



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD



Urban Baboon Programme

Aug 2024 Monthly Report



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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). This contract was extended via a section 116 process until 31 December 2024. NCC are contracted to prevent designated baboon troops from entering the urban area for at least 90% of daylight hours to minimise human-baboon conflicts.

2 SOUTHERN SUBPOPULATION

2.1 DA GAMA TROOP (DG)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 98.4% of the time.
- The field team kept individual baboons out of the urban area 98% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop moved through the residential areas of Welcome Glen and Da Gama Park this month.
- They slept on the roof of the Da Gama Park flats on the majority of evenings and at Windford farm sleep site on a few occasions.
- An unidentified adult female entered an occupied house in Welcome Glen and accessed food.
- The two adult females, one juvenile and one infant that were part of DG19's group have not yet rejoined the DG Troop and spend the majority of their time around Welcome Glen.

2.2 GROOT OLIFANTSBOS TROOP (GOB)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 95.3% of the time.
- The field team kept individual baboons out of the urban area 99.6% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop entered Scarborough on 9 occasions during the month. On most occasions, they entered the village over the non-baboon proof fence on the Cape of Good Hope section of Table Mountain National Park. While in Scarborough, the troop splits in several directions to reduce feeding competition and access as many human-derived food rewards as possible. They also spend a considerable time sitting on rooftops where our field team cannot operate.
- The troop slept at Perdekloof and Wildschutsbrand this month.
- The troop continues to be drawn to Berg Farm to access unsecured wet waste/compost on the property.

- The unknown reserve troop interacted with the GOB Troop at Wildschutsbrand on the 14 August. On the 18 August, the unknown reserve troop was observed at Baskloof Nature Reserve.
- The alpha male of the GOB Troop (GOB11) entered Scarborough alone on 2 occasions this month, but no raiding activity was witnessed.

2.3 SLANGKOP TROOP (SK)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 53.8% of the time.
- The field team kept individual baboons out of the urban area 86.2% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop remained in Kommetjie for most of the month.
- The troop spent a considerable amount of time in the urban area while in the Kommetjie portion of their range. Despite attempting different strategies and angles, the field team struggled to keep the troop out of the village due to the challenging topography which makes forming a solid ranger line notoriously difficult. Inclement weather and splitting of the troop into smaller groups whilst in the urban area made it exceptionally difficult to move the troop out of the urban area.
- The field team continues to have difficulty keeping the troop away from properties with vegetable patches, compost heaps, fruiting trees, unsecured houses and non-baboon proof bins, as well as open windows and doors.
- The burnt shop in Kommetjie, where the troop prefers to sleep, remains a significant obstacle to keeping the troop out of the urban area as the troop starts their day already within the urban space. This is particularly problematic as there are a number of shops/restaurants surrounding the burnt shop that start operating early in the morning when the troop is coming out of their sleep site, leading to potential negative or unwanted interactions with people.
- SK13, SK14 and SK15 accessed multiple occupied houses during the month and SK14 continued to act assertively towards the field team when they attempt to block him from entering the urban area or encourage him to move along.
- On 29 August, the field team managed to move the SK Troop out of Kommetjie, and they returned to the Rooikrans Mountain portion of their range.

2.4 SMITSWINKEL BAY TROOP (SWB)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 98% of the time.
- The field team kept individual baboons out of the urban area 100% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop slept on cliff faces predominantly by Black Marlin, Rocklands Farm and Castle Rock this month. On five evenings, the troop's sleep site was unknown as they were not seen for the day.
- There has been no raiding activity at Black Marlin or Rocklands Centre since the humane euthanasia of UKP2. The troop has been easier to maintain in the natural space in the more southern regions of their range away from urbanisation.

2.5 WATERFALL TROOP (WF)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 69.9% of the time.¹
- The field team kept individual baboons out of the urban area 90.5% of the time.¹

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- Taking urban Navy property into consideration, the troop only spent 38.6% of their time in the natural space. This is the highest percentage of time this troop has been recorded in urban areas. This is attributed to numerous factors, which have been exacerbated by the winter weather and the troop's attempt to seek shelter from the harsh conditions, often sheltering on roofs where the field team cannot operate.
- The troop spent the most nights sleeping on the roofs of businesses on Main Road, followed by the Waterfall Barracks and the West Yard.
- On most evenings when the troop sleeps in town, they sleep in separate locations. In these situations, WF10 and approximately eight individuals sleep separate from the majority of the troop. WF10 and his group of individuals are the first baboons to break the ranger line and move to town. They split away and foraged separately from the main troop on several occasions this month. WF10 has also been witnessed continuing to break windows to enter buildings.
- One adult female also forms a small group and moves into town. Both this split group and WF10's split group influences the field team's effectiveness in moving baboons out of town as the troop does not move as a cohesive unit. Rangers must then be spread between three groups, if not

¹ There are several SA Navy facilities within the suburb of Simon's Town. These naval facilities act as human-derived feeding hubs within the built area. These hubs are dispersed across the urban area, facilitating easy baboon movement between them and into the urban space. When adjusting the time out of town figure to account for time spent on SA Navy property that falls within the urban space, **this figure is reduced to 49.1% of time out of the urban area for the troop and 85% for individuals.**

more, at any given time making it difficult to form a strong line to encourage them out of the urban area.

- Major attractions in the urban area remain a significant factor responsible for the troop spending time in the urban area. Extremely poor management of Navy properties and their waste, as well as unsecured restaurant bins on Main Road remain the most significant of these attractants.
- The troop is spending more time in Waterfall Barracks and sheltering and sleeping inside the broken roofs of buildings, including block D and other blocks this month. This makes it difficult for the rangers to encourage them out of the area and when the field team leaves for the day, the troop rapidly move back into the urban area.
- Window breaking, damage to roofs and other parts of buildings by several individuals in the troop including juveniles has been witnessed this month.

3 NORTHERN SUBPOPULATION

3.1 CONSTANTIA ONE TROOP (CT1)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 70.4% of the time.
- The field team kept individuals out of the urban area 100% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop spent their time this month sleeping in trees on a resident's property on Belair Drive, Pear Lane, Constantia Main Road and Eagles' Nest wine farm.
- The troop spent a lot of time around the De Hel Nature Reserve, Southern Cross Drive, Pear Lane and Belair Drive this month. They had a few interactions with the CT2 troop whilst in De Hel. On occasion the CT1 and CT2 troops foraged in close proximity to each other without interactions between troop members.
- On a few occasions, the troop moved into De Hel Nature Reserve after being pushed out of Constantia Glen wine farm towards Constantia Main Road by farm staff. On these occasions, the troop ended up sleeping in trees on resident properties on Pear Lane.
- The troop continued to sleep slightly apart this month, with majority of the CT1 troop at one sleep site and a male and few females sleeping just a few trees away from the troop. Throughout the day, the two groups of CT1 moved together, with the male and his females keeping a slight distance behind the troop.
- As the weather improved towards the end of the month, the teams managed to push the troop toward the Price Drive stream area and Grootboskloof. These areas have ample natural foraging

opportunities for the troop in the spring season. The team will continue to encourage the troop to spend time in these areas over the coming months.

- TK67 who has been dispersing since July 2024 and was spending time in the Alphen and Rust-in-Vrede areas moved across the M5 on the 18 August 2024 and ended up in Ottery/Wetton area. He was captured on the 21 August 2024. In following the BTTG04 guideline, he was humanely euthanised.
- On 19 August 2024, CON18, a young adult male, began showing signs of dispersal and spending time around Alphen, Silverhurst and Sillery neighbourhoods. On the 22 August 2024, he crossed the M3. He was captured and returned to his natal ranging area. On the 24 August 2024, CON18 was reported to have returned to the urban Alphen area, where he has been since.

3.2 MOUNTAIN ONE TROOP (MT1)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 100% of the time.
- The field team kept individuals out of the urban area 100% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop spent the majority of the month moving between Klein Constantia and Buitenverwachting wine farms.
- The troop was seen on Chrysalis Academy grounds twice during the month.

3.3 MOUNTAIN TWO TROOP (MT2)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 96.6% of the time.
- The field team kept individuals out of the urban area 95.4% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop slept predominantly at the Market Gums site on Chrysalis Academy.
- The troop spent less time in the urban area compared to last month. Individual time in town was higher this month, with a few males entering the urban area for access food from vegetable gardens, compost heaps and unsecured bins in the Firgrove and Constantia Hills area.
- Fruiting trees on Cape Academy were an attractant for the troop and individuals again this month.

3.4 TOKAI TROOP (TK)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 100% of the time.
- The field team kept individuals out of the urban area 72.6% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop slept in the pine trees at the Green Containers and Tokai Picnic this month.
- Individual time in town increased significantly this month in response to the movement of males TK65, TK66, TK68, TK69 and TK70 who entered the urban area on their own or formed small raiding parties on multiple occasions this month. Once within the urban area, these individuals split further to access food rewards from different locations in the Tokai area, namely Forest Glade retail centre and bin cage, and bins at the Total Garage.
- On 28 August, TK66 began showing signs of dispersal and spent a few nights around Ou Kaapse Weg and Silvermine Military Base. On 31 August, he returned to the Tokai Troop.

3.5 ZWAANSWYK TROOP (ZW)

TIME OUT OF TOWN

- The field team kept the troop out of the urban area 100% of the time.
- The field team kept individuals out of the urban area 98.9% of the time.

FACTORS THAT IMPACTED MANAGEMENT

- The troop slept predominantly at the Laundry Pines sleep site on Chrysalis Academy and the Manor House pines sleep site this month.
- The troop did not enter the urban area this month, but two males from the troop entered Zwaanswyk on a few occasions.

4 MONTHLY GENERAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY

4.1 OVERALL TIME OUT OF TOWN

The troops overall spent 88.2% of time out of the urban area this month (**Fig. 1**). The CT1, SK and WF troops did not reach 90% of time this month. Overall individual time out of town was 94.1%. Factors that impacted the differing levels of success for these troops and individuals can be found in their above respective summary.

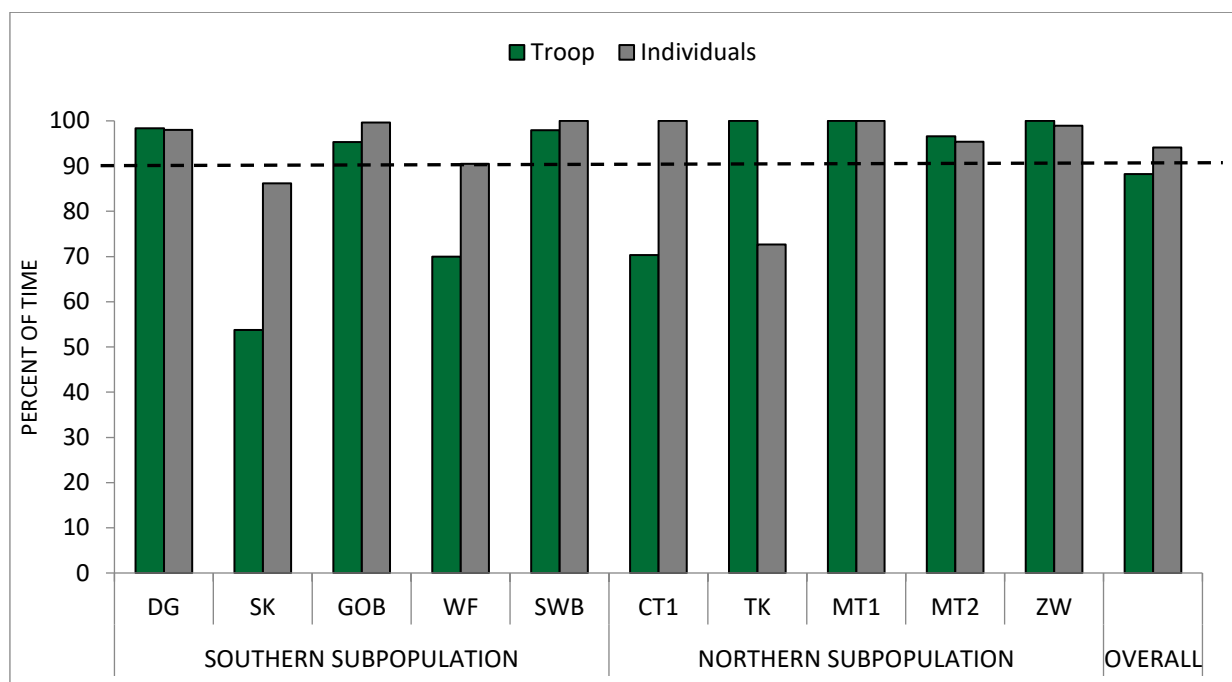


Figure 1. Percent of time out of town calculated for each troop and troop individuals for the month of August 2024. The full name of each troop can be found in the prior section. The percent of time out of town is calculated using the same method as the previous service provider, based on an average of 10.7 daylight hours per day per month. DG19 and his small group are not included in the figure for DG Troop individuals as they are not monitored full-time by the UBP.

4.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

SITE VISITS

Private Properties

Private properties in Constantia, Kommetjie, Murdock Valley, Seaforth, Scarborough, Simon's Town and Tokai:

- Met with residents who had incurred baboon related property damage to their homes and suggested ways that infrastructure could be strengthened or adapted to reduce the likelihood of future damage. One specific challenge in the Waterfall Troops' ranging area is that window

breaking is becoming prevalent and options to prevent this which do not require immediate action on the spot management are limited.

- The way in which baboon troop dynamics can affect troop movements and cohesion were discussed with residents. It was explained that management techniques are adapted to try and mitigate these factors and limit the amount of time that the baboons spend in the urban area, but ultimately when the troop is not moving cohesively it negatively impacts baboon management success.
- Deliberated the pros and cons of strategically placed baboon-proof electric fences for Scarborough and Kommetjie with individual community members. Common misconceptions surrounding the effectiveness of electric fences were also addressed and it was communicated that when properly designed and maintained, electric fences can nearly eliminate baboon presence in baboon affected areas. The importance of rangers to man the open ends of the fences was also highlighted as an additional requirement. Residents were further directed to the following YouTube link which addresses common questions pertaining to baboon-proof electric fencing. [Kommetjie Baboon Fence \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KometjieBaboonFence)
- Engaged with Kommetjie residents who expressed concerns about elevated levels of community conflict during the reporting period. Misunderstandings concerning baboon management, standard operating procedures and the appointment of official representatives were all addressed, and residents were encouraged to continue engaging directly with NCC staff to facilitate open dialogue and to ensure that residents receive factual information.
- Encouraged residents who had witnessed people harming or trying to harm the baboons to report what they had witnessed to the relevant authorities. This included allegations of people purposefully driving at baboons and pepper spraying baboons.
- Advised people of methods they can legally use to encourage baboons to leave their properties whilst minimising safety concerns for both parties.
- Provided advice to residents who had baboons enter their homes. Baboon-proofing advice was provided where relevant as well as tips to reduce the likelihood of baboons gaining access in future. Residents were encouraged to join community groups which can serve as an early warning system when baboons are in the area. They were also encouraged to report sighting of baboons to the baboon hotline if the rangers are not already with them.
- Discussed baboon urban foraging techniques and their hierarchical structure with residents to explain how and why baboon troops scatter in the urban environment to take advantage of available attractants. It was also explained that baboon management is much more challenging when there is an abundance of attractants in the urban area, thus assistance from the community by baboon-proofing attractants is critical to management success.
- Spoke to Constantia residents about the dispersing male that has been frequenting the urban area (**Fig. 2**). Advice was offered to residents to help to prevent baboons from gaining access to attractants at their homes.



Figure 2. Dispersing male in Constantia gaining access to waste attractants.

Alleged illegal use of weapons against baboons by members of the public – Encouraged witnesses who had observed their neighbours using weapons against the baboons to write affidavits to facilitate further legal action. Affidavits were also written by NCC staff members for submission to the relevant authorities.

Alleged deliberate feeding of baboons by members of the public – Investigated reports of residents and tourists feeding baboons (**Fig. 3**). Unfortunately, no sufficient evidence was available to facilitate legal action. Residents are reminded that feeding baboons is a direct contravention of the following legislation:

- Animal Keeping By-law, 2021 28. (2) No person may deliberately or negligently feed any wild animal that is not in captivity, with the exclusion of bird feeders.
- Nature Conservation Ordinance No 19 of 1974 No person shall, Hunt or feed baboons.

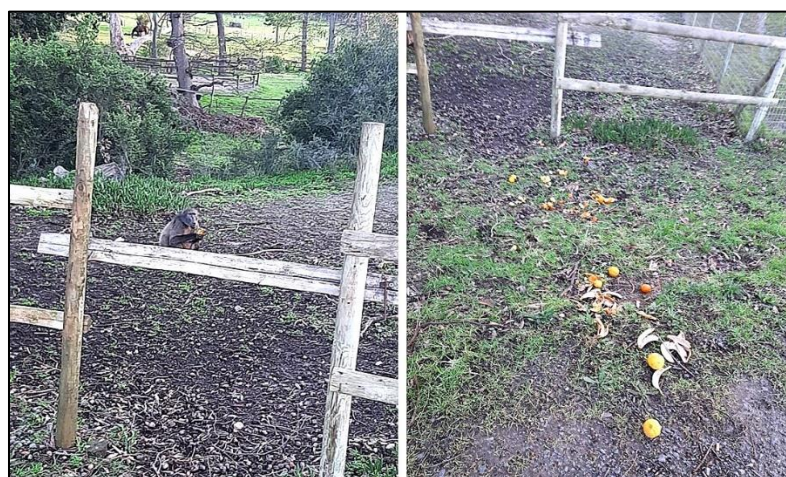


Figure 3. Tokai baboon eating fruit which had allegedly been left out by a resident.

Cape Research Centre, Tokai – Waste management at the property remains in good order and the removal of the skip has had a positive effect on baboon management.

Chrysalis Academy, Tokai – Regular site visits are undertaken at the property to check for baboon attractants. The property is generally kept in very good order. Meetings were also held with members of the Academy’s grounds and management staff to discuss current baboon activity at the Academy and how the conclusion of the current Urban Baboon Programme may impact the facility.

Happy Valley Home, Simon’s Town – All waste was stored securely in the dedicated waste station at the time of the visit (**Fig. 4**).

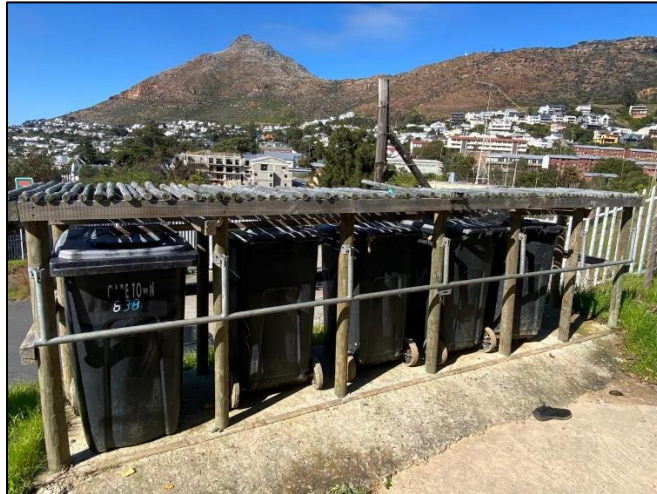


Figure 4. Waste secured in the dedicated waste station at Happy Valley Home.

Forest Glade, Retail Centre, Tokai – We have received notification that the problematic waste cage at Forest Glade retail centre will be extended and repaired in the coming weeks. This will greatly assist with reducing conflicts in the area and should significantly reduce baboon access to human-derived foods at the property.

Kogelfontein, Red Hill – Visit to ensure that waste is being stored correctly at the site. Although the area does require rubble and debris removal there was no unsecured food waste accessible to baboons at the time of the visits. The skips remain off-site.

Miller’s Point Picnic and Slipway, Miller’s Point – Site visit to check for waste compliance. All waste was stored securely, and the picnic area was neat and tidy (**Fig. 5**).



Figure 5. Miller Point Picnic Site was clean and tidy at the time of the visits.

Miller's Point Resort, Miller's Point – The resort was neat and tidy and free of significant baboon attractants at the time of the visits. The temporary baboon advisory signage in the ablution blocks remains in place. The outdoor permanent signage is still faded and awaiting replacement. It has been noted that new signage has started to be rolled out by the City and NCC staff have contacted the City to request that new signage is also placed at the resort as soon as possible.

Rocklands Farm, Murdock Valley South – The staff at the farm are continuing to work on repairing the fire damage to the tunnels. Unfortunately, this work was set back by the recent storms which caused further damage (**Fig. 6**). NCC staff will continue to work with the farm staff to prevent potential human-baboon conflict in the interim. As the farm abuts Murdock Valley South it is particularly important that the farm does not serve as an attractant to the local baboon troops as this could potentially encourage the Smitswinkel Bay troop to spend more time in the northern most parts of their ranging area rather than further south in their natural foraging grounds.



Figure 6. The vegetable tunnels at Rocklands Farm are currently under repair.

SA Navy Property – Job Maseko Wardroom, Seaforth – All waste was stored securely at the time of the visit and no other significant baboon attractants were noted.

SA Navy Property – Kronseil and Bluefin Flats, Da Gama Park – All refuse bins were within the designated waste rooms at the time of the visit (**Fig. 7**).

SA Navy Property – Waterfall Barracks, Simon's Town – The Waterfall Barracks remains the most problematic property on the Peninsula in terms of unmitigated baboon attractants. Baboons have continuous access to waste and the inside of both abandoned and occupied buildings (**Fig. 8**). Basic baboon-proofing measures are not put in place or enforced by Navy officials despite ongoing liaison with NCC staff.

Ski Boat Club, Millers Point – Site visit to check for waste compliance. All was in order.



Figure 7. The dedicated waste room at Kronseil Flats.

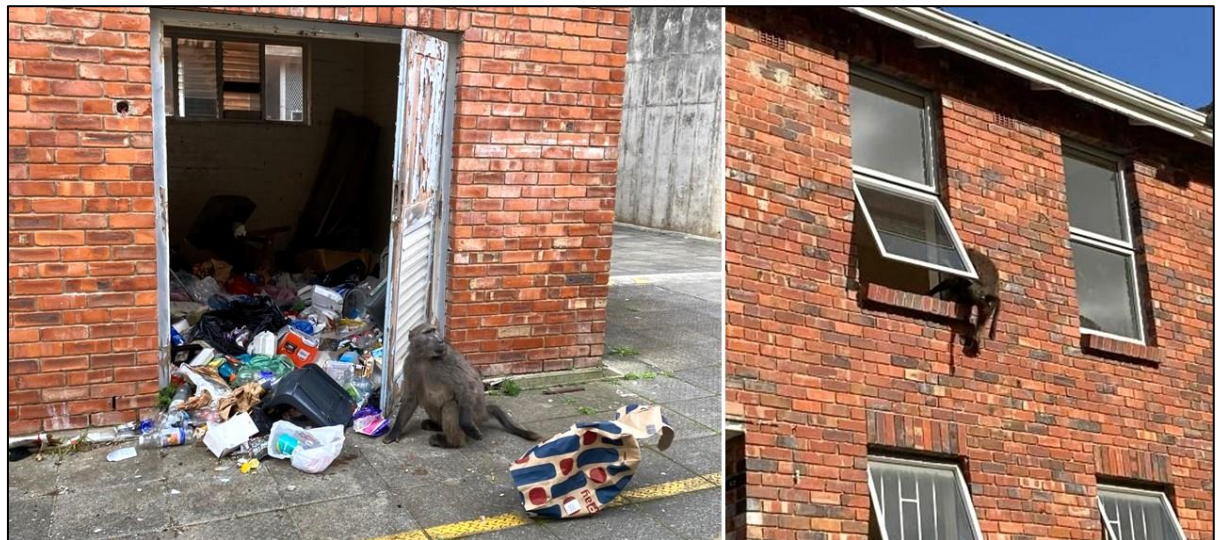


Figure 8. Baboons accessing waste and entering open windows at Waterfall Barracks.

Stonehurst Mountain Estate – A meeting was held with the estate manager to discuss the future of the UBPs and the potential implications for the estate if the ranger service is withdrawn. Baboon-proofing options for the property were discussed as well as the potential for the existing electric fence to be adapted to make it fully baboon-proof. The surrounding topography and vegetation on adjoining land could however make this challenging. The option for the estate to train their own staff as ad-hoc baboon rangers and to obtain the necessary permits to move the baboons was also deliberated.

The Forum on Embassy Hill – NCC staff met with the General Manager of The Forum to discuss recent baboon activity at the property which is visited by both the CT1 and CT2 troops. It was explained that only the CT1 troop is managed by the current programme. The property serves as a wedding venue and food is often served outside so the potential for The Forum staff to be trained and permitted to manage the baboons on the property was discussed as well as the option to employ private baboon protection services for special events.

The Range, Tokai – Site visit to check for baboon attractants. All waste was locked away securely at the time of the visit.

Tokai Forest Picnic Site, Tokai – Site visit to check for waste compliance. The area was neat and tidy, and all bins were secured.

STAKEHOLDER LIAISON

Frequent engagement with the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department to discuss waste related issues that affect baboon management. The biggest waste related challenge continues to be the lack of availability of baboon-proof bins for affected residents. This consistently results in baboons accessing waste attractants in the urban areas (**Fig. 9**) thus motivating the baboons to work harder to enter town and remain there.



Figure 9. Waste which had been accessed by baboons on Paradise Road.

Continued liaison with the Cape of Good Hope SPCA to report baboon welfare issues such as injuries and suspected illnesses and diseases. NCC also assists in a supporting role at SPCA led baboon captures when

requested. The Cape of Good Hope SPCA and the Wildlife Forensics Academy also play an instrumental role in ascertaining the cause of death for baboons when it is not readily apparent.

Ongoing reporting of alleged illegal activity regarding people harming or feeding baboons to the relevant authorities of SPCA, CapeNature and Law Enforcement.

Regular dialogue with Groot Constantia, Klein Constantia, Buitenverwachting and Eagle's Nest vineyards to ensure cohesive management of the baboons in line with CapeNature's Standard Operating Procedures for paintball marker use on City land and private properties. This collaboration helps to reduce the amount of time that baboons spend on the farms and in the residential areas and reduces the amount of time that the baboons are subject to active management.

Frequent engagement with the Cape Peninsula Baboon Management Joint Baboon Operational Team (JBOT) and Cape Peninsula Baboon Management Task Team (CPBMJTT) to provide situational reports on all baboon management activities and challenges.

Ongoing dialogue with interested and affected residents to discuss baboon activity in their individual communities. Ways in which the communities and baboon management authorities can collaborate to reduce human-baboon conflict are also identified and actioned wherever possible.

Frequent communication with Navy officials to identify baboon attractants on Navy property and to recommend mitigation measures which will assist in reducing human-baboon conflict. Budget constraints and stringent internal Navy procurement processes remain inconducive to the implementation of the recommendations.

Regular inspection of problematic electrical infrastructure which poses a high risk of electrocution for baboons. When issues are identified the City's Electricity Department are notified so that they can apply mitigation strategies such as greasing poles or installing medium voltage line covers until a more long-term solution can be implemented.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Kommetjie Eco Pre Primary School, Kommetjie – an interactive educational talk was presented to 50 learners and 5 teachers at Kommetjie Eco Pre-primary School. NCC staff spoke about baboon behaviour and how to stay safe around baboons if the baboons visit the school. The also team acted out a few common scenarios and showed the children what they would need to do in each situation to stay safe. The learners were then presented with a colouring in activity and a certificate (**Fig.10**) so they could be reminded of the most important points to remember.

NCC staff then accompanied the principal and two of the teachers on a walk around the school and spoke about the programme itself and the challenges in the Kommetjie area. The teachers were also concerned about the imminent end of the current baboon programme and what that would mean for learner safety. A few potential long-term solutions were discussed, and the teachers were encouraged to engage with the JTT. The teachers were also given advice on how they can move baboons out of buildings whilst minimising risk to themselves and children.

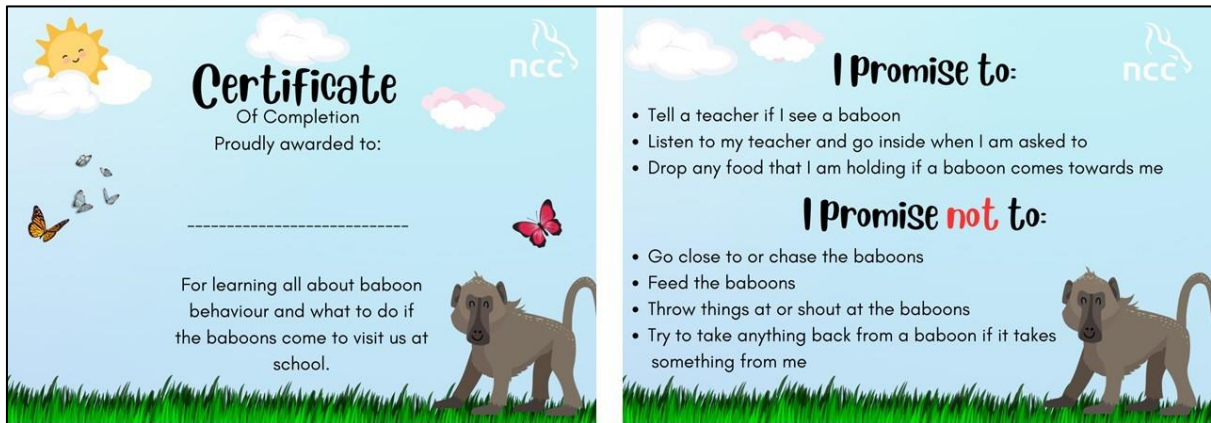


Figure 10. Certificate presented to learners from Kommetjie Eco Pre-primary School and Kommetjie Primary School

Kommetjie Primary School, Kommetjie - An interactive, education session was also undertaken with the learners from Grade R. The session followed the format of the talk given at the Eco pre-primary and children were encouraged to ask questions to increase their understanding of baboons and to help to allay any fears that they may have. All learners were also presented with a certificate and a craft activity (Fig. 11).



Figure 11. Interactive educational talk with grade R students from Kommetjie Primary School.

Da Gama Park Nature Club/Cape Peninsula Civil Conservation: The NCC Project Manager joined the children of Da Gama Park Nature Club for an afternoon of baboon related crafts and activities. Baboon behaviour was also discussed to foster a greater understanding of the troop that visits Da Gama Park (Fig. 12).



Figure 12. UBP Project Manager Joselyn Mormile with children from the Da Gama Park Nature Club.

Ongoing distribution of educational material –Infographics and leaflets are shared with members of the public, tourists and local businesses on an ongoing basis through electronic means such as WhatsApp and email and the recipients are encouraged to share the information on their local social media platforms. Physical copies of the Dispersing Male leaflet were also opportunistically handed out to residents affected by the dispersing male in Constantia to encourage residents to practice responsible behaviour whilst the male is in the area.

Educational Signage - The City of Cape Town's Coastal Management Branch has begun to place new educational signage at tourist hotspots such as Seaforth Beach (**Fig. 13**). It is hoped that this signage will help to promote responsible tourism in baboon home ranges and reduce the chance of human-wildlife conflict occurring.



Figure 13. New educational signage on display at Seaforth Beach.

Opportunistic engagement with residents in Plumstead, Kenwyn, Lansdowne and Wetton – NCC staff engaged with residents and business owners regarding the novel presence of a dispersing male (TK67) in the southern suburbs. Many of the areas which he traversed were not typically affected by baboons, thus ensuring that residents knew how to react when he was in their neighbourhood was important. Owing to the unpredictability of his movements, education was challenging but information was spread opportunistically both by staff on the ground and via the hotline.

4.3 HOTLINE REPORTS

We received 1362 hotline calls during the month of August. The majority of the hotline calls received were regarding baboon(s) in the urban area (1184), followed by general enquires (140) and reports of injured baboons (38) (**Fig. 14**). The highest number of calls reporting the presence of baboons in the urban area came from Tokai in response to the TK and MT2 troops and/or individuals from these troops (**Fig. 15**). This was followed by calls from Kommetjie in response to the SK Troop and/or individuals from this troop as they have spent a considerable amount of time in this suburb this month. Factors which impacted the management of these troops/individuals can be found in their above respective summaries.

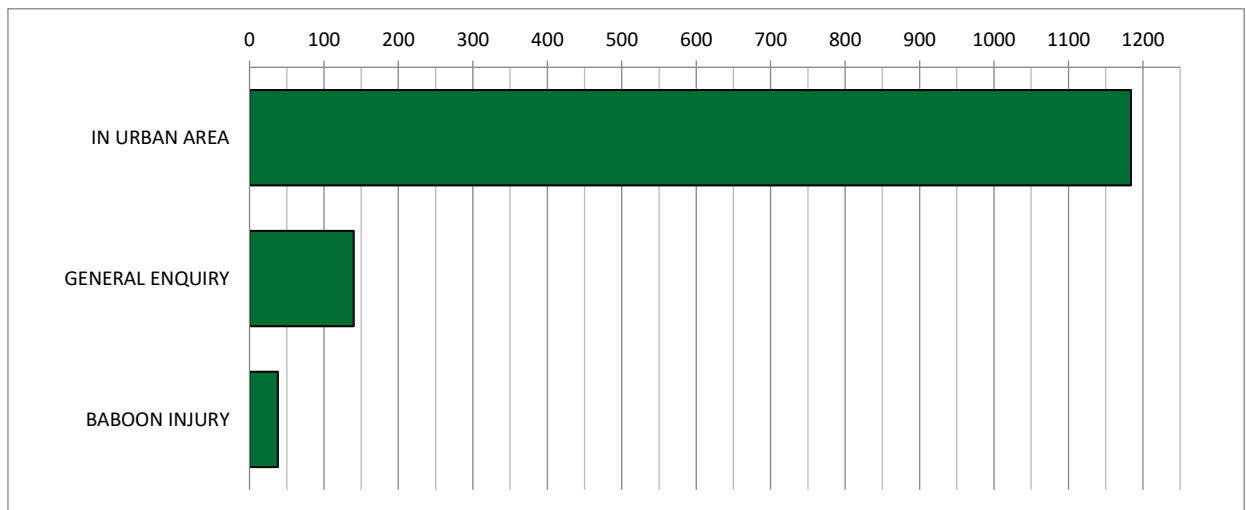


Figure 14. The number of hotline calls by type in August 2024.

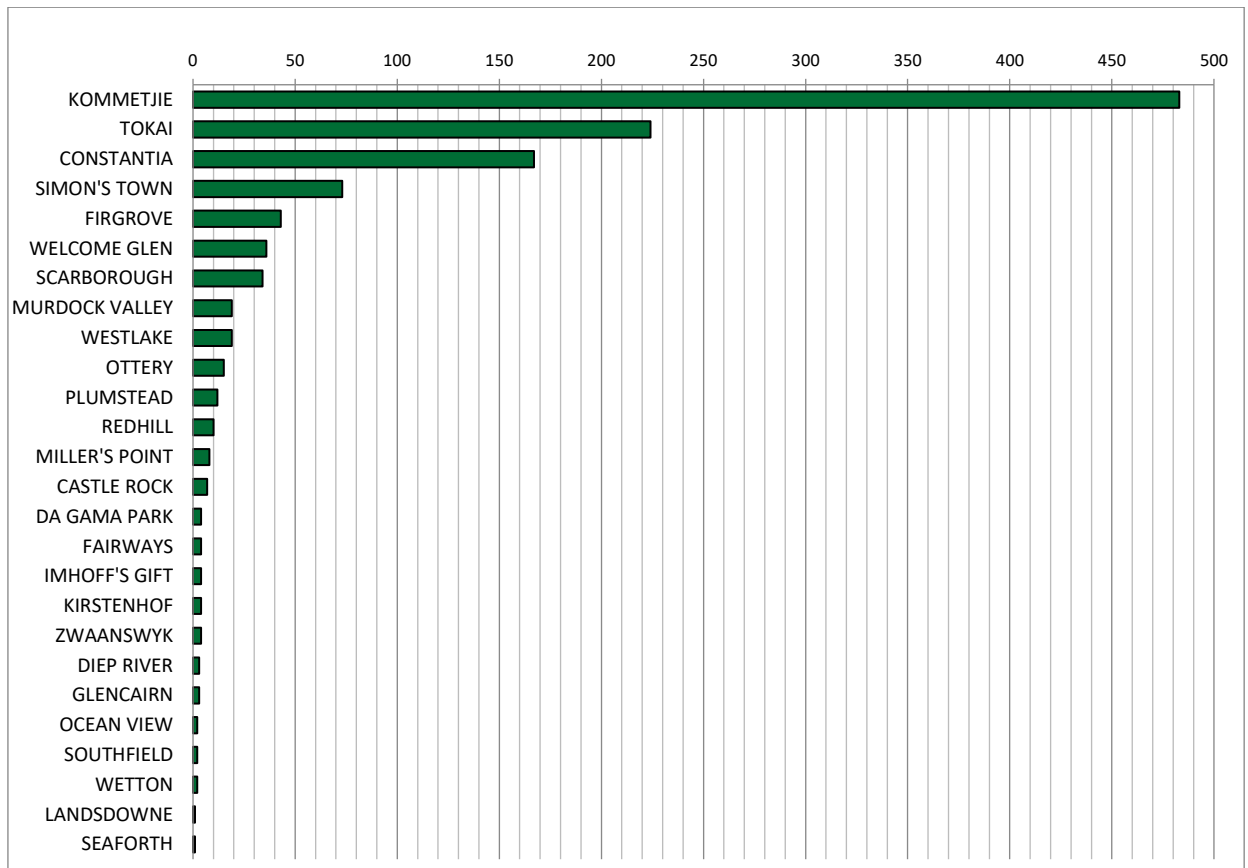


Figure 15. The number of hotline calls reporting baboon presence by suburb in August 2024.

4.4 RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTIONS

4.4.1. Troop Specific Recommendations & Actions

TROOP	RECOMMENDATION	ACTION UNDERTAKEN THIS MONTH	ACTION STILL REQUIRED
DG	There is a 3km 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 Management Branch are engaging with CCT Electricity Department regarding short-term mitigation measures for electricity poles and power lines in baboon ranging areas while long-term measures investigated.	Ongoing engagement.
DG	The alien invasive vegetation surrounding Da Gama Park is extensive, dense, and overgrown. This vegetation should be removed as it obscures the troop's movements and allows them to enter the urban area undetected. It also poses a fire risk to the built-up area.	No known clearing this month.	Continued clearing.
GOB	Residents of Scarborough should remain alert to the possibility that baboons may visit the village and maintain baboon-proofing of their properties.	None this month.	Ongoing community engagement.
GOB	Owners of rental properties should alert their guest to the possible presence of baboons and proper conduct required to mitigate against conflicts.	None this month.	Ongoing community engagement.
GOB	Both skips at Kogelfontein should be kept locked to reduce this and other troop's access to human-derived foods.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing monitoring & reporting.

TROOP	RECOMMENDATION	ACTION UNDERTAKEN THIS MONTH	ACTION STILL REQUIRED
SK	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.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
SK	The installation of electric fencing aprons on the roofs of businesses within the Heron Park industrial area and baboon-proof bin storage would reduce the amount of time the troop spends in this area.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
SK	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.	None this month.	Ongoing community engagement.
SWB	The Cape Boat and Ski Boat Club should continue to store all bins inside the baboon-proof enclosure.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing monitoring & reporting.
SWB/WF	The baboon-proofing of waste areas, windows, and doors in facilities of SA 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.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing monitoring, reporting & engagement.
TK/ZW	Forest Glade Retail Centre should improve their bin cage to improve waste management & reduce attractants to baboons.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Alterations by owner.
CT1/MT1/MT2/TK/ZW	The Constantia wine farms and the UBP should collaborate on management strategies as per the CapeNature permit agreement.	See section 4.2, <i>STAKEHOLDER LIAISON</i>	Ongoing engagement.
MT1/MT2/TK/ZW	Cape Academy should consider removing fruiting trees from their property to reduce attractants on their property.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Additional removal of fruit trees where necessary.

4.4.2. Recommendations & Actions for all Baboon Impacted Areas

RECOMMENDATION	ACTION UNDERTAKEN THIS MONTH	ACTION STILL REQUIRED
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.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
Vegetable gardens should be baboon-proofed to prevent access.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
Planting of fruiting trees should be discouraged and/or managed by timeously removing fruit to reduce the attractiveness of the area for baboons.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
Residents should be aware that the use of pellet guns in urban areas is illegal and be informed about the suffering that is inflicted on baboons who are shot. The public is encouraged to report pellet gun use to SAPS, CapeNature & the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.	See section 4.2, <i>SITE VISITS</i>	Ongoing community engagement.
Due to increased snare activity on the Cape Peninsula, it is important for members of the public to report incidents to the Baboon Hotline & the Snare Free initiative at 076 127 8485	A request that the public alert the Baboon Hotline & the newly formed Snare Free initiative to the presence of snares is made in each monthly report.	Ongoing alerts in monthly reports & community engagement.
The erection of strategically placed baboon-proof fences would prevent baboons from entering urban areas while allowing for the maximum use of their available ranges.	None this month.	Ongoing community engagement.
The availability of baboon-proof rubbish and recycle bins in baboon-impacted suburbs would minimize baboon access to human-derived foods.	Communication is ongoing with the CCT Solid Waste Department & Biodiversity Management Branch.	Ongoing communications.
Regular waste management inspections by the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department By-law Division would help address waste related issues.	NCC closely monitors waste collection in baboon-affected suburbs. If waste collection is delayed in any suburb, NCC informs CCT's Biodiversity Management Branch who in turn alerts the CCT Solid Waste Department.	Ongoing monitoring & reporting.