Four arrested over Zambezi poaching

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THE police this week arrested two Zambians and two Namibians in the Zambezi region after they were found with elephant tusks and rhino horns.

According to police spokesperson deputy commissioner Edwin Kanguatjivi, the four face a charge of illegal hunting of a protected species.

The two Zambian men were arrested in the Mashi conservation area on Tuesday when the elephant tusks were found in their possession. Further police investigations led to the arrest of the third suspect, a 21-year-old Namibian man.

Kanguatjivi said the Namibian suspect is the son of a 79-year-old Namibian man who was arrested in 2015 for a similar offence. The hunting rifle is also said to belong to the father.

He added that the arrests were made after the police investigated the killing of an elephant cow at the Katamba village in the Zambezi region on Monday.

All three suspects were yet to appear in court yesterday, and are expected to appear today.

In an unrelated matter, police arrested a 37-year-old Namibian man at the Selela village of the Zambezi region when he was found in possession of two rhino horns.

The police said they are consulting experts to determine the value of the tusks and horns.

The suspect is also expected to appear in court today.