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Police confiscate bags full of abalone worth over R1 million

Police arrested 26-year-old man on the N6 Road with 16 refuse bags filled with abalone.

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Police arrested 26-year-old man on the N6 Road with 16 refuse bags filled with abalone. Image: SAPS

A suspect has been arrested, and police confiscated abalone worth over R1 million in two separate incidents.

Members of Gqeberha [Public Order Policing](#) and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries arrested a suspect and confiscated bags full of abalone worth R1 million.

POLICE ARRESTED A SUSPECT AND SEIZED BAGS FULL OF ABALONE

It is alleged that the team received and acted on the information of divers busy extracting abalone in the Seaview area.

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The Gqeberha police seized 47 units of shelled abalone and arrested a suspect. Image: SAPS

At about 4:00, on 21 March 2023, the information was operationalised, and the area and surrounding bushes were patrolled and searched.

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While searching the dense bushes, the team confiscated 35 bags containing 3 413 shucked units of abalone and 47 units of shelled abalone with an estimated street value of R1 008 000. The police arrested a suspect and seized abalone worth R1 million.

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Police also seized three bags with diving equipment valued at about R7 000 were also found in the bushes.

The Gqeberha police confiscated bags full of abalone with over R1 million. Image: SAPS

An inquiry docket has been opened for further investigation.

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In the second incident in the Reddersburg, Xhariep District Operational Command Centre cornered a 26-year-old man on the N6 road with 16 refuse bags filled with abalone on Wednesday morning, 22 March 2023.

POLICE RECOVERED 16 BAGS FILLED WITH 700 ABALONES

The Xhariep DOCC members conducted a vehicle checkpoint on the N6 passing through Reddersburg. At about 7:45, they stopped a sedan with an Eastern Cape registration.

Upon searching the car, the police found 16 bags filled with more than 700 abalones. A 26-year-old driver traveling from Gqebhera in the Eastern Cape and heading to Bloemfontein was apprehended.

He is expected to appear before Reddersburg Magistrate's Court soon, facing a charge of unlawful possession of abalone.

Police further confiscated the vehicle used in the commission of a crime.