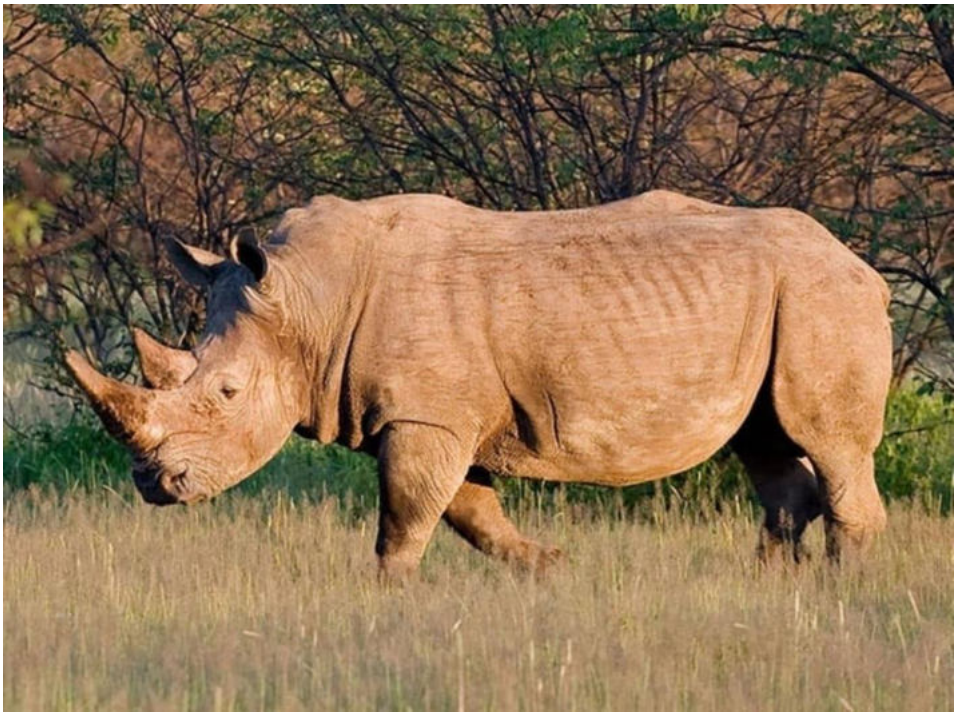
77 RHINOS, 4 ELEPHANTS POACHED IN 2022



77 rhinos poached

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News in short

Ellanie Smit

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Last year ended with one of the highest rhino poaching figures recorded in almost a decade.

A total of 77 rhinos were poached in 2022 compared to 2021 when 45 rhinos were killed for their horns.

Last year's figure is the third highest recorded since 2013, only surpassed by the 97 rhinos poached in 2015 and 84 killed by poachers in 2018.

This is according to the latest statistics issued by the environment and tourism ministry.

Meanwhile, only four elephants were poached last year, compared to 10 in 2021.

While ministry spokesperson Romeo Muyunda could not confirm whether there have been any poaching incidents this year, police reports indicated that an attempt had been recorded in the Etosha National Park.

A 28-year-old suspect was arrested for conspiring to poach a rhino, it said. The incident took place between 4 and 6 January and the suspect was found with five rounds of live ammunition.