



Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

November 2015

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A. INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period 24 October until 27 November 2015. Like last month, the behaviour of the managed baboons was typical of early summer with very few raids taking place. This was because there was plenty of natural forage available in the fynbos, with numerous plants either flowering or fruiting. There were also relatively few hotline calls this month, with only 57 calls being made from managed areas.

However, despite these good signs, the average time (98.2% of time) the baboons spent out of town was much lower than last month (99.4%). This average drop in time out of town is entirely due to behaviour of the Misty Cliffs Troop which spent only 82.3% of their time out of town. The remaining troops spent a record average of 99.97% of their time out of town.

Over the past four years the Misty Cliffs Troop population has halved from 18 down to nine. The fact that the Misty Cliffs Troop is so reduced, and now so keen to seek refuge in Scarborough is a problem that urgently needs to be addressed, and is discussed in more detail later in this report.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Since the dispersal of SWB8 on 6 October, the troop has moved south and has remained in the southern section of their home range for the duration of the reporting period. There are few attractants in this area, and therefore the troop has remained out of the urban area for 100% of the time.

There have been a few fights between a young sub-adult male baboon and SWB6; this seemed to be due to the young male attempting to mate with some of the lower ranking females. Neither of the males sustained any serious injuries during these fights.

On the afternoon of 18 November a veld fire started in the Klawer Valley and moved in an easterly direction up the mountain. It was brought under control by 19:00, however due to strong winds during the night; the fire flared up and moved over the mountain towards Murdock Valley and Rocklands Farm.

During this period the baboons were utilizing the central part of their home range, south of Millers Point. Rangers held the line and prevented the troop from moving north towards the fire.



Figure 1: Red area indicating the fire that swept through Murdock Valley and Rocklands Farm.

SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																	
SOUTH EAST				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: November	YEAR: 2015	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	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	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL
SWB6	M																																				
Troop																																					
UnID Individuals																																					
UnID Fem	F																																				
SWBF1	F																																				
UnID Male	M																																				
UnID Juveniles																																					
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS							
Troop	0.0																																			0.00	
Individuals	0.0																																			0.00	
Roost:	AM	5	3	2	5	3	6	5	6	2	3	2	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	4	5	2	2	3	6	4	1	6	4	6	3	4		
Roost:	PM	3	2	5	3	6	5	6	2	3	2	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	6	2	1	2	4	5	2	2	3	4	4	1	6	4	6	3	4	5	
Roost Sites		1 Smits Caves					2 Partridge Point					3 Bluegums					4 Millers Point					5 Rocklands Farm															
		6 Castle Rock					7 SANParks					8					9					10															
ID Features of Baboons		SWB6 - red/blue tags + collar.																																			
General remarks																																					

Figure 2: Smitswinkel Troop raid sheet for November 2015.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop stayed south of the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) for the entire month. Only TK19, TK42 and WFF4 made three excursions into the urban area, spending only 0.5% of time in town.

Currently the most difficult animal to manage in this troop is TK19. He often sleeps away from the troop, preferring to spend most days by himself. This results in one member of the ranger team having to stay with him, preventing him from entering the urban area.

It was hoped that with time he would settle into the troop. However, he seems to go through cycles of spending time with the troop and then choosing to spend time on his own. Through this reporting period he has predominantly been by himself and has occasionally been joined by WFF4 and/or TK42.

TK42 has settled in well with the troop and has taken on the role of alpha male very well. He has also been seen mating with the females which is a very promising sign as he will introduce new genes into the troop. The biggest challenge for management is to keep him from raiding so that he can remain a non-raiding male. This in turn means that waste management, especially around SANAD, becomes a major concern for the management of this troop. It is now essential that the waste is managed properly and that the bins are baboon-proofed because this will stop attracting baboons into the facility.

On 18 November, at the time of the fire (mentioned in the Smitswinkel section) the troop was on the southern side of the Klaasjagersberg Mountain. HWS rangers held the line and ensured that the baboons remained safely on the southern side of the Cape of Good Hope Nursery sleep site for the remainder of the day.

The troop utilised the southern side of the sleep site on 18 and 19 November but started sleeping on the northern side on 20 November. However, they utilized only the southern side of their home range on the Cape of Good Hope Nursery side of the Mountain.

None of the baboons in the Waterfall Troop were harmed during the fires and they are utilising the dense protea stacks on the southern slope of the mountain. They have been seen digging for bulbs as well.



Figure 3: Waterfall Troop movement for the November reporting period.

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	26	27	TOTAL																											
BABOON TROOP:	WATERFALL	1	In urban area	4	Attacking Pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																																																	
MONTH: November	YEAR: 2015	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																																	
		3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																																																	
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	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	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL																			
Troop																																					0																			
TK19	M		6	1												1	2		2					2													6																			
TK42	M		5		2		1		1	2							2		2					2				1									9																			
WFF3	F																																				0																			
WFF4	F		6																							1							2				3																			
UnID Females	F									2						1																					2																			
UnID Juveniles																																					0																			
UnID Male	M																																				0																			
UnID Individuals																																					0																			
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																										
Troop	0.0																																			0.00																				
Individuals	0.5	25	60																									5								1.50																				
Roost:	AM	11	10	10	10	11	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	11	11	10	10	10	11	11	11																					
Roost:	PM	10	10	11	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	11	11	10	10	10	11	11	11	11																				
Roost Sites		1	Waterfall Cliff										2	Happy Valley Mtn										3	Signal School										4	Waterfall Barracks										5	Mountain Residents									
		6	Admiral footpath										7	Cape Farm House										8	Happy Valley Home										9	Red Hill										10	SANAD									
		11	Mountain CoGHN										12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road										13	Rocklands Farm										14	North Peak										15	Bungalow									
		16	Rocklands Valley										17	Shamballah Pines										18											19											20										
ID Features of Baboons		TK42 - Collar & Blue/Yellow tags; TK19 - Collar & Red/White tags																																																						
General remarks		Red indicates raiding inside South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) & Bold + Italics raiding on farms																																																						

Figure 4: Waterfall Troop raid sheet for November 2015.

3. Da Gama Troop

Despite October being a difficult month to manage the Da Gama Troop with the riots having continued in Masiphumelele, the team in Da Gama did extremely well to keep the troop out of town. During the end of October and November the troop stayed out of town 99.9% of the time and the only problem remained to be with a few individuals.

On 6 October, SWB8 dispersed from the Smitswinkel Troop. He attempted to join the Plateau Road Troop as well as the Waterfall Troop, but was pushed out of both of these troops by the resident males. He was first seen close to the Da Gama Troop on 26 October, but he was chased away by DG15 and a few other individuals. On 2 November, a hotline call was received for a single male in Glencairn. When the field manager responded he discovered that it was SWB8. Later that afternoon, TK43 had left the troop and was seen fighting with SWB8, during which TK43 sustained a cut on his shoulder.

SWB8 continued to follow the troop, but chose to sleep away from them. Several females would join him during the day and then return to the troop. Several fights ensued between TK43 and SWB8; however both males did not sustain any serious injuries during these fights.

On 12 November, SWB8 was seen sleeping with the troop for the first time. By the end of November, TK43 and SWB8 had formed an 'alliance' (as male baboons don't generally form coalitions as is found in prides of lions), against SK3. The two males have started joining up in fights and chasing SK3. This is causing considerable turmoil in the troop, but it seems to only occur in brief spells and then all the males settle down again with SK3 now being the lowest ranked adult male.

The troop has slept at the flats and in the pine trees at the flats for the entire month, with the exception of one night when they slept at the Witsand sleep site. The rangers have kept the troop up the mountain the entire day, but the daylight hours are currently very long with the sun only setting at 19:51. This allows for enough daylight for the troop to still be active till at least 20:30.

The waste management at the flats has regressed again, after several weeks of good waste management. The availability of waste, fruit on fruit trees and unprotected vegetable gardens in the urban areas, remains a strong attractant for the baboons to return to town.



Figure 5: Waste management at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park, where black refuse bags were left outside the flats/garages.

The Navy have set a new system in place where each resident puts their own bin into their own garage and bins only get put outside for bin collection on a Wednesday. This system was implemented approximately two months ago and seemed to be going well, till recently. It was encouraging to see that some of the residents seem to have also had enough of the dumping, see the picture below (Figure ?).



Figure 6: Signage put up by residents to urge others to stop dumping.



Figure 7: Da Gama troop movement, yellow lines indicating the troop and the red lines indicating the raiding individuals, for the November reporting period.

SECTOR		HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																	
SOUTH EAST		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																	
BABOON TROOP: DA GAMA		1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																													
MONTH: November		2 Raid bins										5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																													
YEAR: 2015		3 Non malicious damage										6 Raid occupied house or vehicle										9 Nocturnal Raiding																													
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	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	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL														
Troop											1									1			1			1	1						1		1		1														
SK3	M		1			2	1													1			1										1		1		9														
DG13 (W)	M				2		1																					1									3														
DG14 (O-G)	M	1									1								1							1									1		5														
DG15 (R-W)	M				2		1				1								1																1		5														
DG16	M	1			2		1				2																	1									5														
TK43 (W-W)	M		1				1						3																			1				4															
SWB8	M										2		6						1																	3															
DGF1	F																		1																																
DGF2	F																																																		
DGF4	F																																																		
UnID Females	F				1						1														2				1						1		5														
UnID Female	F				2		1				2								1			1				1	2				1		1	1		10															
UnID Individuals		1			2		1																						1				1		1		6														
UnID Juvs					1						1																		1							3															
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																					
Troop	0.1																													0.25																					
Individuals	4.2	30	30		40	10	95				85								32			105			40	25	21		50		100		10	10	122	13.42															
Roost:	AM	1	1, 2	1	1	1, 2	1	1	1	1, 2	1, 2	1	1	1	1, 2	11	2	2	2	2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1	1	1, 2	1	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	2	2	1	2	1, 2	1, 3														
Roost:	PM	1, 2	1	1	1	1, 2	1	1	1	1, 2	1	1	1	1, 2	11	2	2	2	2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1	1	1, 2	1	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	2	1	2	1, 2	2	1															
Roost Sites		1 Flats										2 Pines - Flats										3 Pines - Da Gama										4 Pines - WG										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 / Windford										20 Grootkop									
		21 16th Avenue, DG										22 Lewis Gay Dam										23 Pinehaven										24 Kleinplaas Dam										25 Scarborough									
ID Features of Baboons																																																			
General remarks		Bold & Italics - raiding not in urban area																																																	

Figure 8: Da Gama Troop raid sheet for November 2015.

Births and Deaths

1 new birth was recorded on 26 November in Da Gama Park.

Recommendations

- An **education and awareness** campaign should be considered for Welcome Glen and Da Gama Park to make residents aware of baboon proofing houses and not to grow vegetables and fruit outside of enclosures.
- **Broken garages** at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park should be fixed because the baboons are climbing in through the openings to gain access to the bins.
- **Law enforcement and visibility of officials** would be needed along the tourist routes over the festive season to prevent tourists from feeding baboons.
- **Baboon proofing** of the entrances, air vents and windows of the Navy flats in Da Gama Park is still an urgent requirement.
- People with outside bird aviaries should secure the **bird food** and keep the outside of the cages as clean as possible to prevent it becoming a baboon attractant.
- **Waste management and the Security office kitchen, at SANAD** (South African Naval Ammunition Depot), should be baboon proofed, as this is attracting baboons into the facility.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Cath Shutte

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop remained within the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (CoGH) for the duration of the month. During the previous reporting period (see HWS October 2015 Monthly Report) the GOB Troop spent fourteen nights sleeping on the cliffs, between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs, with the Misty Cliffs Troop. This change was driven by GOB7's pursuit of the females in the Misty Cliffs Troop.

It is, however, pleasing to note that even after spending fourteen consecutive nights outside the CoGH Reserve that the GOB Troop has remained in the CoGH Reserve for the entire month.

HWS rangers continue to monitor the GOB Troop through the use of telemetry equipment, often picking up a signal that the troop is deep within the reserve. This is a very pleasing result for all staff involved,

as it means that the troop is foraging on indigenous fynbos vegetation and coastal organisms and not being given the option to have access to human derived foods.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

The Misty Cliffs Troop spent 23 nights roosting on the cliffs between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs and nine nights roosting on the cliffs above Misty Cliffs. It is interesting to note that the troop spent two nights sleeping at the Witsand sleep site, which they have not done since 10 April 2015. This sleep site is preferable, as it is further from the urban area and there is access to both coastal and fynbos forage for the troop.

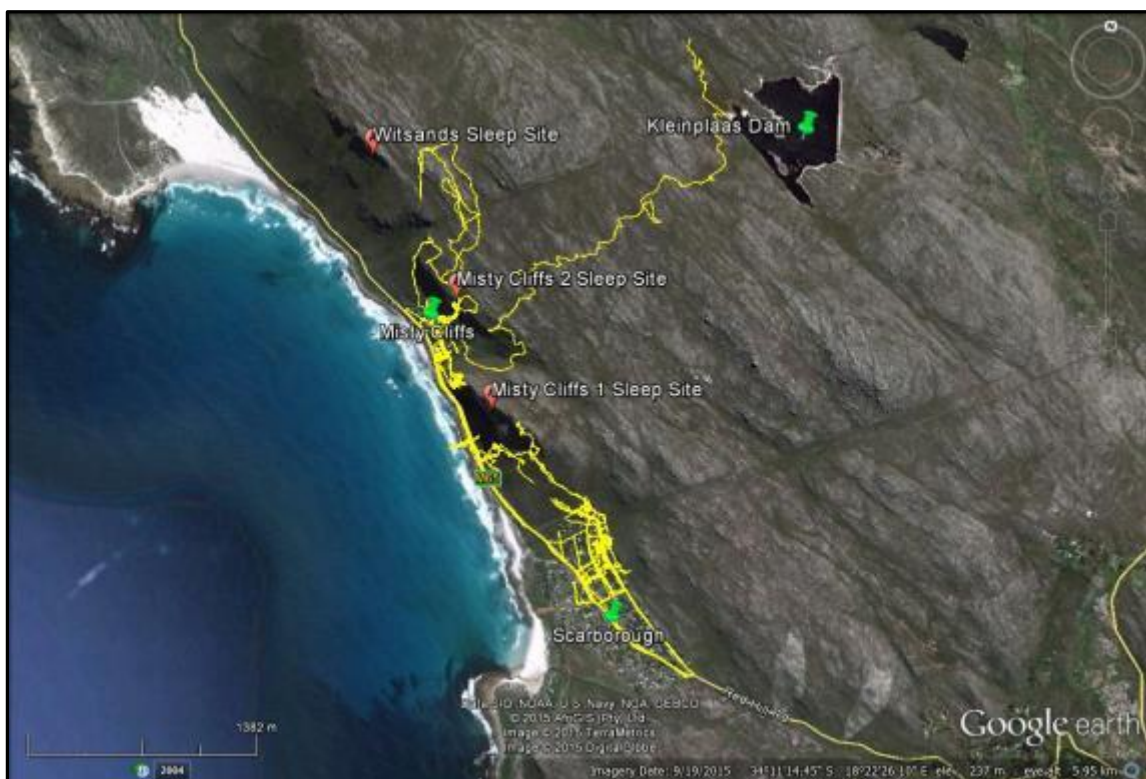


Figure 9: Misty Cliffs Troop movement for the November reporting period. Due to the fact that the Misty Cliffs 1 sleep site is situated on steep cliffs we are unable to show the tracks to the sleep site as HWS rangers carry the data loggers.

From Figure 9 above, it can be seen that the Misty Cliffs Troop spent the majority of this month moving between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. They concentrated their foraging activity in the fynbos vegetation and along the coastline below their sleep site. It was very positive to see that the troop moved as far as Kleinplaas Dam on 09 November. The troop spent the day foraging and grooming alongside the dam.

The Misty Cliffs Troop endured a fair amount of turmoil over the previous month (see HWS October Monthly Report). The GOB Troop's alpha male, GOB 7, had been chasing the females around and

sleep site. The increase in temperature, as summer approaches, could be the determining factor in this change because pressure decreases at higher elevations, and this causes the temperature to be cooler on the top of a mountain than at sea level.

Similar to the previous month, the troop spent the majority of this month foraging in the natural vegetation around the Rasta Camp and along the stream in the valley, which runs between the Compass Bakery sleep site and Ocean View.

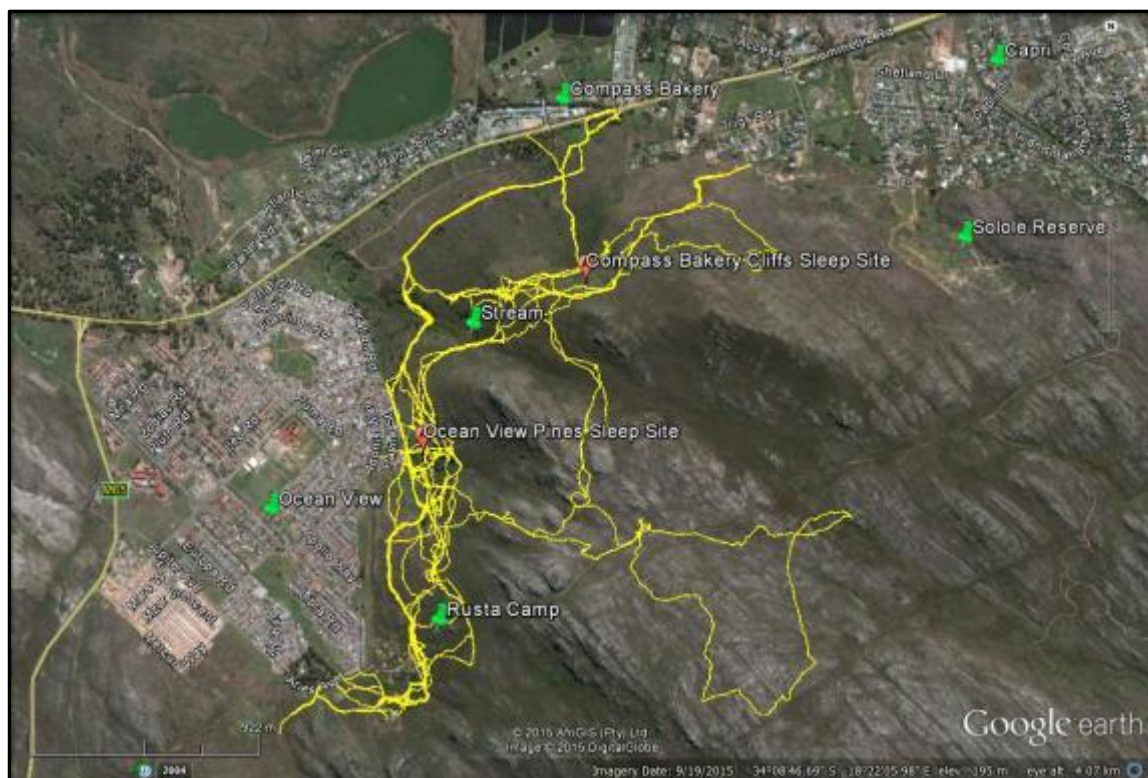


Figure 11: Slangkop Troop movement for the November 2015 reporting period.

The greatest number of individual raids can be attributed to SK6 and the females that sometimes accompany him. It is however important to note that SK6 only raided bins on two occasions, on 23 and 24 November. The longest time SK6 spent in town also occurred on 23 November, when he was in Ocean View for 13 minutes.

The Slangkop Troop, as a whole, only entered the urban area on three occasions, twice in Capri and once in Kommetjie. The longest time occurred on 30 October when the troop spent 29 minutes in Kommetjie before moving back up Slangkop Mountain. They spent the remainder of the day foraging on indigenous fynbos and grooming.

Figure 12: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for October 2015

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Figure 13: Red shading indicating the area that was affected by the fire on 16 November 2015. The troop was held safely between the yellow lines by HWS rangers.

Births and Deaths

1 birth was recorded in the Slangkop Troop on 8 November 2015.

No deaths were recorded.

Recommendations

- **Removal of Invasive Alien Vegetation:** The patches of invasive alien vegetation situated above Ocean View and below the Compass Bakery sleep site need to be removed in order to improve management of the Slangkop Troop. This issue has been addressed with SANParks and is pending.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Troop

During November the Tokai Troop foraged mainly in the upper sections of Tokai Plantation and in Silvermine Reserve (Figure 14).

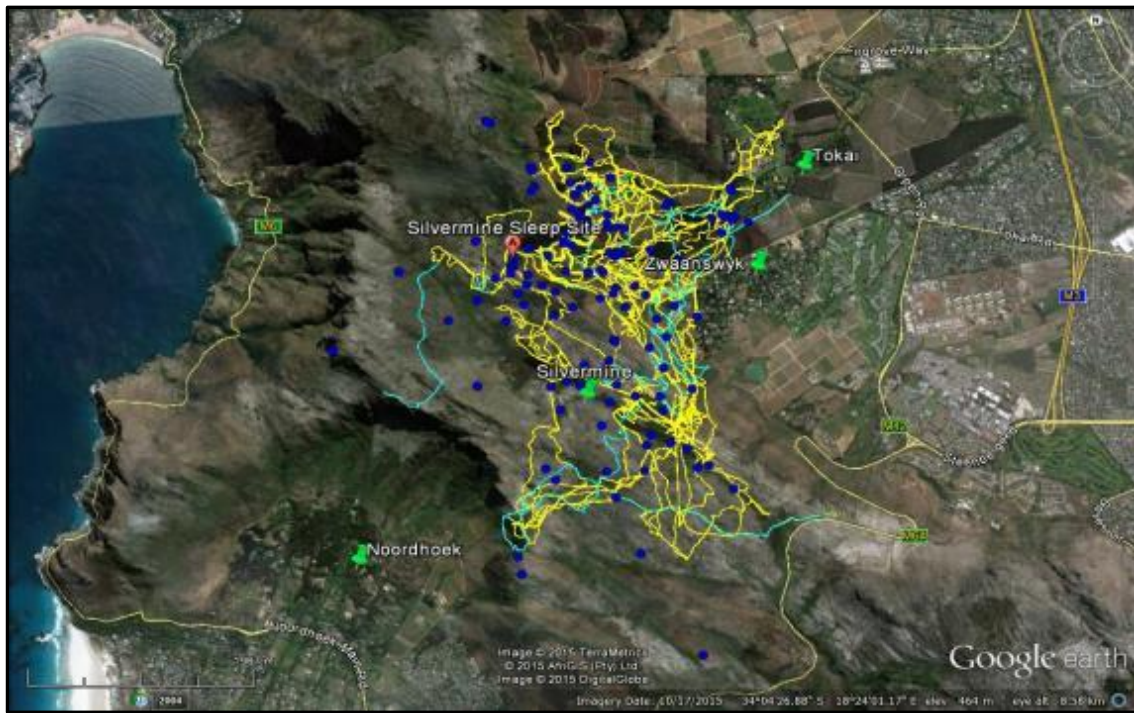


Figure 14: Data loggers indicating movements of rangers following the Tokai (yellow) and Zwaanswyk (blue) Troop. Blue dots represent GPS coordinates of the Zwaanswyk Alpha male.

Single males of the Tokai Troop proved to be difficult to manage this month. TK40 and TK28 carried out the majority of the raids (Figure 14).

TK40 ran from the troop several times this month. He raided unsecured bins at the Cape Academy and Forest Glade Centre. These raids could have been prevented if the bins in these areas were baboon-proofed (see recommendations). The non-urban raids committed by TK40 occurred at Chrysalis Academy, where TK40 entered the unoccupied kitchen or raided full and unsecured bins.

TK47 has also shown to be an opportunistic bin and kitchen raider at Chrysalis Academy this month. TK47 was only tagged last month, so it's likely that in previous reports he was one of the untagged males that went raiding with the older males. Now that TK47 is tagged, HWS can keep a closer watch on his raiding behaviour and focus more attention on this individual, especially when in the vicinity of Chrysalis Academy.

TK40's raiding behaviour came to an abrupt halt on 24 November 2015, when HWS rangers reported that he appeared almost completely blind. Dr Dorothy Breed, the CapeNature appointed veterinarian, came to assess TK40 the same day. A similar incident occurred the previous month, and TK40's sight returned within two days (see October 2015 Monthly Report), without veterinary intervention. Hence, Dr Breed advised that HWS should monitor TK40's movements over the following days, and if no improvement was seen, she would then intervene.

The following day TK40 appeared to have made no progress, and was still blind. During the day TK40 lost the troop and moved high up into the Constantiaberg Mountain. TK40 was then tracked with telemetry for the following few days, because he was too high up the mountain to follow on foot.

TK40 was seen in Hout Bay on 28 November 2015. He was still blind and Dr Breed was called in to intervene. TK40 was successfully darted that afternoon, and examined. It was found that he had a large gash above his left eye, which was most-likely due to a baboon-on-baboon encounter. This had severely damaged his optical nerve, which would not heal. TK40 was therefore euthanized for humane reasons on 28 November 2015.

TK28 also raided significantly this month. TK28 has been gaining access into the Zwaanswyk Suburb and raiding homes. Whenever the Tokai Troop was near Zwaanswyk, TK28 seized the opportunity by evading the HWS rangers, jumping over the Steenberg Fence, and then jumping over the Zwaanswyk Fence to gain access to the suburb.

The Zwaanswyk Fence was extended a few hundred meters eastwards to prevent this from happening. However, because there are telephone poles with wooden supports that span both sides of this fence extension, they provide easy access for baboons to enter Zwaanswyk over the fence (Figure 15). The electric fence extension has therefore been unsuccessful in keeping TK28 out.



Figure 15: Telephone poles over the Zwaanswyk Fence act as a ladder for baboons to hop over the fence.

It is very difficult for HWS rangers to prevent these raids. If TK28 manages to evade rangers and jumps the Steenberg Fence (not baboon-proof), the rangers are unable to follow him. HWS rangers then need either to go through Steenberg, or through Zwaanswyk Properties to catch up with TK28. By the time they have moved around to do this TK28 has often managed to raid several homes.

HWS have informed The Zwaanswyk Association of Property Owners about the fence issues, and they have requested that Steenberg Estate baboon-proof these telephone poles. In the meantime, HWS rangers will be keeping a close eye on TK28 whenever the Tokai Troop goes near the Zwaanswyk side to try and prevent these raids.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
NORTH		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: November		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding												
YEAR: 2015																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	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	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL
TK28 (B-G)	M					2					6	6			6,6	6,6						6,6,6		6						6		6					13
TK 16 (W-W)	M							2																							2				1		3
TK40 (P-Y) VHF Collar	M				2			2	5												2		2,2	2,2		2,2,2				2	2	5			2		15
TK 47 (White)	M				2			2																		6											3
TK 48 (Red)	M																																				
MT3 (Pu-B)	M																																				
Uni Male	M																																				
Unid SA Male	M																																				
Uni Female	F																																				
Uni Juve																																					
Tokai Troop																																					
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS							
Troop		0.0																																			0.00
Individuals		1.8					20					20	25			35	30					20	45	15	100		35			140	35	20		30		5.75	
Roost:		AM	5	1	1	1	1	1	11	5	12	1	1	4	1	1	1	2	5	11	11	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	11	11	2	1	2	3	11	11	1
Roost:		PM	1	1	1	1	1	11	5	12	1	1	4	1	1	1	2	5	11	11	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	11	11	2	1	2	3	11	11	1	
Roost Sites			1 Tea Garden					2 Level 1 ZWK gums					3 Level 2 stream					4 Lev 4 Pines					5 Upper Tea Garden					6 Manor House									
			7 Picnic 1					8 Picnic 2					9 Middle Plantation					10 Chrysalis					11 Silvermine pines					12 Other									
			13					14					15					16					17					18									
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks			Bold italics indicate raids in non-urban areas																																		

Figure 16: November Raid sheet for the Tokai Troop

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

As usual for the Zwaanswyk Troop, they have foraged and moved with the Tokai Troop for the majority of the month (Figure 14 above), moving between the lower plantations and Silvermine Reserve.

The Zwaanswyk Troop have also been exploring higher elevations and moving further than we have ever seen them move before. As can be seen from MT2's GPS collar points (Figure 14).

During this month an untagged female with noteworthy hair loss was reported in the Zwaanswyk Troop. This was most likely caused by Sarcoptic Mange. Sarcoptic Mange is a mammalian parasitic skin disease caused by mites. Baboons usually self-regulate such parasites, however occasionally it becomes more

severe and can result in extensive hair loss. Dr Dorothy Breed treated the female with an anti-parasitic drug, and her progress will be monitored in the following weeks to see if her condition improves.

There were no raids, urban or non-urban, from the Zwaanswyk Troop during November.

3. Constantia Troop

The CT1 and CT2 Troops behaved in a manner similar to the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops, in that they slept separately every night, but still moved together very regularly, especially when above Buitenverwachting. The most popular sleep sites for the CT1 and CT2 troops were the Buitenverwachting Gums, the Bike Trail Gums and the Upper Gums (refer to Figure 18 and 20 below).

When the CT1 troop slept at the Upper Gums, the Klein Constantia rangers moved the troop north and off the farm. The CT1 troop would then forage in the stream vegetation between Klein Constantia and Price Drive, while HWS rangers held the Price Drive line.

The CT1 Troop also spent some time on Groot Constantia this month. The baboons got under the Groot Constantia fence through several large porcupine holes. When in Groot Constantia, they went straight to the Castle vegetation, which was one of their favourite sites when they lived on Groot Constantia.

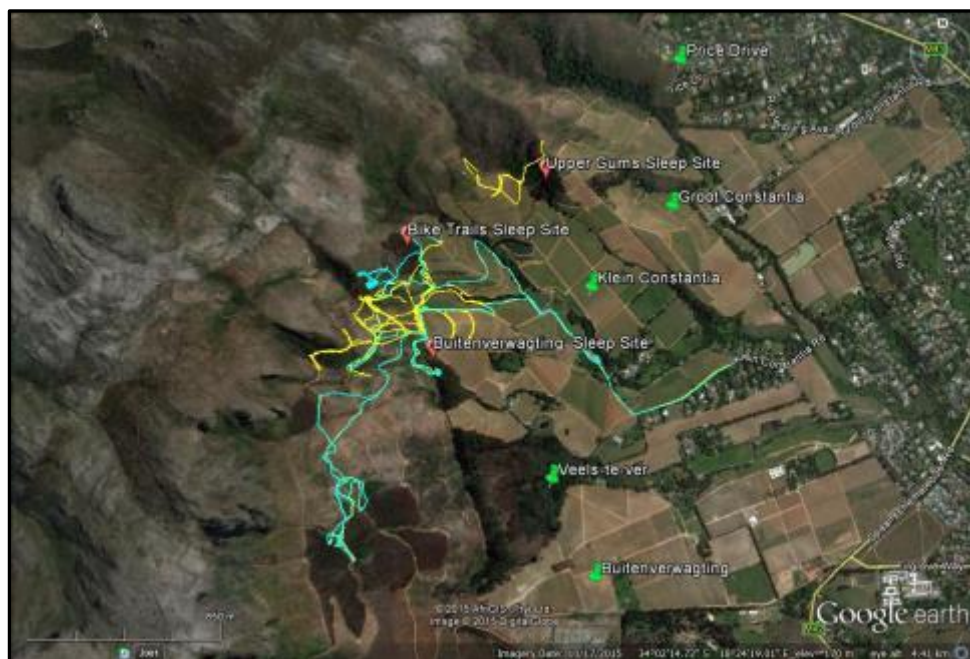


Figure 17: Tracks showing HWS ranger movements when they were following the CT1 (yellow) and CT2 (blue) Troops.

Some CT1 Troop males also moved very high up into the saddle between Vlakkenberg and Constantiaberg (Figure 18). Here they were blocked from moving too close to Hout Bay, to prevent any raiding attempts.



Figure 18: CT1 Troop male foraging on vegetation in the saddle between Vlakkenberg and Constantiaberg.

There was only one raid this month, by an untagged male in the CT1 Troop (Figure 20). This male entered Price Drive and raided an occupied house. CON7 also left the troop and entered the urban area on the 19 November 2015 however, no raiding was recorded in this instance.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																						
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																				
		NORTH		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																													
BABOON TROOP:		CT1 & CT2	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																														
MONTH: November		YEAR: 2015	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	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	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL	
TK33 (R-O)	M																																					0
CON1 (untagged)	M																																					0
CON2 (B-O)	M																																					0
CON3 (G)	M																																					0
CON4 (B)	M																																					0
CON5 (G-G)	M																																					0
CON6 (O) Collar	M																																					0
CON7 (P-G)	M																											1										1
MT1 (G-W)	M																																					0
Untagged M	M																																6				1	
SA Male	M																																					0
Uni Female	F																																					0
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS									
Troop	0.0																																				0.00	
Individuals	0.1																											20					15				0.33	
Roost:	AM	1+3	1+3	1+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+7	3+6	3+6	6	6	3+6	3+6	1+6	1+6	1+9	1+9	1+9	3+9	3+9	1+9	8+6	8+9	8+9	1+9	1+9	8+7	8+7	1+7	8+7	1+6	1+4	1+4	3+4	1+3		
Roost:	PM	1+3	1+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+7	3+6	3+6	6	6	3+6	3+6	1+6	1+6	1+9	1+9	1+9	3+9	3+9	1+9	8+6	8+9	8+9	1+9	1+9	8+7	8+7	1+7	8+7	1+6	1+4	1+4	3+4	1+3	3+4		
Roost Sites		1	Upper Gums				2	Lower Gums				3	Bike Trail Gums				4	Middle Plantation KC				5	McKenzie's				6	Buiten Gums										
		7	Block 10 gums				8	Castle Gums				9	Other				10					11					12											
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks		TK 41 introduced to CT 1 on Groot after being returned from Plato road, 18/11																																				
		CON 4 seen back in CT 1 14/11 by me. 2 newborns spotted 14/11 in CT 1 by me, 1 confirmed being male.																																				
		Sizwe confirmed CON 7 in urban area, not CON 5 as reported, 19/11.																																				

Figure 19: Raid sheet for the CT1 and CT2 Troop for November 2015.

The construction of the Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia fences continued this month, and both should be fully operational by mid-December.

4. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop has continued to move further south this month, and is utilizing much of Tokai Plantation. The troop has also been using the lower levels however, HWS rangers have not allowed the troop to spend much time around Porter Estate, because this is full of raiding opportunities and it is not desirable that the troop learn to forage for humane derived foods in new areas close to the urban edge.

An event this month, which kept HWS rangers busy, was the dispersal of TK41. TK41 joined the Mountain Troop as a beta male in July 2015, and seemed to be settled in this troop. However, surprisingly, TK41 dispersed from the Mountain Troop on 3 November 2015 at approximately 9am. TK41 moved south at an incredibly fast pace, and made it all the way to Ottery by 3pm that afternoon, with HWS managers tracking him all the way.

TK41 then turned around and moved back to Plumstead in the evening on 3 November 2015. Here, he slept on a roof of a block of flats. The following morning TK41 was darted by Dr Breed, and taken to the Westlake holding facility.

The following day TK41 was radio-collared, thoroughly examined, and translocated to Plateau Road in the hope that he would join the Plateau Road Troop as a dispersing male. Unfortunately, TK41 was totally rejected by the resident, but natal, alpha male of the Plateau Road Troop. TK41 therefore avoided the Plateau Road Troop and started to raid the farms along Plateau Road. A week later TK41 was recaptured and brought back to the Westlake holding facility.

To give TK41 a final chance to settle, he was released in Constantia, in the hope that he would join one of the Constantia Troops, or go back to the Mountain Troop. Unfortunately, TK41 refused to even go back up the mountain and spent three days frequently raiding the urban edge and residences on Groot Constantia.

Following the dispersing male protocol, TK41 was euthanized on the 23 November 2015 after the Wild Animal Advisory Committee (WAAC) approval was granted.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																																						
SECTOR					CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																																	
NORTH					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: November					3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																																										
YEAR: 2015																																																																						
BABOON ID					Sex	24	25	26	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	23	24	25	26	27	28	TOTAL																													
TK3 (W-B)					M																																				0																													
TK36 (R-Purp) collar					M																																				0																													
TK41 (Sing P)					M							2				1+2	1													1	1	1	1								8																													
					%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																																				
Troop					0.0																																			0.00																														
Individuals					15.9							10				900	540															540	360	720	630						51.17																													
Roost:					AM	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	?	1	2	?	?	2	1	?	2	1	2	?	?	3	?	6	1	?	?	?	?	?	3	?	?	?	?																															
Roost:					PM	3	3	2	3	3	2	?	1	2	?	?	2	1	?	2	1	2	?	?	3	?	6	1	?	?	?	?	?	3	?	?	?	?	?																															
Roost Sites					1	Veels-te-ver stores										2	Veels-te-ver reservoir										3	Veels-te-ver kramat										4	Buiten gums										5	Block 10										6	Other									
ID Features of Baboons																																																																						
General remarks					TK 41 dispersed again from GT, 03/11/15.																																																																	
					TK 41 was relocated to Plateaux road after his capture in Ottery.																																																																	
					TK 41 introduced to CT 1 after relocation from Plato road, 18/11. TK 41 euthanized 24/11.																																																																	

Figure 20: Raid sheet for the Mountain Troop for November 2015.

Births and Deaths

Two new-borns were reported this month. One in Tokai, and one in Constantia.

TK40, from the Tokai Troop, was euthanized for humane reasons after becoming almost completely blind following a baboon-on-baboon altercation. TK41, from the Mountain Troop, was euthanized in terms of the dispersing male protocol.

Recommendations

- **The Cape Academy** should baboon-proof all bins by attaching clips to the bins. These should be used correctly by all staff and students, and emptied regularly.
- **Forest Glade Centre** should ensure all bins in their waste facility are baboon-proof and emptied regularly. This will prevent males becoming accustomed to this area as a reliable food source.
- **Steenberg Estate** are requested to baboon-proof the telephone poles next to the Zwaanswyk Fence, with razor wire or an electric apron, to prevent these being used as access points for raiding baboons.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

During November there were four births and two deaths recorded, so the managed population grew by two, taking the total to 388. This represents an increase for the year of only 8 baboons, all of which were in the south. The northern population would also have grown, were it not for the Cape Fire in March during which 13 baboons from the Tokai (12) and Zwaanswyk (1) Troops died.

TROOP	Total Dec 2012	Total Dec 2013	Total Dec 2014	Nov Births	Nov Deaths	Nov Emigration/ Immigration	Total Births 2015	Total Deaths 2015	Emigration/ Immigration 2015	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	1			9	5	+2	49
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22				3	1	-1	23
Waterfall	28	30	30				3	3	+2	32
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17				0	1	+2	18
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14				6	9	-2	9
Slangkop	33	32	36	1			5	2		39
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	2	0	0	26	21	3	170
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28				7	6		29
Tokai	61	65	72	1	1		8	19	-2	59
Mountain	33	44	48		1		6	0	+1	55
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	1			12	5	-2	75
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	2	2	0	33	30	-3	218
TOTAL	354	355	380	4	2	0	59	51	0	388

Table 1: Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula.

With only one month to go before the end of the year, it is pertinent to comment on the distribution of baboon deaths over the past year (Table 2). The most notable statistic, is that there have now been eight management protocol deaths so far this year. This is half that of 2012 and 2013, and much the same as that for 2014 (7). In other words, for the past two years the number of management deaths has halved and seems to have reached a stable level. This suggests that current management strategies are working.

It is hoped that as the baboon troops are kept increasingly out of town, the baboons will be tempted less and less to raid town and so the need to exercise the raiding baboon protocol will decline. Unfortunately it is evident that many young males seem to remember what their fathers' did in their youth, and some attempt to resume those old ways as they reach puberty. It is HWS' challenge to curb this raiding behaviour as soon it becomes apparent, and therefore remove the need to exercise the protocol on these young males as they reach adulthood.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	November 2015	2015 to Date
Management	16 (6)	17	7	1	8
Human Induced	3	5	10	0	6
Natural	6 (1)	33	19	1	36
TOTAL	25	55	36	2	50

Table 2: Causes of baboon deaths since 2012. (*Portion of total collected prior to HWS taking over baboon management in August 2012, is included in brackets).

Hotline Data

There were relatively few raid related hotline calls coming from managed areas this month. Most of these calls (38) came in response to just a few raiding or dispersing individuals. In Tokai most of the calls came in response to two adult males TK28 and TK40. TK40 seems to have been rejected by the troop, which was probably why he was in the urban area so much. He was later euthanased for humane reasons after sustaining a deep cut on his forehead which cut his optic nerve, leaving him almost completely blind.

The hotline calls from Simonstown came in response to raids by TK19, TK42 and WFF4. TK42 is now firmly established as the alpha male of the troop, which has now settled down to living in the fynbos above SANAD. Although the Misty Cliffs Troop spent much more time in town (17.7%) than any other troop, there were still relatively few hotline calls (10), and no assertive raids. All hotline calls were simply reporting baboons in town or raiding bins.

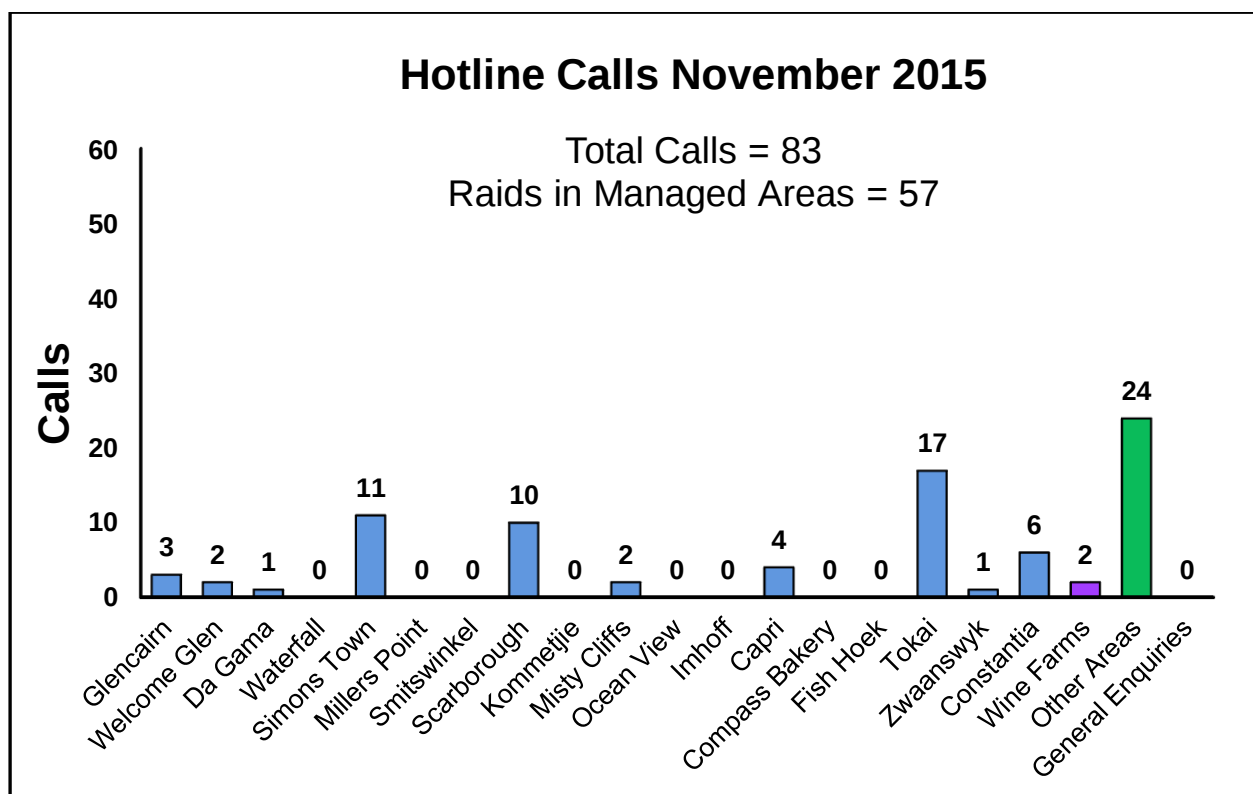


Figure 21: Hotline calls summary per urban area

It is again pleasing to note that most hotline calls (84%) were simply reporting baboons in town. As usual, assertive raids were the next highest category of raids. This is not surprising because this type of raid causes the most stress and is therefore most likely to be reported. Virtually all calls reporting raids of occupied houses were in response to TK28 raiding in Zwaanswyk. TK28 is the grandfather of the

Tokai Troop and not an aggressive male. It is hoped that by securing the telephone poles over the Zwaanswyk electric fence, most of this raiding behaviour will be prevented.

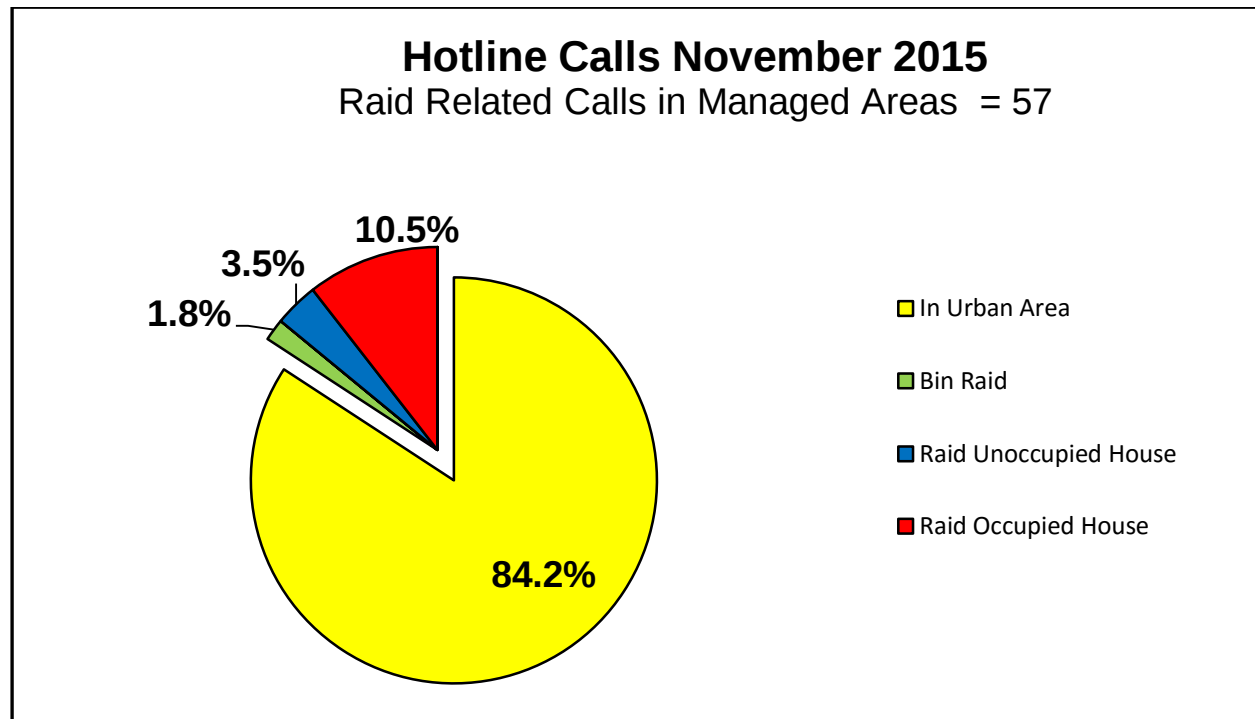


Figure 22: Composition of raid-related hotline calls

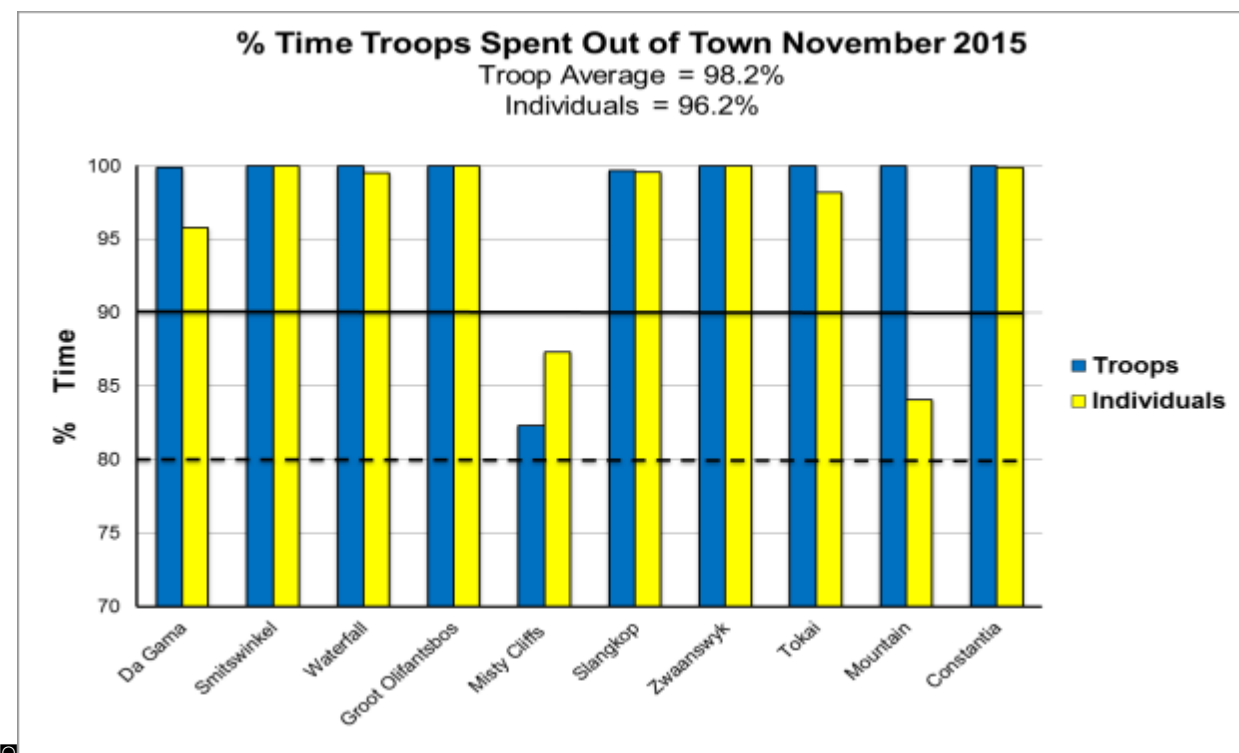


Figure 23: Percentage time troops spent out of town, solid line indicates the CoCT's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement.

Percentage Time out of Town

At first glance, the percentage time the baboon troops spent out of town is disappointingly low (98.2%) for this time of year, when there is so much food available in the fynbos. However, a second look shows that, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs Troop, which spent only 82.7% of their time out of town, the remaining troops averaged 99.97% of their time out of town. This would definitely be a record for HWS were it not for the behaviour of the now much reduced Misty Cliffs Troop, which, without their three young babies, would number only six individuals (four adult females and two juvenile males).

Conclusion

The report this month contains information of a very varied nature. On the one hand, most of the baboons were very well behaved, foraged extensively in the fynbos and, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs Troop, stayed out of town for 99.97% of the time. Most of the raiding behaviour this month was done by just a few individuals, two of which had to be euthanased. One male, TK40, was raiding extensively, most probably because he was being chased out of the troop. He eventually suffered a serious baboon-on-baboon injury to his optic nerve and went blind, so was euthanased for humane reasons.

Another dispersing baboon, TK 41, was raiding extensively but was also rejected by each troop he tried to join, so he was euthanased according to the dispersing male protocol with WAAC approval.

The Misty Cliffs Troop is an entirely different situation that needs serious consideration. This troop lost its alpha male, KOB1, through electrocution on a powerline on 29 April 2015, and since then has been without an adult or even sub-adult male in the troop. This situation was exacerbated in October when GOB7 brought the GOB Troop across to Misty Cliffs while he courted and mated with two oestrous females in that troop. During this time he periodically tried to kill the three young babies in the troop. As a result of this the mothers would run away from him and seek refuge in Scarborough.

After two weeks the GOB Troop returned to the CoGH Nature Reserve, taking the two oestrous females back with it. This left the troop with only nine individuals; three females and their babies, one pregnant female, and two juvenile males. Since then these females have been very reluctant to move far away from Scarborough, which they seem to regard as their safe haven. Despite this, they seldom raid (only 10 Scarborough hotline calls), but rather creep around town trying not to be observed.

Over the past three years, the Misty Cliffs Troop population has halved from 18 individuals down to nine. The most feasible solution for the survival of this troop would be to join the GOB Troop and to live primarily in the CoGH Reserve, as opposed to seeking refuge in Scarborough (where they could still be

attacked by dogs, poisoned or shot). At present this reunification of the troops is being prevented by the females, which are scared of GOB7 attacking their babies.

Another stumbling block is the difficulty of keeping the Misty Cliffs Troop in the CoGH Reserve. This task would be greatly facilitated if the Scarborough game fence between it and the CoGH Reserve was electrified. HWS has drawn up a detailed proposal with all the advantages and costs for the electrification of this fence, and submitted it to the Misty Cliffs and Scarborough Communities at a meeting, and in writing. The Misty Cliffs community has already voted in favour and agreed to pay their proportional costs, but the Scarborough Community has yet to respond.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions