

Dogs Kill 36 Pink Flamingos At Chiba Zoo

CHIBA — Thirty-six pink flamingos at the Chiba Municipal Zoological Gardens were discovered dead by a zoo keeper Saturday morning, the day after Bird Week began. The birds had apparently been killed by a pack of stray dogs.

The zoo keeper discovered the remains of the birds, which bore bite marks, during his rounds at around 7.30 a.m. Dogs' paw prints were found at the scene.

Two birds managed to escape.

Though the flamingo enclosure at the zoo is surrounded by a moat and 1.2-meter-high fence, it is possible the dogs gained entry through a hole in the fence, police said.

The 38 birds seemed fine the last time the zoo keeper checked on them at around 4.40 p.m. Friday.

Zoo property has been damaged by unruly dogs and crows on a number of occasions, officials said.

According to Katsu Saito, head zoo keeper at the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo, wild dogs often run riot in the zoo and kill animals for sport rather than for food. *Mainichi*
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