



Photo: Cath Shutte

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

April 2017

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A. INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period from 25 March to 28 April 2017. This month, like last, the results for baboon management have been quite contradictory. Despite the baboon troops spending a very high percentage of time out of town (99.3%), the number of raid related hotline calls was also very high (189 calls). The explanation for this is primarily related to a few individuals raiding town alone or taking a few others with them. Last month DG16 of the Da Gama Troop was euthanised and it is notable that for the Da Gama Troop, individuals' time out of town increased from 74% last month, to 95% this month. Correspondingly, hotline calls from Welcome Glen dropped from 25 last month to 9 this month.

One of the most notable events this month was the Slangkop Troop moving into Kommetjie for the first time, since March 2014. The troop spent seven days in town, which resulted in a high number of occupied house raids by individuals. It was notable how few properties were still baboon-proofed, so the baboons had no difficulty in accessing food to eat.

Management was further challenged this month by troop splits in the Smitswinkel, Waterfall and GOB Troops in the south. All these splits were led by a few individuals taking raiding parties into town. Amongst the northern troops, possibly the most significant event was that the clearing of invasive alien plants. This has progressed well and a cleared path has been produced, therefore allowing the Tokai Troop to forage up the mountain and into the Silvermine Section of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) for the first time since mid-February 2017.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

From the end of March till mid-April 2017, the troop spent the majority of its time in the northern section of its home range and slept at either Castle Rock, Miller's Point or Rocklands Farm. The troop only spent 45 minutes in the urban area this month, whereas individuals were in the urban area for over 11 hours.

On 25 March, the troop was foraging around the Bluegums area when SWB9 moved away from the troop and towards the Miller's Point camp site. SWB9 raided a caravan and a tent at the camp site. The following day SWB9 and SWB10 broke away from the troop again and entered the camp site. The troop was high on the mountain at the time. HWS' rangers prevented any raids and moved SWB9 and SWB10 out of the camp site within 15 minutes. SWB9 however continued to push north towards Rocklands Farm

and Murdock Valley. On 3 April, following WAAC approval SWB9 was euthanised in terms of the raiding protocol.

On 8 April, a non-raiding male from Constantia (CON10), was translocated to the Smitswinkel Bay area. The male had attempted to disperse several times in the Constantia and Tokai areas. CON10 was released south of Partridge Point, and spent several hours finding good vantage points, to assess the surrounding area. During CON10's release, the Smitswinkel Troop was foraging close by along the coast.

On 9 April, CON10 attempted to join the Smitswinkel Troop, however SWB6 showed aggression and CON10 then stayed on the periphery of the troop. By 10 April, CON10 managed to join the troop but kept away from SWB6. To date, CON10 has remained with the troop. However, several fights have since occurred between SWB6 and CON10.



Figure 1: CON10 after his release at Smitswinkel Bay on 8 April.

On 17 April, following a fight with CON10, SWB6 started carrying an infant as a defence strategy. Adult males carry infants as protection from other adult males.

Unfortunately, SWB10, the sub-adult male that used to follow SWB9, moved from the troop and entered the urban area alone. On four occasions, SWB10 was followed by SWBF1. SWBF1 is old adult female, with a poor body condition which has deteriorated over the last few months. The rangers managed to block SWB10 and SWBF1's raiding attempts, except on 12 April when these two entered the camp site. On 15 April, SWB10 managed to break the line and raided at Rockland's Centre, as well as in Murdock Valley.

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: APRIL	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding												
BABOON ID	Sex	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	28	TOTAL
SWB6 (R-B)	M																									1			1								3
Troop																									1												1
CON10	M																											1			2	1					3
SWB10	M																																				0
UnID Individuals													1																	1							2
UnID Fem	F												1															1				1					3
SWBF1	F																								1												1
SWB9 (Y-W)	M	5	1			1																															3
UnID Male	M		1																				1									1					3
UnID Juveniles													1														1	1									3
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS								
Troop	0.2																							45												0.75	
Individuals	3.5	15	15			20						120											120	50		10	130	25	10	45	110	5				11.25	
Roost:	AM	3	4	6	6	6	4	5	4	3	6	3	4	5	5	5	3	3	6	7	5	4	5	5	4	3	6	4	5	5	5	5	5	1	7	1	
Roost:	PM	4	6	6	6	4	5	4	3	6	3	4	5	5	5	3	3	6	7	5	5	5	5	4	3	6	4	5	5	5	5	5	1	7	1	1	
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																																					
General remarks																																					

Figure 2: Smitswinkel Bay Troop raid sheet for April 2017.

2. Waterfall Troop

The management of the Waterfall Troop was extremely challenging this month, because the troop did not move as a cohesive unit. The troop split into raiding parties that entered town at different times and at different locations. The time in town for the Waterfall Troop was therefore only 2.7%. However, the time in town for individuals was 13.5%. This is a decrease from previous months and a slight improvement has been seen. The Waterfall Troop only slept out of town for four nights during April 2017. This is also an improvement from the two nights the troop slept out of town during March 2017.

TK42 formed a splinter troop, which foraged and slept separate from the troop. TK42 and other individuals in the splinter troop spent a substantial proportion of time in town, raiding bins and houses. On 31 March, following WAAC approval, TK42 was euthanised in terms of the raiding protocol.

From 1 to 5 April, the Waterfall Troop was back up the mountain behind the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD). The SANAD facility is still not baboon-proofed and bins that are not baboon-proofed are still being used. Therefore, on 2 April, the baboons managed to raid bins and the kitchen at SANAD. On 5 April, TK19 and a few individuals broke the line and ran back to the Waterfall Barracks. The rest of the troop followed and remained in the Waterfall area for the rest of the month.



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

On 6 April, a small dog, from Paradise Road, chased TK19 out of town towards Red Hill Road. The dog subsequently became lost on Red Hill Road, but was found by HWS' rangers and returned to the owner.

On 7 April, due to nationwide protests, the field manager was alone on duty. Throughout the day raiding parties managed to enter the urban area repeatedly. Three raiding parties remain constant. These consist of TK19 plus five individuals, WF4 and three individuals and six juveniles that enter town together.

The café shop, 'Whats your flava' is a constant attraction for the baboons. A meeting was held with the owners to try and find a way forward. However, no solutions have been agreed to yet. It seems that a baboon-proof security gate will be the only option. The shop is very small and moving the fruit to the back of the shop will not solve the issue because baboons would still be able to easily access all areas in the shop.

TK19 started following all the same routes that TK42 used. TK19 has been located at the train station, the navy dockyard as well as the Shell Garage on the Main Road in Simon's Town. Towards the end of April, the raiding party of juveniles also went as far as the Shell Garage.

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: APRIL			YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																													
BABOON ID		Sex	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	28	TOTAL																			
Troop																2	2,6		2					2	1	2						1	1	1				10																			
CON4 (B)		M	2		2															2					1			2		2	2							7																			
TK19 (R-W)		M	2	2	2						2				2,2	2,6		8,5,2	1				2		1			2		2					2	2	2	19																			
TK42 (B-Y)		M	2,5	2	2			1	1																	2												7																			
WFF4		M	2			1	5		2			2				2	2	2										2	6	2						1	2	5	14																		
WFF3		F																															1				1																				
WFF4		F																														1					1																				
WFF5 (Y)		F																												2							1																				
UnID Females		F	2,5	2	2			1	1						2	2	2		2				2		1			2							1	2	2	2	17																		
UnID Juveniles			2,5		2,5,6	5	2,5	2,6			2				2	2	2				1		2	2				2	6		2	1			1	2		25																			
UnID Male		M														2	2																					2																			
UnID Individuals				2,5	2,5			2,5			2,5					2		1										5,6	2,5	2,5						5	5	5	16																		
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS																								
Troop		2.7														120				41					65	45	10					45	120	75				8.68																			
Individuals		13.5	125	195	195	120	120	160							55	120	85	65	10	41	10		65	65	62	20		150	155	100	85	45	120	95	###	###	65	43.47																			
Roost:		AM	6	6	6	6	6	2	6	6	10	10	9	9	6	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	6	6	6	2	2	6	1	6	14	2	2	6																				
Roost:		PM	6	6	6	6	6	2	6	6	10	10	11	9	6	1	6	6	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	6	6	6	2	2	2	1	6	14	1	2	6	6																			
Roost Sites			1	Waterfall Cliff										2	Happy Valley Mtn										3	Signal School										4	Waterfall Barracks										5	Mountain Residents									
			6	Admiral footpath										7	Cape Farm House										8	Happy Valley Home										9	Red Hill										10	SANAD									
			11	Mountain CoGHN										12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road										13	Rocklands Farm										14	North Peak										15	Bungalow									
			16	Rocklands Valley										17	Shamballah Pines										18											19											20										
ID Features of Baboons																																																									
General remarks			Red and <i>Italics</i> indicates raiding inside the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD). Black, <i>Italics</i> indicates raiding on farms																																																						

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

The raiding parties entered town almost daily, with only a few days of the month when they did not. The baboons discovered many attractants and therefore, it remains very challenging to keep these animals out of town. Poor waste management continues to be a major concern at the Waterfall Barracks. Baboons access the flats through open windows and doors throughout the day. Snacks and food is often left inside the flats and baboons manage to access food easily almost every time they enter a flat.

Further management problems, include poor waste management and the feeding of baboons by residents at the Happy Valley. Residents within the residential area have fruiting trees, un-covered vegetable gardens and they also put out bird feed for birds. On bin days, the baboons manage to raid many bins because many residents do not have baboon-proof bins. The baboons have also started raiding the municipal bins along the Main Road.



Figure 5: (a) Open windows at the Waterfall Barracks. (b) Happy Valley Shelter bins outside on the road.

3. Da Gama Troop:

The Da Gama Troop slept out of town regularly throughout April 2017. The troop slept in the mountain on 14 nights, this meant that there was a significant decrease in time in town by the troop and individuals. The troop spent 98.8% of its time out of town, and individuals spent 94.9% out of town. This is a huge improvement from the March 2017, when the troop spent 25.5% of its time in town.



Figure 6: The Da Gama Troop's movement for April 2017.

TK43 left the Da Gama Troop on 19 March and joined the five adult females that have been moving in and out of the CoGH (the GOB individuals). TK43 remained with the GOB individuals for 11 days. On 30 March, KOB2 came out of the reserve and chased TK43 back to the Da Gama Troop. The Da Gama Troop were up at Kleinplaas Dam. TK43 was immediately accepted back in the troop, several of the juveniles immediately went up to him.

On 7 April, DG14 and DG15 had a fight and DG15's already injured hand, sustained another injury. On 8 April, DG15 stayed on the roof of the Kroonseil Flats till 13h00, before coming down by himself. The troop had already moved to Lewis Gay Dam. He slowly made his way up to the dam and joined the troop which slept at Grootkop that night. The troop stayed up at Grootkop from 8 to 12 April. The longest period with no raids, was from 8 to 11 April. On 12 April, DG17 and a female broke the line and ran back to town.

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: APRIL		YEAR: 2017		3 Non malicious damage													6 Raid occupied house or vehicle													9 Nocturnal Raiding																									
BABOON ID	Sex	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	28	TOTAL																		
Troop		1		1												2						1		1				1						1	1	8																			
DG14 (O-G)	M						8	1	1	2	1		2										1						7		1			1	1	11																			
DG15 (R)	M											1													1				1						1	4																			
DG16	M																																			0																			
DG17	M				7	1			1			1												1				1	1	2						23																			
TK43 (W-W)	M							1				1		1	1							1	2		1			2						1	8																				
DGF1	F	1																				1					2							1	5																				
DGF2	F																																			0																			
DGF4	F																																			0																			
UnID Females	F					1			1						1																					3																			
UnID Female	F										1	1	2	1						2				2	1	1			1		1			1	11																				
UnID Individuals												1														2								2	3																				
UnID Juvs											1				1																				2																				
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																		HRS																			
Troop	1.2	15		15									10		15							5		5				45						40	75	3.75																			
Individuals	5.1	45		15	10	5	60	50	30	50	80	55	73	30	18					49		5	30	13	49			60	95		59			40	70	16.52																			
Roost:	AM	2	20	20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	20	2	20	20	20	18	2	3	2	3	2	2	19	20	16	3	3	3	3	20	20	3	26																	
Roost:	PM	20	20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	20	20	20	20	20	18	2	3	2	3	2	19	20	20	3	3	3	3	20	20	24	26	3																		
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									
	26	Solole																																																					
ID Features of Baboons																																																							
General remarks		Red Italics - House raid inside Brooklands Waterworks.																																																					

Figure 7: The Da Gama Troop raid sheet for April 2017.

The troop has been travelling quite far from town to forage. The troop has gone to the Witsand area, Grootkop and up to Solole to feed. It also slept at Solole on 27 April for the first time. The baboons have been seen feeding on *Leucadendron* cones, bulbs, roots and grass, but have also been pushing to get to areas where they can feed on pine cones.

On 27 April, the rangers observed very strange behaviour by the troop. The troop stayed up in the pines at Dalgleash, where it slept, until 8h30. Once the baboons came down from the trees they moved to the first ridge behind Dalgleash and started alarm calling and running around. The baboons then ran back to the vegetation by the river at Jack's shop. The cause of this abnormal behaviour is unknown.

Births and Deaths

No births were recorded in the south-east section during April 2017.

Two deaths occurred in the South East, TK42 from the Waterfall Troop on 31 March and SWB9 from the Smitswinkel Troop on 3 April. Both were euthanised following WAAC approval in terms of the raiding protocol.

Recommendations

- In the interest of more effective baboon management, residents at the naval flats in Da Gama Park should place their **refuse bags inside the bins, inside the bin bay** and not leave it in front of the gate or on the floor.
- **Broken garages** at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park should be fixed, to prevent baboons from climbing in through the openings to gain access to the bins.
- All **vegetable gardens should be baboon-proofed** and residents should refrain from growing fruit trees in baboon affected areas. Otherwise, all fruit should be removed from trees.
- Residents at the Waterfall Barracks and Happy Valley Shelter should **keep their doors and windows closed** when they are not there to prevent raids.
- **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.
- Baboon management of the Smitswinkel Troop will be greatly improved if strategies such as **baboon-proofing, streamlined waste management, erection of signage and availability of flyers** to alert to patrons to the presence of baboons, is implemented at the Black Marlin Restaurant.
- **Poor waste management at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD)** and the Waterfall Barracks urgently needs to be addressed, so that baboons cannot gain access to food so easily.
- **A solution for the 'What's Your Flava' café** in Simon's Town needs to be found, to prevent baboons from raiding the shop, while still making it easily accessible for customers.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Cath Shutte

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop continued to move in a similar pattern to last month (HWS March 2017 Report). The troop slept outside the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) section of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) for 69% of the month and only roosted within the CoGH for 31% of the month. After spending seven months with the Waterfall Troop, GOB7's return to the GOB Troop has severely impacted the movement patterns and sleep site choice of the troop. In April 2017, the GOB Troop roosted within the CoGH for the entire month and remained in the Groot Olifantsbos area. However, GOB7 kept the troop around the Wildschutsbrand, Cape Farm House, Shamballah and Perdekloof areas for the duration of the month.



Figure 8: GOB Troop movement pattern for April 2017 (yellow polygon) showing localised movement in relation to its entire home range (white polygon).

The concentration of the troop in this area has led to an increase in human / baboon conflict. GOB7 attempted to gain access to the African Art Studio on many occasions this month, often taking KOB2 (the unhabituated male) along with him.

On the morning of 4 April, while the troop foraged on pine cones under the Shamballah pines, the Waterfall Troop moved over the mountain towards the GOB Troop. GOB7, and the rest of the troop, ran into the CoGH and spent the remainder of the day at Bonteberg. The troop then spent the following two nights within the CoGH, before coming back out on 6 April.

The five adult females (the GOB individuals) and TK43 (the Da Gama male) continued to be difficult to manage this month. These individuals continued to move above and between Misty Cliffs and Scarborough. HWS rangers attempted to encourage these individuals to return to the CoGH on many occasions this month. However, once back inside the CoGH, GOB7 would chase them away from the rest of the troop.

On 30 March, while the GOB individuals and TK43 were on the Baskloof Plateau, KOB2 appeared and chased TK43 towards Da Gama. The females followed, but TK43 ran ahead and re-joined the Da Gama Troop. KOB2 and the GOB individuals then walked back and spent the night together above Misty Cliffs.

While roosting above Misty Cliffs, the GOB individuals attempted to break the line held by HWS' Rangers. MCF7, an older female, often led the group into town, barking for the others to join her. There were nine occupied house raids and two unoccupied house raids this month. MCF7 was responsible for four of the eight occupied house raids and eight bin raids. The GOB individuals spent roughly 27% of the month in the urban area.

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: APRIL	YEAR: 2017	3	Non malicious damage												6	Raid occupied house or vehicle												9	Nocturnal Raiding																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	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	28	TOTAL																													
KOB2	M							1		1	1								1																		4																													
GOB7	M																																				0																													
TK43	M	1	1	1		6.2																														5																														
Unld Males	M																																			0																														
MCF7	F	1	1	2		6,2,2		1			1		2,2,2	1		1		1	1	1,2,2	6.6					1		6				1	1			24																														
GOBF1	F																											6				1	1			3																														
Unld Females	F		6	2		1		1		1.6	1		6,2,2,2,2	1		1		1.2	1	2,2,2,2,2	6,6.5					1	2.2				1	1	1		6	5	33																													
Juveniles																																				0																														
Troop																																				0																														
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																																				
Troop	0.0																																			0.00																														
Individuals	27.2	506	266	333		141		363		300	198		217	201		300		145	351	280	197					259	145			245	208	255		100	240	87.50																														
Roost:	AM	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5.1	5.1	4.1	2.1	4.1	2.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	2.1	2	2	2.1	2.1	4.1	4.1	6.1	4.1	4.1	2.1																														
Roost:	PM	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5.1	5.1	4.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	2.1	2	2	2.1	2.1	4.1	4.1	6.1	4.1	4.1	2.1																														
Roost Sites		1	Misty Cliffs												2	CoGH Reserve												3	Red Hill												4	Shamballah												5	Wildschutsbrand											
		6	Perdekloof												7	CoGH Nursery												8	Other																																					
ID Features of Baboons																																																																		
General remarks																																																																		

Figure 9: The GOB Troop raid sheet for April 2017.

On 11 April, one of GOB individuals was fitted with a VHF collar. This will assist the rangers greatly with the management of the females that have been moving in and out of the CoGH.



Figure 10: GOBF1 with her newly fitted VHF collar.

2. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop Troop utilised the Compass Bakery Cliffs Sleep Site for the majority of April 2017. However, on the morning of 14 April, the troop was chased by people who were throwing stones at the baboons. The troop ran around the back of Ocean View, over Slangkop Road onto Slangkop Mountain and began to make its way towards Kommetjie. The troop spent the next eight nights sleeping on Slangkop Mountain.

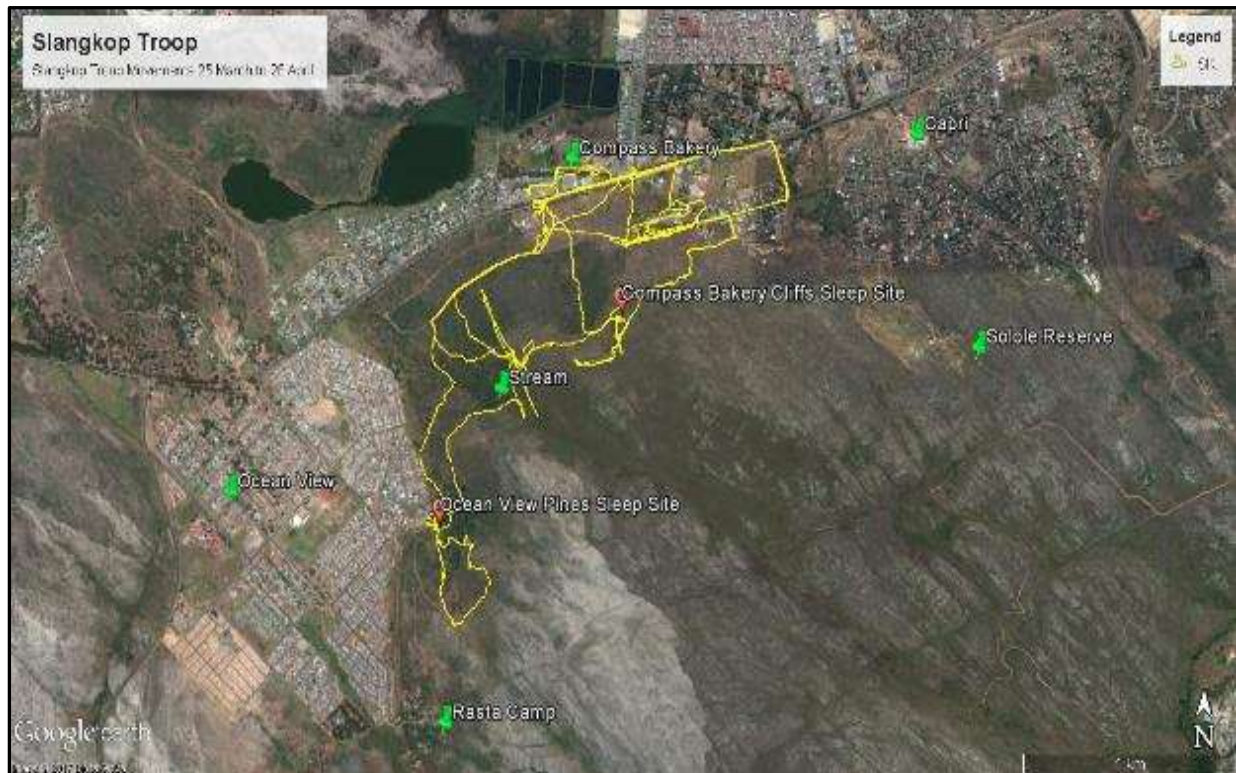


Figure 11: The Slangkop Troop's movement for April 2017.

Slangkop Peak provides many management challenges. The topography of the steep cliffs, the close proximity to the urban area as well as the increased access to human derived foods (HDF's) make management of the troop, difficult in this area. Kommetjie has been "baboon-free" since March 2014 and unfortunately, over time, there has been a reduction in baboon-proofing and waste management measures in the area.

The troop spent the week moving in and out of Kommetjie and concentrated its movements to the streets adjacent to the mountain. Over the seven days that the troop was in Kommetjie, individuals were responsible for 19 occupied house raids. Over the remaining 27 days of the reporting period, while away from Kommetjie, individuals were only responsible for five bin raids and there were no assertive raids. The troop, as a whole, only entered the urban area on five occasions.

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: APRIL	YEAR: 2017	3	Non malicious damage						6	Raid occupied house or vehicle						9	Nocturnal Raiding																				
BABOON ID	Sex	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	28	TOTAL
SK6	M	1						2				1													1												4
UnID Males	M											1													1												2
UnID Females	F							2																	1												2
UnID Juveniles																																					0
Unid Individuals		2							2			1						2				6,6,2			1	6,6,6,6	6,6,6,6,6	6,6,6,6,6,6,6									25
Troop		1		1					1									1										1								1	6
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS							
Troop	2.7	63		34						37								37											314						45	8.83	
Individuals	4.8	10						9				11	14									157			111	351	264									15.45	
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	2	3		
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	
Roost Sites		1 Slangkop						2 Ocean View						3 Compass balery						4 Witsand						5 Other											
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks																																					

Figure 12: The Slangkop Troop's raid sheet for April 2017.

The troop spent the remainder of the month moving between the Compass Bakery Cliffs Sleep Site, the Valley between Ocean View and Kompanjiestein, the pines behind Ocean View and the Rasta Camp. The troop predominantly drank from the fresh pool behind the Rasta Camp and foraged on bulbs, roots and indigenous fynbos.

Births and Deaths

There were no births or deaths recorded in the south-west section during April 2017.

Recommendations

- **Removal of Invasive Alien Plants:** The patches of IAPs situated above Ocean View and below the Compass Bakery Sleep Site if removed, will 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 so that this is not an attractant for baboons.
- **In2Foods Compass:** Increased baboon-proofing of the recycling area at In2Foods Compass, including tying up the black bins to prevent them from being tipped over, will assist in baboon management.
- **Waste Management:** Baboon-proof bins should be used by residents in baboon affected areas to prevent raiding.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Byron Loubser

1. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop roosted at the Tea Garden Sleep Site for most of April 2017 and did not roost at the Silvermine Pines Sleep Site. The troop focused its forage efforts on the low-lying areas of its home range (Figure 13). This included the SANParks' offices, Chrysalis Academy, the stable facilities and the Range. The troop was observed foraging on grass rhizomes, acorns and mushrooms and continued to raid horse feed at the stable's during feeding times.



Figure 13: Tokai Troop movements in April 2017.

The troop continued to move north towards Buitenverwachting Wine Farm (Buitenverwachting). Unharvested grapes, cover crop seeds and seed on IAPs attracted baboons to the farm. Buitenverwachting is enclosed by an electrified perimeter fence. The baboons accessed the farm using overhanging trees and excavations under the fence, made by porcupines and baboons. HWS collaborated with the Buitenverwachting rangers to reduce farm incursions and any report fence faults.

Working for Water (WfW) contractors continued to remove IAPs in the Tokai Plantation. The troop could move more freely in the plantation, but uncleaned sites continued to hinder movement. The removal of IAPs should promote the establishment of natural fynbos vegetation, which should improve foraging opportunities for the baboons.

Figure 14: Tokai Troop raid sheet for April 2017.

On 25 April 2017, the troop entered the Zwaanswyk urban space for 40 minutes. The baboons manipulated steel droppers to create a gap wide enough to fit through the Zwaanswyk fence. HWS reported the incident to the Zwaanswyk fence manager, who promptly repaired the damages. The troop also raided bins in the Tokai Picnic Site after SANParks operating hours.

Most raids undertaken during April 2017, can be ascribed to two individuals, namely TK47 and an untagged adult male, which both undertook 16 raids respectively. TK47 recorded the most time in town during April 2017, mainly at the Cape Academy in Tokai (refer to Figure 14).

The Zwaanswyk Troop roosted at the Tokai Picnic Site Sleep Site for most of April 2017. The troop also used the Kramat Sleep Site and Veels-Te-Ver Sleep Site above Buitenverwachting and did not roost at the Silvermine Pines Sleep Site.

3. Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)

The Constantia Troop 1 (CT1) roosted at the Bike Trails Sleep Site and the Buitenverwachting Gums Sleep Site for most of April 2017.

The troop continued to forage around the wine farms and occasionally foraged in the trees and on grasses at Langboskloof and Donkerboskloof, higher on the mountain. The troop foraged on grapes and cover crop seed on the farms. The cover crop attracts the baboons because it provides an easy source of food. The cover crop is required on the farms because it enriches the soils and prevent erosion. The troop spent most of its time in the southern part of its home range, close to Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia. Towards the end of the month, the troop moved back towards Groot Constantia. HWS' rangers were unable to hold effective lines on the urban edge at Price Drive, because the dense IAPs hampered sight lines and movement (Figure 16).

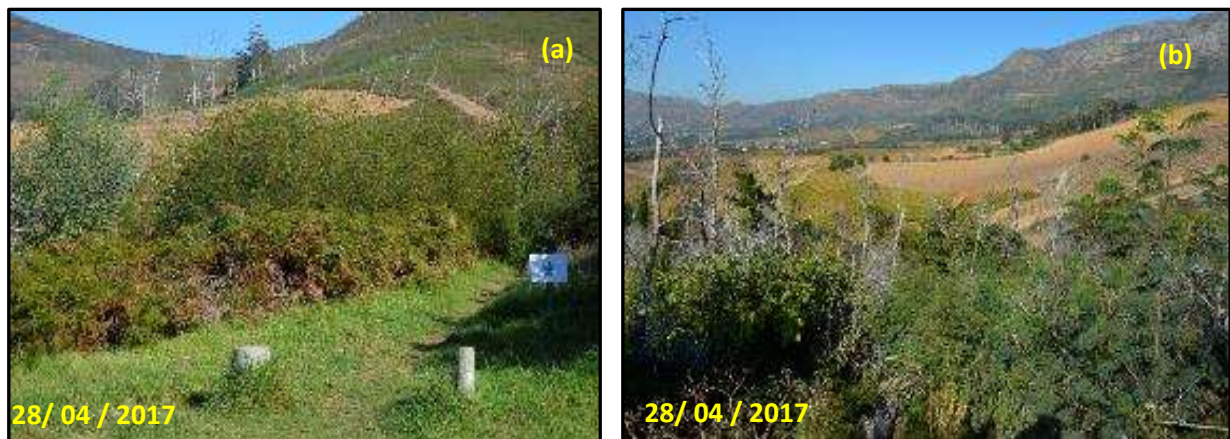


Figure 16: (a) Invasive alien plants at the lower parking, Price Drive and (b) Rangers' line of sight from the urban line.

HWS' rangers and Buitenverwachting' rangers collaborated to manage baboons on the farm. The rangers maintained the buffer zone to the urban space and reduced the time baboons spent on the farms. IAPs between the lower parking and upper parking on Price Drive continued to hamper baboon management.

On 16 April 2017, CON2 (an old adult male) was displaced from CT1. CON2 immigrated to CT2 and has remained with the troop. A young adult male, CON13, started to challenge the older males. There are currently six adult males in CT1 and aggressive competition for rank occurred regularly between the males. There is only one adult male, CON3, in CT2 and thus, less competition and aggressive behaviour in this troop.

There has been a satisfactory improvement from last month in terms of raiding incidents. Individual baboons recorded 12 raids, whereas last month, 21 raids were recorded for individuals. Raids only took place at the end of the month when the CT1 roosted at sleep sites on Groot Constantia.

SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																					
NORTH				1 In urban area														4 Attacking pets														7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food									
BABOON TROOP:		CT 1		2 Raid bins														5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle														8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: APRIL		YEAR: 2017		3 Non malicious damage														6 Raid occupied house or vehicle														9 Nocturnal Raiding									
BABOON ID		Sex	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	28	TOTAL			
CON2 (B-O)		M																																		2		1			
CON 6 (Collar)		M																																							
CON 11 (Y-Y) SA		M																																							
CON 13 (W-W)		M																																			1	1			
MT1 (Green)		M																																		1		1			
Uni SA male		M																																	1	2	2	3			
Uni adult male		M																																1		1	2				
Uni adult male		M																																							
Uni female		F																																		1		1			
Uni Juvenile																																		5		1	2				
Uni Individuals																																		1			1				
Constantia Troop																																			2			1			
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS										
Troop		0.1																																23			0.38				
Males		0.7																															15	15	15	15	75	2.25			
Roost:		AM	1	1	3	3	3	3	6	6	3	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	6	7	7	3	3	6	3	3	1	1	1	8	8	2	5				
Roost:		PM	1	3	3	3	3	6	6	6	3	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	6	7	7	3	3	6	3	3	1	1	1	8	8	2	5	8				
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 Dumping site				10 Other		11				12																				
ID Features of Baboons			MT1: white tag out.																																						
General remarks			Bold and Italics indicate non-urban raids.																																						

Figure 17: CT1 raid sheet for April 2017.

4. Constantia Troop 2 (CT2)

The Constantia Troop 2 (CT2) roosted at the Buitenverwachting Gums for most of April 2017.

On most days, the troop foraged around Buitenverwachting and Veels-Te-Ver. Observations indicate that the troop foraged on pine cones, grapes and cover crop seeds. CT2 was reported above the stores and private residences on Klein Constantia, close to the urban space. HWS and Buitenverwachting' rangers collaborated to prevent urban incursions.

CON10 continued to display dispersal behaviour this month. On 26 March 2017, CON10 was monitored at Water Oak Farm, close to the urban edge. On 28 March 2017, CON10 was reported in the urban space on Parish Drive, Constantia but then moved to the Alphen greenbelt and was not seen for the remainder of the day.

On 29 March 2017, CON10 was reported at 15 Klaasens Road, Bishopscourt and then moved towards the M3, eventually crossing the road, opposite Wynberg Park. At approximately 11h30, CON10 was captured in a trap cage and transported to the Westlake Holding Facility where a VHF collar was fitted to the animal.

It was then released close to the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops. Post release, CON10 roosted alone, close to the Vodacom Tower at Porter Estate.

On 31 March 2017, CON10 dispersed into the urban space again. Following this, CON10 was captured at Huis in die Bos in a trap cage and held at the Westlake Holding Facility. A management decision was made to translocate CON10 to the south-east region. On 8 April, CON10 was released in the south-east and has since settled in the Smitswinkel Bay Troop (refer to the South-East section of this report and Figure 1).

On 24 April 2017, a private resident living on Buitenverwachting reported that baboons damaged infrastructure and assets at their home. CT2 was also observed close to the other private houses on the farm. HWS and Buitenverwachting rangers worked together to mitigate raids and damages on the farm.

CON10 was recorded in the urban space four times, however no raids were reported. No time in town was recorded for the CT2 troop this month.

5. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop roosted at the Block 5 Sleep Site and Veels-Te-Ver Sleep Site during April 2017. The troop foraged around Buitenverwachting and south of the fence line on SANParks property. The troop was observed foraging on pine cones, grapes and cover crop seed and continued to spend time close to the houses on Buitenverwachting. HWS and Buitenverwachting' rangers worked together to mitigate raids and farm incursions.

On several occasions, the Mountain troop was observed foraging in close proximity to the Tokai and the Zwaanswyk Troops. Intertroop aggression continued this month. The Mountain Troop regularly pushed the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops out of Buitenverwachting.

On 12 April, HWS and Buitenverwachting' representatives met to discuss practical recommendations for baboon management on the farm. The upgrading and maintenance of the electrified perimeter fence was prioritised and recommendations about IAPs and farming practices were made. Furthermore, HWS advised that private residences should follow an agreed protocol for baboon management on the farm.

Furthermore, on 12 April 2017, a dead infant was seen outside Buitenverwachting Farm. The cause of death is unknown.

On 22 April 2017 and 27 April 2017, the troop was in the vineyards below Water Oak Farm. The farm is situated close to the urban fringe and HWS and Buitenverwachting' rangers worked together to prevent

raids and urban incursions. Traditionally the troop used low-lying areas over winter, close to the urban space. HWS and farm rangers will continue to collaborate to prevent the troop from accessing the urban space.

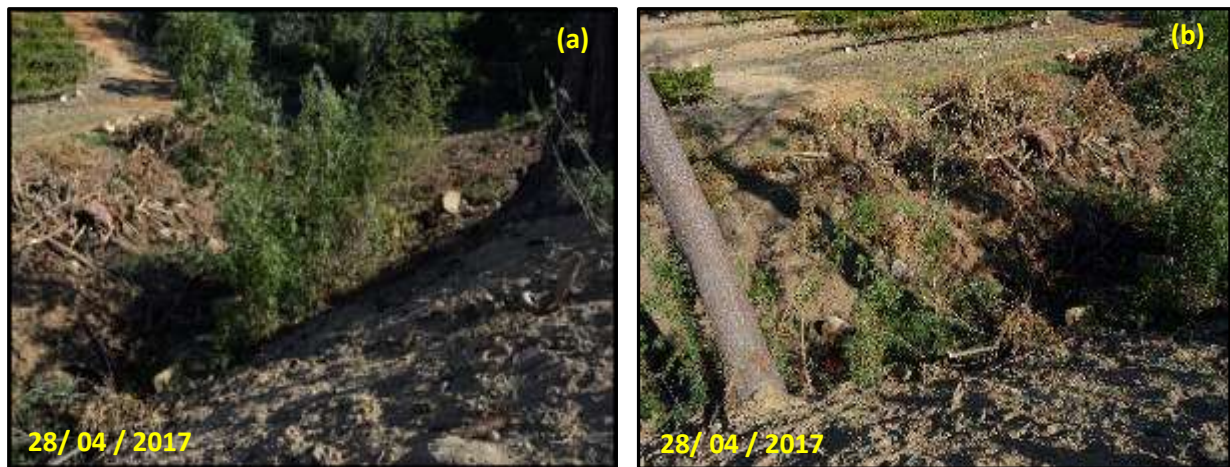


Figure 18: (a) and (b) shows invasive alien plants (IAPs) removed on the Buitenverwachting Farm.

On 4 April, Dr Dorothy Breed (City of Cape Town Urban Wildlife Specialist and Veterinarian) assessed a sub-adult male baboon (MT7) that suffered electrical injuries to its right arm, lower back and hind-quarters. The wounds were necrotic, and Dr Breed recommended that humane euthanasia would be the best course of action. MT7 proved difficult to capture over the course of three days and was euthanased on 6 April 2017.

No time in town or raids were recorded for the troop. On 18 April 2017, a juvenile baboon entered an unoccupied house at Veels-Te-Ver. The back door was unlocked and the baboon could fit through the security gate. The baboon only took cold bacon out of a frying pan. HWS secured the door with wire to prevent further incursions.

Births and Deaths

On 2 April 2017, two infants were recorded in the Mountain Troop. Two new-borns were identified in the Tokai Troop on 4 April 2017 and 14 April 2017, respectively. On 11 April 2017, an infant was recorded in CT1.

On 12 April 2017, a dead infant was reported in CT2. The cause of death is unknown. MT7 in the Mountain Troop was euthanised on 6 April 2017, for humane reasons following an electrocution.

Recommendations

- An upgrade and regular maintenance of the **electrified perimeter fence** at the **Tokai Picnic Site** should limit baboon raids on picnickers.
- The **Cape Academy** should implement the practical recommendations made by HWS for **baboon-proofing** to limit baboon incursions and raids.
- **Maintenance and upgrades** to **electrified perimeter fences** on relevant **wine estates** should reduce baboon-related incidents. Trimming or removal of overhanging trees and closing of excavations will limit baboon access to the farms.
- An **advocacy campaign** for **residents** in **Tokai and Constantia**, main baboon attractants and recommended baboon-proofing methods would be very beneficial if undertaken before winter, to limit baboon incursions which historically increase during winter.
- The **removal** of **IAPs** between the lower and upper parking areas on Price Drive, Constantia **before winter**, will improve baboon management and reduce health and safety risks.

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

This month, there were five births and four deaths in the managed population. All births occurred in the northern troops. The overall management population has grown by one, taking the total up to 420 individuals.

TROOP	Total December Populations					APRIL 2017			Total Births 2017	Total Deaths 2017	Emigration/ Immigration 2017	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration				
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	49	55	0	0	+1 (TK42)	2	3	0	54
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	33	0	1	+1 (CON10)	0	1	+1	33
Waterfall	28	30	30	32	37	0	1		2	1	-1	37
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16	22	0	0	-1 (TK42)	0	2	+1	21
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
Slangkop	33	32	36	41	40	0	0		2	3	0	39
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	187	0	2		6	10	+1	184
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30	29	0	0		0	1	1	29
Tokai	61	65	72	62	67	2	0		6	5	-1	67
Mountain	33	44	48	49	52	2	1		5	3	0	54
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77	84	1	1	-1 (CON10)	8	5	-1	86
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	232	5	2		19	14	0	236
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	419	5	4		25	24	-1	420

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

Four deaths occurred this month, two each from the northern and southern troops. The two in the south were males with extensive raiding records, that were euthanised with WAAC approval. The two, in the northern troops, were a humane euthanasia resulting from an electrocution and an unknown death of an infant.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	2016	APRIL 2017	2017 to Date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	7	2	5	60
Human Induced (HID)	8	7	10	24	7	1	4	60
Direct **	8	6	6	8	4	0	1	32
Indirect ***	0	1	4	16	3	1	3	25
Natural	7	30	19	20	16	0	11	103
Unknown	1	3	0	4	7	1	4	19
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	37	4	24	242

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 vehicle accidents, shootings, poisonings and dogs. ***Deaths caused indirectly by humans: electrocutions and human related fires.

Hotline Data

This month there were 189 raid related hotline calls in managed areas. This was an increase of 62 calls over last month. The majority of the calls continued to come from the Simon's Town area (60 calls), followed by Scarborough (36 calls). These calls can mainly be attributed to a few individuals raiding the urban area. The extreme lack of baboon-proofing in the Simon's Town area continues to facilitate raiding by baboons.

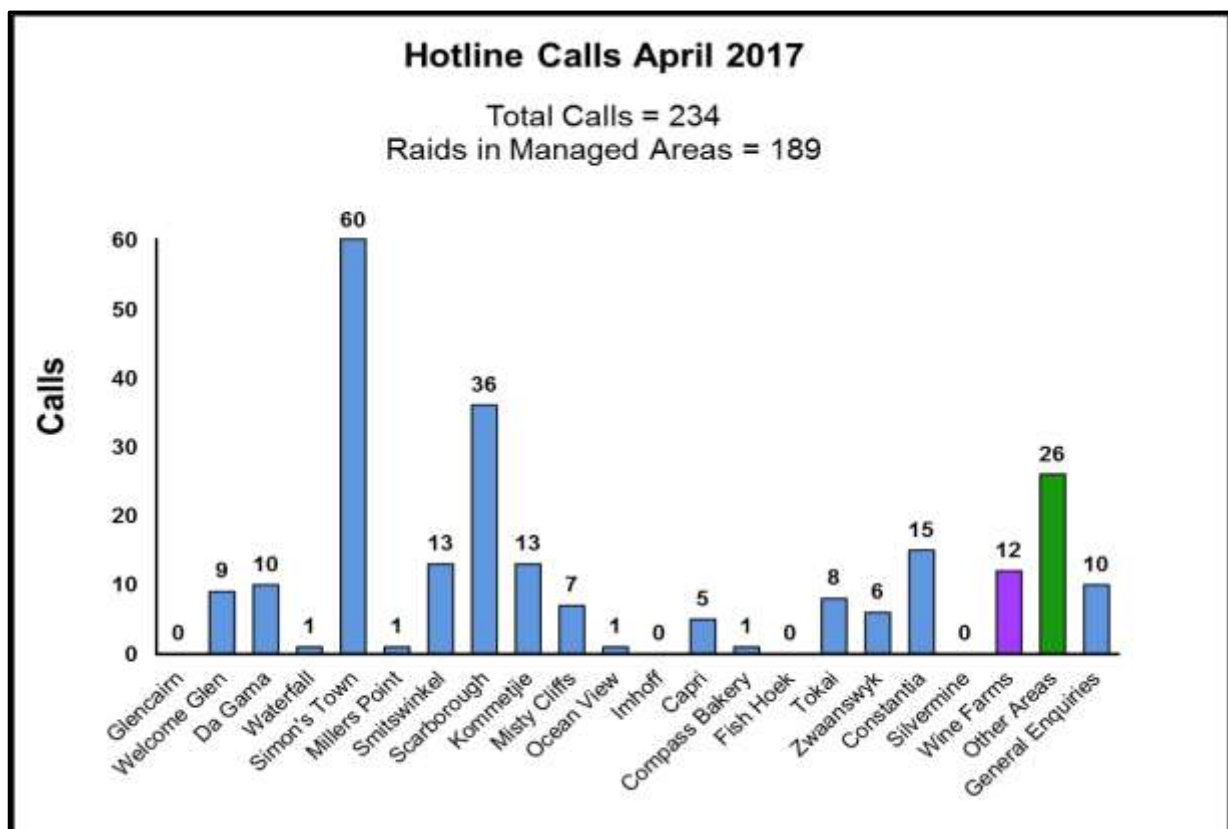


Figure 19: Hotline calls summary per urban area for April 2017.

This month Kommetjie was raided for the first time in three years. This can be attributed to the Slangkop Troop being chased by people and dogs from behind Ocean View. The troop ran to Slangkop Mountain and remained there for the next 8 nights. While on Slangkop, the troop raided Kommetjie on a regular basis, leading to a sudden spate of hotline calls.

There has been a significant increase in raid related hotline calls for April 2017 (189) when compared to the previous year, April 2016 (58). This could possibly be attributed to the severe drought that the peninsula is experiencing. Despite the increase in hotline calls received this month, it is pleasing to see that the majority of the raid related calls (81%) were just reporting the presence of baboons in town. Most of the remaining raids were assertive raids and mainly by individuals from the Waterfall, Slangkop, Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops.

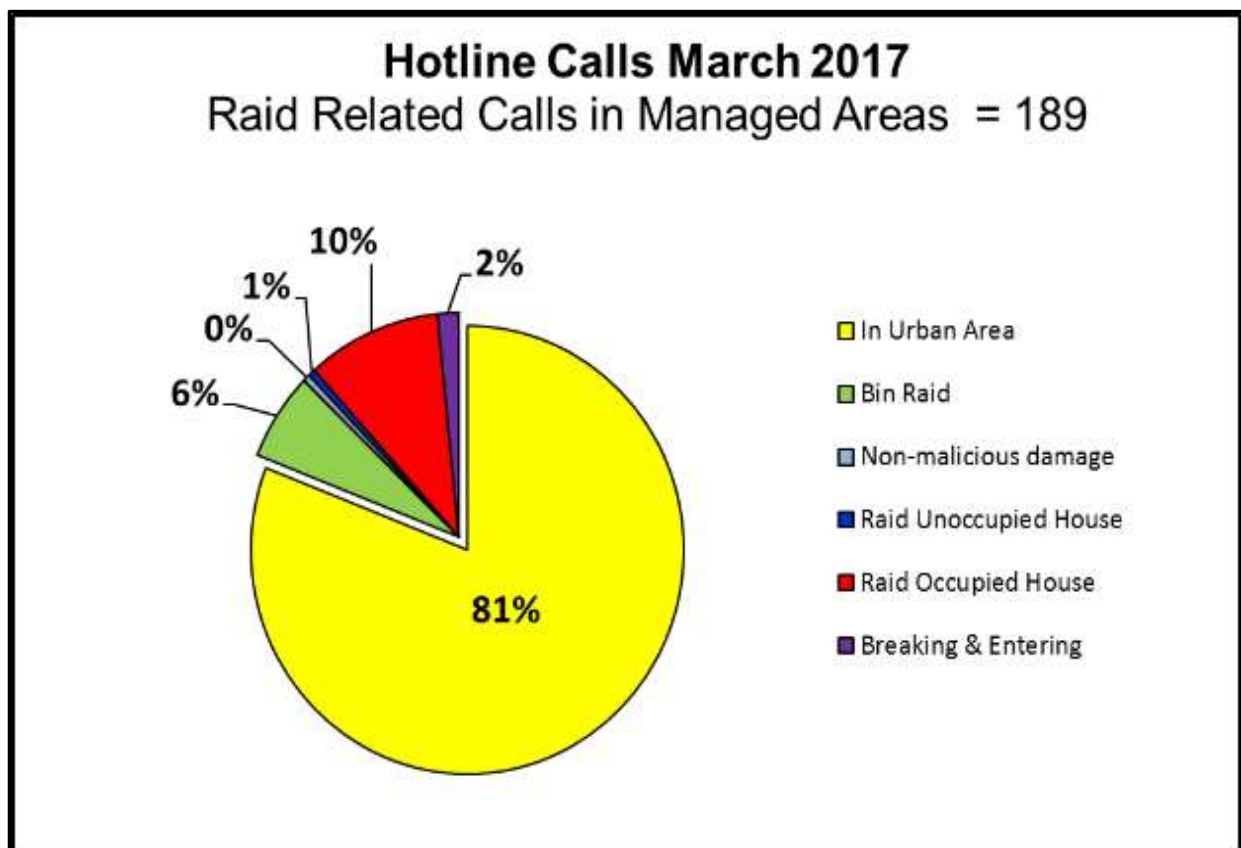


Figure 20: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during April 2017.

Percentage Time Out of Town

Troops spent an average of 99.3% and individuals an average of 94.8% of their time out of town this month. The most noticeable change can be seen from the Da Gama individuals, who went from spending 25% of their time in town last month to only 5% this month.

The Waterfall Troop individuals showed a less dramatic improvement this month, dropping from 17% of their time in town last month, to 13% this month.

The GOB individuals spent an unusually high percentage time in town this month. This was largely because of the disruption to the troop caused by GOB7, which returned from the Waterfall Troop. He kept the troop in the extreme north eastern corner of its range, and often harassed some of the females who retreated to Scarborough and Misty Cliffs to avoid him. These females then ended up raiding town.

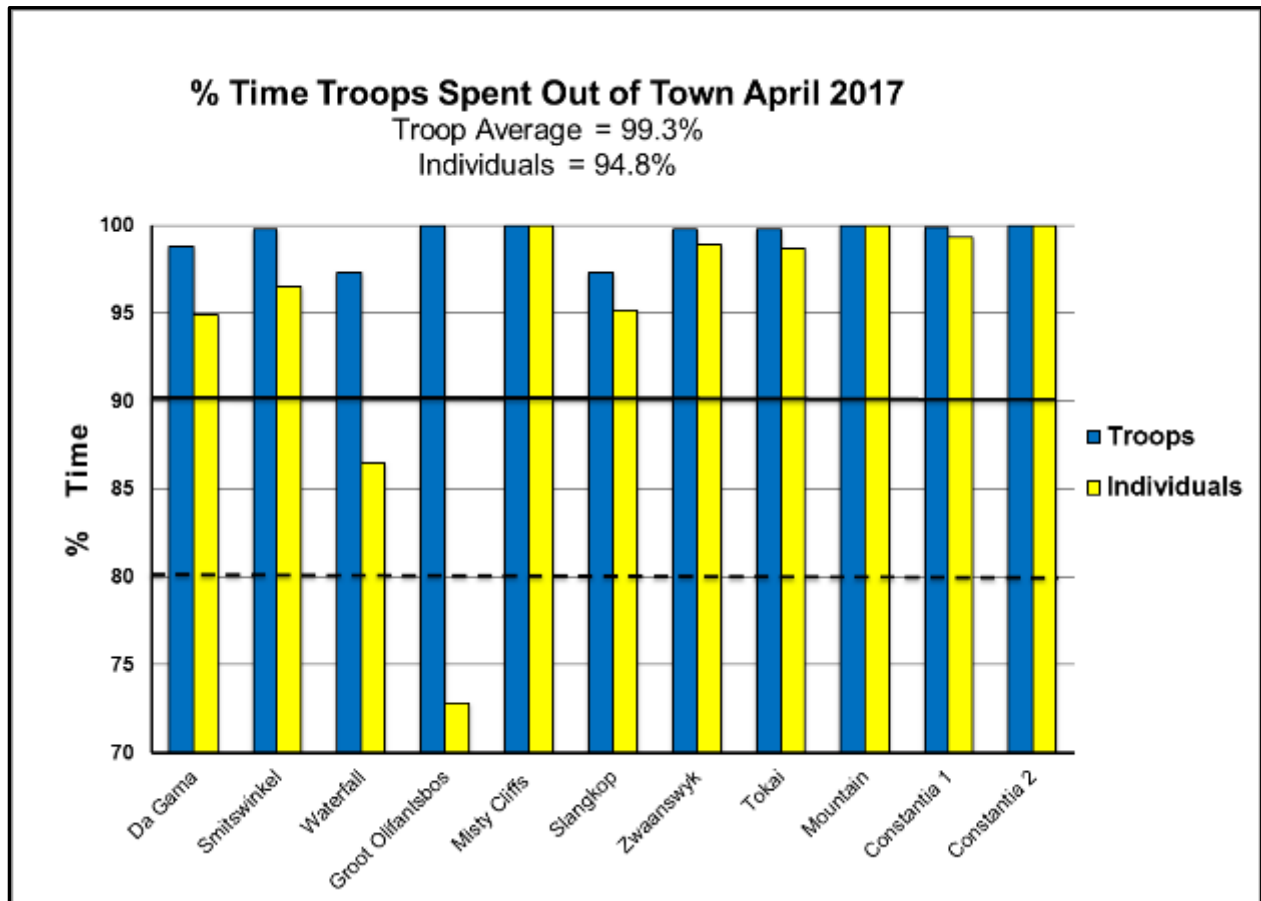


Figure 21: Percentage time troops spent out of town (April 2017). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement.

Conclusion

In line with the relatively high number of hotline calls this month, there were a number of events that affected the behaviour of some troops. There was a good improvement in the time spent out of town by the Da Gama individuals. In March the individuals were in town for 25.5% of the month, in April they were only in the urban area for 5.1% of the month. This is a positive sign that even after the January 2017 fire, there is still forage available to sustain the troop's nutritional requirements. It is probably also significant that DG16 was no longer present to lead other individuals astray. Since DG16's euthanasia in March, there has also been a marked reduction of hotline calls from Welcome Glen. DG16 often used to sleep alone in town.

The movement of GOB7 from the Waterfall Troop back to the GOB Troop has led to a drastic reduction in home range use by the troop. GOB7 prefers to keep the troop in the north-eastern section of its home range. The troop has not roosted at Groot Olifantsbos since GOB7 has returned to the troop. This is a cause for concern because the GOB Troop is the wildest on the peninsula.

The other major event this month, was the move by the Slangkop Troop to Slangkop Mountain. The troop is usually prevented from going to Slangkop because it is so difficult to stop the troop from raiding Kommetjie when it gets there. This occasion was not an exception, and the troop managed to raid Kommetjie for seven days before it could be returned to its normal home range east of Ocean View. The long-term plan for the Slangkop Troop is to install a virtual fence just south of Kommetjie. This would allow the troop to forage over most of the Slangkop Mountain while at the same time stopping it from raiding Kommetjie.

Dr Phil Richardson

HUMAN WILDLIFE SOLUTIONS