

'Poacher' cops granted N\$300 bail

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FOUR police officers arrested for allegedly poaching springbok in a conservancy in the Erongo Region appeared in the Khorixas Magistrate's Court yesterday morning and were granted bail of N\$300 each.

They were found with seven springbok carcasses by officials of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and game guards of the Doro !Nawas Conservancy, where the animals were hunted without a permit.

The four are Sergeant Erins Tjavera (32), Constable Gilbert !Nanuseb (24), Constable Absalom Eiseb (37) and Constable Martinus !Hanadoeb (29).

The case was postponed to February 28 next year for further police investigations and for the accused to get legal representation.

The illegal hunt was reported to the Khorixas police at the insistence of the management of the Doro !Nawas Conservancy amid alleged reluctance by the local police to register a case.

Internal disciplinary action may also be taken against the four officers.

Police spokesperson Deputy Commissioner Edwin Kanguatjivi told The Namibian that there would be an internal investigation besides the criminal case.

Although the officers had not been suspended by yesterday, Kanguatjivi said the internal investigation would determine their future in the force.

The Khorixas Magistrate's Court was packed to capacity during the appearance of the officers yesterday.