



Baboon Management Cape Town



Photo: Dr Phil Richardson

Monthly Report

For October 2013



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A. INTRODUCTION

This month's report covers the four week period from 28 September to 25 October 2013. Although this is the best time of year to manage baboons because the soil is wet and the air is warm, thus providing ideal conditions for plant growth, there are three notable points worth mentioning at the top of this report:

- i) HWS have set a record this month because the managed troops have, on average, been kept out of the urban area for 99.45% of the time (8/10 troops for 100% of time).
- ii) Another record is that there were **NO** hotline calls from either Scarborough or Misty Cliffs, which traditionally have been two of the areas worst hit by baboons over the past 10 years. The troops that raid here have both been out of town for 100% of the time.
- iii) The third point, is that the two Da Gama troops are still operating as one troop, and by the end of the month had been sleeping out of town at a totally new sleepsites for well over a week. This is another first since these troops moved to Da Gama about 5 years ago.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region (Ziggy Rode)

1. Smitswinkel Troop

October 2013 has been another good month in the Smitswinkel Bay area. In contrast with October 2012 where twenty-six incidents alone were recorded involving males, this year there were only seven incidents in total, of which three were raids and four were simply reports of baboons being in the urban area. Total time spent in the urban area by the troop was only 0.17% for the reporting period.

The three recorded incidents involved SWB1 stealing food from picnickers at the Miller's Point picnic area on 29 September, another incident on 17 October when an old female baboon stole bread from a staff member at the Black Marlin Restaurant, and the third incident when an unidentified male raided an occupied cottage above the boat launch area.

On 6 October a female was seen carrying a dead infant. She carried it for several days, then the carcass disappeared.



Figure.1. (A) and (B) Female carrying dead infant.

A few months ago several incidents of feeding were recorded as taking place along the Smitswinkel Bay route. During the last month, however, there has been little evidence of feeding and the situation seems to be under control once again.

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: October																															

Figure.2. Smitswinkel Bay Troop Raid Sheet

2. Waterfall Troop

The management strategy for the Waterfall Troop has changed over the last few months and the troop is now actively being pushed up to the top of the mountain and encouraged to utilise a significantly larger area – this can be seen highlighted in green on the map below (Figure.3). Prior to May 2013 the troop used the area highlighted in red, which indicates that they relied heavily on human derived food as this foraging area was limited by the residential spread and steep cliffs around the Barracks.

However, there are still several habitual raiders within the troop that are constantly enticed back into the urban area, mainly around the Waterfall Barracks where there is poor waste management. These raiding individuals come down from the mountain either late afternoon or

early evening when the rangers have left the area, or they come down very early in the morning and are already in the area before the rangers arrive. As these raiders are almost always rewarded and able to gain access to waste or food at the Naval flats (where there is easy access through open windows without burglar bars), it is clearly worth the risk of leaving the troop to raid.

The majority of the troop spends most of the time foraging in the natural vegetation and when they sleep at the SANDF sleep site, the troop rarely enters the urban area. Only RH2 raids around the SANDF sleep site which he does by entering the Ammunition Depot despite being shocked by the electric fence. However, rangers are able to push him out within ten minutes.

The troop mainly utilizes four sleep sites, of which three are on top of the mountain. The SANDF sleep site is currently the best suited as it is far away from the urban area. The Zwartkop Caves area has become significantly more difficult to manage as the raiders have discovered that they can run down onto Victory Road and enter the urban area from there rather easily. On 6 October, the troop was left at the Zwartkop Mountain at 7pm however, shortly thereafter a resident in Victory Road called the hotline to inform HWS that the entire troop was on the road. The rangers then returned but found the troop was already at the Waterfall Barracks from where they pushed the troop up to the sleep site, leaving the area just before 8pm. As a result, the rangers attempt to get the troop to utilize the SANDF sleep site more often. The raiding behaviour can only be curbed if there is no access to food or waste for the troop or raiding individuals.

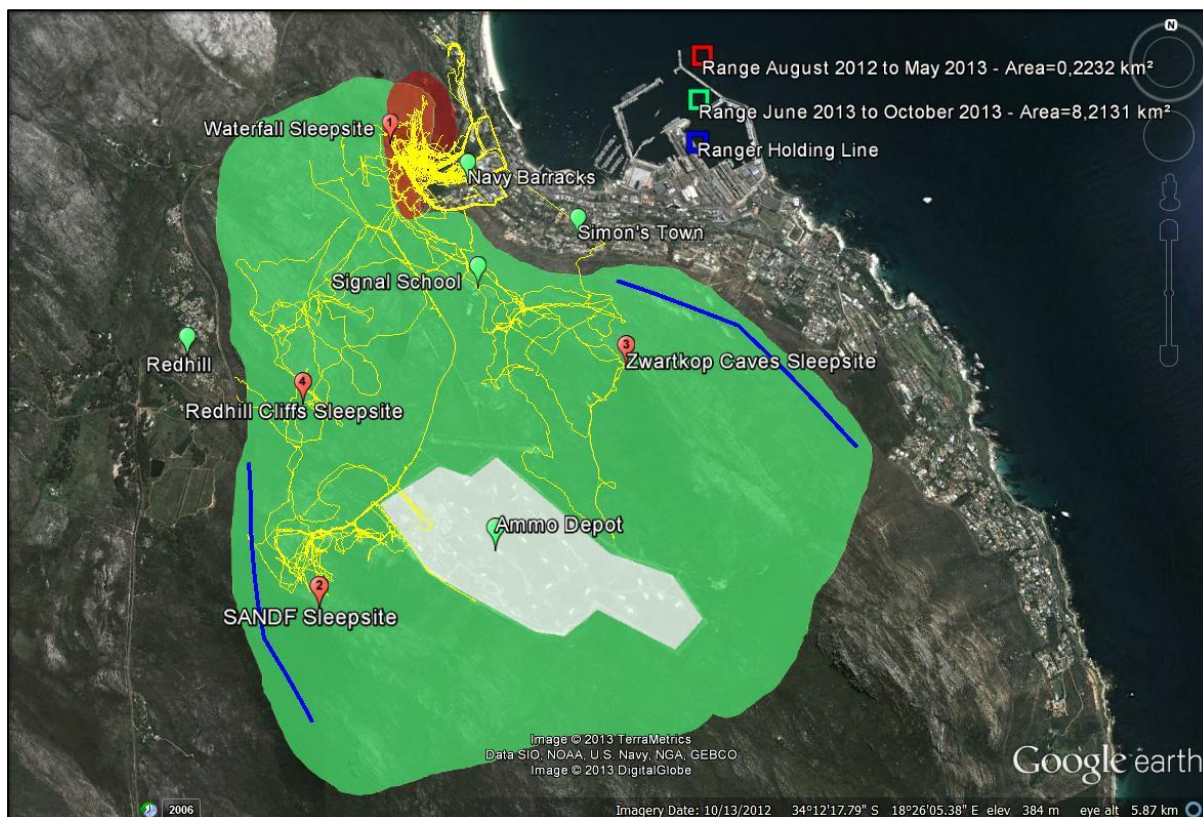


Figure.3. Home range use of the Waterfall Troop, including sleep sites and actively managed lines.



HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																	
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
SE		1 In urban area												4 Attacking pets												7 Threatening behaviour /attack/stealing food							
BABOON TROOP: Waterfall		2 Raid bins												5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle												8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property							
MONTH: October		3 Non malicious damage												6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																			
BABOON ID	Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL			
WF2	M			1				1	2	1		2										2		1						7			
UnID Females	F	2		1						1	2	2															1			6			
TROOP		1	2		1					1													1							5			
RH2	M	1					2	1		1	2																1		1	7			
UnID Juveniles										1		2																1		3			
UnID Male	M									1														1						1			
UnID Individuals								1		1		2																		3			
	%																													HRS			
Troop	0.4	5	25		5					15													5							0.92			
Females/Individuals	1.0	30					20			15	20	40															10			2.42			
Males	1.8	90		10			5	40	15	15	30	20										15	15			5		10		4.50			
Roost:	AM	2	1, 4	1	3	9	10	10	2	2	1	2	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	2	10	10	10	2	10				
Roost:	PM	1	1	3	9	10	10	2	2	1	2	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	2	10	10	10	10	10	10				
Roost Sites		1 Waterfall Cliff								2 Happy Valley Mnt								3 Signal School/Zwartkop								4 Waterfall Barracks				5 Mountain Residents side			
		6 Admiral footpath								7 Not found								8 Happy Valley Home								9 Red Hill				10 SANDF			
ID Features of Baboons		WF2 - yellow&blue tag. RH2- double yellow tags + collar, adult male																															
General remarks		06/10 - Troop came down the Mountain at 19:05 when rangers had already left.																															

Figure.4. Waterfall Troop Raid Sheet

3. Da Gama Troop

From 28 September until 1 October the percentage of time spent in town by male baboons was quite significant and was mainly due to one dispersing male, DG7, spending a large amount of time in the urban area. It is however suspected that he was enticed into the urban area through deliberate feeding by a resident, and there were several reports received by the baboon hotline advising of DG7's presence in Glen Alpine Road, Welcome Glen.

DG7 became increasingly difficult to manage over the last few months with the worst months being September and October. The fact that he was a dispersing male exacerbated the difficulty in managing him as each time he was pushed back to the troop, fighting ensued between SK3 and DG7 which resulted in him being pushed out of the troop again, and he always seemed to retreat back to Glen Alpine Road. As a result and following WAC approval, DG7 was euthanased.

For the first time, on 18 September, the troop slept at the KL sleep site. This was a breakthrough for management as it suggested that the troop was able to sleep in the mountain areas where there are no high cliffs. Subsequently the troop has started sleeping at two additional sleep sites in the mountain and, as of 18 October, the troop has been sleeping at the new Maylands sleep site. During the first days spent at the new sleep site, a few raiding individuals, led by DG11, split away from the troop and headed into Simon's Town, and on 24 October, DG11 led twenty-three baboons into Simon's Town. Subsequently rangers have set up two lines in the mornings and evenings which prevent the troop from heading into Da Gama Park and Simon's Town. This has, so far, successfully prevented the baboons from raiding the urban area and they spend their time in the natural vegetation around Kleinplaas Dam.

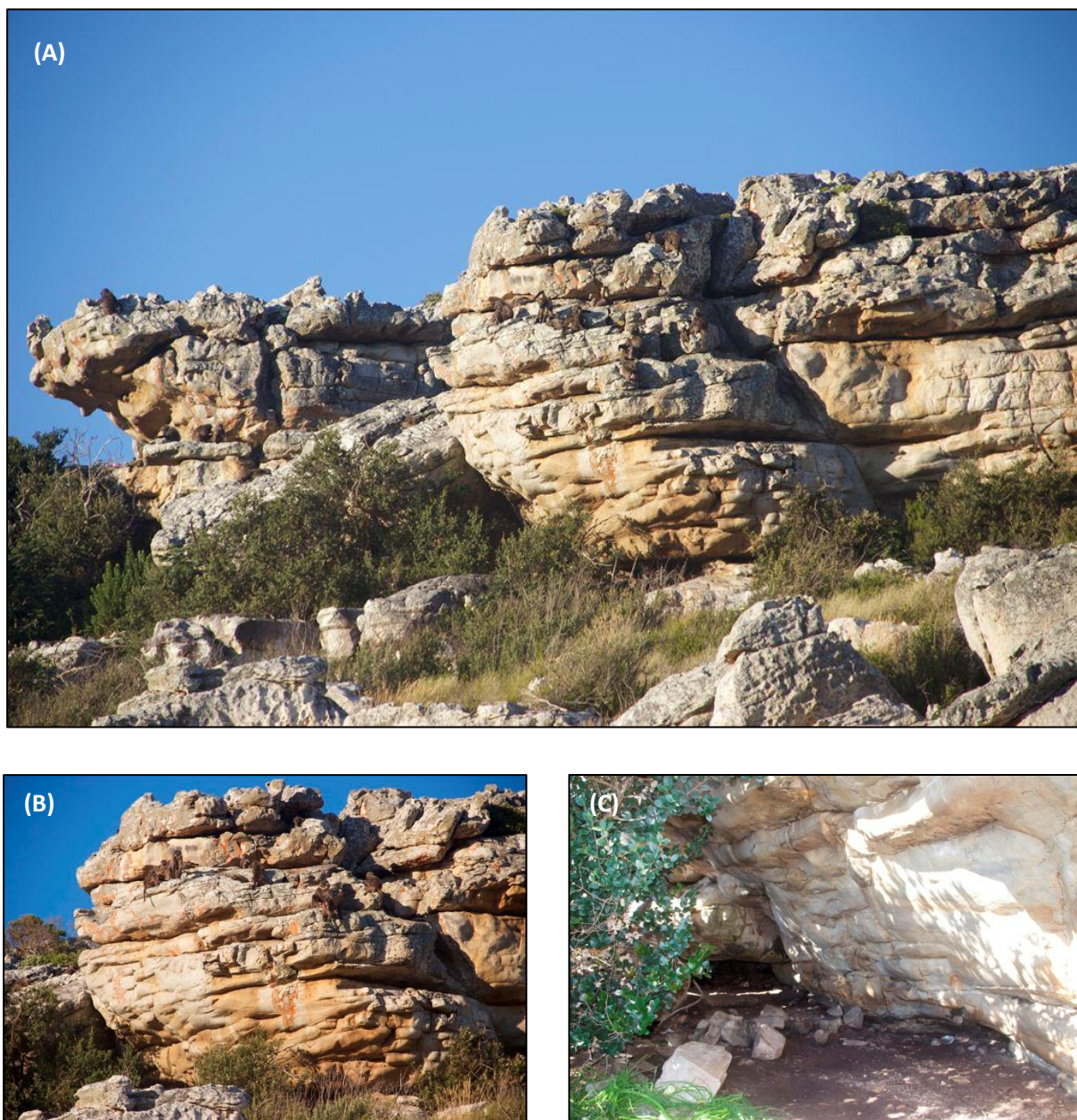


Figure.5. (A) and (B) Maylands sleep site at Kleinplaas Dam. (C) Cave entrance at ground level of Maylands sleep site.

Since HWS took over the management of the Da Gama Troop, the troop's home range has changed on several occasions. In the map below (Figure 6.), the area highlighted in red is that used predominantly before and leading up to August 2012. As the troops were pushed out of town they starting using the area highlighted in yellow, and from there the Big Troop (BT) was pushed into the area highlighted in blue. However, despite several attempts, the Small Troop (ST) refused to follow suit. The BT later returned to Da Gama Park in June, and at the beginning of July the two troops merged and returned to the area highlighted in yellow. From 18 October onwards they have been using the area highlighted in orange which is around the Kleinplaas Dam, and they sleep at the Maylands sleep site. During the last few days in October no raids were recorded.

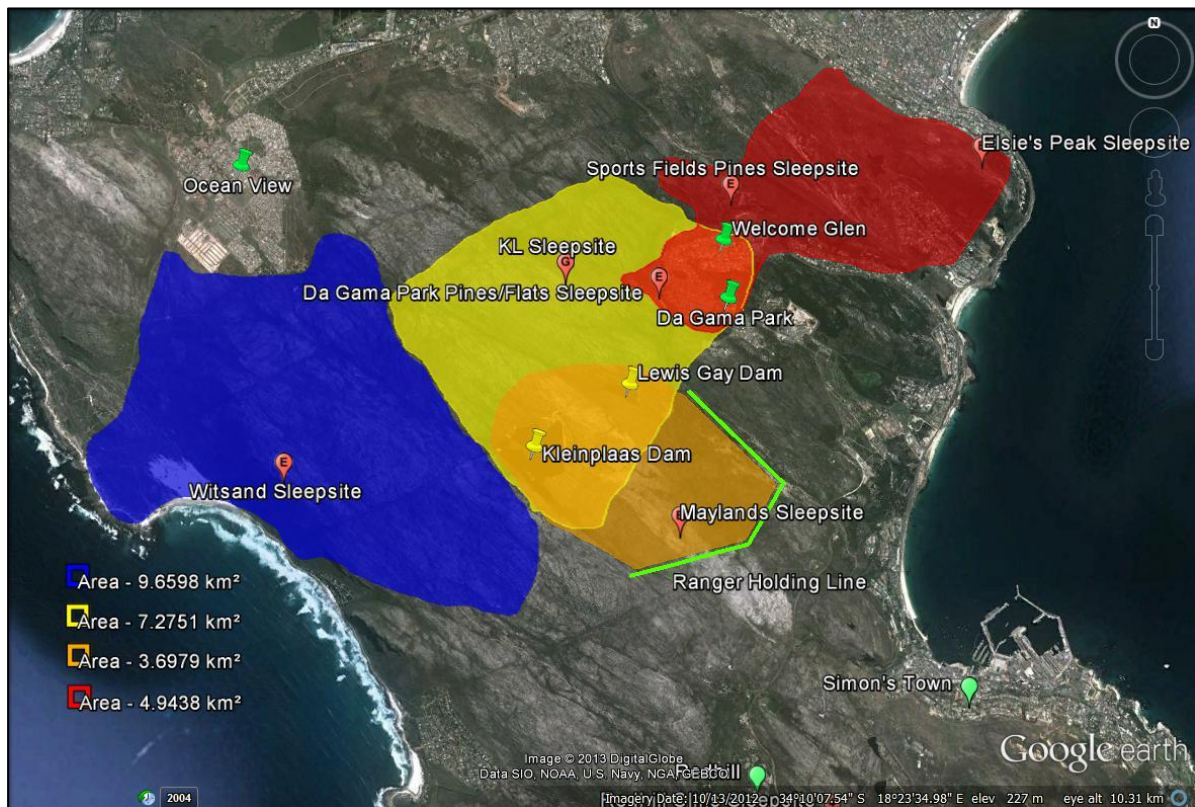


Figure.6. Home range use from August 2012 to October 2013.

This therefore suggests that, through proactive management, the use of suitable sleep sites, water availability and the correct placements of the management lines, it is possible to keep the entire troop out of the urban area 100% of the time and it is hoped that, as the troop becomes more accustomed to staying out of town, the time spent out of town will increase.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																															
SECTOR SOUTH EAST					CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																										
					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: October					3	Non malicious damage					6	Raid occupied house or vehicle					9	Nocturnal Raiding													
BABOON ID	Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
Troop		2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1		1		2	1				2	2		2										14
SK3	M	2																			2										2
DG1	M	2	2					1				2	2			2	2				2										8
DG7	M	6	1	1	1																										4
DG10	M	2																						1			1				3
DGF1	F	2															2														2
DGF2	F	2						1																							2
Sub-adult Male	M											2									2	1			1		1				5
UnID Females	F					2		1							1		2							1			1				6
UnID Female	F											1																			1
UnID Juvs																									1			1			2
UnID Juvenile																															0
UnID Males	M					1		1		6				2		2	2							1				1			8
		%																										HRS			
Troop	4.9	85	65	95	180	50	30	10	60		55		15	20				120	120		35										15.67
Individuals	7.7	210	65	95	180	55	30	35	60		55	55	10	35	10			180	120	120	45					120					24.67
Males	13.1	210	90	750	345	55	30	65	60	85	55	55	40			30	195	120	120		90	10			120						42.08
Roost:	AM	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	3	1	3	1	1	3	1,2	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	1,18	17	19	17	17	17	1	17
Roost:	PM	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	3		18	18	3	1,2	2	1	2	18	3	17	1	1,18	17	19	17	17	1	17	17
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 Witsand					12 Slangkop					13 Platkop					14 Rasta Camp					15 Ocean View									
		16 KL sleep site					17 Maylands					18 Elsie's River Valley					19 Red Hill Pines														
ID Features of Baboons		DG1: Collar + blue & yellow tags; DG7: red cable tie; DG10: Collar + white tags SK3: Collar + green & yellow tags, DGF1: collar + blue & white tags																													
General remarks																															



Births and Deaths

On 1 October 2013, DG7 was euthanized in Da Gama.

On 6 October 2013, a female from the Smitswinkel troop was seen carrying a dead infant.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Education and awareness of the public needs to persist, even in areas where the baboons are no longer in town. The aim is that baboon proofing will continue to be implemented which will then ensure that troops are not enticed back into town through poor waste management.

Law enforcement needs to be applied along the Smitswinkel and Plateau Road route, especially with the upcoming festive season and the increase in traffic along those routes.

Waste management continues to need urgent attention especially at Da Gama Park flats and Waterfall Barracks. It is requested that the Navy enforces their eviction policy when residents do not adhere to the rules and regulations of the flats by dumping refuse on top of bins. A concerted effort also needs to be made to clean up litter around the Waterfall Barracks and Da Gama Park riverine area.

Baboon proofing of the windows at the renovated flats at the Waterfall Barracks needs to be addressed especially with hot summer months approaching when windows will be left open.

South Western Region (Nick Shaw)

1. Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop

During the month of October the GOB troop has remained in the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) Reserve. On the evening of the 5 October, the troop crossed Plateau Rd and slept in the pines at the Red Hill Roost Site. The following morning the rangers pushed the troop back into the Reserve.

No raids were recorded, and at no time during the month of October did the GOB troop enter Scarborough.

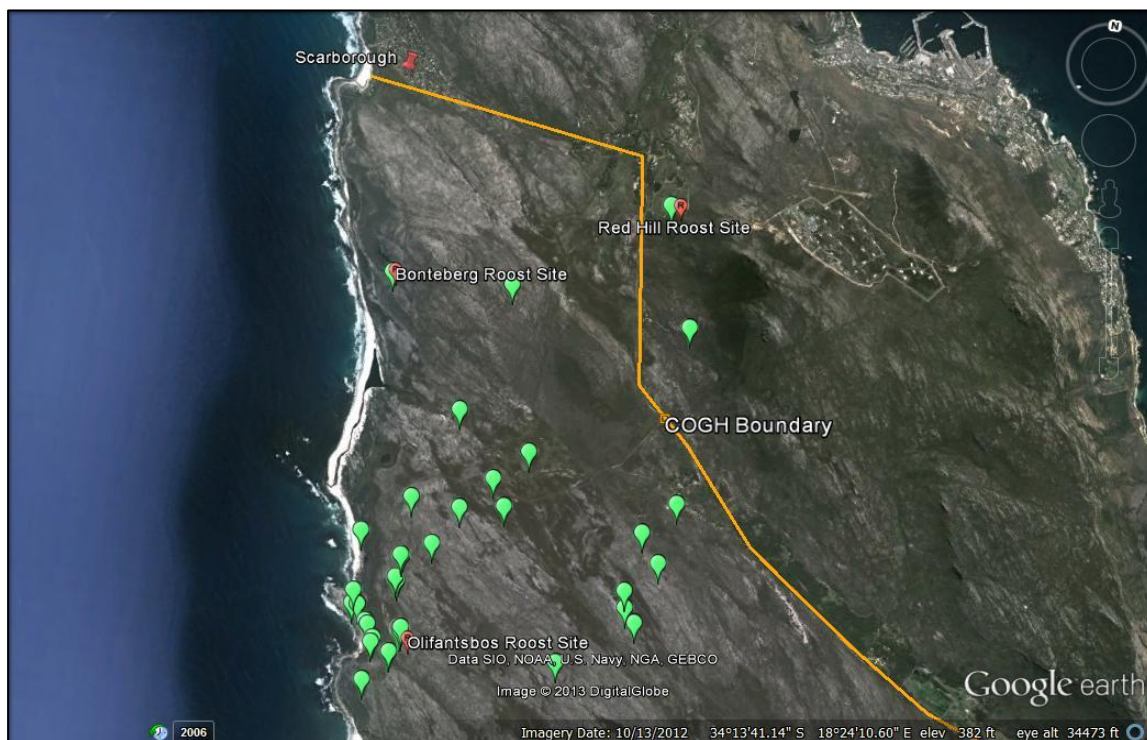


Figure 8: Roost sites and GPS points for the GOB troop - October 2013

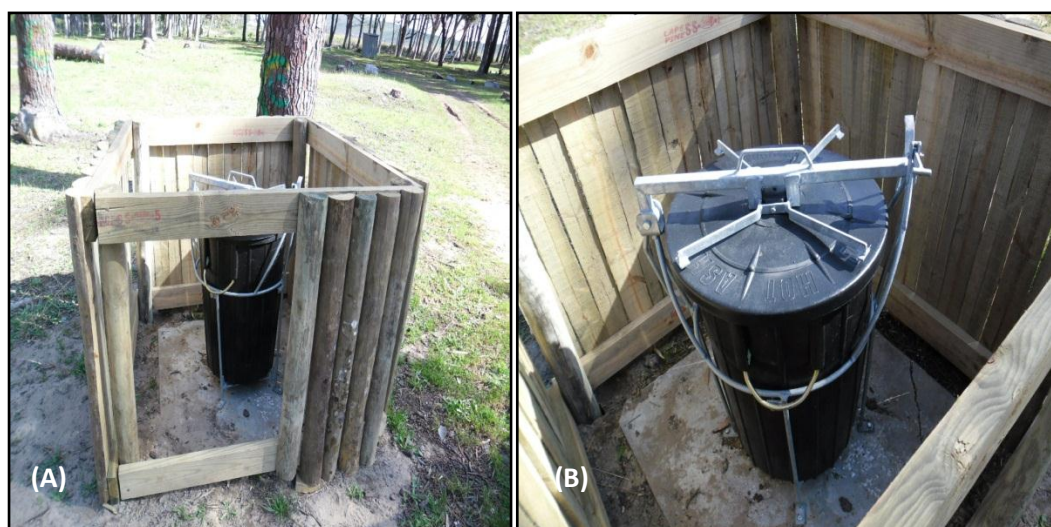


Figure 9: (A) and (B) Newly installed baboon-proof bins at Red Hill Picnic Area

Comments and Observations

Special mention must be made of the fantastic effort by SANParks in the timeous installation of baboon-proof bins at the Red Hill picnic site. The new bins can be seen in the photograph above (Figure 9).

2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop

The Misty Cliffs troop has remained at the Bonteberg roost site in the CoGH Reserve for the whole of the month of October.

During this time, GOB5 broke away from the troop on six separate occasions to enter Scarborough. For all but one of these raids GOB5 was in the urban area for less than an hour before returning to the troop in the Reserve. On three of these raids GOB5 was accompanied by a single female.

September Raids:

On 12 October, GOB5 broke a window to gain access to a house in Rooibok Rd.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																														
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																										
BABOON TROOP:		Misty Cliffs		1	In urban area				4	Attacking pets				7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food															
MONTH: October		YEAR: 2013		2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property															
				3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																				
BABOON ID	Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL
GOB5	M		2		2				2	2						8,6							1,2							6
Unidentified female	F				2				2	2																				3
Troop																														
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS				
Troop	0.0																													0
Males & Females	1.5		45		60				20	90						45							45							3h05
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	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																										
General remarks				There were two births recorded for this month																										

Figure 10: Raid Sheet for Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop - October 2013



Figure 11: Window broken by GOB5 to gain access to house

Comments and Observations

The Misty Cliffs troop did not enter Scarborough at all during the month of October. However, GOB5 continues to break away from the troop to enter the urban area. Easy access to human-derived food, especially as a result of negligent composting and unsecured bins, as well as access to houses continue to be the major attractants to this individual. The troop seems to be more at ease in the Reserve and on a few occasions during the month, have ventured further into the Reserve to forage in 'Die Mond' area.

3. Slangkop Troop

During the month of September, the troop has moved between the C2 and C3 roost sites. The troop has not raided the urban area this month, although three to four individual animals have entered urban areas on a number of occasions. Following WAC approval, SK5 was euthanised this month.

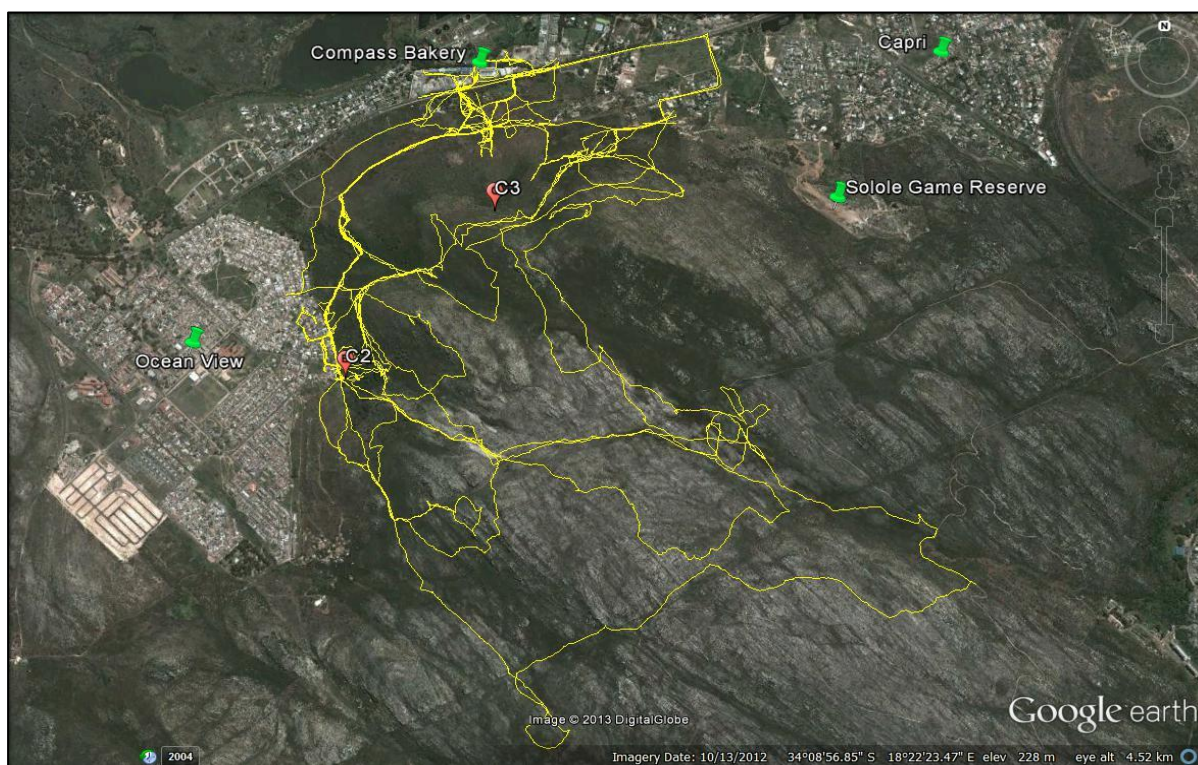


Figure 12: Slangkop Troop Data Logger Tracks - October 2013

September Raids:

On 10 October, DG6 and one female raided an unoccupied house behind 'Rodger's Fruiterers' in Capri.

All other raids this month were bin raids in Ocean View and at Compass Bakery and were carried out by three to four individual raiders.

Comments and Observations

Although the troop has been prevented from raiding the urban areas this month, there are still a couple of problem animals that continue to raid on their own. The three females that were part of the original TK5 split in the troop, and the alpha, DG6, are responsible for all of the raids that took place this month. These three females raided with TK5 and subsequently with SK2 and SK5. Soon after the removal of SK5, DG6 killed the juvenile offspring of two of these females in quick succession. This could be DG6's attempt to assert his dominance over these females and this could also be the reason for him subsequently following these females on raids, which he has never done before.



CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
SECTOR																															
BABOON TROOP:		Slangkop		1		In urban area		4		Attacking pets		7		Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																	
MONTH: October		YEAR: 2013		2		Raid bins		5		Raid unoccupied house or vehicle		8		Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																	
				3		Non malicious damage		6		Raid occupied house or vehicle																					
BABOON ID		Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL
DG6		M							2	2					5	2					2			2	2				2		8
SK5		M	2						2				2																		3
Unidentified Female		F							2	2					5	2					2			2			2		2		8
Unidentified Female		F							2	2						2					2			2				2		6	
Unidentified Female		F																			2			2				2		3	
Troop																															

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

Births and Deaths

There were two births in the Misty Cliffs troop.

There was one birth in the Slangkop troop.

There were three deaths in the Slangkop troop.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The movement of the GOB troop needs to be monitored through regular checking of the GPS collar coordinates and the troop must be prevented from utilising the Red Hill roost site as far as possible.

The strategy for the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop over the next month will be to hold them in the Reserve and prevent them from entering Scarborough and returning to the Misty Cliffs roost site. The long term goal is to condition the troop to using the C2 cliff site in the Reserve as their regular roost site.

The three raiding females in the Slangkop troop will need to be tagged so that they can be better identified when they break away from the troop to raid.

Northern Region (Nick Shaw and Ziggy Rode)

1. Tokai Main Troop

The Tokai Main Troop has moved throughout its normal home range during the month of October. The troop tends to move down to the low-lying area early in the mornings and slowly moves back up to higher elevations during the day.

The only raids in urban areas were undertaken by TK24. On four occasions this month, TK24 has left the troop to raid the urban areas across Orpen Rd and Forest Glade.

A number of males have raided areas outside the urban edge and these areas include the Chrysalis Academy, the Tokai Picnic Site, Porter Stables and Market, and Lister's Tea Room.

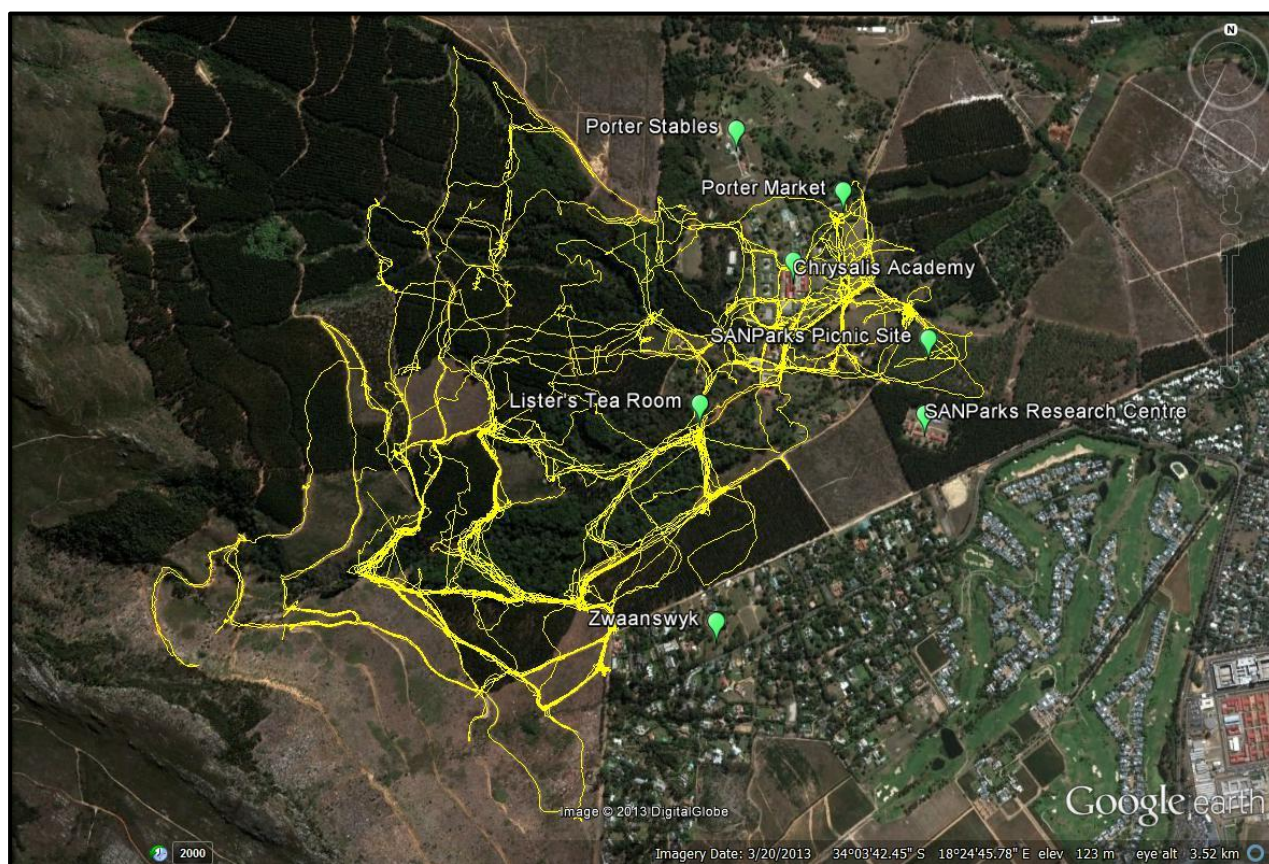


Figure 14: Tracking Data for the Tokai Troop - October 2013

October Raids:

The most serious raid occurred on 3 October when TK38 grabbed food from a woman who had purchased the food from the canteen at Chrysalis Academy.

On two other occasions an untagged male stole food off tables at the Porter Market.

Comments and Observations

The Tokai Main Troop has been prevented from raiding urban areas for the month of October. There are however raiding opportunities for the troop outside the urban areas and as a result

there are males that continually test the line held by the rangers so that they can gain access to areas where they can get human-derived foods. This is especially prevalent on weekends when the Tokai Arboretum, Lister's Tea Room and the Porter Market all see a marked increase in traffic, people and potential food sources.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																				
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
SOUTH EAST				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL							
BABOON TROOP:		Tokai Trp		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL							
MONTH: October		YEAR: 2013		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL							
Tokai Troop		M	2	1			1		2													2			1				6							
TK 24 (W-W)		M						2																					1							
TK 28 (B-G)		M																																		
TK 37 (Y-W)		M																																		
TK 38 (R)		M					7																						1							
UnID male		M																																		
UnID Sub ad male		M											6									6							2							
UnID Females		F																																		
UnID Juvenile		F																																		
TKF 1 (B-B)		F																																		
TKF 2 (Untagged)		F																																		
TKF 8 (W -W)		F																																		
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS									
Tokai Troop	0.0																												0.00							
Individuals	0.0																												0.00							
Males	1.6	120		120					60													15							5.25							
Roost:	AM	7	7	2	1	7	1	2	2	7	7	3	7	3	7	1	7	7	1	1	7	1	7	2	4	3	1	9	3							
Roost:	PM	7	1	1	3	7	2	2	4	7	7	2	6	7	1	7	7	1	1	2	9	7	2	4	3	3	9	9	4							
Roost Sites		1	Tea Garden (SS 2)										2	Level 1 (Upper tea Garden)					3	Level 2 /Clearing					4	Level 3					5	Level 4				
		6	Level 5										7	Guest house					8	Research centre					9	Upper Plantation					10	Other				
ID Features of Baboons		11											12						13						14						15					
General remarks		TK 37 tagged Yellow-White 01/10. TK 38 tagged single RED 03/10.																																		
		SS 2 denotes a different sleep site used by the TKT as they are the larger troop.																																		

Figure 15: Raid Sheet for Tokai Main Troop – October 2013

2. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop

As is evident from the tracking data presented below in Figure 16, the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop's home range overlaps the home range of the Tokai Main Troop. As a result, many of the factors influencing the Tokai Main Troop also impact on this troop.

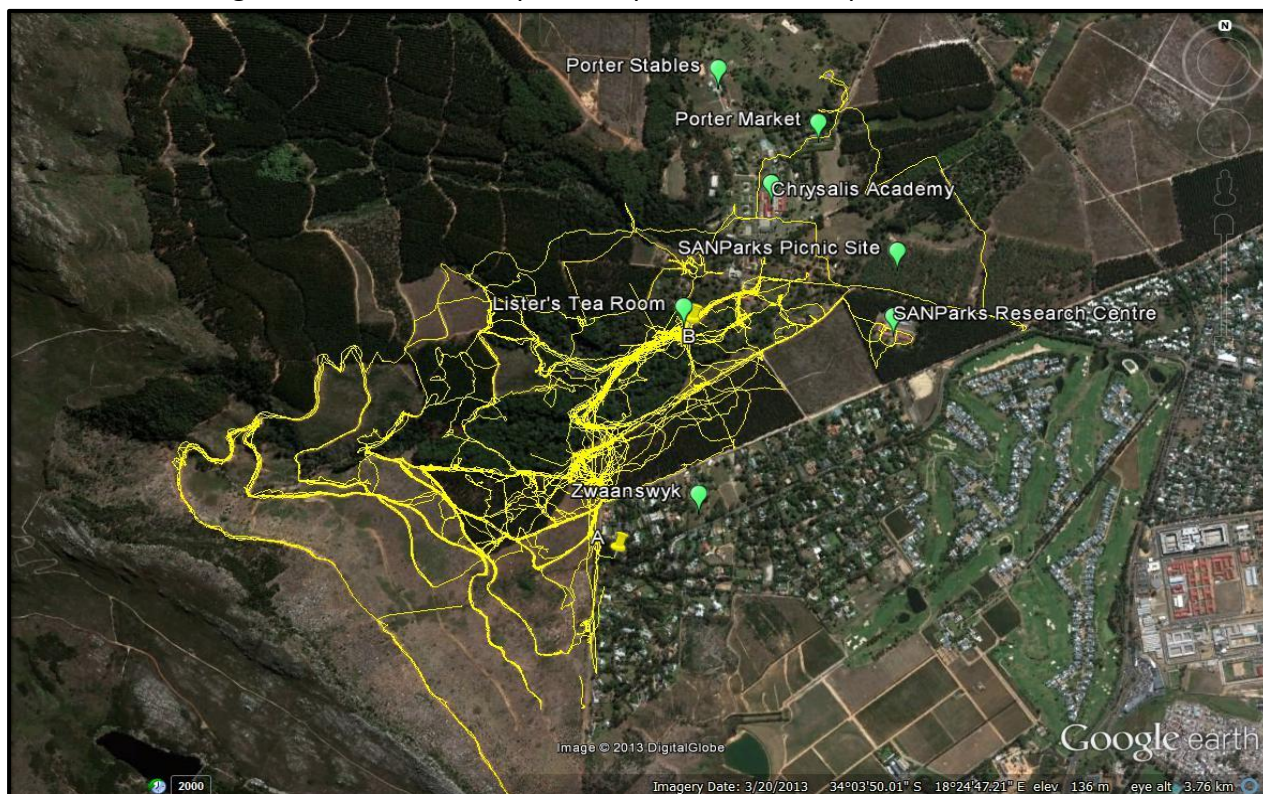


Figure 16: Tracking Data for the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop - October 2013



The biggest management challenge in respect of this troop is the weekend activity around the Tokai Arboretum and Lister's Tea Room. On one particular day the field staff reported that TK35 attempted to raid this area twelve times in succession after being chased off each time. The primary target of these attempted raids was the Lister's Tea Room.

October Raids:

All of the most serious raids this month relate to the raiding behaviour of TK35.

On 29 September, TK35 stole food from a customer at Lister's Tea Room. At the same time TKF7 grabbed food off an occupied table.

On 6 October, TK35 stole food from one of the waitrons at Lister's Tea Room. An unknown female baboon also took food off an occupied table.

Comments and Observations

As with the Tokai Main Troop, the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop manages to access human-derived foods from sources outside the urban zones. The biggest challenges remain privately owned property where the troop has historically gained access to food and where they continue to raid.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																	
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
SOUTH EAST		1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/attack/steal								
BABOON TROOP:		Zwaanswyk Trp		2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house/vehicle/table										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging prop						
MONTH: October		YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house/vehicle/table										9	Nocturnal Raiding						
BABOON ID		Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL		
Zwaanswyk Troop (ZT)																																	
TK 35 (R-Y)		M		7							7																				5		
TKF 4 (Grey)		F																															
TKF 5 (Green)		F																															
TKF 7 (Red)		F		6																											1		
Sub adult		M																															
Un-ID fem		F									6																				1		

Figure 17: Raid sheet of the Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop - October 2013

3. Constantia Troop

The Constantia Troop has spent significant time this past month on Groot Constantia as well as in areas above the wine farms on SANParks land. At no point during the month did the troop enter an urban area although there were occasions where single males managed to slip past the rangers to raid the surrounding urban areas. These access routes are marked in blue in Figure 18.

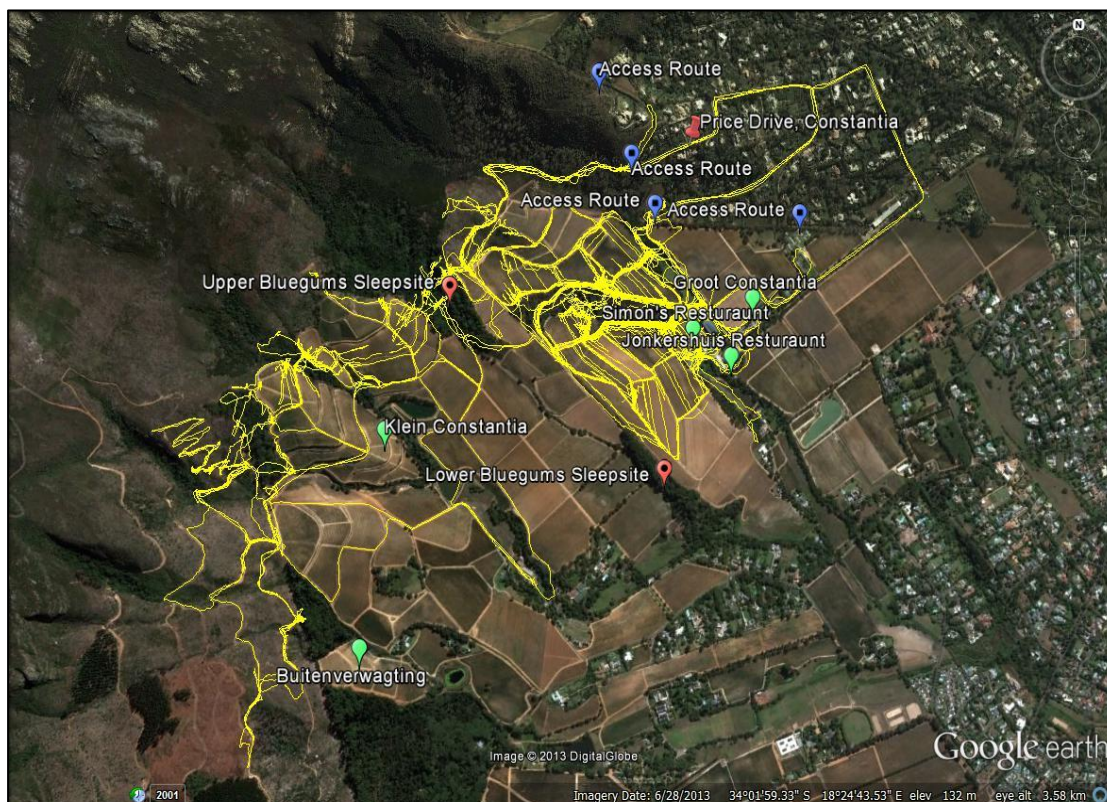


Figure 18: Tracking Data for the Constantia Troop - October 2013

October Raids:

On 3 October, an unidentified male was reported to have raided the Little Streams Restaurant.

On 8 October, CON2 raided an occupied house in Ou Wingerd Rd.

On 14 October, TK33 raided the same occupied house in Ou Wingerd Rd.

On 18 October, CON1 raided the Little Streams Restaurant and took food off occupied tables.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																	
SOUTH EAST				1	In urban area												4	Attacking pets						7	Threatening behaviour /attack/steal												
BABOON TROOP:		Constantia trp		2	Raid bins												5	Raid unoccupied house/vehicle/table						8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging prop												
MONTH: October		YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage												6	Raid occupied house/vehicle/table						9	Nocturnal Raiding												
BABOON ID	Sex	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL							
TK 33 (R-O)	M																	6		2										2							
TK 34 (O - O)	M			2																			1							2							
TK 15 (Y-O)	M																																				
TK 19 (R-W)	M																																				
TK 16(W-W)	M																																				
TK 11 (O-W)	M																																				
CON 1	M																													1							
CON 2 (B-O)	M											6										6								1							
CON 4 (B)	M																																				
CON 3 (G)	M																																				
CON 5 (G-G)	M																																				
CON 6 (O)	M																																				
Untagged/Unknown	M	1		1		1	6	5										2					2							7							
Const. Troop																																					
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS										
Troop	0.0																													0.00							
Males	0.6	15		15		15												30				5	40							2.00							
Roost:	AM	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	9	9	9	9	9	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	9	1	1							
Roost:	PM	9	6												9	9	9	9	9	6	6	6	9	9	6	6	6	1	9	1							
Roost Sites		1 KC/GC Border - Upp. Blue gums												2 Level 1 Pine P						3 Level 2 Pine P						4 Level 3 Pine P						5 Level 4 Pine P					
		6 KC Lwr Blue Gums												7 Buiten Blue Gums						8 Uitsg Blue Gumes						9 KC/SANpk MTB trail upp BG						10 Other					
ID Features of Baboons		CON 2 tagged Blue/Orange and collar fitted 23/09, t-lem freq 148.5300. 2 sub-adults also tagged single blue,single green, 23/09. Adult male tagged dout TK 16 now confirmed tagged double White.																																			
General remarks																																					

Figure 19: Raid Information Sheet for the Constantia Troop – October 2013



Comments and Observations

Towards the end of October, the new Groot Constantia electric fence was completed. This has the potential to significantly impact on the movements of the Constantia Troop. Historically, at this time of year, the troop tends to forage on grapes in the vineyards of both Groot and Klein Constantia. If the new Groot Constantia fence successfully keeps the troop off Groot Constantia it will mean increased pressure on the troop to find alternative food sources. This could result in either the troop spending much more time on Klein Constantia or changing their raiding strategy to include the urban areas adjacent to Groot Constantia.

4. Mountain / Ghost Troop

The Mountain Troop has not been seen very often this month except for the occasional sighting on Buitenverwachting. No calls were received this month because of the troop raiding houses on the Buitenverwachting property. A single male was reported to be in the urban area around the Cape Academy but had moved off by the time the Field Manager arrived. From descriptions given by residents there is a suspicion that this was a male from the Mountain Troop, possibly MT1, but the Field Manager was unable to confirm this. No more reports of this individual were received for the rest of the month.

Births and Deaths

There three births this month, one in each of the Tokai Main, Zwaanswyk Splinter and Constantia troops.

No deaths were recorded for any of the three troops.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The continued transformation of land in the Tokai area through the felling of pine plantations and the fencing off of Groot Constantia are both examples of significant changes taking place in the Northern Troop's home ranges. The potential impact on these troops is as yet unknown and for this reason it will be important to document any changes to the normal movements and raiding patterns of the troops in these areas. With the potential for increased raiding activity because of the reduction in traditionally available food resources, it will be important to reduce the risk of human-baboon conflict by improving both the waste management of private institutions and the erection of relevant signage in these areas, particularly in Tokai.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

Population Data for the Eleven Managed Troops on the Cape Peninsula						
TROOP	Total End Dec 2012	October Births	October Deaths	Total Births	Total Deaths	TOTAL CURRENT
Da Gama Troop	54		1	8	21	41
Smitswinkel Bay	23		1	2	4	21
Waterfall	28			0	1	27
Groot Olifantsbos	19			0	0	19
Misty Cliffs Splinter	18	2		3	1	20
Slangkop	33	1	3	8	4	37
SUB TOTAL	175	3	5	21	31	165
Zwaanswyk	25	1		6	1	30
Tokai	61	1		10	5	66
Mountain / Ghost	33			11	0	44
Constantia	60	1		18	7	71
SUB TOTAL	179	3	0	45	13	211
TOTAL	354	6	5	66	44	376

Figure 20. Population Data for the Ten Managed Troops.

Over the past month the number of births in the southern sub-population equalled those in the north (three each). However, the number of deaths (five) in the south was greater than the number of births - two infanticides, two management euthanasias and one stillborn birth - so the nett result is that this month the population in the south has declined by two while that in the north has continued to increase - by three. The northern sub-population has therefore increased by 32 since December 2012, which is an increase of 18% for the year so far.

It is interesting to note that the northern sub-population has continued to increase despite the continued logging and removal of the pine forests in Tokai. This might be because there are still extensive areas of forest left, so the effects of removal have not really been felt apart from with respect to some preferred sleep sites. It should also be noted however, that apart from the pines, this northern sub-population has continued to have some access to the wine farms for the whole of this year. Thus in summer they still had access to grapes - fresh and then reject - until the end of April. Thereafter they had access to the growing and ripening barley that is planted between the vines on all the farms. The nett result is that throughout the past year these troops have had almost continuous access to a regular supply of human derived foods (HDF).

It is presumably this continuous access to HDF's that has allowed these troops to grow at such a rate. Although the Tokai and, more particularly, the Zwaanswyk troops seldom if ever go onto the farms, they have another fairly regular supply of HDF's, namely the Tokai Picnic Site, Porter Stables, Chrysallis Academy, Lister's Tea Room and parking area.

It will be interesting to note how the northern troops will be affected by the electric fencing of Groot Constantia this summer. This fence is still not 100% complete and has various weak spots, so even this estate might still be subject to significant raiding this year. Nevertheless, the baboons' access to this farm should be markedly reduced when compared to last year, and this could impact both on the Constantia troop's breeding rate and how much they try to find alternative forage on the other farms and in the adjacent suburbs. This could also have a knock on effect on the movements and raiding behaviour of the other troops in the north.

Hotline Data

Early summer is the time of year when the baboons do best in Cape Town. They are reaping the rewards of the long wet winter that is now over (?), combined with the heat of summer. This combination of plenty of water in the soil and the heat allowing plants to grow, means that the fynbos is full of flowers and new growth, providing ample food for the baboons. This good supply of natural food in the veld presumably reduces the incentive for the CT baboons to raid. Last year HWS recorded 48 raid related hotline calls in October, and this went down to 23 for November. This October raid related calls for HWS managed areas is again low at 33.

What is most notable about Figure 21, is that for the first time since HWS took over, no hotline calls were received from Scarborough or Misty Cliffs. This is because both the GOB troop and the Misty Cliff's Splinter troop have been in the CoGH Reserve for the whole of October. This is also a first for HWS.

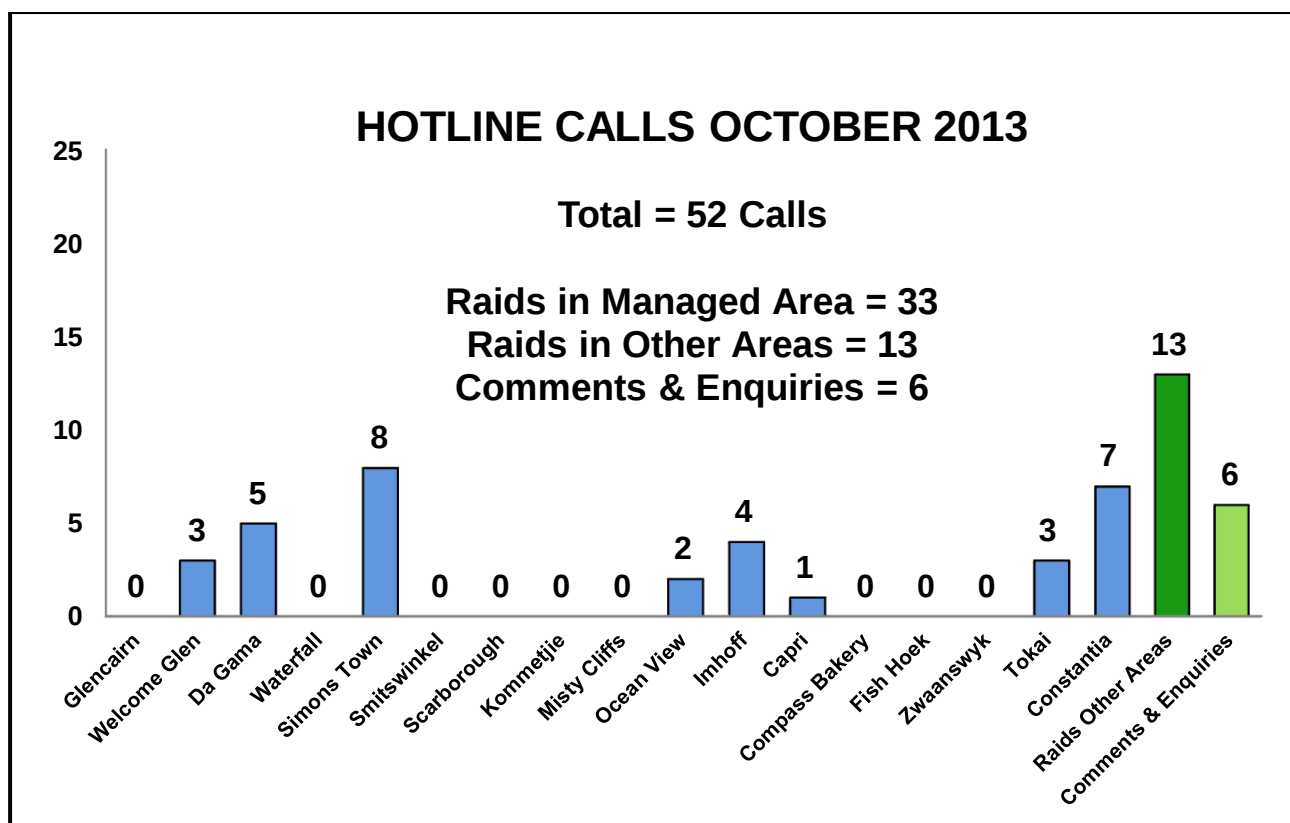


Figure 21. Hotline calls summary by regions, for October 2013.

As mentioned above, areas outside of the urban space, and therefore not managed by HWS, continue to provide food for baboons, particularly in Tokai. These areas are generally isolated pockets in the middle of SANParks land, so there is no simple solution to their management, apart from effective electric fencing. These areas are a significant problem, because not only are they artificially feeding the baboons, but they are continuing to reinforce the value of raiding to baboons and also allowing young baboons to be initiated into raiding. This is particularly pertinent now when HWS is increasingly managing to keep baboons out of the urban area (average this month for all managed troops is 99.4% of time out of town, see Figure. 24).

HWS has highlighted in previous reports, that breaking the cycle of older baboons teaching younger baboons to raid is a fundamental prerequisite for successful baboon management on the Cape Peninsula.

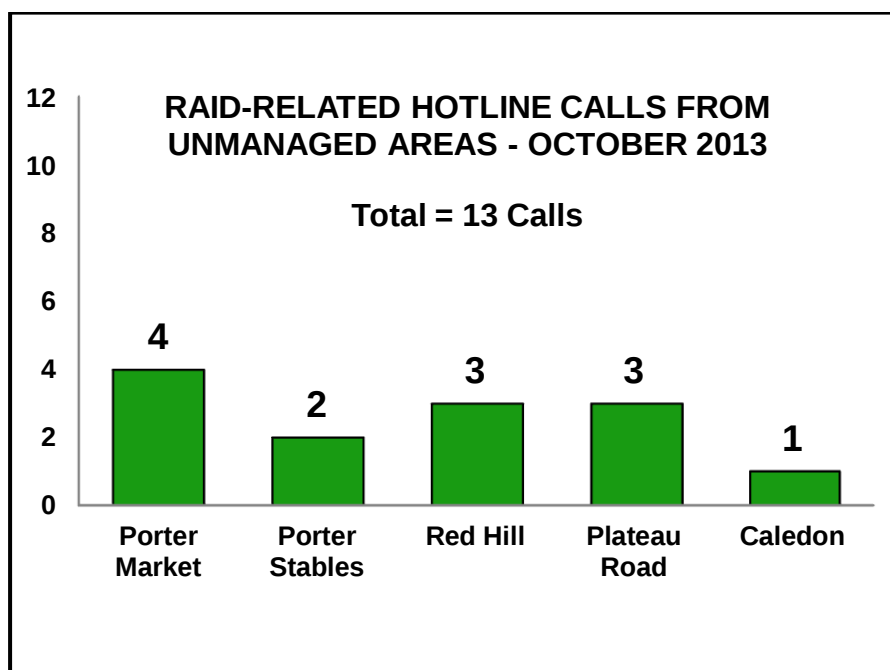


Figure 22. Hotline calls received from areas not managed by HWS.

The types of raids recorded during hotline calls have also shown a generally pleasing trend this month. 82% of all calls were simply reporting baboons in the urban area or raiding bins, while raiding occupied houses dropped to 9%. Nevertheless, aggressive raids (Codes 6,7 & 8 in Figure.23) are still relatively high (15%), so HWS will be striving to reduce these as much as possible over the coming months.

HOTLINE CALLS OCTOBER 2013

Raids in Managed Area = 33

Raids in Other Areas = 13

Comments & Enquiries = 6

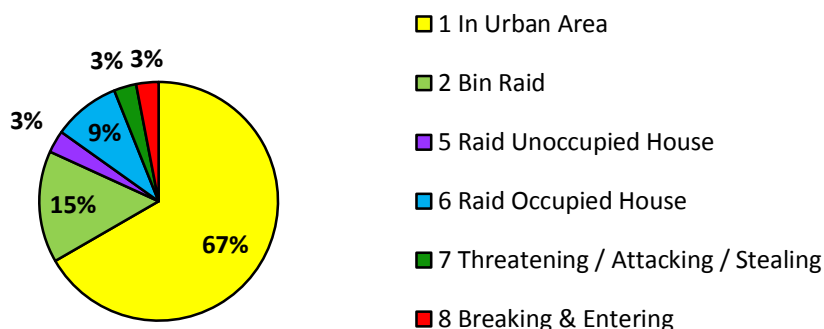


Figure 23. Categories of raids recorded on the hotline.

The percentage time troops and raiding individuals spent out of town increased significantly this month. With the exception of the Da Gama troops, all troops were out of town well over 99% of the time, and raiding individuals for over 97% of the time. Although the Da Gama troop's (now one troop for the past 3 months) data are very similar to last month, there has been a very significant change in their sleeping behaviour. For the last week of the month this troop slept every night out of town at the new Maylands sleep site near Kleinplaas dam.

% Time Troops Spent Out of Town October 2013

Troop Average = 99.45%

Individuals = 97.85%

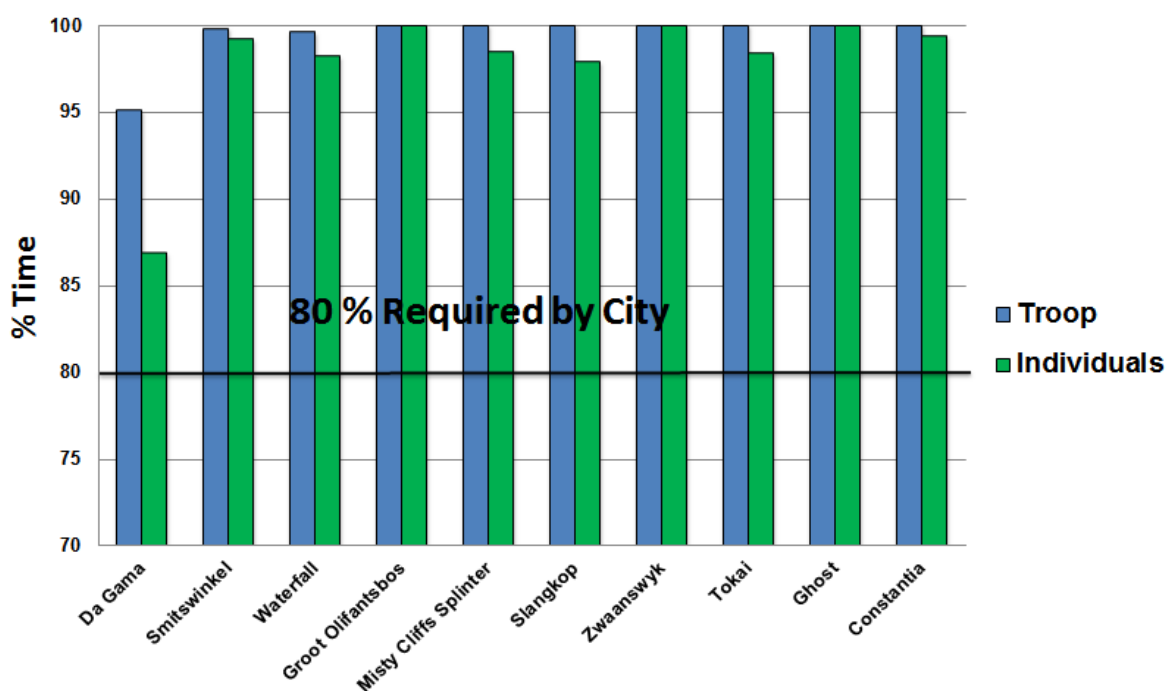


Figure 24. Time troops spent out of town.

General Summary

Over the past year HWS have spent many evenings trying to hold the Da Gama ST out of town and encouraging them to sleep at the KL sleep site about 500m west of Da Gama. The troop resisted all attempts to hold them out of town and often returned to Da Gama to sleep at the Naval Flats well after dark. For many years now they seemed to consider Da Gama their safe haven and the first place to return to when stressed - by other troops or humans. They only ever slept out of town if they slept at their traditional old sleep sites from many years ago, like the Compass Bakery or Ocean View sleep sites. In September they voluntarily slept at the KL sleep site for the first time ever, and now in October they have just spent a week sleeping at another new sleep site, namely the Maylands sleep site.

This behaviour represents a fundamental change in the psychology of the troop and means that the troop is slowly starting to wean itself of its dependence on Da Gama Park as "home". The extension of this is that the troop should spend increasing amounts of time sleeping out of town, until it never returns and eventually becomes totally dependent on vynbos for its nutritional requirements. This is the ultimate aim for this and all the other troops in Cape Town.

The biggest stumbling block to achieving this objective is that old habits die hard. Many, if not most, of the baboons in Cape Town realise that eating HDF's (human derived foods) is a quick and easy way to achieve an energy boost in a very short space of time. For many of the larger and stronger animals this has become a way of life and it is only with strong deterrents (paintballs and bearbangers) that one can prevent them from raiding for HDF's.

Now that HWS is consistently managing to keep all the managed troops out of town for well over 95% of the time, the troops are very seldom gaining access to town and therefore to HDF's. They are therefore being forced to live only on natural foods. However, one is still left with a few raiding males and females who occasionally break away from the troop to go raiding alone. This behaviour is therefore being taught continually to other members of the troop, and this is the main reason why persistent and unrelenting raiders need to be euthanased. Without their removal they will continue to teach their bad habits to younger baboons and the cycle of raiding will continue indefinitely.

This situation is worst amongst the northern sub-population troops because they are continually being exposed to HDF's within their daily ranges out of town. These HDF's are in the form of the agricultural produce of the farms, restaurants, picnic sites and horse stables most of which still have poor waste management. The challenge now is to improve the waste management of these areas while at the same time limiting the baboons access to these sites.

Dr. Philip Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions