**Basic Information: Blesbok and Bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus)***

**Common names:** blesbok, bontebok

**Identification pointers:** rich purplish-brown coat, lighter on shoulders and back; white on buttocks, belly face and forehead; sexes indistinct; both sexes have lyre shaped horns

**Can be confused with:** hartebeest and tsessebe

**Activity period:** Diurnal, less active in the heat of the day

**Length:** 130-150 **Height:** 90-95cm **Weight:** 60-70g

**Gestation period:** ±8 months

**Diet:** mainly short grass but will occasionally browse

**Predators:** Lions, leopards, hyaena, wild dog, jackal

**Preferred habitat:** Open grassland and Cape fynbos

**Red List status:** Least concern

**Population:** Stable

**Threats:** No substantial threats, distinct bontebok subspecies under threat of hybridisation when introduced onto farms with more common blesbok