



09-Marcus Jacobs (2nd from left) discusses the patrol with a team of rangers. Photo: Katharina Moser
(<https://cdn.nmh.com.na:2083/S3Server/aznamibia/uploads/images/2024/03/19/287693.JPG>)

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NAMIBIA WILDLIFE PROTECTION LEADS ANTI-POACHING MARKET

Katharina Moser

3 DAYS AGO 20 MARCH 2024 - 2024-03-20 00:05:00

Poaching numbers in southern Africa are rising, and concern for endangered species such as the rhinoceros is growing. While politicians struggle to find regulatory solutions to protect rhinos from poachers, at the end of the day, there is often only one person standing between the animal and the poacher: the ranger. Anti-poaching units in Namibia are flourishing, and developments are increasingly moving towards privatised and increasingly militarised ranger work.

The AZ accompanied the leading anti-poaching company in Namibia, Namibia Wildlife Protection (NWP), and learned: "There is a great demand for anti-poaching units in the Namibian farming industry and a massive market for anti-poaching services." That's according to Salmon Vermaak, the founder and director of Namibia Wildlife Protection. He decided to specialize in rhinos and elephants. He now employs over 200 rangers on 700,000 hectares of private farmland. "Many farms have their own internal anti-poaching units, but this is simply not sustainable. This allows the rangers to interact with the other farm and lodge workers, which massively limits operational safety," says Vermaak. "'Outsourcing' anti-poaching work is safer and more effective."

The rangers bear great responsibility and expose themselves to dangers on a daily basis in order to
Windhoek: 17° | 30° Gobabis: 17° | 31° Henties Bay: 17° | 19° Wind speed: 26km/h, Wind direction: SW, Low

23.03.24, 09:48

Namibia Wildlife Protection leads anti-poaching market - Allgemeine Zeitung - Aktuell Mittendrin für Dich

protect the rhinos entrusted to them. "Without weapons, we can no longer protect our precious species. Each of us would like to see a world where this is not necessary, but the reality is different," says Marcus Jacobs, NWP's ranger unit leader. The rangers are therefore trained in the use of weapons, discipline, first aid, tracking, navigation and combat tactics. More about the work of Namibia Wildlife Protection and the developments in nature conservation in Africa will soon be published in the AZ.



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Allgemeine Zeitung 2024-03-23

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