

Namibian caught with 611 pangolin scales

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A Namibian man was arrested last week at Rundu for being in possession of 611 pangolin scales, five pieces of skin and one whole pangolin skin.

A total of nine suspects were arrested in connection with wildlife crimes last week and three new cases were registered.

Four of these suspects were arrested for rhino poaching and/or trafficking cases.

This is according to statistics provided by the intelligence and investigation unit in the environment ministry and the protected resource ministry in the safety and security ministry.

At Oshakati, a Namibian man was arrested on 9 March for being in possession of a live pangolin. Hosian Manesse was charged with contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products and Trade Act.

At Rundu, Hega Leonard Nekare was arrested on 10 March after he was found with the 611 pangolin scales, five pangolin pieces and one pangolin skin. He was charged with contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products and Trade Act.

In another case, three Namibians were arrested at Menias Brian Libuto in Kongola for being in possession of a warthog skin. Soye Wedens, Mushandikwe Lutibezi and Jason Lunyandile were charged with contravention of the Nature Conservation Ordinance.

An Angolan national was arrested on 12 March in Windhoek and was charged in connection with an old case dating back to last October. Fortunato Jose Queta was charged for contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products and Tarde Act and for contravening the Prevention of Organised Crime Act.

At Okahao, another Namibian man was arrested on 12 March, also in connection with an old case dating back to last month. Jairus Shaalukeni was charged for illegally hunting a rhino, trespassing in a game park, conspiracy to hunt a rhino and for the unauthorised supply of arms or ammunition.

In another matter at Okahao, Uatjitavi Lambard Turitjo was arrested on 13 March in connection with an old case from last July. He was charged for conspiracy to hunt a rhino and the illegal possession of firearms without a licence.

Also at Okahao, Vaino Tshandje Embashu was arrested on 14 March in connection with a case dating back to last February.