

ZAMBIA

6.1 Zambia Wildlife Act (No 12) of 1998

[No. 12 of 1998

**THE ZAMBIA WILDLIFE ACT, 1998**

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Continuation  
of existing  
Game  
Management  
Areas

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Settlement in  
Game  
Management  
Areas

28. Any person who settles or lives in a Game Management Area shall conform to provisions of a management plan developed by an appropriate board under paragraph (2) of section *seven*.

Restriction  
on hunting  
wild animals  
in Game  
Management  
Areas

29. Except as is otherwise provided by this Act, any person who, not being the holder of a licence issued under paragraph (a), (b), (c) and (h) of section *thirty-three* relevant to such hunting, hunts any game or protected animal in any Game Management Area shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding twenty-five thousand penalty unit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or to both.

#### PART VI

##### GAME ANIMALS AND PROTECTED ANIMALS

Game and  
protected  
animals

30. (1) For the purposes of this Act, the Minister shall, in consultation with the Authority, and on the advice of any board, by statutory order, specify, including by scientific name, any wild animal as a game animal or protected animal and in like manner specify any game animal as a protected animal.

(2) A game animal shall be specified as a protected animal under this section—

- (a) to preserve a viable population of the species when it becomes rare, threatened or endangered;
- (b) for its role in the maintenance and assessment of the health of an eco-system; or
- (c) for its economic significance in a local or national economy.

(3) Where the Minister specifies any wild animal as a protected animal under an order made under subsection (1), the order may—

- (a) prohibit or regulate the hunting of any protected animal either generally or during a specified period and whether throughout the Republic or in a specified area of the Republic; or
- (b) apply to all wild animals within the area specified or to any wild animal or species, class or variety of a class of wild animal specified in the order and may make different provisions for different sexes of the specified wild animal.

(4) Except as otherwise provided by this Act, any person who hunts or is found in circumstances showing that it is his intention to hunt any protected animal shall be guilty of an offence.

31. Except as is otherwise provided by this Act, any person who hunts any game animal or protected animal, except under or in accordance with the conditions of a valid licence issued under Part VII, shall be guilty of an offence.

Restriction  
on hunting  
game or  
protected  
animals

32. (1) Any person who has reasonable grounds to believe that any proposed or existing government plans or activity of the Government or any other organisation or person may have an adverse effect on any wildlife species or community in a National Park, Game Management Area or open area, such person may request the Authority through the Director-General that a wildlife impact assessment be conducted.

Wildlife  
impact  
assessments

(2) Whenever the Authority receives such a request, it may within thirty days of receipt thereof require the Government, organisation or person to conduct the assessment in accordance with the procedures specified by the Environmental Council under the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act taking into account—

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(a) existing or anticipated impacts upon wildlife, including an account of the species, communities and habitats affected and the extent to which they are or may be threatened; and

(b) any endangered or endemic species which are or may be affected.

## PART VII

### LICENCES

33. The following classes of licences may be issued under this Part:

Licences

- (a) non-resident hunting licence;
- (b) resident hunting licence;
- (c) bird licence;
- (d) professional hunter's licence;
- (e) apprentice professional hunter's licence;
- (f) professional guide's licence;
- (g) apprentice professional guide's licence;
- (h) special licence;

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Counting of hunted game animals or protected animals

Director of Game Management

Limitations upon persons assisting in hunting of game or protected animals

(b) produce the licence for inspection and give full name and address of the licensee in writing to any proper officer or honorary wildlife police officer upon request.

(2) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

(1) For the purpose of section 64, (a) computing the numbers of game animals or protected animals authorised to be hunted under any licence issued under Part VII;

(b) computing the numbers of game animals or protected animals permitted to be hunted in any National Park, Game Management Area or open area under any permit granted under subsection (3) of section sixteen; or

(c) recording the numbers of hunted animals or protected animals in any record required to be kept under section sixty-one or sixty-two.

only such game animals or protected animals as are killed, wounded or captured shall be counted.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), if any game animal or protected animal is killed in any circumstances whatsoever, any licensee or holder of a permit under this Act, whose licence or permit entitles the licensee to hunt a game animal or protected animal of that species, or by any person accompanying or assisting such licensee or permit holder such animal shall count as having been hunted under the licence or permit.

Provided that if any person accompanying or assisting a licensee or holder of a permit is himself in possession of a licence or permit entitling the person to hunt a game animal or protected animal of the species killed by that person, the animal shall count as having been hunted under the licence or permit of the person so accompanying or assisting.

(3) Nothing in subsection (2) shall apply to any game or protected animal killed or wounded in accordance with section eighty-one.

65. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this section and of section forty-one any person, not being the holder of a licence under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (h) of subsection (1) of section thirty-three or a permit issued under this Act may assist, for gain or reward or otherwise, any licensee under a game or professional hunter's licence or any permit holder under the permit, to hunt any game animal or protected animal solely in the capacity of a tracker, gun bearer or beater.

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(2) Except as is otherwise provided by this Act or by the terms and conditions of any licence or permit issued under this Act, the killing of any game or protected animal in accordance with subsection (1) shall not be deemed to transfer the absolute ownership of the game animal or protected animal or of the carcas or of any trophy or of the meat to any person.

(3) When any game animal or protected animal is killed in accordance with subsection (1), the person who has killed that animal shall, within a period of forty-eight hours, make a report of the fact to the nearest proper officer and shall, unless otherwise entitled to retain the animal under this Act or under any licence or permit issued under this Act, hand over to the proper officer the carcas or any trophy or meat of that animal as the proper officer may direct:

Provided that the proper office may grant that person ownership of the carcas, trophy or meat of the animal as compensation for any damage to the land, building, crops or livestock caused by the game animal, protected non-game animal or non-protected animal.

(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (3) shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) Nothing in this section shall authorise any person to use in the killing of any wild animal any method of hunting prohibited under Part VIII or by any regulation made under this Act.

Game or  
protected  
animals  
killed  
through  
accident or  
error

80. (1) If any person kills any game animal or protected animal through accident or error, the person shall, within a period of fourteen days, make a report of the facts to the nearest proper officer, village scout or honorary wildlife police officer and shall hand over to the proper officer, honorary wildlife police officer or village scout the carcas, or any trophy or meat of the animal as the officer or village scout may direct.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) shall apply to any person who kills any game animal or protected animal through accident or error if—

(a) that person is entitled under any licence or permit issued under this Act to hunt a game animal or protected animal of that species and sex; and

(b) no offence under this Act has been committed in relation to the killing of such animal.

(3) The provisions of section *sixty-four* shall apply to any game animal or protected animal killed by accident or error.

(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

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81. (1) Any person who, in any circumstances whatsoever, wounds any dangerous animal and fails without reasonable cause to use all reasonable endeavour to kill the animal at the earliest possible opportunity shall be guilty of an offence.

Wounding of game animal or protected animal

Provided that it shall not be lawful to follow any wounded game animal or protected animal into a National Park, or into a Game Management Area in which the hunting of the animal is prohibited or on to any land held by any person under a leasehold title.

(2) Any person who has, or who believes that he has wounded any game animal or protected animal, which, in such wounded condition, has entered a National Park or a Game Management Area in which the hunting of the animal is prohibited, shall, within a period of forty-eight hours make a report of the facts and circumstances to the nearest proper officer.

(3) Any person who has, or who believes that he has wounded any game animal or protected animal, which, in such wounded condition, has entered land held by any person under a leasehold title and upon which land such person has no permission to enter, shall, within a period of forty-eight hours, make a report of the facts and circumstances to the occupier of the land and to the proper officer, village scout or honorary wildlife police officer.

82. (1) Any person who, in any circumstances whatsoever, wounds any dangerous animal and fails to kill, or recover the animal within twenty-four hours after its wounding, shall, within forty-eight hours, report the circumstances of the wounding, to the nearest proper officer.

Wounding of dangerous animals

(2) Every report made under subsection (1) shall specify the species of dangerous animal wounded, the date, time and place of the wounding, the type of wound if known, the weapon by which the wound was inflicted, the efforts made to kill the animal after it was wounded, the time and place at which the animal was lost or escaped and any other information which might be of use in locating or identifying the animal.

(3) If the dangerous animal wounded but not killed is an elephant or rhinoceros, the report made under subsection (1) shall in addition be made to the Director-General.

(4) Where any dangerous animal is found dead, and the Director-General is satisfied that it is an animal which was wounded but not killed by the holder of a licence or permit issued under this Act, which licence or permit entitled the holder to hunt the animal, and that licence or permit holder

(a) made the requisite report; and

Wounding or poisoning of game animal or protected animal

which is the subject of a licence or permit issued under this Act

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(b) after wounding the animal, used every possible endeavour to kill it;

the Director-General may direct that any trophy of the animal be delivered to the licensee or permit holder.

(5) Every report required to be made under subsection (1) or (3) shall whenever possible be made in person by the person who wounded the dangerous animal or on his instructions, by a person accompanying or assisting him at the time when the wounding took place.

(6) Any person who is required by subsection (5) to make a report under subsection (1) or (3), and who fails to do so, or who does not make the report within forty-eight hours of the loss of the wounded dangerous animal, shall be guilty of an offence, and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand penalty units or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month, or to both; and, if such dangerous animal has been wounded by the holder of a licence or permit issued under this Act entitling him to hunt the animal, the absolute ownership of the animal shall not be deemed to pass under the provisions of this Act to the licensee or permit holder as the case may be.

Cruelty to  
wild animals

83. Any person who, in any circumstances whatsoever, causes unnecessary or undue suffering to any wild animal shall be guilty of an offence.

Possession  
of maimed  
wild animals

84. (1) Subject to subsection (2), any person who, without the permission of the Director-General, is in possession of, or who has in control or keeping any live wild animal which has been orphaned, maimed, mutilated or incapacitated shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) This section shall not apply to any veterinary surgeon or to any person assisting any veterinary surgeon, or any other person, who has in actual possession, control or keeping any orphaned, maimed or mutilated wild animal for purposes of medical care, treatment, scientific or educational purposes in accordance with written authority from the Director-General.

Molesting or  
provoking  
game animal  
or protected  
animal

85. Except as provided for or for the purposes of section *seventy-eight, seventy-nine, eighty-one and eighty-two*, any person who willfully and without just cause or excuse—

(a) molests or provokes any game animal or protected animal in any manner which results in the destruction of the game animal or protected animal; or

(b) molest or provokes any animal whatsoever in any manner which results, in the harassment or destruction of any game animal or protected animal;

shall be guilty of an offence.

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(2) If, after such inquiry as is referred to in subsection (1), the wildlife police officer or other person to whom the ivory or rhinoceros horn is produced under section *ninety-three* or *ninety-four* is not satisfied that the ivory or rhinoceros horn is the lawful property of the person who produced it, or that it was lawfully imported, as the case may be, he may retain the ivory or rhinoceros horn pending, and for the purposes of, any proceedings which may be instituted in respect of it under this Act:

Provided that if any proceedings are not instituted within three months after the date of production of the ivory or rhinoceros horn, the wildlife police officer or other person, as the case may be, shall weigh, mark and register the ivory or rhinoceros horn, and shall return it to the person who produced it together with a certificate of ownership in respect of it as provided by subsection (1).

(3) No person shall be entitled to compensation of any kind in respect of the retention of any ivory or rhinoceros horn under subsection (2).

Transfer of ivory or rhinoceros horn before registration prohibited

96. Any person who, by way of gift, sale, purchase or otherwise, transfers or obtains any ivory or rhinoceros horn before it has been weighed, marked and registered under section *ninety-five* shall be guilty of an offence.

Transfer of ownership of ivory or rhinoceros horn

97. (1) The provisions of section *ninety-two* shall apply to any transfer of ownership of ivory, or rhinoceros horn, and in lieu of the endorsement required under subsection (2) of that section, both the transferor and the transferee shall endorse upon the certificate of ownership in respect of the ivory or rhinoceros horn, as the case may be, a memorandum of transaction of transfer of ownership bearing the date of the transaction, and both parties shall sign their names at the foot of the endorsed memorandum.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Government trophies

98. Any trophy to which absolute ownership has not passed to any person under section *three*, or under any other provision of this Act, shall be a Government trophy for the purposes of this Act.

Possession of Government trophy to be reported

99. (1) Any person who obtains possession of any Government trophy shall, as soon as practicable after obtaining possession of it, make a report of the person's possession of the trophy to the nearest wildlife police officer or such other person as may be nominated in writing in that regard by the Director-General, and shall, if so required, deliver up, within forty-eight hours of such notice, the Government trophy to the wildlife police officer or other person, as the case may be.

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(2) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

100. (1) Any person unwho lawfully possesses or who purports to buy, sell or otherwise transfer or deal in any Government trophy shall be guilty of an offence.

Unlawful possession of, or dealing in, Government trophies

(2) For the purposes of this section, possession of any trophy by any person without a certificate of ownership in respect of the trophy shall be *prima facie* evidence of the trophy being a Government trophy and of the unlawful possession of it by the person.

PART XI

SALE AND TRANSFER OF WILDLIFE ANIMALS AND OF MEAT OF WILDLIFE ANIMALS

101. Except with the written permission of the Director-General or as is otherwise provided by this Act, any person who possesses, buys or sells any live game or protected animal or meat thereof, or who is found in circumstances showing that it is that person's intention to buy or sell, any live wild game or protected animal or meat shall be guilty of an offence.

Prohibited dealings in live wild animals

102. (1) The Director-General may, in the form prescribed, issue to any person who is in lawful possession of any game animal or protected animal or who intends to sell any meat of a game animal or protected animal a certificate of ownership of the game animal or protected animal, or of the meat, as the case may be.

Certificate of ownership of game animal or protected animal or of meat thereof

(2) Where the Director-General is satisfied that a certificate of ownership issued under subsection (1) has been issued through error or through the misrepresentation or fraud of any person, the Director-General may revoke the certificate.

(3) Upon the revocation of a certificate under subsection (2), the Director-General shall notify the licensee in writing of the revocation and the person to whom that certificate of ownership was issued shall cause the certificate to be returned to the Director-General for cancellation.

(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (3) shall be guilty of an offence.

103. (1) The Minister may, on the advice of the Authority, by statutory instrument—

Power of Minister to regulate trade or movement of meat of game or protected animals

(a) control or make subject to any condition the trade in live or game animal or protected animal or the trade in carcasses, meat and skins of such animals;

(b) prohibit, limit, control or make subject to any condition, the movement of the meat of any game animal or protected animal from any specified area for any period of time expressed in the order, or may by like order



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import permit required to be produced under paragraph (c) of subsection (1) shall be given three months during which to produce the evidence of the permit, as the case may be, during which time the customs officer shall detain the wild animal, meat, or trophy, as the case may be:

Provided that the expenditure incurred on account of the detention of the animal, meat or trophy shall be borne by the person importing the animal, meat or trophy and shall be recoverable from such person as a civil debt to the Authority.

(3) If the country from which any wild animal, meat of any animal or trophy is exported is not the country of origin, it shall be sufficient for the purposes of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) if there is produced to the customs officer documentary evidence that the animal, meat or trophy was lawfully exported from the country of export.

(4) Upon conviction, of any person of an offence under this section, the court may, at the request of the prosecution and in addition to any other penalty imposed, declare any wild animal, meat or trophy so imported, or so attempted to be imported, to be forfeited or order it to be destroyed, without compensation, or may both declare it to be forfeited and order it to be so destroyed, without compensation.

(5) Any wild animal, meat, or trophy declared to be forfeited under subsection (4), but not ordered to be destroyed, may be disposed of as the Director-General may direct.

Certificates  
of ownership  
of imported  
prescribed  
trophies

108. Subject to the provisions of sections *ninety-three* and *ninety-four* in respect of the import and registration, respectively, of ivory and rhinoceros horn, any person who imports any prescribed trophy shall, within one month after the date of the import of the prescribed trophy, apply to the Director-General for a certificate of ownership in respect of the prescribed trophy under section *ninety*.

Export of  
wild  
animals, etc.  
without  
permit  
prohibited

109. Any person who exports any wild animal or any meat of such animal or any trophy except in accordance with a valid export permit issued under section *one hundred and ten* shall be guilty of an offence.

Permits to  
export wild  
animals,  
meat or  
trophies

110. (1) The Director-General may issue to any person a permit, in the form prescribed, to export the meat of any wild animal or any trophy, other than ivory or rhinoceros horn, which permit may be subject to any conditions which the Authority may impose and shall be valid for such time as is specified in the permit.

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(2) The Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, issue to any person a permit, in the prescribed form, to export any ivory or rhinoceros horn or any game protected animal, which permit may be subject to any conditions which the Authority may impose and shall be valid for such time as is specified in the permit.

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(3) The Director-General may, with the approval of the Authority, issue to any person a permit in the prescribed form to export any wild animal other than a protected animal, which permit may be subject to any conditions which the Director-General may impose and shall be valid for such period as specified in the permit.

(4) Any permit issued under this section shall not be in substitution of any permit or authority to export any such wild animal, meat, trophy or ivory or rhinoceros horn required by or under any other written law: nor shall any such permit be deemed to relieve any person from any restriction on, or prohibition of, the export of any such wild animal, meat, trophy or ivory or rhinoceros horn, imposed by or under this Act or any other written law.

111. (1) Any person who exports or attempts to export any wild animal, meat of any wild animal or any trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn except —

Restriction  
on export of  
wild  
animals,  
meat or  
trophy

(a) through a customs port of entry; and  
(b) under and in accordance with the conditions of an export permit issued in respect of the animal, bird, meat or trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn under section one hundred and ten, shall be guilty of an offence.

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(2) Any person who exports or attempts to export any wild animal, meat of any wild animal, or any trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn, shall produce to the customs officer for inspection the export permit issued in respect thereof under section one hundred and ten: Provided that if that person is not in possession of the export permit in respect thereof at the time of the export or attempted

Right to  
enter land

export, the person shall be given three months, within which to produce the same; during which time the customs officer shall detain the wild animal, meat, trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn, as the case may be.

(3) The expenditure incurred on account of the detention of the wild animal, meat, trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn shall be borne by the person exporting the wild animal, meat, trophy, ivory or rhinoceros horn and shall be recoverable from such person as a civil debt to the Authority.

try the person referred to in paragraph (a) for the offence shall, on conviction, impose a fine not exceeding three hundred penalty units;

that person may sign and submit to the proper officer or honorary wildlife police officer a document admitting his guilt for the offence and pay to that officer such amount as that officer may determine but not exceeding three hundred penalty units.

(2) The document referred to in subsection (1) when signed and submitted under that subsection, shall forthwith be transferred to the clerk of the court before which such person would otherwise have been charged and tried and shall be entered into the records of the court.

(3) Any proper officer or honorary police officer who fails to remit the admission of guilt fines to the court, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment for a term of not less than six months but not exceeding three years without the option of a fine.

Penalty for offence involving elephant and rhinoceros

133. (1) Any person who is convicted of hunting, wounding, molesting or reducing into possession any elephant or rhinoceros in contravention of any provision of this Act shall be liable upon conviction—

(a) for a first offence, to a term of imprisonment of not less than five years but not exceeding twenty years without the option of a fine; and

(b) for a second or subsequent offence, to a term of imprisonment of not less than seven years but not exceeding twenty-five years without the option of a fine.

(2) If the court is satisfied that in the case of an offence referred to in subsection (1), that the offence was committed for the purpose of, or in connection with, illegal trafficking in ivory or rhinoceros horn, the offender shall be liable, upon conviction—

(a) for a first offence, to imprisonment for a term not less than seven years but not exceeding twenty years without the option of a fine; and

(b) for a second or subsequent offence, whether or not the previous offence involved illegal trafficking, to imprisonment for a term not less than ten years but not exceeding twenty-five years without the option of a fine.

Penalty for unlawful hunting in National Park

134. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, any person who is involved hunting within a National Park contrary to this Act, shall be liable upon conviction—

(a) for a first offence to imprisonment, without the option of a fine, for a term of not less than one year but not exceeding ten years without the option of a fine;

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(b) for a second or subsequent offence to imprisonment without the option of a fine, for a term of not less than two years but not exceeding fifteen years;

135. Except as provided by section one hundred and thirty-six, any person who is in possession of, or is selling, buying, importing or exporting or is attempting to sell, buy, import or export, any meat of a wild animal or any trophy in contravention of this Act shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding seventy thousand penalty units or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, or to both;

136. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), any person who is in possession of, or is selling, buying, importing or exporting, any protected animal or the meat or any trophy of a protected animal, in contravention of this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment without the option of a fine for a term not exceeding seven years;

(2) Any person who is in possession of, or is selling, buying, importing or exporting any prescribed trophy in contravention of this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon conviction;

(a) for a first offence, to imprisonment, without the option of a fine, for a term of not less than five years but not exceeding ten years; and

(b) for a second or subsequent offence, to imprisonment without the option of a fine, for a term of not less than seven years but not exceeding fifteen years;

137. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any person who is convicted of an offence under Part VIII or Part IX shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty thousand penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both;

138. Where any person is convicted of an offence under this Act in respect of any game pit, pitfall, trench or similar excavation, fence or enclosure, or other device fixed to the ground, which such person has made, used, or had in the possession of, that person, for the purpose of hunting in contravention of the provisions of this Act, the court shall, in addition to any other punishment, order such game pit, pitfall, trench, excavation, fence, enclosure or device to be destroyed or obliterated in such manner as the court may specify and any expenditure incurred on account of such order shall be recoverable from such person as a civil debt to the Authority.

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Forfeiture  
provisions  
on conviction

139. (1) Upon the conviction of any person of an offence under this Act, the court shall, at the request of the prosecution, in addition to any other penalty imposed, declare any wild animal, meat or any trophy, firearm or other weapon or any trap, net, poison, material or article, or, subject to subsection (2) to (8) inclusive, any vehicle, aircraft, boat or other conveyance with which the offence was committed, or which was used in, or for the purpose of, or in relation to, or in connection with, the commission of the offence, to be forfeited without compensation and shall order the same to be disposed of as the Authority considers fit:

Provided that in relation to an offence to which sections *one hundred and thirty-three, one hundred and thirty-four* or subsection (2) of section *one hundred and thirty-six* applies, the court shall in every case, order the forfeiture of the wild animal, meat of the wild animal or any trophy or any firearm or any other weapon or any tent or dazzling light which was the subject of the offence or with which the offence was committed as the case may be, or which was used in or for the purposes of, or in relation to, or in connection with, the commission of the offence.

(2) Where the prosecution requests a declaration of forfeiture under subsection (1) in respect of any vehicle, aircraft, boat or other conveyance, the court shall make an order (hereinafter referred to as a conditional order), to the effect that unless any person other than the convicted party claims, under this section, any right of ownership in the vehicle, aircraft, boat or other conveyance within three months of the date referred to in subsection (5), the prosecution may apply to the court *ex parte* for a declaration for forfeiture under subsection (1), and the court shall make the declaration.

(3) Upon the making of a conditional order under subsection (2), the Director-General shall, within one month thereafter, cause to be published in the *Gazette* and in at least one issue of a newspaper in general circulation in the place where the offence was committed, a notice of the making of the order, which notice shall be in the form prescribed, or, if no such form is prescribed, in a form approved by the court.

(4) If under any written law requiring the registration of the vehicle, aircraft, boat or other conveyance referred to in subsections (1) and (2), the vehicle, aircraft, boat or other conveyance is registered in Zambia in the name of any person other than the person convicted, the Director-General shall, within seven days after publication of the notice in the *Gazette* cause a copy to be sent by registered post in a sealed envelope addressed to the person at the address appearing on the register, and the certificate of registration of the letter shall be conclusive evidence of service of the notice upon such person.