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Informanté

11 rhinos poached in Etosha, totalling 22 in six months

Maria David

THE huge police operation launched after the discovery of two poached rhinos on the north-western side of the Etosha National Park has led to the gruesome find of another nine rhinos killed.

All the animals are critically endangered black rhinos.

According to Ministry spokesperson Romeo Muyunda, this brings the total number of rhinos poached in six months to 22.



SLAUGHTER: One of the 11 rhino carcasses discovered in Etosha. Photo: MEFT

He added that investigations indicate the carcasses are three weeks and older.

"This is regrettable and a strong indication that the fight against poaching is not over," he said.

He explained that the Ministry of Environment together with the police, the Namibian Defence Force and other partners will intensify wildlife protection and law enforcement interventions, including patrols, security and intelligence gathering in Etosha, the country's flagship park.

Muyunda stated that no arrests have been made yet and investigations continue.

He requested members of the public with any information related to this or any poaching or wildlife crime incident to contact either the police or officials of the Ministry.