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Title: Two oribi rams poached in Greytown area

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TWO ORIBI rams poached in Greytown area



The quick actions of local farmers, the Greytown Stock Theft Unity, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, and security companies led to the arrest of poachers, who killed two Oribi rams.

An endangered species, the two rams, who were in the prime of their lives, were allegedly shot for the bushmeat trade.

The carcasses of the animals were

confiscated and taken to FreeMe Wildlife in Howick where necropsies will be done to confirm cause of the death.

"FreeMe Wildlife supports our conservation authorities, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, the SAPS, NSPCA, and the communities of KwaZulu-Natal, in combatting wildlife crime," said director, Wade Whitehead.

"Among other things, we do chain of custody necropsies, which assists in successful convictions.

"These two Oribi rams were recently poached in the Greytown region using small calibre rifles.

"With species such as these Oribi, already facing incredible challenges from habitat loss

and fragmentation, poaching simply serves to push them over the edge.

"Poaching of wildlife is illegal [but] we can win if we stand together against the illegal poaching and trafficking of our wildlife."

Whitehead urged local residents to report cases of poaching to their local conservation authority.