



## Poachers kill 3 rhinos in Kunene

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Three more rhino carcasses have been found in the Kunene Region while the Ministry of Environment and Tourism continues with its rhino dehorning programme. The total number of rhino carcasses that have been found in Namibia this year stands at 18. Namibia recently announced it will start dehorning black rhinos in its national parks and conservation areas in an effort to curb poaching. The chief spokesperson of the Namibian Police, Edwin Kanguatjivi, yesterday said that three dehorned rhino carcasses were discovered in the Palmwag Concession in the Anabeb Conservancy while an aerial tracking team was busy with the rhino dehorning programme. He said a ground team was dispatched and the carcasses were found with their horns removed. According to Kanguatjivi the value of a rhino is about N\$2.4 million, not including the horns. He said the rhinos were killed between August and November. Social media were abuzz about the latest poaching incident yesterday. The spokesperson of the Ministry of Tourism, Romeo Muyunda, said they had been flooded with phone calls from the media since yesterday morning. By yesterday afternoon Muyunda told Namibian Sun that he had gathered all the necessary information on the incident and would shortly issue an official statement. However, nearly an hour later, he had changed his tune, saying he had been unable to get any confirmation of the poaching. WINDHOEK ELLANIE SMIT