



Photo: Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

December 2015

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A. REPORTING PERIOD

This monthly report covers the period 28 November until 25 December 2015. This report is overshadowed by events relating to the Misty Cliffs Troop. HWS are enormously disturbed to record the deaths of two baboons in this troop. One was a female with a young baby, and the other a juvenile male. Both died of injuries sustained from being shot by a high powered pellet gun while sheltering in Scarborough.

Animal welfare professionals and veterinarians suggest that a pellet gun injury is seldom a quick death and can cause days of suffering before the animal dies. The first baboon shot, the juvenile, died of his wounds after about 5 days. He was finally euthanased to put an end to his suffering. The second animal, a lactating female, died within a day of being shot. Both animals had massive and severe internal injuries. HWS rangers were enormously distressed by both incidents.

As mentioned in previous monthly reports, although the Scarborough baboons have been raiding much more than any other troop of baboons, they are also very secretive, hiding in gardens, seldom attracting any attention and causing very little, if any, damage. It is therefore difficult to understand why anybody would have wanted to shoot these baboons. This question remains unanswered but HWS, with CapeNature and the SPCA, will be doing their best to get the perpetrator charged and convicted.

On a more positive note, the summer forage still seems to be satisfying the needs of the other baboon troops in Cape Town. Excluding the Misty Cliffs Troop, all the other troops spent 99.8% of their time out of town. There were also only 26 raid-related hotline calls in managed areas, and 14 of these were from Scarborough.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Prior to 2012, the festive season used to be the worst period in terms of raiding for the Smitswinkel Troop. This is because the high number of tourists along the route led to an increase in conflict between motorists and campers/picnickers. In 2012 and 2013, HWS employed extra staff along the route and at the Miller's camp site to assist with reducing the conflict. This together with multiple other

strategies employed by HWS has resulted in an average over the last four years of the troop spending 99,94% of their time foraging on natural vegetation during the festive season, this despite tourist numbers remaining high over all four years.

This year, the troop spent only five minutes in the 'urban' area on 17 December. They came down through the houses at Castle Rock on the on their way down to the coast. The only raiding incident was on 19 December when an unidentified baboon broke the line at Castle Rock and went down to the houses along the coast. The baboon raided an occupied house, stole bread and ran out again. This incident took less than five minutes and then the individual re-joined the troop. SWBF1 has become a concern because of a loss of body condition, and seems to have had difficulty keeping up with the troop, this is presumably because of old age. Her condition will be monitored over the coming month.

On most days the troop came down the mountain in the morning feeding on protea flowers (*Leucospermum*) on the way. Typically, the baboons spent several hours in the proteas and then moved down to the coast where they fed on marine organisms. They generally moved back up to the mountain in the mid-afternoon. The rangers have noted that in the southern part of their range, the baboons still had active streams of water from which to drink. In the northern part of their home range, they tended to drink water from streams on Rockland's Farm.

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:	SMITS	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																								
MONTH: December	YEAR: 2015	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	TOTAL	
SWB6	M																													0	
Troop																					1									1	
UnID Individuals																						6								1	
UnID Fem	F																													0	
SWBF1	F																													0	
UnID Male	M																													0	
UnID Juveniles																														0	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS					
Troop	0.0																				5									0.08	
Individuals	0.0																					5								0.08	
Roost:	AM	5	6	3	6	4	2	3	1	1	3	3	5	5	2	4	3	4	1	1	4	2	6	2	4	4	5	5	6		
Roost:	PM	6	3	6	4	2	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	2	4	3	4	1	1	4	2	6	2	6	4	5	4	6	3		
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. SWB8 - purple/orange tags + collar.																													
General remarks																															

Figure 1: Smitswinkel Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop spent 100% of time out of town for the December reporting period. Similar to the Smitswinkel Troop they also spent a lot of time feeding on the proteas (*Leucospermum*). On the southern side of the Klaasjagersberg there are thick stands of *Leucospermum* and the troop spent the majority of their time in that area. There is also a stream between the Cape of Good Hope Nursery and Shamballah farms and they predominantly used that stream to drink water.

Over the reporting period there have been a couple of raiding incidents, mainly by individuals. The males in this troop have still been fighting from time to time and TK42 is clearly the dominant of the two males. TK19 has been recorded to sleep alone on several occasions. On 3 December he was seen being chased, alone, out of the Red Hill informal settlement at 06h45 by dogs. He also pushed to go to the farms by himself or with TK42, either in the morning or around midday. This can be mainly ascribed to the human derived food that they can be sourced from the farms, through waste, left over restaurant food and grapes etc.

Because the males leave the troop from time to time, an adult female was collared on 10 December to facilitate keeping track of the troop at all times.



Figure 2: Waste left outside on the Main Road at the Cape of Good Hope Nursery

A further problem encountered was that the baboons would still return to sleep above the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) on most nights throughout the reporting period. However, the electric fence around SANAD had been switched off for an extended period, and this allowed

especially TK19, to access the facility. There has also been a problem around the facility again with the bins that are being used, not being baboon-proofed. This will lead to the baboons being attracted back into the facility, if this problem is not addressed.

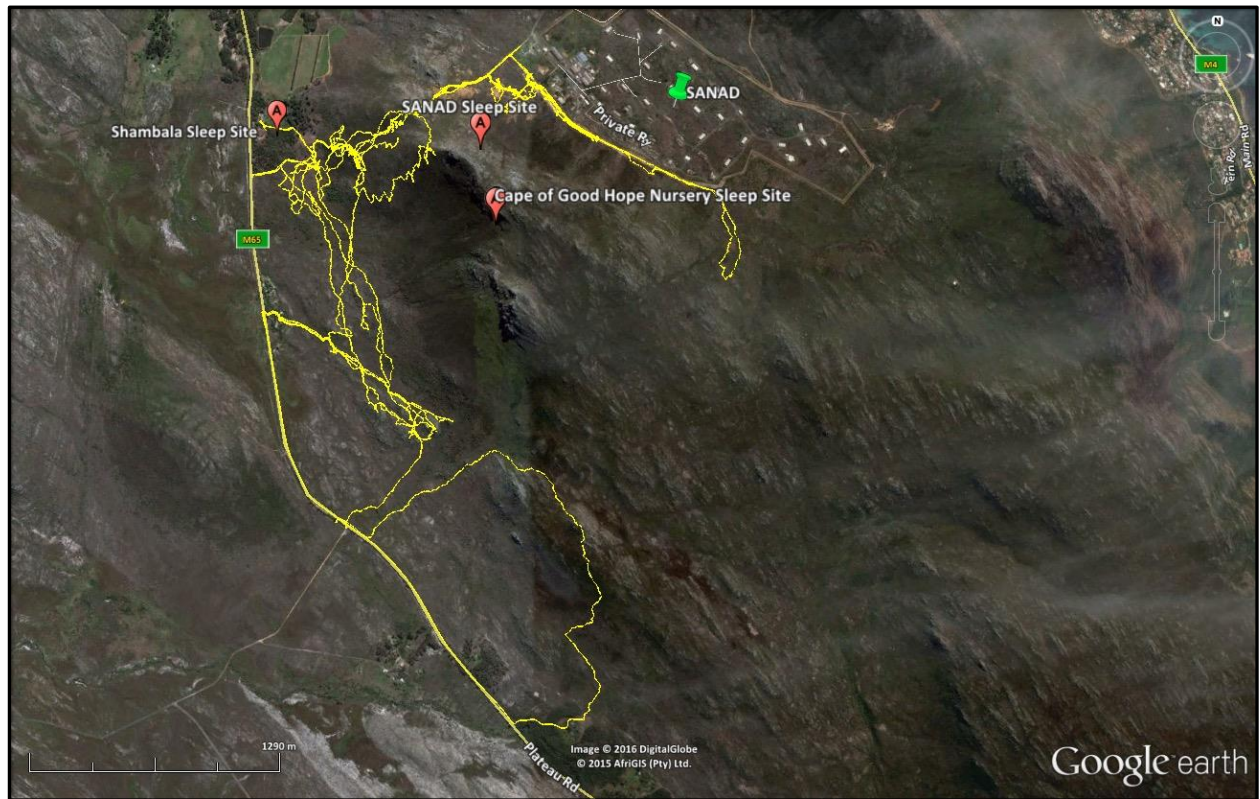


Figure 3: Waterfall Troop movement for the December reporting period.

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:		WATERFALL		2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																		
MONTH: DECEMBER		YEAR: 2015		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	TOTAL			
Troop																														0			
TK19	M						1								2					2	2	2	5		1	2	2			9			
TK42	M																					1						2		2			
WFF3	F																													0			
WFF4	F																													0			
UnID Females	F																													0			
UnID Juveniles																														0			
UnID Male	M																													0			
UnID Individuals																														0			
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS						
Troop	0.0																													0.00			
Individuals	2.0						15								30							28			270	5	15		17	6.33			
Roost:	AM	15	15	10	11	11	10	11	10	15	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	17	15	10	10	9						
Roost:	PM	15	10	10	11	10	11	10	15	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	10	17	15	10	10	9	10					
Roost Sites		1	Waterfall Cliff				2	Happy Valley Mtn				3	Signal School				4	Waterfall Barracks				5	Mountain Residents side										
		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		Bold and Italics indicate raids in non-urban areas																															

Figure 4: Waterfall Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

3. Da Gama Troop

Although the troop only spent 1.1% of the time in town, they unfortunately have not slept out of town at all throughout the entire reporting period. Nevertheless, the flats in Da Gama Park still remain the preferred sleep site. This is typical for this time of year with the longer days. In addition, poor waste management, fruit trees, vegetable gardens and easy access to residences, remain an enormous attractant for the troop to return to town daily. Thus, although the troop spent very little time in town, individuals spent a total of 4.4% of their time in town.

Over the past few months, the waste situation at the naval flats improved for a while following the new Navy ruling that each resident should place their own bin, in their own garage (each unit has a garage). However, the waste problem returned over this reporting period and was further compounded by the baboons having learnt where the bins are being kept. Several of the garages have broken doors and many baboons have started to climb through the broken doors, gaining access to the waste. A further problem has been that TK43 has learnt to open garage doors, where bolts have not been locked and secured properly into the wall.



Figure 5: (a) Broken garage door at the Da Gama Park Naval Flats. (b) Inside the garage after it had been raided by the baboons.



Figure 6: (a) Bins left outside at the Bluefin flats. (b) Bins left outside at the Kroonseil flats.

On 29 November a white Toyota Yaris was seen deliberately throwing food out towards the baboons as they were moving up behind Jack's Shop. SWB8 and a few individuals were moving closer to the road and the vehicle was seen slowing down and throwing food out of the passenger window. Unfortunately, the incident happened so quickly, that the rangers could not get the vehicle registration number. The windows were also tinted and the individuals could not be seen or identified.

On 28 November, another very unfortunate electrocution of a young female, juvenile baboon occurred. The baboon was playing on power lines along Elsie's River Valley. After the electrocution, the youngster was grabbed by its mother and initial observations could not determine if there were any severe injuries. However, during December it became evident that the juvenile did sustain severe injuries. Even more disturbing, was that the mother of the juvenile was found dragging her hind legs on the morning of 15 December.

From the way she was dragging her hind legs, the injury seemed to be human induced. Dr. Dorothy Breed tried several times to dart the juvenile whose injuries seemed more severe than those of the mother. Efforts to capture the juvenile were also made by the area manager, however this was not possible. Both animals were subsequently treated for pain and inflammation. A call was received on 23 December at 8pm from Dagleish in Da Gama, reporting a dead juvenile. Upon inspection on the 24 December, it was established that this was the electrocuted juvenile. The mother has since shown significant improvement and is putting weight on both hind legs.

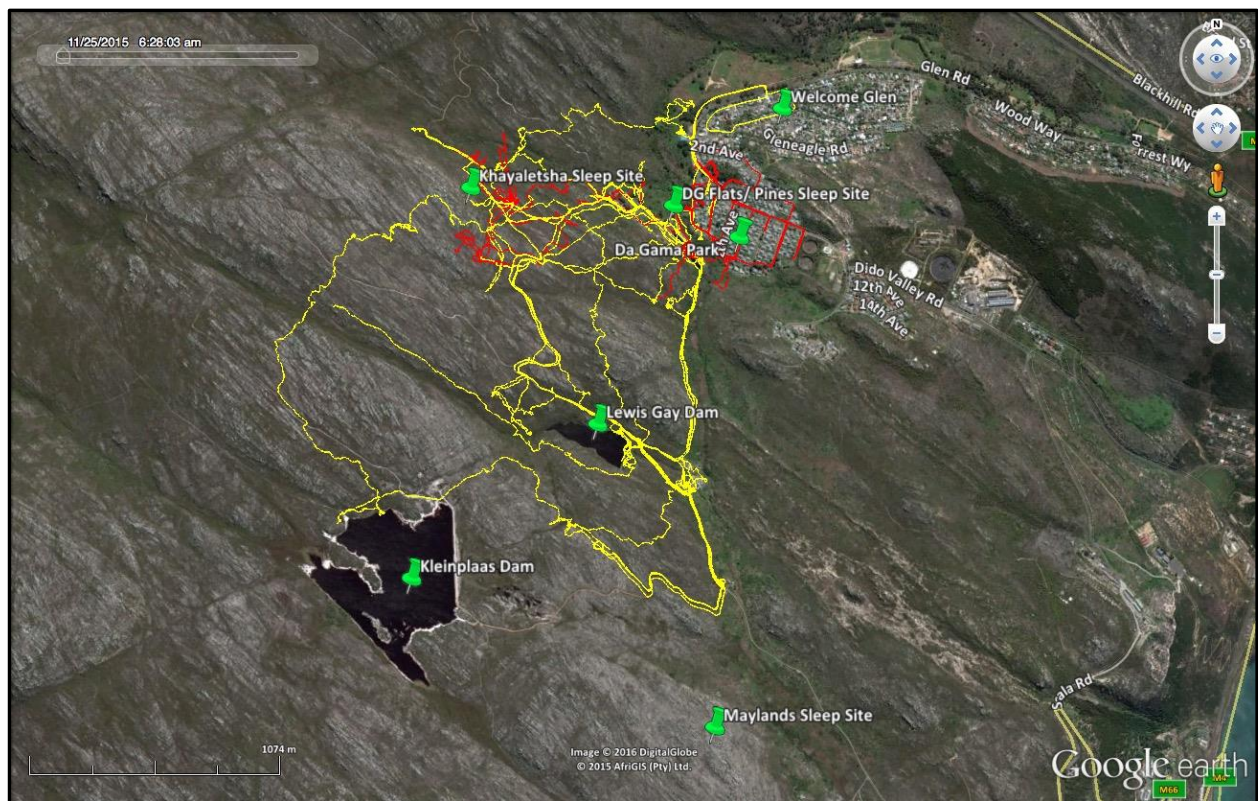


Figure 7: Da Gama troop movement, yellow lines indicating the troop and the red lines indicating the raiding individuals, for the December reporting period.

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: DECEMBER	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	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																				
Troop							1																		1		1			3																				
SK3	M		1	1					1		2,2					1	1	1												8																				
DG13 (W)	M		1																			1								2																				
DG14 (O-G)	M		1														1													2																				
DG15 (R-W)	M		1															1												2																				
DG16	M																1						1							2																				
TK43 (W-W)	M		1															2						1						3																				
SWB8 (Pu - O)	M											1							6											2																				
DGF1	F																													0																				
DGF2	F																													0																				
DGF4	F																						1							1																				
UnID Females	F					1									1			1						1						4																				
UnID Female	F		1	1		1						2			1							1								6																				
UnID Individuals													1				2													2																				
UnID Juvs			2																											1																				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS																							
Troop	1.1		100	60			20																	20		20			3.67																					
Individuals	4.4		100	60		57	105		45		120		15		15	10	25	25		10			205	10	20		20			14.03																				
Roost:	AM	1	1,2	1	2	1,2	3	5	5	1,2	1	1,2	1	2,3	2	2,3,1	2	1,3	1,3	1	1,2	1	1,2	1,2	3	1	3	1	2,1																					
Roost:	PM	2	1	1	2	1	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,2	1,2	1	3	1	1	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	Elsies 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																																																		

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

Births and Deaths

Two new births were recorded in the Waterfall Troop on 23 December. One death was recorded in the Da Gama Troop on 23 December (a juvenile was electrocuted).

Recommendations

- The South African Navy need to enforce the rule that residents at the naval flats in Da Gama Park must store their bins inside their garages at all times and only put their bins outside on bin collection days.
- 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.
- Baboon-proof bins should be kept locked at all times, even on bin collection days. The refuse trucks open locked bins automatically.
- Baboon-proofing of the entrances, air vents and windows of the navy flats in Da Gama Park is still an urgent requirement.
- All vegetable gardens in baboon-affected areas should be baboon-proofed, and residents should or remove fruit trees, or at least the fruit.
- Waste management and the security office kitchen, at SANAD, should be baboon-proofed. It is attracting baboons into the facility.
- Electric fencing around SANAD should be kept on at all times, if possible. If the electric fence is off, security guards should alert the Baboon hotline or inform the HWS rangers.
- Although the poles of the powerline in Elsies River Valley have all been greased, it will be a better long term solution to install it underground.

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. HWS rangers continue to monitor the GOB Troop through the use of telemetry equipment, obtaining a signal from GOB7's collar. The signal showed that they were deep within the reserve for 20 days of the month, close to Olifantsbos for five days and the in the vicinity of the Klaasjagersberg SANParks office on three occasions.

This is as very pleasing result, as it means that the troop is continuing to forage on indigenous fynbos and the coastal organisms that they are harvesting from the intertidal zone.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

This month was a difficult month for all HWS staff in terms of the Misty Cliffs Troop. Two baboons in the Misty Cliff Troop were shot and killed by injuries inflicted by a high-powered pellet gun. On 13 December, a hotline call was received at 09h38 reporting a sick baboon in a garden on Mountain Rise Road, Scarborough. Area Managers Ziggy Rode and Cath Shutte responded and transported the injured animal to a temporary holding facility of the veterinarian, Dr Dorothy Breed.

Upon assessment MC3's vitals were stable, but he showed laboured breathing, weakness and bruising on the abdomen. He was immobilised, assessed and found to have a small puncture wound, the size of a pellet gun shot, on his left lower abdominal area. Supportive treatment was initiated in the hope that the damage was limited and self-reparable. Dr Breed monitored the response to the treatment twice daily.



Figure 9: (a) Shows the pellet entry wound on MC3's left side. (b) shows MC3 treated with a drip, antibiotics and pain medication.

On 18 December, MC3 underwent a final examination prior to being released. This included having Xrays of his abdominal area. The Xrays showed that there was an abdominal mass and that his intestines were distended. Dr Breed decided that further investigation was needed and an explorative laparotomy was performed. The abdominal mass was identified as severe adhesions with multiple areas of intestinal necrosis. Dr Breed deemed the damage done by the pellet gun as inoperable and MC3 was euthanized due to humane reasons.

Two days later, on 20 December, Area Manager, Cath Shutte, received a call from the Field Manager alerting her to another individual who was showing similar signs to MC3. In this case it was an adult female, MCF4, with an infant. The female was moving sluggishly and was not keeping up with the troop. Upon arrival in Scarborough, the female had already passed away and her infant had been picked up and was being carried by another female.

It was noted that female carrying the infant is pregnant, and it had begun suckling. It was hoped that the suckling would stimulate the milk production of the pregnant female so that the infant could suckle. The infant was monitored twice daily thereafter and is doing well and seems to have been adopted by the pregnant female.



Figure 10: MCF4 found after being shot with a high powered pellet gun on 20 December.

A post-mortem was conducted on MCF4, by veterinarians Dr Dorothy Breed and Dr Elzette Jordaan. It was deemed that MCF4 had been shot by a high powered pellet gun and had died of her injuries.

The two shootings exacerbated the situation in Scarborough for the Misty Cliffs Troop. The troop continues to view Scarborough as a place of refuge, but this pattern increased after the shooting of MC3

on 13 December. Prior to the shooting on 13 December, the troop as a whole, was in town on five occasions over the initial 15 days of the month. After the shootings, the troop as a whole was in town on 11 occasions over the remaining 13 days.

The shootings also affected the troops sleep site choice. Prior to the shooting on 13 December, the troop was found to be sleeping in town on six occasions out of the initial 15 days of the month. This number increased after the shootings and the baboons slept in town on 11 occasions over the remaining 13 days.

This is a clear indication that the shooting of the two individuals of the Misty Cliffs troop (MC3 and MCF4) has caused the troop further stress and has exacerbated the situation in Scarborough. HWS urges any member of the public to come forward and call the Hotline Phone on 071 588 6540 if they have any information regarding the two shootings in Scarborough.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
SOUTH WEST				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: December		YEAR: 2015		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	TOTAL	
MC3 (Large Juvenile Male)		M			1			1					2		1	1,2	1														7	
Unld Females		F							1	1		1,2		1	1	1,2	1,2			1		1	2								13	
Juveniles		F			1			1																							2	
Troop					1						1,2				2	1	1	1	1,2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,2	1			19	
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS			
Troop		48.7			420						780				150	120	540	780	780	30	810	765	810	810	750	810	810	240			156.75	
Individuals		27.5			240			65	630	660		660	30	630	690	780	720			180		30									88.58	
Roost:		AM	1	1	1	1,5	1	2	1	1	5	1	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	5	5	1,5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2		
Roost:		PM	1	1	1,5	1	2	1,5	2	1	1	1	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	1	1	5	5	1,5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2	2		
Roost Sites			1 Misty Cliffs 1				2 Misty Cliffs 2				3 Witsand				4 CoGH Reserve				5 Other													
ID Features of Baboons																																
General remarks			Shooting of MC3 on 13 December & MCF4 on 20 December 2015																													

Figure 11: Misty Cliffs Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

Out of the 28 day reporting period there were only nine raids in Scarborough and one raid in Misty Cliffs. There were no raids recorded for the remaining 18 days. The troop, as a whole, was in town on 19 occasions. It is interesting to note that there were only four bin raids during that time, reiterating the fact that the troop is seeking refuge in Scarborough.

Prior to the shooting, MC3 had raided bins on only two occasions. The other bin raids can be attributed to the other individual females.

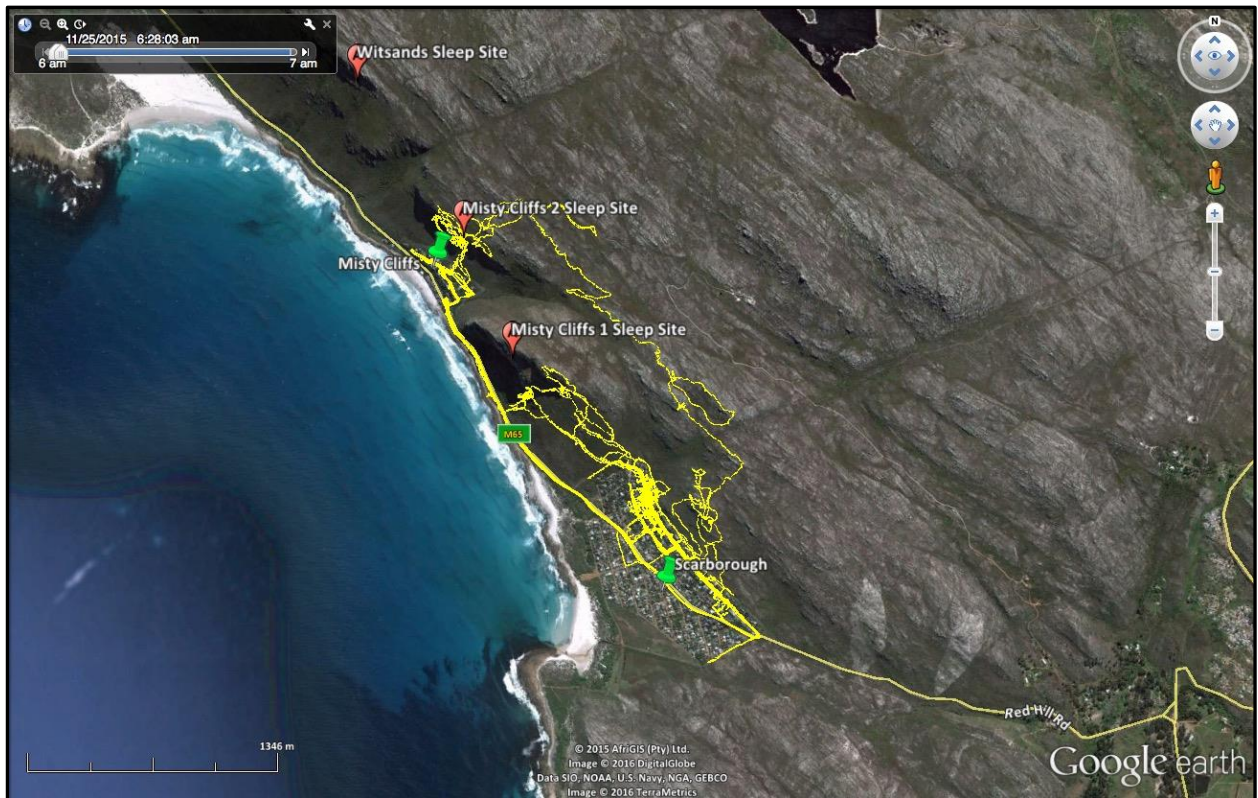


Figure 12: Misty Cliffs Troop movement for the December reporting period.

Once out of town, the troop foraged on the natural vegetation between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. They moved down onto the coastline on two occasions to feed in the intertidal zone on a variety of marine organisms.

3. Slangkop Troop

Following last month's trend (see HWS November 2015 Monthly Report), the Slangkop Troop spent the majority of this month (22 nights) sleeping on the cliffs at the Compass Bakery sleep site. For the remainder of the month (six nights), they slept in the pines behind Ocean View. On three occasions the troop was left in the pines behind Ocean View, but was chased by dogs after the HWS rangers had left for the day. The troop was found at the Compass Bakery sleep site the following morning.

The Slangkop Troop continued to forage in the natural area around the Rasta Camp, Solole and along the stream in the valley which runs between the Compass Bakery sleep site and Ocean View. On two occasions, the troop moved higher up the mountain and foraged in the indigenous vegetation on the plateau above Ocean View.

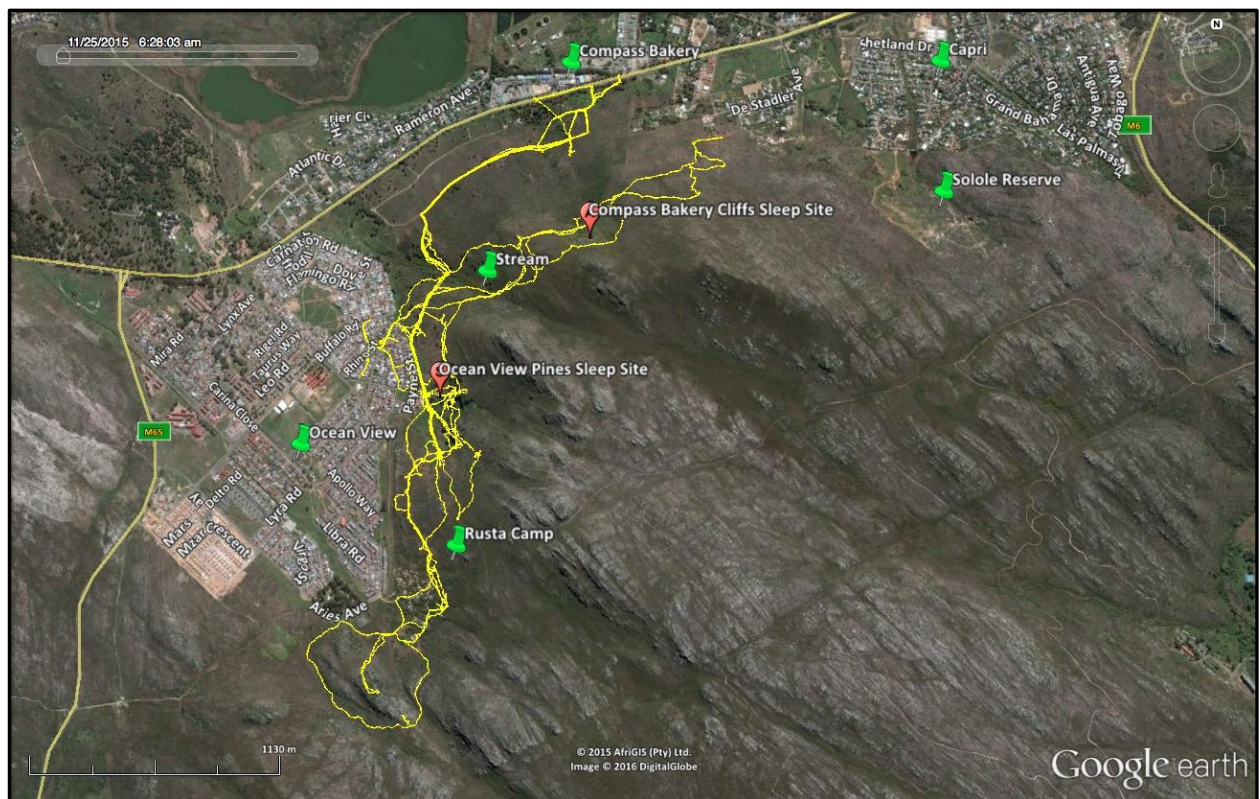


Figure 13: Slangkop Troop movement for the December reporting period.

The Slangkop Troop, as a whole, only entered the urban area on two occasions this month. It is important to note that on both occasions no raids occurred. The HWS rangers continue to be very effective in this area and have further reduced the number of raids from 17 in November 2015, to 11 this month. It is interesting to note that out of the 11 raids that occurred this month, there were only three bin raids, which can be attributed to individual raiding parties.

The number of individual raids has also decreased this month. SK6 and DG6 each only raided bins on two occasions, on 29 November and 14 December, and on 29 November and 06 December respectively. The longest time that an individual baboon remained in town was 35 minutes and this occurred in Capri on 29 November.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																															
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																											
SOUTH WEST				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: December		YEAR: 2015		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	TOTAL	
DG6	M		2							2					1															3	
SKF1	F																													0	
SKF2	F																													0	
SK6 (Sub-adult)	M		2												1			2												3	
Juveniles																														0	
Females			2							2					1															3	
Troop							1																1							2	
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS				
Troop	0.5						60																	30						1.50	
Individuals	0.3		35							10					10			5												1.00	
Roost:	AM	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3		
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	
Roost Sites				1	Slangkop					2	Ocean View					3	Compass Bakery					4	Witsand					5	Other		
ID Features of Baboons																															
General remarks				One birth noted on 01 December 2015																											

Figure 14: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

Births and Deaths

There was one birth in the Slangkop Troop on 01 December. There were two deaths in the Misty Cliffs troop this month. MC3 on 18 December and MCF4 on 20 December. Both died from the pellet gun wounds.

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

The Tokai Troop mainly used three sleep sites this month, namely the Silvermine pines, the Level 3 Mixed Plantation (pines and blue gums) and the Tea Garden (Figure 15). For most of this month, the Tokai Troop foraged at the upper elevations of their range and around Silvermine Reserve (Figure15). This is indicative of the good weather and plentiful, nutritious forage at the upper elevations.

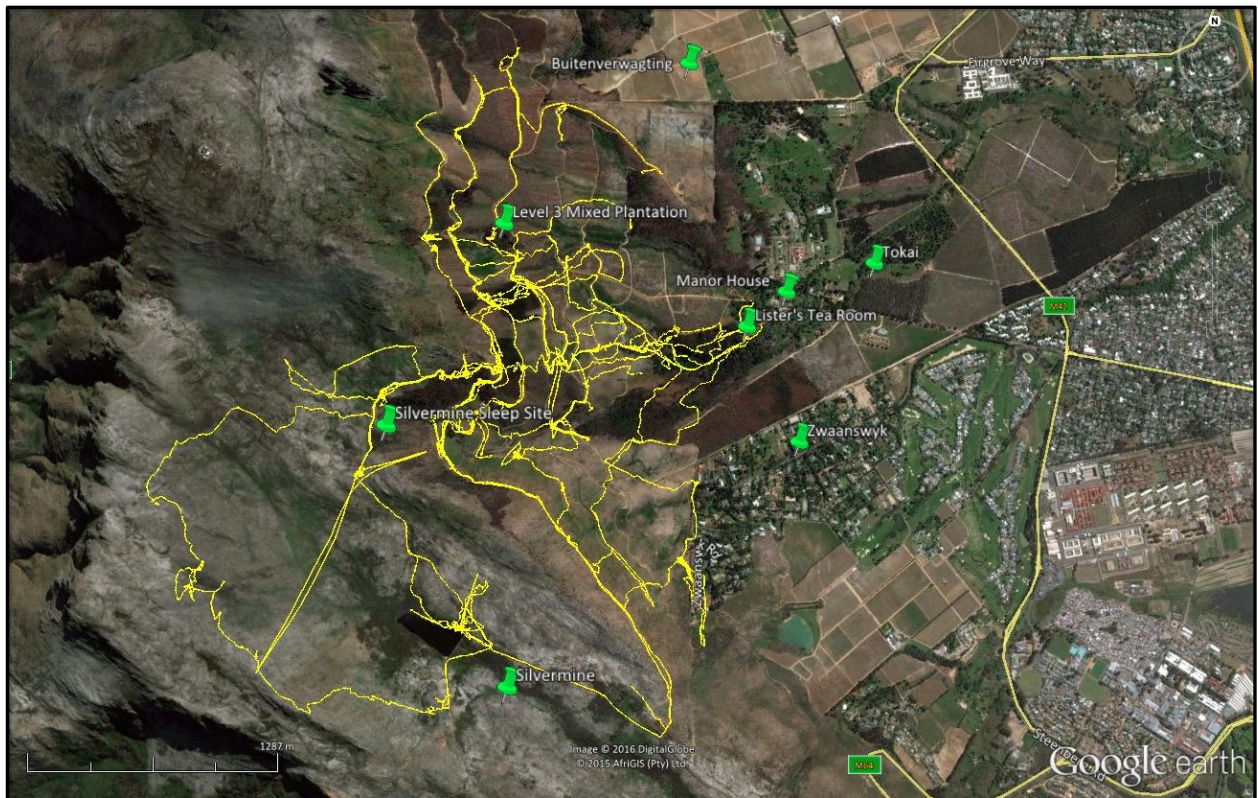


Figure 15: Data loggers indicating movements of rangers following the Tokai troop.

The only major raiding this month in the Tokai Troop was by TK28, the old alpha male of the troop. When the rest of the troop were moving to and from Silvermine on the southern side of Tokai Plantation, TK28 would leave the troop and jump over the Steenberg Fence and make his way into Zwaanswyk.

Throughout December, HWS rangers managed to block TK28 about 50% of the time by preventing him from jumping the Steenberg Fence. When TK28 did manage to get past rangers, his excursions into Zwaanswyk were always quick (the longest recorded time in town for TK28 was 45 minutes, Figure 16). However, TK28 always manages to raid when in Zwaanswyk.

Silvermine Reserve reopened to the public on 22 December 2015. HWS rangers managed to keep the Tokai Troop at bay and prevent too much raiding on public picnickers over the Christmas period. However on Christmas day, two picnickers were raided in two separate incidents by untagged baboons from the Tokai Troop (Figure 16). These individuals were chasing one another and soon found themselves near some easily accessible food and took the opportunity to steal some bread rolls.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																				
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
NORTH				1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food									
BABOON TROOP:		TOKAI		2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: December		YEAR: 2015		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	TOTAL					
TK28 (B-G)		M				2												6			2,6			6							5					
TK16 (W-W)		M																													0					
TK 47 (White)		M																													0					
TK48 (Red)		M																													0					
MT3 (Pu-B)		M																													0					
Uni Male		M																											5	1						
Uni Female		F																											5	1						
Tokai Troop																															0					
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS									
Troop		0.0																													0.00					
Individuals		0.5				15												15			45			15							1.50					
Roost:		AM	1	5	12	1	1	11	12	1	11	12	5	5	12	12	11	11	11	1	1	1	12	1	1	4	5	11	11	1						
Roost:		PM	5	12	1	1	11	12	1	11	12	5	5	12	12	11	11	11	1	1	1	12	1	1	11	12	11	11	1	11						
Roost Sites			1 Tea Garden				2 Lev 1 Zwk Gums				3 Lev 2 stream				4 Lev 4 Pines				5 Upper Tea Garden																	
			6 Manor House				7 Picnic site 1				8 Picnic site 2				9 Middle Plantation				10 Chrysalis																	
			11 Sivermine pines				12 Level 3 Mixed plantat				13 Level 3 Pines				14 Other				15																	
ID Features of Baboons																																				
General remarks			Bold & italics indicate raids in non-urban areas																																	

Figure 16: December Raid sheet for the Tokai Troop

It became apparent that a major problem in Silvermine is dogs in the reserve not on leashes. There were a few incidents where dogs chased baboons and *vice versa*, once Silvermine was opened. Luckily, none resulted in any physical contact between the two species. HWS urges the public to follow the guidelines set out by SANParks in Silvermine Reserve and to keep dogs on leashes **at all times** to prevent any unfortunate physical contact between baboons and dogs.

There were two births recorded in the Tokai Troop during December 2015.

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

The Zwaanswyk Troop followed the movements of the Tokai Troop for the majority of December (Figure 17). Following the pattern of the Tokai Troop, the Zwaanswyk also mainly used three sleep sites this month: the Silvermine Pines, Level 3 Mixed Plantation and the Manor House (very near to the Tea Garden where the Tokai Troop slept).

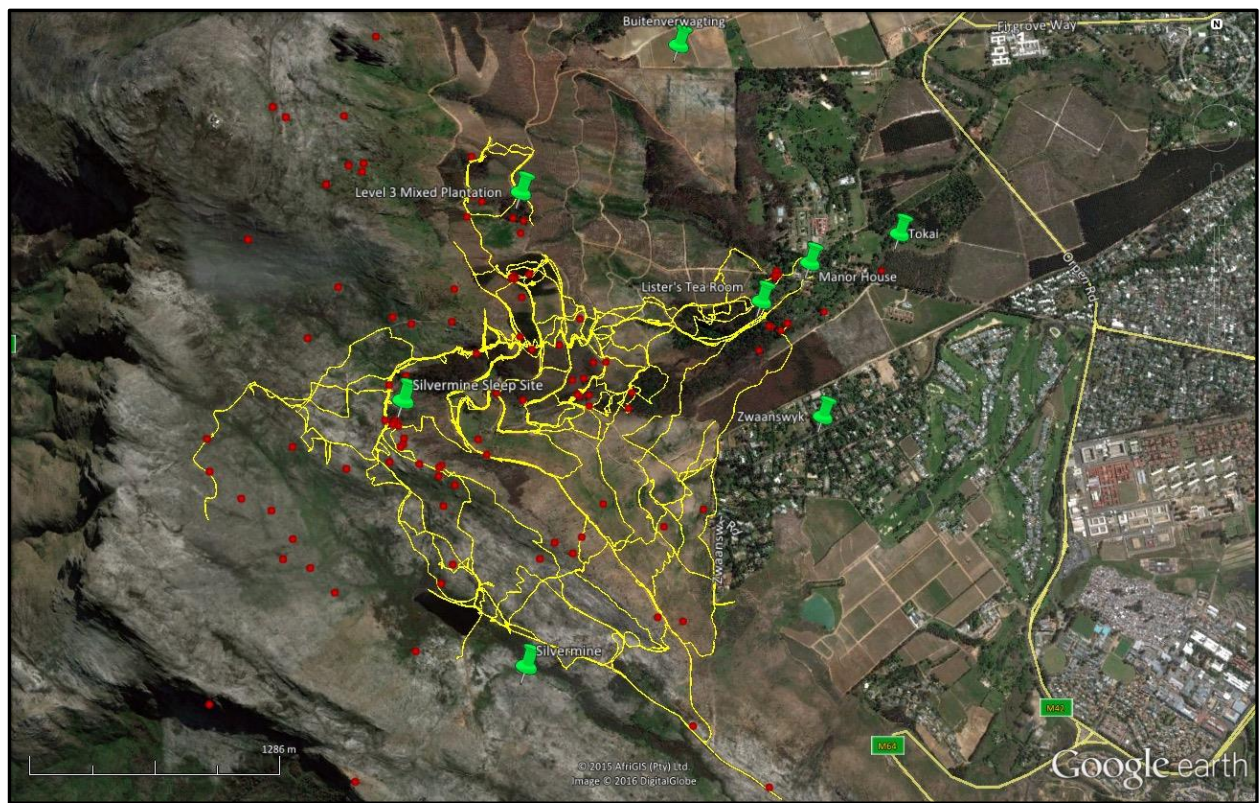


Figure 17: Zwaanswyk Troop movements in December. Yellow lines indicate baboon ranger movements following the Zwaanswyk Troop. Blue dots represent the GPS points of MT3, the alpha male of the Zwaanswyk Troop.

Although the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops foraged in the same area their pattern of movements indicated that they were still two distinct groups. When they moved in the same direction, there were distinct groupings, with one troop leading and the other one following. Additionally, when they slept in the same area, they did not share trees.

With this context, it was noted that TK45 appeared to be showing signs of dispersing from the Zwaanswyk Troop to the Tokai Troop. TK45, is a large untagged sub adult male natal to the Zwaanswyk Troop. During December TK45 spent several days with the Tokai Troop and even slept with this troop for a few nights.

There was only one raiding incident from the Zwaanswyk Troop this month (Figure 18). On 17 December the Zwaanswyk Troop slept at the Tokai picnic site. Here they raided two bins that were overflowing and hence not baboon-proofed. With the exception of this raid, there have been no raids by any Zwaanswyk baboons since mid-August, which is pleasing to note.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
NORTH		1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food									
BABOON TROOP:	Zwaanswyk	2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: December	YEAR: 2015	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	TOTAL				
MT2 (Yellow+collar)	M																													0				
TK45 (Untagged L. SA)	M																													0				
TKF5 (Green)	F																													0				
TKF7 (Red)	F																													0				
Individuals	F																				2									1				
Zwaanswyk Troop																														0				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS						
Troop	0.0																													0.00				
Individuals	0.0																													0.00				
Roost:	AM	6	5	13	6	6	12	13	6	12	13	6	1	12	3	12	12	12	1	6	8	14	6	1	3	6	12	12	1					
Roost:	PM	5	13	6	6	12	13	6	12	13	6	1	12	3	12	12	12	1	6	8	14	6	1	12	13	4	12	1	12					
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	Tokai Bridge					12	Silvermine pines					13	Level 3 mixed plantatio					14	Level 3 Pines					15	Other							
ID Features of Baboons																																		
General remarks		Bold & italics indicate raids in non-urban areas																																

Figure 18: Zwaanswyk Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

The adult female that was treated for sarcoptic mange last month, responded well to the treatment and is recovering well.

One new born was reported in the Zwaanswyk Troop in December.

3. Constantia Troop

The CT1 troop has been spending much of their time this month in the thick vegetation above the Upper Gums. This is located between the upper sections of Klein Constantia and Groot Constantia. This valley is densely vegetated and mostly inaccessible, hence it can be seen from the data logger map (Figure 19) that HWS baboon rangers monitor the troop from the edges of the valley.

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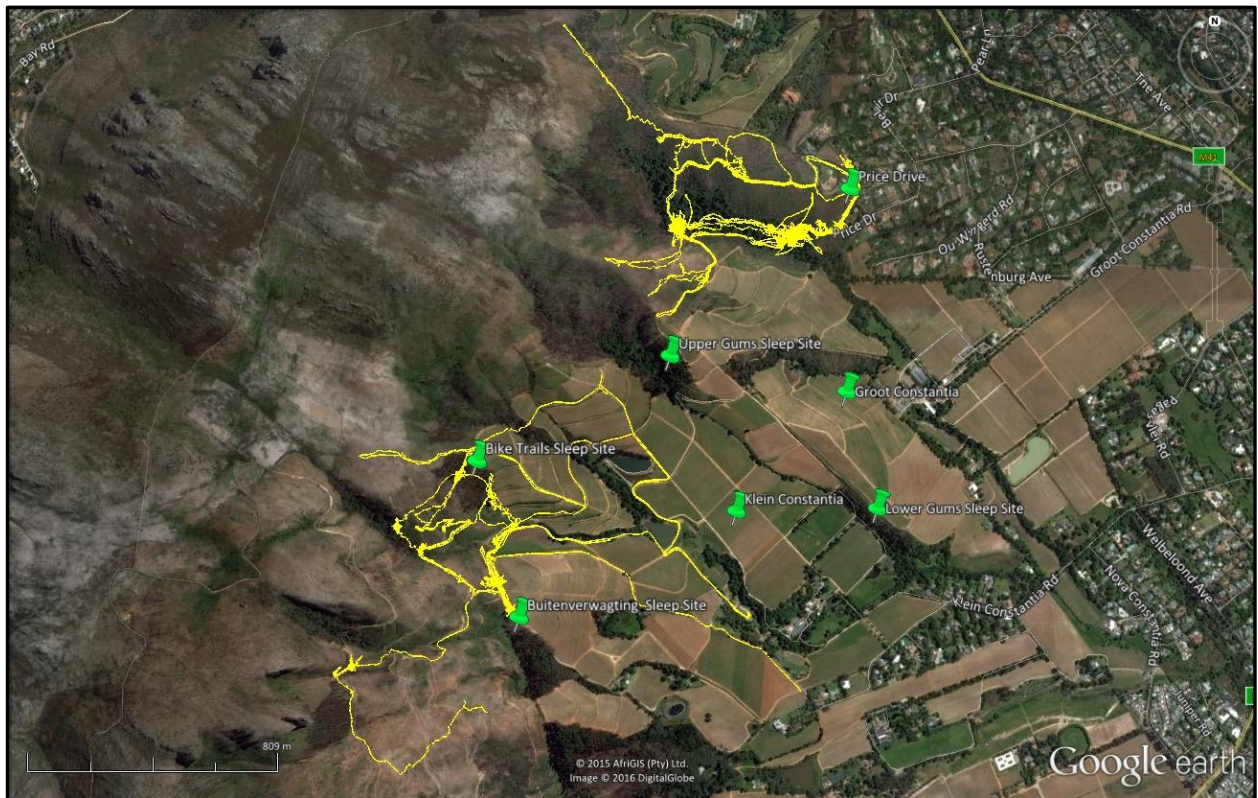


Figure 19: Data loggers showing movements of baboon rangers following the CT1 Troop.

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: December		YEAR: 2015		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	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												1			1														2						
CON7 (P-G)	M																													0						
MT1 (G-W)	M																													0						
Untagged M	M												6			2,2														3						
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS										
Troop	0.0																													0.00						
Individuals	0.4												30			40														1.17						
Roost:	AM	3+6	3	3	1	1	1+6	1	2	1+7	1+3	1	1	1	1	1+6	1	1+4	1+4	3	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+7						
Roost:	PM	3	3	1	1	1+6	1	2	1+7	1+3	1	1	1	1	1+6	1	1+4	1+4	3	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+9	3+7	3+6						
Roost Sites		1 Upper Gums				2 Lower Gums				3 Bike Trail Gums				4 Middle Plantation KC				5 McKenzies																		
		6 Buiten gums				7 Block 10 gums				8 Castle gums				9 Veels-te-ver				10 Other																		
ID Features of Baboons																																				
General remarks																																				

Figure 20: December raid sheet for the Constantia troops.

On 5 December, the CT1 Troop slept at the Lower Gums for the first time in over a year. From here they hooked around the Groot Constantia fence and spent the morning on Groot Constantia. However by midday, the troop was out of Groot Constantia and back in the valley between the farms.

The Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia electric fences were activated in December. These have not completely excluded the baboons from the farms, due to several weak points (under the fences, overhanging trees) that the baboons use to gain access. However, the fences do provide hard boundaries that the farm rangers use to help keep the baboons off the farms.

There were two raiding incidents this month. CON6 and an untagged male left the CT1 troop and entered the urban area near Price Drive on 9 and 12 December (Figure 20). The untagged male raided an occupied house and two bins. No raids were recorded for CON6 while in the urban area (Figure 20). Both males were out of town within 40 minutes on both occasions.

The CT2 Troop was scarcely seen this month and spent most of the month high up the mountains. It appeared they found a new sleep site in the higher reaches of the mountains because they did not return to their usual sleep sites on some nights during December. HWS managers will endeavour to collar a male in the CT2 Troop in the coming months to aid management of this troop. This will give an indication of where the troop is if they do not come down the mountain in the evenings.

4. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop ranged above Buitenverwachting in Veels-te-Ver and in Tokai Plantation during December. In the mornings, Buitenverwachting farm rangers pushed the troop off the farm and into Tokai Plantation. Once in Tokai Plantation, the Mountain Troop then started moving down the mountain towards Porter Estate. This is highly undesirable because this area has many raiding opportunities and the Mountain Troop have not historically used this as part of their range.

Once in Tokai Plantation, the Mountain Troop then started moving down the mountain towards Porter Estate. This is highly undesirable because this area has many raiding opportunities and the Mountain Troop have not historically used this as part of their range.

To prevent the Mountain Troop getting used to Porter Estate they were pushed up into Tokai Plantation in the mornings by HWS rangers. HWS have advised Buitenverwachting rangers to rather move the baboons west (up the mountain) and off the farm, rather than south and into the lower section of Tokai Plantation, which facilitates downward movements to Porter Estate.

Unlike the Tokai Troop, when the Mountain Troop is up the mountain, individual animals do not leave the troop to run down and raid. Hence, once the troop was higher than level 3, HWS rangers left the troop in the afternoons to focus their efforts on other troops.

The Mountain Troop also used the Level 3 Mixed plantation as a sleep site this month. This is a new sleep site for this troop. The Level 3 Mixed Plantation is one of the last remaining stands of pines and gums in Tokai Plantation, which is why it has been so heavily used. It is likely that this stand of pines will also be removed in the coming months.

No raiding by Mountain Troop was recorded during December.

Births and Deaths

Three new-borns were reported this month, two in Tokai, and one in Zwaanswyk. No deaths were recorded during this reporting period.

Recommendations

- **Visitors to Silvermine** should be aware that they are entering a baboon frequented area. Food should be locked away and kept out of sight from baboons. Additionally, **dogs should be on leashes at all times**, even if there are no baboons visible.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

This month, there were six births and three deaths recorded. Thus, the population of the managed troops grew by three, taking the estimated total to 391 baboons (Table 1). This represents an increase of 3% over the total managed population at the end of 2014.

Similarly, in November the HWS estimate of the Misty Cliffs Troop number was nine baboons. Since then two baboons have been shot, so one would expect the number to have dropped down to seven. However the troop now numbers eleven, consisting of five adult females, five babies and one juvenile female. This discrepancy may be accounted for because of migration between this troop and its parent troop, the GOB Troop. Alternatively, the HWS rangers may have undercounted these baboons, being so secretive as they move around Scarborough and its surrounds.

The annual ground truth count, in which all individuals and their age classes are recorded, will commence in January 2016.

TROOP	Total Dec 2012	Total Dec 2013	Total Dec 2014	DEC Births	DEC Deaths	DEC Emigration/ Immigration	Total Births 2015	Total Deaths 2015	Emigration/ Immigration 2015	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43		1		10	6	+2	49
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22				3	1	-1	23
Waterfall	28	30	30	2			5	5	+2	32
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17			-1	0	1	+1	17
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14		2	+1	6	8	-1	11
Slangkop	33	32	36	1			7	2		41
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	3		0	31	23	3	173
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	1			8	6		30
Tokai	61	65	72	1			11	19	-2	62
Mountain	33	44	48				1	1	+1	49
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70				14	5	-2	77
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	2	0	0	34	31	-3	218
TOTAL	354	355	380	5	0	0	65	54	0	391

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

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	December 2015	2015	TOTAL
Management	16 (6)	17	7	0	7	47
Human Induced	3	5	9	3	11	28
Electrocutions	0	0	4	1	4	8
Other	3	5	5	2	7	20
Natural	6 (1)	33	20	0	35	94
TOTAL	25	55	36	3	53	169

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).

The data on the distribution of baboon deaths in 2015 are presented in Table 2. In December, two deaths were caused by the pellet gun shootings in Scarborough. Another human induced death (HID) was the electrocution of a juvenile on the powerline running through Elsie's River Valley. Over the past year HWS has recorded HID's to include all incidents where baboons have died as a direct result of human actions, their pets or their constructions. Thus typical incidents include shootings, poisonings, and baboons being killed by dogs, traffic accidents and electrocutions.

Most HID's occur because of the close proximity of baboons to humans, either in the urban area or close to it. However, in the case of electrocutions these typically occur when baboons are outside the urban area and just climbing / playing on powerlines as they would in trees. HWS has therefore decided to split the HID data, keeping electrocutions separate from other forms of death. The 2012 - 2015 data are therefore now presented in this form in Table 2. It is evident from this table that approximately one

third of all HID's over the past two years have been caused by electrocutions, all of them out of town. At present HWS try to reduce the incidence of electrocutions by applying waterproof grease to all powerlines which baboons are known climb. Although this does seem to be effective, a longer term solution is really required.

Hotline Data

This month there were only 26 raid related hotline calls emanating from managed areas, of which 14 were from Scarborough (Figure 21). The low number of hotline calls reflects the availability of food outside of town, and how much the baboons are feeding there. Interestingly, although 14 hotline calls came from Scarborough, this is still a relatively low number of calls, particularly when one considers that the troop spent the most amount of time in town (51.3%) ever since HWS took over baboon management in 2012. This illustrates the point that the troop is being very secretive and suggests that they are more seeking refuge than aiming to raid. This behaviour became much more pronounced after the two baboons were shot.

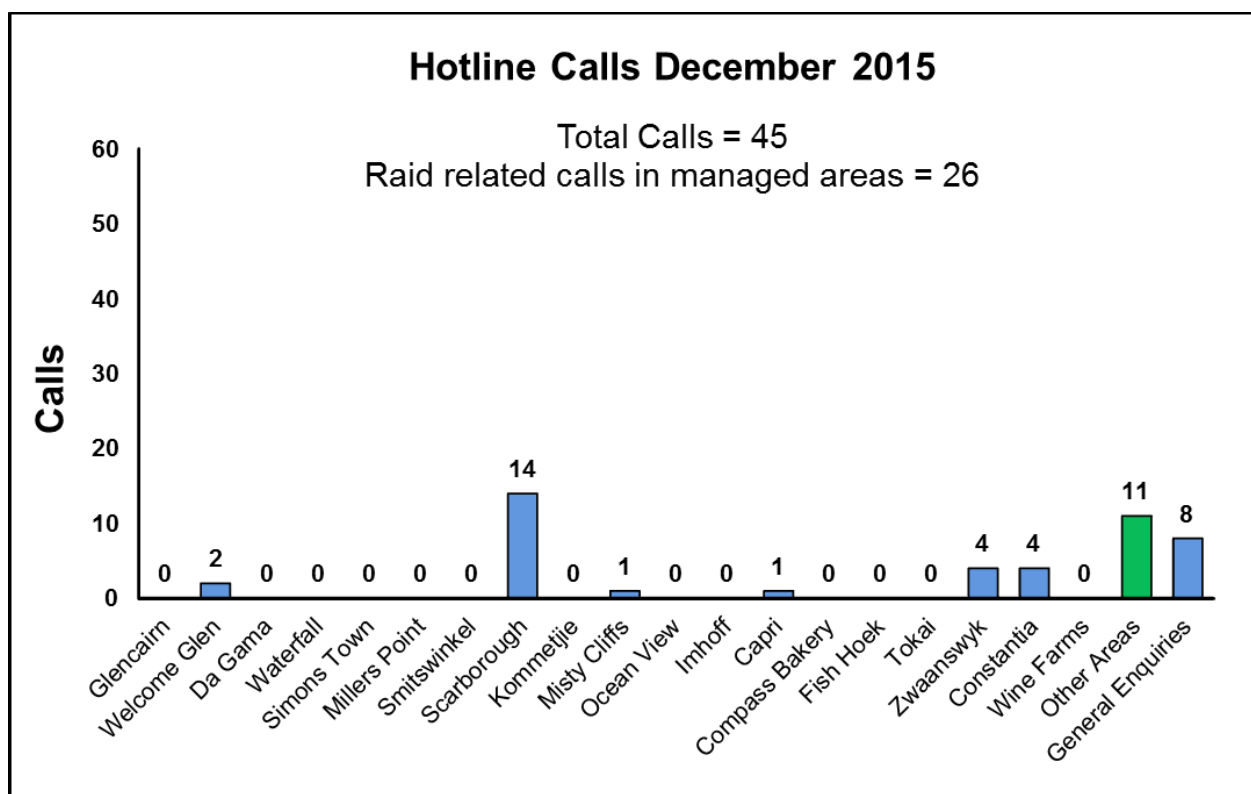


Figure 21: Hotline calls summary per urban area.

The relative frequency of hotline calls is given in Figure 22. This month the percentages of reported bin raids and raids on occupied houses both approximately doubled, but this should be taken in the context of how few raids were recorded in total. Thus the 19% reported raids on occupied houses,

represents just five actual raids. As usual, most were committed by TK28 after climbing over the un-electrified part of the Zwaanswyk fence.

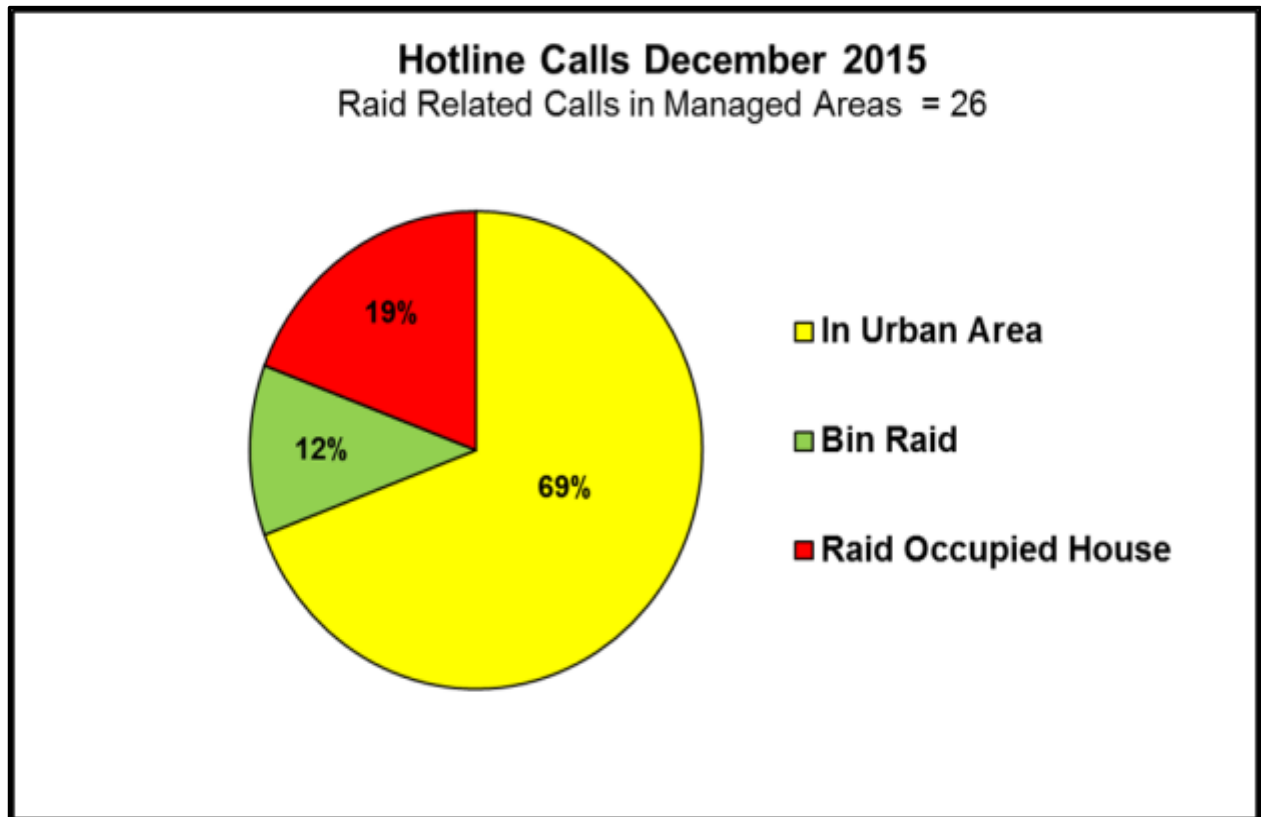


Figure 22: Composition of raid-related hotline calls.

Percentage Time out of Town

This month the average time all troops spent out of town was 98.2%. However, if one excludes the Misty Cliffs Troop data from this calculation, then this percentage increases to 99.8%. Similarly, if one excludes the data on time out of town for the individuals of this troop, the average time out of town for all the remaining troops is 98.8%. Thus, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs Troop, all the remaining baboons spent, on average, less than 1.3% of their time in town. These data highlight the availability of food out of town for all the baboon troops, but also that there are currently very special circumstances applying to the Misty Cliffs Troop at present.

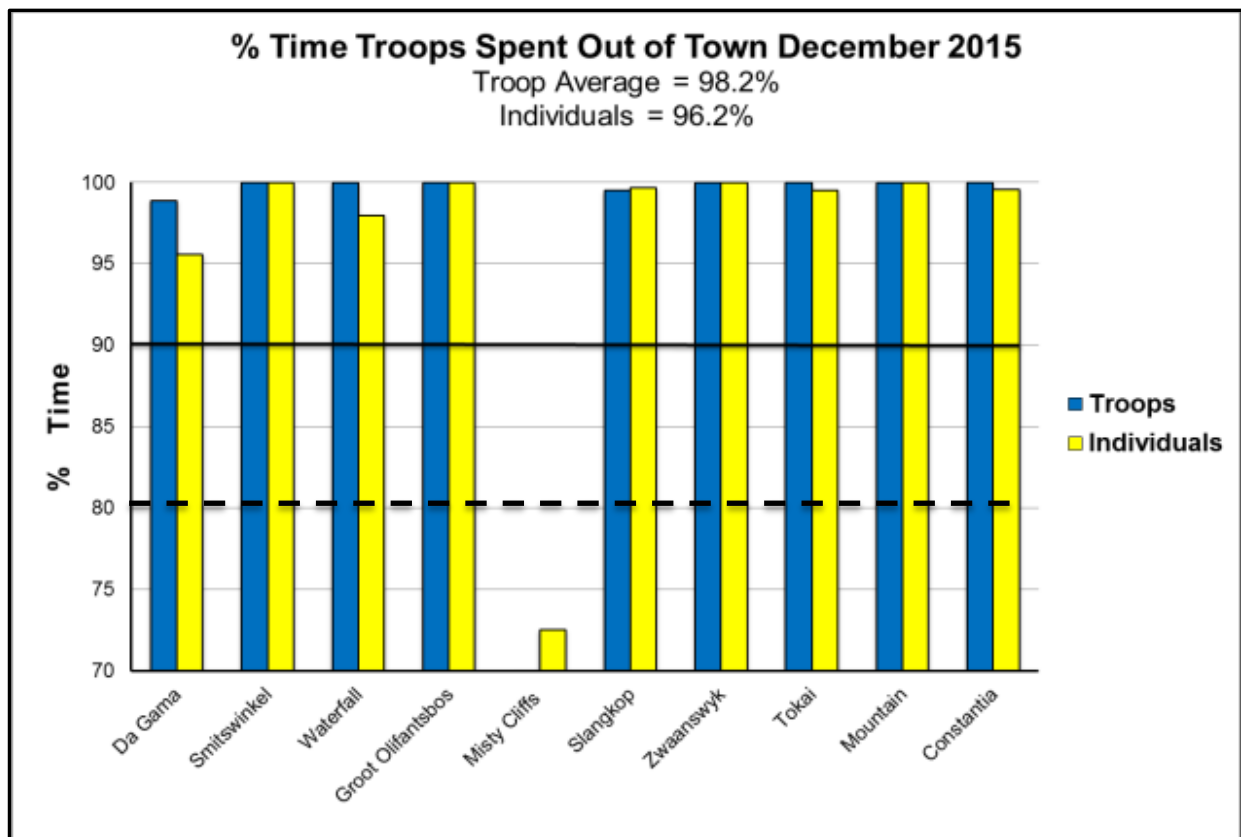


Figure 23: Percentage time troops spent out of town. The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement (the Misty Cliffs Troop was out of town 51.3% of the time).

Conclusion

This December monthly report would be a very favourable one, were it not for the recent events surrounding the Misty Cliffs Troop. During December two baboons, an adult female and a juvenile male, were shot and killed by a high powered pellet gun. These deaths, following the electrocution of the alpha male KOB1 in April, the visit by the GOB troop in October during which the alpha male, GOB7, mated with two females and tried to kill three other females' babies, has resulted in this troop being severely stressed and seeking refuge in the thick vegetation within Scarborough. The alleged perpetrator of this shooting incident is due to appear in the Simonstown Magistrates Court, facing charges of animal cruelty, on 23 February 2016. This case was lodged by the SPCA Wildlife Unit.

At present the only feasible solution to this situation seems to be that the troop needs to be moved back to the CoGH Reserve and resettled at its Bonteberg sleep site. As mentioned in last month's report, if the game fence between the CoGH Reserve and Scarborough could be electrified, it would hugely facilitate keeping these baboons in the reserve and safe from further human induced deaths.