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## Suspected abalone poachers arrested near Robben Island

The 920 shucked abalone seized had an estimated street value of R345 000.



By [News24 Wire](#)

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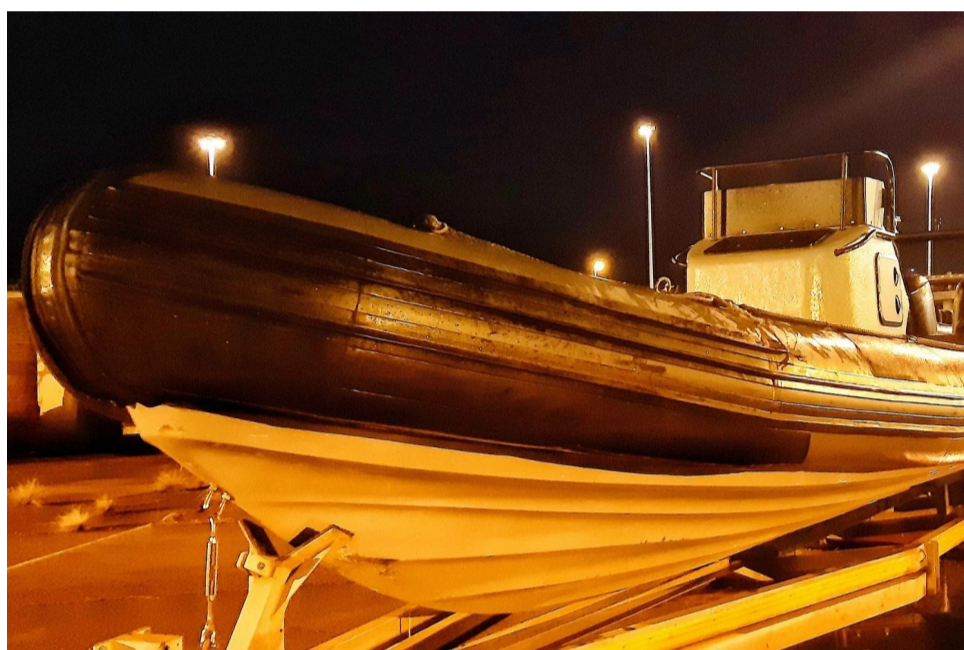


Photo: SAPS

Eight suspected abalone poachers were arrested close to Robben Island on Wednesday morning by Border Police stationed at Cape Town harbour

According to a [statement](#) by the police, on Tuesday evening, law enforcement started with random vessel patrols in the bay and around Robben Island during a dark moon and calm sea conditions.

### Poaching vessel detected

At around 2:00, a vessel was detected close to Robben Island. It was pursued and brought to a halt.

“Upon closer investigation, it was found that the vessel was carrying persons in diving gear who were in possession of bags of abalone on-board the vessel,” police spokesperson Captain FC van Wyk said in a statement.

“The suspects were arrested and taken to Cape Town harbour for processing. A total of eight males from Hawston and Hout Bay, aged between 25 and 32, were arrested.”

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Photo: SAPS

## R345k worth of abalone

Van Wyk added the 920 shucked abalone seized had an estimated street value of R345 000. Authorities also confiscated a 7m rubber duck.

The suspects are expected to appear in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court on charges relating to the Living Marine Resources Act, National Environmental Management: Protection Areas Act, and for being in contravention of Disaster Management Act regulations.

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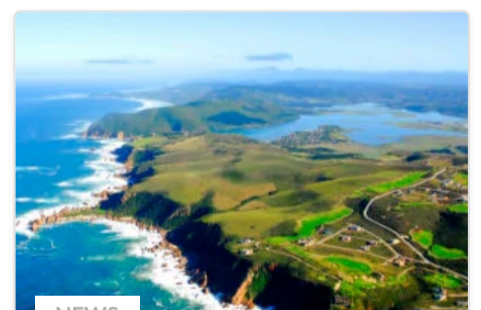
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