



Photo: Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

January 2016

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A. REPORTING PERIOD

This monthly report covers the period 26 December 2015 until 29 January 2016 (the January 2016 reporting period). Being the middle of summer, the baboons had an abundance of natural fynbos forage available to them, and most troops spent almost no time in town. With the exception of the Misty Cliffs and Da Gama Troops, the other troops spent an average of 99.84% of their time out of town.

The Misty Cliffs and Da Gama Troops spent considerably more time in town than the other troops. This related to their previous problems, with the Misty Cliffs Troop not having a resident adult male, and also having had two troop members shot dead in Scarborough during December. The Da Gama Troop was constantly being enticed into town by very poor waste management at the Naval Flats, easy access into buildings, many fruiting trees as well as numerous unprotected vegetable gardens in Welcome Glen.

During 2015 the very large Constantia Troop finally split in two. This was spurred on by the Cape Fires in March, and then the considerable disruption to the abundance and distribution of the baboons' food supply as a result of the fire, and then the subsequent full scale felling of the pine plantation. For many months, Human Wildlife Solution's reports recorded the data for these two troops together, but now they will be reported on as two totally separate troops. As such, HWS will again be reporting on 11 managed troops, as there were originally in 2012 before the two Da Gama Troops merged in mid-2013.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

Towards the latter part of the festive season, human/baboon conflict has remained low due to the ongoing strategies employed by HWS. The Smitswinkel Bay Troop spent 99, 97% of their time foraging on natural vegetation and marine organisms over the reporting period.

The troop spent only five minutes in the urban area on the 29 December when they moved passed the houses at Castle Rock on their way to the coast. Despite this, two raiding incidents by individuals still took place. On 4 January, SWBF1 raided a bin at Castle Rock. This incident took less than five minutes and shortly afterwards, SWBF1 re-joined the troop. Due to loss of body weight, SWBF1 remains a

concern and continues to be monitored. On the 26 January, an unidentified male raided an unoccupied house at Castle Rock. The baboon entered the residence through an open window.

The troop spent 60% of their nights roosting in the southernmost parts of their home range. This resulted in 12 excursions down to the coast to forage on marine organisms and coastal thicket vegetation. The troop was observed foraging on black mussels and limpets while on the coast. The troop also continued to forage on protea flowers (*Leucospermum*) throughout January 2016.

SECTOR							CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																														
SOUTH EAST							1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																										
BABOON TROOP:							2 Raid bins										5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																										
MONTH: January							3 Non malicious damage										6 Raid occupied house or vehicle										9 Nocturnal Raiding																										
BABOON ID		Sex		26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL														
SWB6		M																																																			
Troop							1																																1														
UnID Individuals																																																					
UnID Fem		F																																																			
SWBF1		F											2																										1														
UnID Male		M																																5				1															
UnID Juveniles																																																					
		%		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																			HRS														
Troop		0.03					5																															0.08															
Individuals		0.1											5																					5				0.17															
Roost:		AM		3	4	5	5	1	3	2	2	2	2	6	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	5	5	3	3	3	6	2	4	2	4	2	2	3	5	5	5	4	5	5									
Roost:		PM		4	5	5	1	3	2	2	2	6	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	3	5	5	3	3	6	2	4	2	2	3	5	5	5	4	5	5	3														
Roost Sites				1 Smits Caves										2 Partridge Point										3 Bluegums										4 Millers Point										5 Rocklands Farm									
				6 Castle Rock										7 SANParks										8										9										10									
ID Features of Baboons				SWB6 - red/blue tags + collar.																																																	
General remarks																																																					

Figure 1: Smitswinkel Bay Troop raid sheet for January 2016

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop spent 20 nights roosting at the SANAD sleep site, 12 nights at the Red Hill sleep site and three nights at the Cape of Good Hope sleep site. The troop spent 100% of their time out of the urban area. Similar to last month, the troop spent a lot of time foraging in the thick protea stands (*Leucospermum*) on the southern side of Klaasjagersberg. The stream between the Shamballah Farm and the Cape of Good Hope Nursery remained the troops' primary water source.

Fifteen raids were recorded during January 2016, all of which were attributed to individuals. Ten raids were recorded for TK19, three raids for TK42 and two raids by unidentified females. Out of the 15 raids, 14 were bin raids which all took place at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) and only one assertive raid was recorded. Waste management remained an ongoing issue at SANAD. This was illustrated by the high number of bin raids at the facility over the reporting period. On 17 January, TK19 raided an occupied house at the Cape of Good Hope Nursery. The male gained access through an open window and took oranges and apples from a table.



Figure 2: Waterfall Troop movements for January 2016

TK19 and TK42 continue to push towards the Cape Farm House Vineyards, mainly in the morning or around midday. The troop attempted to follow the two males into the vineyards. However, this was a rare occurrence because the HWS rangers held a strong line around the farm. The two males in the troop fought from time to time and it is clear that TK42 is the dominant of the two males.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																	
SOUTH EAST				1	In urban area										4	Attacking Pets					7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food															
BABOON TROOP:				2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle					8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property															
MONTH: January				3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle					9	Nocturnal Raiding															
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL
Troop																																					
TK19	M	2, 2	2		2, 2		2	2													2			6									2				10
TK42	M	2	2																														2				3
WFF3	F																																				
WFF4	F																																				
UnID Females	F	2																																2			2
UnID Juveniles																																					
UnID Male	M																																				
UnID Individuals																																					
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																HRS			
Troop	0.0																																				0.00
Individuals	0.0																																				0.00
Roost:	AM	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	9	10	10	11	9	10	10	9	11	9	9	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	10	9	10	9	9	
Roost:	PM	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	9	10	10	11	9	10	10	9	11	9	9	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	10	9	10	9	9	
Roost Sites		1	Waterfall Cliff										2	Happy Valley Mtn					3	Signal School					4	Waterfall Barracks					5	Mountain Residents					
		6	Admiral footpath										7	Cape Farm House					8	Happy Valley Home					9	Red Hill					10	SANAD					
		11	Mountain CoGHN										12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road					13	Rocklands Farm					14	North Peak					15	Bungalow					
		16	Rocklands Valley										17	Shamballah Pines					18						19						20						
ID Features of Baboons		TK42 - Collar & Blue/Yellow tags; TK19 - Collar & Red/White tags																																			
General remarks		SANAD raids indicated in italics and red; non - urban raids indicated in italics and bold.																																			

Figure 3: Waterfall Troops raid sheet for January 2016

3. Da Gama

The Da Gama Troop had still not slept out of town throughout January 2016. The flats and the pine trees at Da Gama Park remained the troops preferred sleep sites. This can be attributed to the long day light hours at this time of year. The troop spent 2.4% of their time inside the urban area in comparison to December 2015's 1.1%. The time in town for individuals also increased from 4.4% in December 2015 to 9.9% over this reporting period. Poor waste management, fruiting trees, vegetable gardens and easy access to residence remained an ongoing problem, attracting baboons into the urban area during January 2016.

The troop entered the urban area on 20 occasions in January 2016. Only one bin raid, on 13 January, was recorded for the troop. The longest recorded time in town for the troop was 70 minutes, on other occasions the troop spent between 10 and 35 minutes in town. The longest recorded time in town for individuals was 290 minutes on the 22 January. On other occasions, individuals were recorded in town between 5 and 270 minutes.

SK3 recorded the highest amount of raids during January 2016, totalling 12 raids. Eleven bin raids and one occupied house raid was recorded. SK3 continued to spend time away from the troop due to the combined pressure exerted on him by TK43 and SWB8.

The female baboon that injured her hind legs during the December 2015 reporting period, has shown significant improvement during January 2016 and kept up with the troop's daily movements.

The troops' home range was significantly affected by a wildfire that burnt between 10 and 12 January. The vegetation surrounding the Grootkop sleep site and Kleinplaas Dam was burnt and the subsequent effects on the baboons' forage and movements, will be monitored closely. No baboon mortalities took place during the fire and HWS ensured that the troop remained a safe distance from the fire at all times.

The Navy commenced with mechanical control of the alien invasive vegetation in the river behind the flats in Da Gama Park. Managing the baboons in the dense vegetation proved to be challenging because it provided them with hiding places that are inaccessible to HWS rangers. Managing the troop on the urban edge should improve considerably, once all the vegetation has been removed.



Figure 4: Aftermath of wildfire in the Da Gama Troops' home range

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																							
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																					
SOUTH EAST		1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																																	
BABOON TROOP:	DA GAMA	2 Raid bins										5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																	
MONTH: January	YEAR: 2016	3 Non malicious damage										6 Raid occupied house or vehicle										9 Nocturnal Raiding																																	
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL																		
Troop					1	1	1	1				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1			20																		
SK3	M	1								1	1	2	2, 2, 2, 2	6				1	1		1	1	2	2	1	2	2		2	1	1	2			1	1	23																		
DG13 (W)	M									1																		1		1						1	4																		
DG14 (O-G)	M									1																						1				3																			
DG15 (R-W)	M					1				1								1					2			1			1	1		1		1	1	10																			
DG16	M					2				1																										2																			
TK43 (W-W)	M	1		1		2,2	9			1							1																1	6		1	10																		
SWB8	M		1										1	1	1		2						1						1	1		2				10																			
DGF1	F									1							1									2										3																			
DGF2	F									1																1										2																			
DGF4	F									1														2				2							1	4																			
UnID Females	F	1		1		1	9						1	1	1			1	1		1								2			2				8																			
UnID Female	F											1	1	1	1		1		1									1	1	1	1	1			1	10																			
UnID Individuals			1							1							1	1		1					1	1		1	1		1			1		10																			
UnID Juvs		1	1	1		2				1					1		1									1										7																			
TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																			HRS																				
Troop	%	2.4				25	20	25	20			15	15	20	25	20		25	10	70	35	10	30	30		10	20	10	10	35			23		7.88																				
Individuals	%	9.9	10	25	5	30				15	30	30	91	85	35		60	101	15	115		45	215		10	20	10	20	270	38	110	290	70		115	45	31.75																		
Roost:	AM	1	2	1	1,3	1,3	3	3	1,2	1,7	1	1,2	1,3	1,3	3	3	1,3,8	1,3	3,4	1,3	4	1	1,3	3	4	1	1,2,3	3	3	4	1	1	1,2	3	1,2	1,2,3	1,2																		
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1,7	1	1,2	1,3	1,3	3	1,3,8	1,3	1,2	1,2	1	1	1,2	1	4	1	1,2,3	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2																			
Roost Sites	1	Flats										2	Pines - Flats										3	Pines - Da Gama										4	Pines - WG										5	Sport Fields Stables									
	6	Compass Bakery										7	Pines - Outspan										8	Jacks Shop										9	Elsie's Peak										10	Rotary Camp									
	11	Witsand										12	Slangkop										13	Platkop										14	Rasta Camp										15	Ocean View									
	16	KL sleep site										17	Maylands										18	Elsies River Valley										19	Red Hill / Windford										20	Grootkop									
	21	16th Avenue, DG										22	Lewis Gay Dam										23	Pinehaven										24	Kleinplaas Dam										25	Scarborough									
ID Features of Baboons																																																							
General remarks																																																							

Figure 5: Da Gama Troop raid sheet for January 2016



Figure 6: Da Gama troop movement, yellow lines indicating the troop and red lines indicating raiding individuals, for January 2016

Births and Deaths

One birth was recorded for the Smitswinkel Bay Troop on 4 January. On 20 January, one dead infant was recorded (the cause of death was unknown).

Two births were recorded for the Da Gama Troop on 29 December (one infant belongs to DGF1, the alpha female).

Recommendations

- The South African Navy need to enforce the rule that residents at the naval flats in Da Gama Park must store their bins inside their garages at all times, and only put their bins outside on bin collection days.
- Broken garages at the naval flats in Da Gama Park should be fixed, because the baboons are climbing in through the openings to gain access to the bins.
- Baboon-proof bins should be kept locked at all times, even on bin collection days. Locked bins are automatically opened by the refuse trucks.
- Baboon-proofing of the entrances, air vents and windows of the navy flats in Da Gama Park is still an urgent requirement.
- All vegetable gardens in baboon-affected areas should be baboon-proofed, and residents should remove fruit trees, or at least the fruit.

- Waste management areas and the security office kitchen at SANAD, should be baboon-proofed. These areas are attracting baboons into the facility.
- Although the poles of the powerline in Elsie's River Valley have all been greased, a better long term solution would be to install the powerlines underground.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Cath Shutte

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop remained within the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (CoGH) for the majority of the month.

While in the reserve, the troop continued to forage on indigenous fynbos and the coastal organisms that they harvested from the intertidal zone.

HWS rangers continued to monitor the GOB Troop through the use of telemetry equipment, obtaining a signal from GOB7's collar. The signal showed that they were deep within the reserve for 26 days of the month, in the vicinity of the Klaasjagersberg SANParks office on seven occasions, and close to Shamballah on two occasions.

While the troop was outside of the reserve, they were seen foraging and grooming under the pines at the Shamballah sleep site. They also moved into the natural fynbos vegetation on the mountain slopes above Shamballah to forage.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

Following on from a difficult month for the Misty Cliffs Troop (see HWS December 2015 Report), the troop's time out of town improved hugely for the month of January. The troop's time out of town increased from 51.3% in December 2015, to 88.5% in January 2016.

The troop spent 33 nights roosting at their preferred sleep site, on the cliffs between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs, and two nights were spent in town. For ten non-consecutive nights an adult female with an infant and an adult female carrying two infants slept in town.

While out of town, the baboons concentrated their foraging activity in the indigenous vegetation below the sleep site and along the coastline, foraging on marine organisms in the intertidal zone (Figure7). This is a favoured foraging area of the troop, because it provides a variety of feeding opportunities. They also moved above Misty Cliffs and Scarborough and foraged along the cliffs.

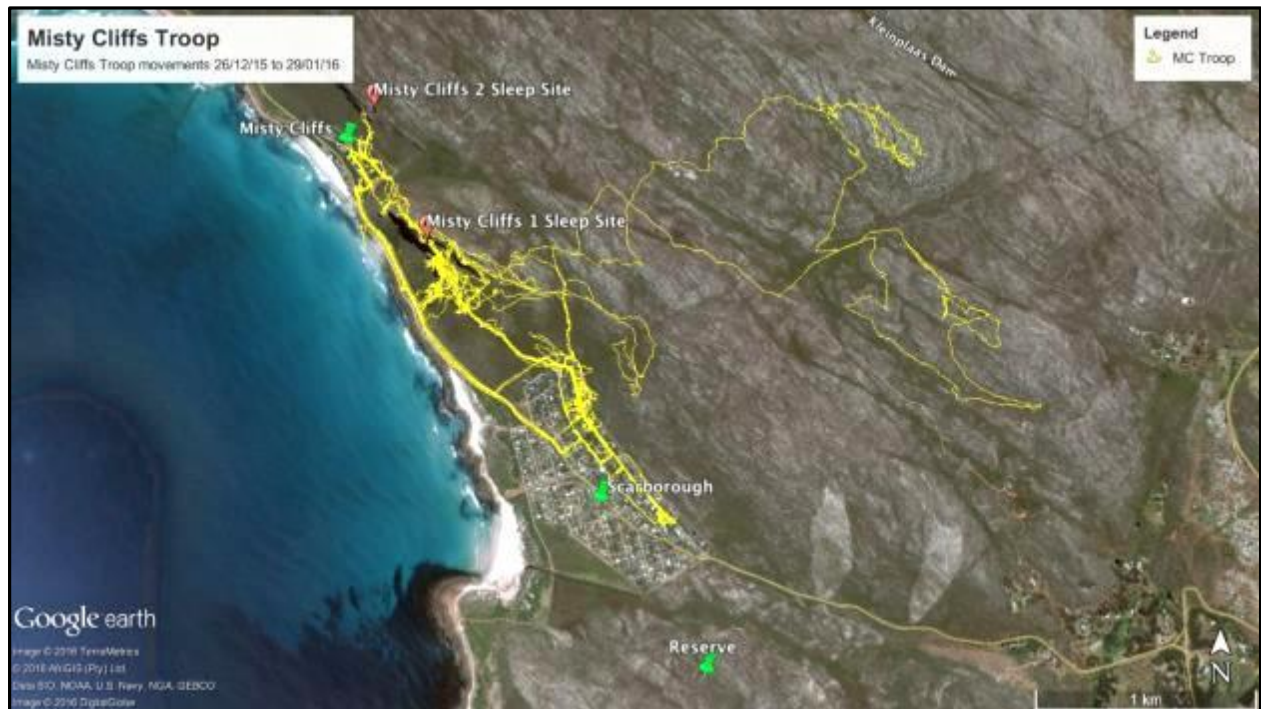


Figure 7: Misty Cliffs Troop movement for the January 2016.

There was a decrease in troop presence in town this month (Figure 8). The troop as a whole, was in town on 11 occasions this month, as opposed to 19 occasions during December 2015 reporting period (refer to the December 2015 monthly report). The troop was reported to have raided bins on three occasions during January 2016 and there was an increase of individual presence in town. Again, it is interesting to note that there were only four bin raids recorded during January 2016. This individual time in town, was solely due to the two females with infants that used Scarborough as a place of refuge.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																				
SECTOR			CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																	
SOUTH WEST			1	In urban area											4	Attacking pets											7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																								
BABOON TROOP:		Misty Cliffs	2	Raid bins											5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle											8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																								
MONTH: January		YEAR: 2015	3	Non malicious damage											6	Raid occupied house or vehicle											9	Nocturnal Raiding																								
BABOON ID		Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL														
Unld Females		F		2				1						1	1						1	2					1		1	1	1	2		1	2	1	1	16														
Juveniles				2							1										1	1					1										5															
Troop					1	1	1					2	2	1							1				1		1			2			1					11														
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																					
Troop		11.5			150	420							240	420							510				187	90			165			40					37.03															
Individuals		40.0		30	120	390	810	120			480	255	60	390	360							15	95				30		170	593	810	590		780	810	780	35	128.72														
Roost:		AM	1	1	1	5	1,5	1,5	1	1	1	1	1	5	1,5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5															
Roost:		PM	1	1	5	1,5	1,5	1	1	1	1	1	5	1,5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1	1	1,5	1,5	1,5	1														
Roost Sites			1	Misty Cliffs 1									2	Misty Cliffs 2									3	Witsand									4	CoGH Reserve									5	Other								
ID Features of Baboons																																																				
General remarks																																																				

Figure 8: Misty Cliffs Troop raid sheet for January 2016.

In the late afternoon on 10 January, a fire broke out in front of the Red Hill Informal Settlement on Red Hill Road. The fire was brought under control by the late evening. However, fanned by a strong south easterly wind, the fire flared up at around 12am on the morning of 11 January. The fire swept through the Misty Cliffs Troop's home range and moved rapidly towards the Slangkop Troop's home range.



Figure 9: Burnt area above Scarborough after the Redhill Fire.

The worst impacted troop was the Misty Cliffs Troop. They lost 95% of their home range, which they were utilising, outside of the CoGH Reserve. On the morning of 11 January, the troop was found on the cliffs between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. HWS Rangers held the troop below the cliffs in the indigenous vegetation for the day and fire fighters worked tirelessly to keep the fire contained. The situation was monitored closely on the ground and communication was constant between HWS Field Managers and Area Managers, ensuring the safety of the Misty Cliffs Troop.

On 12 January, the Misty Cliffs Troop, as a whole, broke the line and spent the day foraging in the residential gardens of Scarborough. They were moved out of town by the late afternoon and slept on the cliffs that night.

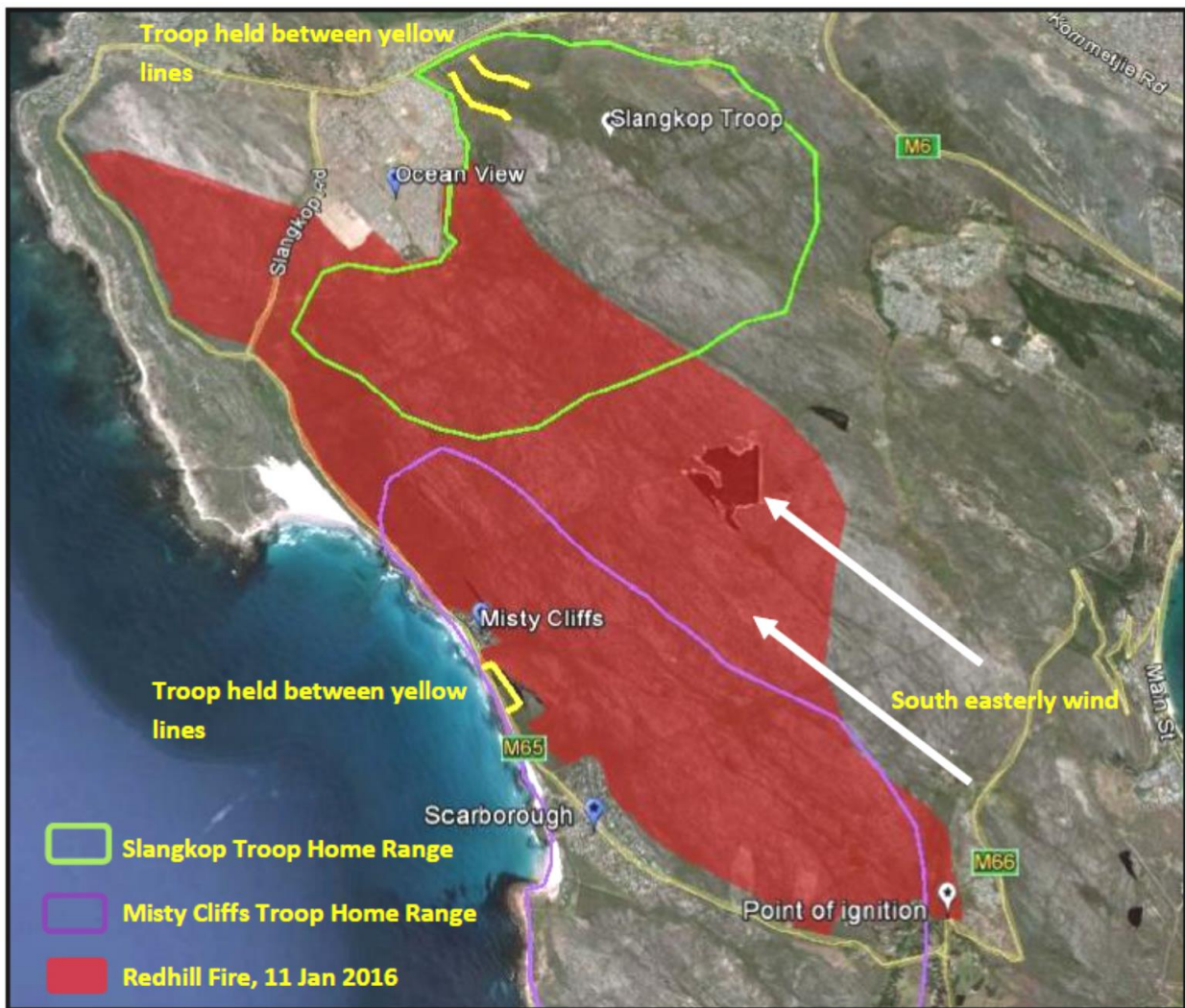


Figure 10: Red area indicates the extent of the burnt area (roughly 18.5 km²) after the Redhill Fire.

Attempts to move the Misty Cliffs Troop into the CoGH Reserve intensified after the extent of the fire became apparent. For the initial week after the fire, the troop was kept below the cliffs foraging on indigenous vegetation, and feeding along the coastline on marine organisms. A decision to hold the troop in that area was made, because the landscape above Scarborough and Misty Cliffs was unstable due to the fire. From 18 January, HWS rangers began to move the troop in the direction of the reserve. On each attempt the troop moved further towards the reserve. This was a positive step towards moving the troop into the CoGH Reserve.

3. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop Troop continued to utilise their preferred sleep site, the Compass Bakery Cliffs, for the majority of this month. They spent 28 nights, sleeping on the cliffs and only seven nights sleeping in the pine trees behind Ocean View. The troop has maintained this summer trend, choosing to sleep on the higher elevations of the cliffs, since November 2015. It will be interesting to monitor their sleep site choice as the cooler winter months approach.



Figure 11: Slangkop Troop movement for the January 2016

The troop concentrated their foraging efforts in the natural vegetation around the Rasta Camp and at Solele. While moving from their sleep sites, the troop would also spend time foraging and grooming under the pines behind Ocean View and along the river between Ocean View and Imhoff.

The time in town, for the Slangkop Troop as a whole, increased this month. In December 2015, the troop was in town for 0,5% of the month. For January 2016, the troop was in town for 1,4% of the month. However, it is interesting to note that for both December and January, the troop as a whole did not spend longer than 60 minutes in town on any given day. The troop was responsible for four bin raids this month. On 31 December 2015, the troop raided bins at In 2 Foods (the old Compass Bakery). The other three instances of troop bin raids occurred in Capri on 3, 4 and 20 January.

On three separate occasions, the Slangkop Troop was chased by a pack of free roaming dogs. On all three occasions the troop was foraging in the natural vegetation between Ocean View and Capri. On 29 December 2015, after being chased the troop ran into Capri. They spent 60 minutes in town with no raids being reported. On 9 January, the troop was again chased by the same dogs. They again ran into Capri and spent 25 minutes in the urban area, again no raids were recorded.

On 18 January, the dogs chased the troop again. However, HWS rangers managed to hold the troop outside of Capri. Only three individuals managed to enter the urban area, again there were no raids recorded and the individuals were moved out of town after five minutes. This consequently contributes

to the increase in the time in town for the Slangkop Troop and hotline calls for the Slangkop Troop for January 2016.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																														
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																												
SOUTH WEST		1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																					
BABOON TROOP:		Slangkop		2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																			
MONTH: January		YEAR: 2015		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																			
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL									
DG6	M		1	1									2							2				2	1	1									1	8										
SKF1	F																																			0										
SKF2	F																																			0										
SK6 (Sub-adult)	M			1																2					1	1									1	5										
Unidentified Male	M	1							2																											2										
Juveniles																																				0										
Females		1		1					2											2				2	1	1										7										
Troop					1		2			2	2					1			1								2								1	8										
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																															HRS													
Troop	1.4				60		30			24	45					25			35							46								6	4.52											
Individuals	0.7	9	5	19					30				5						21					10	5	9								27	2.33											
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	3											
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3											
Roost Sites		1				Slangkop					2				Ocean View					3				Compass balery					4				Witsand					5				Other				
ID Features of Baboons																																														
General remarks																																														

Figure 12: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for the January 2016.

On 11 January 2016, at around midday, the Redhill Fire reached the mountain above the Rasta Camp. HWS Rangers were already aware of the approaching fire and had moved the troop out of harm's way, to the stream between Ocean View and Imhoff's Gift. The situation was monitored closely on the ground and communication was constant between Field Managers and Area Managers, ensuring the safety of all troops affected by the fire.

The Slangkop Troop lost roughly 50% of their home range to the fire (Figure 14), however it was pleasing to see that they have begun to forage on the nutritious new growth after the fire.





Figure 13: Redhill Fire behind Ocean View and at the Rasta Camp.



Figure 14: Slangkop Troop feeding on pine seeds expelled from the cones during the fire.

Births and Deaths

There were no births or deaths in the South West in January 2016.

Recommendations

- **Removal of Invasive Alien Vegetation:** The patches of invasive alien vegetation situated above Ocean View and below the Compass Bakery sleep site need to be removed in order to improve management of the Slangkop Troop. This issue has been addressed with SANParks and is pending.
- **Waste Management:** Waste management in Scarborough is an ongoing issue. A meeting was held in Scarborough on 22 January where this was addressed with local residents. A follow up site visit will be conducted by HWS.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop continued to utilise Tokai Plantation and Silvermine Reserve equally throughout January 2016 (Figure 15). It is promising to note that at this time last year, the Tokai Troop pushed exceptionally hard to forage on grapes at Buitenverwachting Farm. This year, they were more focused on the upper sections of the mountain, and were not eating grapes at Buitenverwachting.



Figure 15: Movements of the Tokai Troop during January 2016

Silvermine Reserve re-opened to the public on the 22 December 2015. The Tokai Troop spent approximately half their time foraging in Silvermine Reserve, particularly around the Silvermine Dam (Figure 16).

There were several incidents where adult male baboons raided picnickers at Silvermine Reserve. The majority these raids were carried out by TK28, and to a lesser degree TK48 and TK16 (Figure 17). These incidents generally involved individual baboons approaching people with food and stealing it directly from them. There were also several incidents where baboons were chased by dogs that were not kept on leashes.



Figure 16: The Tokai Troop at the dam and on the boardwalk in Silvermine.

The Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops spent a great deal of time in and around the Silvermine Reserve and dam which is vital water resource during the dry season. Another noteworthy development in the Tokai Troop during this reporting period, is that the troop has been exceptionally spread out. On occasion, the troop had individuals spread across levels 1 to 5 of Tokai Plantation.

A troop that is widely dispersed across a large area is a management challenge. Against this backdrop, individual baboons have run down the mountain to raid Porter Estate. There were two incidents during this reporting period where approximately 20 individuals were at Chrysalis Academy attempting to raid, while the rest of the troop were high in the levels of Tokai Plantation. On 20 and 24 January the Tokai Troop even slept at two different sleep sites (Figure 17). This behaviour will be monitored closely in the coming months, because it is an indication of a splitting troop.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																						
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																				
NORTH		1	In urban area					4	Attacking pets					7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																							
BABOON TROOP:		2	Raid bins					5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle					8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																							
MONTH: Dec-Jan		3	Non malicious damage					6	Raid occupied house or vehicle					9	Nocturnal Raiding																							
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL	
TK28 (B-G)	M	5,5				6									6	7			7				1	7,6			6				6,6				5	5,5,6	16	
TK 16 (W-W)	M																				2			6													2	
TK 47 (White)	M																					1															1	
TK 48 (Red)	M																													5,6							2	
MT3 (Pu-B)	M																																				0	
TK 45 (Untagged)	M																														5						1	
Uni Male	M					1																												5			2	
Tokai Troop																																					0	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS								
Troop	0.0																																			0.00		
Individuals	1.1					120	20														35	30					10									3.58		
Roost:	AM	11	11	12	1	1	1	12	12	1	12	5	5	1	6	11	11	12	6	11	6	6	6	6	6	13	13	12	3+5	11	11	1	1	5+6	2	6	11	
Roost:	PM	11	12	1	1	1	12	12	1	12	5	5	1	6	11	11	12	6	11	6	6	6	6	13	13	12	3+5	11	11	1	1	5+6	2	6	11	11		
Roost Sites		1 Tea Garden					2 Level 1 ZWK gums					3 Level 2 stream					4 Lev 4 Pines					5 Upper Tea Garden					6 Manor House											
		7 Picnic 1					8 Picnic 2					9 Middle Plantation					10 Chrysalis					11 Silvermine pines					12 Level 3 Mixed plantation											
		13 Level 3 Pines					14 Other					15					16					17					18											
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks		Bold and italics indicate raids that occurred in non-urban areas. Red indicates troop sleeping at two separate sleep sites.																																				

Figure 17: Raid sheet for the Tokai Troop (January 2016).

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

The Zwaanswyk Troop continued to move in a similar manner to the Tokai Troop. They spent this month in Tokai Plantation and Silvermine Reserve (Figure 18).

The GPS collar on MT2, the alpha male, indicated that the Zwaanswyk Troop explored the very upper sections of their home range, including Noordehoek Peak and the top of Constantiaberg (Figure 18). From here, this troop could see over the mountain and down to Chapmans Peak Drive. This was the first time this troop (indeed any Northern Troops) have gone this close to Chapmans Peak since HWS began managing baboon troops in August 2012.

The only reported raid in the Zwaanswyk Troop this month was when MT2, the alpha male, and an untagged female raided a bin at the Cape Research Centre.

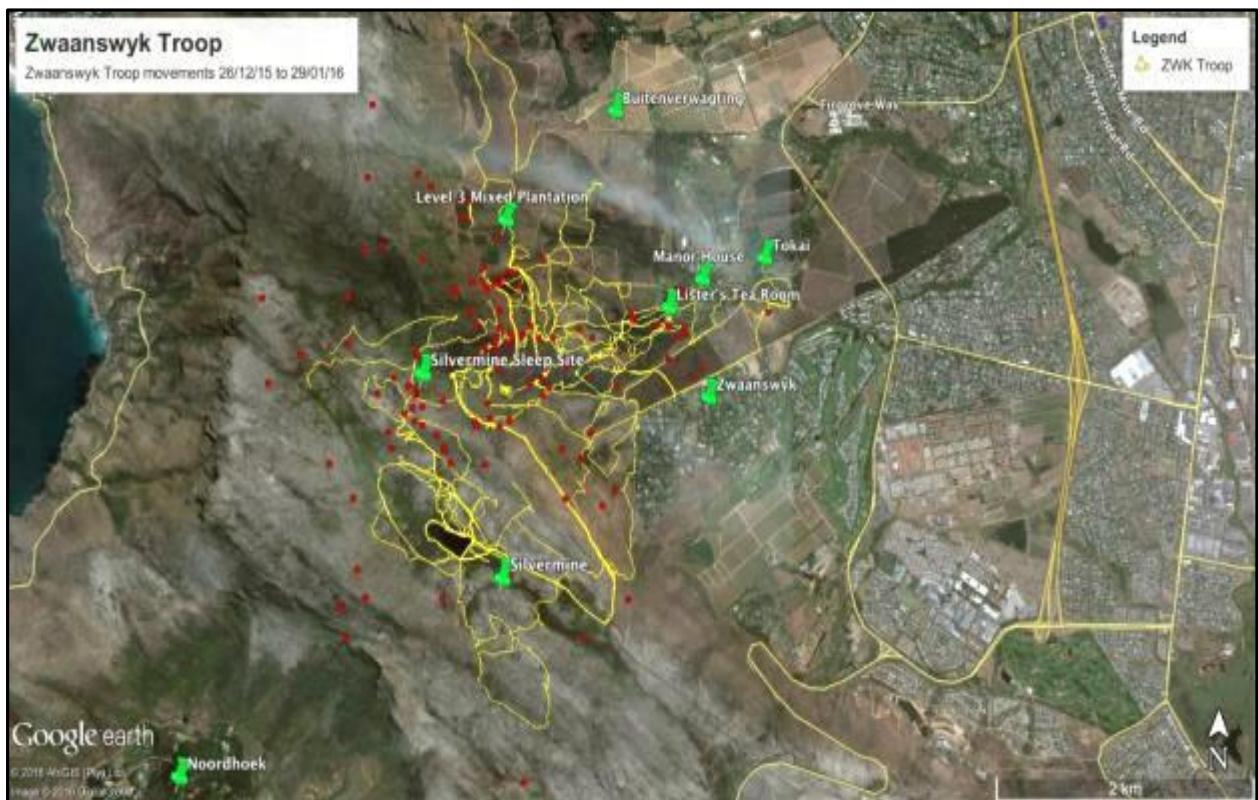


Figure 18: Movements of the Zwaanswyk Troop. Yellow lines indicate HWS Ranger movements following the troop, red dots represent the GPS collar on MT2.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
NORTH		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																														
BABOON TROOP:	Zwaanswyk	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle		8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																													
MONTH:Dec-Jan	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage		6	Raid occupied house or vehicle		9	Nocturnal Raiding																												
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL
MT2 (Yellow) Collar	M																										2										1
Untagged Large SA	M																																				0
TKF5 (Green)	F																																				0
TKF7 (Red)	F																																				0
Uni Adult female	F																										2										1
Zwaanswyk Troop																																					0
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																											HRS								
Troop	0.0																																			0.00	
Individuals	0.0																																			0.00	
Roost:	AM	12	14	14	1	6	1	13	1	12	14	12	6	1	6	12	12	13	6	12	6	6	1	6	14	14	6	5	12	3	6	6	6	1	8	12	
Roost:	PM	14	14	1	6	1	13	1	12	14	12	6	1	6	12	12	13	6	12	6	6	1	6	14	14	6	5	12	3	6	6	6	1	8	12	12	
Roost Sites		1	Tea Garden				2	Level 1 ZWK gums				3	Level 2 stream				4	Lev 4 pines				5	Upper tea Garden				6	Manor house									
		7	Picnic 1				8	Picnic 2				9	Middle Plantation				10	Chrysalis				11	Tokai bridge				12	Silvermine pines									
		13	Level 3 Mixed plants				14	Level 3 Pines				15	Other				16					17					18										
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks		Bold and italics indicate raids in non-urban areas																																			

Figure 19: January 2016 raid sheet for the Zwaanswyk Troop.

3. Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)

The CT1 Troop spent most of this month above Klein Constantia (Figure20). The Klein Constantia Rangers pushed the troop up and out of the farm in the mornings, and they generally stayed out of the farm for the remainder of the day.



Figure 20: Movement data of the CT1 and CT2 Troops.

When the CT1 Troop was on the Northern (Price Drive) side of the mountain the HWS Rangers held the Price Drive line to prevent any urban incursions. On the 5 January, two baboons managed to evade rangers and ran through to Price Drive. However, neither had an opportunity to raid, and were back in the troop within 35 minutes of first being in town (Figure 21).

The Klein Constantia electric fence is now fully operational and acts as a deterrent to the Constantia Troop entering the Klein Constantia vineyards. However, there are a number of challenges. The base of the Klein Constantia fence was not extended into the ground, so baboons are still found spots where they could dig under the fence or crawl under the fence via porcupine holes.

CON6 and CON7 were also seen leaping clear over the fence while chasing one another on 18 January 2016.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
NORTH		1	In urban area		4	Attacking pets		7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																												
BABOON TROOP:		CON 1+2		2	Raid bins		5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle		8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																										
MONTH: Dec-Jan		YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage		6	Raid occupied house or vehicle		9	Nocturnal Raiding																										
BABOON ID	Sex	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL
TK33 (R-O)	M											1																									1
CON1 (untagged)	M																																				0
CON2 (B-O)	M																																				0
CON5 (G-G)	M																																				0
CON6 (O) Collar	M																																				0
CON7 (P-G)	M											1																									1
MT1 (G-W)	M																																				0
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS							
Troop	0.0																																			0.00	
Individuals	0.2											35																								0.58	
Roost:	AM	3+6	3+6	6	3+6	4+6	1+3	1+3	1+6	1+7	1+7	1+6	1+6	1+7	3+6	3+6	1+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	6+7	3+7	3+7	3+7	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	1+7	3+7	1+7	1+6	1+7	1+6	1+6	
Roost:	PM	3+6	6	3+6	3	4	4	1+6	1+7	1+7	1+6	1+6	1+7	3+6	3+6	1+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	6+7	3+7	3+7	3+7	3+6	3+6	3+6	3+6	1+7	3+7	1+7	1+6	1+7	1+6	1+6	1+6	
Roost Sites		1		Upper Gums		2		Lower Gums		3		Bike Trail Gums		4		Middle Plantation KC		5		McKenzies		6		Buiten Gums													
ID Features of Baboons		7		Block 10 gums		8		Castle Gums		9		Veels-te-Ver		10		Other		11				12															
General remarks																																					

Figure 21: January raid sheet for the CT1 Troop.

Refresher paintball marker training was carried out this month in the Northern section by HWS Manager, Byron Loubser. As a service to the community, all farm rangers were also included in the training. The training covered how to move troops in the most effective manner, and reminded all rangers about the Standard Operating Procedures of using paintball markers, as set out by the Baboon Technical Team.

One juvenile was found dead this month in the CT1 Troop and appeared to have died after falling out of a tree.

4. Constantia Troop 2 (CT2)

The CT2 Troop was the least seen and least managed troop in the Northern Section. The CT2 Troop spent time high in the mountains after being moved away from the wine farms. When seen, it was usually around the Northern side of Tokai Plantation, on the border of Buitenverwachting (Figure 21).

There are only two adult males in this troop. CON3 is the alpha and CON4 a beta male. CON4 has however been moving between the CT1 and CT2 troops extensively this month. Both of these males are non-raiding males, hence the troop did not raid at all this month.

On the 12 January 2016, CON3 was collared with a radio collar. This will help the rangers locate the troop, and keep tabs on their movements, without the need to get particularly close to this troop. When collaring CON3 it was noted that a female was carry a dead infant. The carcass was at an advanced state of decomposition and thus the cause of death could not be determined.

5. Mountain Troop

The management of the Mountain Troop continued to be a challenge in January. The Buitenverwachting rangers moved the Mountain Troop off Buitenverwachting in the mornings using the shortest route possible. Unfortunately, this was a southern movement, which left the troop at level 1 Tokai Plantation. From here, the troop was blocked by HWS rangers from moving further down the Plantation, to Porter Estate.

Similar to the Klein Constantia Fence, the fence section around Buitenverwachting provides some deterrent to the Mountain Troop, but it is not baboon-proof. Hence, the Buitenverwachting rangers are still required to move the troop off the farms, and to hold the line to prevent them coming back.

The Mountain Troop usually sleep at Veels-te-ver woods (between the top of Buitenverwachting wine farm and Tokai Plantation). However, the trees in this wood are being felled and the Mountain Troop used two new sleep sites during January 2016. They slept at the Level 1 gum trees, near the Chrysalis Boot Camp on one night; and at the remaining gum trees on Level 4 in Tokai Plantation on another night.

No raiding was carried out by the Mountain Troop this month.

Births and Deaths

One new born was reported on the 9 January and one infanticide occurred on the 29 January in the Tokai Troop. Two dead infants were seen in the Zwaanswyk Troop being carried by females. These carcasses were not recovered once dropped by the females and as such, the cause of these deaths are unknown. One juvenile in the CT1 Troop was found dead, the cause of death appeared to be from falling out of a tree. One dead infant was seen being carried by a female in the CT2 Troop, the cause of death is unknown.

Recommendations

- **Visitors to Silvermine** should be aware that they are entering a baboon frequented area. Food should be locked away and kept out of sight from baboons. Additionally, **dogs should be on leashes at all times**, even if there are no baboons visible.
- **The baboon fences erected by Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia** need to be dug into the ground, to ensure baboons cannot get under them. Additionally, weak points in the fence should be extended or modified if the new electric fence is to be completely baboon-proof.

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

Over the past three years the managed population of baboons increased by 10.5%. What is most notable about the data in Table 1, is that while the southern population at the end of December 2015 numbered three less than that for December 2012, the population of the northern troops increased by 39 individuals (21.8%) over the same period. This high population growth rate in the north has always been attributed to the northern baboons having greater access to human derived foods (HDF's) than do the baboons in the south.

It will be interesting to see what happens in 2016 now that all the wine farms are, to a large extent, electric fenced and that the vast majority of the Tokai pine plantation has been removed. In this regard it is noteworthy that four infants that died during January in the north. One was definitely an infanticide but, for other three, the causes of death were unknown. It is anticipated that as the availability of HDF's in the north is reduced, the baboons' reproductive rate will decline.

TROOP	Total December Populations				January 2016			Total Births 2016	Total Deaths 2016	Emigration/ Immigration 2016	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration				
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	49	2			2	0		51
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	1	1		1	1		23
Waterfall	28	30	30	32				0	0		32
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16				0	0		16
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11				0	0		11
Slangkop	33	32	36	41				0	0		41
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	3	1	0	3	1	0	174
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30		2		0	2		28
Tokai	61	65	72	62	1	1		1	1		62
Mountain	33	44	48	49				0	0		49
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77		2		0	2		75
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	1	5	0	1	5	0	214
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	4	6	0	4	6	0	388

Table 1: Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula (January 2016).

Table 2 below shows the breakdown of the causes of baboon deaths since 2012. All recorded baboon deaths have been summarised into three categories: (i) Management – baboons euthanased for management reasons according to the WAAC raiding protocol; (ii) Human Induced deaths are divided into two categories; (a) Direct – baboons killed by dogs, car accidents, poisoning, shooting etc.; (b) Indirect – electrocutions, human related fires. This category also includes baboons seriously wounded by the above causes, then humanely euthanased; (iii) Natural – baboons dying from old age, fights, infanticide etc.; (iv) Unknown – occasionally a baboon is found dead and the cause could not be determined.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	Jan 2016	2016 to date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	0	0	48
Human Induced	8	7	10	24	0	0	49
Direct	8	6	6	8	0	0	28
Indirect	0	1	4	16	0	0	21
Natural	7	30	19	20	2	2	78
Unknown	1	3	0	4	4	4	12
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	6	6	187

Table 2: Causes of baboon deaths since 2012 (*Data collected during the first half of 2012 provided by Baboon Research Unit, UCT).

Hotline Data

The hotline call data were very similar in January, to what they were for December 2015, with most calls relating to the Misty Cliffs' females and their young offspring being in Scarborough. Although there were very few raids by these females, their presence in Scarborough still elicited numerous calls. The anomaly this month was the unusually high number of calls from Capri. These calls all relate to the three incidents when a pack of free ranging domestic dogs attacked and chased the Slangkop troop into

Capri. Interestingly no raids were recorded on these occasions, although the baboons' presence in town was quickly reported.

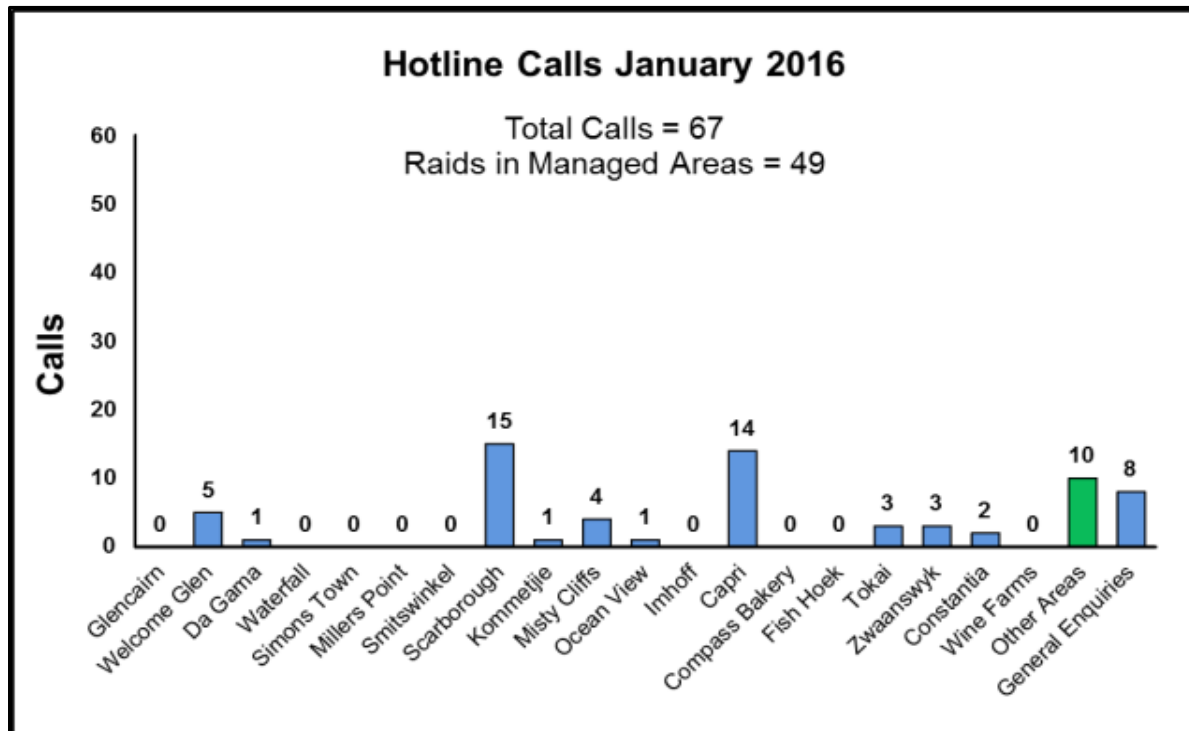


Figure 22: Hotline calls summary per urban area for January 2016.

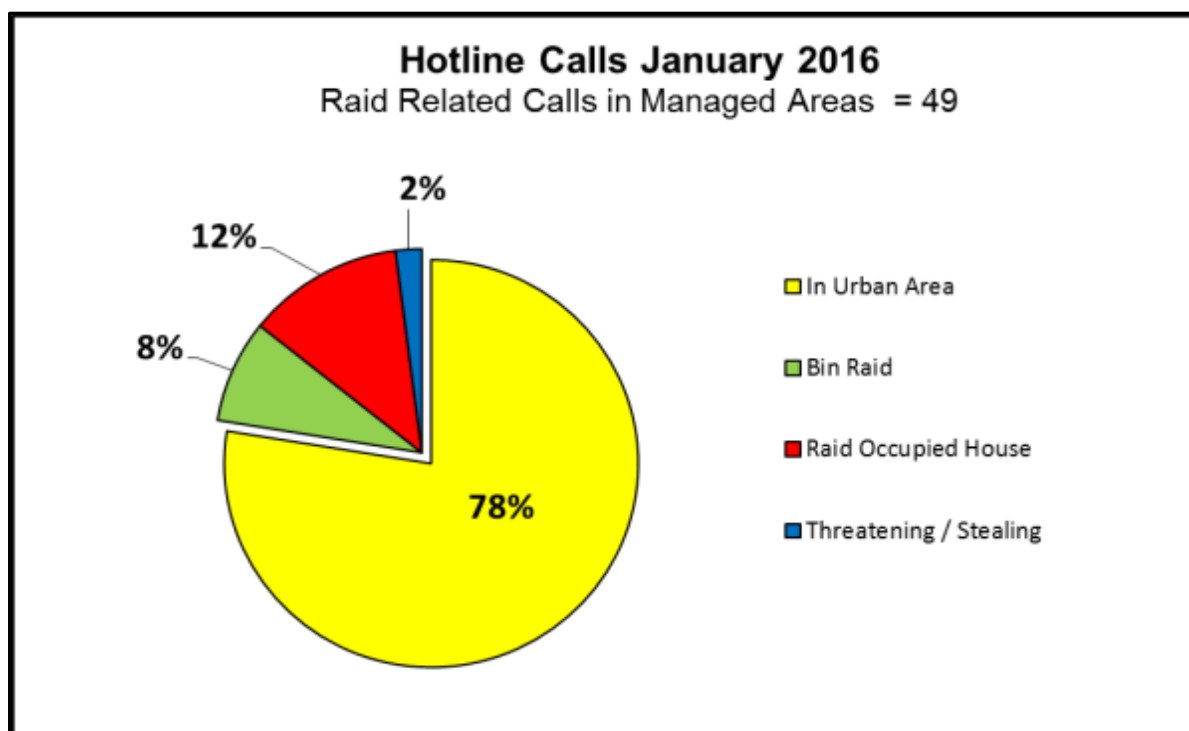


Figure 23: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during January 2016.

As usual the composition of hotline calls had over three quarters of all raid related calls, simply reporting baboons in the urban area. The next highest category was again raids of occupied houses (12%). This pattern is unlikely to change because raids of occupied houses are obviously the ones most likely to be reported.

Percentage Time out of Town

The data for percentage time in town this month was very similar to that for December 2015. Most baboon troops were out of town for well over 99% of the time, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs and Da Gama Troops. Despite the Misty Cliffs Troop's scare in December, when an adult female and a juvenile male were shot dead by someone with a high powered pellet gun, in January the troop returned to more normal behaviour and was in town as a troop for only 12% of the time. However, some individuals of the troop spent 40% of their time in town. This is about 13% more time in town than during December 2015. This increase in time in town can be ascribed to various females, particularly MCF5, who is the female looking after the orphaned infant and seeking refuge in town (Scarborough).

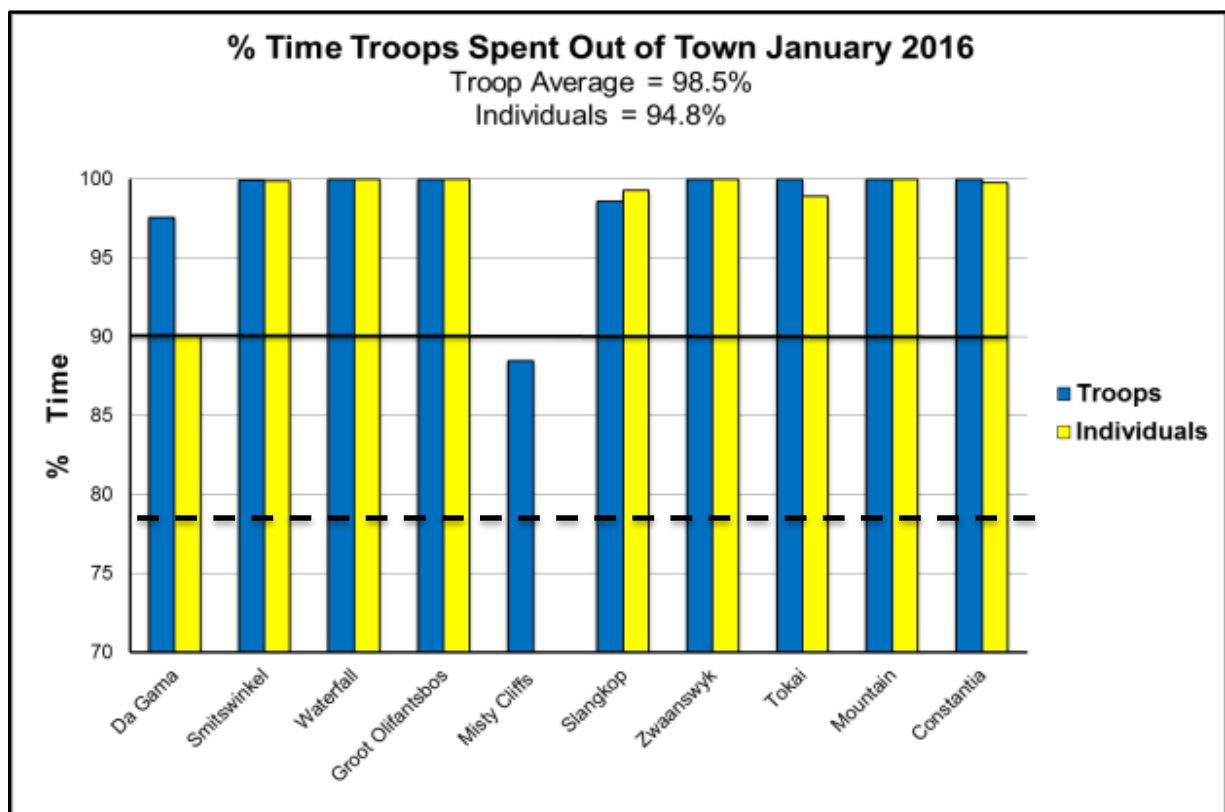


Figure 24: Percentage time troops spent out of town (January 2016). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement. (Misty Cliffs individuals spent 60% of the time out of town).

Conclusion

For most of the managed baboon troops, December was a typical summer month, with the troops spending well over 99% of their time out of town feeding on the abundant summer growth to be found in the fynbos at this time of year. However, two troops spoiled this summer pattern. The Da Gama Troop was reasonably well behaved, spending 2.4% of their time in town. This can be ascribed largely to ongoing poor waste management, particularly around the Da Gama Naval Flats. Other factors like fruiting trees, unprotected vegetable gardens and easy access into residences also contributed towards attracting the baboons to town.

The Misty Cliffs Troop continued to be a problem, with one or two females with young babies seeking refuge in town on many occasions. Although the troop as a whole spent much less time in town than during December (when the two baboons were shot) this incident clearly had a marked effect on the troop, particularly because there are so many young babies in the troop. Although several attempts were made to move this troop back to the CoGH Reserve, by the end of January they had still not been successful.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions