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Hunters kill Yankari Games Reserve ranger

Written by Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi Friday, 31 August 2012 05:00



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The Bauchi State Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Alhaji Salihu Ibrahim, said yesterday that hunters killed a Yankari Games Reserve ranger, who was employed by the state government to protect the animals. Addressing newsmen, the commissioner, who said one other person was injured in the incident, lamented over the activities of poachers at the reserve.

“They are a threat to tourists and animals at the reserve. Only recently, the protection department of the reserve arrested two notorious poachers and charged them to court. One of the poachers got a sentence of four years while the other was jailed for three years. As a result of the pressure mounted on the poachers, they started retaliating by attacking our rangers. Recently, poachers attacked two rangers at the reserve, leading to the death of one of them while the other sustained injuries,” he said. He said the ministry has reviewed the tariff structure of Yankari Games Reserve as part of measures to generate more revenue and to sanitize tourism activities in the state.

“The move (new tariff structure) is coming on the heels of concerns raised by many tourists over activities of hoodlums at the reserve and the need to upgrade it to meet international standards, he said.”

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