



Two more black rhinos slaughtered

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The slaughter of Namibia's rhino population continues unabated, with two more black rhinos killed. The latest poaching of two black rhino bulls in the Epacha Game Reserve last month brought to more than 70 the number of rhinos killed in the country. The spokesperson of the Namibian Police, Deputy Commissioner Edwin Kanguatjivi, said the first rhino bull was found at Epacha Farm on August 23 with its horns still intact. It had been fatally wounded and although a veterinarian tried to save the animal it died the following day. A few days later on August 26, an aerial patrol found the carcass of another black rhino bull in the reserve. The horns had been hacked off and the carcass was a month old. Kanguatjivi said both rhino bulls had been shot. Epacha is a private game reserve located 100 km northeast of Outjo. It is part of the Black Rhino Custodian Programme and due to the increasing numbers of black rhino on the reserve and the threat of poachers, it established an anti-poaching unit in 2014. No suspects have been arrested and investigations continue. The Minister of Environment and Tourism, Pohamba Shifeta, recently said that Namibia had made a breakthrough against poaching and brought it under control. WINDHOEK ELLANIE SMIT