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News in short Ellanie Smit

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A total of 24 elephant tusks were confiscated, while one suspect was arrested and seven others fled the scene when their car was searched last Friday in the Zambezi Region.

According to the environment ministry, the police, the defence force and ministry officials searched vehicles as part of an intelligence-led operation in pursuit of a syndicate of Zambian nationals who were embarking on transnational poaching of elephants in neighbouring Botswana using Zambezi as a transit root.

It said security operatives intercepted the vehicle used to transport elephant tusks.

Twelve elephant tails, two pots, two butcher knives and an inflatable mattress were also found. The suspects' vehicle has been booked in as part of evidence.

A 37-year-old man was arrested and has been detained at the Katima Mulilo holding cells.