



Ten arrested for wildlife crimes

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The clampdown on wildlife crime is continuing with ten suspects arrested and four new cases opened recently.

Three of the suspects were arrested for rhino poaching.

A total of five wildlife products were seized: two oryx carcasses, a pangolin skin and two aardvark carcasses. This is according to the intelligence and investigation unit within the environment ministry and the protected resource division within the safety and security ministry.

Oryx poaching

Two Namibian men were arrested on 8 May at Omitara and one oryx carcass, a hunting rifle and a vehicle were seized by the police.

Rudolf Katjjuanjo and Marvin Mbaisa were charged with contravening the Nature Conservation Ordinance and the Arms and Ammunition Act. A third suspect, Mclesia Mbasia, was arrested on 1 June and faces the same charges.

At Omaruru, Kevin Benrard was arrested on 31 May and one oryx carcass was confiscated. He has been charged with contravening the Nature Conservation Act.

Rhino cases

In another incident, Albert Iilhilwa Nangolo was arrested on 8 June in connection with an old case of rhino poaching at Omaruru. The case dates back to February this year.

He has been charged with conspiring and inducing another person to commit an offence under the Riotous Assemblies Act and the illegal hunting of a rhino.

Jonas Augustinus was arrested at Outjo on 8 June for illegally hunting a rhino. He has also been charged with conspiring and inducing another person to commit an offence under the Riotous Assemblies Act.

At Sesfontein, Kefas Poronjo Kurooro was arrested on 11 June in connection with an old case of rhino poaching. The case dates back to April this year and he has been charged with contravening the Nature Conservation Act and illegally hunting a rhino. A hunting rifle was confiscated from him.

Aardvark and pangolin

At Outjo, Harry Garoeb was arrested on 11 June and two aardvark carcasses were confiscated. He was charged with contravening the Nature Conservation Ordinance.

In another incident at Kapps Farm, two men were arrested on 13 June for being in possession of a pangolin skin. Johannes Martin and Wilbard Natangwe Tobias have been charged with contravening the Controlled Wildlife Products Act.