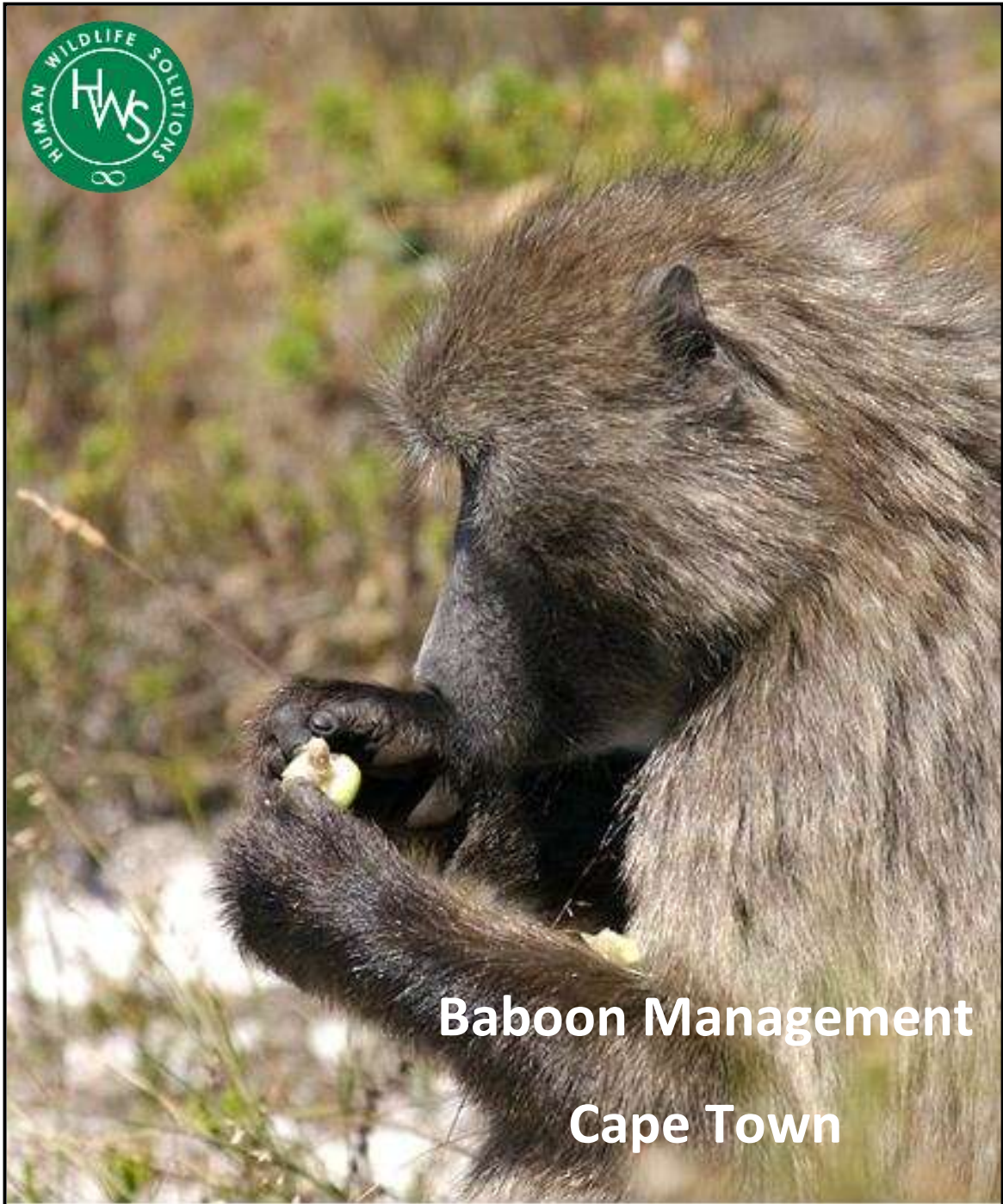




Baboon Management
Cape Town

Monthly Report

For February 2013



TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
A. GENERAL MANAGEMENT	3
B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING	3
SOUTH EAST REGION	
1. Smitswinkel Troop	3
2. Waterfall Troop	4
3. Da Gama Troop – Big Troop BT & Small Troop ST	6
Births and Deaths	10
Recommendations DO not line up with stuff below:	10
SOUTH WEST REGION	
1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop	10
2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop	10
3. Slangkop Troop	13
Births and Deaths	15
Recommendations	15
NORTH REGION	
1. Tokai Main Troop and Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop	16
2. Constantia Troop	19
3. Ghost / Mountain Troop	21
Births and Deaths	21
C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS	
Population Data	22
Hotline Data	23
General	26



A. GENERAL MANAGEMENT

This month's report covers the five week period from 26 January to 22 February 2013.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Manager Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Raiding incidents increased slightly throughout this month which can mainly be attributed to the fact that the December/January holiday season line was withdrawn back north again, and held past Miller's Point. This allowed the baboons to forage over a larger area. The troop could also spread wider which made it more difficult to stop the males from breaking away. Secondly, fighting has been taking place between SWB1 and SWB3. During one of the fights SWB1 sustained a hand injury and SWB3 sustained an injury on his back left leg.

The fighting between the two males also caused the troop to split with the majority of the animals following SWB1. The split was very noticeable from 27 January and this trend continued throughout the month. There is also a considerable amount of fighting taking place between SWB4 and SWB5. Conflict between the males has been a very regular occurrence throughout this month.

Towards the end of January, SWB3 was carrying an infant on his back and according to the field rangers, an adult female (possibly the alpha female) has disappeared and is assumed dead. The infant is however big enough to feed itself and seems to be doing well.

On 27 January, SWB3 broke the line above the Black Marlin Restaurant. The male raided an occupied house where the doors had been left wide open. SWB3 entered the kitchen and took bread and was in the house for a couple of seconds.

On 28 January, both SWB1 and SWB4 broke the sliding door and raided Bluegums House which was unoccupied at the time. On 9 February, according to the owners of Bluegums House, an unidentified male again smashed a sliding door. This incident could not be prevented as the owners of the Bluegums House would not allow Abel Takalani (HWS Supervisor) nor the rangers anywhere near his house. Subsequent to this incident, the owners agreed to allow HWS staff to monitor baboons around their house. The conflict around Bluegums House is aggravated due to dog food being regularly left outside and although this issue has been addressed with the owners of the house, the problem persists.

On 15 February, SWB1 pulled a sliding door off its tracks and entered a cottage which was both unoccupied and had no food inside. Abel Takalani helped the residents put the sliding door back.

The raiding by the Smitswinkel troop is predominantly undertaken by males breaking away but the troop hasn't entered the urban area throughout the month.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR			CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
SE			1	In urban area				4	Attacking pets				7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																				
BABOON TROOP:			Smits		2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																		
MONTH: February			YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																							
BABOON ID		Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL			
SWB3		M		6							1																1				3			
SWB1		M			5								1									8								3				
SWB4		M		2	5				1				1	2												1				6				
SWB5		M																												0				
Troop																														0				
UnID Male		M															8													1				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS				
Troop		0.00																												0.00				
Males		0.96		10	5				10		10		10	30			30					20				20				2.42				
Roost:		AM	2	6	4	3	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	6	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	3	1				
Roost:		PM	6	4	3	3	1	7	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	6	6	2	3	6	3	6	6	2	3	3	6	3	1	1				
Roost Sites			1 Smits Caves				2 Partridge Point				3 Bluegums				4 Millers Point				5 Rocklands Farm															
			6 Castle Rock				7 SANParks																											
ID Features of Baboons			SWB3: collar, SWB4: Collar + double white tag, SWB1: Collar + blue & white tag, SWB5 = Red/Blue tags																															
General remarks			Town/Urban area = Millers Point boat launching area, caravan park, Black Marlin, Castle Rock Houses, Smitswinkel Bay houses																															

Fig.1. Smitswinkel troop raid sheet

2. Waterfall Troop

The rangers' extended working hours have made a significant impact on reducing raiding by the troop. Most of the raiding has been undertaken by two young males, WF1 and WF2, and they frequently have juveniles with them. There is one female that also joins them and sometimes raids on her own. Furthermore, RH2 was collared on 5 February which will assist the rangers in pre-empting the troops' movements before they come down to the Waterfall Barracks or the Happy Valley Shelter.

Fig.2 (below): RH2 being collared



Fig.2 (a) Collar fitted.



Fig.2 (b) Poor dental condition.



Fig.2 (c) Old injury to the nose.



Fig.2 (d) Right hand index finger damaged.

WF1 has been involved in two serious incidents at the Happy Valley Shelter where on each occasion he attacked female residents.

On 27 January WF1 jumped onto the back of a lady who was holding a bucket from the kitchen but which did not contain any food. Thereafter he left immediately.

On 7 February one of the female residents was sitting in front of her dormitory which was between a female baboon that was in oestrus and the male, WF1. She got up to move away but WF1 presumably saw this as an attempt to move towards the female.

WF1 pulled the female resident down from behind. The resident's head hit the ground and she sustained some injuries to her arm.

Several attempts were made throughout the month to catch WF2 who has a skin condition which we suspect is sarcoptic mange / scabies.



Fig.3. WF2 with the bare patch on his right shoulder.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																
SECTOR			CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																													
SE			1 In urban area				4 Attacking pets				7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																					
BABOON TROOP:			2 Raid bins				5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																					
MONTH: February			3 Non malicious damage				6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																									
YEAR: 2013																																
BABOON ID			Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL
WF2			M		2							2				5	2							2	2	2						7
WF1			M		7							2				7	2							2	2	2		2				8
UnID Female			F	2	2					2		2		1	1		2	1						2	2	2		2				12
TROOP												2					2							2	2	2						5
RH2			M		2					2				1			2							2	2	2						8
Juveniles																5	2							2	2	2		2				6

Fig.4. Waterfall troop raid sheet

3. Da Gama/Glencairn

The BT has been sleeping at the Witsand sleep site since 17 January, making a few excursions to the Slangkop sleep site. The risk of the BT raiding the Soetwater Education Centre was fairly high due to the lack of baboon proof waste management at the centre. In addition, due to the terrain, it proved difficult to manage the troop there. As a result it was decided to prevent the BT from sleeping on Slangkop and to rather keep them at Witsand. We have taken 6 baboon proof bins to SEC and offered to colour code them for recycling, but the manager there refuses to use them.



Fig.5. Soetwater Education Centre after being raided by the Big Troop (BT).

Males from the BT, namely DG5, DG7, DG1 and 2 juveniles, started venturing into Ocean View on an almost daily basis where the major draw card is the fruiting trees.

The troop has also come down to the concrete dam area (see Fig.6) to have access to drinking water.

Raiding baboons make use of dense thickets of alien vegetation to launch raids into Ocean View (see Fig.6), and with no water available at the top of the mountain and the days being fairly hot, rangers need to allow the baboons to come down to drink. This problem can be solved by

replacing the water tank at the top of the mountain close to the Witsand sleep site (see Fig. 6). This tank was badly damaged during a fire about 5 years ago.

Although Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) are not keen to reintroduce water holes into the Park, they may consider this as part of a research project on the affect on waterholes on the movements of baboons and their urban raiding behaviour.

A brief research project is being conducted at present on private land just below the Compass Bakery sleepsites.

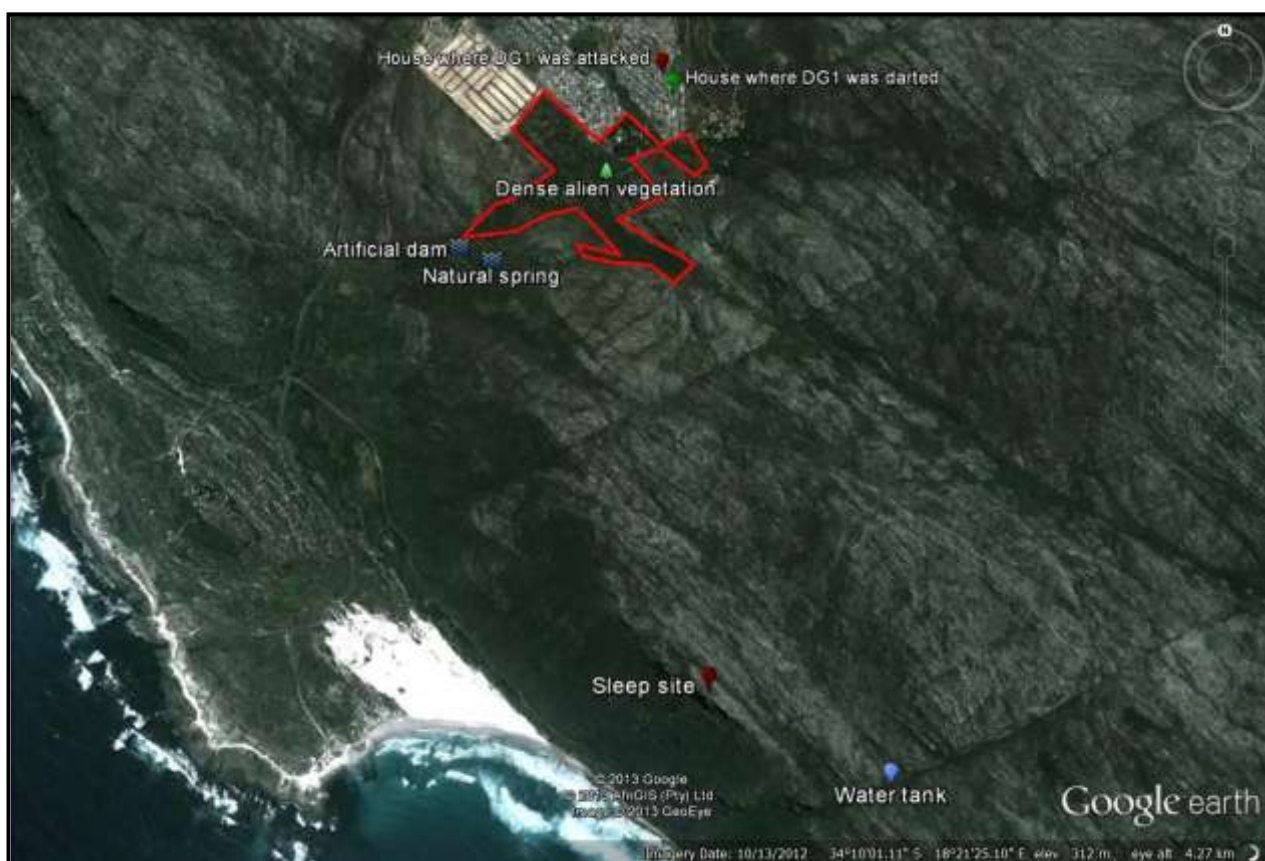


Fig.6. Map of current sleep site, proposed water tank as well as current watering point.

With baboons being obligate drinkers, the scarcity of watering points on top of the mountain forces them to come close to, or even to enter, urban areas in search of water and access to water can therefore be a major driver of human-baboon conflict.

On the evening of Thursday 21 February 2013, a report was received on the baboon hotline that an adult male baboon and two pit-bull dogs belonging to Ocean View residents had been in an altercation in Ocean View.

Three managers from Human Wildlife Solutions, together with Dr Elzette Jordan (City of Cape Town veterinarian) went out to Ocean View to recover the injured baboon. Identified as DG1, the baboon was darted and taken to a local vet who attended to a bleeding arm wound. The

baboon was then moved to the City of Cape Town Westlake facility where he was kept for observation.

Baboon management is aimed at keeping baboons out of urban areas for the very reason that there are many dangers for baboons in urban areas. The dangers range from shootings by residents to incidents of poison, motor vehicle accidents and altercations with large dogs. During these altercations, dogs and baboons can be injured. There are also reported incidents where dogs have been thrown off cliffs or even killed by large baboons.

According to the City by-laws, dogs have to be confined to their place of residence. If anybody can provide the City of Cape Town with full details of any Ocean View residents that own pit-bulls which are not confined to their residences, the City can take action.

DG1 looked poorly after the Ocean View incident and was bleeding badly from his arm. After his injuries were attended to and he was treated with antibiotics, DG1 recovered remarkably quickly.

After being fitted with a radio collar, DG1 was returned to his troop on Monday afternoon, 25 February.



Fig.7. Map of area where DG1 was attacked and later darted.

It is currently a daily occurrence for DG5, DG7 and two juveniles to enter Ocean View to raid fruit trees after drinking water at the concrete dam.



The ST still sleeps on the Kroonseil and Bluefin blocks of flats. With the night shift in place, rangers are able to keep the ST in the mountain until 20h30 but unfortunately, as soon as it gets dark, the baboons run back to the flats. They run very fast and it is very difficult for the rangers to block them. Once the baboons have run past the rangers, there is no way of getting them back into the mountain area.

During the day the troop spends a lot of time on top of the flats and sometimes only makes its way down around midday. This could possibly be due to them being fed by people around the flats and on several occasions potatoes, mangoes, apples, rice etc. have been found at various spots around the flats.

The ST has also become more difficult to manage as they split up into smaller units to raid in town. The juveniles often go in by themselves and/or with the ST male SK3. Residents have also seen them in town after 20h00 when there has been no night shift.

We believe the best option for this troop would be to build an artificial sleep site on the mountain as it is proving extremely difficult to get them to sleep anywhere else whilst they have access to the naval flats.

Unfortunately renovations at the flats have also not been successful in keeping them away and they can climb and roost on both blocks of flats. Putting an electrified apron at first floor level around both sets of flats would also help.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																		
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																
SOUTH EAST		1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																												
BABOON TROOP: DA GAMA BT		2 Raid bins										5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																												
MONTH: February		3 Non malicious damage										6 Raid occupied house or vehicle										9 Nocturnal Raiding																												
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			TOTAL																		
Big Troop						1	1									2																3																		
DG8	M						1			2					2																	3																		
DG1	M						6				2																					3																		
DG5	M						1												2	2		1	2	6	1	1	2	2	1			11																		
2x Sub-ad males	M									7	2								2	2									2			5																		
DGF3	F						1	1														1		6								4																		
DGF4	F						1																									1																		
DG7	M						1			7	2								2	2		1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1			13																		
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																				
Big Troop	0.1					10	10																									0.33																		
Males	3.1					10	10			30	20				20	15			20	20		60	30	15	60	15	15	240	20			10.00																		
Roost:	AM	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	11	12	12	11	11	12	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11																				
Roost:	PM	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	11	11	12	11	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11																				
Roost Sites	1 Flats										2 Pines - Flats										3 Pines - Da Gama										4 Pines - Welcome Glen										5 Sport Fields Stables									
	6 Compass Bakery										7 Pines - Outspan										8 Jacks Shop										9 Elsie's Peak										10 Rotary Camp									
	11 Misty Cliff										12 Slangkop																																							
ID Features of Baboons	DG5: red yellow tags + Collar. DG1: Collar, DGF3: Three legs, DGF4: Crooked tale + old.																																																	
General remarks																																																		

Fig.8. Raid sheet for the Big Troop (BT), Da Gama.



HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																									
SECTOR			CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																						
SOUTH EAST			1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																															
BABOON TROOP:		DA GAMA ST		2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																														
MONTH: February		YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
BABOON ID		Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22					TOTAL																						
Small Troop			2	9		2									1			1	2	2					1		2	2							10																						
DGF1		F	2	9															2	2				1		1		2	2						8																						
DGF2		F	2	9																2	2					2		2	2						7																						
UnID sub-adult		M																	2	2						1		2	2	2					6																						
UnID Juv																										1									2																						
ST Male		M	2	9		1			1	2	2								2	2	7			1		1		2	2	2					14																						
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS																									
Small Troop		2.1	15	20	60										25			10	40	30			30		135		30	15						6.83																							
Juveniles		1.9																	120											240					6.00																						
Males		4.1	15	20	60				20	60	60				25			20	40	30			30		135		30	15		240					13.33																						
Roost: (Small)		AM	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	1	3	1	3	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																										
Roost: (Small)		PM	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	1	3	1	3	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																										
Roost Sites			1	Flats										2	Pines - Flats										3	Pines - Da Gama										4	Pines - Welcome Glen										5	Sport Fields Stables									
			6	Compass Bakery										7	Pines - Outspan										8	Jacks Shop										9	Elsie's Peak										10	Rotary Camp									
			11	Misty Cliff																																																					
ID Features of Baboons			DGF1 - Female with collar + blue/white tags																																																						
			DGF2 - Female with crooked hand																																																						
General remarks																																																									

Fig.9. Raid sheet for the Small Troop (ST), Da Gama.

Births and Deaths

The alpha female from the Smitswinkel troop has disappeared and is presumed dead. We have no idea what caused this, except possibly collateral damage during the high level of conflict between the males. One baby was born in the Da Gama BT during mid-February.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The erection of a sleep site in the mountain for the ST should be reconsidered as well as the baboon-proofing of the naval flats.

Waste management at the Waterfall Barracks as well as the Soetwater Education Centre needs to be addressed.

Water provisioning at the Witsand sleep site needs to be considered in order to reduce further raiding in Ocean View.

The alien vegetation in the TMNP just south of Ocean View (refer to Figure 6), urgently needs to be removed to prevent the baboons making use of this protected access route into Ocean View.

South Western Region – Manager Nick Shaw

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop

The GOB troop has been in the Cape of Good Hope Reserve for the month of February. The troop has moved between the areas of Groot Olifantsbos and the cliff site on the Bonteberg ridge (C2).



From the 3rd until the 19th February the troop was at the C2 cliffs site. On most days they approached the Scarborough fence and had to be pushed back by the rangers to prevent them entering into Scarborough.

The young male with a double blue tag and a number of females have been very persistent in their attempts to enter into Scarborough while the troop was at the Bonteberg cliff site.

For the month of February the GOB troop has not entered Scarborough.

2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop

The Misty Cliffs troop was kept in the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (C2 cliff site) from the 26th January until the 4th February.

On the 5th February the troop managed to break through to Scarborough and back to the Misty Cliffs sleep site where they remained until the 20th February when the troop was returned to the Reserve.

During the period 26th January to 4th February, while the troop was in the Reserve, the female with the new born broke away from the troop to enter Scarborough on her own. This is the first time she has broken away from the troop and is most likely due to her being nutritionally stressed while lactating to feed her baby. On both these occasions GOB5 followed into Scarborough and on one occasion MCF1 followed in.

Between the 5th and 20th February the troop entered both Scarborough and Misty Cliffs on numerous occasions.

Both the female with the new born and MCF1 spent almost every day in Scarborough, breaking away from the troop early in the morning and re-joining the troop in the late afternoon. While in Scarborough they would visit properties that contained both grape vines and large fig trees in Klip, Iris, Seagull, Hilltop and Springbok Rds.

February Raids:

On the 5th February GOB5 broke into a house by forcing the door at 17 Hilltop Rd open and raided the unoccupied house.

On the 5th February MC1 raided an occupied house in Klip St.

On the 14th February GOB5 forced open a window at 101 Hilltop Rd, damaged the window and raided the unoccupied house.

On the 16th February GOB5 and MC1 raided an occupied house at 41 Hilltop Rd.

From the 4th until the 21st February, MCF1 has been in Scarborough every day, often all day long. She tends to hide in one of a few properties that contain either grape vines or fig trees.



Figure 10: Misty Cliffs Troop Roost Sites for February 2013

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																											
BABOON TROOP:		Misty Cliffs	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																										
MONTH: February		YEAR: 2013	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																												
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22					TOTAL
GOB5	M	2		2		2				2	2	5,8		1			1	1		1	5,8	1	6	1	2	1	1						17	
MCF1	F					2					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					17	
MC1	M										1	6	1	1	1		1	1	1		1		6	1	2	1	1						12	
Female with baby	F	2				2					2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1						15	
Troop											2	2		1			2	1		2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1						13	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																															HRS	
Troop	12										300	180		45			200	120		190	420	90	300	180	270	90	45						40h30	
Males & Females	24	40		20		50				15	300	180	180	60	180	540	200	420	180	190	420	240	300	180	270	90	480	360					81h35	
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2					
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2					
Roost Sites		1 Misty Cliffs			2 CoGH Reserve			3			4			5																				
		6			7			8			9			10																				
ID Features of Baboons		GOB5 had a double red tag and a VHF collar MCF1 has a missing forearm. MC1 is young adult male.																																
General remarks		The high percentage of time spent in town for the males & females is mostly due to MCF1 breaking away from the troop to spend entire days in Scarborough on her own. She was often accompanied by MC1 and a female with baby.																																

Figure 11: Raid Sheet for Misty Cliffs Troop: February 2013

Comments and Observations

The biggest management challenge in February has been the numerous fruiting trees and grape vines in Scarborough as well as the two females, MCF1 and the female with the new born,



breaking away from the troop on a daily basis to enter Scarborough. While these females are in the urban area the rest of the troop will spend the whole day attempting to break the line in order to join them.

Compared to previous months the number of house and bin raids has been relatively low due to there being freely available food in gardens. This has made it very difficult to keep the troop out of the urban area.

Residents in Klip St and Iris Rd who were asked to remove bunches of grapes from the vines have done so which is a great help but there are still large fig trees and other vines that will continue to attract baboons into Scarborough.

In the last week that the troop has been in the Reserve they have frequently been seen foraging on the rocky shoreline at low tide. This is a positive new development for this troop, because marine foraging can be an important supplement to their diet in the dry summer months.

The troop also makes daily trips to the large body of water at 'Die Mond' to drink which reduces water stress and the need to seek out water in the urban areas.

3. Slangkop Troop

From the 26th to 29th January the troop was on Slangkop at the C1 roost site. From the 29th January to 22nd February the troop has been in the Compass Bakery/Ocean View area at the C2 and C3 roost sites.

Since the troop has been back at the C2/C3 roost sites the biggest challenge has been the lack of fresh water. The only water points available to the troop in this area are in the Solole Private Game Reserve and the Municipal Waste Water Treatment Plant on the other side of Kommetjie Rd. Every time the troop has accessed either one of these sites to drink it has resulted in raiding of either Capri Village or Imhoff's Gift.

Fortunately the month of February has seen some unseasonal rainfall which has to some degree eased the pressure for fresh water as the troop has been able to drink from standing pools in rocky areas on the mountain.

On days when the troop has accessed water on the mountain the rangers have managed to keep the troop out of the urban areas 100% of the time. Each time the troop has gone to Solole to drink water has resulted in raiding of Capri and each time the troop has crossed Kommetjie Rd to the Municipal site has resulted in raiding of Imhoff's Gift.

The other management challenge is SK2 who continues to break away from the troop to enter the urban area. He is often accompanied by one to four females, one or two young adult males and a number of juveniles. These are the same individuals who used to follow TK5 into the urban area when he was the one leading the raids.

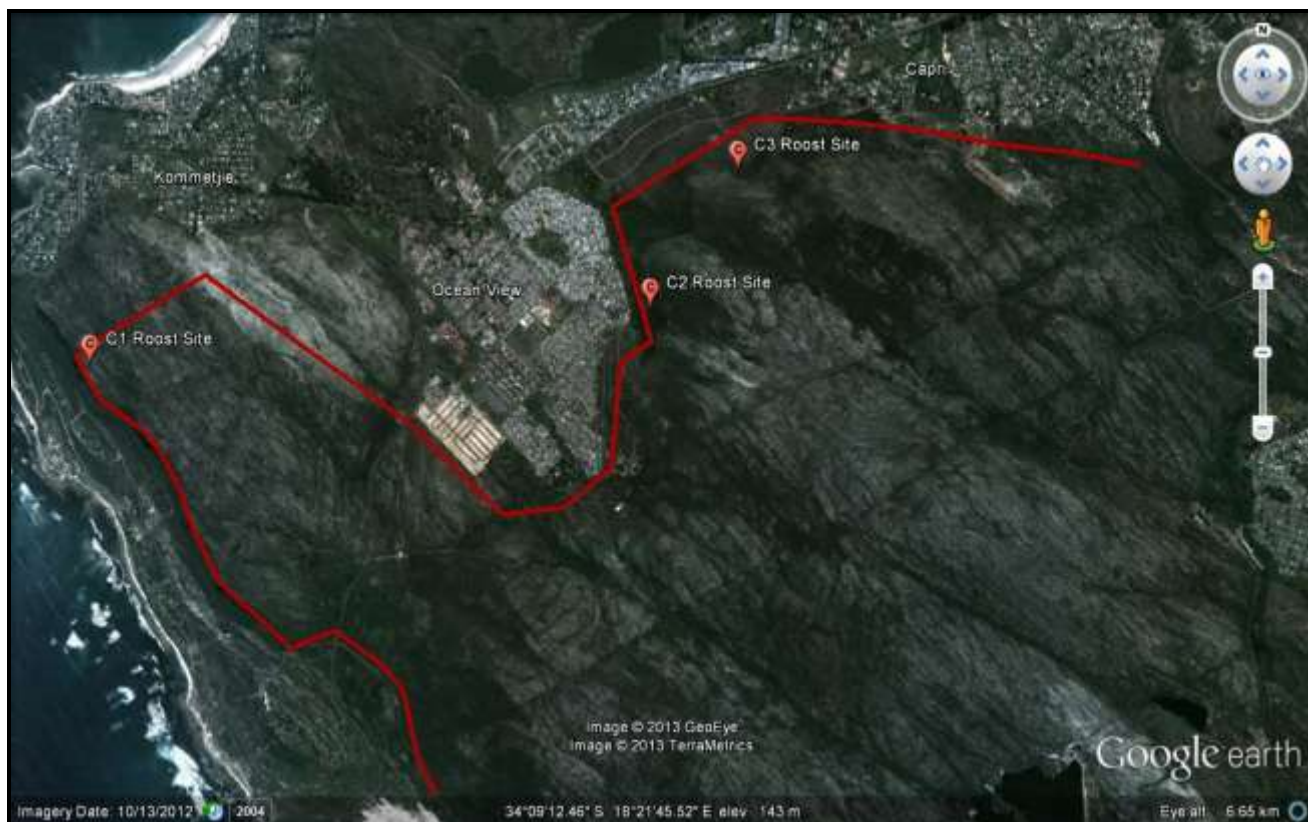


Figure 12: Slangkop Troop Roost Sites February 2013

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																							
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																					
		1	In urban area				4	Attacking pets				7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																										
BABOON TROOP:		Slangkop		2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																								
MONTH: February		YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																													
BABOON ID		Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22									TOTAL
DG6		M						1						2						5																		4	
SK2		M	5	5						2			5,6			2				6		2				4,6		2	5									13	
Sub-adult Male1		M	2	5				1		2				2		2				6				2		4												10	
Sub-adult Male2		M						1		2						2											4											5	
Unidentified Female		F	2	5						2										2		2																6	
Troop					2					2			2							2							2				2								
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																	HRS				
Troop		2.0			45					100			55							40						90				70							6h40		
Males & Females		4.4	60	120	45			15		100			55	45		45			40	30		30			90		60	90	70								14h55		
Roost:		AM	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3									
Roost:		PM	1	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3								
Roost Sites			1	Slangkop				2	Ocean View				3	Compass Bakery				4					5																
			6					7					8					9					10																
ID Features of Baboons			DG6 has a yellow cable tie tag																																				
			SK2 has a green/red tag and a VHF collar																																				
General remarks			In the month of February 1 birth was recorded																																				

Figure 13: Raid Information Sheet for Slangkop Troop – February 2013

February Raids:

On the 26th and 27th January SK2 raided unoccupied houses in Kommattje.

On the 5th February SK2 raided occupied and unoccupied houses in Imhoff's Gift.



On the 12th February SK2 and a young male raided an occupied house and DG6 raided an unoccupied house in Capri.

On the 18th February SK2 and two young males attacked a dog at 5 Capri Terrace, Capri. On the same day SK2 raided an occupied house in Capri Terrace.

On the 21st February SK2 raided an unoccupied house in Imhoff's Gift.

Comments and Observations

It is very evident by comparing the January and February raid sheets that it is much easier to manage this troop when they are at the Compass Bakery (C3) site compared to when they are on Slangkop. The lack of a buffer zone on Slangkop as well as other factors such as abundance of fruiting trees and mature stands of trees used for cover make it very difficult to manage the troop there.

On the 20th February, with permission from JBB Properties and the Environmental Control Officer of the Kompanjiesuin development, we established a water point for the troop on the Kompanjiesuin property. It is hoped that by supplying the troop with water just below the C3 roost site it will negate the need for the troop to visit the Solole Reserve and cross Kommetjie Rd. This in turn will hopefully reduce the raiding of Capri and Imhoff's Gift. Ideally we should put a water tank on the southern side of the C3 roost site so that the troop is encouraged to walk away from the urban edge. This would require re-establishing a burnt-out water tank on TMNP. We are at present, at SANParks request, collecting detailed data on all occasions when and where the troop drinks during the month of February and collating this with their subsequent raiding behaviour or absence thereof.

When comparing the raiding behaviour of SK2 in the winter months to the summer months it is evident that there has been marked change in his raiding behaviour. During the last two to three months his raiding has increased dramatically. It is very possible that the fistula that Dr Currie diagnosed in December is the main reason for this sudden change in behaviour. He must presumably lose significant amounts of water through it as well as having less efficient digestion.

The alien vegetation above Capri is currently being removed and this will help in preventing the troop raiding Capri as it will increase the buffer zone between the C3 sleep site and the urban edge and will reduce the dense cover that the troop used to break the line past the rangers and into Capri.

Births and Deaths

In the month of February there was one birth recorded in the Slangkop troop.

Recommendations

The strategy for the Misty Cliffs Splinter troop over the next month will be continue to hold them in the Reserve and prevent them from entering Scarborough and returning to the Misty Cliffs roost site. It is hoped that the troop will continue to forage naturally in the Reserve and that they

will be encouraged to further exploit the marine resources on the coastline at the C2 area. The long term goal is to condition the troop to thinking of the C2 cliff site in the Reserve as their preferred roost site.

It will be necessary to try and address the fruiting trees in Scarborough and as far as possible get residents to either remove the fruit from the trees and vines or remove the trees and vines altogether. If the troop discovers that there is not as much readily accessible food it will be easier to keep them out of Scarborough.

By providing the Slangkop troop with an artificial water source just below the C3 roost site we hope to encourage the troop to use this as their source of water instead of water in the Solole Reserve and the Municipal Waste Water Treatment Plant. When the troop does start making use of the new water source we will compare the frequency of raids in the urban areas before and after the installation of the water point to determine the relationship between the need for water and subsequent raiding in the urban areas.

North Region – Manager Stefan Theron

1. Tokai Main Troop and the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop.

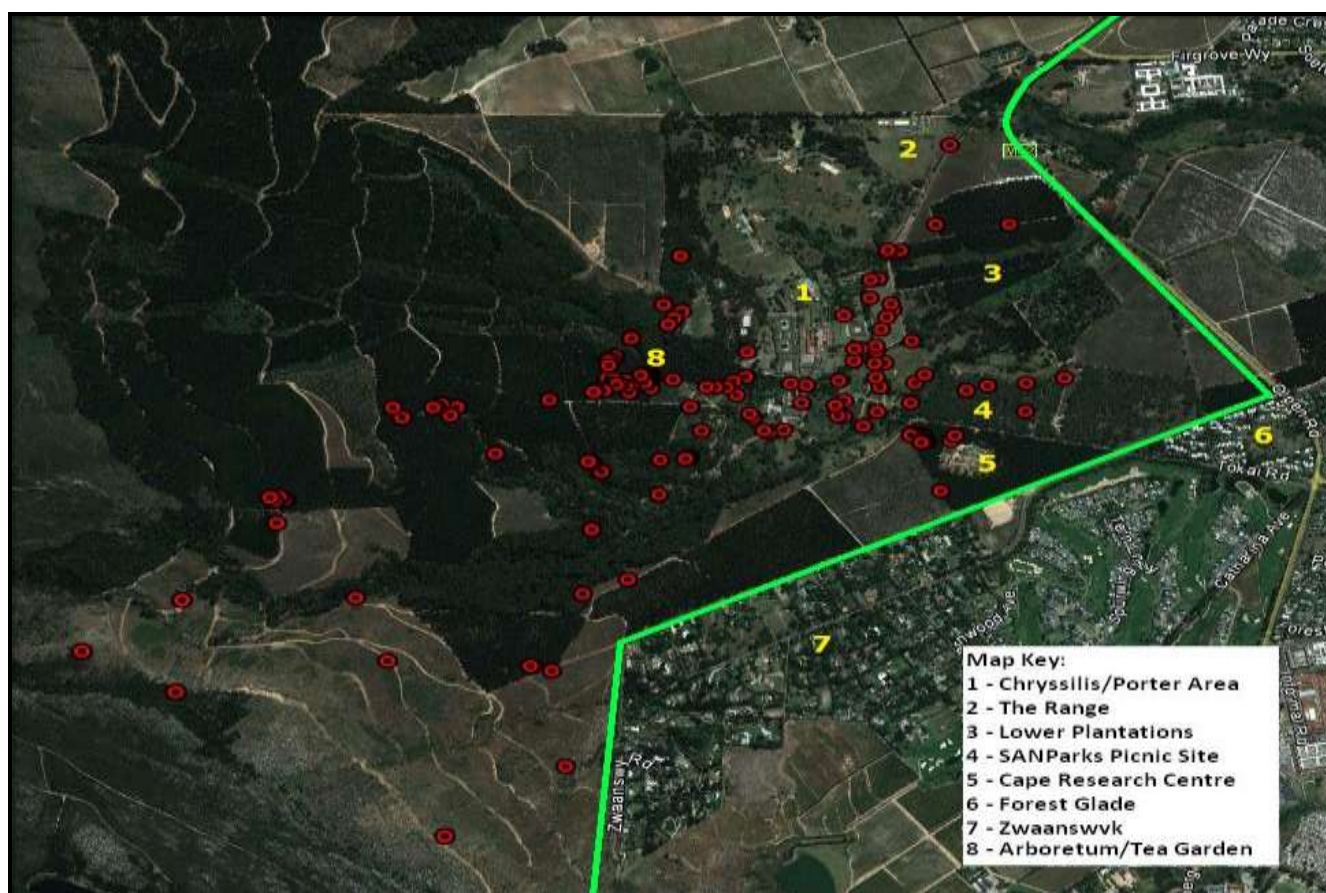


Fig 14: TK28 GPS collar data representing spatial ranging of the Tokai main troop from 26 January to 22 February 2013.



The majority of the month, which has been our driest month thus far, was characterized with the troops holding a similar pattern to the previous month. The troops have been concentrating their spatial ranging around the Tokai Manor House area and water seems to be the primary driver for their spatial ranging. The prevailing movement pattern observed during this time could be summarized as follows:

- Tokai main troop: Woody Owl Guest house (Roost site) > Chrysalis Academy > Chrysalis Stables > SANParks picnic area > Chrysalis Stables > Chrysalis Academy > Woody Owl Guest House (Roost site).
- Zwaanswyk splinter troop: Arboretum Tea Garden (Roost site) > Tokai Manor House > Chrysalis Stables > Chrysalis Academy > Tokai Manor House > Arboretum Tea Garden (Roost site).

The troop's spatial movements remained consistent as time progressed, with the only deviation from this routine occurring after substantial rain fell on the weekend of the 9th of February. This resulted in the troops moving up into the higher levels for a couple of days to take advantage of the out-of-season green flush from the grassy component. They spent their time foraging actively on the high protein growth tips and buds of the vegetation.

The following week the ranging pattern reverted back to its previous pattern with the troop regularly visiting the refuse skip at the Cape Research Centre as well as the adjacent staff houses. There was a report from the staff houses that an unidentifiable baboon entered one of the houses and raided the fridge. The troop is also gaining access to the SANParks picnic site on a regular basis entering under the electrified perimeter fence via the seasonally dry stream bed. With the troop's spatial movements concentrated around the areas that are highly utilized by humans, conflict is inevitable.

The raiding behavior of the troops at the Saturday Porter Fresh Produce Market is ongoing and the level of severity changes from one Saturday to the next. Following the substantial rainfall on the 19th of February the troop once again moved up onto the higher levels for a couple of days.

The ideal situation would be to provide the troops with one or two artificial watering points higher up on the levels as this will give them the means to extend their foraging times in the upper plantations by eliminating the need to visit the lower levels in search of water.

On the 6th of February HWS field staff observed TK23 approaching painters at Chrysalis Academy eating their lunch on one of the lawns. As he approached they fed him a few slices of bread and once he had finished these offerings, he mugged them to get the rest of their lunch. The field supervisor from HWS duly intervened and managed to stop TK23 and then reprimanded and educated the painters regarding the consequences of their actions. However, ten minutes later HWS field staff observed TK23 being fed a bunch of grapes by employees of the Fire Services and



once again intervened. This appears to be an ongoing problem in this area and is reinforcing the habituation of individual baboons in the troop that “human” equals “food”.

On that same day due to unforeseen circumstances, the troop, led by older members of the troop, managed to push past the HWS rangers on Orpen Road to take fallen fruit from the fruiting trees growing randomly across the road. The troop was subsequently guided back over the road to the amazement of local motorists who haven't seen baboons on the road for many months. HWS would like to extend its gratitude to Sue Oosthuizen, a member of the Baboon Liaison Group, for assisting the supervisor and rangers in guiding the troop back over the road and back to the lower plantation.

On the 15th of February the troop managed to push across Orpen Road quite swiftly once more to gain access to the fruiting trees. The situation was handled with relative ease and the troop was pushed back within twenty minutes. HWS has subsequently extended the buffer zone by 150 meters to give the rangers a bit of leeway to intercept the troops' movements.

As with last month, TK9 is still segregating from both troops by distancing himself from the troop's coherent movements and only marginally interacting with other animals. He has become more aggressive recently and stands his ground when rangers try and deter him without the aid of paintball markers, or when he is in possession of, or foraging on human refuse. This contradicts his previous behavior when he would respond promptly to the presence of rangers and their verbal herding.

Even although TK9 has been assigned a fulltime dedicated ranger to follow him and notify support staff of a potential raiding excursion, he has managed to slip through on a handful of occasions by hiding and avoiding flanking rangers so that he can have a clear course of entry into the urban area. Most of the time his raiding attempts have been intercepted successfully.

During the course of the month both TK9 and TK24 have progressively begun to associate more and more with the Tokai main troop and spend less time with the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop.

On the 21st of February TK28 went into Forest Glade. This is the first time on record for this baboon to enter the urban edge. He is currently the Tokai main troop alpha male. He subsequently tried again on the following day but the rangers managed to deter him from entering Forest Glade without too much effort.

TK24 also crossed Orpen Road to forage on the fruiting trees and two females followed him up to the urban boundary where the troop was foraging on the Chrysalis Academy soccer field.

On the same day TK35, currently the Zwaanswyk splinter troop alpha, mugged Arboretum Tea Garden customers stealing cake and chips from them.



HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																									
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																							
		1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing																			
BABOON TROOP:		Tokai										2 Raid bins										5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: February		YEAR: 2013										3 Non malicious damage										6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																			
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL											
TK9	M							7	1	7			2,6				2	2			2,7			2,6						8											
TK24	M								7														2						1	3											
TK28	M																											1	1	2											
Troop	T												1									1								2											
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS											
Males	0.72							0	20	0							20	30			30		20					15	30	2.45											
Troop	0.16												35									20								0.55											
Roost:	AM	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1												
Roost:	PM	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	5												
Roost Sites		1	SANParks Tea Garden										2	Level one										3	Level two																
		4	Level three										5	Eagle Owl Guesthouse																											
ID Features of Baboons		TK9 - Tagged Green/White and VHF collared.																																							
		TK24 - Tagged White/White and VHF collared.																																							
		TK28 - Tagged Blue/Green and GPS collared.																																							
General remarks		The troop pushed twice over Orpen Road, as there are fruiting trees on the other side next to the road.																																							

Fig 15. Raid Sheet: Tokai Troop

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			

Fig 16. Raid Sheet: Zwaanswyk troop.

Summary of incidents for the reporting period February 2013:

- 30/01/2013 – TK9 stole a bottle of juice from hikers at the Arboretum parking lot.
- 02/02/2013 – TK24 stole a loaf of bread at the Porter Fresh Produce Market.
- 03/02/2013 – TK9 mugged hikers for food.

- 06/02/2013 – TK9 walked into the entrance of Tribakery and stole the complimentary mints.
- 06/02/2013 – The Tokai main troop crossed over Orpen Road.
- 10/02/2013 – TK9 raided bins in Forest Glade on the urban edge.
- 11/02/2013 – TK9 raided bins in Forest Glade on the urban edge.
- 14/02/2013 – TK9 raided bins in Dalmore Road.
- 15/02/2013 – The Tokai main troop crossed over Orpen Road.
- 16/02/2013 – TK24 raided bins in driveways on Paradise Crescent.
- 21/02/2013 – TK28 was reported to have been in Forest Glade.
- 22/02/2013 – TK24 went across Orpen Road to feed on fruit but was turned back successfully.
- 22/02/2013 – TK35 mugged Arboretum Tea Garden customers and stole cake and chips.

2. Constantia Troop.

No raiding attempts have been reported for the Constantia troop this month as the vineyards grapes are coming into season and this seems to be pre-occupying the troop and keeping them from raiding in the urban edge. The troop's days are spent trying to gain access to the vineyards and prized grapes.

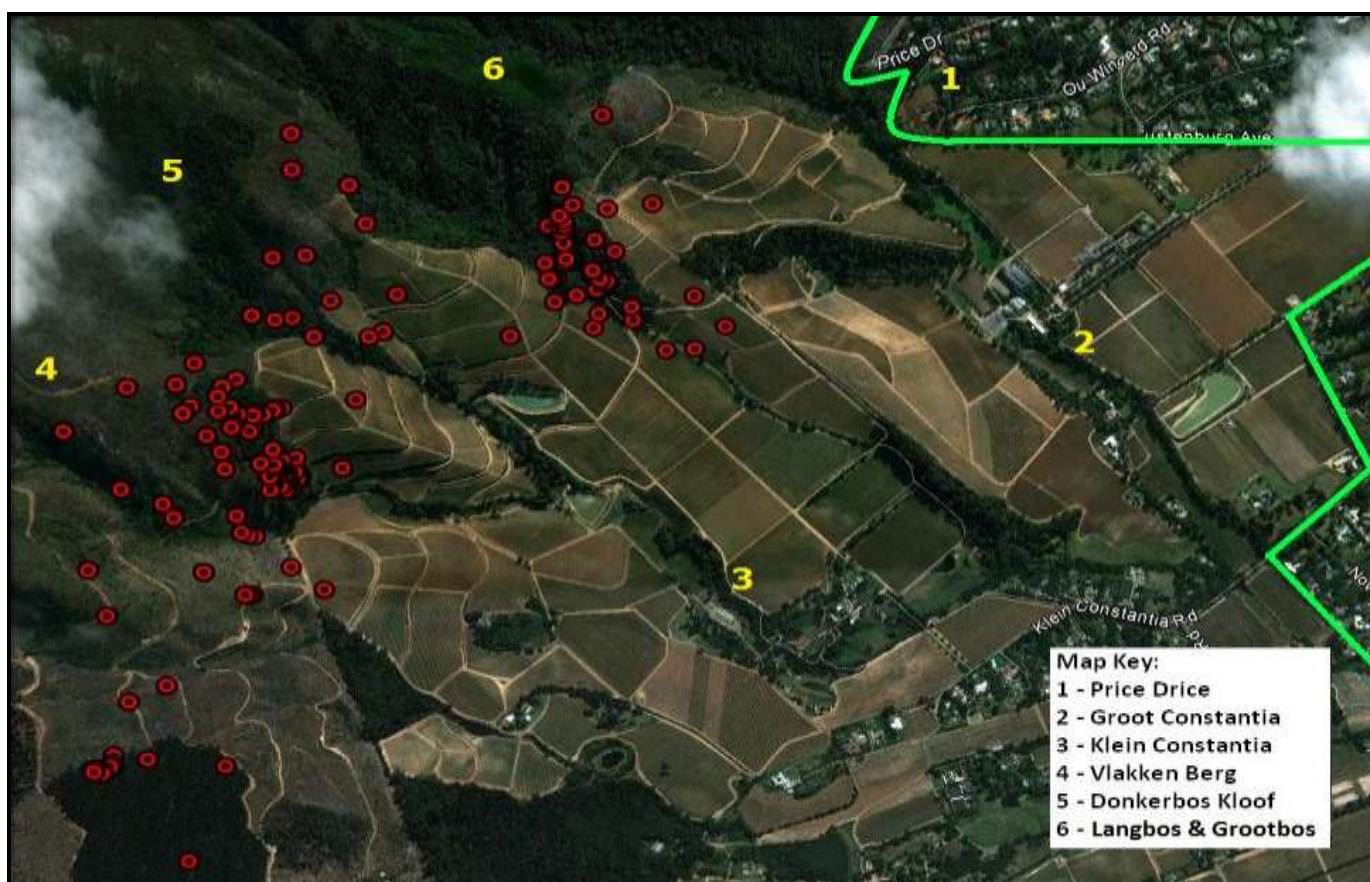


Figure 17: TK13 GPS collar data representing spatial ranging of the Constantia troop from 26 January 2013 to 22 February 2013



The Klein Constantia monitors have been successful thus far in keeping the troop on SANParks land more often than on the farm and a proposed record yield is expected this year. It's interesting to note that as the troop encounters solid resistance from monitors on the boundary, they sometimes split up into smaller groups. This is similar to the tactics rebels use in guerrilla warfare.

On the 5th of February 2013, one of the rangers noticed an immobile female baboon on Klein Constantia land and reported on it at around 10h00. On arrival, HWS was informed that she had been attacked by males a few moments earlier. The Klein Constantia monitors mentioned that the troop would not move from the thicket for the past two days where the female had been lying which could indicate that she had been in this state for at least 24 hours prior. Dr Currie was called in to assess the situation and it was initially decided to allow nature to run its course and see if the baboon recovered. A ranger was stationed in close proximity to the baboon to monitor its condition every hour.

The following day the baboon had only moved five metres from where it had been on the previous day. After consultation between them Dr Currie and Dr Jordan decided to euthanize the animal as she was very gaunt, had very little body weight and looked very old. HWS subsequently delivered the body to Alphen Veterinary Clinic where tests were to be carried out.

The troop roosted predominantly behind the Klein Constantia vineyard, alternating between their roosting sites at Grootbos Kloof and Donkerbos Kloof. The high number of adult males in the troop is still a concern as it leads to increased incidents of internal fighting and leaves the troop susceptible to the formation of splinter troops and the increased probability of males dispersing away from the troop.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																														
BABOON TROOP:		Constantia		1	In urban area					4	Attacking pets					7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing															
				2	Raid bins					5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle					8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property															
				3	Non malicious damage					6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																					
MONTH: February		YEAR: 2013																														
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL		
TK19	M																												8	1		
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS						
Males	0.00																												0	0.00		
Troop	0.00																													0.00		
Roost:	AM	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4			
Roost:	PM	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4			
Roost Sites					1	Castle										2	Klein Constantia										3	Dead Trees K.C				
					4	Behind Klein Constantia										5	Gumtrees on Constantia															
ID Features of Baboons					TK19 - Tagged Red/White.																											
General remarks					Due to the grapes coming into season on the vineyards, was the troop's attention focused on raiding the vineyards and thus they disregarded P TK19 damaged a vehicle on Table Mountain National Park land.																											

Fig. 18. Raid Sheet: Constantia Troop.



3. Ghost / Mountain Troop.

Due to the lack of water higher up on the mountain, this troop shifted its spatial ranging lower down in the foothills. The troop tended to favour the area at the back of Buitenverwachting and the Chrysalis rugby field. This has resulted in them occasionally raiding the Buitenverwachting vineyard, but as this troop is skittish around people, it responds well to the two monitors which are employed by Buitenverwachting.

As the grapes are now coming into season and there is the presence of two irrigation dams on the property, it is understandable that this troop ventures into the vineyard for food and water.

TK36 is still the alpha male of the troop and it seems that he and TK3 (recently demoted by TK36 as alpha), have formed a coalition as they are leading and scouting for the troop as a cohesive unit. The troops daily movements seem to be affected by the presence of the neighbouring troops because they tend to avoid conflict with these larger troops.

Births and Deaths

There have been three births in the northern region this month – two in the Constantia troop and one in the mountain troop. There was one death, which as the very old Constantia female found dying in the vineyards. She was given humane euthanasia.

Recommendations

Human-baboon conflict in the lower reaches of the TMNP foothills of Tokai could potentially be reduced if, in summer, baboons had access to water higher up the mountain where they have much less contact with humans.

Waste management throughout the Tokai region continues to be a problem. Staff from various official bodies have been seen feeding baboons in this region, so the temporary allocation of a CapeNature law enforcement officer to this region may be an option. Improved signage informing the public not to feed baboons in the SANParks, Porter Estate and Chrysalis Academy areas should also help to alleviate the ongoing conflict in these areas.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

The managed population of baboons continues to grow and now stands at 365. This month there were five births but, like last month, the majority of births were in the Tokai /Constantia region where the access to human food is greatest. Once again we had two deaths. Humane euthanasia was administered to one very old female on her last legs in Constantia, and the alpha female from the Smitswinkel Bay troop has disappeared suspected dead. It is possible that she got caught in the fighting between the adult males or was defending her infant, because now SWB3 is constantly carrying or helping the motherless baby which is estimated to be about 6-8 months old.

Another approximately 2 year old juvenile is also often seen in attendance with SWB3, so it is possible that it is the older sibling of the baby and was also fathered by the old male.

Population Data for the Eleven Managed Troops on the Cape Peninsula					
	Dec 2012	Jan 2013	February 2013		
TROOP	Total	Total	Births	Deaths	TOTAL
Da Gama Main	42	42	1		43
Da Gama Small	12	12			12
Smitswinkel Bay	23	23		1	22
Waterfall	28	28			28
Groot Olifantsbos	19	19			19
Misty Cliffs Splinter	18	18			18
Slangkop	33	34	1		35
Zwaanswyk Splinter	25	28			28
Tokai	61	62			62
Ghost / Mountain	33	35	1		36
Constantia	60	61	2	1	62
TOTAL	354	362	5	2	365

Figure 19: Population data for the eleven troops of the managed population of the Cape Peninsula.

Hotline Data

The trends for the hotline calls this month are similar to last month, except for the fact that Kommetjie has almost fallen off the map as a result of the Slangkop troop having been moved back to the Ocean View and Compass Bakery sleepsites. This alone has hugely reduced the total number of hotline calls.

Another very significant factor in helping to reduce baboon raids, and hence hotline calls, was the unseasonal rains we had this month (see below). Last month we pointed out how important access to human food was to handicapped animals, and that three legged animals were, almost by definition, obligate raiders and were primarily responsible for leading raids into the urban areas. This trend has continued this month with MCF1, often accompanied by a lactating mother with a young infant, leading raids into Scarborough on almost a daily basis.

Almost half of all hotline calls (74 calls) this month came from Scarborough (30 calls).

Another factor which is becoming increasingly evident as being a primary force responsible for raiding by baboons, is water. Access to water, particularly during the hot dry summer months, is obligatory for baboons. Therefore, if they cannot find water out of town, they **WILL** come to town to find it and almost nothing will stop them.

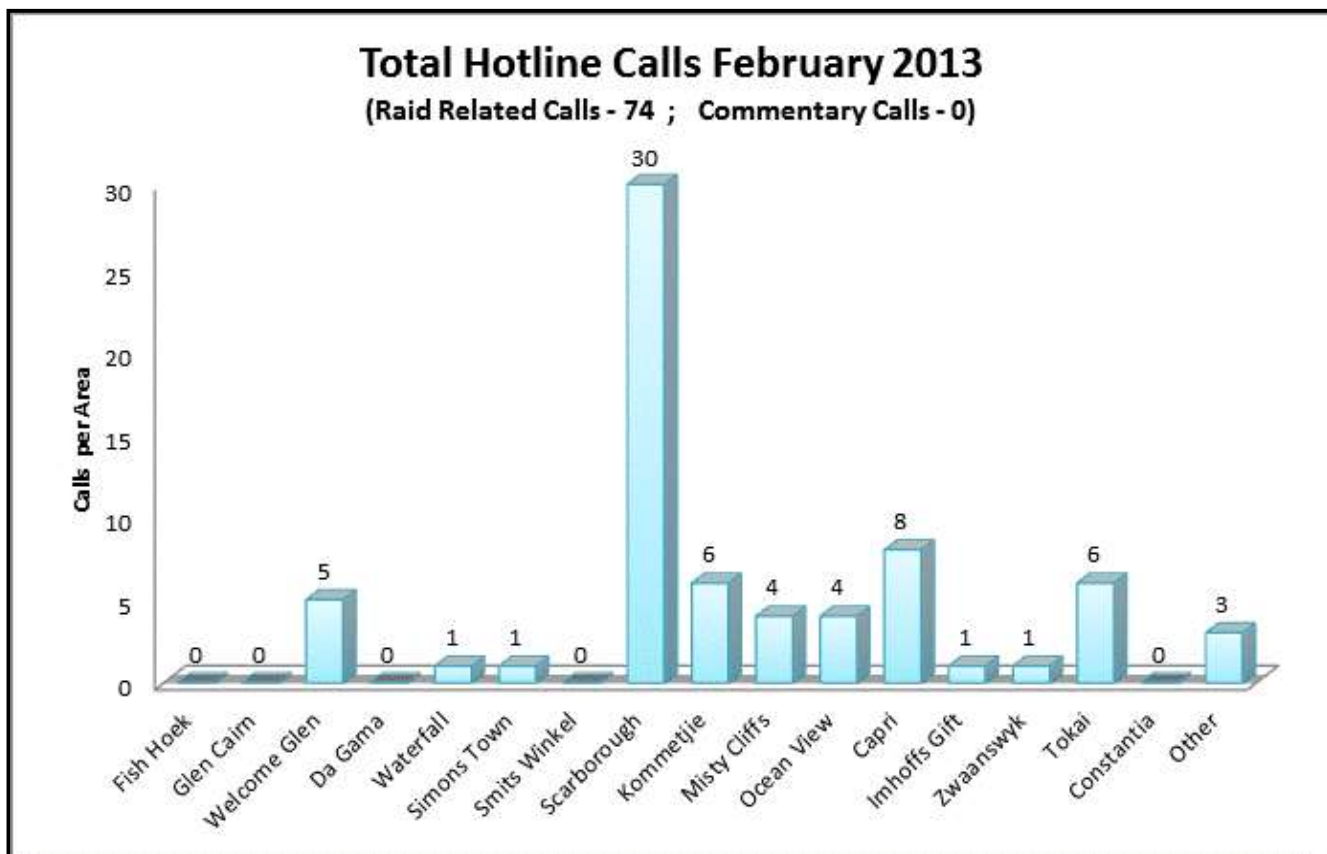


Figure 20 : Hotline Call Report Per Area – February 2013.

There is a strong inverse correlation between raids and access to water. On days after rain had fallen or when the baboons had access to water, they did not raid. When the baboons' only access to water was in town, they would not give up in trying to go there, and once they were in town they would drink and then raid.

Our success with paintball markers to date has not been so much in moving baboons out of town, but in keeping them out of town and not allowing them back into town. Without a very large buffer area and/or many more rangers, this task becomes almost impossible if the baboons are very thirsty and their only source of water is in town. It is for this reason that we very strongly recommend water tanks being provided to all baboon troops which do not have easy access to water out of the urban areas.

The importance of water can also be inferred from Fig. 21 (below) which shows the number of hotline calls recorded per month over most of the last two years. For both years there is a trend towards the most number of calls being recorded in the hot dry summer months.

Our data for February 2013 may well have been much higher had we not had two unusually large falls of rain for this time of year.

This month, as in the previous six months, we have managed to keep all the baboon troops (and males) out of town at least 85% of the time. All troops, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs splinter troop (88%), were kept out of town 98% of the time or more.

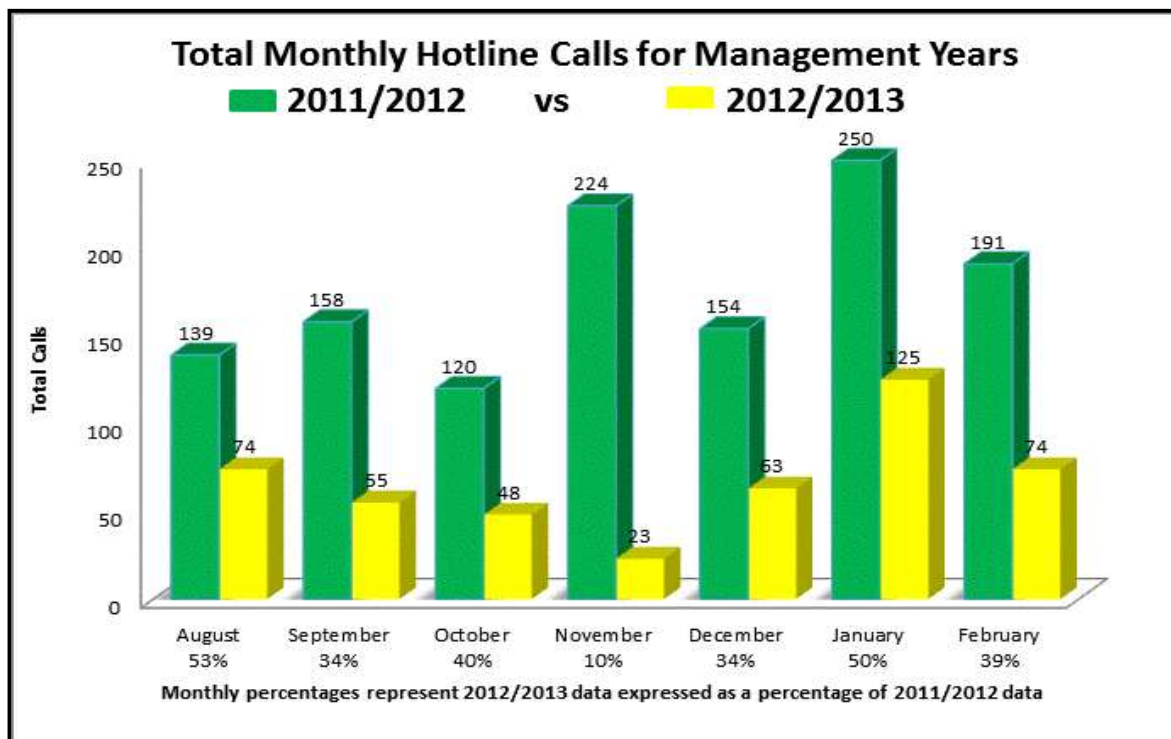


Figure 21: Total Monthly Hotline Calls for Management Years

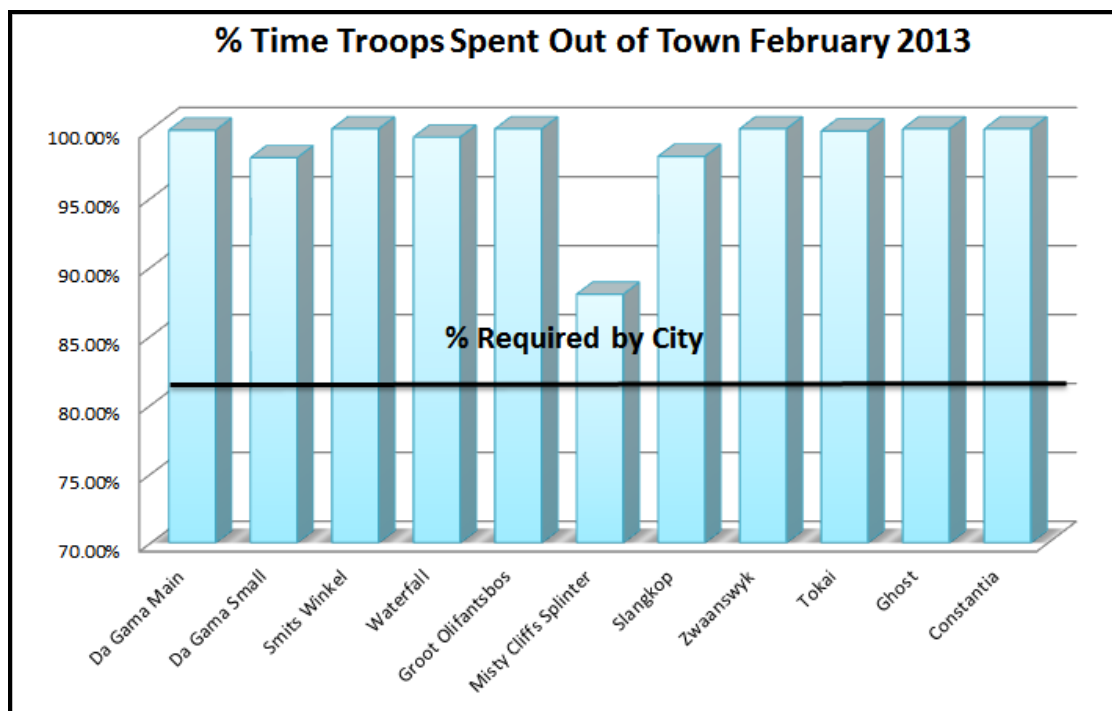


Figure 22. Percentage Time Troops Spent Out Of Town – February 2013

The types of raids reported on hotline calls are very similar this month to last month, except this month there are many more bin raids (Fig. 23). The reason for this is not obvious.

It is still pleasing to note that baboons in town (but not raiding) accounts for 65% of all calls, and combined with bin raids these account for 81% of all calls. It is still not acceptable that 18% of all

calls are for baboons raiding occupied houses. As in the case of last month, this is largely because of the bad behaviour of a few known individuals and also because the Da Gama main troop has recently discovered Ocean View where the residents are not used to baboons raiding town.

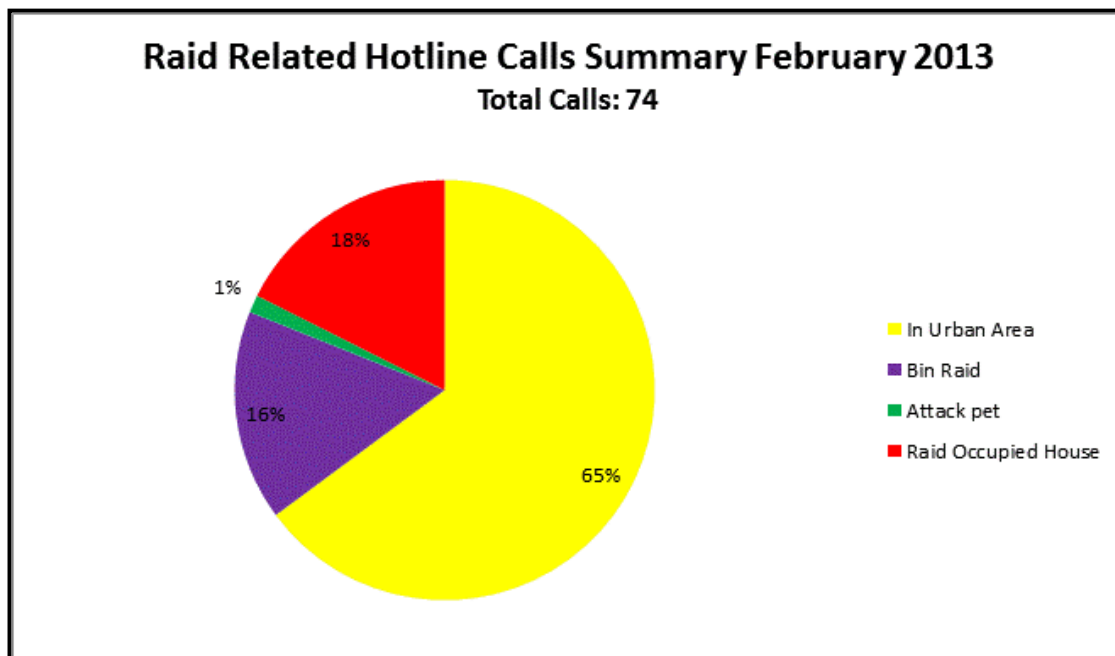


Figure 23: Hotline Calls Summary – February 2013

General Summary

Probably our most significant observation this month is the importance of access to water to baboons during the hot dry summer months. Without having water available in either the TMNP or on private land, the baboons are bound to move into the urban area to find water, and invariably once they are there, they will raid.

Another feature of this season is that it is now a peak fruiting season with grapes and figs being hugely abundant. Now baboons need to be kept well out of town, because once they are in the urban area they have many options of places to visit to find fruit.

As a late **PS**, we have now analysed all the data for where the Slangkop troop drank and raided during February, and we are pleased to note that the troop has started using the recently provided water tank below the Compass Bakery Sleepsite. It drank there for the last three days of February (not officially part of this report) and thereafter **DID NOT RAID** in town. The buffer zone here is large enough to enable our rangers to push the baboons back into the park before they can move to town. On every other occasion when the baboons drank near town (as opposed to drinking rain water) they proceeded to raid immediately thereafter. Therefore our initial results suggest that the installation of this new water tank has been highly successful and we strongly promote the provision of water tanks for other affected troops.



Given the hugely reduced availability of food and water in the fynbos at this time of year, the dependence of handicapped animals on human derived food has remained a prominent feature of raiding behaviour, with MCF1 (Misty Cliffs) and SK2 (Slangkop) being the two worst offenders.

We are now updating the population data for the managed baboon troops of Cape Town on a monthly basis. This should help to preclude problems from the past whereby there was often uncertainty with regards to the status of the baboon population and whether it was increasing or declining.

Although only two months have past since the population figures were released by Esme Beamish, we already seem to have a trend that the population is continuing to grow. It has grown from 354 at the end of 2012, to a total of 365 at the end of February (a 3.1% increase in 2 months). This trend is not likely to continue through the winter months.

Dr. Philip Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions