



## Republic of Namibia

### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

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**Press Release**  
**(For Immediate Release)**

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Editors and Journalists

### **Etosha Elephant calf successfully treated**

The elephant calf that was observed with a wire snare in Etosha near Namutoni was darted and treated today by a team under the leadership of a wildlife veterinarian.

The young elephant suffered serious injuries as a result of the wire snare, but no vital structure appeared to be damaged according to the team that attended to the elephant.

The Ministry is confident that even though the leg will take time to heal, the elephant will recover. The elephant was also administered with painkillers. Our staff member will continuously monitor the situation.

The elephant was initially reported to MEFT officials in the park on 27 September 2020. This resulted in a helicopter search on the 28<sup>th</sup> September to no avail. On 29 September, we located the elephant leading today's operation.

We appreciate the concern from members of the public about the wellbeing of the young elephant. We appreciate the continuous reports on wildlife management that we receive from our visitors to all our national park and the public at large. The Ministry also wishes to congratulate Dr. Axel M. Hartman and his team for a job well-done. We commend the leadership of the Etosha National Park for being at the forefront of this mission.

Finally, the Ministry wishes to reiterate and clarify assertions that we care more about wildlife than human beings' life. The Ministry is mandated by the constitution to protect the natural resources of the country for the benefit of our citizens both in the present and future.

Any intervention that are made by the Ministry are aimed at achieving this very mandate. Our wildlife and landscapes are the main drivers of the country's tourism sector which contributes to economic growth and employment creation. Through

wildlife management, Namibians derive benefits of income generation and meat distribution.

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