

Rhino poaching: Three remain in custody

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Francoise Steynberg - Three Namibian men who allegedly wanted to poach a rhino in the Etosha National Park remain in custody after appearing in the Outjo Magistrate's Court today on five charges.

Messrs. Pentecostal Ruhozu, Marcus Marcus and Epson Kahuure appeared on charges of illegal hunting and conspiracy to hunt illegally protected game (a rhino), as well as illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition, obstruction of justice and the illegal possession of drugs.

They were captured on Thursday between Kamanjab and the farm Marinhohe by Kamanjab's Protected Resources Unit (PRU), the head of the Blue Rhino task force, comm. Barry de Klerk said.

"It is alleged that the accused were dropped off to poach a rhino in the Etosha National Park. The police received a tip and responded quickly, "reads the weekly crime report of the Namibian police.

"The three were arrested with a .458 rifle and 11 cartridges of the same caliber in their possession. After the police searched them further, marijuana was also found with them."

The case of the accused has been postponed until October 26 for further investigation, as well as for them to obtain legal aid.

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