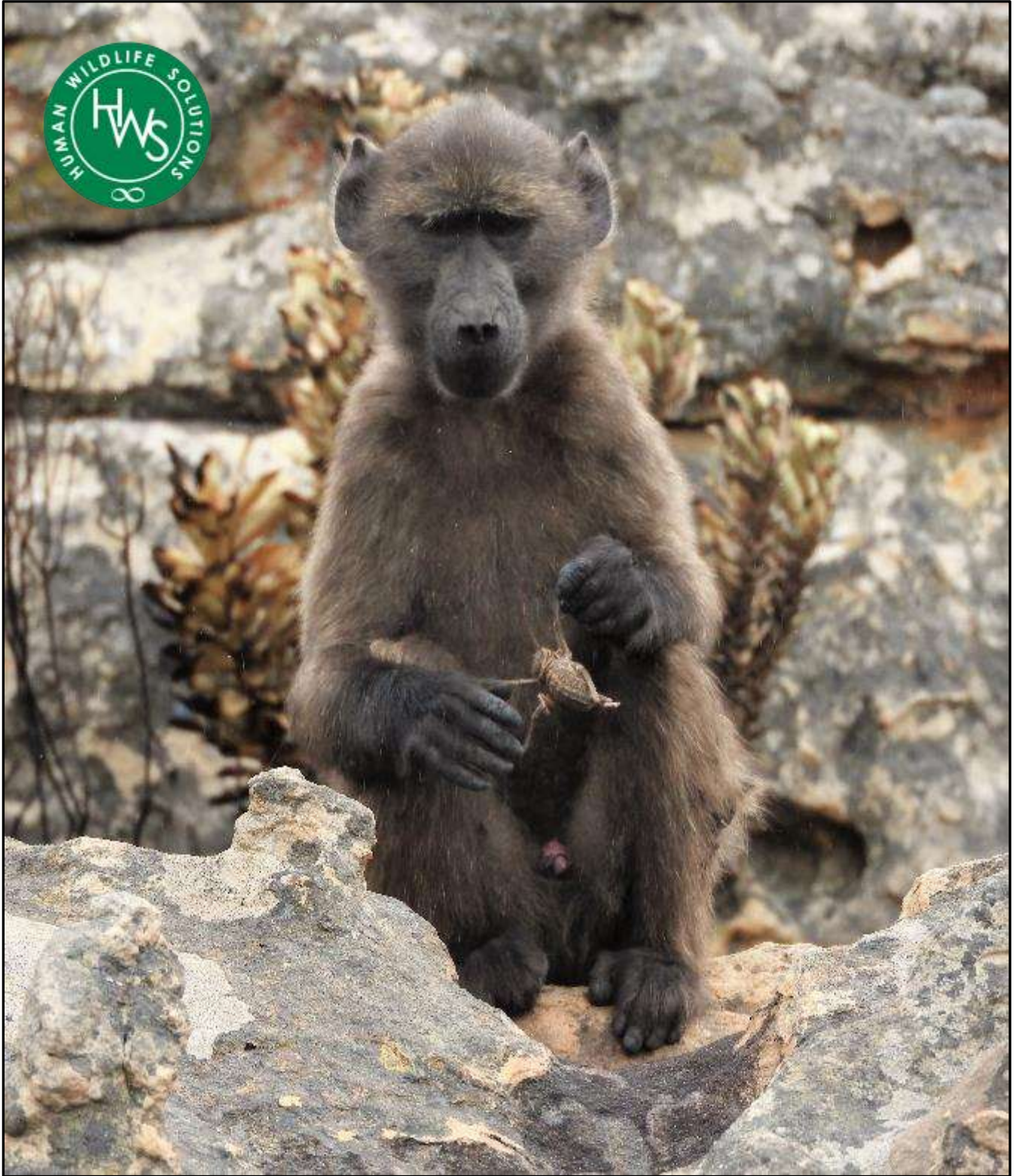




Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

January 2017

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A. REPORTING PERIOD

This monthly report covers the period from 24 December 2016 to 27 January 2017. This month, despite the baboon troops being out of town for an average of 99.6% of the time, there was still an exceptionally high number of raid-related hotline calls recorded - 244. Ironically, despite this record number of hotline calls, another record was set by the very high percentage of calls that were simply reporting baboons in town - 91%. These records of generally good behaviour accompanied by high rates of intrusions, reflect the differences between troop behaviour, and individual behaviour in those troops.

The most significant event this month was the fire that started near Ocean View and then was fanned by a strong north-westerly wind, and spread all the way across the peninsula to end at Simon's Town. Two troops were affected by the fire. The Slangkop Troop was fortunately upwind of the fire when it started, so it was quite easily held to the west of the fire and remained largely unaffected by it. In sharp contrast, the Da Gama Troop was directly in the path of the fire and was nearly caught between it and Da Gama Park. Fortunately, quick action by Area Managers, Ziggy Rode and Cath Shutte, resulted in the troop being escorted out of harm's way to the north-east.

Two juveniles, regrettably sustained burns, when they came into contact with smouldering embers after the fire. The incidents are believed to have taken place when the troop was crossing burnt ground on its way to the sleep site at the Da Gama Park stables. Despite initially showing signs of recovery, one juvenile eventually died of fire related injuries.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

There was a slight increase in time spent in 'town' by the Smitswinkel troop this month. However, this was only on one occasion, when the troop entered the urban area on 15 January. The troop roosted in the southern section of its home range for 12 nights of the month. For the remainder of the month, the troop utilised the Miller's Point and Rockland's sleep sites. The troop also slept above Murdock Valley on one night. This is concerning, because Murdock Valley is further north than where the troop would usually go.

Conflict between SWB6 (alpha male) and SWB9 has led to the troop splitting up at times. Splitting has occurred more frequently than in December 2016. SWB9 became more assertive and challenged SWB6 for alpha status on a more regular basis.

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: JANUARY		YEAR: 2017	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL																			
SWB6 (R-B)	M																																				0																			
Troop																								1													1																			
UnID Individuals																													1								1																			
UnID Fem	F																																				0																			
SWBF1	F																											1									1																			
SWB9 (Y-W)	M																								2			1	8,7	8	2,7,1,5						9																			
UnID Male	M																																				0																			
UnID Juveniles																																					0																			
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																															HRS																							
Troop	0.3																							60													1.00																			
Individuals	1.4																							15				15	45	195						4.50																				
Roost:	AM	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	6	3	1	1	2	1	7	1	1	3	6	5	5	5	4	3	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	5	5	5	5																				
Roost:	PM	5	5	5	5	5	5	9	6	3	1	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	6	6	5	5	4	3	4	3	6	5	3	4	4	5	5	5	5	5																				
Roost Sites		1	Smits Caves										2	Partridge Point										3	Bluegums										4	Millers Point										5	Rocklands Farm									
		6	Castle Rock										7	SANParks										8	Unkown										9	Murdoch Valley Mtn										10										
ID Features of Baboons																																																								
General remarks																																																								

Figure 1: Smitswinkel Bay Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

From 24 December to 14 January, no raiding incidents occurred and as such, Christmas and New Year's Day were 100% raid free. This shows a marked reduction in human-baboon interactions. This is viewed as positive because the troop was, in the past, notorious for raiding tourists and cars, especially over the festive season.

On 15 January, the troop came down the mountain and split up when it entered the boat launch area. Rangers attempted to block troop movement towards the boat launch area, but the boat launch area was teeming with people, and waste and food freely were available to the baboons. It took an hour to get the entire troop out of the boat launch area and back up the mountain. This was the first time in several months, even years, that this troop spent so much time in an 'urban' area.

Poor waste management and lack of baboon-proofing at the Black Marlin Restaurant, has led to this area being a hotspot for the adult male, SWB9. SWB9 has raided bins there several times and has also gained access to the area where the staff keep their food. WB9 is also responsible for raiding a bin at No.24 Castle Rock, which was not secured and left outside.



Figure 2: (a) Bins left outside at the Black Marlin Restaurant. (b) Bin left outside at 24 Castle Rock.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop continued to be very difficult to manage this month. There were various factors contributing to the increased raiding behaviour of the troop and individuals. The troop slept at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) Sleep Site from 24 to 29 December. On 30 December, the troop broke the line and went back down to the Waterfall Barracks / Happy Valley Shelter. HWS rangers managed to manoeuvre the troop back up the troop back up to the SANAD Sleep Site on 14 and 15 January.

TK42 has now completely split from the troop, along with two adult females carrying infants. These animals slept separate from the troop and have not foraged, or been with the troop since late December. This has made it more difficult to manage the troop because these animals actively move away from the area frequented by the troop.

GOB7 has also been displaced from the troop and has spent most of his time alone or on the periphery of the troop. GOB7 is not afraid to go down to the Main Road, and this month, had 11 raiding incidents, all of which were bin raids.

TK42, and the accompanying females, were the worst raiders for this reporting period. Between these animals, 55 raiding incidents and urban incursions were recorded. These animals spent a large portion of time around the Waterfall Barracks and Happy Valley Shelter. Four factors contribute to this, poor waste management, lack of baboon-proofing, Happy Valley shelter residents feeding the baboons and fruiting trees in the urban area. The baboons therefore have constant, easy access to human-derived foods (HDFs).



Figure 3: The Waterfall Troop's movement for January 2017.

It has also become increasingly difficult to move the baboons up the mountain to forage on the natural vegetation when access to HDFs is so easy at the Barracks and surrounds. Poor waste management at SANAD further compounds the issue. When the baboons are up on the mountain, there is still access to waste at SANAD, and this seems to trigger further raiding.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																								
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																						
		SOUTH EAST																																																						
BABOON TROOP:		WATERFALL																																																						
MONTH: JANUARY		YEAR: 2017																																																						
		1 In urban area															4 Attacking Pets															7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																								
		2 Raid bins															5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle															8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																								
		3 Non malicious damage															6 Raid occupied house or vehicle															9 Nocturnal Raiding																								
BABOON ID		Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL																		
Troop					2									1			1		2								2						2,5		2	1	9																			
CON4 (B)		M				2																6								1							3																			
GOB7		M						2				2			2		2,2				2	2			2				2	2		2					11																			
TK19 (R-W)		M		2											2	2	2	1,5	1			2	2									1,2					11																			
TK42 (B-Y)		M	2	1				2				2		2,2			2,2					2,6	5,1	1	1,1	2			1	2,1	1,2	1			6,6		24																			
WF4		M													2	1	1															2					4																			
WFF3		F																																			0																			
WFF4		F																																			0																			
WFF5 (Y)		F													5																						1																			
WFF6 (Red)		F																																			0																			
UnID Females		F	2	1			2			2		2		2	5	1	2,2	5			1	2,6	5,6,2,5	1	1,1	2			1	2,1	1,2	1,2			6,6		31																			
UnID Juveniles				2			2								2	5,5	5	5		6,8		1	1,2,2,5							1	5,6	2			5		19																			
UnID Male		M																											1								0																			
UnID Individuals														2			5,6					5,2		2					2		1			1		9																				
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS																							
Troop		1.9			20									45				20	150								30						45	40	15	6.08																				
Individuals		10.8	40	60					15			140	65	175	195	294	100	25		10	145	205	25	68	60			60	165	60	120			65		34.87																				
Roost:		AM	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	6,2	6	14,6	6	1	2	6	1	1	6,1	6	6	6	1	6	10,2	10	9	10	6,1	1	2	2	6	9,1	1	1	1																			
Roost:		PM	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	10,1	6	6	14,6	6	6	6	1	2	6,2	6	6	6	1	6	10,2	10,2	9	10	10	6	6	2	2	6	10	1	1	1																			
Roost Sites		1	Waterfall Cliff										2	Happy Valley Mtn										3	Signal School										4	Waterfall Barracks										5	Mountain Residents									
		6	Admiral footpath										7	Cape Farm House										8	Happy Valley Home										9	Red Hill										10	SANAD									
		11	Mountain CoGHN										12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road										13	Rocklands Farm										14	North Peak										15	Bungalow									
		16	Rocklands Valley										17	Shamballah Pines										18	Murdock Valley										19											20										
ID Features of Baboons																																																								
General remarks		Red and Italics indicates raiding inside the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD). Black, Italics indicates raiding on farms.																																																						

Figure 4: The Waterfall Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

On 11 January, there was a fire within the home range of the Waterfall Troop. The fire started above Ocean View and moved in a north easterly direction towards Simon's Town. Later that same day, a second fire was started on the mountain slopes above Simon's Town. However, the fires did not adversely affect the troop. Rather, the troop moved towards Signal School and by remaining in this location, was safe from both fires. GOB7 moved down towards the edge of town. Later, after the fire had moved through the area, he then moved up above Happy Valley. The Waterfall Troop's movements and feeding behaviour were monitored after the fire.

3. Da Gama Troop:

This reporting period has been particularly difficult for the Da Gama Troop. On 11 January, a devastating fire swept through its home range. Despite this, the troop spent 99.7% of time out of town. However, individuals, particularly two, DG14 and DG17, spent an exceptionally large amount of time in town. These two males, including a few other individuals, spent 43.5% of time out of town. This means that for this reporting period, individual baboons spent more than half of the time in town.



Figure 5: DG17 in the early morning in Welcome Glen.

DG17 was particularly problematic during this month. On several occasions, DG17 would sleep alone in town. His elusive behaviour led him to hide undetected in town for several hours at a time. DG17 raided opportunistically. This baboon would move quietly through town and caught many residents off guard when entering houses where the doors or windows were left open. From 24 December 2016 to 9 January 2017, DG17 raided 22 occupied houses, which is an exceptionally high number of raids. Due to this behaviour, a decision was taken to capture and collar this animal.

On 12 January, DG17 was caught and fitted with a VHF collar. The VHF collar allows the rangers to manage DG17 proactively, by tracking his movements.

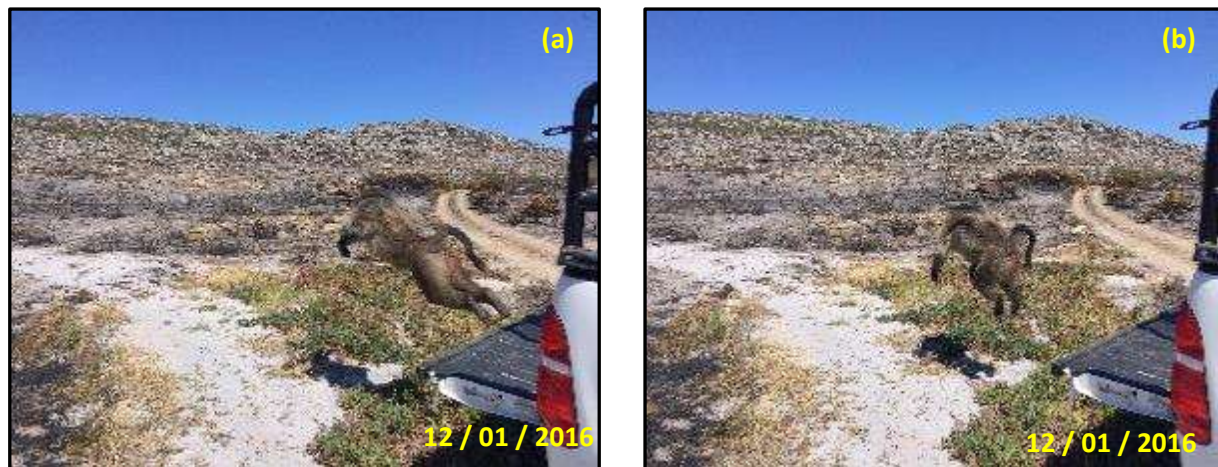


Figure 6: (a) and (b) DG17 being released after being collared on 12 January 2017.

On 11 January 2017, at approximately 08h30, a fire started in a valley between Ocean View and the Compass Bakery Cliff Sleep Site. It moved in a north-easterly direction towards Da Gama Park. The fire burnt in a horseshoe shape behind Jack's Shop and the Glencairn Stables before it moved down to the Navy sports fields. The wind then became a south-easter, and the fire continued its path towards Simon's Town.



Figure 7: Map showing the extent of the fire that started in Ocean View, and the second fire that was started in Simon's Town.

The troop were located on the ridge behind Jack's Shop as the fire moved closer to Da Gama Park. HWS rangers moved the troop down to the Elsie's River and towards the stables. However, due to an increase in human activity, the troop was reluctant to stay down and began to move up above the stables. By midday, the troop had moved to the koppie above the Da Gama Stables. Efforts were made to move the troop across Glencairn Expressway. However, only a few individual baboons were willing to go. The rest of the troop moved towards Capri. At that stage, due to the prevailing wind, that direction was safe and the baboons moved into an unburnt area.

That evening, the troop made its way back to Da Gama Park. Several individual baboons slept on a ridge above the stables, while the majority of the troop settled in the poplar trees behind Jack's Shop. The following morning, the small group at the stables rejoined the troop. The troop spent the next two days in the thick vegetation around the Elsie's River. On 12 January, the Field Manager on duty, noticed that there were two juvenile baboons that appeared to have sustained injuries - possibly after the fire as the troop crossed a burnt area characterized by hot spots with glowing embers. A female juvenile had burn wounds on her hands and feet, and a male juvenile had a limp on the back leg.



Figure 8: The Da Gama Troop movement patterns for January 2017. Red lines show movements of raiding individual baboons, and the yellow lines depict the troop's movements.

The troop was rattled by the fire and retreated to dense vegetation in the days following the fire and only emerged again on 14 January. However, DGF1 the mother of the injured juvenile female, remained in dense vegetation for the day. On 15 January, the troop moved up to Lewis Gay Dam, and foraged in the burnt vegetation on seeds and invertebrates. The troop spent the remainder of the month foraging

around the Lewis Gay Dam and/or Kleinplaas Dam area. The troop slept in the mountain for three nights, at the Witsands Sleep Site for two nights and above Ocean View for one night.

In the days after the fire, the injured juveniles were monitored by rangers, a veterinarian, a Cape of Good Hope SPCA inspector and an independent animal welfare consultant. Regretfully, the juvenile female died during the night of 21 January. DGF1 was seen carrying the deceased juvenile, before disappearing with the carcass into dense vegetation. A search for the carcass by baboon rangers was regretfully, unsuccessful.

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: JANUARY	YEAR: 2017	3 Non malicious damage													6 Raid occupied house or vehicle										9 Nocturnal Raiding																					
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL									
Troop			1			1								1		1	1		1																		6									
DG14 (O-G)	M		1				1	1						1		1	1	1		1										1	1	1	1				11									
DG15 (R)	M		1				1							1		1	1		1																	6										
DG16	M		1				1		5					1		1	1	1		1																7										
DG17	M	6	6	6	6	2,6	6	6	6,6,6,6,6,6,6,6,6	1	6	6	6	1	1	2	6,7	6,6	1					1	1	1											31									
TK43 (W-W)	M	1	1			1							1		1	1	7	1																		8										
SWB8	M		1			1								1		1	1		1																	6										
DGF1	F		1			1								1		1	1		1																	6										
DGF2	F		1			1								1		1	1		1																	6										
DGF4	F	1	1			1								1		1	1		1																	7										
Unl D Females	F		1			1								1		1	1		1																	6										
Unl D Female	F		1			1								1		1	1		1						1	1										8										
Unl D Individuals			1			1								1		1	1		1						1					1						8										
Unl D Juvs			1			1								1		1	1		1																	6										
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																HRS												
Troop	0.3																																	0.90												
Individuals	56.5	539	780	830	433	25	830	695	600	780			660	390	375	379	313	676	840	374						150	55	314	5			470	210	60	138			182.02								
Roost:	AM	2,4,8	3,8	2	2,8	3,8	1,2	2,4	2	2	2	2	3	2,5	3	3,8	2,4	1,3,4	2,4	8	5,8	2,1	1,2	8,1	3	3,8	3,2	15	2	11	2	11	3	2,3	3	2,3										
Roost:	PM	3,8	2	2,8	3,8	1,2	2,4	2,5	2	2	2	3	2,5	2,8	2,8	2,4	1,3,8	2,4	8	5,8	2	2	8,1	1,2	3,8	3,2	15	2	11	2	11	2,3	2,3	3	2,3	1,2										
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		Red <i>italics</i> depicts a house raid inside Brooklands Waterworks.																																												

Figure 9: The Da Gama Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

After the fires, the troop did not enter town again. DG17 did not raid after being fitted with a VHF collar and HWS rangers managed to keep DG17 with the troop. However, towards the end of January, DG14 was attracted to a fruiting tree in a garden in Da Gama Park.

Births and Deaths

The death of a juvenile baboon from the Da Gama Troop was recorded on 21 January 2017.

Recommendations

- Residents at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park, should place their **refuse bags inside the bins, inside the bin bay** and not leave refuse in front of the gate or on the floor.

- **Broken garages** at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park should be fixed, because baboons can get through the openings to gain access to the bins.
- All **vegetable gardens** to be baboon-proofed and residents should refrain from growing **fruit trees** in baboon-affected areas, remove fruit from trees or cut down fruit trees (if fruit is not used).
- **Waste management at the Waterfall Barracks**, should be baboon-proofed because this is attracting baboons into the facility.
- **Waste management** at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) urgently needs to be addressed because baboons are being attracted into the facility due to poor waste management.
- Residents at the Waterfall Barracks and Happy Valley Shelter **should keep their doors and windows closed when they are not there** and **residents at the shelter should not feed baboons**.
- **Law enforcement is urgently needed** in Welcome Glen and Da Gama Park **to prevent the illegal use paintball markers and pellet guns by residents**, who use these to deter baboons.
- **The Black Marlin Restaurant should baboon-proof the restaurant and waste, as well as raise awareness** amongst their patrons about the presence of baboons in the area.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Cath Shutte

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop remained within the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) section of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) for the entire month of January 2017.

While in the TMNP, the troop moved between the Bonteberg Sleep Site, the Perdekloof Wetland and SANParks' Klaasjagersberg offices. The troop concentrated its foraging activities to the southern section of its home range.

On 5 January 2017, HWS rangers observed an older female (MCF7) attempting to move towards Scarborough. The rangers managed to block MCF7 along the fence line. However, the following morning, MCF7 and another female managed to exit the TMNP undetected and moved along the ridge above Scarborough. The two individuals went into Scarborough and raided a bin as well as an unoccupied house. Later that morning, two other adult females managed to exit the TMNP and entered Scarborough. However, the rest of the GOB Troop remained within the TMNP.

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:		GOB		2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property															
MONTH: JANUARY		YEAR: 2017		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding															
BABOON ID		Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL				
KOB2		M																																				0				
Unld Males		M																											1	1	1	1						4				
MCF7		F																								5		6	6	1	1					1		6				
Unld Females		F														2,5	2						1	2,5	1	2,5	1			1	1	2				1		14				
Juveniles																																					0					
Troop																																					0					
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS											
Troop		0.0																																			0.00					
Individuals		12.8														220	54							73	54	249	500	220		350	259	70	51			365	41.08					
Roost:		AM	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4,2	4,2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4,1	4,2	4,2	4,2	4	4	4,1	4,1	4,1	4,2	4,2	4,2	4,2						
Roost:		PM	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4,2	4,2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4,1	4,2	4,2	4,2	4	4	4,2	4,1	4,1	4,2	4,2	4,2	4,2	4,2					
Roost Sites		1				Misty Cliffs 1				2				CoGH Reserve				3				Red Hill				4				Shamballah				5				Wildschutsbrand				
		6				Perdekloof				7				CoGH Nursery				8				Other																				
ID Features of Baboons																																										
General remarks																																										

Figure 10: GOB Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

Over the following two nights, the four animals slept on the cliffs above Misty Cliffs and, during the day, foraged in the valley alongside Misty Cliffs and along the Baskloof Plateau. On 8 January, HWS rangers attempted to manoeuvre the animals into a southerly direction along the Baskloof Plateau, towards the TMNP. Three of the four females moved easily but the older, MCF7, resisted the move and attempted to break the line. However, with the assistance of HWS rangers, all four animals eventually returned to TMNP to join the rest of the GOB Troop at Bonteberg.

On 12 January 2017, MCF7 again attempted to exit the TMNP and enter Scarborough. The rangers once again blocked the animal's efforts and MCF7 later re-joined the rest of the GOB Troop, which was moving south. However, the following day, MCF7 along with the three other adult females managed to exit the TMNP again and moved north along Baskloof towards Misty Cliffs. The four females spent the following four days moving through Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. Two bin raids and three unoccupied house raids were recorded. On 17 January, HWS baboon rangers held the line and MCF7, with the other adult females, returned to TMNP.

On 19 January, the four females once again managed to exit the TMNP. On this occasion, an unidentified male, followed MCF7 and the other females towards town.

It is clear, that this behaviour is being driven by the older adult female, MCF7. In most cases, the other three females moved back into the reserve, but MCF7 remained in town and called the rest to return. The others would then exit the reserve and re-join MCF7.

The five baboons (MCF7, three other adult females and an unidentified male) stayed outside of the TMNP for the remainder of the month. While out of the TMNP, these animals concentrated their foraging activity to the valley alongside Misty Cliffs, the Baskloof Plateau and, on some occasions, to Kleinplaas Dam.

2. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop Troop utilised the Compass Bakery Cliffs Sleep Site for the majority of January 2016. However, on 15 January there was one exception, when the troop spent the day foraging and drinking water near the Rasta Camp. During the late afternoon, the troop moved towards the pines behind Ocean View. The troop spent time foraging under the pines and then spent the night in the trees.

There was a high level of conflict within the Slangkop Troop this month. SK6, the current Alpha Male, continued to assert his authority over DG6, the Beta Male, and DG6's females. On some occasions, the two males stayed apart from each other. However, the troop gathered on the Compass Cliffs Sleep Site in the evenings.



Figure 11: SK6 displaying a yawn threat, using his teeth to show his strength and dominance.

For the second month in a row, the GOB Troop concentrated its foraging efforts to areas where water could be accessed. The area above the Rasta Camp provided the most reliable water source for the troop this month (Figure 12).



Figure 12: Water source utilised by the Slangkop Troop above the Rasta Camp.

The stream that runs down the valley between Ocean View and Kompanjiestein provides a secondary water source for the troop. In the past, the stream has dried up towards the end of the summer months. In some years, the situation has been so dire that baboons were seen digging into the moist soil or waiting for the holes to fill with water.



Figure 13: Water source in the valley between Ocean View and Kompanjiestein.

The removal of invasive plant species in this area has meant that this year, the stream has not dried up. As such, it has provided a reliable water source for the Slangkop Troop this summer (Figure 13).



Figure 14: Slangkop Troop movement for the January 2017.

In the early morning of 11 January 2017, a fire broke out in the valley to the south of the Compass Cliffs Sleep Site. The fire, fanned by a strong north-westerly wind, moved up the valley until it reached the plateau. Here the fire gained momentum from vegetative fuel load and continued to move towards Da Gama Park.

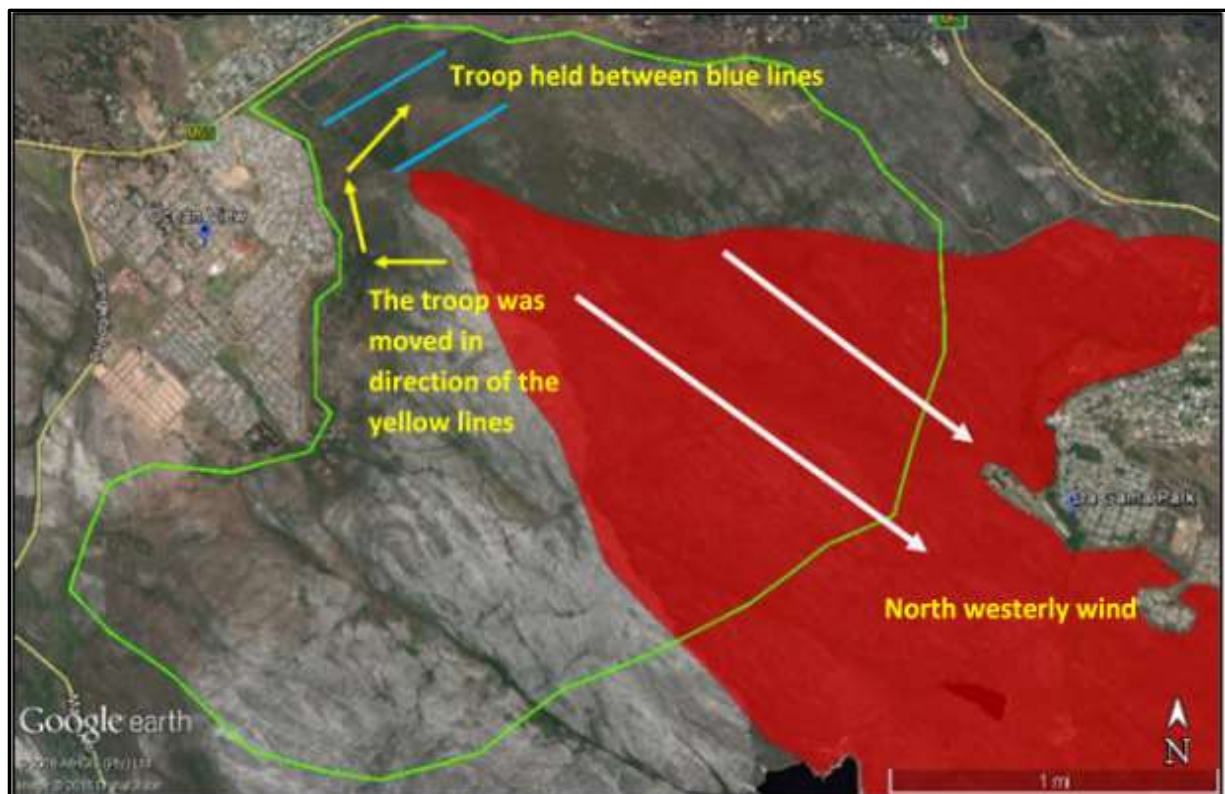


Figure 15: Slangkop Troop movement in response to the fire on 11 January 2017.

The Slangkop Troop was on the koppies above Ocean View when the fire started. HWS Rangers moved the troop down and around the base of the koppie and held the troop away from the fire in the area depicted between the blue lines in Figure 15 above. The situation was monitored closely on the ground and communication was constant between HWS Area Managers, Field Managers and rangers to ensure the safety of the Slangkop Troop.

The Slangkop Troop lost approximately 40% of its home range due to the fire. However, the troop has already begun to forage in the recently burnt areas for seeds and underground tubers.

The troop as a whole, entered the urban area on one occasion this month. On 27 January, the troop entered In2Foods Compass. However, no raids occurred and the baboons were moved out within 25 minutes.

The Slangkop Troop's time out of town has improved, from 99.7% in December 2016 to 99.9% in January 2017. The Slangkop individuals time out of town has decreased for the month of January from 99.5% in December 2016 to 99.1% in January 2017.

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: JANUARY	YEAR: 2017	3	Non malicious damage						6	Raid occupied house or vehicle						9	Nocturnal Raiding																				
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL
DG6	M		1									1										1		1					1								5
SK6	M					1	1																	1													3
UnID Males	M												1					1										1	1								4
UnID Females	F					1															1		1					1	1							5	
UnID Juveniles																																					0
Troop																																			1	1	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS								
Troop	0.1																																25	0.42			
Individuals	0.7	8				15	24					5	10					10				8	14						24	22					2.33		
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	3	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	3	3			
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	3	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	3	3	3	3		
Roost Sites		1 Slangkop						2 Ocean View						3 Compass balery						4 Witsand						5 Other											
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks																																					

Figure 16: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

Births and Deaths

No births or deaths were recorded in the south-west region during January 2017.

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 to improve management of the Slangkop Troop. This issue has been addressed with South African National Parks (SANParks) and is pending.
- **Fruiting Trees:** All fruiting trees or visible fruit should be harvested from fruit trees, in baboon-affected areas.
- **In2Foods Compass:** The recycling area should continue to be baboon-proofed and black bins should be tied up to prevent it being tipped over.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Byron Loubser

1. Chrysalis Academy

HWS undertook environmental education with all staff and students at the Chrysalis Academy, a youth development program. The education programs' main objective is to mitigate human/baboon conflict on the campus and promote living with baboons as a lifestyle choice. The program has proven to be an ongoing success.



Figure 17: Students attending a baboon environmental education program presented by HWS.

2. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop roosted at the Tea Garden Sleep Site and the SANParks Tokai Picnic Area Sleep Site for most of January 2017 and did not roost at the Silvermine Pines Sleep Site this month.

The troop concentrated its foraging activity to the low-lying areas of its home range this month, which included the SANParks' offices, Chrysalis Academy, Porter Estate, Alison's Stables, Lynn's Stables and the Forestry Stables. Flowers, foliage, seeds, fruits, roots, bulbs and rhizomes were the abundant forage in these areas. However, the troop raided horse feed when at the stable's. In areas where dead trees were present, the baboons peeled back the bark to locate invertebrate forage. Traditionally, the troop would forage in these areas over the winter period. This change in forage behaviour could potentially lead to and over utilisation of the natural resources which, in turn, could have a detrimental effect in the future.

The Tokai Troop used the Zwaanswyk Stream, the Fairy Garden Stream, the dam at Alison's Stables and the dam on the Buitenverwachting Wine Farm as its main water sources. There was limited access to water in the middle reaches of Tokai. This is a contributing factor to the troop's propensity to utilise the lower-lying areas of their home range.

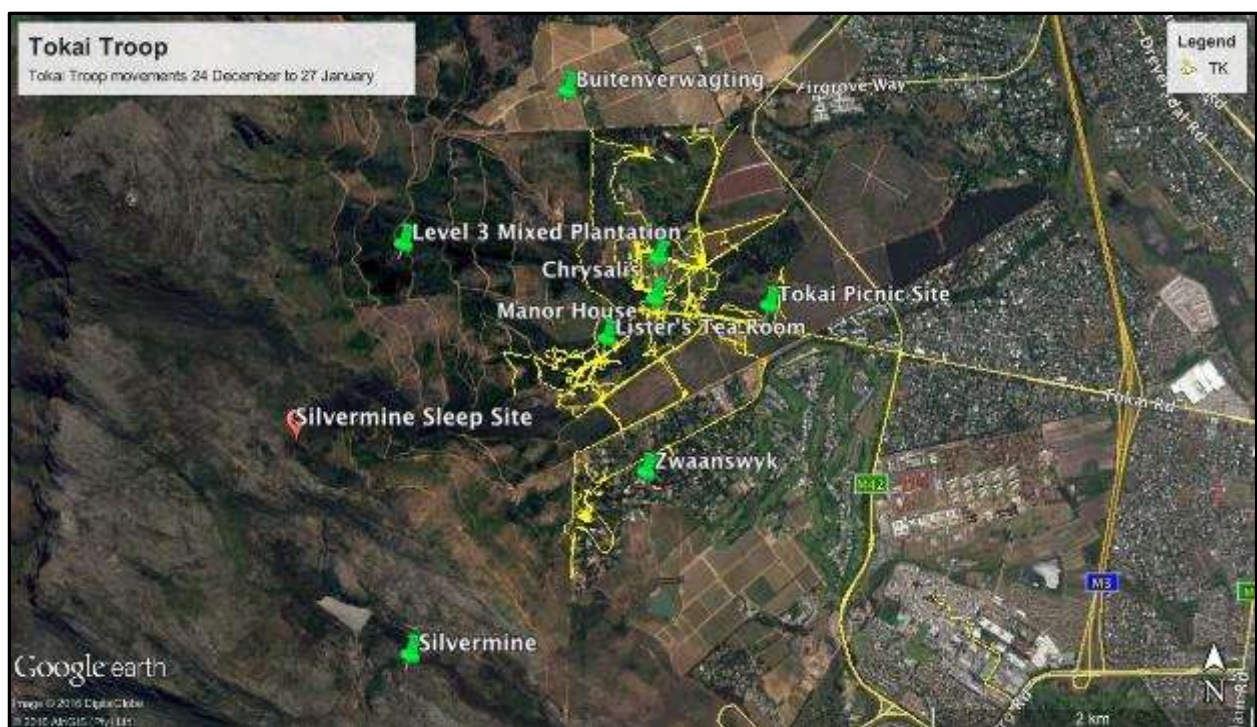


Figure 18: Tokai Troop movements in January 2017.

The troop displayed an increased interest in foraging on the Buitenverwachting Wine Farm. The troop used overhanging pine trees and holes under the fence to gain access onto the farm. HWS and the Buitenverwachting baboon rangers have been working together to try and prevent baboon incursions and limit crop loss.

The Working for Water contractors continued with mechanical and chemical control of the invasive alien vegetation in the Tokai section of the TMNP. The invasive alien vegetation continues to negatively affect the management of the troop. The vegetation creates an impenetrable thicket, which prevents HWS

rangers from moving up the mountain behind the troop. Due to this, the troop is unable to move to the Silvermine section of the TMNP, which has an abundance of forage and water. The invasive alien vegetation provides the baboons with limited forage because none of the species have produced seed yet.

On 13 January, the Tokai Troop spent 140 minutes in town. However, while in town, only one bin raid was recorded for the troop. The troop gained access into the Zwaanswyk area through a hole under the fence. The hole serves as a drainage point and has been blocked with metal droppers. The troop manipulated the droppers to gain access into the urban area. The incident was reported to the Zwaanswyk Association of Property Owners' (ZAPO) Trust fence manager and the problem was attended to.

Individual baboons undertook 38 raids and spent 5.80 hours in town this month. Most of the raiding incidents for individual baboons were undertaken by TK47 (nine raids). Eight raiding incidents were recorded for TK49, six for TK45, six for an unidentified adult female, four for an untagged male and four for an unidentified juvenile. Waste management and baboon-proofing remains a concern in the affected areas.

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: JANUARY		YEAR: 2017	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																	
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	TOTAL						
TK 47 (White)	M									2	2			7,7		2												2	2	2						2	9						
MT3 (Purp-B)	M																																										
TK 45 (Purp-W)	M			7	7,7,7																		7								1						6						
TK49 a (Untagged)	M			2,2	2,2,2,2,2			2																													8						
TKF12 (Blue , Collar)	F																																										
Untagged male	M												1										6							7				6			4						
Uni Male	M																																										
Unid SA Male	M																																										
Uni Female	F									2	2		1			2													2	2							6						
Uni Juve										2	2					2												2									4						
Tokai Troop																						2															1						
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS														
Troop	0.7																					140														2.33							
Individuals	1.8			25	30			67	45	90		15				10							16	15				20	15		16			20		5.80							
Roost:	AM	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	13	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1							
Roost:	PM	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	13	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	1							
Roost Sites		1		Tea Garden					2		Level 1 ZWK gums					3		Level 2 stream					4		Lev 4 Pines					5		Upper Tea Garden					6		Manor House				
		7		Picnic 1					8		Picnic 2					9		Middle Plant					10		Tokai bridge					11		Silvermine pines					12		Level 3 Mixed Plant				
		13		Other					14							15							16							17							18						
ID Features of Baboons		TK49 a (left deformed wrist and elbow)																																									
General remarks		Bold and <i>italics</i> indicate non-urban raids.																																									

Figure 19: Tokai Troop raid sheet for January 2017.

TK28, an old adult male baboon, has permanently immigrated to the Zwaanswyk Troop. The behaviour of TK28 will be monitored closely.

4. Constantia Troop 1

The Constantia Troop 1 (CT1) roosted at the Upper Gums and Bike Trails sleep sites for most of January 2017. The troop did not move up to the Constantia Berg this month.

It was observed that the troop did not forage on natural vegetation often during the day. On most days, the troop relaxed in the trees, groomed and socialised outside of the farms boundaries. In the early mornings and late evenings, the troop accessed the farms to forage on the grapes. Individual baboons were also reported on the farms during the day. The baboon-proof fences that encompass the wine farms in the Constantia Valley, have several weak points where baboons can gain access. Routine fence inspections and maintenance is critical if farm incursions are to be reduced.

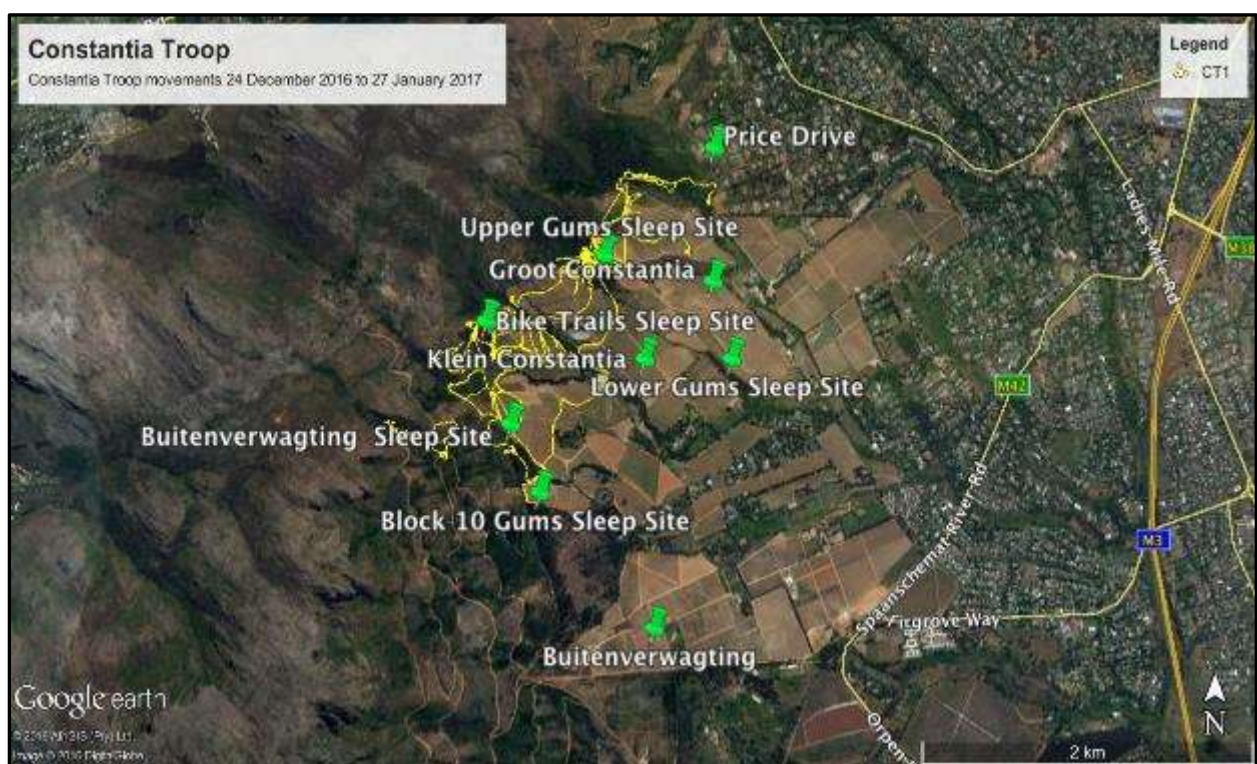


Figure 21: CT1 Troop movements in January 2017

No time in town or raiding incidents were recorded for the CT1 Troop this month. Eight incidents in the urban area were recorded for CON8. CON8 spent 18.87 hours in town and no raids were recorded. CON10, an adult male displaying dispersal behaviour, raided four bins at the Klein Constantia Manor House on 27 January 2017. No other raiding incidents were recorded for individual baboons.

Last month, CON8 displayed the signs of dispersal. On 25 December, CON8 dispersed deep into the urban area and was later captured in Bishopscourt. On 30 December, CON8 was translocated to the Tokai area, where he joined the Tokai Troop. However, between 30 December 2016 and 11 January 2017, CON8 moved between the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops.

CON10, an adult male displaying the initial signs of dispersal, attempted to join the Constantia Troop 2 (CT2). CON10 was confronted with aggressive behaviour from CON3 (alpha male). On 19 January, CON10 was reported on the Groot Constantia Wine Farm for the first time. CON10 moved alone between the Groot and Klein Constantia wine farms. The dispersal behaviour of CON10 will be monitored closely.

5. Constantia Troop 2

The CT2 troop roosted at the Buitenverwachting Gums and Block 10 sleep site for most of January 2017. The troop did not move onto the Constantia Berg this month.

The troop spent most days close to the Buitenverwachting Gums Sleep Site and Veels-Ter-Ver. The main source of forage in these areas were invertebrates situated under the bark of dead trees. CT2 was observed interacting with the Mountain Troop on several occasions. The troops would roost separately but spend the day together from time to time.

On 6 January 2017, CON3 sustained a severe laceration to the lower lip. CON3 was monitored and by 17 January, the injury had healed substantially. CON10 was suspected to have inflicted the injury on CON3.



Figure 24: CON3 made a full recovery

On 20 January 2017, a small juvenile female baboon sustained an injury to its left eye. The injury was accessed by a veterinarian appointed by CapeNature. Upon inspection, it was determined that it suffered from proptosis and should make a full recovery.

No time in town or raiding incidents were recorded for the CT2 troop this month.

6. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop roosted at the available sleep sites above the Buitenverwachting Wine Farm. The troop continued to prove the most problematic agricultural raiders, particularly for the Buitenverwachting Wine Farm. The troop followed a similar movement pattern to last month. It foraged at the Quarry Gums and the Bike Jumps.

On 18 January 2017, Byron Loubser, HWS Northern Area Manager, conducted paintball marker training for six new Buitenverwachting baboon rangers. The baboon rangers were added to the CapeNature Permit issued to HWS.

No time in town or raiding incidents were recorded for the troop this month.

Births and Deaths

TK48, was euthanized with WAAC approval in terms of the raiding protocol on 6 January 2017. TK50, was euthanized for humane reasons on 6 January 2017. Baboon-on-baboon conflict is the suspected cause. On 30 December 2016, an infant from the Zwaanswyk Troop was reported dead. Infanticide is suspected. On 28 December, a new born was recorded in the CT2 Troop and on 27 December, a new born was recorded in the Mountain Troop.

Recommendations

- The **electrified fence** surrounding the **Tokai Picnic Site** should be upgraded and maintained to limit baboon raids on picnickers.
- **Baboon-proofing** is urgently required in the residential area **below Orpen Road** in Tokai. The residents have become complacent because of a low-level of human-baboon conflict since 2012.
- An advocacy campaign is still required to remind residents in **Constantia** that vegetable gardens and chicken runs will encourage baboon raids.
- **Commercial film crews** that use **Cape Academy** should be informed about human/baboon conflict. Film crews need to ensure that **food and waste** is secure from baboons. Preferably **Baboon Protection Services** should be employed.
- **Waste management** and **baboon-proofing** at **Cape Academy** requires urgent attention. Bin cages are present but they are used incorrectly. There are bins that are not baboon-proof.
- The alien **invasive vegetation** in the Zwaanswyk, Tokai and Constantia areas should be removed. This has grown into an impenetrable thicket.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS**Population Data**

TROOP	Total December Populations					January 2017			Total Births 2017	Total Deaths 2017	Emigration/ Immigration 2016	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration				
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	49	55	0	1	0	0	1	0	54
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Waterfall	28	30	30	32	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	37
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slangkop	33	32	36	41	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	187	0	1	0	0	1	0	186
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30	29	0	1	0	0	1	0	28
Tokai	61	65	72	62	67	0	2	0	0	2	0	65
Mountain	33	44	48	49	52	1	0	0	1	0	0	53
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77	84	1	0	0	1	0	0	85
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	232	2	3	0	2	3	0	231
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	419	2	4	0	2	4	0	417

Table 1: Population data for the eleven managed troops on the Cape Peninsula (January 2017).

This month there were four deaths and two births in the managed population, which therefore decreased by two, to a total of 417 managed baboons. Of the deaths, one baboon was euthanased under the management protocol, one was indirectly human induced (fire) and two deaths were natural. There was nothing really unusual about these data, except possibly that there were so few births.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	2016	Jan 2017	2017 to Date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	7	1	1	56
Human Induced (HID)	8	7	10	24	7	1	1	57
Direct **	8	6	6	8	4	0	0	32
Indirect ***	0	1	4	16	3	1	1	24
Natural	7	30	19	20	16	2	2	94
Unknown	1	3	0	4	7	0	0	15
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	37	4	4	222

Table 2: Causes of baboon deaths since 2012 (*Data collected during the first half of 2012 provided by Baboon Research Unit, UCT); **Deaths caused directly by humans such as motor vehicle accidents, shooting, poisoning and dogs. ***Deaths caused indirectly by humans such as electrocutions and human related fires.

Hotline Data

This month there were 244 raid related hotline calls. This was an increase of 195 calls more than last month. The highest number of calls were from the Tokai area (68 calls), followed by Simon's Town (50 calls) with Welcome Glen and Zwaanswyk both having 28 calls.

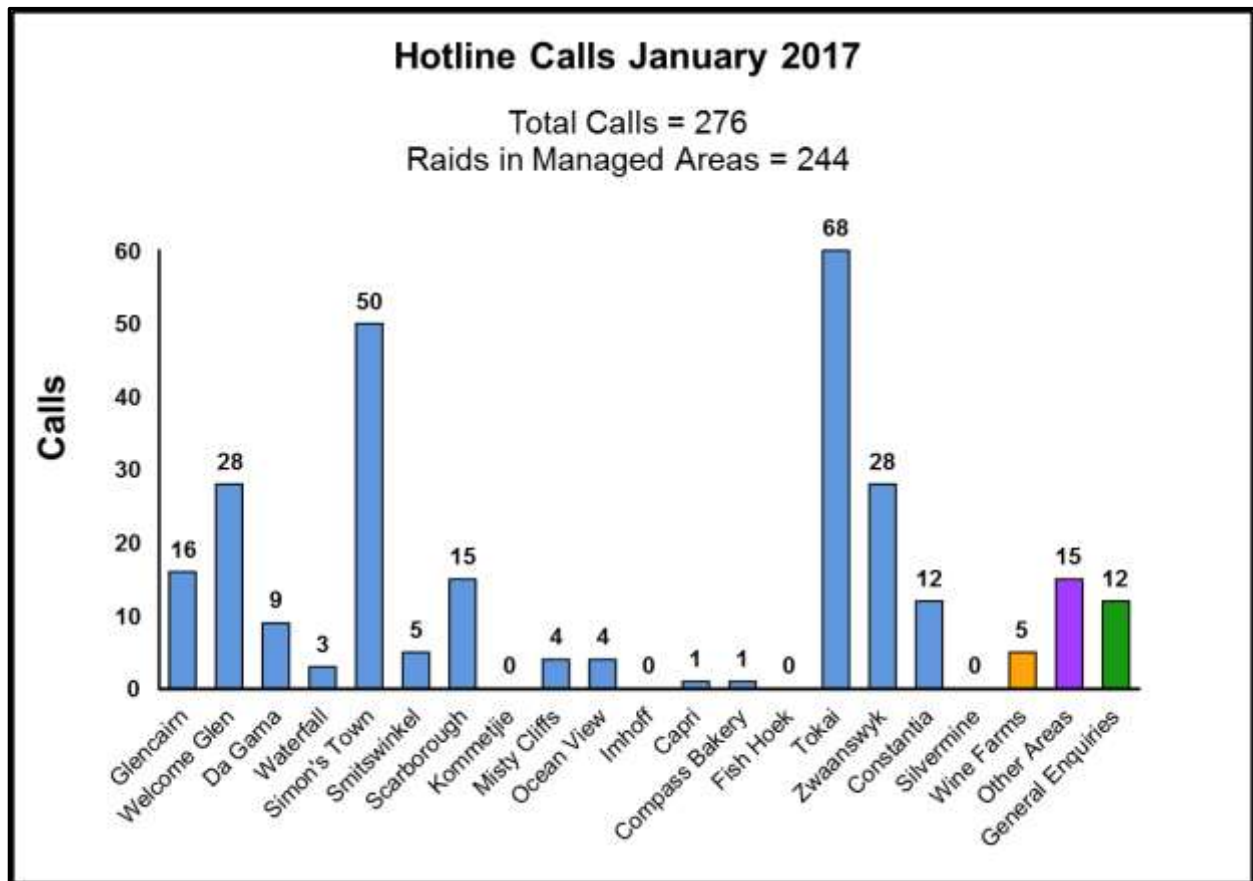


Figure 25: Hotline calls summary per urban area for January 2017.

Although there was an unusually high number of hotline calls this month, it is pleasing to note that 91% of raid related calls were just for baboons being in the urban area. Of the remaining raids, 8% were assertive raids (mainly raids on occupied houses), and 1% were bin raids.

The removal of the pines in Tokai and the successive regrowth of invasive alien vegetation as opposed to fynbos, has encouraged the northern troops to increase usage of the lower slopes of their home ranges. One result of this, is that there was a noticeable increase in hotline calls received from the Tokai, Zwaanswyk and Constantia areas.

The high number of calls in Simon's Town can again be attributed to the Waterfall Troop. After roosting during December 2016 at the SANAD or the Red Hill Sleep Site, the troop managed to move back down into the Waterfall Barracks. Extremely poor waste management at the Waterfall Naval Barracks and Happy Valley Home, provided a strong incentive for the baboons to move back to the urban area to raid.

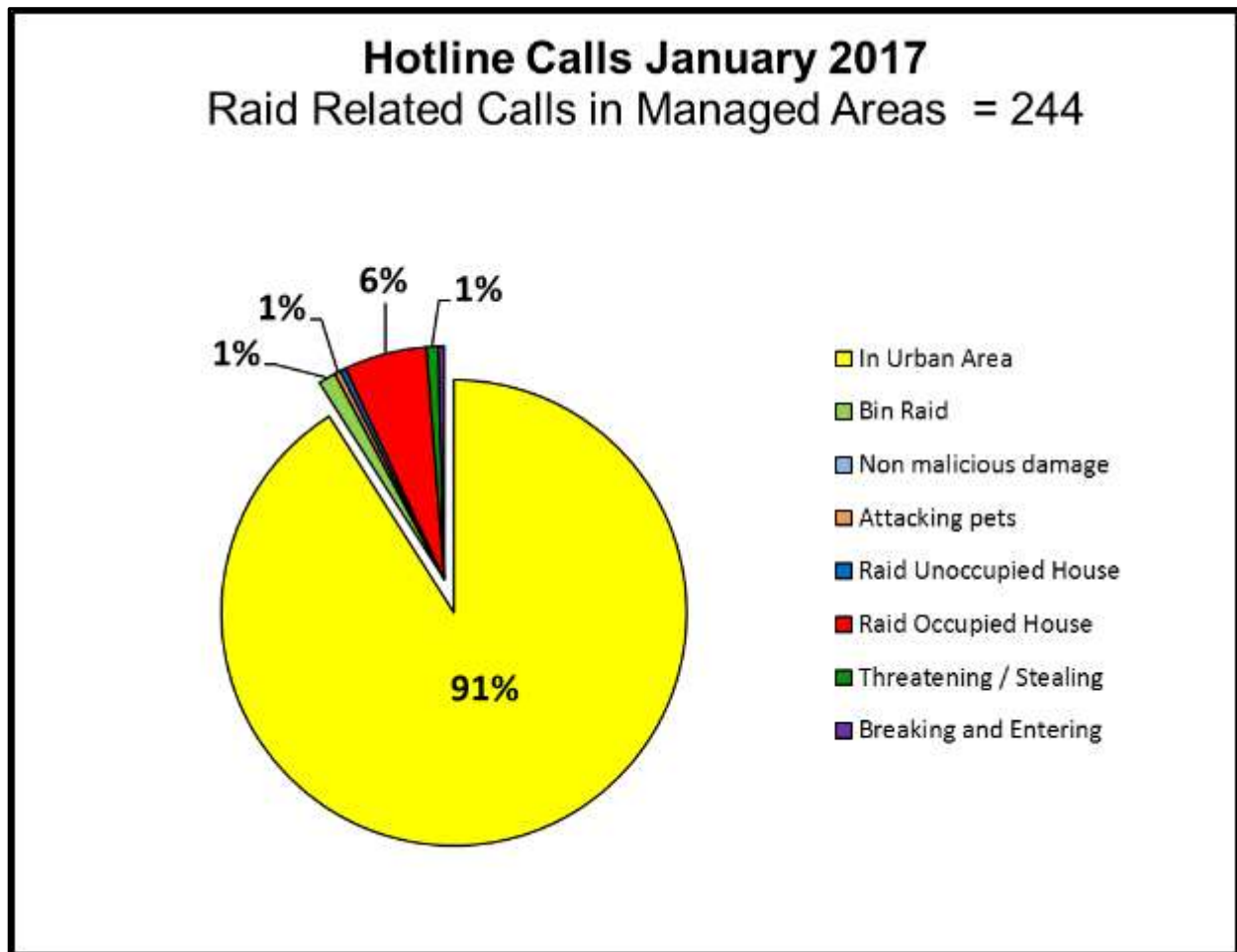


Figure 26: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during January 2017.

Percentage Time Out of Town

This month the average percentage time out of town was 99.6%. Although this is obviously down from the record of 99.99% last month, it is still a big improvement on the data from January 2016, when the troop average was 98.5%.

However, the raiding behaviour of individual animals continues to be a problem, specifically in the Da Gama Park and Waterfall troops. Individuals from the GOB Troop were also problematic this month. After exiting the TMNP on 19 January these individuals spent the remainder of the month sleeping above Misty Cliffs, and with a downward slope into town, this led to an increased presence of individuals in the village.

The Da Gama individuals time in town was unusually high this month, with 56.5% of time spent in the urban area. Two individuals, DG14 and DG17, spent an exceptionally large amount of time in town. DG17 slept alone in town on several occasions and his elusive behaviour made it difficult to move him out of the urban area.

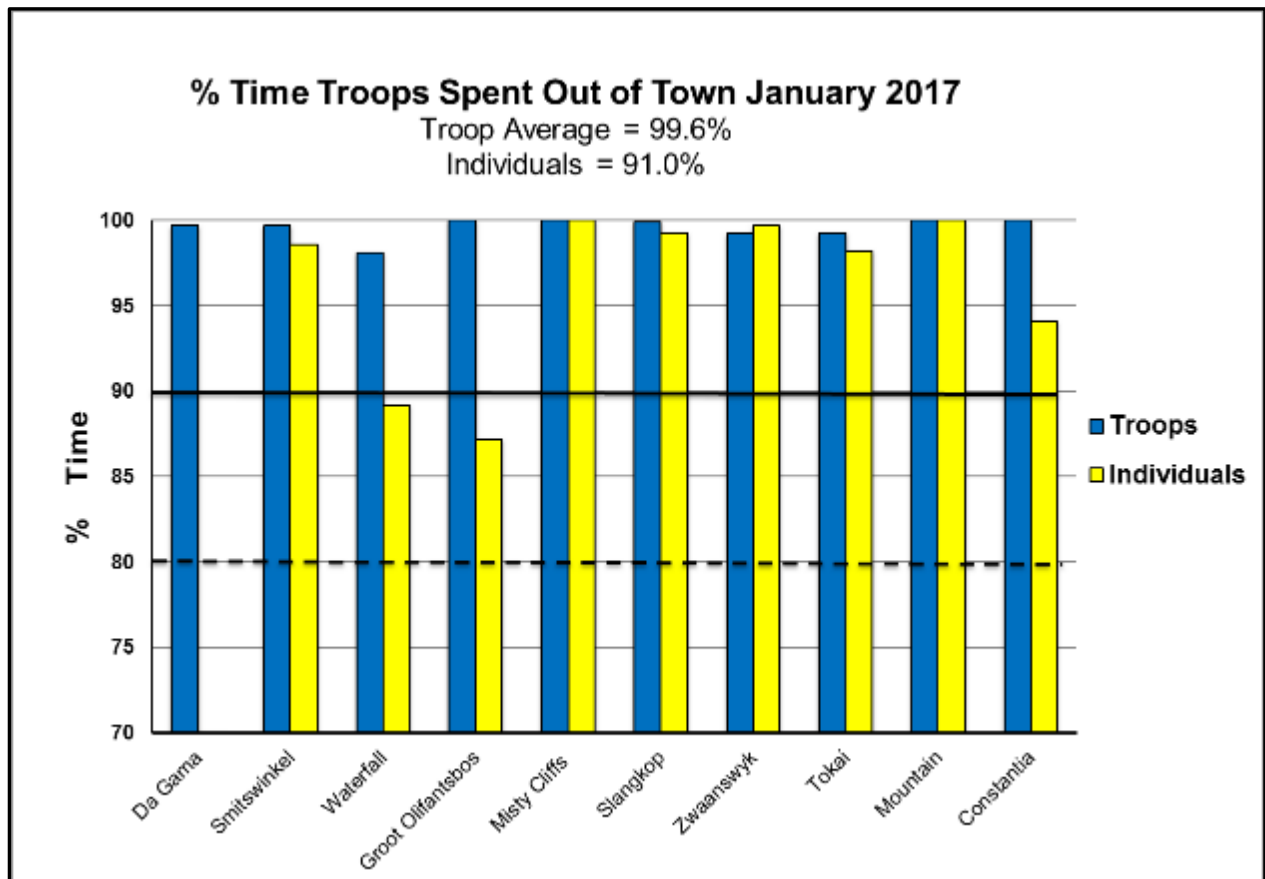


Figure 27: Percentage time troops spent out of town (January 2017). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement.

Individuals from the Waterfall Troop, TK42 and two adult females, have essentially split from the troop. After the Waterfall Troop moved back to SANAD, these individuals remained at the Waterfall Sleep Site and continued to raid the urban area. This has been a contributing factor to the increased presence of individuals in the urban area.

Conclusion

Baboon management on the peninsula has been characterised by quite a few anomalies over the past few months. The overall percentages of troops being kept out of town have been very high, averaging well over 99% time out of town. However, there have been several records of individuals in troops, causing there to be very high rates of hotline calls being recorded in some suburbs for a month or two, then dropping off again. In all instances the high numbers of hotline calls can be related directly to a few individuals leaving their troops to raid town. The one exception to this rule has been Zwaanswyk, where sometimes the whole troop has raided town when the electric fence has been faulty, or there has been a hole under the fence.

Now, as the summer drought starts taking hold, one can expect there to be less food in the fynbos. This pattern will be exacerbated in the north where there is now a large infestation of alien invasive vegetation. This will further reduce the amount of forage available to the baboons, so one should anticipate high rates of individual raids to continue until some good rains start falling.

Dr Phil Richardson

HUMAN WILDLIFE SOLUTIONS