



# 100 pieces of ivory confiscated

## Five new crimes registered last week

10 October 2019 | Crime

One-hundred pieces of elephant tusk were seized and two suspects were arrested in Katutura during an operation by the Blue Rhino Task Team last week.

This is according to statistics provided by the Intelligence and Investigation Unit within the environment ministry and the Protected Resource Division within the safety and security ministry.

According to the statistics five new wildlife crime cases were registered last week and 11 suspects were arrested in connection with these crimes.

Two of the suspects were arrested on rhino poaching and trafficking charges, while two others were arrested in connection with elephant poaching and trafficking.

Six pangolin skins and/or carcasses were also confiscated.

The Blue Rhino Task Team arrested Ratty Rusuvero Tjaveondja and Theopaldt Uaetuihe in Katutura on Thursday. They were allegedly found in possession of the 100 pieces of ivory.

The team also arrested another suspect, Viega Nghinaanye Shipahu, at Outjo on Friday in connection with the recent theft of 34 rhino horns from a farm near Outjo.

Edward Shitarara was arrested by Operation Kalahari Desert at Rundu last Tuesday for being in possession of one pangolin skin and one pangolin carcass.

Three other suspects were arrested at Rundu last Tuesday for being in possession of one pangolin skin. Makazi Pulinus Rigen, Kambinda Petrus Hausiku and Matamu Andrias were arrested by officials from the environment ministry, the Namibian Defence Force and the police.

Pollman Urbanys (Scara) and Petriek Awaseb were arrested by the Blue Rhino Task Team at Grootfontein last Tuesday for being in possession of one pangolin skin.

The police arrested Hausiko Tjondo at Ndiyona on Thursday last week for being in possession of a pangolin skin and a pangolin carcass.

According to the crime report a 37-year-old man was arrested in the Goreangab Dam area of Windhoek on Friday after he was found in possession of a dead pangolin which he was offering for sale. The pangolin was valued at N\$50 000.

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(<https://d3rp5jatm3eyn.cloudfront.net/assets/in-pieces-of-ivory-confiscated2019-10-100.jpg>)

TARGETED: Namibian elephants are being targeted by poachers, with tusks still being sold on the black market. PHOTO: FILE