

16 arrested for wildlife crimes

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WINDHOEK

Sixteen suspects have been arrested in recent days in connection with wildlife crimes and six new cases were registered.

According to police statistics ten wildlife products were confiscated, and five firearms and one vehicle were seized. The wildlife products included four pieces of elephant ivory, a pangolin skin, two duiker carcasses, an impala carcass and a warthog carcass.

On 5 March two Zambians, an Angolan and a Namibian were arrested at Kongola for illegally hunting protected game. James Mushaule, Johan Kayambo, Robert, Liyala and Leonard Nepo Kumanina were found in possession of a warthog carcass.

In another case reported that day, the same four men were charged with illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition. Two duiker carcasses and two shotguns with ammunition were confiscated.

Protected species

In another case at Dordabis on 16 March, four Namibians were arrested for illegal hunting of protected game. Karl de Klerk, Jacob de Klerk, Godwin de Klerk and Edvi de Klerk were found in possession of a waterbuck carcass. A hunting rifle and ammunition were confiscated.

Two other Namibians were arrested for illegal hunting of protected game at Kongola on 17 March.

Gideon Pretorius Clote and Titus Nawaseb were found in possession of one impala carcass and a hunting rifle was seized.

That same day at Nkurenkuru, four Namibians were arrested and charged with contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products Act and the Arms and Ammunition Act. Moses Shikondjeni, Shindumbu Paulus Lungameni, Tobias Job Nghilaluwa and Jackson Haufika were found with four elephant tusk pieces. One pistol, ammunition and a vehicle were confiscated.

On 19 March an Angolan, Jamba Mushezso, was arrested at Kongola for being in possession of a pangolin skin. He was charged with contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products Act.

At Okahao a Namibian, Paulus Uusiku Matati, was arrested on 19 March for illegal hunting of specially protected game. The case dates back to July last year.