



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD



Urban Baboon Programme

February 2022 Monthly Report



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City of Cape Town

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1 INTRODUCTION

NCC Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd (NCC) was appointed on 1 October 2020 as the service provider for the City of Cape Town's Urban Baboon Programme (UBP) on a three-year contract. NCC are contracted to prevent baboon troops from entering the urban area for at least 90% of daylight hours to minimise human-baboon conflicts.

2 SOUTHERN SUBPOPULATION

AREA MANAGER – CATH SHUTTE

2.1 DA GAMA TROOP (DG)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The DG Troop spent 96.5% of the time out of the urban area.
- Individual baboons spent 96.4% of the time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop and/or individuals moved through Welcome Glen and Da Gama Park on a few instances this month where they accessed bins on occasion.
- The troop spent the majority of the month utilising roosting sites within the natural space of their ranging area.
- On 23 February, SWB12 was released near Lewis Gay Dam, within the Da Gama Troop's ranging area. DG19, adult male in the Da Gama Troop, was initially curious of SWB12. However, shortly after, DG19 ran around the dam and chased SWB12 over the mountain ridge, towards Da Gama Park. A visual on both males was lost once they moved over mountain.
- DG19 later returned to the troop which was foraging on the southern side of Lewis Gay Dam. SWB12 was not seen for the remainder of the day.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION TAKEN
There is 3km of above ground electricity line running through a section of the DG Troop's natural ranging area. This line should be diverted underground to protect baboons and other wildlife from further electrocutions.	NCC and members of the CCT Biodiversity Department are engaging with CCT Electricity Department regarding short-term and long-term mitigation measures for electricity poles and power lines in baboon ranging areas.
Residents are advised to keep windows and doors closed when baboons are in the vicinity and to baboon-proof their properties as much as possible.	Site and residential visits are carried out in Welcome Glen this month.

2.2 GROOT OLIFANTSBOS TROOP (GOB)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The GOB Troop spent 100% of the time out of the urban area.
- Individual baboons spent 100% of the time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop moved in and out of the Cape of Good Hope section (CoGH) of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) during the month but did not move to the northern sections of their ranging area near the Baskloof Nature Reserve.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Residents of Scarborough should remain alert to the possibility that baboons may visit the village and maintain baboon-proofing of their properties.	NCC have left educational pamphlets at the local Scarborough restaurants, which are popular with Scarborough residents.
Owners of rental properties should alert their guests to possible presence of baboons and proper conduct required to mitigate against intrusions.	Unknown.
Both skips at Kogelfontein should be kept locked to reduce this troop's access to human-derived foods.	Regular site visits are carried out of the Kogelfontein skips and addressed immediately if the skips are overfilled.

2.3 SLANGKOP TROOP (SK)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The SK Troop spent 84% of the time out of the urban area.
- Individual baboons spent 92.6% of the time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop and/or individuals moved through Kommetjie during the first week of the month where they accessed bins and frequently entered houses.
- On 05 February, the troop moved towards the eastern section of its ranging area.
- While in the eastern section of its ranging area the troop and/or individuals frequently moved into Capri and areas of Sunnysdale where they accessed bins and entered houses often.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION TAKEN
Residents and business owners are advised to keep windows and doors closed when baboons are in the vicinity and to baboon-proof their properties as much as possible.	Regular site and residential visits are carried out in Capri, Sunnydale and Imhoff's Gift. Site visits have been carried out with business owners at Heron Park & Fish Eagle Park. Educational pamphlets have been distributed in Capri, Sunnydale, Heron Park & Fish Eagle Park.
Though baboons do not move through Kommetjie often, residents of Kommetjie should remain alert to the possibility that baboons may visit the village and maintain baboon-proofing of their properties.	Regular site and residential visits were carried out in Kommetjie this month. Educational pamphlets were distributed to residential and business addresses.
Both skips at Kogelfontein should be kept locked to reduce this troop's access to human-derived foods.	Regular site visits are carried out of the Kogelfontein skips and addressed immediately should the skips be over full.
The installation of electric fencing aprons on the roofs of businesses within the Heron Park industrial area would discourage the baboons from utilizing them as a roosting site.	To be actioned by the industrial park. Communication between NCC and the industrial park is ongoing.
The installation of a strategically placed baboon-proof electric fence in Kommetjie would discourage baboons from entering the village while in this section of their ranging area.	Communication with the Kommetjie community regarding the installation of a strategic baboon-proof fence along the Kommetjie firebreak is ongoing.
The Peach Pip Farm Stall should place their bins in a baboon-proof enclosure to ensure that baboons are not able to access waste.	Regular random site visits and waste storage checks are carried out at the farm stall.
Continued environmental education in Ocean View, particularly with children, is recommended in an attempt to reduce the level of human-baboon conflict along the urban edge.	Informal education with children takes place regularly. Formal educational visit to school to be actioned.
The alien invasive trees on Kommetjie Vineyard Estate are dense and overgrown. This vegetation should be removed as it obscures the troop's movements and allows them to enter the urban space undetected. It also poses a fire risk for the urban area.	Ongoing communication is taking place between both the landowner and developer with regards to alien invasive species as well as baboon-proof perimeter electric fencing.

2.4 SMITSWINKEL BAY TROOP (SWB)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The SWB Troop spent 91.7% of the time out of the urban area.
- Individual baboons spent 64.9% of the time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop increased the use of their sleep sites in the northern portion of their ranging area.
- The two field rangers which were appointed to encourage SWB12 to remain in the natural space, continued to monitor his movements and assist in the dispersal process to the best of

their ability. On 23 February, SWB12 was relocated to the ranging area of the Da Gama Troop. Shortly afterwards, he returned to the Froggy Farm/Murdock area. Despite the appointment of two rangers and a second assisted relocation, SWB12 continued to spend a considerable amount of time in the urban areas of Murdock Valley and Froggy Farm with occasional visits to his natal SWB troop. On several occasions, SWB12 and WF8 were seen fighting, however SWB12 did spend nine nights roosting with his natal troop.

- On 20 February, WF8 pried open a locked door of an unoccupied house and accessed food.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Residents and business owners are advised to keep windows and doors closed when baboons are in the vicinity and to baboon-proof their properties as much as possible.	Regular site and residential visits are carried out in Murdock Valley, Froggy Farm & Miller's Point. Pamphlets have been distributed and regular community feedback is carried out in the above areas.
The troop often moves past the Black Marlin restaurant. An electric fence around the property would prevent baboons from accessing food at this facility.	Recommendations have been given by both CCT officials and NCC to improve the baboon-proofing of the Black Marlin property.
The Cape Boat and Ski Boat Club should continue to store all bins containing food waste inside the baboon-proof bin enclosure.	Regular communication takes place between NCC and Solid Waste Department as well as between NCC and the Cape Boat and Ski Boat Club regarding their bin enclosure.
The baboon-proofing of waste areas, windows and doors in facilities on South African Navy property would reduce access to human-derived foods and assist baboon management. Alternatively, an initiative to keep doors and windows closed when baboons are in the area would reduce access.	Communication between NCC, CCT Biodiversity Department and the SA Navy is ongoing and future meetings are being planned to address ongoing issues.

2.5 WATERFALL TROOP (WF)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The WF Troop spent 92.8% of the time out of the urban area.
- Individual baboons spent 98.1% of the time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- Troop dynamics continue to be affected this month as both adult males in the troop were seen fighting with each other on several occasions. This resulted in the troop splitting and moving in fragmented groups.
- Inadequate waste management at SA Naval facilities continues to be a key factor attracting the troop to the urban area of Simon's Town. This month there was an increase in time

spent on SA Navy property which facilitated the movement of the troop and/or individuals into Simon's Town.

- Poor waste management at the Waterfall Barracks continues to encourage the baboons to roost on the Waterfall Barracks ladies' flats roof and subsequently facilitates the troop's movement deeper into the urban space.
- WF9, adult male natal to the Waterfall Troop, showed an increase in aggressive behaviour towards people this month. On five separate occasions, he displayed aggressive behaviour towards NCC field staff and members of the public.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Residents and business owners are advised to keep windows and doors closed when baboons are in the vicinity and to baboon-proof their properties as much as possible.	Regular site and residential visits are carried out in Simon's Town. Educational pamphlets have been distributed to residential addresses as well as businesses on Simon's Town Main Road. Regular community feedback is carried out in the Simon's Town area.
The baboon-proofing of waste areas, windows and doors in facilities on South African Navy property would reduce access to human-derived foods and assist baboon management.	Communication between NCC, CCT Biodiversity Department and the SA Navy is ongoing and future meetings are being planned to address ongoing issues.
A baboon-proof security gate to eliminate baboon access to What's Your Flava shop would reduce the availability of human-derived food rewards, which encourage baboons to the area.	Numerous attempts have been made to engage with the shop owner in this regard. The shop owner declines to assist with installing a security gate on the door.
Baboon awareness traffic signs should be installed along Simon's Town Main Road to alert motorists to the possible presence of baboons crossing the road.	Communication between NCC, CCT Biodiversity Department and the CCT Transport Directorate is ongoing.
The more frequent removal of waste from public bins would prevent overflowing and dumping of waste next to the bins. This would reduce baboon access to the waste and their attraction to the area.	Communication between NCC, CCT Biodiversity Department and CCT Cleansing Department are ongoing and future meetings are being planned to address this recommendation.

2.6 SOUTHERN AREA GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Strategically placed baboon-proof fences would prevent baboons from entering urban areas while allowing for the maximum use of their available ranging areas.	Continued community engagement takes place in all baboon-affected areas and strategic fences are spoken about at length with local residents.
The provision of baboon-proof street-side bins by the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department's Cleansing Division, as well as recycling bins in affected suburbs would minimize access to human-derived food waste.	Communication is ongoing with the CCT Cleansing & Biodiversity Departments.
Vegetable gardens should be baboon-proofed where possible.	Residential visits are carried out at "point source" properties and owners are assisted where possible with mitigation measures for reducing access to vegetable gardens by baboons.
Planting of fruiting trees should be discouraged and/or managed by timeously removing fruit to reduce the attractiveness of the area for baboons.	Residential visits are carried out at "point source" properties and owners are assisted where possible with mitigation measures for reducing access to fruit trees by baboons, such as picking off the fruit or removing the tree.
Due to increased snare activity on the Cape Peninsula, it is important for members of the public to report incidents to the Baboon Hotline.	A request that the public alert the Baboon Hotline to the presence of snares is made in each monthly report.
Residents should be educated on the legality of using pellet guns within the urban area, as well as the suffering that is inflicted on baboons which are shot. The public are encouraged to report pellet gun use to SAPS, Law Enforcement, CapeNature & the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.	Communities are routinely educated on how to proceed if such incidents are witnessed. Information in this regard has been shared with community representatives who in turn share it with the greater community.
Regular waste management inspections by the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department By-law Division would help address baboon-waste related issues.	NCC monitors waste collection in baboon-affected suburbs closely. If waste collection is delayed in any suburb, NCC informs the Solid Waste Department to alert them.

3 NORTHERN SUBPOPULATION

AREA MANAGER – FANUS FERREIRA

3.1 CONSTANTIA ONE TROOP (CT1)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The CT1 Troop spent 88.8 % of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 99.8% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop spent an increased time in the urban space due to limited access to large residential properties.
- Water in the Price Drive stream decreases towards the end of summer. This makes operations more challenging for the ranger team as the troop seeks water closer to the urban edge.
- On 17 February, as a result of a shift in wine farm management, the troop moved through the wine farms and into Pagasvlei. From this location, the field team encouraged the troop out of the urban area via Price Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
The installation and maintenance of baboon-proof electric fencing around wine farms and at the top of Price Drive would reduce baboon incursions into the wine farms and surrounding areas.	To be actioned. The benefits of a strategic baboon-proof fence along the top of Price Drive has been discussed at length with local residents.
Residents are advised to keep windows and doors closed when baboons are in the vicinity and to baboon-proof their properties as much as possible.	Site and residential visits were carried out and educational pamphlets were distributed in the Constantia area this month.

3.2 CONSTANTIA TWO TROOP (CT2)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The CT2 Troop spent 99.8% of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 100% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop spent majority of their time in Cecilia Forest and De Hel Nature Area during the month.
- The collar continued to be effective in monitoring troop movement and allowed field rangers to proactively block the troop from entering the urban space.
- Towards the end of the month, the troop began moving into the Orange Kloof Reserve. If the troop chooses to remain in this area, it will likely reduce the amount of time spent in the urban space.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Signage erected along Constantia Main Road, Rhodes Drive and Southern Cross Drive would assist in alerting motorists to the presence of baboons along the roads.	Communication between NCC, CCT Biodiversity and the CCT Transport Directorate to action this recommendation is ongoing.
Signage erected in the northern portion of the Table Mountain National Park would assist in alerting recreational users to the presence of baboons in the area. Baboon-proofing of bins and facilities in this area would assist in preventing baboons from gaining access to human derived food.	This request has been submitted to TMNP.

3.3 MOUNTAIN ONE TROOP (MT1)

- The MT1 Troop spent 100% of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 100% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- No specific recommendations

3.4 MOUNTAIN TWO TROOP (MT2)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The MT2 Troop spent 98.6% of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 100% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop was located roosting above The Range throughout most of the month.
- The troop crossed Orpen Road on several occasions.
- There are no field rangers allocated exclusively to this troop, however the tracking collar has proved valuable in monitoring the troop's movement and assisted the field team in preventing them from moving deeper into the urban space.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Removal of fruit from fruiting trees on Orpen Road would reduce the level of attraction to the area.	A request has been submitted to City Parks and Recreation.

3.5 TOKAI TROOP (TK)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The TK Troop spent 99.8% of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 99.8% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- Individuals accessed food from tables at the Tokai Picnic area on one occasion.
- Individuals visited Cape Academy on three occasions.
- Fruiting trees on Orpen Road continued to attract the troop and/or individuals.
- On 6 February, TK55 an adult male natal to the Tokai Troop, began to disperse and moved in a southerly direction away from the Tokai Troop. Two field rangers were appointed to encourage TK55 to remain in the natural space and continued to monitor his movements and assist in the dispersal process to the best of their ability.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Improving the electric fencing around the Tokai picnic to prevent baboons from gaining access.	This request has been submitted to TMNP.
Removal of fruit from fruiting trees on Orpen Road would reduce the level of attraction to the area.	A request has been submitted to City Parks and Recreation.

3.6 ZWAANSWYK TROOP (ZW)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The ZW Troop spent 100% of time out of the urban area.
- Individuals spent 100% of time out of the urban area.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- Same factors as for the Tokai Troop due to overlap of their ranging areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
Improving the electric fencing around the Tokai picnic to prevent baboons from gaining access.	This request has been submitted to TMNP
Removal of fruit from fruiting trees on Orpen Road would reduce the level of attraction to the area.	A request has been submitted to City Parks and Recreation

3.7 NORTHERN AREA GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION TAKEN
The erection of strategically placed baboon-proof fences on Price Drive and wine farms would prevent baboons from entering urban areas while allowing for the maximum use of their available ranges.	Continued community engagement takes place in all baboon-affected areas and strategic baboon-proof fences are spoken about at length with local residents. Price Drive residents, in particular, have been engaged with in this regard.
The availability of baboon-proof rubbish and recycle bins in baboon-impacted suburbs would minimize the troop's access to human-derived food waste.	Communication is ongoing with the CCT Solid Waste & Biodiversity departments.
Vegetable gardens should be baboon-proofed to prevent access.	Residential visits are carried out at "point source" properties and owners are assisted where possible with mitigation measures for reducing access to vegetable gardens by baboons.
Fruiting trees should be removed, or fruit removed from the tree to reduce the level of attractants to the urban area.	Residential visits are carried out at "point source" properties and owners are assisted where possible with mitigation measures for reducing access to fruit trees by baboons, such as picking off the fruit or removing the tree. The removal of fruit from trees along Orpen Road awaits actioning.
A community education plan would help educate residents and businesses on how to baboon-proof properties and reduce attractants as well as how to respond when baboons enter the urban area.	Residential visits and community engagement is carried out in all baboon affected communities to educate homeowners on how to minimize attractants and implement baboon-proofing measures.
Contraception to slow the growth of this baboon subpopulation should be considered.	CapeNature and SANParks, the relevant mandated authorities for such action, have been informed of this recommendation.
Due to increased snare activity on the Cape Peninsula, it is important for members of the public to report incidents to the Baboon Hotline.	A request that the public alert the Baboon Hotline to the presence of snares is made in each monthly report.
Residents should be educated on the illegalities of using pellet guns within the urban area, as well as the suffering that is inflicted on baboons which are shot. The public are encouraged to report pellet gun use to SAPS, Law Enforcement, CapeNature & the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.	Communities are routinely educated on how to proceed if such incidents are witnessed. Information in this regard has been shared with community representatives who in turn share it with the greater community.
Regular waste management inspections by the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department By-law Division would help address baboon-waste related issues.	NCC monitors waste collection in baboon-affected suburbs closely. If waste collection is delayed in any suburb, NCC informs the solid waste department to alert them.

4 MONTHLY GENERAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY

4.1 OVERALL TIME OUT OF TOWN

The troops overall spent 95.6% of time out of town this month. The SK Troop and CT1 Troop did not reach 90% of time out of town this month. For the first week of February, the SK Troop was still in the Slangkop Mountain portion of their range where they spent considerable time within the village of Kommetjie. The difficult terrain and steep slopes of Slangkop Mountain present the field rangers with significant challenges in maintaining the troop within the natural area. Within Kommetjie itself there are an abundance of food rewards. These food rewards, in combination with the use of deterrents tactics by residents in the area (namely illegal paintball and pellet guns) often results in the scattering of individuals. This makes the field staff's operational plans to re-establish troop cohesion and encourage the troop out of the urban space more difficult. Upon returning to the Rooikrans Mountain side of their range, the troop spent time within the urban space of Capri. This was due to the troop's use of drinking water at Solole, which immediately borders Capri. The CT1 Troop entered the urban area more this month due to a shift in both drinking water location and operational strategies by the wine farms. Individual time out of town was 95.6% this month. The increased amount of time in town for Smitswinkel Bay Troop individuals was largely attributed to the movements of male SWB12 in the Murdock Valley area.

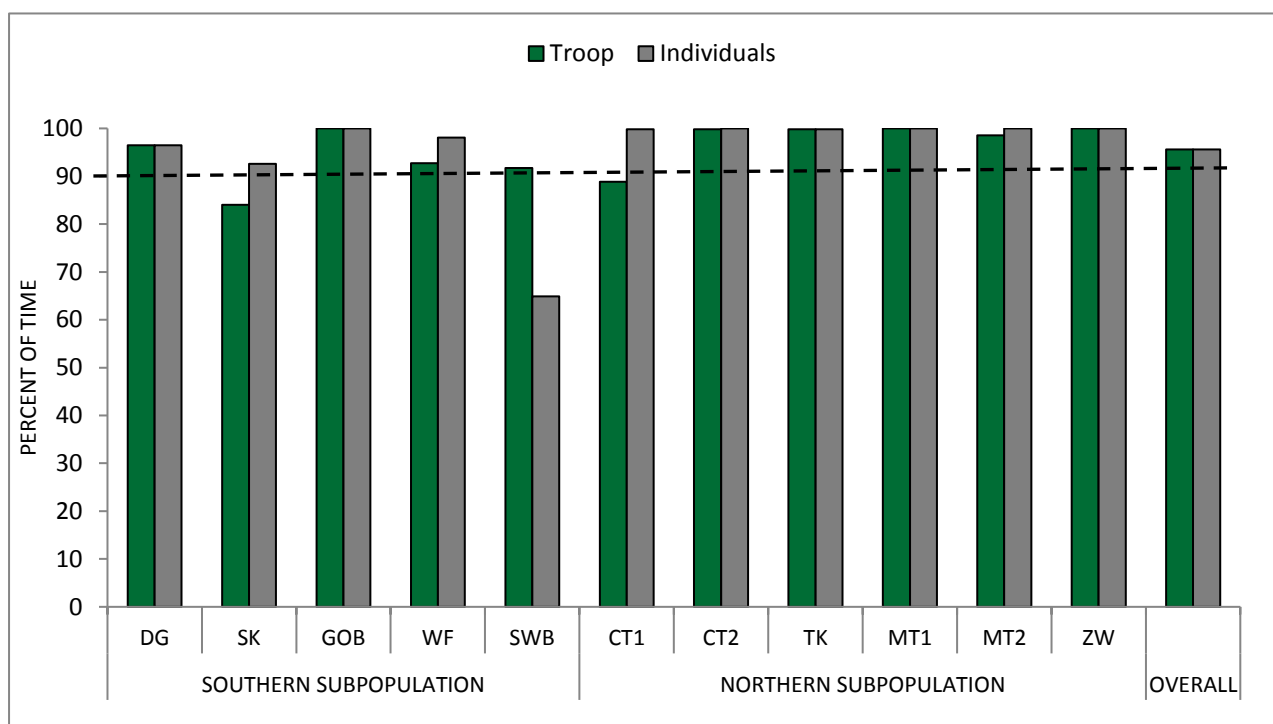


Figure 1. Percent of time out of town calculated for each troop and troop individuals for the month of February. The full name of each troop can be found in the prior section. The percent of time out of town is calculated using the same method as the previous service provider, based on an average of 10.7 daylight hours per day per month.

4.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Site visits, stakeholder liaison, and community engagement, including education initiatives, took place this month as follows:

Site Visits:

Private properties in Kommetjie, Murdock Valley, Tokai, Constantia, Welcome Glen and Simon's Town

- Engaged with residents who had experienced raiding events to advise them on how to mitigate the likelihood of future incursions.
- Provided baboon-proofing advice to residents who had recently moved to baboon-affected suburbs. Baboon behavior was discussed to foster a greater understanding of why baboons are motivated to enter the urban area. Residents were also given information on how they can help to prevent this by reducing attractants.
- Advised residents on the appropriate reactive behaviour when faced with a baboon on their property.
- Discussed the potential advantages of strategically placed baboon-proof electric fences for Price Drive and Kommetjie with individual residents.
- Engaged with residents to discuss the potential role of contraception to slow population growth of specific baboon troops.
- Advised residents on the standard operating procedures for paintball marker and bear banger use and under what circumstances they can be used as management tools.
- Encouraged residents to refrain from feeding birds in baboon home ranges as this can inadvertently become an attractant for baboons.
- Engaged with residents about the challenges of managing baboons in the urban environment. Standard operational plans were discussed with residents residing in properties that the baboons commonly utilise as routes through the urban area. The purpose of these visits was to promote collaboration between ranger teams and residents, so that they can work towards the common objective of reducing the amount of time baboons spend in the urban space.
- Advised residents of the need to remove or secure fruiting trees and vegetable gardens in baboon-affected areas.
- Engaged with residents to dispel misunderstandings of how hotline data is used.

Alleged pellet gun, paintball marker and catapult use by members of the public – Responded to reports of pellet guns, paintball markers and catapults being used against baboons. Residents were advised of the legal ramifications of such actions. They were also provided with an educational letter from

CapeNature, which details the applicable sections of the Nature Conservation Ordinance of 1974. Where available, photo and video evidence and witness affidavits have been filed with CapeNature. Further evidence will be gathered for prosecution when possible.

Alleged deliberate feeding of baboons by members of the public – Visited private homes to follow up on reports of members of the public feeding baboons. Residents were advised of the legislation applicable to feeding baboons in a built-up area or public place and the applicable penalties in terms of the Nature Conservation Ordinance of 1974. They were also made aware that deliberately feeding wild baboons is a direct contravention of the City of Cape Town's Animal Keeping By-law of 2021. Our staff will monitor these properties to ensure that feeding does not continue. Evidence will be gathered for prosecution wherever possible.

Baboon and Dog Altercations – Engaged with residents whose off-leash dogs were involved with an altercation with baboons in a public road. A female baboon was badly injured during this encounter and was subsequently euthanised. The case has been handed over to the SPCA.

Cape Academy, Constantia – Food and waste attractants were stored securely through the property.



Figure 1. Cape Research Centre skip

Cape Research Centre, Tokai – Inspection of the skip area. The skip was overfilled at the time of the visit. The section manager was informed and requested to ensure that there will be sufficient capacity for waste storage between collections (**Fig. 1**).

Chrysalis Academy, Tokai - Assessment of baboon attractants at the property. Newly built waste enclosures at the camps have proven to not be baboon-proof. Chrysalis Academy has addressed this and is no longer using the enclosures. Discussed recent opportunistic raids by baboons with staff and suggested mitigation measures.



Figure 2. Bin enclosure at Forest Glade Centre

Forest Glade, Retail Centre, Tokai – Inspection to ensure that bins were being stored within the dedicated baboon-proof waste cage. The cage was open at the time of the visit, but this was rectified by the centre’s staff (**Fig. 2**).



Figure 3. Bin enclosure at the Ski Boat Club

Ski Boat Club, Miller’s Point - Site visit carried out to check waste compliance. The baboon-proof bin enclosure was open and unlocked. This was reported to a staff member (**Fig. 3**).



Figure 4. Overfilled skips at Kogelfontein

Kogelfontein Skips, Scarborough - Site visit to assess skip use and condition. Both skips were overfilled and open. The matter was escalated to the section ranger. The skips were subsequently emptied, and a secure area was designated for excess waste to be stored in in future (**Fig. 4**).

Heron Park, Kommetjie Road: Visit to discuss progress pertaining to the erection of a baboon-proof electric fence between Heron Park and Imhoff's Gift to prevent baboons from crossing between the two complexes. The business owners still need to move containers for the electric fence to be completed. This is proving to be problematic due to available space. We will continue to liaise with the business owners (**Fig. 5**).



Figure 5. Heron Park containers



Figure 6. BUCO Electric Fence

BUCO, Heron Park, Kommetjie Road: Discussed the effectiveness of the new electric fence with staff members. The front gate is open during business hours, but employees reported that the fence has led to an overall reduction in baboon visits to the property (**Fig. 6**).

Unit 10 Heron Park, Kommetjie Road: Engaged with business owners to discuss bin-proofing measures. A baboon-proof bin enclosure has been designed.

Soetwater Resort, Kommetjie: Recent baboon visits were discussed with the management team and mitigation measures to prevent baboons from raiding the waste bins were suggested.



Miller's Point Picnic Site, Miller's Point – Site visit to check waste compliance. All was in order (**Fig. 7**).

Figure 7. Good waste management at Miller's Point picnic site

SA Navy Properties, West Yard, Waterfall Barracks and Signal School Simons Town – Site visits to assess baboon attractants. These issues were subsequently communicated to the Navy for their action (**Fig. 8**).

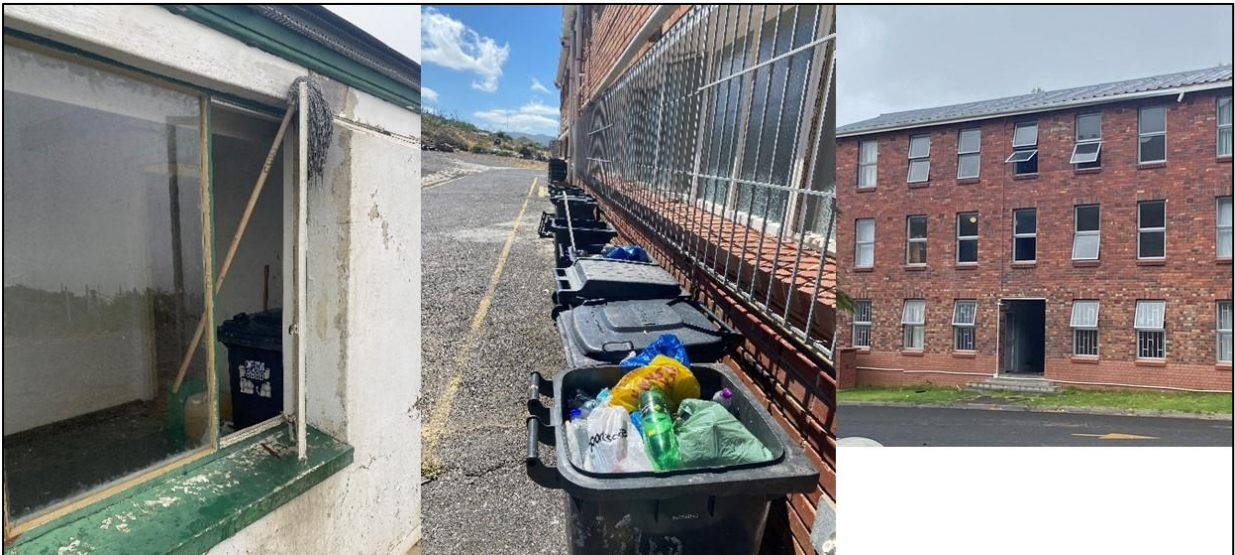


Figure 8. Unsecured waste at Signal School and Job Maseko Barracks and lack of baboon-proofing on windows at Waterfall Barracks



Figure 9. Unsecured compost heap and vegetable garden at Orange Kloof WTP staff village

Orange Kloof Water Treatment Plant, Constantia Nek – Assessment of baboon attractants at the water treatment plant and the staff village. Baboon-proofing advice was provided to staff and tenants. Follow up visits will be carried out to assess progress, particularly as this area is newly impacted by baboons (**Fig. 9**).

Houtkapperspoort Mountain Estate, Constantia – Visit to assess the electric fence and potential baboon attractants. Fence improvements were suggested to the manager to reduce the frequency of baboon incursions at the property, particularly as this area is newly impacted by baboons. No significant unprotected attractants were found.

Tokai Road Stables, Tokai - Meeting with stable manager to discuss baboon-proofing of the horse feed storage area. A strategy to protect the stables from baboon incursions, whilst causing minimal disturbance to the horses and riders was agreed upon.

The Range, Tokai - Site visit carried out to check waste compliance. All was in order.

Stakeholder Liaison:

Meetings held with individual community representatives to discuss current challenges and potential solutions for their areas.

- Engagement with Simon's Town SAPS to discuss the Firearms Control and Dangerous Weapons Act. Advice was also sought pertaining to legal recourse against members of the public who attempt to prevent the rangers from carrying out their duties.
- Continued engagement with CCT Solid Waste Department to discuss progress with the baboon-proof bin tender.

- Meeting held with Councillor Carolynn Franklin and Councillor Emile Langenhoven to discuss human baboon conflict hotspots in their respective wards and identify potential future solutions.



Collaboration with the CCT Cleansing Department and residents to address illegal dumping at Fish Eagle Place in Masiphumelele (**Fig. 10**).

Figure 10. Significant improvement of the waste issue at Fish Eagle Place

Education Initiatives:

Cape Academy of Mathematics, Science & Technology, Constantia: Educational talks were presented during morning assemblies for Grades 8-12. Baboon ecology and behaviour were discussed, and learners were provided with information about their local baboon troops. The focus of these presentations was to foster a greater understanding of baboons and to educate the learners on how to behave when baboons enter the school premises. Students were provided with 'golden rules' to ensure their safety and that of the baboons. Approximately 550-600 children were educated through these presentations (**Fig. 11**).



Figure 11. Educational presentations held at Cape Academy

Electronic Educational Material: Distributed digital education infographic to advise residents of a dispersing male in the Lakeside, Steenberg, St. James and Kalk Bay areas. The infographic explains the dispersal process and how this can be influenced by attractants within the urban landscape. The infographic also provides tips on how to minimize conflicts with baboons during this process.

Tourist Education: Continued opportunistic engagement with tourists to provide advice on responsible tourism in baboon ranging areas.

4.3 HOTLINE REPORTS

We received 652 hotline calls during the month of February. The majority of the hotline calls received were regarding baboon(s) in the urban area (613), followed by general enquiries (33) and reports of injured baboons (6) (**Fig. 12**).

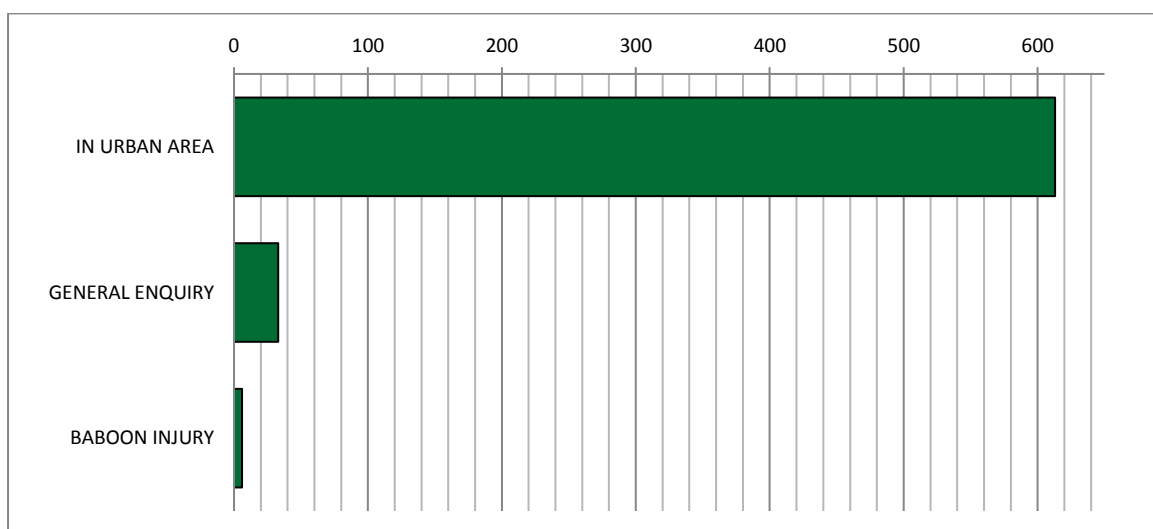


Figure 12. The number of hotline calls by type in February 2022.

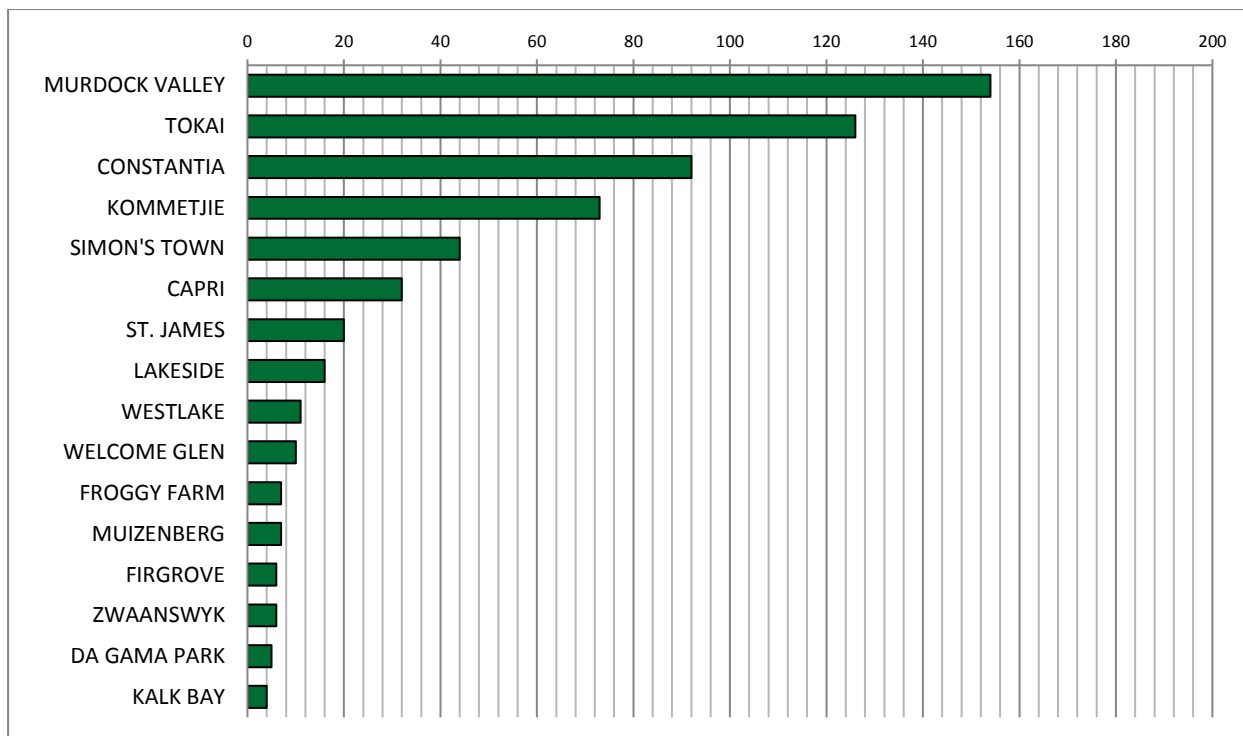


Figure 13. The number of calls reporting baboon presence by suburb in February 2022.

The majority of hotline calls this month came from Murdock Valley where adult male SWB12 has been spending the majority of his time, in addition to the Froggy Farm area (**Fig. 13**). The second highest number of calls came from the Tokai area in response to the TK and ZW Troops along Orpen Road where they have been feeding from fruit trees along the road, in addition to the movements of dispersing male TK55 in and around the Tokai area. All calls from the areas of Westlake, Lakeside, Muizenberg, St. James and Kalk Bay were in reference to TK55's dispersal movements into these areas, where baboons are typically not encountered. The high number of calls from Constantia coincides with the CT1 Troop's increased amount of time spent in the urban space this month.