

Nine rangers killed in Taraba park'

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The Conservator of the Gashaka Gumti National Park in Taraba State, Alhaji Mohammed Kabir, has said no fewer than nine rangers (forest workers) have lost their lives while many others were injured in the course of protecting the park within the last few years.

Kabir said this on Wednesday at an event to mark the 2019 World Rangers Day in Serti, in the Gashaka Local Government Area of the State.

He gave the names of the deceased as Usman Yahya, Joshua Mamman, Adamu Hamman, Ajayi Peter and Hamman Njidda.

Others were Hamman Dikko, Zamani Teituly, Sunday Ali and Yakubu Umaru.

“Their respective deaths are not unconnected to the activities of loggers with its attendant insecurity around the park,” he said.

He explained that the discovery of Rosewood in the park, and its economic importance between 2014 and 2015, had put rangers in danger as illegal loggers of Rosewood became bold and desperate.