



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
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Baboon Management Guidelines

November 2019

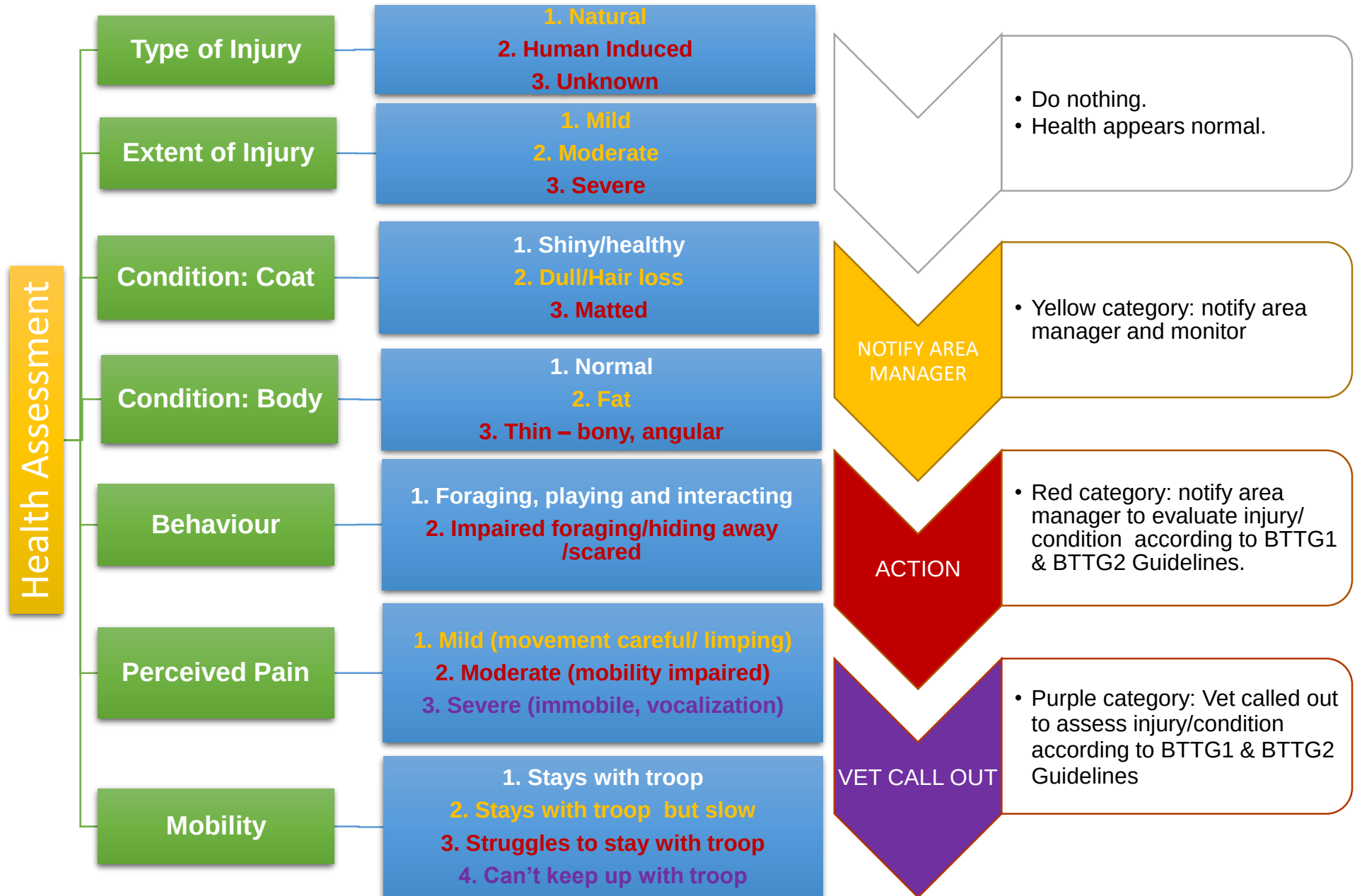
BABOON TECHNICAL TEAM (BTT) PROTOCOLS:

BTTG0	Guideline for Assessment of Health, Condition & Injury in a Baboon in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula Guidelines for Response
BTTG01	to Severe Injury/Disease a Baboon in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula
BTTG02	Guidelines for Assessment of Condition in a Baboon in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula
BTTG03	Guidelines for Categorising & Managing Damage Causing Baboon/s (DCB/s) in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula Guidelines for
BTTG04	Dispersing/Displaced Male Baboons in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula

Supporting Documents for Protocols:

Glossary of Terms for Guidelines for Assessment of Health, Injury & Condition: BTTG0, BTTG1 & BTTG2
Glossary of Terms for
Guidelines for Damage Causing & Dispersing Baboons: BTTG3 & BTTG4
Management Actions Recommended for
Landowners
Record of Dispersing/Displaced Male Baboons in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula
Management Flow Diagram for Damage Causing & Dispersing Baboons in the Urban Area, Cape Peninsula

Health Assessment for Condition & Injury in Baboons in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula



Individual ID Code: _____

Current Troop: _____

Date: _____

Initial assessment conducted by area manager using Health Assessment Form (BTT G0) If concerned, monitor and advise BTT that Veterinary input may be needed

Natural cause of injury

Baboon- on-baboon/ fynbos fire / accident

☐

Further assessment in conjunction with BTT and/ or veterinarian if advisable

Is the baboon likely to survive ?

YES

☐

☐ Monitor, reassess with veterinarian if advisable

☐ BUT the injury is severely debilitating

NO

☐

Euthanase

Human induced or unknown cause/disease

From contact with humans/human environment

☐

Further assessment in conjunction with BTT and /or veterinarian if advisable

Is the baboon likely to survive without intervention?

YES

☐

☐ Monitor, reassess

☐ BUT the injury is debilitating capture & treat for max.5 days

☐ Infectious disease, treat remotely or capture, vet to assess & treat accordingly.

☐ BUT the injury will result in permanent disability

NO

☐

Severe injury

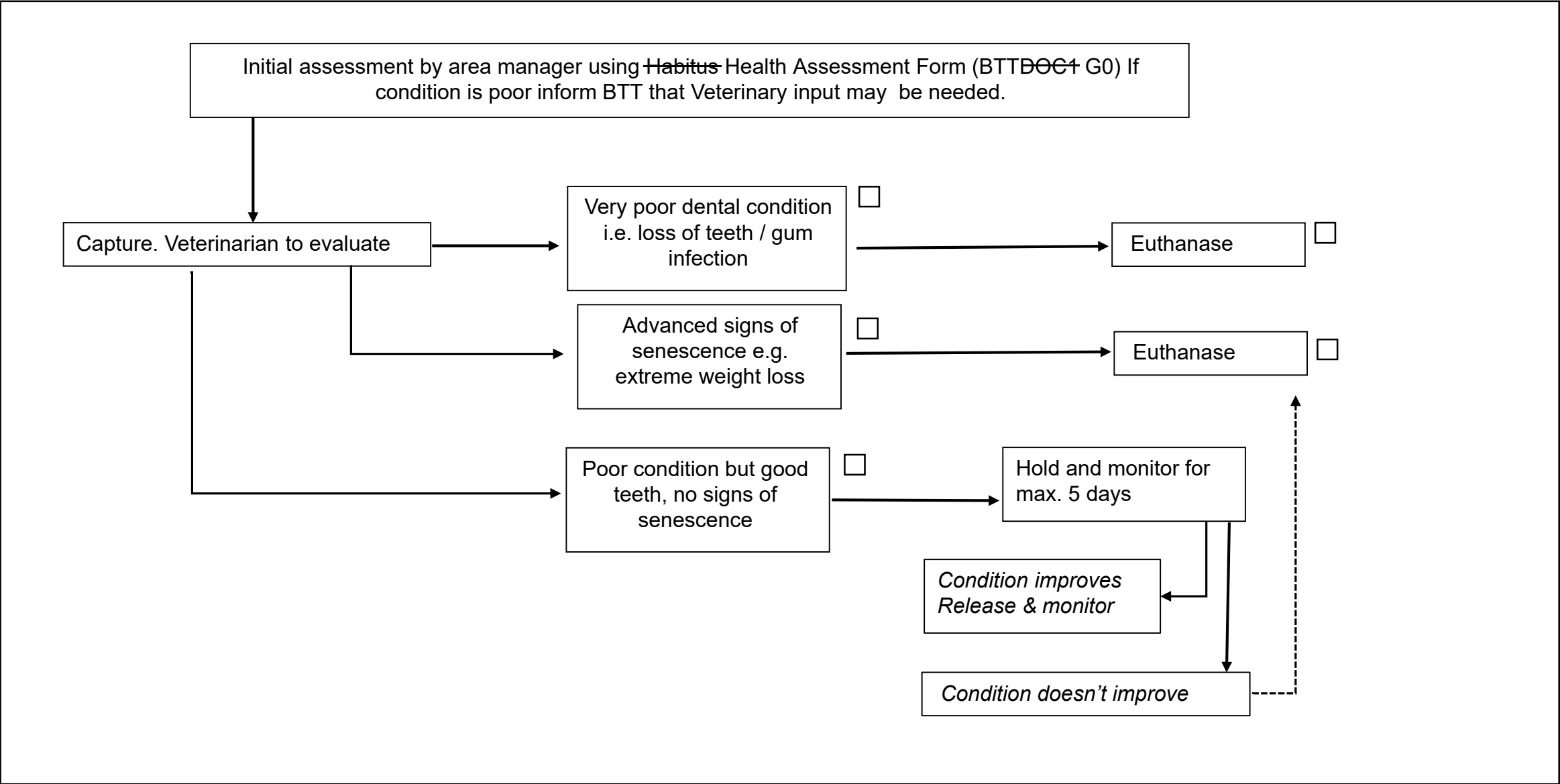
Treat for 5 days (or as advised by veterinarian). Release

If no improvement

Euthanase

BTTG02 Guidelines for Assessment of Condition of a Baboon in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula

Individual ID Code: _____ Current Troop: _____ Date: _____



BTTG03 Guidelines for Categorising and Managing Damage Causing Baboon(s) (DCB) in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula

Individual ID Code: _____ Current Troop: _____ Date: _____

RISK LEVEL TO HUMANS & BABOONS	RAIDING ALERT DESCRIPTION	IDENTIFY POINT SOURCE / DESCRIPTION (dates and frequency)	ACTION TO BE TAKEN Tick as completed	Tick
DCB CATEGORY 1 Low Risk <i>(no raiding of human derived food)</i>	Frequency: more than x1 incident: - Foraging on road verge in urban area - Foraging on fynbos in urban area - Sleeping on a building/trees in urban area	Location and specific site:	- Monitor and Notify BTT & CARBS. - BTT (Service Provider) & CARBS to formulate and apply appropriate management actions to prevent transition to Medium Risk level. - BTT & CARBS to address point source.	☐ ☐ ☐
DCB CATEGORY 2 Medium Risk <i>(Raiding human derived food)</i>	Frequency: x1 - 4 per month: Frequency: x5 or more per month: - Raids a property: for horse/ pet food, fruit tree, vegetables compost, other. - Bin raiding Frequency – x3 or more per month - Enters room / car without people	Reasons for raiding: - General attractant: e.g. vineyards, picnic site - Point source attractant: what & where Refuse bin: Fruit tree: Food items: Refuse cage: Water: Other (describe):	Frequency: x1 – 4 per month: Raiding Alert to the BTT & CARBS and formal notice to Landowners: Management Action Plan (BTTDOC3). For other Frequency categories: <u>Consider euthanizing baboon if BTT has:</u> - No more resources available to prevent the baboon from raiding - Reached upper limit of deterrents that can be used to prevent raiding - Exhausted legal means to remove attractant(s) driving raiding behaviour - If efforts to educated owners on the consequences of inadequate baboon-proofing has failed.	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
DCB CATEGORY 3 High Risk <i>(Raiding human derived directly from people *)</i> <i>(Encourages interaction with people for food)</i>	Frequency: x1 incident - Attacks or actively pursues people. - Steals food directly from people. - Enters car or room occupied with people. - Breaking into building or car Frequency: x3 incidents - Solicits troop members for a raiding group. - Forms/ leads a splinter group - Raids or leads a raid nocturnally	Comments:	- Notify BTT that Immediate Intervention Required - Submit Case History and application for euthanasia to BTT. Note: * If the baboon was provoked by person/situation then consider rehabilitation and mitigating factors before considering euthanasia. - A female DCB cat 2 /3 can only be considered for euthanasia once the infant has been weaned (not <1 year). If the female DCB is a cat 2/3 and is pregnant, euthanasia may be considered.	☐ ☐

Guidelines for Dispersing/Displaced male baboon(s) in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula

Dispersing Category	DCB Raiding category	Action
Young dispersing male (6 – 9yrs) D1 (first dispersal)	DCB Category 1	Catch, tag, consider for Relocation to new troop with no alpha male or with an old resident alpha or return to home range. Preferably collared.
	DCB Category 2	
	DCB Category 3	Euthanase (in accordance with the DCB guideline)
Mature dispersing male (9yrs +) D1 (first dispersal)	DCB category 1	Catch, tag, consider for Relocation to new troop with no alpha or with an old resident alpha or return to home range. Preferably collared.
	DCB category 2	Catch, Tag, Return to home range
	DCB category 3	Euthanase (in accordance with DCB guideline)
Young dispersing male (6 -9yrs) D2 (second dispersal)	DCB category 1	Consider for Relocation to a new troop with no alpha male or an old resident alpha male or return to home range. Preferably collared.
	DCB category 2	
	DCB category 3	Euthanase (in accordance with DCB guideline)
Mature dispersing male (9yrs +) D2 (second dispersal)	DCB category 1	Consider for Relocation to a new troop with no alpha or an old resident alpha or return to home range. Preferably collared.
	DCB category 2	
	DCB category 3	Euthanase (in accordance with DCB guideline)
D3 (third dispersal)	DCB category 1	Euthanase (unless a suitable troop is available and a 1 st time relocation)
	DCB category 2 & 3	Euthanase

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR PROTOCOLS

Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations used in Guidelines for Assessment of Baboon Health in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula (BTTG1,BTTG2)

Natural cause of injury: an injury that results from the normal interaction of baboons and their natural environment. Examples: injuries received in baboon fights/ fynbos veld fires/falling from a cliff/ jumping from a tree/ attempted infanticides. A natural injury should be monitored unless classified according to the other categories to be a welfare issue and therefore assessed in accordance with the appropriate guideline(BTTG1).

Human induced injury: an injury resulting from direct or indirect interaction with humans or the human environment. Examples: injuries from a motor vehicles/ dog bite/ electric powerline burn/ gunshot/ trauma. A pro-active approach is taken to assess, treat and mitigate the causing factors (BTTG1).

Unknown cause of injury: presumed to be human induced unless it is apparent that the injury is from natural causes. It is treated in accordance with BTTG1.

Serious injury/ disease: an injury/ disease that compromises the baboons health or its ability to operate naturally in its environment and increases it's risk of predation.

Debilitating injury: the baboons ability to operate naturally in it's environment is impaired. Example: loss/partial loss of vision or injury to a limb resulting in an impaired ability to locomote/climb such that the baboon is at risk of predation.

Severely debilitating injury: : the baboons health is seriously compromised and it cannot operate naturally in it's environment. Example: paralysis of hind limbs or multiple fractures of limbs such that the baboon is at extreme risk of predation.

Permanent disability: permanent loss of limb/limbs/vision as a result of injury from either a Natural or Human Induced or Unknown cause.

Advanced signs of senescence: senescence(old age) is accompanied by extreme weight loss as indicated by the sit bones being prominent and the area around the tail being bony and angular. Coat condition may be poor (matted/ dull) and dental condition poor with worn/ missing teeth.

Poor condition: is indicated if the baboon's coat is dull in colour and/or matted. In addition, lack of musculature and additional body fat gives the body an angular, bony and thin appearance, indicative of poor condition.

Infectious disease: the individual is found to be positive for any pathogen that is known to cause a transferable disease and is infectious to other baboons or humans or domestic/ wild animals. Examples: TB or sarcoptic mange.

Very poor dental health: chronic gum disease and/or lack of incisors and molars needed for the processing and mastication of indigenous plant foods. Diagnosis is by a veterinarian in consultation with the BTT.

Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations used in Guidelines for Baboon Management in Urban Areas, Cape Peninsula. (BTTG3 & BTTG4)

Alpha male: an adult male that is the dominant or alpha baboon in the troop. The alpha male plays an important leadership role in the troop and has benefits such as priority of access to females in oestrous and to the best food.

Resident old male: an old male that may or may not have been the alpha male but who has chosen to stay with the troop rather than disperse to another troop.

BTT: The Baboon Technical Team is a working group of conservation officials from Cape Nature, City of Cape Town Biodiversity Unit and Table Mountain National Park (SANParks). It is convened and managed by the City of Cape Town and mandated to manage the interface between baboons and humans in baboon affected areas within the City of Cape Town. The BTT regularly consults local experts in baboon behavioural ecology, city officials from other departments, wildlife veterinarians, wildlife managers and international experts on baboon behavioural ecology. Other parties may be invited to attend.

BLG: Baboon Liaison Group: a formally constituted organisation comprised of nominated members of the public who live in suburbs of the City of Cape Town that are directly impacted by baboons. The BLG plays an advocacy role between the BTT and their communities. This includes alerting the BTT to properties or places that attract baboons for food, water or roosting within the urban edge. The BLG also provides feedback from communities on current and proposed management plans and guidelines.

Euthanasia: the act of putting an animal to death with minimal pain or distress .

Decision to euthanase: the decision to euthanase a baboon may be taken when its welfare has been compromised according to the guidelines on Severe Injury and Condition(BTTG1/BTTG2) or it poses a risk to the health and safety of other baboons or people according to the Damage Causing Baboon Guideline(BTTG3). The decision to euthanase a baboon for welfare reasons is taken by the BTT with advice from an approved veterinarian or if necessary by invoking Section 5 of the Animal Protection Act No. 71 of 1972. When a lactating female with a dependent infant succumbs to a severe injury and results in euthanasia, the infant will be euthanized as well. The decision to euthanase for management reasons is taken by the BTT in terms of the guidelines.

DCB: A Damage Causing baboon - a baboon that engages in behaviour which drives an increase in spatial overlap between baboons and humans(DCB1) to obtain human derived food from general/point source attractants in an urban area(DCB2) or to obtain human derived food by raiding people and places occupied by people(DCB3) .

DCB Category 1: baboon(s) in the urban area that engage in natural behaviour that is of low risk to either humans or other baboons and which excludes raiding for human derived foods. Examples include: 1) foraging on fynbos and exotic plants on the road verge, 2) drinking water from a stream or dam, and 3) roosting in a tree or on a building within the urban edge.

DCB Category 2: baboon(s) in the urban area that engage in natural behaviour that is of medium risk to either humans or other baboons because it includes raiding for human derived food. Examples include: 1) raiding a property for waste, vegetables, fruit tree, pet/horse food, 2) Entering a house/car occupied by people.

DCB Category 3: baboon/s in the urban area that engage in unnatural behaviour that is of high risk to humans because it involves raiding people directly to obtain human derived food. Examples include: 1) approaching and taking food from people, 2) entering an occupied car/room, 3) breaking into a car/building, 4) soliciting other troop members to form a temporary raiding group, or more permanent splinter group, 4) raids at night.

A DCB category 2 or 3 female baboon with an infant can be considered for euthanasia once the infant has been weaned and can forage independently of the mother (not < 1 year).

A DCB category 2 or 3 female baboon that is pregnant may be considered for euthanasia and the pregnant female is considered an individual.

Deterrents to prevent raiding: noises, structures and/or people that are used to scare baboons away from the urban edge or specific areas (e.g. a picnic site). Deterrents currently include electric fencing and trained baboon rangers who may use paint ball markers, bear-bangers and virtual fencing to improve their ability to deter baboons.

Unprovoked attack: a baboon attacks/ actively pursues or interacts aggressively with a person to obtain human derived food or as a show of assertiveness.

Provoked attack: a baboon attacks or threatens a person as a result of the person’s actions. Example: i)feeding a baboon ii)causing anxiety in a troop/ individual through interacting with the troop/individual resulting in a baboon attacking to defend the troop/ individual threatened by the person.

Natal troop: the troop in which a baboon was born.

Receiving troop: the troop to which a baboon attempts to transfer to or to which it is re-located to.

Relocation: the assisted transfer of a dispersing male baboon to a suitable receiving troop.

Splinter troop: a small group of baboons that break away from the main troop and which mostly sleep separately from the troop. It is typically composed of an adult male, 1 or 2 females and their offspring. The individuals are typically low ranking.

Dispersing male: a baboon engaging in behaviour that indicates its interest in dispersing from the troop in which it was born and joining another troop. This is done to improve breeding opportunities and to avoid inbreeding. Dispersal attempts may take place over a few months with repeated dispersals and returns to the natal troop until the baboon successfully joins a new troop.

Young dispersing male: a sub-adult male baboon between 6 - 9 years of age. Secondary sexual characteristics: shoulder mantle (hair), canine ridges, long canine teeth are partially developed. Testes enlarged. Larger than adult female but smaller than adult male. Angular shape.

Mature dispersing male: a mature male 9 years and older. Secondary sexual characteristics are fully developed. Male roughly twice the size of an adult female. Physical bulk and thickness of neck increases with age.

D1: the initial dispersing attempt of a male baboon

D2: the second dispersal attempt of a male baboon

D3: the third dispersal attempt of a male baboon

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR LANDOWNERS

DATE:	PREPARED BY:	DESIGNATION:
LOCATION:	SPECIFIC SITE:	DCA CATEGORY:

REASONS FOR RAIDING:

GENERAL ATTRACTANT:	POINT SOURCE ATTRACTANT:	OTHER:
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RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES

ACTIONS TAKEN

DATE	DESCRIPTION/TYPE	SUMMARY	APPENDIX

ACTIONS/MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTED BY SITE/LANDOWNER

DATE	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS

COMMENTS

Record of Dispersing/Displaced male baboons in urban areas, Cape Peninsula

Mark relevant category

Identification: _____ Tag colour: _____ Natal troop: _____

Dispersing category	DCA category	Action
<u>D1 First dispersal</u>		D1 Dispersal date: _____ Capture date: _____
Young/Mature male	→ DCA 1	Return to HR: Y/N Relocate: Y/N Release site: _____ Receiving troop: _____
Young male	→ DCA 2	Return to HR: Y/N Release site: _____
Mature male	→ DCA 2	
Young/Mature male	→ DCA 3	Euthanase: Y/N Comment: _____
<u>D2 Second dispersal</u>		D2 Dispersal date: _____ Capture date: _____
Young/Mature male	→ DCA 1	Return HR: Y/N Release site: _____ Relocate: Y/N Receiving Troop: _____
Young male	→ DCA 2	Return to HR: Y/N
Mature male	→ DCA 2	Euthanase Y/N Action: Compile a Case History
Young male	→ DCA 3	Euthanase: Y /N Action: Compile Case History
Mature male	→ DCA 3	
<u>D3 Third dispersal</u>		D3 Dispersal date: _____ Capture date: _____
Young male	→ DCA 1	Relocation: Y/N if N then Euthanase
Mature male	→ DCA 1	Euthanase: Y/N Action: Complete a Case History

Management Flow diagram – Dispersing & Damage Causing baboons in the urban areas, CP

