



Photo: Catherine Shutte

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

February 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
A. REPORTING PERIOD	3
B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING	3
SOUTH EAST REGION	
1. Smitswinkel Troop	3
2. Waterfall Troop	5
3. Da Gama Troops (DG)	7
Births and Deaths	11
Recommendations	11
SOUTH WEST REGION	
1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)	12
2. Misty Cliffs Troop	13
3. Slangkop Troop	15
Births and Deaths	17
Recommendations	17
NORTH REGION	
1. Tokai Main Troop	17
2. Zwaanswyk Troop	21
3. Constantia Troop (CT1)	22
4. Constantia Troop (CT2)	23
5. Mountain Troop	25
Births and Deaths	25
Recommendations	25
C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS	26
Population Data	26
Hotline Data	27
Percentage Time Out of Town	28
Conclusion	29

A. REPORTING PERIOD

This monthly report covers the period 30 January to 26 February 2016. Like last month, most of the baboon troops displayed behaviour typical for the mid-summer months. They foraged extensively on natural fynbos vegetation and spent very little time in town. The average time the eleven troops spent out of town was 99.6% of their time. Once again, it was only the Da Gama and Misty Cliffs Troops that prevented the managed troops from having a near perfect record.

After the major disturbance of having two of their numbers shot during December 2015, the Misty Cliffs Troop has greatly improved and HWS was able to get them to settle back in the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) Reserve once again. Unfortunately, the female MCF5, who has an eleven month old baby and has adopted the two month old baby of the female who was shot in December, managed to return to Scarborough with her two offspring. No doubt it is much easier for her to feed two babies while feeding on Human Derived Foods (HDF's), and presumably this is why she chose to leave her troop to forage alone in town. HWS has, and will continue to, make all efforts to get her to re-join her troop in the CoGH Reserve.

A great deal of movement has been displayed by most of the troops in the north this month. They have been spreading their time between feeding on natural fynbos on top of the mountain in the Silvermine and Constantiaberg areas, and much lower down at the Chrysalis, the Cape Academy and the wine farms. The elevations in between are comprised largely of the open areas where the pines were felled after the March fires of 2015, and large areas have now been taken over by invasive alien vegetation. At present there is very little evidence of fynbos establishing itself in the areas left by the pines.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

Throughout this reporting period, the Smitswinkel Bay Troop utilised the extent of their home range. The troop spent 54% of their nights roosting in the northern parts of their home range and 46% roosting in the southern parts of their home range, respectively. The troop spent 99, 9% of their time foraging on natural vegetation and marine organisms.

The troop spent a total of 20 minutes in the urban area at Castle Rock over the reporting period. No raids were recorded for the troop. Three occupied house raids at Castle Rock were recorded for SWB6 on the 5, 9 and 23 February, respectively. SWB6 had been a non-raiding male until the end of January. He would only raid when a really ideal opportunity would present itself, but otherwise has been the best alpha male for this troop. The current raiding problem and incidents recorded for this reporting period are localised to one specific house. The residents of the house are new to the area and have not been adhering to any baboon-proofing measures. Doors and windows are always open and fruit and other food has always been visible on the counter in the kitchen. SWB6 entered the house through either an open window or door. Without adequate baboon-prevention measures in place, opportunistic raiding will continue because the troop use the route through the houses to access the coastline.

Both Field Managers for the area, the Baboon Hotline as well as Lorraine Holloway (Honorary Nature Conservation Officer), have spoken and advised the owner of the house on baboon-proofing and living in a baboon affected area, but this has not alleviated the conflict. A visit with CapeNature and Dr. Elzette Jordan is planned within the next few weeks.



Figure 1(a) and (b): Baboons feeding on mussels along the coast at Castle Rock.

On the 15 February, CON4, a dispersing male natal from the Constantia Troop, was translocated to the Smitswinkel Bay area to allow him the opportunity to integrate with a southern troop. Initial interactions between CON4 and the Smitswinkel Bay Troop were promising. SWB9 and a number of juveniles interacted with CON4 by lip smacking and presenting. CON4 followed the troop up to the sleep site in the evening but SWB6, the alpha male, chased him away from the troop in the late evening and again on the morning of 16 February. CON4 also attempted to interact with the Plateau Troop. PR2, the alpha male, chased him away from the troop into the reserve. CON4 continued to move north and finally settled at Red Hill in close proximity to the Waterfall Troop.

Over this reporting period the troop made 13 excursions down to the coastline to forage on marine organisms and coastal thicket vegetation. The troop was observed foraging on black mussels and limpets while on the coast. The baboons have also been foraging on seeds and new growth in the burned area above Rocklands 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: February		YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																	
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL		
Troop								2								1														3		
SWB6	M							6				6														6				18		
SWBF1	F																															
SWB9	M															1														1		
UnID Male	M																															
UnID Females	F															1										1				2		
UnID Juveniles																																
UnID Individuals																																
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS						
Troop	0,10							15								5														0,33		
Individuals	0,09							5				5				5										2				0,28		
Roost:	AM	1	3	3	3	2	4	5	4	1	5	5	3	2	3	6	5	3	2	1	3	6	4	5	5	5	6	3	3			
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	2	4	5	4	1	5	5	3	2	3	6	5	3	2	1	3	6	4	5	5	5	6	3	3	4			
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 2: Smitswinkel Bay Troop raid sheet for February 2016.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop spent 16 nights roosting at the SANAD sleep site, eight nights at the Red Hill sleep site, two nights at the Waterfall Cliff sleep site and two nights were spent roosting on the buildings inside of the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD). The troop spent a lot of time foraging in the pine tree stands and on the recently felled alien invasive vegetation at the Shamballah Farm. The stream situated between the Shamballah Farm and the Cape of Good Hope Nursery is still the troops' primary water source.

Although the baboons spent some time at the Cape Farmhouse vineyards this month it was still far less than this time last year. TK19 and TK42 are the two animals that predominantly push for the vineyards. This can be due to these two males having grown up in the north and being used to eating grapes historically. However, raids were minimal and the troop was predominantly still feeding off alien vegetation, pine cones and fynbos.

The troop spent 99% of their time out of the urban area. On 14 February the troop spent the majority of the day around the Cape Farmhouse vineyards. The rangers managed to keep the troop out of the vineyards but they were unable to push them up to the sleep site at SANAD. The troop was left at the Redhill sleep site as it was getting dark. The next morning, on the 15 February, the troop was found at the Waterfall Barracks and they were already raiding bins as the rangers arrived.

On 23 February CON4 was spotted close to the Waterfall troop. The troop was sleeping at the SANAD sleep site and he was at the foot of the mountain by the pine trees at Shamballah. When the troop moved down from the sleep site, he started moving away from the troop, but remained in close proximity to the troop. Over the next few days he remained in close proximity to the troop but was very wary of both males and did not attempt to go too close to them.

The troop spent considerable time around Shamballah at the pine trees and the Cape of Good Hope Nursery. During the heat of the day they preferred to spend their time in the shade under the pine trees or in the dense Protea thicket. The main source of water for the troop was a natural spring on Shamballah farm.



Figure 3: Important Areas utilized by the Waterfall Troop.

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: February	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																															
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL																										
Troop																		2												2																										
TK19	M																	1		2										3																										
TK42	M																																																							
WFF3	F																																																							
WFF4	F																																																							
UnID Females	F																	1												1																										
UnID Juveniles																																																								
UnID Male	M																																																							
UnID Individuals																																																								
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS																												
Troop	0,05																	10												0,17																										
Individuals	0,10																	20												0,33																										
Roost:	AM	9	9	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	9	10	9	18	10	9	10	18	1	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10																											
Roost:	PM	9	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	10	9	18	10	9	10	18	1	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	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	SANAD Facility										19											20										
ID Features of Baboons		TK42 - Collar & Blue/Yellow tags; TK19 - Collar & Red/White tags																																																						
General remarks		Red and indicates raiding inside the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD)																																																						

Figure 4: Waterfall Troop raid sheet for February 2016.

3. Da Gama

The Da Gama Troop continued to use the flats and the pine trees in Da Gama Park as their preferred sleep site. The troop spent 1.2% of their time in the urban space in comparison to January's 2.4%. The time in town for individuals decreased from 9.9% in January, to 8.9% over this reporting period. Baboons were constantly being attracted into the urban area by the following factors: poor waste management, fruiting trees, vegetable gardens and easy access to residences.

In 2015 a waste management system was put in place by the Navy management whereby each resident was to have their own baboon-proof bin which they were to keep in their garage and only bring out at waste removal day (Wednesday) for the waste truck to collect the waste.

During February, the waste situation faltered and rangers were faced with a number of challenges which directly affected the management of the baboons. On all four bin days (3, 10, 17 and 24 February) as few as 12 bins (of 70) were left outside, the rest of the residents dumped their bags outside and did not place their wheelie bins outside.

At least ten of the 70 garages in Da Gama Park are still broken. The baboons have learnt to get into five of the broken garages to access the bins. On account of this current situation, the waste situation this month regressed to the state experienced in 2012 (See Figure.5). To this end, poor waste management

by humans is hampering the rehabilitation of the troop. Infants and juveniles are again learning to eat from the waste at the flats in the mornings before they get pushed out of town.



Figure 5: Comparison of the waste situation in (a) 2012 and (b) 2016.

Since the January fire approximately 50% of the Da Gama troop's home range has been burnt. The troop also seems to be avoiding the burnt area since the fire. Since the fire they have been spending most of their time close to Da Gama Park, behind Jack's Shop or going up only as far as Lewis Gay Dam. There is currently some new green growth coming up in the burnt areas but the troop has made no attempt to go in that direction.



Figure 6. Da Gama Troop home range, showing the burnt and un-burnt area.

During the period under report (30 January to 26 February 2016), three baboons in the Da Gama Troop died under very different circumstances. On the 14 February, a large juvenile male was found dead in Elsie's River behind the flats in Da Gama Park. Witnesses informed the HWS rangers that the baboon had been shot with a pellet gun by a naval flats resident. The baboon had raided the resident's flat prior to the shooting. Witnesses informed HWS staff that the alleged offender chased the baboon out of his flat and the baboon was shot on the balcony. The baboon then ran towards the riverine area opposite the flats and up a tree. It fell out of the tree into the river from where it was retrieved by Field Manager, Daniel Langton. Area Manager Cath Shutte collected and transported the animal to the SPCA. An autopsy was conducted by the state veterinarian and it was concluded that the death was definitely due to the pellet that penetrated the body through the scapula and caused severe internal damage. A statement was issued to the Baboon Technical Team and the Baboon Liaison Group on 15 February 2016, notifying all members of this fatal shooting incident. The case has been handed over to the SPCA for investigation.



Figure 7: Carcass of the dead juvenile baboon after he was retrieved from the river.

DG13, a male in the early stages of sub-adulthood, was fatally electrocuted on a powerline pylon close to the pump house in the Elsie's River Valley on 18 February. The Field Manager reported that DG13 died on contact with the powerline. The troop uses the footpath up the Elsie's River Valley on a regular basis on route to the Lewis Gay and Kleinplaas Dams. Discussions have been ongoing to implement a plan to install the powerlines underground to mitigate further baboon deaths and injuries caused by electrocutions. The poles along the line have also been greased to prevent the baboons from climbing them, but

unfortunately the grease on this specific H-pole had dried up. The young male managed to climb up the pole and got electrocuted on the transformer box.

This incident was immediately reported to the Electricity Department by Dr. Elzette Jordan and a meeting was set up for early March to work on a plan to prevent further electrocutions and come up with viable solutions.



Figure 8: H-Pole at the Brooklands Waterworks where the juvenile baboon was electrocuted.

On 13 February, SK3 and SWB8 were involved in a confrontation that resulted in an injury to SWB8's left lower back leg. Following the incident SWB8 was limping and the decision was taken that the injury was due to baboon-on-baboon fighting and was of such a nature that it would heal. SWB8 did however spend more time on the periphery of the troop and attempt to stay further away from the troop and SK3. At times he was found sleeping away from the troop alone or with a few individuals.

On 20 February however, there was a second fight between SK3 and SWB8, this time inflicting more damage to SWB8's back leg/ankle. Area Manager, Ziggy Rode and Cath Shutte immediately went out to access the injuries. He was still very mobile and was constantly cleaning the wound. Veterinarians, Dr. Dorothy Breed and Dr. Elzette Jordan were informed of the incident. Several attempts were made to capture and dart the animal.

On 25 February, SWB8 was cage captured behind Jack's Shop in Da Gama Park. SWB8 was transported to the temporary holding facility at the Westlake Conservation Centre for assessment. Upon assessment

Dr. Breed determined that the ligament had been torn and the wound had become gangrenous. Furthermore, the bone in the lower half of the left leg was exposed. Puncture wounds which had turned septic were also identified on the animals' left shoulder. The injury was determined to be irreparable and a decision was made by Dr. Breed to euthanize SWB8 for humane reasons.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																															
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																											
SOUTH EAST				1 In urban area					4 Attacking pets					7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																	
BABOON TROOP:		DA GAMA		2 Raid bins					5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle					8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																	
MONTH:		YEAR: 2016		3 Non malicious damage					6 Raid occupied house or vehicle					9 Nocturnal Raiding																	
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL	
Troop											1	1							1	1			1	1		1				7	
SK3	M						1				2, 2, 2, 2	1	6			6		6	2, 2, 2	6				1	1			2	1	2	49
DG13 (W)	M						1		1	1								2	2, 2, 2, 2, 2											15	
DG14 (O-G)	M									1			1				1	2	2			2	1			2					12
DG15 (R)	M			1						1							1	2					1			1	2				9
DG16	M									1																				2, 6	9
TK43 (W-W)	M									1													1		1	2	2		1		8
SWB8	M	1								1																					2
DGF1	F									1																					1
DGF2	F																														
DGF4	F															1															1
UnID Females	F	1		1		1				1													1		1		2		1		9
UnID Female	F												1						2, 2, 2, 2, 2		2					2	2	1	2, 6		26
UnID Individuals		1			1					1	1	2		2			1	2										2	1		14
UnID Juvs											1															1	1				3
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS		
Troop	1,2										60	20						50	15				30	10		40				3,75	
Individuals	8,9	5		14	17	15		15		95	129	40	100	100		100	55	17	100	205		45	164	35	45	55	19	20	334	28,73	
Roost:	AM	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	5	1, 2	2	2	2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 3	1, 3	2	1, 2	2	1, 2	2	1, 2	3	3	1, 2	2, 3	2, 3	3	1, 2	3, 4	1, 2	2, 3	1, 2	
Roost:	PM	1, 2	1, 2	5	1, 2	2	2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 3	1, 3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1, 2	3	3	1, 2	2, 3	2, 3	3	1, 2	3, 4	1, 2	2, 3	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 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																															

Figure.9: Da Gama Troop raid sheet for February 2016

Births and Deaths

Two new born infants seen in the Smitswinkel Troop on 20 and 24 February.

Two new born infants seen in the Da Gama Troop on 10 and 13 February.

One death was noted in the Da Gama Troop on 14 February (Pellet gun shooting).

One death in the Da Gama Troop on 18 February (Electrocution).

One Death noted in the Da Gama Troop on 26 February (Baboon-on-Baboon fighting – humane euthanasia)

Recommendations

- South African Navy to enforce the rule of residents at the Naval flats in Da Gama park to **store their bins inside their garages at all times** and only put them outside on bin day.
- **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.

- **Keep locks on baboon proof bins locked at all times even on bin days**, as the trucks are able to open bins with the locks being locked.
- **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 to be baboon-proofed** and residents should refrain from growing fruit trees in baboon affected areas, or remove fruit from trees.
- Electric fencing around SANAD should be kept on if possible, **and if it is off, security guards should inform the rangers or alert the hotline.**
- Although the poles along Elsie's River Valley and along Miller's Point have all been greased, **it's requested that these lines are put 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 majority of the month. HWS rangers continued to monitor the GOB Troop through the use of telemetry equipment, obtaining a signal from GOB7's collar. The signal showed that they slept inside the reserve for 19 nights of the month. While in the reserve, the troop concentrated their foraging activity around the Perdekloof Wetland with sporadic visits to the coastline where they harvested fresh mussels and pear limpets from the intertidal zone.

While outside the reserve, the troop slept in the pines behind Shamballah Tea House and Holistic Centre (Shamballah) on eight occasions and above the Good Hope Nursery on one occasion. They concentrated their foraging activity in the natural fynbos vegetation above the Cape of Good Hope Nursery and under the pines above Shamballah.

The GOB Troop came into contact with the Waterfall Troop on three occasions this month. On 3 February, the two troops were both in the vicinity of Shamballah. However, no interactions took place. The GOB Troop then slept in the pines behind Shamballah that night. The following morning, the Waterfall Troop moved down the mountain from their SANAD sleep site. The two troops then met again under the pines behind Shamballah and spent the morning foraging together.

On 7 February, the GOB Troop met up with the Waterfall Troop once again. This time the interaction took place above the Cape of Good Hope Nursery. GOB7, the alpha male of the GOB Troop, fought with TK42, the alpha male of the Waterfall Troop, and chased TK42 up the mountain towards SANAD. Luckily there

were no injuries sustained during the fight and both males later returned to their troops. However, it is interesting to note that after the fight, the GOB Troop spent the rest of the month inside the Reserve.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

On 22 January 2016, a meeting was held, at the request of various concerned Scarborough residents, to discuss the issue of the Misty Cliffs Troop spending so much time in town as a result of the December 2015 pellet gun of shooting and killing of two baboons. Representatives of the City of Cape Town (CoCT), HWS, BMT and several residents attended the meeting. The main conclusions of the meeting, were that HWS would immediately make a concerted effort to drive the troop out of town and back into the CoGH Reserve. Furthermore, the residents of Scarborough undertook to engage with other residents to highlight the importance of not feeding baboons, and also to make all efforts to secure their bins, vegetable gardens and houses, to prevent the baboons from gaining access to human derived foods.

Following on from last month's trend (refer to HWS January 2016 Report), the Misty Cliffs Troop's time out of town has continued to improve. The troop's time out of town has increased by 46.1% from December 2015 to February 2016. In December 2015, the troop spent 51.3% of their time out of town. This increased to 88.5% in January 2016 and again to 97.4% in February 2016.

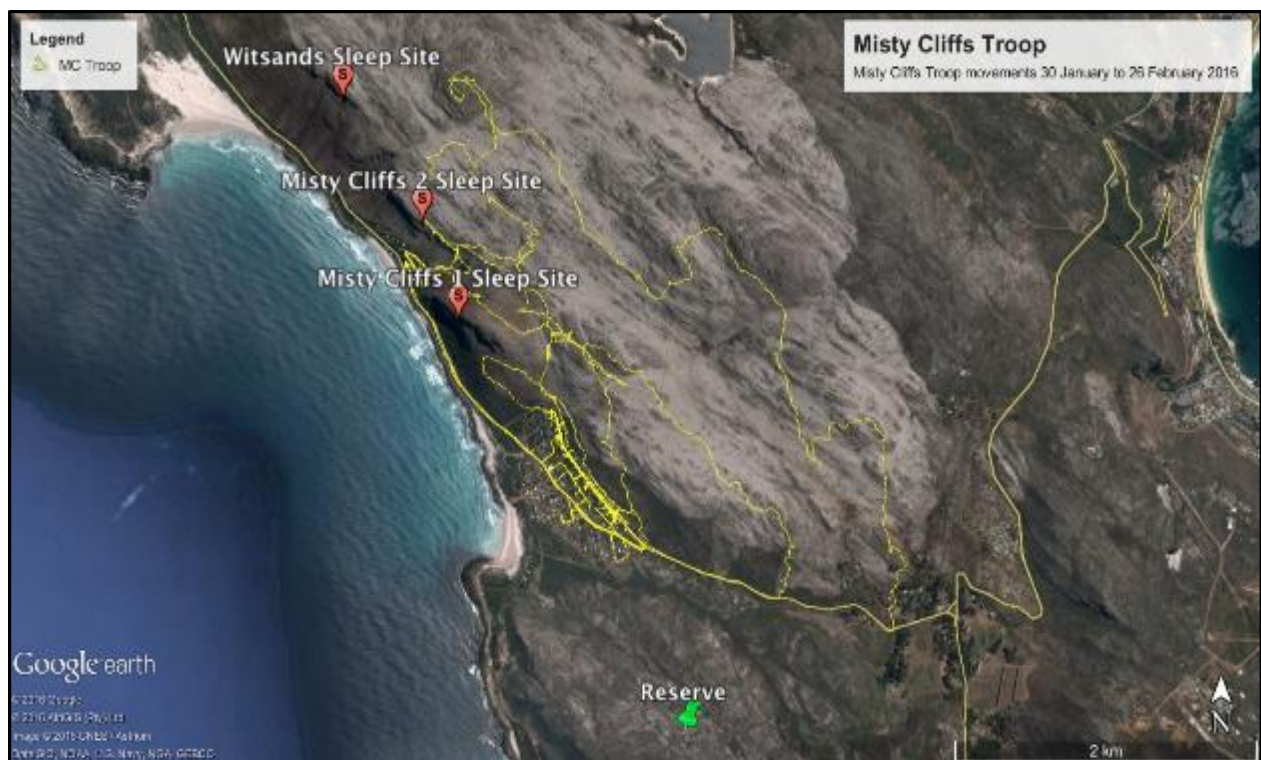


Figure 10: Misty Cliffs Troop movement for the February reporting period.

Various attempts were made to move the troop towards the reserve. On 30 January, the troop was moved from the cliffs above Misty Cliffs into the CoGH Reserve through the Baskloof Nature Reserve. They spent two nights in the reserve, sleeping on the cliffs at Bonteberg. Unfortunately, on 1 February, a thick blanket mist blew into Scarborough and the baboons were able to break the line held by HWS rangers and exit the reserve.

Extra HWS staff and Response Managers were called into the area to assist. On 8 February, the Misty Cliffs Troop as a whole was moved into the reserve. The troop jumped the fence in the late morning and moved through the indigenous vegetation to the Bonteberg Cliff sleep site, where they spent the remainder of the day.

The Misty Cliffs Troop slept inside the reserve for the remainder of the month. They spent 21 nights sleeping at their preferred sleep site, on the Bonteberg Cliffs.

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: February			YEAR: 2015		3	Non malicious damage							6	Raid occupied house or vehicle							9	Nocturnal Raiding																				
BABOON ID		Sex	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	TOTAL											
Unld Females		F		2	2	2	6*																								4											
MCF5		F												1	6*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6*	1	1	2	1	1	17											
Juveniles																															0											
Troop							1	1			2																				3											
		%	TIMESPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS													
Troop		2.6					120	30			360																				8.50											
Individuals		71.3	570	210	30								480	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	780	229.50												
Roost:		AM	2	4,1	4,1	1	5	1	2	2	1	1	4	4	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5												
Roost:		PM	4,1	4,1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	4	4	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5	4,5												
Roost Sites			1	Misty Cliffs 1							2	Misty Cliffs 2							3	Witsand							4	CoGH Reserve							5	Other						
ID Features of Baboons																																										
General remarks			Bold Italics numbers with a * afterwards donate raids recorded via hotline calls																																							

Figure 11: Misty Cliffs Troop raid sheet for February 2016.

There is currently an anomaly within the Misty Cliffs Troop. Since the death of MCF4 by pellet gun (refer to HWS December 2015 Report), her infant (an infant older than two months, with a dark facial colouration) was initially picked up and cared for by various members of the Misty Cliffs Troop. The infant was seen suckling from a pregnant female as well as from other lactating females. However, a single adult female (MCF5) has subsequently taken full responsibility for the orphaned infant and is raising it along with her own brown infant of roughly 11 months of age. She has taken the orphaned infant solely into her care.

MCF5 spent the initial two nights in the CoGH reserve with the troop, but exited the reserve on 10 February with her own yearling and the orphaned infant. She spent the remainder of the month sleeping in Scarborough. She moved through the houses during the day and foraged on a variety of plant items found in gardens (see Figure 12). Unfortunately, she is becoming an opportunistic raider. She utilised two unoccupied houses as her sleep sites and spent the majority of the month moving between Hilltop Road, Mountain Rise, Watsonia, Egret and Iris roads.



Figure 12: Map depicting MCF5's current home range.

3. Slangkop Troop

Following on the summer trend, the Slangkop Troop continued to utilise their preferred sleep site, the Compass Bakery Cliffs, for the majority of this month. They spent 26 nights sleeping on the cliffs and only two nights, sleeping in the pine trees behind Ocean View.

When moving down from their sleep site on the cliffs, the troop would spend some time foraging, grooming and playing in the natural fynbos vegetation below the sleep site.

They would then move on to their chosen forage site for the day, either alongside the river next to Ocean View or under the pines behind Ocean View.



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

The time in town, for the Slangkop Troop as a whole, decreased this month. In January 2016, the troop was in town for 1,4% of the month. For February 2016, the troop was in town for 0,3% of the month. The troop as a whole was only in town on four occasions and did not spend longer than 24 minutes within the urban area. The troop carried out three bin raids this month, one in Capri and two at In 2 Foods (the old Compass Bakery).

The number of individual raids also decreased this month. DG6 raided bins on two occasions, once in Ocean View and the other at In 2 Foods (the old Compass Bakery). SK6 only raided one bin this month in Ocean View. He was moved out of the urban area after five minutes. The longest time that any individual baboon spent in the urban area occurred on 13 February in Ocean View. DG6, SK6 and two unidentified females entered Ocean View, but were pushed out 17 minutes later. No raids occurred.

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																																				
MONTH: February		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	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	TOTAL							
DG6		M						1	1	1	2				1		1								1					2	8							
SKF1		F																													0							
SKF2		F																													0							
SK6 (Sub-adult)		M					1			1					1		1										2				5							
UnId Males		M								1					1															2	3							
UnId Juveniles							1										1								1						3							
UnId Females		F					1			1	2				1		1								1				2		7							
Troop				2								1													2				2		4							
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS										
Troop		0.3		15								15													24				10		1.07							
Individuals		0.6						12	11	15	10				13		17								19		5			14		1.93						
Roost:		AM	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3								
Roost:		PM	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
Roost Sites			1			Slangkop					2			Ocean View					3			Compass Bakery					4			Witsand					5		Other	
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks																																						

Figure 14: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for December 2015.

Births and Deaths

There were no births or deaths in the South West in February 2016.

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.
- **Baboon-proofing bins and homes:** Scarborough residents are requested to baboon-proof their bins and homes and remember that access to human derived foods act as attractants to baboons.
- **Fruit Trees and Vegetable Gardens:** Scarborough residents are requested either to remove their fruit trees, or to remove all their fruit, so that it does not act as an attractant to baboons. Similarly, all vegetable gardens should be securely fenced.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Troop

February was a very busy month for the Northern Section. The Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops, whose ranges overlap almost completely, spent the month between the very top of Tokai Plantation, Silvermine Reserve and in the much lower sections of Tokai Plantation (Figure 15).



Figure 15: HWS rangers' movements following the Tokai Troop in February 2016.

Tokai Plantation has almost been completely felled. In the past, the pine plantations provided a rich source of food for the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops, however since their removal, this has left a large gap in the available forage for these troops. Following the felling of pines, the various levels of Tokai Plantation have seen a widespread invasion of wattle - from a wattle seedbed that has germinated and now covers the landscape, as small green shrubs (Figure 16). As such, the pine trees no longer provide a food source for the baboons.

Long term plans for invasive plant removal and fynbos rehabilitation in Tokai Plantation are in place, however these will provide little relief in the short term. In light of this, the Tokai Troop found forage at Silvermine Reserve, where natural fynbos was able to sustain this troop. However, HWS rangers found that despite available forage at Silvermine, the Tokai (and Zwaanswyk) Troop pushed down very hard to get to the lower sections of Tokai Plantation in February.



Figure 16: Invasive alien wattle growing in the levels of vacated by the Tokai Plantation

The lower sections provided opportunities to access high energy human derived foods (HDF's) from the Chrysalis hostels and kitchens (Figure 17) and food was often found in the unsecured bins at Chrysalis. Furthermore, there were several fruiting trees in the very lower sections of Tokai Plantation, as well as fields with watered grass and gardens. As such, the lower Tokai area, as well as Porter Estate became a place with rich food rewards that the Tokai Troop wanted to access.



Figure 17: A bin (not baboon-proof) full of food waste that was raided at Chrysalis hostels

In the summer of 2014/15 the Tokai Troop spent much of their time foraging on the grapes at Buitenverwachting Farm. During the summer of 2015/16, HWS rangers, in collaboration with Buitenverwachting Rangers, were very successful in keeping the Tokai Troop off the vineyards of

Buitenverwachting. However, on the 18 February 2016, the Tokai Troop managed to get past rangers and enter the Buitenverwachting Vineyards and foraged on the ripe grapes for the first time this season. In the week following, the Tokai Troop tried every day to enter the farm, with varying levels of success.

This enticed the Tokai Troop even more to push exceptionally hard to get to the lower sections of Tokai Plantation. In light of this, HWS rangers reported behaviour they had never seen before in this troop. This included the troop being spread exceptionally far apart, the troop running down from Silvermine Reserve straight to Buitenverwachting, and smaller break away parties being formed to forage or raid at completely different areas from the main troop.

The majority of raids this month occurred either in Silvermine Reserve, at Chrysalis Academy or at the Cape Academy. TK28, TK45, TK47 and TK48, all adult males, were the main raiders at Silvermine Reserve (Figure 18). TK16 went to the Cape Academy eight times during February to raid the bins near the kitchens.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																														
NORTH																																		
BABOON TROOP:		Tokai		1	In urban area									4	Attacking pets									7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food									
MONTH: Jan-Feb		YEAR: 2016		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	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	TOTAL			
TK28 (B-G)		M			6										5										5						3			
TK16 (W-W)		M								2		1	2	2		1								1		2				2	8			
TK 47 (White)		M						5		2							2	5													4			
TK48 (RED)		M															5,5,7														3			
MT3 (Pu-B)		M																													0			
TK 45 (Untagged)		M													5			5,5									6				4			
Uni Male		M																						2		6					2			
Uni SA Male		M			2																										1			
Uni Female		F																						1+6					2		1			
Tokai Troop												2		2			2				2					2			2		6			
			%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS				
Troop			0.0																												0.00			
Individuals			1.1							20		30	25	30		30								25		35				25		3.67		
Roost:		AM	11	12	6	6	6	11	11	6	1	10	10	10	10	11	10	5+10	11	12	10	10	10+6	10	10	3	10	4+14	10	10				
Roost:		PM	12	6	6	6	11	11	6	1	10	10	10	10	11	10	5+10	11	12	10	10	10+6	10	10	3	10	4+14	10	10					
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	Silvermine pines					12	Level 3 Mixed plantat					13	Level 3 Pines					14	Other					15					
ID Features of Baboons																																		
General remarks					Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.																													

Figure 18: February raid sheet for the Tokai Troop.

One birth was reported on the 26 February 2016 in the Tokai Troop.

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

As usual, the Zwaanswyk Troop spent much of their time following the movements of the Tokai Troop. On one occasion, HWS rangers reported that both troops were as high as the Sentech cell phone tower at the very top of Constantiaberg (Figure 19).



Figure 19: Zwaanswyk Troop movements for February 2016. Yellow lines are HWS ranger movements, red dots are the GPS collar on the alpha male, MT2.

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: Jan-Feb		YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																												
BABOON ID		Sex	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	TOTAL											
MT2 (Yellow+collar)		M				6				5,5																			6,6	5												
Untagged large SA		M																													0											
TKF5 (Green)		F																													0											
TKF7 (Red)		F																													0											
Unknown																											2				1											
Zwaanswyk Troop																															0											
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS														
Troop		0.0																													0.00											
Males		0.2																											35		0.58											
Roost:		AM	12	14	1	11	6	12	12	6	11	11	11	11	11	12	10+11	6	12	13	11	11	11	11	15	11+8	3	15	3	15	15											
Roost:		PM	14	1	11	6	12	12	6	11	11	11	11	11	12	0+1	6	12	13	11	11	11	11	15	11+8	3	15	3	15	15												
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				Mike's Pines			
ID Features of Baboons																																										
General remarks			Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.																																							

Figure 20: Raid sheet for the Zwaanswyk Troop for February 2016.

While the Zwaanswyk Troop was in lower Tokai, MT2, the alpha male, raided two unoccupied tables at Tokai Picnic Site (Figure 20). MT2 also managed to get into Zwaanswyk briefly on the 26 February, via the Steenberg Fence, and raided two occupied houses (Figure 20).

There were two incidents this month of the Zwaanswyk Troop entering areas, that to our knowledge, they have never entered before. On 21 February, TK28, an adult male in the Tokai Troop, left the Tokai Troop and entered Steenberg Estate via the southern fence. At the time the Zwaanswyk Troop was nearby, and followed TK28 into Steenberg. Within a few minutes the majority of the troop was in Steenberg to forage on the vineyards. HWS rangers saw this unfold, and were able to react very quickly, and got the troop out of Steenberg within 20 minutes.

On 23 February 2016 the Zwaanswyk Troop moved over the southern side of Silvermine Reserve and descended Noordehoek Cliffs to enter the Cape Point Vineyards. The whole troop foraged on these grapes for approximately fifteen minutes. The farm managers were able to chase the troop off the vineyards initially, and were joined by HWS shortly afterwards, who then took the troop back up to Silvermine Reserve.

3. Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)

The CT1 Troop spent most of February near the bike trails and above the Upper Gums Sleep Site (Figure 21). They hardly utilised the vegetation near Price Drive, because they focused their attention largely on trying to raid grapes on the farms. They mainly used two sleep sites this month, the Bike Trail Gums, and the Buitenverwachting Gums (Figure 21). The CT1 and CT2 Troops spent much of their time foraging and moving together this month, which has not happened in the last two months.

The grapes on the Constantia wine farms have ripened unusually early this season, hence harvesting was well underway on most of the farms. The CT1 Troop pushed hard to enter the farms and forage on grapes, with varying levels of success accessing the vineyards.

In an effort to make the Klein Constantia fence more baboon-proof some trees, which border the fence, were felled this month. On 25 February, it was reported to HWS that a juvenile male baboon was found dead in between the branches of a felled tree. Upon inspection, it became clear that this male was caught in the tree as it was being felled, and unfortunately died as a result.



Figure 21: HWS rangers' movements monitoring the CT1 Troop.

4. Constantia Troop 2 (CT2)

The CT1 and CT2 Troops moved together for much of February, however they still slept at different sleep sites. The CT2 Troop used the Buitenverwagting Gums Sleep Site, and the Block 10 Gums predominantly in February.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
NORTH		1	In urban area					4	Attacking pets					7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																			
BABOON TROOP:		CT2		2	Raid bins					5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle					8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																	
MONTH: Jan-Feb		YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage					6	Raid occupied house or vehicle					9	Nocturnal Raiding																	
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL				
CON3	M																													0				
CON4	M												1				1	1												2				
CT2 Troop																														0				
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS							
Troop		0.0																												0.00				
Males		7.8											840				360	300												25.00				
Roost:	AM	6	6	6	6	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	10	10	7	3	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	10	7	6	6	10					
Roost:	PM	6	6	6	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	10	10	7	3	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	10	7	6	6	10					
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 22: Raid sheet for the CT2 Troop for February.

Following the CT1 Troop, the CT2 Troop also pushed hard to get into the wine farms to forage on the ripe grapes. No raids were reported by this troop in February (Figure 22).

During January and February 2016, CON4, an adult male natal to the original Constantia Troop, moved between the CT1 and CT2 Troop and did not appear to be settled in either. At 18h00 on 10 February, it was reported to HWS that a male baboon was roaming around Houtkapperspoort Resort, near Constantia Nek, and had been in the area for most of the day. HWS rangers identified the male as CON4. This was a clear indication of dispersal, because CON4 was too far to be pushed back to the troop. HWS Rangers tracked CON4 to a tree near Silvermist Estate, Constantia Nek. That evening, a cage trap was set and the following morning CON4 was captured. CON4 was then taken to the Westlake Holding Facility to await a veterinary check-up and was collared later that day (Figure 23).



Figure 23: A wide awake CON4 relaxing in the Westlake holding facility.

The Baboon Technical Team (BTT) made the decision to release CON4 back into the North, giving him the option of joining any of the Northern Troops. CON4 was released at Level 4 in Tokai Plantation on 12 February 2016. Over the next two days CON4 spent some time with the Tokai Troop, Mountain Troop, CT1 and CT2, however he did not settle in any of these troops.

On 14 February 2016, CON4 had dispersed again, and was tracked heading into Constantia. On 15 February CON4 was tracked into Wynberg, where he was darted at midday by Dr Dorothy Breed, the CapeNature appointed veterinarian.

Given that CON4 was a non-raiding male, and showed clear signs of dispersal, the BTT decided to translocate CON4 to the southern Peninsula, where he would have time to investigate other troops and hopefully join one. CON4 was hence released at Partridge Point on 15 February, at 15h45. Please refer to the South East Section of this report for details of CON4's movements after translocation.

Two births were recorded this month in the CT2 Troop.

5. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop continued to use the Veels-Te-Ver Woods and the SANParks vegetation surrounding it, for most of February. The Mountain Troop slept in various trees in and around Veels-Te-Ver and were pushed out in the mornings by the Buitenverwachting Rangers onto SANParks land.

The Mountain Troop followed the pattern of moving up into Tokai Plantation, then hooking back to the north in the afternoons and back down to Veels-Te-Ver in the late afternoons. The Mountain Troop used the mornings and late afternoons to forage on the grapes on the farm.

No raids were reported in the Mountain Troop this month.

Births and Deaths

One birth was reported in the Tokai Troop.

A juvenile male baboon from the CT1 Troop was found dead after being caught in a tree on Klein Constantia that was being felled.

Two births were reported in the CT2 Troop.

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 kept on leashes at all times**, even if there are no baboons visible.
- **Chrysalis Academy** should monitor their students to ensure they do not feed baboons while at the Academy. This entices the troop back to the area. Chrysalis Academy should also ensure that all bins are baboon-proof, and students use these baboon-proof facilities.
- **The Kitchen at Chrysalis Academy** should keep their facility closed to ensure baboons cannot enter the kitchen to raid.
- **The Cape Academy** should keep the gate to their kitchen closed to prevent baboons from being rewarded with HDF's when they enter this area. Additionally, they should ensure all bins are baboon-proof.

- **The Tokai Market** should ensure all waste from the weekend has been removed as soon as the market is over.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

The population for the eleven managed baboon troops is presented in Table 1. It is interesting to note that the southern troops' population is now finally back to what it was at the end of 2012, before the large number of infanticides (13) that took place in the large Da Gama Troop in early 2013. By contrast, the northern troops have continued to grow despite losing 13 individuals during the March 2015 fire. Whether this trend will continue now that the Tokai Plantation has largely been removed still needs to be seen.

TROOP	Total December Populations				February 2016			Total Births 2016	Total Deaths 2016	Emigration/ Immigration 2016	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration				
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	49	2	3		4	3		50
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	2			3	1		25
Waterfall	28	30	30	32				0	0	+1	33
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16				0	0		16
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11				0	0		11
Slangkop	33	32	36	41				0	0		41
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	4	3	0	7	4	1	176
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30				0	2		28
Tokai	61	65	72	62	1			2	1		63
Mountain	33	44	48	49				0	0		49
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77	2	1		2	3	-1	75
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	3	1	0	4	6	-1	215
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	7	4	0	11	10	0	391

Table 1: Population data for the eleven managed troops on the Cape Peninsula (February 2016).

Table 2 below shows the breakdown of the causes of baboon deaths since 2012. All recorded baboon deaths have been summarised into three categories: (i) Management – baboons euthanased for management reasons according to the WAAC raiding protocol; (ii) Human Induced deaths are divided into two categories; (a) Direct – baboons killed by dogs, car accidents, poisoning, shooting etc.; (b) Indirect – electrocutions, human related fires. This category also includes baboons seriously wounded by the above causes, then humanely euthanased; (iii) Natural – baboons dying from old age, fights, infanticide etc.; (iv) Unknown – occasionally a baboon is found dead and the cause could not be determined.

The most obvious trend evident from these data, is that the number of management deaths for the past two years (2014 & 2015) is less than half that for the previous two years (2012 & 2013). This suggests

that the management strategy of selectively removing bad raiders is successful, because now the baboon troops are spending much less time in town (0.4% time in town this month), and the number of baboons that are aggressively raiding and requiring euthanasia has more than halved over the last two years.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	Feb-16	2016 to date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	0	0	48
Human Induced	8	7	10	24	3	3	52
Direct	8	6	6	8	1	1	28
Indirect	0	1	4	16	2	2	21
Natural	7	30	19	20	1	3	79
Unknown	1	3	0	4	0	4	12
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	4	6	187

Table 2: Causes of baboon deaths since 2012 (*Data collected during the first half of 2012 provided by Baboon Research Unit, UCT).

Hotline Data

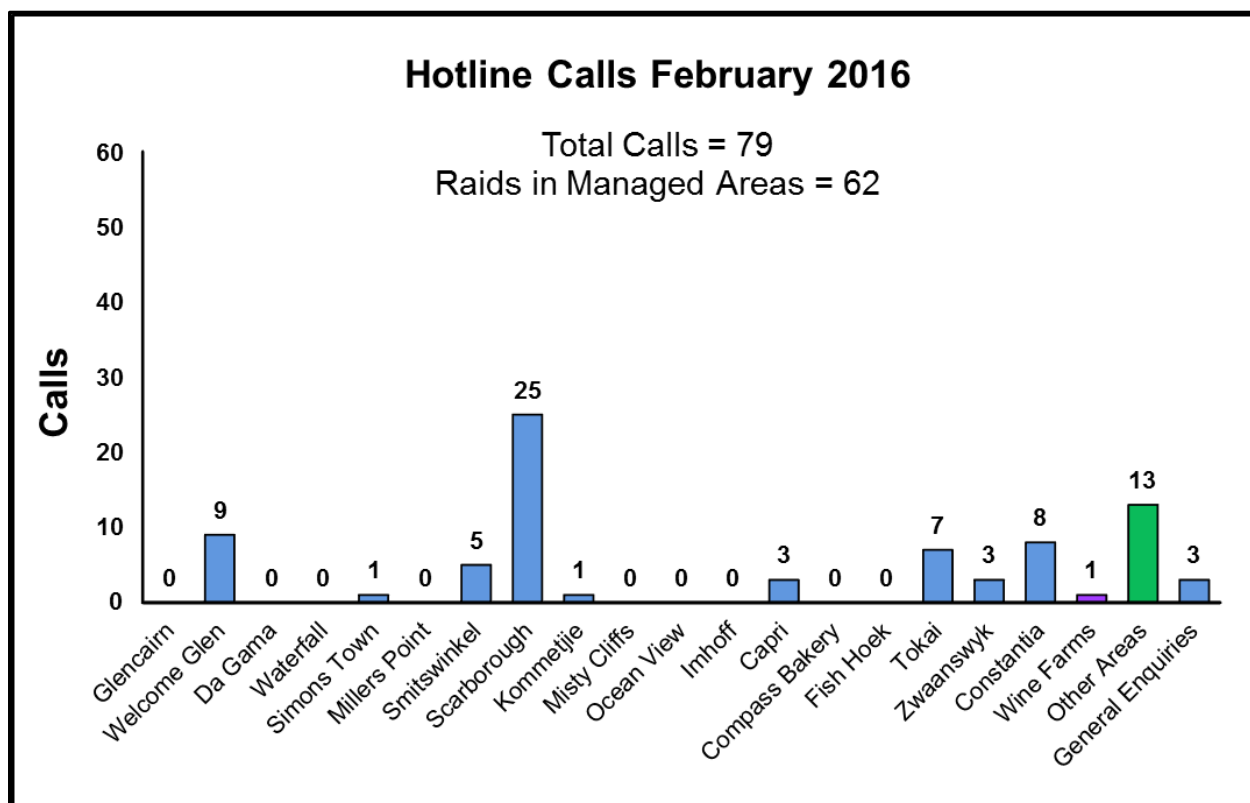


Figure 24: Hotline calls summary per urban area for February 2016.

As usual, the hotline calls this month were largely related to a few individuals. In Misty Cliffs they were largely in response to the female, MCF5, with two babies who refused to join her troop in the CoGH Reserve. In Tokai and Zwaanswyk a few males, in particular TK28, were responsible for several raids. However, another very important factor causing raids, is the very poor waste management and other mitigation measures in some areas. The worst area is definitely the Naval Flats in Da Gama Park where

waste management has declined to much like it was in early 2012. The main problem here, is that although the baboons may spend several months out of town, waste management always declines again and the baboons learn again what they can gain from waste, and new individuals also get the taste for HDF's. At no stage has it been possible to wean the Da Gama baboons off waste from bins and then keep them in that state for a year or two. Residents also keeping unsecured vegetable patches and fruiting trees add additional incitement for baboons to come into town.

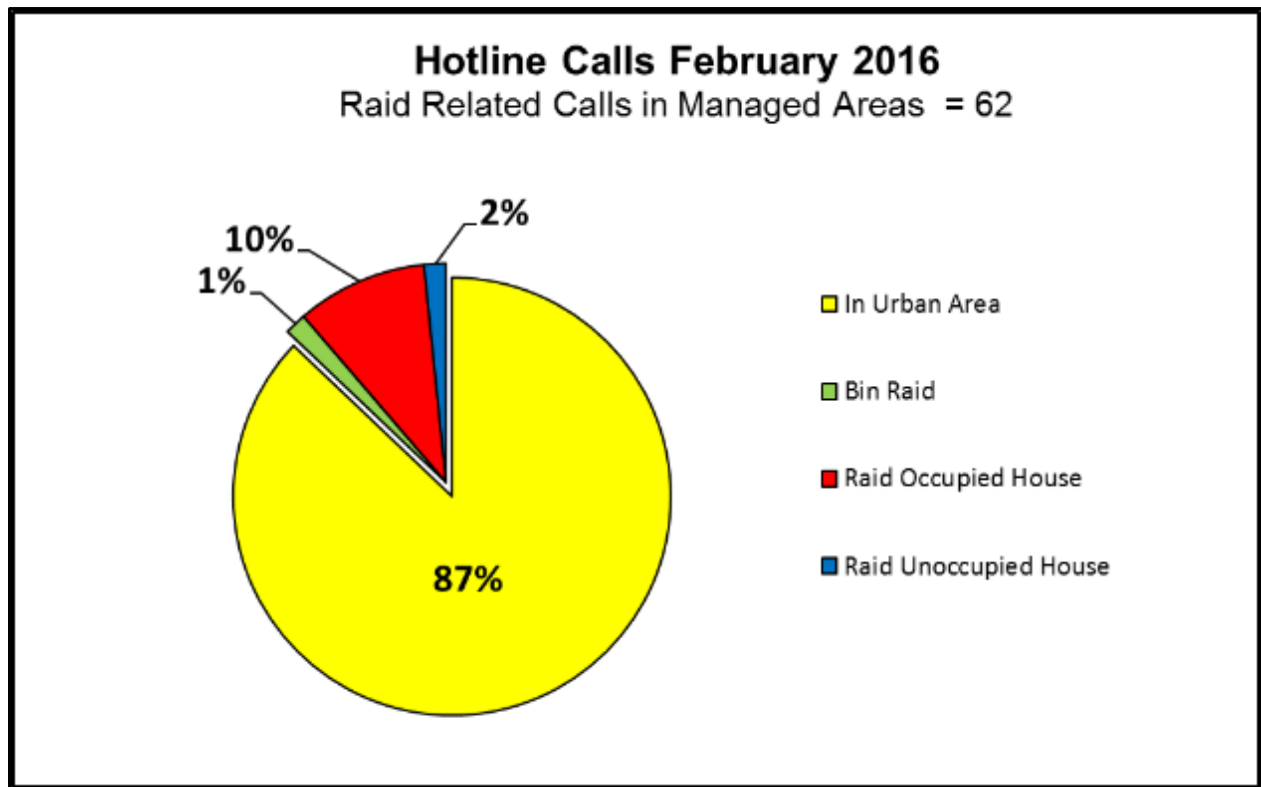


Figure 25: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during February 2016.

The composition of hotline calls continues with the pleasing trend towards a very high percentage (87%) just being reports of baboons in town. However, the other trend for the next highest category for raids, being raids of occupied houses continues to be a problem. This means that there are still some individuals that do not fear to assert themselves over humans and take food directly from them or in their presence. This trend will continue as long as people continue to have poor waste management, keep food readily accessible in their houses or gardens, or directly feed baboons.

Percentage Time out of Town

The percentage time baboons spent out of town is illustrated in Figure 26. These results are a marked improvement over those for January because all troops, including Da Gama and Misty Cliffs, averaged over 97% time out of town. The average for all troops was 99.6% time out of town, which is just below

the record for HWS. Furthermore, all troop individuals averaged over 90% with the exception of Misty Cliffs which averaged only 28.7% time out of town.

This exception is almost entirely due to the female, MCF5, which has her own yearling baby and has adopted the two month old baby, orphaned by the shooting of his mother in December 2015. This female has been extremely reluctant to join the rest of her troop in the CoGH Reserve, probably because it was much easier to feed herself and her babies while living in town. This problem currently seems to be encouraged by some residents of Scarborough, by feeding this female by purposefully allowing her into their houses (see letter to Cape Argus, 25 February 2016).

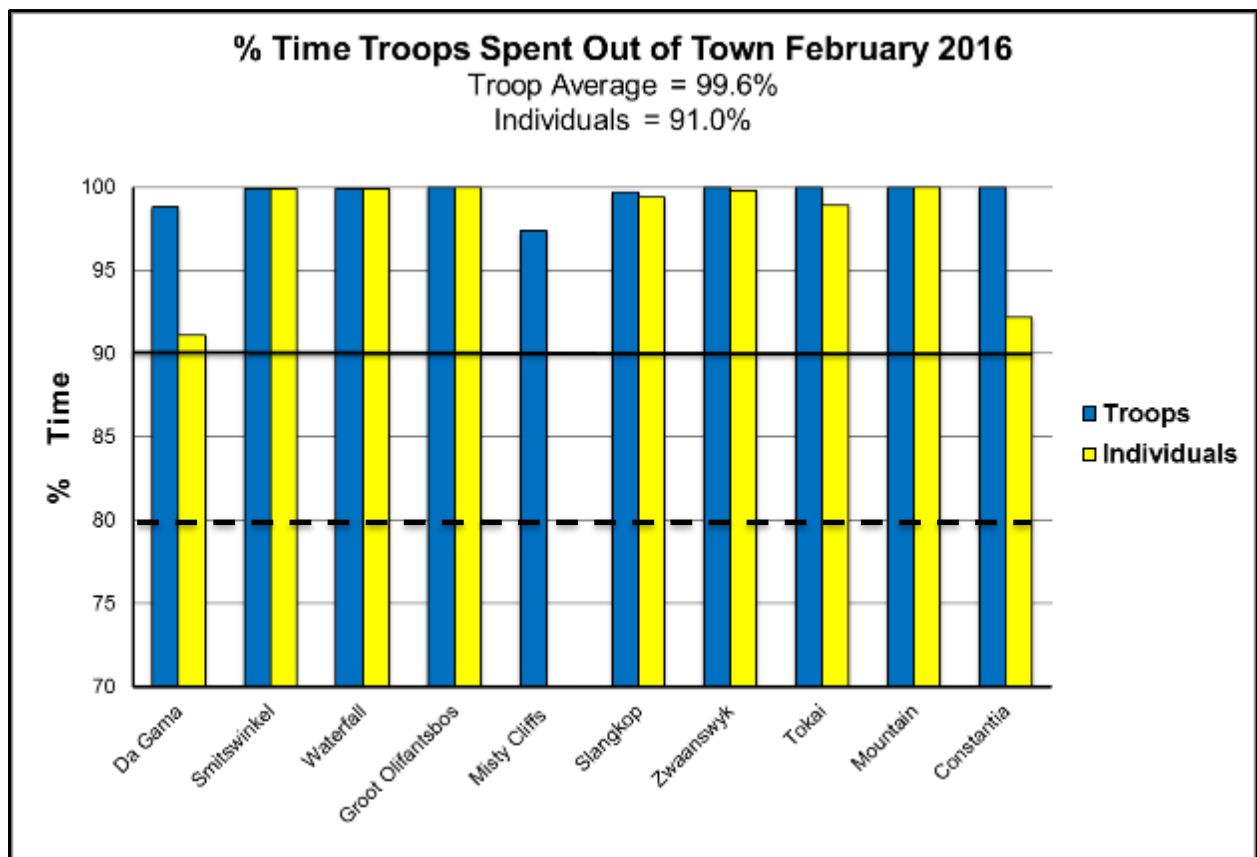


Figure 26: Percentage time troops spent out of town (February 2016). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement. (Misty Cliffs individuals spent 28.7% of the time out of town).

Conclusion

In general February has been a very good month for baboon management, with the troops spending 99.6% of their time out of town. However, there have also been a few negatives that need mentioning. Waste management at the Da Gama Flats is becoming a huge problem again and needs to be addressed

urgently. The growth of invasive alien vegetation, rather than fynbos, since the removal of the Tokai Plantation, is another situation that needs to be addressed and reversed as soon as possible.

Another problem, is the perception amongst some Scarborough residents that it is OK to feed the female, MCF5, and her two babies. In accordance with the Nature Conservation Ordinance, 19 of 1974, it is illegal to feed baboons and anyone caught feeding baboons could face a year's imprisonment and/or a fine of up to R5000. Residents must be strongly discouraged from feeding this female because they feel sorry for her. Feeding her will simply encourage her to become a permanent raider, and they will be training her offspring to do the same.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions