

Rhino horn smuggler on the run after escape

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Wang Hui

A prison inmate serving a 15-year jail term for trying to smuggle rhino horns out of Namibia has staged an escape while working outside Windhoek Correctional Facility.

The prisoner, Wang Hui (47), escaped in the Brakwater area north of Windhoek, where he was part of a team of inmates doing work outside the prison, around 11h00 on Monday, the Namibian Correctional Service's head of directorate central staff, Michael Mulisa, says.

Wang Hui is serving a 15-year prison term for attempting to smuggle 14 rhino horns and a leopard skin out of Namibia in March 2014.

He and three fellow Chinese citizens received prison terms of 11 years each when they were sentenced in the Windhoek Regional Court at the end of September 2016. The High Court increased the sentences to 15 years in an appeal judgement in April 2019.

Wang has been in jail since May 2015, when he was arrested in Windhoek.

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