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10 arrested for wildlife crime

22 July 2020 | [Crime](#)



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Ellanie Smit - Ten suspects have been arrested in connection with game crime and four new cases have been filed.

Seven of the suspects were arrested for elephant poaching or trafficking, while another suspect was arrested in connection with rhino poaching.

Eleven illegal animal products were seized during the arrests.

This is according to information provided by the Intelligence and Investigation Unit within the Ministry of the Environment and the Division of Protected Resources in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Security and Security.

Elephant Teeth

Two Namibian men were arrested in Windhoek on July 16 for six elephant tusks found in their possession. Their vehicle was also seized. Messrs. Johannes Angula Hosea and Petrus Kondjeni have been charged with violating the law on controlled natural products and trade.

Mr. Zacchaeus Erastus was arrested on July 17 in connection with two older cases. The first was filed in May 2018 on Wanaheda, where Erastus was charged with violating the Arms and Ammunition Act. The second case was filed in Omaruru in February. Erastus was charged with disobeying the Nature Conservation Act and hunting a rhino illegally.

Another Namibian man was arrested in Opuwo on July 17 after an elephant tusk was found in his possession. Mr. Muzadomure Rutjindo has been charged with violating the law on trade in protected game and products, as well as violating the nature conservation law.

On the same day, four Namibians were arrested on Outjo after they were caught with three elephant tusks. Two hunting rifles and a vehicle were also confiscated during the arrest.

Messrs. Ngongo Tjiharuka, Iprencia Araes, Wesley Howab and Kambititi Tjiharuka have been charged with violating the law on controlled natural products and trade.

Ietermagôvel

During a separate incident on Omaruru, two Namibian men were arrested on July 18 after an Ietermagavoel was found in their possession. Messrs. Steven Ganseb and Lukas Tonateni have been charged with violating the law on protected game and animal products.

Three people were also convicted during wildlife crime cases that were finalized on Rundu, Otavi and Nkurenkuru last week. - ellanie@namibiansun.com