

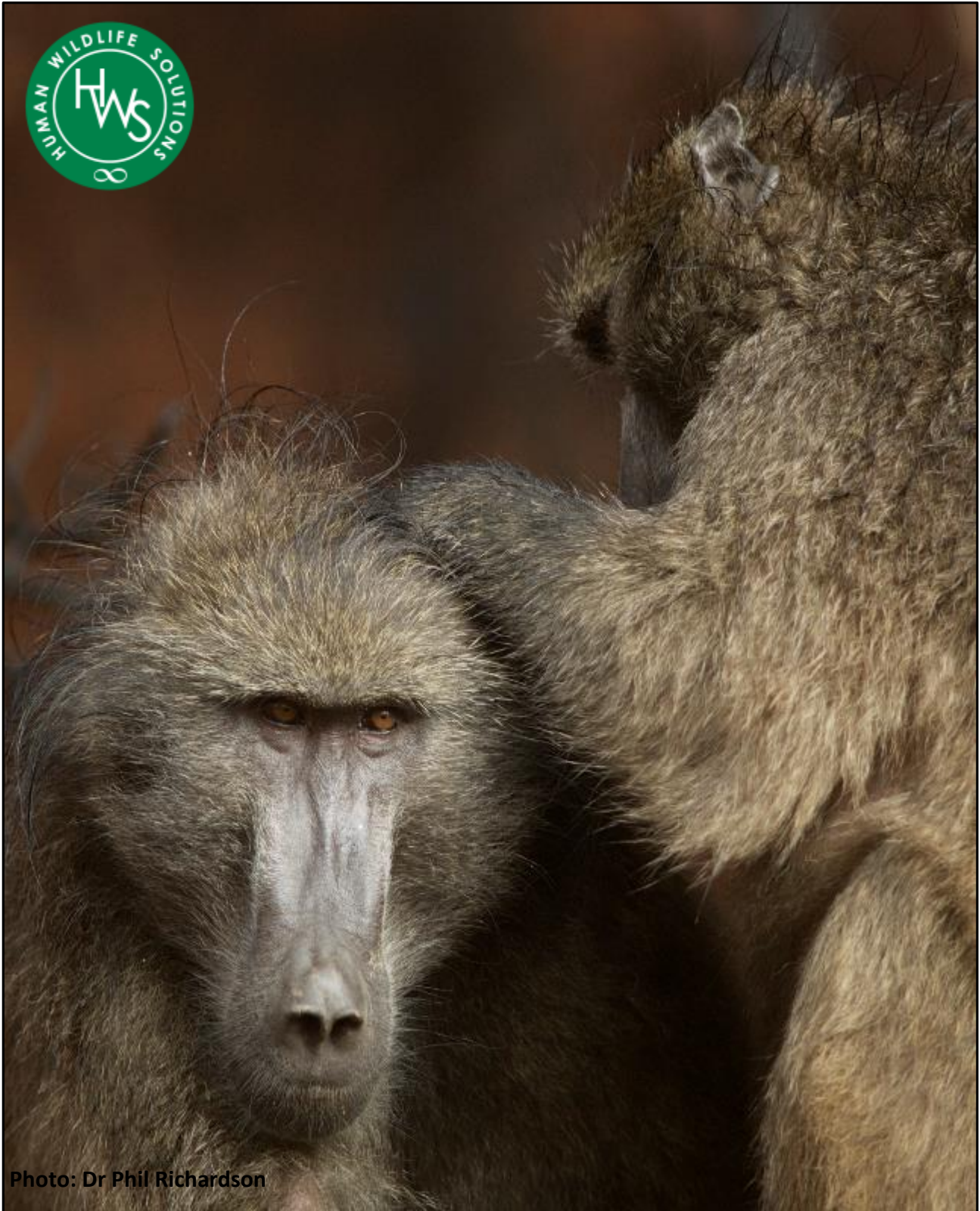


Photo: Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

April 2016

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A. INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period 26 March to 22 April 2016. The data for April have been very similar to those for March, and therefore still show the late summer pattern of feeding, with relatively low levels of raiding. The average troop time out of town this month was 99.5% which is remarkable given the time of year, the fires that occurred during this summer, and the long lasting effects of the March fire last year.

One of most notable events this month was the high levels of individuals raiding in Da Gama and Welcome Glen. This seemed to stem from a variety of factors including increased conflict amongst the males, a handicapped old female determined to raid, poor waste management, fruiting trees, and an increase in vegetable gardens being developed in Welcome Glen in recent months.

By contrast, the Misty Cliffs females now seem to have settled down and no longer sleep in Scarborough. As a group, the troop spent only 2.6% of their time in town this month, and individuals only spent 0.4% of their time in town. This is a huge improvement from December when the troop spent 51.3% of its time in town after the two pellet gun shootings.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

The Smitswinkel Bay Troop continued the trend from the previous month (see HWS March report 2016) and predominately utilized sleep sites in the northern region of their home range. The troop spent 64% of their nights roosting in the north region (Millers Point to Rocklands Farm) and 36% of their nights roosting in the south region, respectively.

The troop focused their foraging efforts on the vegetation around Castle Rock, Millers Point and Rocklands with occasional visits to forage above the Smitswinkel Bay Forestry Station. The troop made several excursions down to the intertidal zone to forage on nutritious marine organisms such as limpets, black mussels and mermaids' purses (an egg case surrounding the fertilized eggs of some sharks).

On 11 April, the refuse was collected late in the Bluegums area. This led to the troop being attracted to the bins around the house. The rangers managed to block the baboons, which prevented the troop's raiding attempt.

On 17 April, tourists were seen throwing biscuits out of an unmarked vehicle towards the baboons. Mrs. L. Holloway (Honorary Nature Conservation Officer) collected the food before the baboons could gain access to it, subsequently preventing the feeding. She then talked to the occupants of the vehicle and educated them with regards to the serious consequences of feeding baboons.

The troops' percentage time out of town remained similar to the previous month, with the troop spending 99.84% of their time out of town. The troop recorded five excursions into the urban area, when they passed through the houses on their way down to forage along the coastline. On five occasions the troop did not come down the mountain at all.

Only one bin raid was recorded for an individual over the reporting period. SWB9 was provided with an easy raiding opportunity when a refuse bag was left on the side of the road close to the marine reserve parking at Castle Rock. This bin raid can therefore be attributed to human negligence. No raids were recorded for SWB6. SWBF1 is an old female, who is currently carrying an infant. She had trouble keeping up with the troop even prior to having an infant. On five occasions she had to be moved away from the Black Marlin, where she attempted to forage on the wild banana's growing outside the restaurant.

There were three serious fights between SWB6 and SWB9. This behaviour is to be expected because SWB9 is now an adult and attempted to challenge SWB6 for leadership of the troop. This also led to the troop splitting on two occasions, however the rangers were able to push them together quite quickly.

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:	SMITS	2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																		
MONTH: April	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																		
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL	
Troop		1					1						1									1	1							5	
SWB6	M																													0	
SWBF1	F					1															1					1				3	
SWB9	M						2																							1	
UnID Male	M																													0	
UnID Females	F																									1				1	
UnID Juveniles																														0	
UnID Individuals																														0	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS			
Troop	0.16	10					5						5									5	5							0.50	
Individuals	0.08					7															5					3				0.25	
Roost:	AM	6	6	3	4	5	4	3	2	6	6	5	5	3	4	4	3	3	6	3	4	6	6	2	1	1	4	6	4		
Roost:	PM	6	3	4	5	4	3	2	6	6	5	5	3	4	4	3	3	6	3	4	6	6	2	1	1	4	6	4	5		
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. SWB9 - yellow/white tags + collar.																													
General remarks																															

Figure 1: April 2016 raid sheet for the Smitswinkel Troop

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop continued to predominantly sleep at the South African Ammunition Depot (SANAD) sleep site. The troop roosted at the SANAD sleep site for 21 nights over the reporting period. On four occasions the troop roosted on the southern side of the Klaasjagersberg Mountain, at the Cape of Good Hope Nursery (CoGH) sleep site. The troop also spent three nights roosting at the Red Hill sleep site.



Figure 2: April 2016 raid sheet for the Waterfall Troop

The troop focused their forage efforts on the mountain above SANAD, the Klaasjagersberg Mountain and behind Shamballah. They fed mainly on pine cones and invasive alien vegetation between the Cape Farm House and Shamballah. They have also started feeding on the fruits of *Opuntia*'s between Shamballah and Cape Farm House. They also foraged on indigenous fynbos vegetation on the surrounding mountain slopes. The troop predominately drank from two water sources, namely, a spring located at Shamballah and a spring located above the SANAD fence line.

There has been no improvement at the SANAD facility with regards to waste management and baboon-proofing since the March 2016 reporting period. Over this reporting period, bins often containing food items, were left outside of the kitchen and security offices. These bins are not baboon-proof and serve as a major attractant to the baboons. It is for this reason that several incidents were recorded at SANAD over this reporting period. Of great concern is that the alpha male, TK42, raided there on at least four occasions, and he was joined on two occasions by CON4.

The increase in raiding at SANAD is of major concern as this trigger's the raiding behaviour in the individuals and it can extend to other areas. During this reporting period, CON4, also attempted to enter the Red Hill settlement, but was fortunately blocked. TK19 also attempted to raid at the Cape Farm House restaurant, but the rangers successfully blocked him before he could raid.



Figure 3: Bins raided at the SANAD security offices.

The troop spent no time in town during April. On 19 April, several unidentified baboons entered the Shamballah Holistic Centre. The baboons gained access through an open window. The premises were unoccupied at the time which allowed the baboons to remain inside for 20 minutes. The baboons raided the kitchen before the rangers managed to push them out.

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:	WATERFALL	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																							
MONTH: April	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																							
BABOON ID	Sex	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	TOTAL
Troop																														0
CON4 (B)	M						2				2																			2
TK19 (R - W)	M																							2	2					2
TK42 (B - Y)	M						2														2, 7				2			2		5
WFF3	F																													0
WFF4	F																													0
UnID Females	F						2												2			2			2					4
UnID Juveniles																														0
UnID Male	M																													0
UnID Individuals											2					2										5				3
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS				
Troop	0.00																													0.00
Individuals	0.00																													0.00
Roost:	AM	10	10	9	9	11	10	10	10	10	10	9	11	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Roost:	PM	10	9	9	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	11	10	11	10	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Roost Sites		1 Waterfall Cliff				2 Happy Valley Mtn				3 Signal School				4 Waterfall Barracks				5 Mountain Residents side												
		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 SANAD Facility				19				20												
ID Features of Baboons		TK42 - Collar & Blue/Yellow tags; TK19 - Collar & Red/White tags; CON4 - Collar & Blue tag																												
General remarks																														

Figure 4: Waterfall Troop movement during April 2016. SANAD raids indicated in red italics and non-urban raids indicated in black bold italics.

3. Da Gama

The management of individuals continued to be extremely difficult for this reporting period. Individuals spent 22% of their time in town, which is exceptional high for this area. The troop has stayed out of town 99% of the time. The high percentage time in town by individuals can be attributed to a several factors.

Currently the Da Gama Troop has several males, TK43, who is the alpha male, SK3, who is the beta male. DG14 & DG15 are both older sub-adults, who are attempting to assert their dominance and challenging the older males for status in the troop. There are also two younger sub-adults, DG16 and DG17, and several juvenile males that form raiding parties to raid in town. With the increased fighting amongst TK43, SK3, DG14 and DG15 the result is a tendency to break away from the troop with females/juveniles, and form raiding parties to raid in town.

SK3 has been particularly difficult to manage as he has been following a female, DGF4, who frequently enters town. DGF4 has one hand folded together in a fist, which means that she is impaired and at times struggles keeping up with the troop. She is also a low ranking female and is actively staying away from any conflict situations.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																									
SECTOR				CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																					
SOUTH EAST				1	In urban area							4	Attacking pets							7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																				
BABOON TROOP:		DA GAMA		2	Raid bins							5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle							8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																				
MONTH: April		YEAR: 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	TOTAL											
Troop		1	1		1	2		1																						5											
SK3	M	1	2	1		2,2	3,5	2,6,6		2,2,2	1	1	2	1	1		2		2,2,2,7	1	1	1	2,2	1	1	2,2	1	2,2	1	35											
DG14 (O-G)	M	1				2,2	7,6			2,2,2	5	2	1	2											1	2,2,2		1		17											
DG15 (R)	M		1			2	6			2,2,2,5	5		2	2		1		1					1		1	2,2,2				17											
DG16	M	1																												1											
TK43 (W-W)	M									1		1			4			1			7						9			6											
DGF1 (B-W)	F																													0											
DGF2	F																													0											
UnID Female	F									2,2,2,5										2,2	1								1	8											
UnID Females	F	1				2,2,2	6			1	1	2	2	2		1		1				1		1			2,2,2			17											
DGF4	F	1	1			2,2	3,5	2,6,6		2,2,2,5	2,2,2	1	1	2		1				1	1	1	2,2	1		2,2		1		29											
UnID Individuals		1	2,2,2			2,2,2	6,6	3,5		2,2,2,5	5					1						1		1						19											
UnID Juvs												1						1					1							3											
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																							HRS															
Troop	1.0	30	25		60	15		70																						3.33											
Individuals	22.0	60	125	15		116	255	295	85	197	84	160	260	250	70	391		134		90	135	220	400	260	262	5	83	90	214	70.93											
Roost:	AM	20	3	2	1,2	3	2	2	2	1,2,8	1,2	1,2,3	1,2	2	2	1,2,3	1,2	2	5	1,2	1,2	2	2,3	2,8	1,2	1,2,3	1,2	2	1,2												
Roost:	PM	3	2		1,2	3	2	2	2	1,2,8	1,2	1,2,3	1,2	2	2	1,2,3	1,2	2	5	1,2	1,2	2	2,3	2,8	1,2	2	1,2	2	1,2	2,8											
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: April 2016 raid sheet for the Da Gama Troop

Apart from the last two weeks of the reporting period, the waste management at the Da Gama Naval flats had deteriorated to similar situations seen in 2012. Baboon Liaison Group (BLG) members, Lorraine Holloway and Kimberley Leeuwner, embarked on a project to educate residents at the flats on how to use the new bin bay efficiently. This training was very successful and has significantly improved the waste management at the flats.

Following meetings between August and November 2015, the City of Cape Town Solid Waste Department undertook to collect waste at the Naval Flats at 07h30 on waste collection day. The aim was to remove the attraction of waste as early as possible. Regretfully, waste is now being collected much later. For example, on 13 April, the waste was only collected after 15h00.

The rangers now have a system in place, that bins/waste is placed in the bin bay. If waste is not collected by the time that the Naval cleaning staff leave, the rangers take the bins out for the waste truck. This seems to have alleviated the situation to a degree as the bins/bags are out of sight of the baboons.

The new bin bay at the Kroonseil flats is almost finalised and construction at the Bluefin flats has started. The door at the Kroonseil flats has proven to be baboon-proof so far, as they have not discovered that both knobs need to be twisted at the same time (see image below)



Figure 6: (a) Double door knobs at the bin bay cage. (b) Alpha female attempting to open the door by twisting only one door knob.

Pamphlet drops are being organised to get the Welcome Glen and the Da Gama Park community. The purpose is to get the communities back on board with baboon-proofing houses, bins and all vegetable gardens or fruit trees, as well as compost heaps.



Figure 7: Da Gama Troop movement during April 2016.

Births and Deaths

There were two births in the Smitswinkel Troop on 14 and 17 March 2016.

There was one birth in the Da Gama Troop on 22 March 2016.

There were no deaths in the South East during this reporting period.

Recommendations

- South African Navy 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 them outside on bin day.
- **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.
- **Keep locks on baboon proof bins locked at all times even on bin days**, as the trucks are able to open bins with the locks being locked.
- **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 to be baboon-proofed and residents should refrain from growing fruit trees in baboon affected areas, or remove fruit from trees.
- **Waste management and the security office kitchen, at SANAD** (South African Naval Ammunition Depot), should be baboon-proofed, as this is attracting baboons into the facility.
- Electric fencing around SANAD should be kept on if possible, **and if it is off, security guards should inform the rangers, or alert the hotline.**

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. HWS rangers continued to monitor the GOB Troop through the use of telemetry equipment, obtaining a signal from GOB7's collar.

The rangers attempted many times to find a signal from GOB7's collar. However, the signal was weak and intermittent. This indicates that the troop spent the month deep inside the CoGH Reserve.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

The Misty Cliffs Troop have spent the majority of the month sleeping on the cliffs behind Misty Cliffs. They spent 22 nights roosting on these cliffs and only three nights on the cliffs between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. They also spent three nights sleeping close to the Scarborough beacon, a new sleep site, which will be known as the “Scarborough Beacon” sleep site.



Figure 8: Misty Cliffs Troop movement for the April 2016.

The troop concentrated their forage efforts to the mountain behind Misty Cliffs. They fed on new bulbs and shoots that have pushed through the soil after the January fire swept through the area. The vegetation has slowly made a comeback in certain areas and green patches can be seen on the mountain slopes. The stream that runs alongside Misty Cliffs has begun to flow, so it provided a constant fresh water supply to the troop.

Fixed-point photographs have been taken every six weeks to monitor the vegetation re-growth in the troop's home range. There has been a definite re-growth, which can be seen in figure 10 below. Figure 10 (a) and (b) were taken near the stream alongside Misty Cliffs, on the west facing mountain slope. Figure 10 (c) and (d) were taken in the Baskloof Nature Reserve, with no natural water source in the area.



Figure 9: Fresh new bulbs and shoots above Misty Cliffs.

There is a noticeable difference between the re-growth patterns. The west facing mountain slope behind Misty Cliffs seems to be recovering at a faster rate than the Baskloof Plateau above. However, the troop is still moving into this area to feed on the available forage.



Figure 10: Fixed-point photographs indicating vegetation re-growth above Scarborough and on Baskloof Nature Reserve.

They would move off their cliff sleep site, above Misty Cliffs, onto the Baskloof plateau and make their way to the Stone House. They spent their days in this area foraging and grooming, strengthening social bonds, before they made their way back to their sleep site in the evening. This was the preferred “forage route” for the troop this month.

The troop as a whole raided bins on one occasion. A huge thanks needs to go out to BLG Representative Graham Nobel and Fran Gebhardt for their tireless work regarding waste management in Scarborough. Between them, they have managed to replace 57 of the 69 non baboon-proof bins that needed replacement.

There has been a noticeable decrease in time in town for individuals this month. This is solely due to the absence of MCF5 from Scarborough. In March 2016, MCF5 and her two infants spent 28% of the month out of town (see March 2016 HWS report). In April 2016, MCF5 spent 99.6% of the month out of town. She has re-joined the troop and has not slept in town at all this month.

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: April		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	TOTAL	
UnId Females		F											1						2							2					3	
MCF5		F																													0	
Juveniles																															0	
Troop									2						1									1				1			4	
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS					
Troop		2.6							120						360													30			8.50	
Individuals		0.4											20						30					20							1.17	
Roost:		AM	2	2	2	6	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2,6	2	2	2	2		
Roost:		PM	2	2	6	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
Roost Sites			1	Misty Cliffs 1					2	Misty Cliffs 2					3	Witsand					4	CoGH Reserve					5	Other				
			6	Scarborough Beacon																												
ID Features of Baboons																																
General remarks			New Infant seen on 01 April																													

Figure 11: April 2016 raid sheet for the Misty Cliffs Troop.

There was one birth noted in the Misty Cliffs Troop this month. The only adult female that was not carrying an infant gave birth on 01 April 2016. This now takes the troop to 5 adult females, 4 yearlings (roughly 9mths – 1.5yrs) and 2 infants (up to 9mths).

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 17 nights sleeping on the cliffs and 11 nights sleeping in the pine trees behind Ocean View. Again, this month, there was a noticeable increase in the troop's use of the lower lying pines behind Ocean View as a sleep site.

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:		2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																	
MONTH: April		3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																	
YEAR: 2016																														
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	TOTAL
DG6	M														1					2					2					3
SKF1	F																													0
SKF2	F																													0
SK6 (Sub-adult)	M														1					2					2					3
Juveniles																									2					1
Unid Males	M																								1					1
Unid Females	F									1					1					2					1	2				5
Troop		2			2			2			2		2									2			2				2	8
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS			
Troop	1.5	10			30			38			10		10								74				83			30		4.75
Individuals	0.4									10					15					5				7	44					1.35
Roost:	AM	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3
Roost Sites				1	Slangkop				2	Ocean View				3	Compass Bakery				4	Witsand				5	Other					
ID Features of Baboons																														
General remarks																														

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

There has been a noticeable increase, this month, in the troop's presence in the urban area. In March 2016, the troop was out of town for 98.8% of the month (see March 2016 HWS Report). In April 2016, the troop was out of town for 98.5% of the month. This increase of time in the urban area is coupled with an increase of bin raids as can be seen on figure 12 above. All bin raids, that took place this month, occurred at In2Foods (the old Compass Bakery) on Kommetjie Road.

On 18 April 2016, the troop spent the longest amount of time in town. They spent 83 minutes raiding the bins at In2Foods Compass Bakery. A site inspection was conducted of the facility to determine what acted as an attractant for the troop. The complete lack of waste management was clear. Bags of food waste were piled up outside the baboon-proof cage, providing easy access for the baboons. The piles of waste clearly acted as an attractant for the baboons to the area.



Figure 13: Piles of food waste at the rear of In2Foods Compass Bakery acting as an attractant to the baboons.

The troop concentrated their forage activity along the stream between Ocean View and the Compass Cliffs sleep site. They also spent time foraging, grooming and playing near the Rasta Camp. While there, they continued to feed on the new shoots and bulbs that pushed through after the fire.



Figure 14: Slangkop Troop movement for the April reporting period.

Births and Deaths

There was 1 birth recorded in the Misty Cliffs Troop this month.

Recommendations

- **Removal of Invasive Alien Vegetation:** The patches of invasive alien vegetation situated above Ocean View and below the Compass Cliff 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.
- **Baboon-proofing bins and homes:** Scarborough residents are requested to baboon-proof their bins and homes and remember that access to human derived foods act as attractants to baboons.
- **Fruit Trees and Vegetable Gardens:** Scarborough residents are requested either to remove their fruit trees, or to remove all their fruit, so that it does not act as an attractant to baboons. Similarly, all vegetable gardens should be securely fenced.
- **Baboon-proofing waste bins at In2Foods:** Request in2Foods Compass Bakery to use the existing baboon-proof cage area at their facility. This will assist with management of the area as the facility will no longer act as an attractant to the baboons.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop used its entire home range this month. This included the lower lying areas around Porter Estate, as well as Silvermine Reserve and the upper slopes of Constantiaberg (Figure 15). The Tokai Troop foraged on the Buitenverwachting vineyards almost every day, often coming down in the afternoons to enter the farm.

Raids took place on four days this month (Figure 16). This included both urban and non-urban raids. In total, individual baboons from the Tokai Troop spent 0.3% (55 minutes) of their time in town this month.



Figure 15: Tokai Troop movements for April 2016.

Chrysalis Academy was again difficult to manage during the beginning stages of this month. Baboons took advantage of any bins or the kitchens left exposed. HWS rangers worked hard to prevent many raids from occurring. On 9 April, the student program at Chrysalis Academy ended, and for the remainder of April the campus had no students present. This made baboon management on Chrysalis Academy easier during April.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																			
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																	
NORTH		1	In urban area				4	Attacking pets				7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																						
BABOON TROOP:		Tokai				2	Raid bins				5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																		
MONTH: April		YEAR: 2016				3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																		
BABOON ID		Sex	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	TOTAL				
TK28 (B-G)		M													7		2												2		3				
TK16 (W-W)		M																						6						2	2				
TK 47 (White)		M																					1								1				
TK48 (RED)		M															2														1				
MT3 (Pu-B)		M																					1	1							2				
TK 45 (Untagged)		M															5														1				
Tokai Troop																															0				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS									
Troop	0.0																														0.00				
Individuals	0.3																						15	20						20	0.92				
Roost:	AM	14	14	14	14	1	7	1	1	1	14	14	14	14	1	1	1	7	7	14	14	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1					
Roost:	PM	14	14	14	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	14	14	1	1	1	7	7	1	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1					
Roost Sites			1 Tea Garden				2 Lev 1 Zwk Gums				3 Lev 2 stream				4 Lev 4 Pines				5 Upper Tea Garden																
			6 Manor House				7 Picnic site 1				8 Picnic site 2				9 Middle Plantation				10 Chrysalis																
			11 Silvermine pines				12 Level 3 Mixed plantation				13 Level 3 Pines				14 Other				15																
ID Features of Baboons																																			
General remarks																																			

Figure 16: April 2016 raid sheet for the Tokai Troop.

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

The Zwaanswyk Troop used a similar home range to the Tokai Troop this month, encompassing the lower and higher sections of Constantiaberg, as well as Silvermine Reserve (Figure 17).

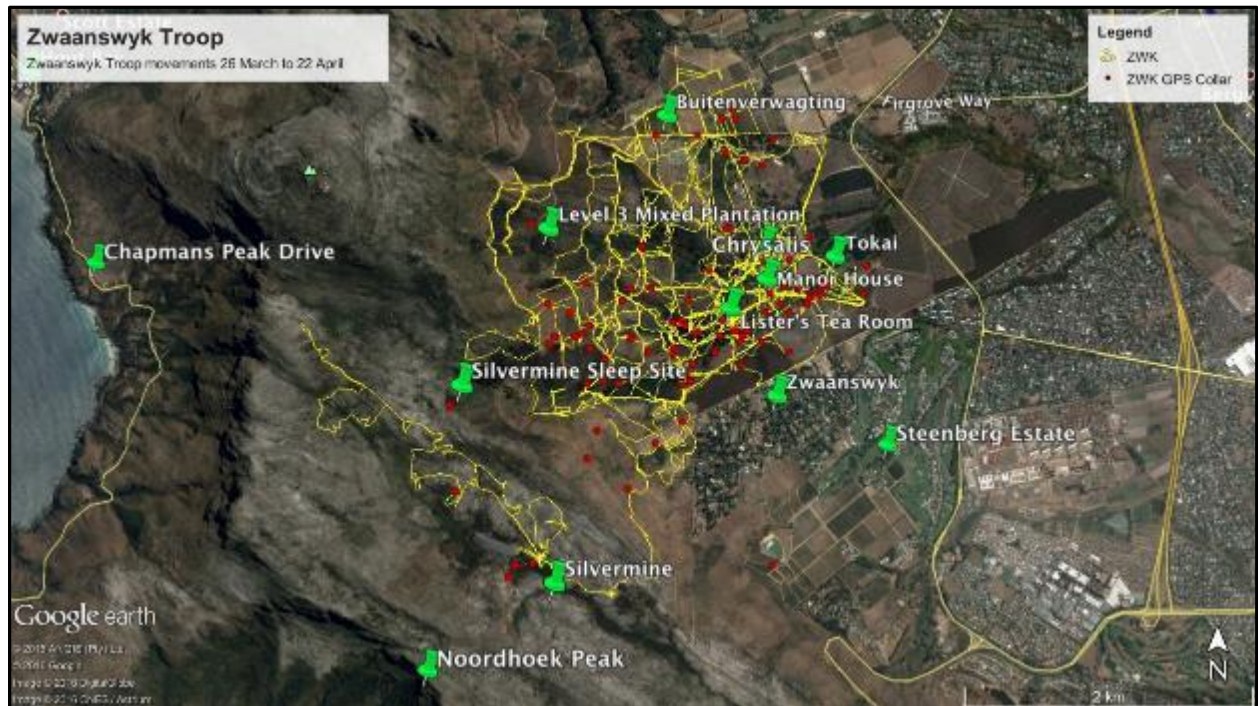


Figure 17: Troop movements of the Zwaanswyk Troop in April. Red dots indicate the GPS collar on MT2, the alpha male. Yellow lines indicate ranger movements monitoring the Zwaanswyk Troop.

Several adult males from the Tokai Troop (TK16, TK47 and TK48) attempted to spend time in the Zwaanswyk Troop this month. The alpha male, MT2, was seen chasing, displacing and challenging these males when they were near. These were clear signs that he was asserting his dominance towards these males to keep them away from the troop. The result was that no Tokai males stayed in the Zwaanswyk Troop for more than two days at a time.

A major concern this month was the sudden assertive and brazen behaviour displayed by young adult male, TK49. TK49 is natal to the Tokai Troop but moved between some of the North Troops this month, spending most of his time with the Zwaanswyk Troop. Surprisingly, MT2 did not fight with TK49, but rather joined him in his raiding activities.

TK49 often left the Zwaanswyk Troop and ran to Chrysalis Academy alone to try and raid. For a large proportion of April, TK49 followed this pattern every morning. On 31 March 2016, TK49 was tagged to allow for easier identification.

On 9 April 2016, while in Silvermine Reserve, TK49 displayed brazen behaviour and raided four bags. The dam was teeming with people and HWS rangers were not able to prevent these from occurring. On 10 April 2016, TK49 attempted to spend time with the Mountain Troop, but was chased out by a large untagged adult male in this troop. This male chased TK49 down Tokai Road, towards Forest Glade. This was TK49's first urban incursion.

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: April	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	TOTAL	
MT2 (Yellow+collar)	M		1						5							2	5										2		5	6	
TK 49 (R-Y)	M	5						5,7	2							5,5,5,7	1,5					1	1,6							14	
TKF5 (Green)	F																													0	
TKF7 (Red)	F															2														1	
Zwaanswyk Troop																														0	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS	
Troop	0.0																														
Individuals	2.4		15														20					195	240							7.83	
Roost:	AM	11	11	11	11	8	8	1	6	11	11	11	11	1	8	6	12	7	11	14	14	1	6	6	1	12	6	6	1		
Roost:	PM	11	11	11	8	8	1	6	6	6	1	7	1	8	6	12	11	14	1	1	1	6	6	1	12	1	1	1	1		
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 plantation				14	Level 3 Pines				15	Other								
ID Features of Baboons																															
General remarks																															

Figure 18: April 2016 raid sheet for the Zwaanswyk Troop. Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.

On 15 and 16 April 2016, TK49 ventured into Zwaanswyk and spent 3 hours 15 minutes and 4 hours respectively in properties on Zwaanswyk Road. HWS Rangers were denied access to these properties, and hence were not able to move TK49 back to the Zwaanswyk Troop efficiently.

3. Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)

The CT1 Troop continued to forage on the upper slopes of Vlakkenberg, above the Constantia Wine farms for the majority of April (Figure 19). The Klein Constantia rangers moved the troop from their sleep site in the mornings to the upper slopes, where they stayed for the remainder of the day. The CT1 Troop would then move down the mountain back to the farm at about 17h00, once the Klein Constantia rangers had left for the day.



Figure 19: Troop movements of the CT1 Troop in April.

Interestingly, this movement pattern has become a habit, because it required very little active input from the Klein Constantia rangers. On 7 April 2016, Dr Dorothy Breed was in Constantia to attempt to dart and tag adult males in the CT1 Troop. HWS requested that the Klein Constantia rangers do not move the troop off the farm until tagging operations are concluded. Without any pushing, the CT1 Troop came down from the trees and started moving off the farm and up the mountain. Tagging operations were hence unsuccessful, because the troop were inaccessible once in the higher slopes of Constantiaberg.

The CT1 Troop also spent some time on the northern side of Vlakkenberg, near Price Drive. HWS rangers monitored the troop here and prevented them from entering the urban area. On 30 March 2016, while the HWS rangers were tracking two males moving towards Price Drive, half of the troop managed to break the line and entered the urban area. The CT1 Troop was able to move past rangers undetected because the invasive alien vegetation along this line has become so thick that it cloaks the baboons' movements. The CT1 Troop was discovered as soon as they entered Price Drive. They did not enter any properties before being moved back to the natural vegetation on the mountain 10 minutes later. This is a stark reminder that although the CT1 Troop is a largely non-raiding troop, they will not pass up an opportunity to enter the urban area.

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: April		3	Non malicious damage				6	Raid occupied house or vehicle				9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
YEAR: 2016																																											
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	TOTAL													
TK33 (R-O)	M					1																								1													
CON1 (untagged)	M																													0													
CON2 (B-O)	M					2																								1													
CON6 (O) Collar	M																													0													
CON7 (P-G)	M																													0													
CON 8 (Purp)	M																													0													
CON 9 (B-Y)	M																													0													
MT1 (G-W)	M																													0													
Troop						1																								1													
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS																	
Troop	0.1					10																								0.17													
Individuals	0.2					30																								0.50													
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	1	8	1	1	3	3	3	3	6	3	6	6	6	3	3	3	1	8	8	8	1	1	1	1														
Roost:	PM	10	10	10	10	1	8	1	1	3	3	3	3	6	3	6	6	6	3	3	3	8	8	8	1	1	10	10	10														
Roost Sites				1				Upper Gums				2				Lower Gums				3				Bike Trail Gums				4				Middle Plantation KC				5				McKenzie's			
				6				Buiten gums				7				Block 10 gums				8				Castle gums				9				Veels-te-ver				10				Other			
ID Features of Baboons																																											
General remarks																																											

Figure 20: April 2016 raid sheet for the CT1 Troop.

4. Constantia Troop 2 (CT2)

Following the patterns of the CT1 Troop, CT2 was also pushed out of Klein Constantia and Buitenverwachting estates in the mornings and moved up the mountain. This troop moved up to Vlakkenberg, where no raiding opportunities exist, and hence was not actively monitored on a daily basis.

On 17 April, a hotline call was received with notification that a troop of baboons were heard above Blue Valley Avenue, in Hout Bay. HWS rangers were on the Constantia side of the mountain, and took an hour to get around to investigate. They did not find any baboons on the Hout Bay side of the mountain after searching the area thoroughly. Later in the day the CT2 Troop was found in Langboskloof (a valley between Constantiaberg and Vlakkenberg). Given this position, the possibility of this troop being on the Hout Bay side earlier in the day was entirely plausible.

5. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop continued to sleep in the blue gum trees at Veels-Te-Ver, and like CT1 and CT2, were pushed away from Buitenverwachting in the mornings. The Mountain Troop either moved up the mountain, or traversed south into the Tokai Plantation.

TK49, from the Zwaanswyk Troop, spent some exploratory time with the Mountain Troop this month. However, it appeared the males in the Mountain Troop were not open to new males in their troop, and chased TK49 away each time.

It was noted that the Mountain Troop was very spread out this month. A possible reason for this is that the troop can cover a wider area in order to find enough forage in Tokai Plantation, which is now predominantly covered in invasive alien vegetation.

Births and Deaths

No deaths in the North in April.

Two births, one in CT1 and another in CT2.

Recommendations

- **Chrysalis Academy.** Students and staff to be educated about the importance of using baboon-proof bins correctly. The feeding of baboons on the Chrysalis Academy needs to be discouraged. A training programme is proposed.
- **The Invasive Alien Vegetation** along Price Drive (SANParks land) should be removed immediately. This vegetation makes watching and moving baboons from this line incredibly difficult.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

There were seven births and no deaths in the managed troops this month. Interestingly most of the births were in the southern troops, and not the northern troops which traditionally have been the faster growing troops for many years. The fast population growth in the north has been ascribed to their much greater access to human derived foods, particularly agricultural products like pine nuts, grapes and barley.

If one considers the 2016 data to date (Table 1), it is evident that the northern troops have not grown at all, having eight births and eight deaths this year. This lack of growth could possibly be ascribed to the almost complete disappearance of the pine plantations over the past year. More disturbing is the vigorous

regrowth of invasive alien vegetation (pine, wattle, eucalyptus) and the minimal regrowth of fynbos across the plantations.

By contrast, the southern troops have had almost four times as many births as deaths this year (15:4), and for the first time since 2013 their population number has exceeded that of December 2012. In fact, this sub population has grown more during the past four months, than it has over any of the three preceding years. The reason for this good breeding success is not obvious, and must be considered over the coming months.

TROOP	Total December Populations				April 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			7	3		53
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	2			7	1		29
Waterfall	28	30	30	32				0	0	+1	33
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16				0	0	+1	17
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11	1			1	0	-1	11
Slangkop	33	32	36	41				0	0		41
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	5	0	0	15	4	1	184
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30				0	2		28
Tokai	61	65	72	62				4	2		64
Mountain	33	44	48	49				0	1		48
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77	2			4	3	-1	77
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	2	0	0	8	8	-1	217
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	7	0	0	23	12	0	401

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

There were no human induced deaths this month (Table 2).

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	Apr-16	2016 to date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	0	0	48
Human Induced (HID)	8	7	10	24	0	3	52
Direct **	8	6	6	8	0	1	28
Indirect ***	0	1	4	16	0	2	21
Natural	7	30	19	20	0	4	80
Unknown	1	3	0	4	0	5	13
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	0	12	193

Table 2: Causes of baboon deaths since 2012 (*Data collected during the first half of 2012 provided by Baboon Research Unit, UCT; ** Deaths caused directly by humans such as motor car accidents, shooting, poisoning and dogs; *** Deaths caused indirectly by humans such as electrocutions and human related fires).

Hotline Data

The hotline data this month are most notable for three issues. First, the relatively few calls from Scarborough (6); and secondly, the high number of calls from Da Gama (24) and Zwaanswyk. Thirdly, the success in keeping the baboons out of Scarborough (time out of town 97.4%) is confirmed by the relatively few calls from this village.

By contrast, Welcome Glen had by far the highest number of hotline calls. This has been ascribed to the turmoil amongst the males in the troop, the old and handicapped female DGF5 encouraging the male SK3 to go raiding with her, increasingly poor waste management at the Naval Flats, and fruiting trees and vegetables becoming increasingly available in town.

The removal of the pines in Tokai and the regrowth of invasive alien vegetation as opposed to fynbos, has encouraged the northern troops to expand their home ranges in search of food. One result of this, has been the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troops foraging beyond Zwaanswyk and crossing the Steenberg farm fence. In the past, this movement has been largely by individuals which have then jumped over the Steenberg fence to raid in Zwaanswyk. Recently however, some individuals jumped the fence and embarked on a raid in the homes on the Steenberg Farm estate. It is evident that if this trend is to be stopped, the Steenberg Farm fence will need to be properly baboon-proofed.

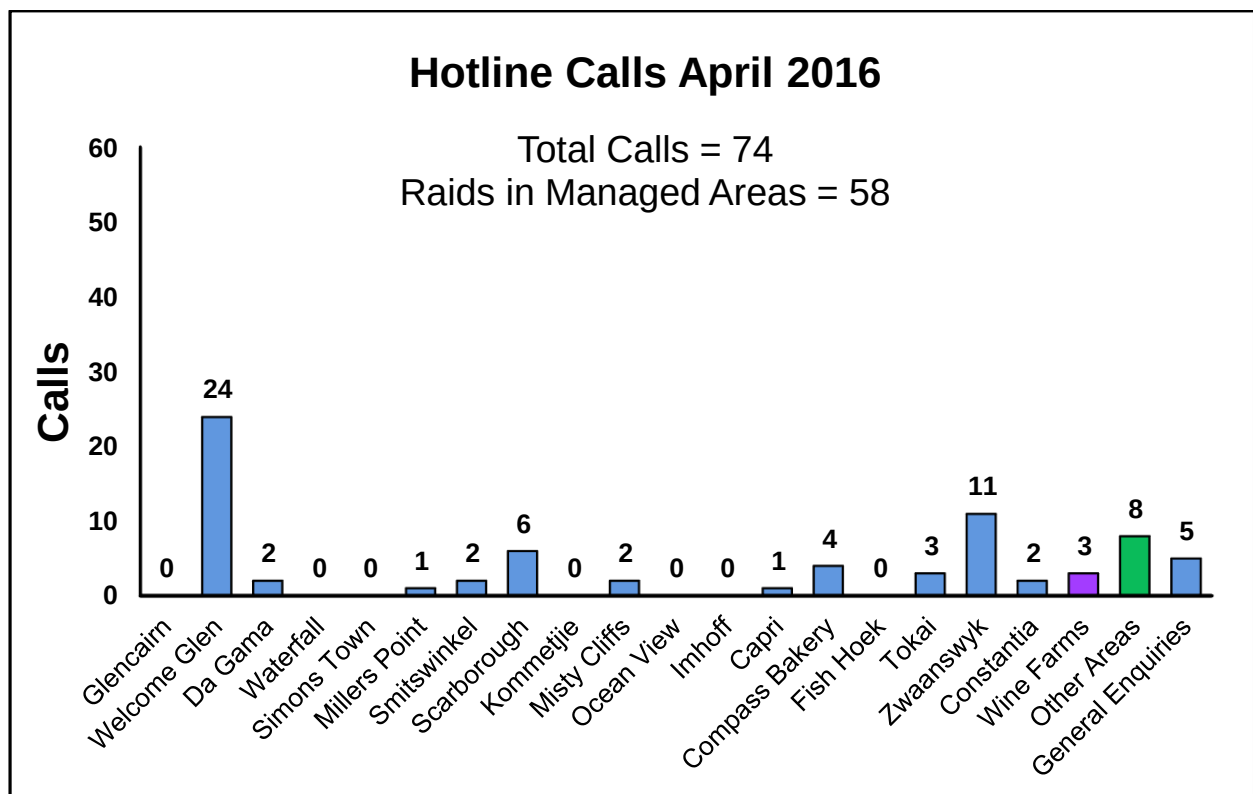


Figure 21: Hotline calls summary per urban area for April 2016.

The composition of hotline calls this month is slightly unusual with a relatively high numbers of bin raids and incidences of breaking and entering. Most of these incidents stem from the raiding parties in the Da Gama Troop, largely encouraged by poor waste management in Da Gama and Welcome Glen, and the increased availability of fresh food in gardens in Welcome Glen.

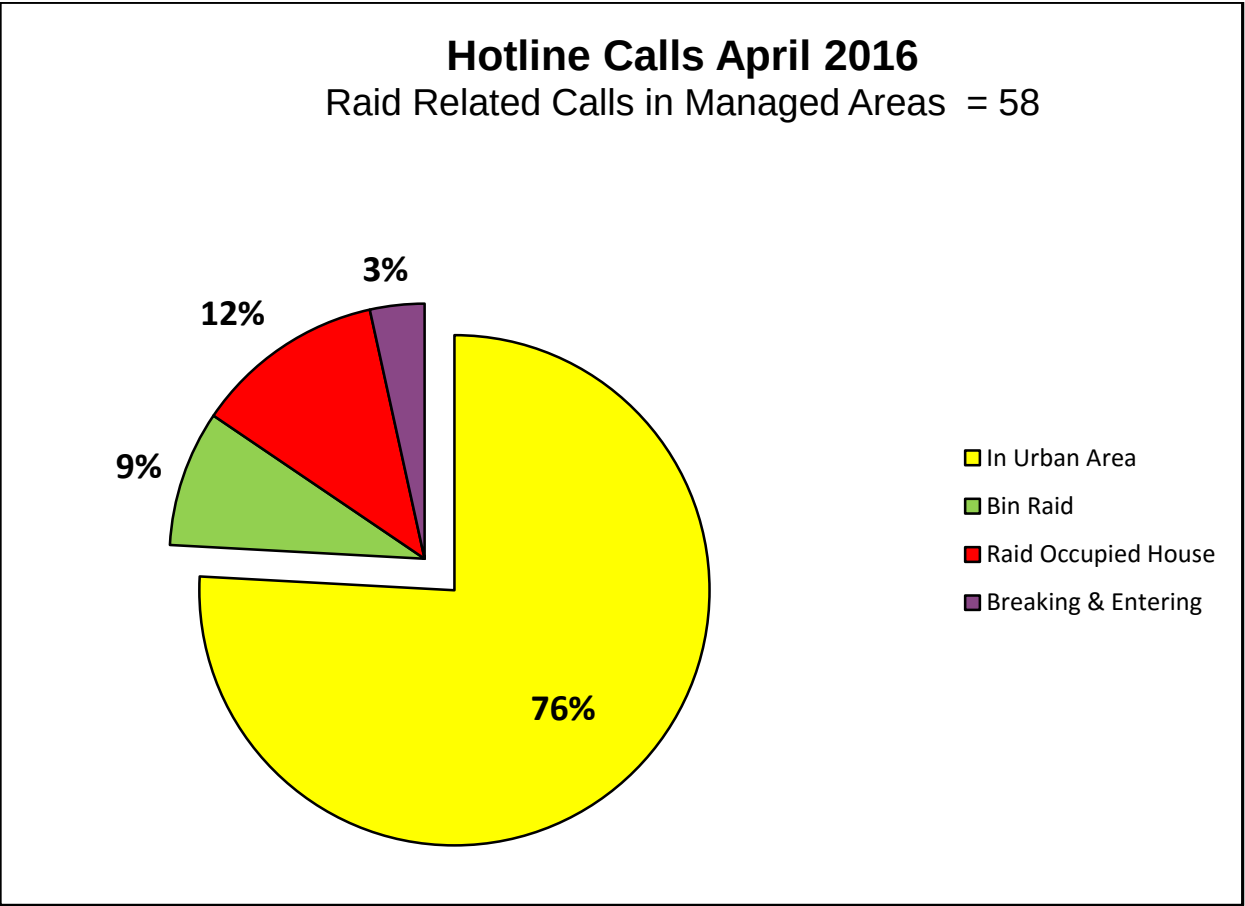


Figure 22: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during April 2016.

Percentage Time out of Town

The average percentage time troops spent out of town (99.5%) this month was encouragingly high for this time of year. Similarly, the average percentage time individuals spent out of town was also good (97.4%), despite the high levels of raiding by individuals from the Da Gama Troop. The reasons for this have been discussed above.

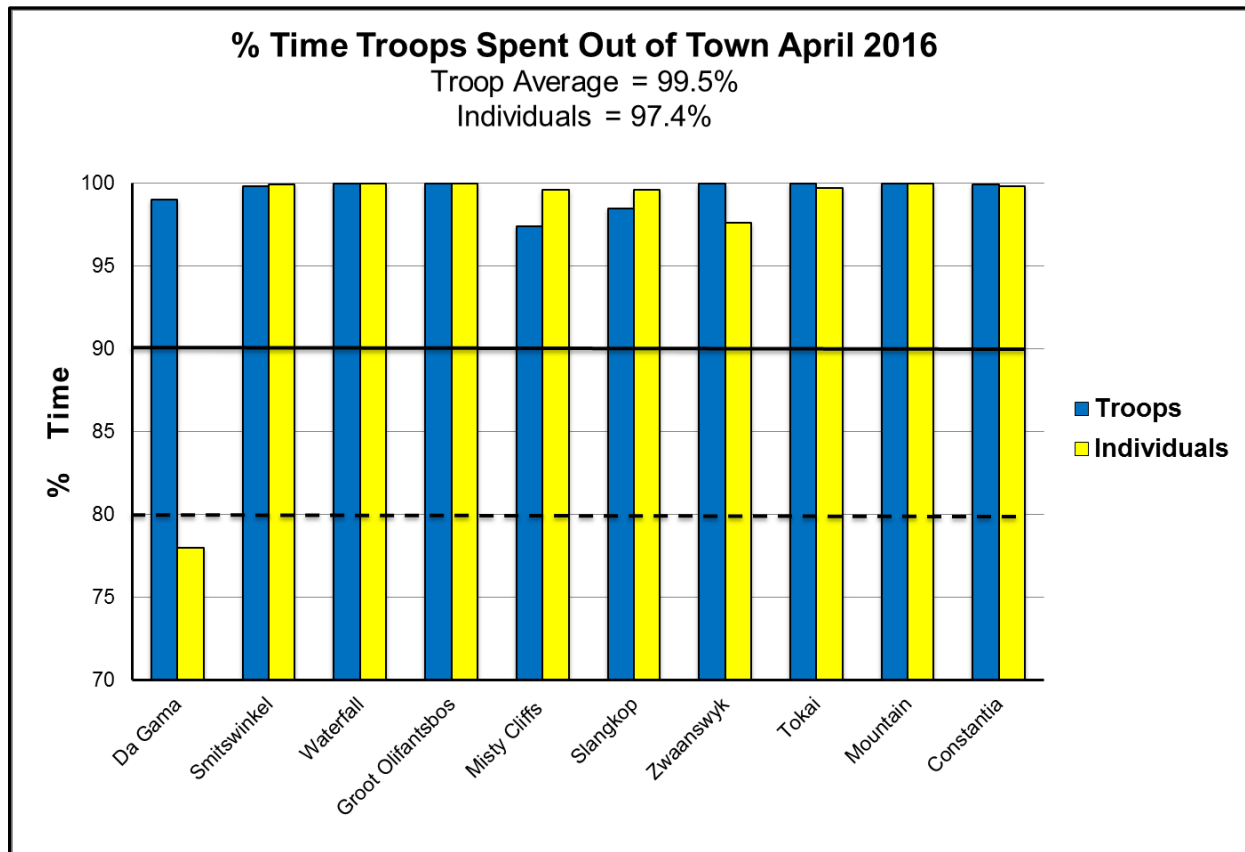


Figure 23: Percentage time troops spent out of town (April 2016). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement.

Conclusion

In general, the baboon troops were well-behaved this month, and averaged 99.5% of their time out of town. The Da Gama Troop was the worst behaved, particularly with reference to certain individuals in the troop which spent over 20% of their time in town. These raids were led by various males and one handicapped female, DGF5. Apart from turmoil between the males, poor waste management and access to fresh food in gardens contributed hugely towards encouraging these baboons to raid town.

A new development this month, has been that individuals from the Zwaanswyk and Tokai Troops have discovered that if they head east after crossing over the Steenberg Farm fence, they have the entire estate of houses to raid. In the past they have concentrated on heading north and raiding Zwaanswyk, which is far better prepared to chase baboons out of town.

Another interesting development this year, is that while the sub-population of northern baboon troops has remained stable (eight births and eight deaths), the normally slower growing southern sub-population has suddenly increased (15 births and four deaths this year). Furthermore, for the first time since 2013, the southern sub-population number has exceeded that of December 2012. Whether these population changes are reflecting availability of food, or are simply due to chance, will presumably be revealed over the rest of the year.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions