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Informanté

Three arrested for possession of leopard/African skunk skins

Staff Reporter

THE Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism reported two newly registered wildlife crime cases, and arrested three suspects in relation to the possession of protected wildlife skins.

The Ministry of Environment reported that on 8 November 2022, two suspects, identified as Tjizire Kohongo and Angula Kafidi, were arrested after being found in possession of a leopard's skin.

The two suspects were charged with contravening the Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975, as amended Act 3 of 2017, which includes Possession of skins of specially protected and protected game as outlined in section 50A (a) and (b).

In the second matter, a 55-year-old man, identified as Ngoma Thomas Mungenyu, was arrested after he was also found in possession of animal skin of a pole cat / African skunk.

According to the environment ministry, there has been a surge in poaching, especially with regard to endangered species such as rhinos. The ministry reported that in the first eight months of 2022, a total of 48 rhinos were killed for their horns.

This is an increase from 44 cases reported in 2021, during the same reporting period.

In the year 2020, Namibia reported, 42 rhinos poached, 57 in 2019 and the highest cases of 83 reported in the year 2018.

File photo for illustrative purposes only.