

Naivasha – Policeman yet again trafficking ivory – 29 kg

SEEJ-AFRICA ⓘ Published July 1, 2024

Last updated: July 1, 2024 6:24 pm



Suspects Two suspects stand next to some of the ivory pieces worth over Sh2.9m that were seized by KWS officers in Mai Mahiu Naivasha, on June 30, 2024

Image: George Murage

On June 30th, 2024, two men in the process of ferrying ivory on a motorbike were arrested by Kenya Wildlife Service just south of Naivasha. That was the third ivory trafficking arrest involving police suspects in two weeks.

Police officers charged with ivory trafficking in 2024:

1. <https://www.seej-africa.org/2024/07/01/eldoret-area-police-reservist-and-one-other-with-14-kg-ivory/>
2. <https://www.seej-africa.org/2024/06/20/inside-wealth-of-presidential-escort-officer-linked-to-poaching-nation/>
3. <https://www.seej-africa.org/2024/06/18/kitengela-3-policeman-amongst-four-found-with-29-kg-ivory/>
4. <https://www.seej-africa.org/2024/05/18/mwingi-police-officer-one-of-two-arrested-with-89-kg-ivory/>
5. <https://www.seej-africa.org/2024/01/29/e009-24-kahawa-r-vs-benedict-charles-mwenda-and-mohamed-hussein-musa-64-5-kg-ivory/>



Police officer among 2 suspects arrested with Sh2.9mn worth of elephant tusks » Capital News

By

FEDDY MWENDE

NAIROBI, Kenya, Jul 1 – A police officer is among two suspects arrested during a crackdown on illegal trade of elephant tusks in Longonot, Naivasha.

According to a police report, the arrests follow a tip-off that some people were engaging in illegal trade within the area.

“In a joint operation between the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and police, police have said that the duo, Omare Mungare Dismas, a police constable (pc) attached to Utheri wa Lari police station in Naivasha sub-county, and Otuke Denis Okinde were arrested with 20 pieces of elephant tusks weighing a total of 29 kgs with an estimated street value of Sh2.9 million,” the report indicated.

“The said team of KWS joined up with police officers from Naivasha and travelled to Longonot Governor area and on arrival at where the business was going on, two suspects were arrested with twenty pieces weighing 29 Kgs with a street value of 2.9million.”

Police said the arrested policeman was attached to Utheri Wa Lari police station in Naivasha.

The second suspect was a civilian who is said to have been the owner of the cargo.

They were detained at the Naivasha police cells pending arraignment on Monday, July 1, 2024.

Police said the suspects will be charged with the offence of being in Possession of Wildlife Trophies of Endangered Species Contrary to Section 92(4) of the Wildlife Conservation Management Act 2013. Officials said that up to eight elephants had been killed and there is a likelihood the incidents happened in the nearby parks.

<https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2024/07/police-officer-among-2-suspects-arrested-with-sh2-9mn-worth-of-elephant-tusks/>

Cop, civilian arrested with elephant tusks worth Sh2.9m in Naivasha

by CYRUS OMBATI Chief Crime Reporter

The Star News

01 July 2024 – 09:44

A police officer and a civilian were Sunday arrested while trafficking elephant tusks valued at Sh2.9 million in Naivasha, Nakuru County.

The two were intercepted by police and Kenya Wildlife Service personnel in Longonot area at about 9 am as they moved in a car with the 20 pieces of elephant tusks weighing 29 kilos.

Police said the arrested policeman was attached to Utheri Wa Lari police station in Naivasha.

The second suspect was a civilian who is said to have been the owner of the cargo.

They were detained at the Naivasha police cells pending arraignment on Monday, July 1, 2024.

Police said the suspects will be charged with the offence of being in Possession of Wildlife Trophies of Endangered Species Contrary to Section 92(4) of the Wildlife Conservation Management Act 2013.

Officials said that up to eight elephants had been killed and there is a likelihood the incidents happened in the nearby parks.....Al garbage

<https://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2024-07-01-cop-civilian-arrested-with-elephant-tusks-worth-sh29m-in-naivasha/>



Two suspects including a police officer (R) stand next to next to some of the ivory pieces worth over Sh2.9m that there were trafficking when KWS officers arrested them in Mai Mahiu Naivasha. The suspects were trafficking the 29 pieces from Narok to Nairobi when they were arrested. [Antony Gitonga, Standard]

Police officer, civilian nabbed trafficking ivory worth Sh3 million

Antony Gitonga, The Standard

July 1, 2024

Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) officers in Naivasha have arrested two suspects, including a junior police officer, for trafficking elephant ivory worth close to Sh3m.

The two suspects were arrested along the Mai Mahiu-Narok road while ferrying the 29 pieces from Narok to Nairobi.

This came as the government agency raised its concern over an increase in cases of ivory trafficking in the country, noting that it was affecting wildlife conservation.

Last month, three suspects, including a police officer, were arrested in Kajiado while ferrying over 20 pieces of ivory to Nairobi.

In the latest incident, the two suspects were waiting for a matatu along the road when KWS officers moved in and arrested them.

According to Francis Mutuko, KWS Senior Warden in charge of Naivasha, the 29 pieces had been parked in two bags when the suspects were nabbed.

He expressed his concern that among those arrested was a police officer who was supposed to be the custodian of the law.

“We have arrested two suspects, including a junior police officer and recovered elephant tusks worth around Sh2.9m following a sting operation along the Mai Mahiu-Narok road,” he said.

While decrying the rise in cases of trafficking of ivory, he said that the two suspects would be handed over to DCIO officers for further interrogation before being arraigned in court.

Meanwhile, three people, including two prominent Naivasha traders died following a grisly road accident involving three vehicles along the Nairobi-Nakuru highway.

The two men and one woman died on the spot while two others were seriously injured following the 10 pm accident near Marula farm 10 km from Naivasha town.

The five were heading to Naivasha town from Gilgil when their car was hit twice by two trailers heading in the opposite direction, leading to the fatal accident.

Naivasha OCPD Stephen Kirui confirmed the accident, adding that the drivers of the two trailers were also injured and admitted at Naivasha sub-county hospital.

“We had an accident involving a personal car and two trailers along the highway, and we lost three people while four other people were admitted to hospital,” he said.

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/rift-valley/article/2001498180/police-officer-civilian-nabbed-trafficking-ivory-worth-sh3-million>



— Saving Endangered Species through Education and Justice