



Suspected poachers leave loot, cars in desert

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POACHED ... Parts of the butchered poached oryx discovered in the Namib Naukluft Park the past weekend. Photo: Contributed

THE police are hunting for suspected poachers who abandoned two bakkies and seven oryx carcasses in the desert before fleeing the scene over the past weekend.

Erongo crime investigations coordinator Erastis likuyu, said the suspects were intercepted in the Namib Naukluft Park on Saturday by a game warden of the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism, and they fled into the wilderness.

The carcasses had been loaded in the back of the vehicles, together with bags, blankets, hunting gear and old oil drums.

According to likuyu, the meat is worth about N\$18 000. It is suspected that the vehicle the suspected poachers were using broke down in the desert. They got another bakkie and returned to where they had left the vehicle, but they were intercepted, prompting them to flee.

"The two vehicles were impounded and tracing of the owners continues," likuyu said, adding that a case was registered for the contravention of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975 as amended, which includes the prohibition of hunting in game parks and nature reserves; as well as the transportation of game without a permit.

"We expect to get the suspects soon. We will just find the vehicle owners, and they can tell us who were driving the vehicles," likuyu said.

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