

## BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A:		QUALIFICATION DETAILS										
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)</b>	BA ISAGO University											
<b>TITLE</b>	Certificate V in Wildlife Management and Conservation					<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>	5					
<b>STRANDS (where applicable)</b>	N/A											
<b>FIELD</b>	Natural, Mathematical and Life Sciences					<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	120					
<b>SUB FIELD</b>	Social Sciences/Environment Management Sciences											
<b>New Qualification</b>	✓	<b>Legacy Qualification</b>						<b>Renewal Qualification</b>				
								<b>Registration Code</b>				
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>	General Education						TVET		✓	Higher Education		
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>	Certificate	I	II	III	IV	V	✓	Diploma	Bachelor			
	Bachelor Honours			Post Graduate Certificate				Post Graduate Diploma				
			Masters			Doctorate/ PhD						
<b>RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION</b>												
<b>RATIONALE:</b>												
<p>Botswana is globally recognized for its rich biodiversity, extensive protected areas and commitment to wildlife and conservation. With approximately 40% of its land area designated as national parks, game reserves and wildlife management areas, the country has positioned itself as a leader in wildlife conservation and ecotourism (UNDP, 2024). Moreover, wildlife-based tourism plays a pivotal role in Botswana's economy, contributing significantly to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment.</p>												

Therefore, to sustain and enhance this legacy, there is a growing need to build a skilled workforce equipped with practical knowledge and competencies in wildlife management and conservation.

The HRDC Consolidated List of Priority Occupations and Skills (2025) highlights a growing demand for skilled professionals in tourism and conservation, where roles such as wildlife tour guides and conservation officers are currently in high demand. The Certificate in Wildlife Management and Conservation is designed to meet these demands by producing work ready graduates capable of fulfilling both field and support roles in the conservation sector. Additionally, Botswana's Vision 2036 Pillar 3 strongly advocates for the "sustainable utilisation of natural resources" (Vision 2036, p. 22) and envisions a future where "healthy ecosystems support the economy and livelihoods of Botswana" (Vision 2036, p. 22). The Vision recognizes the country's global responsibility in biodiversity conservation and emphasizes the importance of building human capital that is not only skilled but also environmentally conscious (Vision 2036, p. 13).

The proposed Certificate in Wildlife Management and Conservation is strategic, reflecting both national development goals, emerging socio-economic needs outlined above, by equipping learners with the essential knowledge and skills required to manage natural ecosystems and wildlife populations sustainably. Graduates will be well-positioned for roles in wildlife reserves, conservation NGOs, government agencies, ecotourism enterprises and community-based conservation initiatives.

### **PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)**

The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with broad technical knowledge, skills and competence to:

1. Apply ecological principles to effectively manage and conserve wildlife populations and their habitats, while enforcing relevant environmental and conservation legislation and upholding ethical standards.
2. Monitor wildlife species and habitats using appropriate field techniques and technologies to inform conservation strategies, biodiversity management and ecological research.
3. Implement sustainable wildlife conservation strategies in diverse environmental and socio-economic contexts by integrating science and adaptive management practices.
4. Educate communities, stakeholders and policy makers on the importance of biodiversity and conservation practices to sustain healthy ecosystems, promote awareness, understanding and collaborative action.

### **MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)**

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- i. Applicants must have a minimum of NCQF Level IV (BGCSE) or equivalent.  
OR
- ii. Candidates who do not meet the minimum academic qualifications stated above will be considered through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process which shall be administered according to the National RPL Policy. There will also be provision for Credit Accumulation Transfer to the learner in case they transfer in from another institution as per National Policy on CAT

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<b>SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>
<p>1. Demonstrate broad technical knowledge of key ecological and conservation concepts in analysing environmental systems and sustainability challenges.</p>	<p>1.1 Demonstrate awareness of current global and regional conservation challenges and frameworks.</p> <p>1.2 Apply established ecological processes.</p> <p>1.3 Solve conservation issues using ecological principles.</p> <p>1.4 Apply foundational knowledge to support decision-making in wildlife monitoring, habitat conservation and species protection initiatives.</p> <p>1.5 Demonstrate knowledge of legal and ethical issues in wildlife conservation.</p> <p>1.6 Comply with all relevant national and international wildlife protection laws and regulations.</p>
<p>2. Implement basic conservation strategies and sustainability initiatives to protect biodiversity and promote responsible environmental management.</p>	<p>2.1 Utilise appropriate methods for habitat protection, species management or resource conservation.</p>

	<p>2.2 Develop a conservation plan addressing a specific ecological challenge, incorporating sustainability principles.</p> <p>2.3 Implement suitable sustainability initiatives relevant to local or regional ecosystems.</p> <p>2.4 Apply sustainable land management techniques to show awareness of minimizing ecological impact.</p> <p>2.5 Evaluate the effectiveness and potential impacts of the conservation initiatives.</p>
<p>3. Communicate information relating to wildlife management and conservation to a range of stakeholders, including local communities, policymakers, industry leaders and the public.</p>	<p>3.1 Apply information and communication technologies for effective and efficient communication.</p> <p>3.2 Summarize complex conservation issues in accessible language for non-experts.</p> <p>3.3 Guide tourists helping them understand the culture, history and practical aspects of the place they are exploring.</p> <p>3.4 Present conservation messages tailored to different audiences (e.g. local community or government official).</p> <p>3.5 Engage stakeholders through clear and persuasive verbal or written communication.</p> <p>3.6 Facilitate discussions with stakeholders to gather feedback and enhance conservation messaging.</p> <p>3.7 Apply ethical and responsible practices when interacting with natural environments and community spaces.</p>

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<p>4. Analyse threats to wildlife populations including habitat loss, climate change and poaching to propose appropriate conservation and management strategies.</p>	<p>4.1 Interpret wildlife population data in the context of environmental threats.</p> <p>4.2 Identify major anthropogenic and natural threats to specific wildlife species.</p> <p>4.3 Compare the relative impacts of different threats on species survival.</p> <p>4.4 Evaluate threats to wildlife and conservation strategies.</p> <p>4.5 Maintain accurate field logs including GPS coordinates, weather conditions and wildlife sightings.</p>
<p>5. Apply basic techniques for monitoring wildlife and managing habitats to support conservation planning and sustainable ecosystem management.</p>	<p>5.1 Identify ethical dilemmas in wildlife management scenarios and propose context appropriate solutions.</p> <p>5.2 Operate wildlife monitoring equipment according to standard protocols.</p> <p>5.3 Collect species and habitat condition data using appropriate field instruments.</p> <p>5.4 Interpret collected data to produce a brief monitoring report with observations, trends and suggestions.</p> <p>5.5 Apply habitat management interventions.</p> <p>5.6 Handle wildlife safely and responsibly in a manner that minimizes stress and harm to the animals.</p>

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SECTION C	QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE				
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [ 4 ]	Level [ 5 ]	Level [ 6 ]	
		<b>FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT</b> Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Customer Care		8
	Computer skills		8		8
	Communication Skills		8		8
	Principle of Business Management		8		8
<b>CORE COMPONENT</b> Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Ecology and Ecosystems		10		10
	Introduction to Conservation Finance		10		10
	Species Conservation and Management		10		10
	Introduction to Wildlife Conservation and Legislation		10		10
	Community-Based Conservation		8		8
	Animal Control Procedures		8		8
	Ethics and Conservation Philosophy		8		8
	Database for Wildlife Management			12	12

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	Ecotour guiding and mapping			12	12
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [ 4 ]	Level [ 5 ]	Level [ 6 ]	
	<b>Not Applicable</b>				
<b>Electives</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>				

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### SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

#### TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

NCQF Level	Credit Value
5	96
6	24
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>120</b>

**Rules of Combination:**

**(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)**

The credit combination for this qualification is made up of 32 credits from fundamental components and 88 credits from core components. There are no strands or electives for this qualification.

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### ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All assessments which are leading to the award of the qualification should be based on learning outcomes and associated assessment criteria. The assessments will be as follows:

**i. Formative Assessment**

The weighting of formative assessment is 60% of the final assessment mark.

**ii. Summative Assessment**

The weighting of summative assessment is 40 % of the final assessment mark

### MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

There will be provision for internal and external moderation.

### RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification.

### CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification.

### PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

#### Academic progression

The successful graduates of this qualification can articulate vertically and horizontally as follows:

#### Vertically

- Diploma in Wildlife Management.
- Diploma in Nature Conservation.
- Diploma in Conservation Ecology.
- Diploma in Game Ranch Management.

#### Horizontally

- Certificate in Nature Conservation, Implementation and Leadership.
- Certificate in Conservation Ecology.
- Certificate in Wildlife Management.

### Employment Pathways

- Tour Guide
- Wildlife ranger/Park ranger
- Game farm/game ranch manager
- Resort representative
- Game capturer
- Community Based Nature and Heritage Conservationist

### QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Candidates meeting the prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification in accordance with the qualification composition rules and applicable policies. To be eligible for the award of Certificate in Wildlife Management and Conservation, candidates should have passed all course work assignments and the final examination and obtained a minimum of 120 credits. A certificate will be issued to learners who are awarded the qualification.

### SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

The qualification has been benchmarked with the following regional and international institutions:

1. Centre of Tourism Training and Research (Kenya) - Certificate in Wildlife Conservation and Tour Guiding
2. Southern Oregon University (USA) - Certificate in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
3. College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka (Tanzania) - Technician Certificate in Wildlife Management

The proposed qualification compares favourably with the outlined qualifications offered by regional and international Universities. The proposed qualification is pitched at Level 5 on the NCQF and the same goes for the qualification offered by the College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka (TzQF), and the Centre of Tourism Training and Research's qualification is pecked at Level 4 on the KNQF, while the Southern Oregon University (USA) has not specified its level within the qualification framework (NWCCU).

Despite different titles, all the qualifications aim to equip learners with both theoretical understanding and practical skills in wildlife conservation, management and ecology. The qualifications also aim to produce graduates with a comprehensive understanding of wildlife management and conservation principles. In addition, the qualifications have similar domains such as Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, legislation relating to wildlife or tourism, Ecosystem Management and Community-Based Natural Resource Management. Additionally, all qualifications have adopted a combination of

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formative (ongoing assessments such as assignments, reports and tests) and summative (final exams or practical assessments) assessment strategies to evaluate learners' competency and knowledge retention.

There are notable differences between the proposed qualification and the benchmarked qualifications in terms of credits and duration. The proposed qualification carries 120 credits and runs for one year, which is the same as the qualification offered by the College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka, (TzQF) but differs with the qualification from the Centre for Tourism Training and Research (KNQF), which does not specify the number of credits but has a duration of 1.5 years. The qualification from Southern Oregon University (USA) comprises 33–34 credits, although its duration is not specified. In terms of the rule for award of the qualification, only learners who have completed all compulsory modules and attained the minimum required credits will be awarded the qualification.

In terms of articulation, all the qualifications have similar routes for education progression and employment pathways. Graduates can pursue diploma or bachelor's degrees in related fields such as Wildlife Management, Ecology or Sustainable Tourism and Environmental Science to progress in this field. All the qualifications prepare learners for different career opportunities in roles such as wildlife guides, conservation officers, park rangers, ecotourism facilitators and environmental educators.

### REVIEW PERIOD

This qualification will be reviewed after 5 years upon registration.

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### For Official Use Only:

CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	BQA DECISION NO.	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT	