

## Driving, Roads & Off-road Driving Protocol

### Hoanib River & Skeleton Coast Park

The roads used by tour operators for game drives and services, as well as off-road driving and the making of new tracks are subject to the rules of the Skeleton Coast Park and the Concession agreements with the Ministry of Environment & Tourism.

All personnel that drive a vehicle, including guides, maintenance staff, managers and visitors should complete the “Roads & Driving” training course and then follow the rules stipulated in this “Driving, Roads & Off-road Driving Protocol”. Managers must ensure that every person driving a vehicle has received the Protocol and signed for it. The Ministry of Environment & Tourism (MET) will take legal action against offenders.

#### Road Network

Stay on established roads

No new roads may be made without approval from MET.

Always use three-point turns when turning back along a road.

All vehicles must carry a broom.

Three-point turns and any deviation from a road must be swept.

Always drive in 4x4.

Roads that become corrugated must be repaired as soon as possible.

When roads are corrugated, drivers may NOT drive next to the corrugated road.

All roads in the area were originally single two-track lanes – they have to remain that way.

#### Tire Pressures

Incorrect tire pressures (high inflations) are the main causes of roads becoming corrugated and of vehicles getting bogged-down in the sand. All drivers must adhere to the tire pressure requirements in the following areas.

Hoanib River, Floodplain, Camp & elsewhere: Front = 1.2 Bar / Back 1.5 Bar.

Rocky areas of Mudorib, Hunkap & Okongwe: Front = 1.5 Bar / Back 2.0 Bar.

Coastal areas, dunes & Floodplain to Mowe Bay: Front = 0.8 Bar / Back 1.2 Bar.

*(This will keep the roads in good shape, prevent the vehicles from getting stuck and make for a more comfortable ride.)*

#### Speed Limit – Hoanib Floodplain

The Hoanib Floodplain is a sensitive area that is currently subject to a lot of traffic. During the past four years Wilderness Safaris guides, after dropping off their guests at the airstrip, have reached Hoanib Camp at record speeds. These trips have caused extensive damage to the road. It therefore became necessary to impose a “speed limit” of 20-30km/h.

Minimum driving time: SCP Border to Mowe Bay airstrip = 2.5 hours.

### Off-road Driving

Not permitted on any sensitive substrate (e.g. pink gravel plains, springs, coastal plains & anywhere inside the Skeleton Coast Park).

Do "Footprint" test to assess sensitivity of substrate BEFORE driving off-road.

When driving off-road always follow washes & drainage lines, and never in a straight line.

All off-road driving tracks MUST be swept afterwards.

*Compiled by: Desert Lion Conservation*

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