

PETITION AGAINST 'CANNED HUNTING'

Dear Minister,

Together with FOUR PAWS, I wish to protest in the strongest terms against the keeping of over 3,500 lions on South African breeding farms. Cubs are abused as tourist attractions and later end up as hunting trophies. **I ask you to ensure that these lion breeding farms and the practice of canned hunting are banned by law!**

Visitors from many countries enjoy South Africa's unique natural history and its magnificent landscapes. But many people are also outraged by commercial lion breeding and the unfair and cruel hunting of these animals.

Please do not allow the image of your country as a natural paradise to be destroyed! I urge you to advocate strict legal measures to ensure that these lions are protected.

YES, I would like to receive more information about FOUR PAWS by letter and e-mail (please tick)

Last name, First name	Country	Street, Postcode, Town/City	E-mail-address	Signature
			<input type="checkbox"/>	

More Humanity towards Animals



**Please post this list of signatures by 30th June 2010 to
FOUR PAWS, 32 – 36 Loman Street, London, SE1 0EH**



WHAT IS 'CANNED HUNTING'?

'Canned hunting' is the practice of hunting animals that have been raised in captivity and confined to a relatively small enclosure with no hope of escape. It is also referred to as 'fenced hunting'.

Over 160 farms in South Africa breed lions for this type of hunting. The lions are usually raised by hand and accustomed to humans. Many of the young animals first 'serve' as tourist attractions, with visitors able to view their enclosures, stroke the cubs and take them for walks. After four to seven years the lions are old enough to become trophies and are offered to hunters as targets.

These lions have very little fear of humans. For the hunt they are sometimes lured with bait or even sedated with drugs. The shooting enclosures offer them no chance to escape.

Trophy hunters – especially from Europe and the USA – will often pay as much as £25,000 for a male lion with a beautiful mane. Females can be shot for as little as £5,000 or less! Even lion cubs are offered as fair game!

Many of the hunters don't even have a hunting license or any hunting experience. This type of hunting is a 'hobby' for a wealthy minority from affluent industrialised nations. From an animal protection point of view it is deeply unethical, terribly cruel and wholly unacceptable.

According to estimates, in 2008 over 1,000 lions were shot in this cruel fashion in South Africa. Approximately 3,500 lions are currently being raised in captivity for 'canned hunting' – more than ever before.

CANNED HUNTING – THE ANIMAL SUFFERING STARTS SHORTLY AFTER BIRTH!

The ordeal of the animals in the South African lion industry starts shortly after birth:

- Removing the lion cubs from their mother – often only three days after they are born – has fatal consequences: depriving the cubs of their mothers' milk causes malnutrition leading to bone deformations, respiratory and digestive issues, thyroid problems, calcium deficiency and many other illnesses.
- Once their cubs have been removed, the female lions are soon ready to conceive again and are immediately inseminated. They are abused as 'birthing machines' and subjected to the constant trauma of losing their young. In the wild, female lions breed approximately every two years. At the breeding farms they have to give birth twice a year and, as a result, after two years they are completely exhausted and extremely weak.
- Rearing the animals by hand, allowing tourists to pet them and keeping them in inappropriate conditions and unnatural groups, causes permanent stress and behavioural issues.

Please support FOUR PAWS' demands for 'canned hunting' to be made illegal in South Africa, and ask your family and friends to sign the petition too. Every signature helps!



Bred to become a target.



Caged and confined...



'Fair game' for trophy hunters.