

Three men stuck over six elephant tusks

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Francoise Steynberg - Three men were recently caught in two different places with six elephant tusks.

Two Angolan citizens, Messrs. Abraham Mwetupunga and Velema Nghitila, were allegedly arrested on Sunday at Onandjmba with two elephant tusks and a Namibian man, Mr. Philips Kutenda Thikuma, apparently with four elephant tusks on March 6 at Mukwe.

They are part of the 14 wildlife crime suspects who were arrested in seven wildlife crime cases, according to the wildlife crime report from March 6 to 14.

At Kamanjab are four Namibian men, Messrs. Karel and Isascar Gaingob and Jonas and Seth Aebeb, apparently trapped in their possession last Saturday with a giraffe carcass. The carcass and a hunting rifle were seized.

The other wildlife crime cases involve the poaching of food maggots or smuggling of their products and the suspects arrested are all Namibian men. Messrs. Nicodemus Kotokeni Hafeni Nicodemus and Simon Akwenye were allegedly trampled on Sunday, March 7, with 110 ietermagô scales and one piece of ietermagôvel.

At Mukwe, Mr. Matheus Ngunda was arrested last Wednesday with a live ietermagô. Messrs. Patrick Mpande Haingura and Andreas Mushongo were allegedly arrested in Tsumeb last Thursday with two ietermagôvelle in their

possession and in Katutura are Messrs. Mendley Job and Godlieb Amalenga were also allegedly caught last Tuesday with two ietermagôvelle.

COURT CASES

Uatungisa Muteze and Gideon Tjindombo were sentenced on March 1 for their violation of the illegal hunting of a specially protected species - a mountain zebra - on February 6 in the Kamanjab district. Tjimdombo was sentenced to a fine of N \$ 2 500 and Muteze must pay a fine of N \$ 1 000.

The smuggler of a living maggot, Selwanus Gaoseb, was sentenced on March 2 in the Windhoek Magistrate's Court in Katutura to a fine of N \$ 10,000 or two years in prison. He tried to smuggle the live ietermagô on 25 June 2019.

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