



62 rhinos poached so far this year

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Another two white rhinos have been poached on a game farm near Okahandja, pushing the number of rhino carcasses that have been discovered in Namibia this year up to 62. Police spokesperson Inspector Slogan Matheus yesterday confirmed that two white rhinos were discovered on farm Okamahoro in the Snyrivier District. The game farm is situated approximately 30km outside of Okahandja. Matheus said the poaching took place between Thursday and Saturday last week. According to him suspects shot and killed the two rhinos and removed the larger horns. The smaller horns were recovered at the scene. Matheus said the suspects are unknown and police investigations are still ongoing. Minister of Environment and Tourism, Pohamba Shifeta, last week announced that the total number of rhino carcasses discovered in Namibia stood at 60 of which 54 was from the Etosha National Park. According to Shifeta suspects have been identified in the ongoing Etosha poaching spree and arrests are expected soon. Shifeta also announced that the reward money for information leading to the arrest of the poachers had been doubled from N\$30 000 to N\$60 000. Last year 24 rhinos were poached nationally. A total of 78 elephants were poached in 2014 and 23 have been poached so far this year. WINDHOEK ELLANIE SMIT