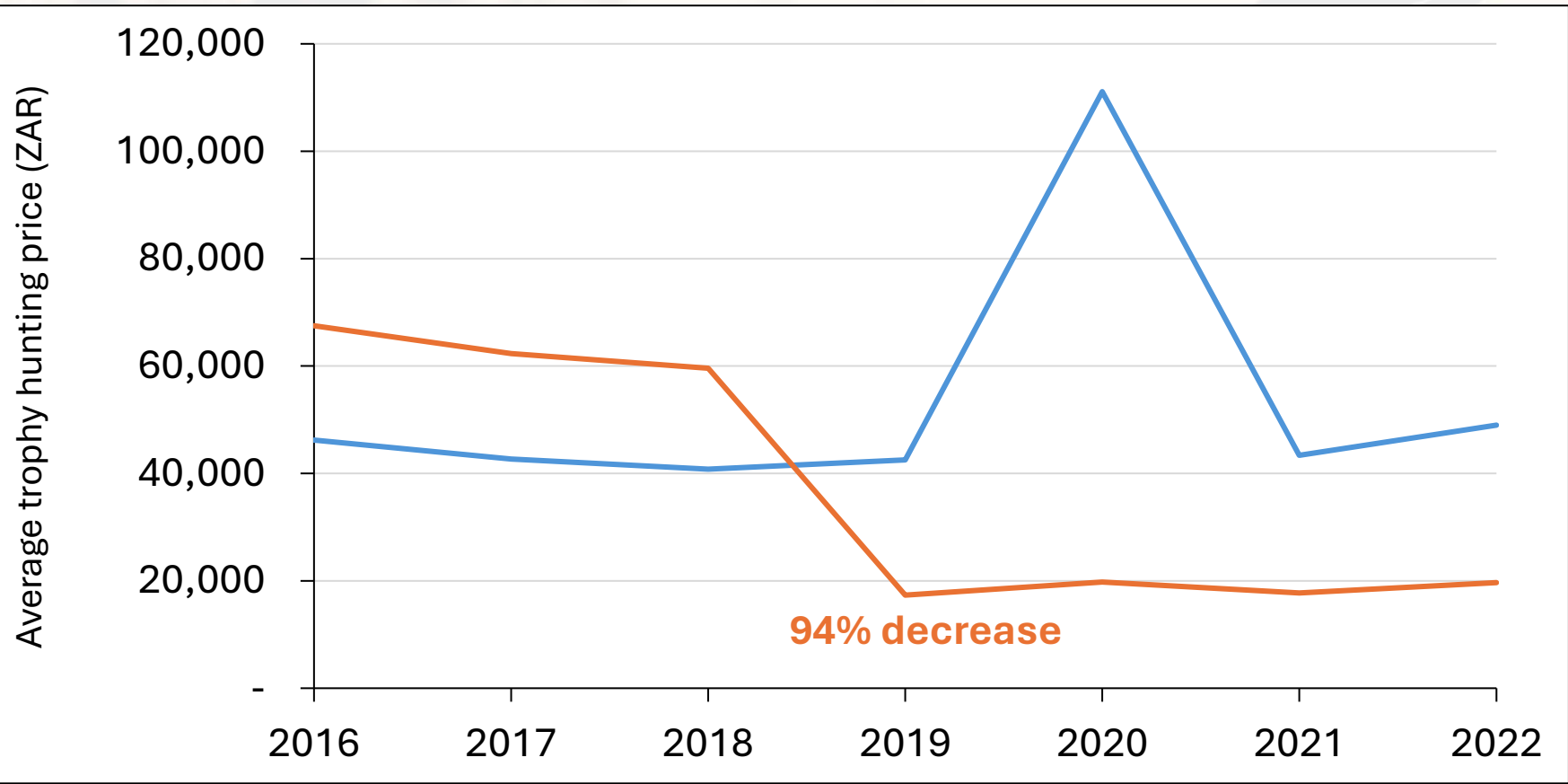


National trophy hunting prices



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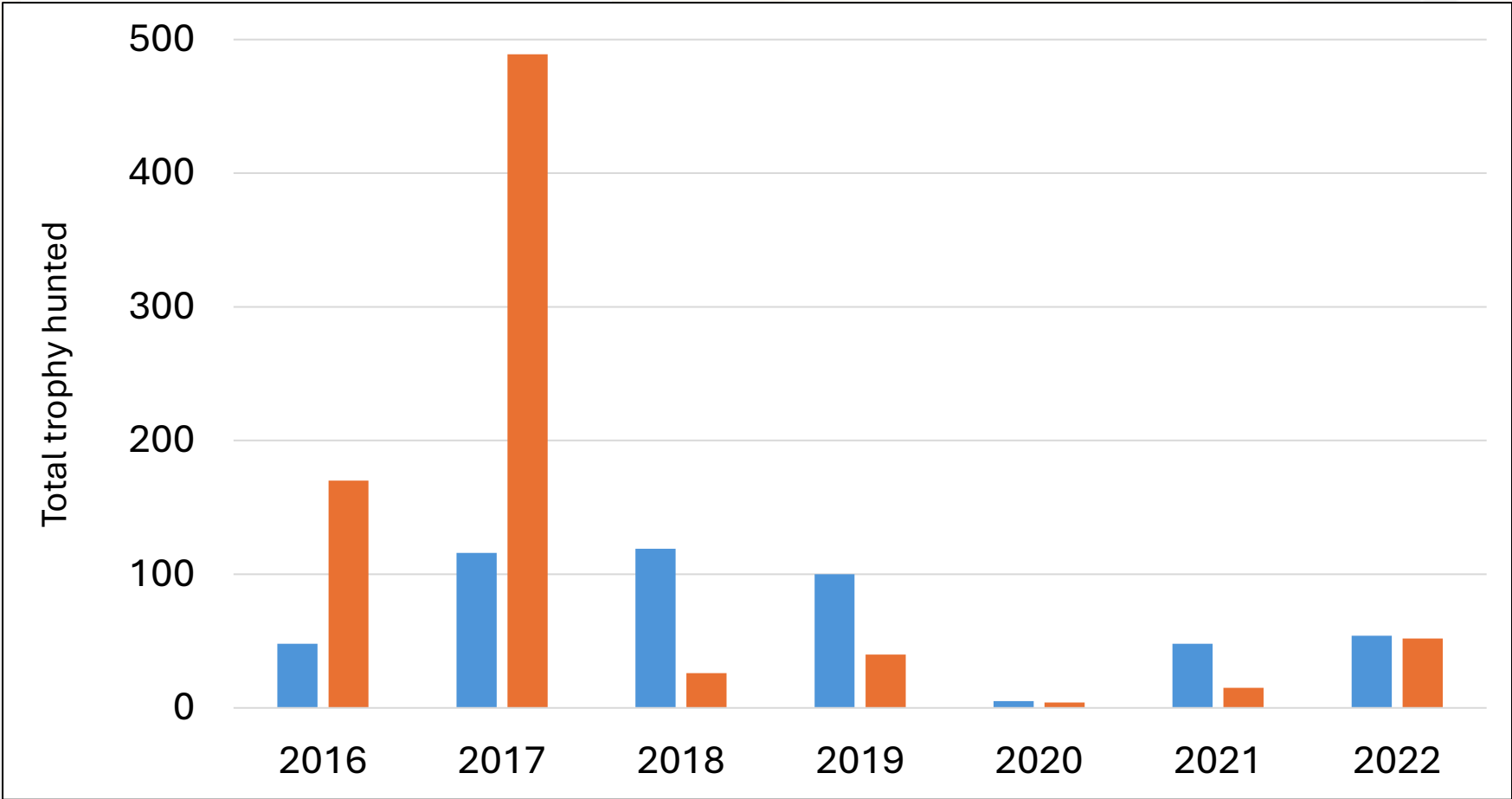
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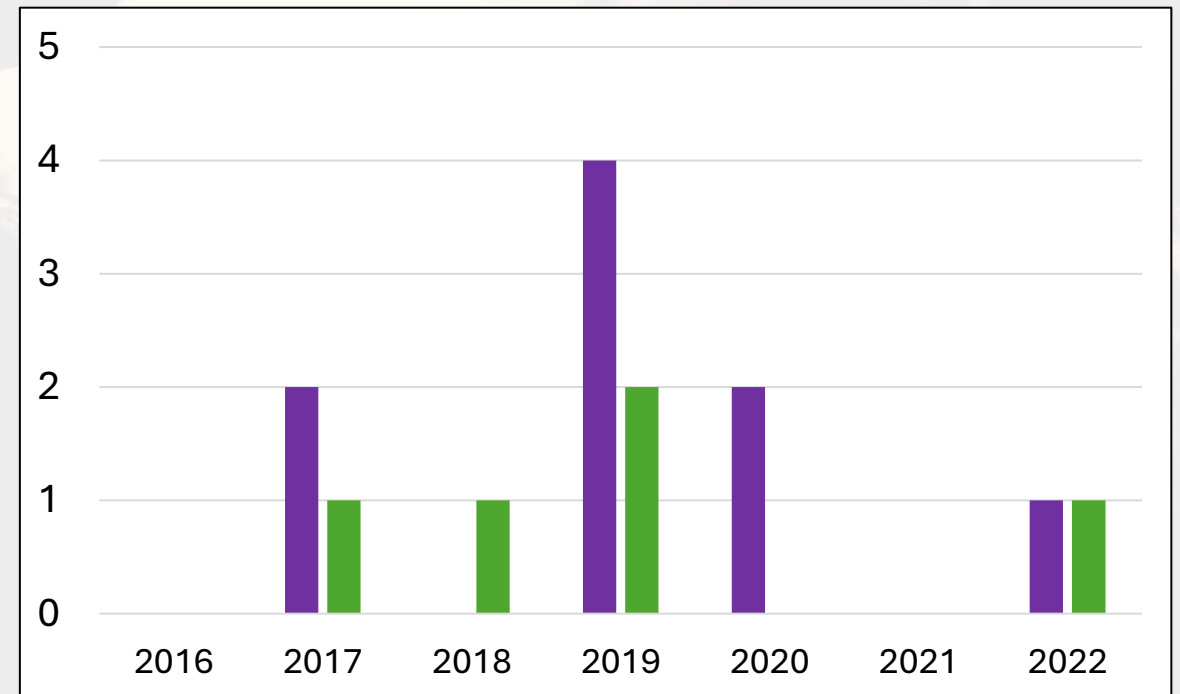
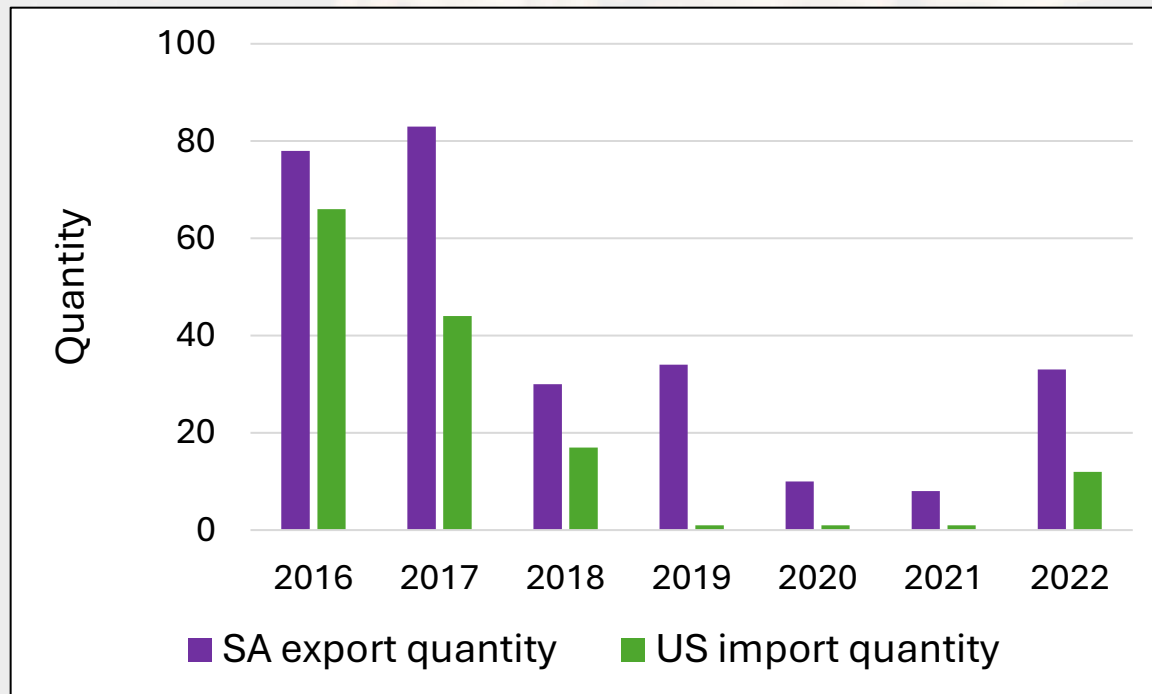
Number of trophy hunts in South Africa



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Frequency of trophy exports



Insights



IUCN and CITES listing



Perceived rarity

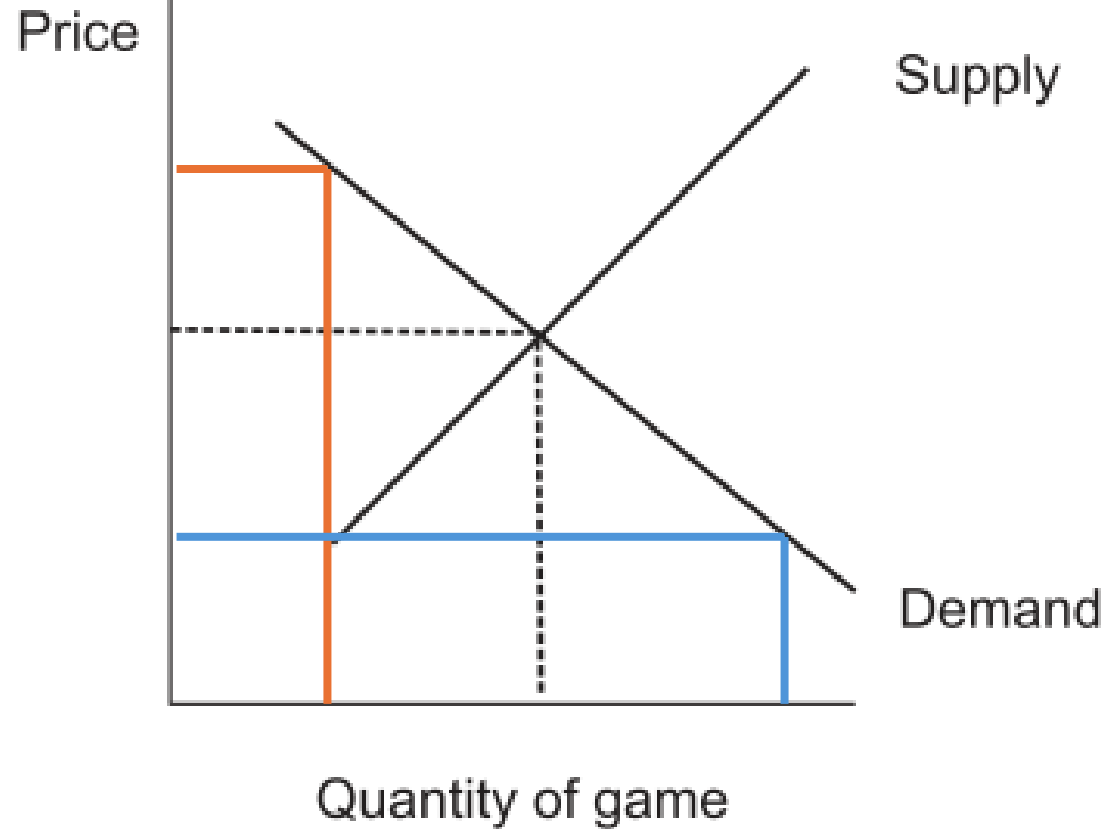


Increased demand



High market value

Courchamp et al. (2006)
Johnson et al. (2010)



Van der Merwe et al. (2004)



ToPS regulations



Market abundance



Decreased demand



Low market value

Taylor et al. (2016)

Summary

Policy seeks to optimise wildlife economy to achieve transformation and growth,

BUT...

Wildlife economy climate needs to be considered.
Current policies may not be enabling.

THEREFORE...

Research to guide accurate wildlife economy policy development & implementation.



**POSITIVE
FEEDBACK**

A savanna landscape at sunset. The sky is a warm, golden-orange color. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several animals are visible against the bright horizon. On the left, a large antelope with prominent, spiraling horns stands prominently. To its right, a smaller antelope is visible. Further right, another antelope is seen near a single, large acacia tree. The overall scene is peaceful and evokes a sense of nature and sustainability.

“It is only through developing and maximizing all its natural resources that a sustainable future for Africa and its people can be secured.”

Nicky Oppenheimer

Thank you!