



Photo: Stephanus Ferreira

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

October 2016

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A. REPORTING PERIOD

This monthly report covers the period from 24 September to 28 October 2016. This is now definitely well into the summer season and yet still an unusually high number of hotline calls were recorded (231 calls with 187 being raid related). This pattern is very similar to that of the September 2016 report, in that almost all hotline calls were related to raids by individuals and not troops as a whole. Despite the high number of hotline calls, individuals still spent 94.5% of their time out of town, and troops were 99.8% out of town.

The highlight of this month's report, is the news that the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop has finally rejoined its parent troop, the GOB Troop. HWS has been working towards this for the past three years, ever since it was proved possible when the two Da Gama Troops joined back together. The Misty Cliffs Troop has been increasingly associating with the GOB Troop for the past two months, but now the two troops are consistently foraging and sleeping together.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Bay Troop

The Smitswinkel Bay Troop utilised the extent of its home range during October 2016. The troop foraged and roosted for 60 percent in the northern region and 40 percent in the southern region of its home range, respectively.

The troop continued to be difficult to manage without a VHF collar. On 5 October 2016, a functional VHF collar was fitted on SWB9. Unfortunately, SWB9 dispersed to the Plateau Road Troop on 6 October 2016, leaving the Smitswinkel Bay Troop without a collar again.

When troop was on the mountain it foraged on fynbos, coastal thicket vegetation and alien invasive vegetation. The troop foraged along the coast line on several occasions. The coastline running from Rocklands to Smitswinkel Bay has an abundant supply of protein and nutrient rich marine forage, such as mussels, limpets and mermaid's purses (egg cases of some sharks and skates).

The troop spent 20 minutes in the urban space in October 2016, in comparison to 145 minutes in September 2016. Time in town for individual baboons increased to 663 minutes in October 2016, in

comparison to 344 minutes in September 2016. The majority of time in town can be attributed to the raiding behaviour of SWB9.

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: OCTOBER		YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage														6	Raid occupied house or vehicle							9	Nocturnal Raiding											
BABOON ID		Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	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	TOTAL	
SWB6 (R-B)		M				1																			1			6	6	6								5	
Troop						1																															1		
UnID Individuals						1																															1		
UnID Fem		F				1																			2			6	1								4		
SWBF1		F			6	1																														2			
SWB9 (Y-W)		M			6,7	1	2,6,9	1	6	7,7	6	6,7,7						6		6		6					2							6	6		20		
UnID Male		M				1																															1		
UnID Juveniles						1																															1		
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS								
Troop		0.1				10					10																									0.33			
Individuals		3.4		120			45	10	15	220		210													15		20	5	3							11.05			
Roost:		AM	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	1	1	7	1	6	8	1	1	1	4	6	6	1	4	5	6	4	6	4	5	5	5	3	1		
Roost:		PM	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	6	1	1	7	1	6	3	8	1	1	4	6	1	4	5	6	5	6	4	5	1	5	5	3	2	8		
Roost Sites					1 Smits Caves							2 Partridge Point							3 Bluegums							4 Millers Point							5 Rocklands Farm						
ID Features of Baboons					6 Castle Rock							7 SANParks							8 Unkown							9							10						
General remarks					Red and <i>italics</i> indicates raiding at the Cape Ostrich farm by SWB9.																																		

Figure 1: Smitswinkel Bay Troop raid sheet for October 2016.

Throughout October 2016, SWB9 proved difficult to manage. Twenty raiding incidents were recorded for SWB9. These incidents included two bin raids, ten occupied house raids, five incidents of threatening behaviour and one incident of nocturnal raiding. SWB9 roosted and foraged on the periphery of the Plateau Road Troop. The males from the Plateau Road Troop continuously fought with SWB9, which has prevented him from joining the troop. The behaviour of SWB9 will be monitored closely and managed accordingly.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall Troop was challenging to manage during October 2016. This can be attributed to the majority of nights (20) spent roosting at the low-lying expanses above the Waterfall Naval Barracks. The topography in this area is steep and rocky, and in many areas, inaccessible to the rangers. However, the troop did roost at the high-lying areas at North Peak, Murdock Valley and SANAD (South African Naval Ammunition Depot) sleep sites on 15 occasions. On 24 October 2016, the troop returned to the south-western part of its home range (SANAD & Shamballah Holistic Centre). The troop roosted at the SANAD sleep site from 24 to 28 October 2016.

Conflict between the four adult males in the troop remains intense, however the structure and dynamics are now clearly defined. CON4 and TK19 have assumed the alpha and beta role, respectively. TK42 and GOB7 are the lowest ranking of the adult males.



Figure 2: The Waterfall Troop's movement for October 2016.

Similar to last month's report (September 2016), most of the raiding incidents and time in town occurred at the Waterfall Barracks, Happy Valley Home and the Simon's Town urban area. Poor waste management, limited baboon-proofing, fruit trees and deliberate feeding, provided the baboons with easy access to human derived foods (HDFs).

The troop entered the urban space on seven occasions in October 2016, and recorded 4.25 hours in town. A considerable decrease in time in town for individual baboons can be noted. In September 2016, individual baboons spent 41.40 hours in town, in comparison to 28.25 hours in town during October 2016.

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: OCTOBER	YEAR: 2016	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding																									
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	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	TOTAL													
Troop						2,3,5								1,2,5							1					1			2	2,5							11													
CON4 (B)	M								2						2	2						1												1	2		6													
GOB7	M		2								2,6								2							1					2	2			1		8													
TK19 (R-W)	M								2												2					2				2							4													
TK42 (B-Y)	M		1							2	2,6					6			2	2							2,2,2	2					2	2,2	1		15													
WFF3	F																																																	
WFF4	F																																																	
WFF5 (Y)	F								2								5																			2														
WFF6 (Red)	F																																																	
UnID Females	F		1	2		5				2	2,6			2,5	2,5	5,6		2,5	2			1					2,2	2			2	2		1		22														
UnID Juveniles						5			1	2,5				2,5	2,5	5	5	2,2,5			7						2,5		2		2					18														
UnID Male	M	2																				2														2														
UnID Individuals									2	2	5			2,5		2,5		2	1			1						2								11														
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																									HRS																						
Troop	1.3					15							15						30							25		25		30	115					4.25														
Individuals	8.8	5	10	30		60	45		75	110	165			60	40	185	150	195	140		65	30				35	70	55	90	40		5	15	10	10	28.25														
Roost:	AM	14	18	14	14	6	6	6	1,14	18	2	1	1	6	14	14	6	1	1	1	2	6	18	1	6	14	14	18	2	2	2	6	6	6	2	10	10	10												
Roost:	PM	18	14		6	6	6	14	18	2	1	2	14	14	6	6	1	1	2	2	18	6	6	6	14	14	18	2	2	2	6	6	6	6	10	10	10	10												
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	Murdock Valley										19											20				
ID Features of Baboons																																																		
General remarks		Red and Italics indicates raiding inside the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD). Black, Italics indicates raiding on farms.																																																

Figure 3: The Waterfall Troop raid sheet for October 2016.

Out of the adult males, fifteen raiding incidents were recorded for TK42, eight for GOB7, six for CON4 and four for TK19, respectively. A notable difference can be seen in the raiding behaviour of CON4 since it assumed the alpha male role. In September 2016, CON4 recorded 13 raiding incidents in comparison to six this month. Similar to last month, eighteen raiding incidents were recorded for juvenile baboons. This is of great concern, because the younger generation are learning to raid.

3. Da Gama Troop:

Over the last four years the October months have generally been good months in terms of time spent in town. In October 2012, the troop spent 6.4% of time in town, in 2013 4.9% and in 2014 it went down to 0.6% and 2015 was 0.7%. This year, the troop only spent 0.1% of their time in town during October. It also shows that there has been a general decrease over the last four years in the amount of time spent in town by the troop.

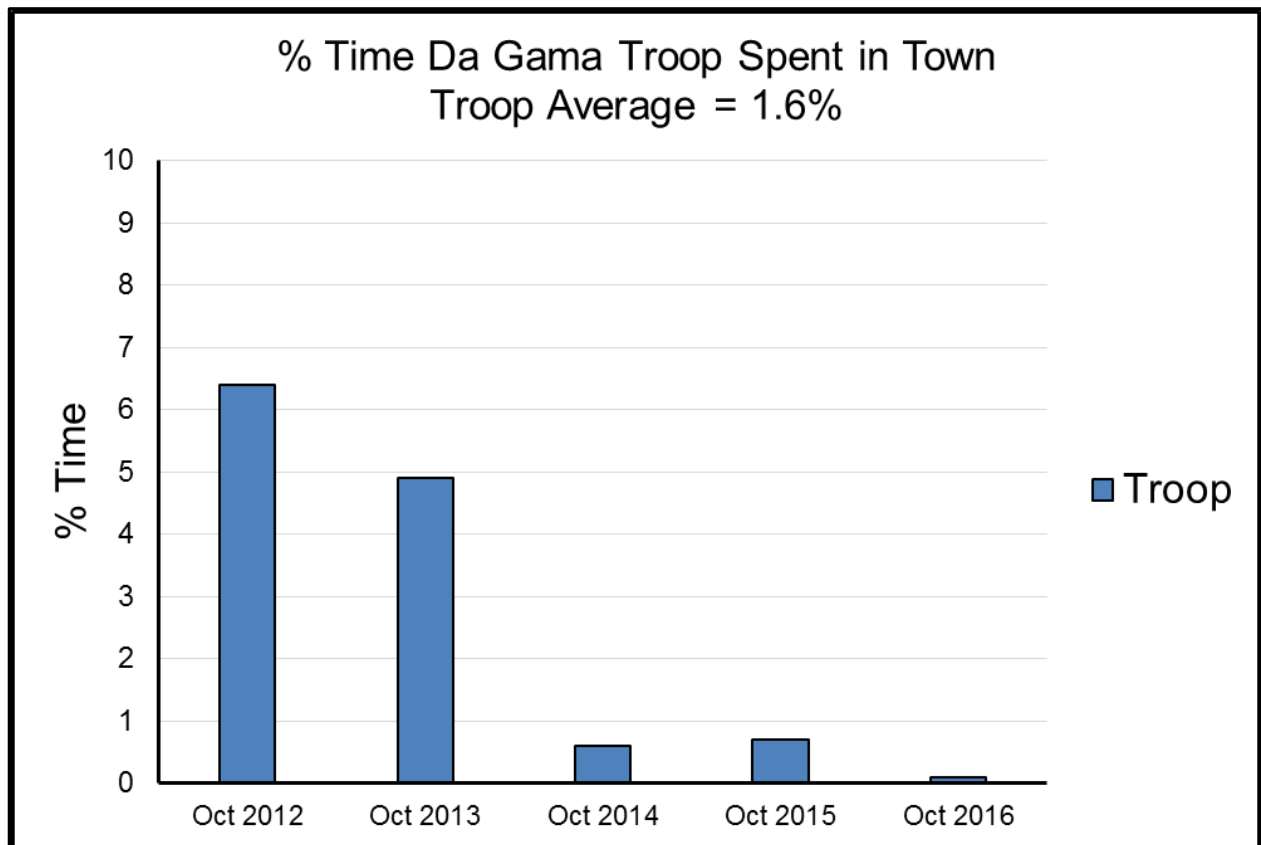


Figure 4: Percentage time the Da Gama Troop spent in town for the months of October, 2012 - 2016.

However, as with the previous months, the individuals remain the problem, with individuals spending 16.5% of time in town. The main problem individual is DG14, who has been recorded to have been in town on at least 30 occurrences this month. DG14 currently does not have a VHF collar and this makes it very difficult for the rangers to locate this baboon once they have lost visual of him. DG14 hid in town for several hours. Although DG14 did raid occasionally, he spent most of the time feeding from compost heaps, bird feeders, vegetable gardens and dustbins that he could gain access to.

On 26 September, an adult female baboon had an altercation with a dog in Da Gama Park. The dog was not contained inside a property but was roaming the streets. The dog followed the baboon to a house in Da Gama Park. The baboon tried to jump onto the roof, but slipped and fell. The dog then grabbed the baboon by the throat. Fortunately, HWS rangers responded very quickly and the baboon freed itself from the dog. The baboon was monitored very closely, but there was no visible evidence of any blood or injuries and the baboon was mobile.



Figure 5: The Da Gama Troop's movement for the October 2016. Red lines show movements of raiding individual baboons, and the yellow lines depict the troop's movements.

DG14 and DG15 continually fought throughout the month, the biggest fights were on 9 and 16 October, on both occasions DG15 won the fights, and DG14 was chased off. This meant that DG14 was not allowed close to the troop and he kept trying to run to town.

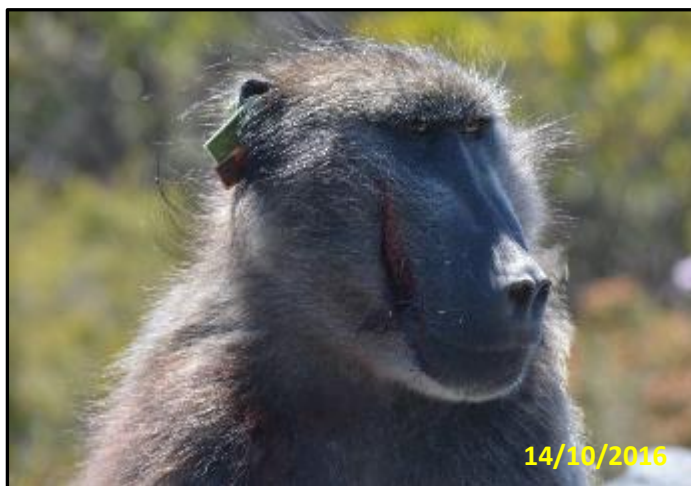


Figure 6: DG14 with injury to his face after fighting with Slangkop males

On 12 October, a fight occurred between five males from the Da Gama Troop and six males from the Slangkop Troop. Both troops were foraging in the valley above Ocean View, and came too close to each other. The males broke away from the troops to fight. DG14 and DG15 sustained some injuries during

DG16, 17 and 18 are all becoming more difficult to manage as they are at times attempting to challenge the adult males, as well as breaking from the troop and trying to enter town. With so many attractants available in town, it is very difficult to stop this behaviour. On 25 October, DG16 entered a house in Welcome Glen. He was startled when he saw the residents and then jumped off the kitchen counter onto a dog. The dog was unfortunately hurt, and sustained a back injury. The dog was immediately taken to a veterinarian by the owners.

Births and Deaths

One birth was reported in the Waterfall Troop on 18 October and two births were reported in the Da Gama Troop on 10 October. No deaths occurred in the South East during October 2016.

Recommendations

- Residents at the Naval flats in Da Gama Park, should place their **refuse bags inside the bins, inside the bin bay** and not leave it in front of the gate or on the floor.
- **New door knobs** need to be installed on the doors of the bin bays at the flats.
- **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.
- The new service provider for the removal of the waste on bin days, does not seem to have trucks that are able to open baboon proof bins, they open the bins by hand, and if the bins have locks on they hit the pins with rocks. **This needs to be addressed urgently, as baboon-proof bins are being damaged by this.**
- 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 at the Waterfall Barracks**, should be baboon-proofed, as this is attracting baboons into the facility.
- Residents at the Waterfall Barracks and Happy Valley Shelter **should keep their doors and windows closed when they are not there.**
- **Law enforcement is urgently needed** in Welcome Glen and Da Gama Park **to prevent the illegal use paintball markers and pellet guns by residents**, who use these to deter baboons.
- **The Black Marlin Restaurant should baboon-proof the restaurant and waste, as well as raise awareness** amongst their patrons about the presence of baboons in the area.
- **Waste management** at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) urgently needs to be addressed, as baboons are being attracted into the facility due to poor waste management.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Cath Shutte

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop remained within the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) section of the Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) for the entire month of October 2016.

While in the TMNP, the troop concentrated its foraging activity on the indigenous vegetation with sporadic visits to the coastline for coastal forage. The troop predominantly utilised the southern section of its home range this month, and spent many days deep within the TMNP.

The GOB Troop encountered the Misty Cliffs Troop on numerous occasions during the beginning of the month. Following on from last month's report (HWS September 2016 Report) the two troops continued to interact. Please see the Misty Cliffs Troop report below for a more detailed description.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop

The Misty Cliffs Troop has remained inside the CoGH section of the TMNP for the duration of the month. For the first time, since HWS took over the baboon management programme, both Scarborough and Misty Cliffs have remained baboon-free for the duration of the month. This is a very positive step forward for the troop because its potential to encounter human derived foods has been reduced and the troop is now moving and foraging within a natural area.

During the first half of the month, from the TMNP fence, the rangers observed the Misty Cliffs Troop roosting on the Bonteberg Cliffs. For the remainder of the month, it is assumed, that they slept at the Groot Olifantsbos sleep site with the GOB Troop.

The social interactions between the Misty Cliffs Troop and the GOB Troop increased during the initial part of the month. Both troops utilised the Bonteberg Cliffs sleep site and would spend the day foraging together in the indigenous vegetation. The Misty Cliffs Troop began following the GOB Troop when the GOB Troop moved deeper into the reserve, but the Misty Cliffs Troop still returned to roost at the Bonteberg cliffs sleep site.

From the middle of the month, the Misty Cliffs Troop began following the GOB Troop deep into the reserve and the troop did not return to the Bonteberg sleep site in the evenings. It was then assumed that the Misty Cliffs Troop was beginning to sleep with the GOB Troop at the Groot Olifantsbos sleep site. From this point forward, the Misty Cliffs Troop has been moving with the GOB Troop. On occasions when the rangers saw the troops, the females were seen copulating with the males. It is assumed that the two

troops have now merged and the Misty Cliffs Troop's movement pattern is now the same as the GOB Troop's movements.

Due to the absence of the troop and lack of raids in the urban area, no raid sheet has been included for the Misty Cliffs Troop for October 2016.

Rangers will continue to monitor and observe the Misty Cliffs troop from the national park fence line.

3. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop Troop utilised the Compass Bakery Cliffs sleep site for the entire month of October (35 days). This was pleasing, because this results in a reduction in the conflict with Ocean View residents.

The troop concentrated its forage efforts to the plateau above the Compass Bakery Cliffs sleep site and alongside the stream found on the upper reaches of the mountain, behind the Rasta Camp. The troop began to extend its home range usage this month, by moving over the ridge above the Rasta Camp towards Witsands.



Figure 9: Slangkop Troop movement for the October 2016.

On one occasion, while foraging on the plateau above the sleep site, the Slangkop males (DG6, SK6 and three young sub-adults) moved off towards the nearby Da Gama Park Troop. Both sets of males met and a territorial stand-off ensued. The Slangkop males chased the Da Gama males back to their troop and

then returned to foraging on the plateau. The males were observed closely for injuries; however, none were evident.

The troop as a whole, entered the urban area on three occasions this month and only raided bins on one occasion, in Ocean View. However, there were two occasions this month where individuals raided bins at In2Foods Compass.

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: OCTOBER		YEAR: 2016		3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding											
BABOON ID		Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	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	TOTAL
DG6	M			2												1							2			1			1		1			1				6
SK6	M			2																						1				1			1					3
UnID Males	M			2								2														1				1					1			4
UnID Females	F											2				1						2				1			1					1			6	
UnID Juveniles												2																						1			2	
Troop		1																									1	2									4	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS								
Troop	0.4	14																									23	33									1.17	
Individuals	1.5			25								87				20							3			15			15	30			66	38			4.98	
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
Roost Sites				1	Slangkop						2	Ocean View						3	Compass balery						4	Witsand						5	Other					
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks																																						

Figure 10: Slangkop Troop raid sheet for October 2016.

On 28 October, as the Slangkop Troop was crossing Kommetjie Road, a juvenile male baboon was knocked over and killed by a passing car.

Following on from last month (HWS September 2016 Report), DG6 has now assumed the beta role within the Slangkop Troop and is often surrounded by the juveniles. DG6's injuries were monitored closely after the initial altercation with SK6 and it is pleasing to note that he has made a full recovery.



Figure 11: DG6 after he recovered from his fight with SK6.

Births and Deaths

One death occurred in the Slangkop Troop on 28 October, a juvenile male baboon was knocked over and killed by a passing car. No births recorded in the South West this month.

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 to improve management of the Slangkop Troop. This issue has been addressed with SANParks and is pending.
- **Fruiting Trees:** All visible fruit should be harvested from fruit trees in baboon-affected areas.
- **In2Foods Compass:** The recycling area should continue to be baboon-proofed and black bins should be tied up to prevent them from being tipped over.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Byron Loubser

1. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop focused most of its foraging effort in the low-lying reaches of its home range. Flowers, foliage, grass, roots, seeds and bulbs were the main forage available in these areas. Felled pine trees also provided the baboons with access to pine cones and invertebrate forage located under the bark of these trees. When the troop was in the clearings it was observed foraging on *Pelargonium capitatum*, *Aspalathus* spp. and *Dipogon lignosus* growing in between the alien invasive vegetation. The troop foraged and roosted at Silvermine on four occasions during October 2016.

Most raiding incidents took place in non-urban areas, such as Silvermine Dam, Tokai Picnic Site and Chrysalis Academy. A large volume of user groups frequented these areas, often carrying food, which provided the baboons with easy raiding opportunities. TK48 raided the most. Eighteen incidents were recorded. TK48 is currently displaying dispersal behaviour. This resulted in the baboons spending most of their time close to the urban fringe. TK45 and TK28 recorded 13 and 12 raids, respectively. The high number of category 7 raids (stealing food directly from people) by TK28, TK45, TK47 and TK48 is concerning. This raiding behaviour will be monitored closely.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR NORTH		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
		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: OCTOBER		YEAR: 2016							3	Non malicious damage					6	Raid occupied house or vehicle					9	Nocturnal Raiding															
BABOON ID	Sex	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	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	TOTAL
TK28 (B-G)	M	7				2			7	1					7		1					1			1						7		7		6, 7		12
TK 47 (white)	M	7,5					6	5	7								2																				6
TK 48 (Red)	M	2,7,7,7					6				7			2		2	2	1				2		2	2			2				1	1				18
TK 45 (Purp-W)	M	7,7					6	5,7	5		5					6										7			7		7,7	7					13
Untagged male	M																											1									1
MT3 (Pu-B)	M														2																						1
Uni Male	M																											2									1
Unid SA Male	M														5																						1
Uni Female	F																2																				1
Uni Juve																																					
Tokai Troop																																					
TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																					
Troop	%																													HRS							
0.0																																				0.00	
Individuals	1.0					30				10						15	20	30	5			30		15	17		15	13			55	20		15		3.33	
Roost:	AM	1+6	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	6	1	1+6	1	11	1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1	
Roost:	PM	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	6	1	1+6	1	11	1	1	1	1	11	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 Tokai bridge				11 Silvermine pines				12 Level 3 Mixed plantation															
		13 Other				14				15				16				17				18															
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks		Bold and <i>italics</i> indicate non-urban raids																																			

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baboons were using to gain access into the Zwaanswyk urban area. The weak points were remedied by the fence maintenance company, Perisecure on 17 October 2016.

3. Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)

CT1 utilised the extent of its home range during October 2016. When in the southern part of its home range, the troop utilised the upper levels of the ruins clearing and Langboskloof. The troop was seen foraging on *Pelargonium capitatum*, *Aspalathus* spp. and *Dipogon lignosus* growing in between the invasive alien vegetation.



Figure 15: CT1 Troop movements in October 2016 (yellow lines in the urban area are indicative of HWS' staff's movements between areas).

When the troop spent time at Donkergat and Upper Gums, the baboons would wait until the evening for the Klein Constantia and HWS rangers to leave, before accessing the farm to forage between the vineyards. This time of year, new shoots develop on the vines and these are highly sort after by the baboons.

The troop did not enter the urban area during October 2016. On 14 October 2016, five unidentified individual male baboons entered the urban area. The baboons moved out of town and into the dense invasive alien vegetation thicket on the urban edge. This made it challenging to identify the baboons. The individual baboons recorded 60 minutes in the urban area and one occupied house raid took place.

CON1, an elderly adult male baboon, was last seen on 4 October 2016 at the Buitenverwachting Gums sleep site. Several searches were conducted by HWS staff to locate CON1 or its carcass, but all efforts were unsuccessful. It was presumed that CON1 died naturally of old age.

The CT2 Troop was rarely seen during October 2016. The troop roosted mainly at the Buitenverwachting Gums and Block 10 Gums sleep sites. On occasion the CT2 Troop foraged near the CT1 Troop, normally in vicinity of the ruins clearing. The Buitenverwachting Rangers reported that the troop foraged in the vineyards, normally in block 8 or block 10. No raiding incidents were recorded for the CT2 Troop during October 2016.

The Mountain Troop continued the same trend as last month (HWS September 2016 Report). The troop was observed foraging at Quarry Gums and Bike Jumps by HWS Rangers. The Buitenverwachting Rangers reported that the troop foraged at Veels-Te-Ver, the Kramat and the vineyards. No raiding incidents were recorded for this troop in October 2016.

On 17 October 2016, one dead infant was reported in the Tokai Troop. The cause of death was determined to be an infanticide. TK47 was observed attacking the infant on 11 October 2016.

One new-born was reported in the Zwaanswyk Troop on 18 October 2016.

CON1, an elderly male baboon from the CT1 Troop was presumed to have died naturally of old age.

One new-born infant was recorded in the Mountain Troop on 12 October 2016.

Recommendations

- The **Tokai Picnic Site fence** should be upgraded and repaired to limit baboon raids on picnickers.
- The **invasive alien vegetation** in the **Tokai/Constantia Valley** should be cleared. This should allow HWS to manage all the northern troops more effectively.
- **Houses and gardens** in the **Constantia Valley**, particularly at Price Drive, should be baboon-proofed. Fruit trees, vegetable gardens and chicken runs are among several attractions to the baboons.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

There were five births and three deaths recorded this month. The population of managed baboons therefore increased to 415. This represents a population increase of 25 individuals for the first ten months of 2016. This equals the previous record for population growth set during 2014, and there are still two more months left in 2016. Why the population should be showing an increased growth rate after the fires of 2015 is not known. It may relate to the increased nutritional value of fynbos after a fire, but still seems remarkable given the huge areas burnt and large amounts of food that were suddenly not available.

TROOP	Total December Populations				October 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	0	0	11	4	-1	55
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22	23	0	0	0	10	1	0	32
Waterfall	28	30	30	32	1	0	0	2	0	+2	36
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17	16	0	0	0	0	1	0	15
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	11	0	0	0	1	5	0	7
Slangkop	33	32	36	41	0	1	0	0	2	0	39
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	172	3	1	0	24	13	+1	184
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	30	1	0	0	5	3	0	32
Tokai	61	65	72	62	0	1	0	8	5	+1	66
Mountain	33	44	48	49	1	0	0	6	3	-1	51
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	77	0	1	0	14	8	-1	82
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	218	2	2	0	33	19	-1	231
TOTAL	354	355	380	390	5	3	0	57	32	0	415

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

The answer to the anomaly may simply lie in the numbers of baboons that have died this year. To date, only 32 baboons have died, and this is five less than during 2014 (37 deaths). It was during 2014 that the population had its greatest increase under HWS management. This suggests that, at present, the managed baboons' population growth is determined more by deaths than by births. This is something that can be looked into.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	2015	Oct 2016	2016 to Date	TOTAL
Management	17	16	8	7	0	4	52
Human Induced (HID)	8	7	10	24	1	7	56
Direct **	8	6	6	8	1	4	32
Indirect ***	0	1	4	16	0	3	24
Natural	7	30	19	20	2	15	91
Unknown	1	3	0	4	0	6	14
TOTAL	33	56	37	55	3	32	213

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 vehicle 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 characterised by high and lows. Most of the managed troops were responsible for no hotline calls being made. Certain individuals in four other troops were responsible for virtually all the hotline calls made from managed areas. The most hotline calls were made in Zwaanswyk (84 calls), and virtually all of these were in response to two individuals, MT2 (the alpha male) and MT6 (a dispersing male). Both these males focused on raiding Zwaanswyk and making use of weaknesses in the electric fence.

Three males were responsible for most of the raids made by the Tokai Troop. TK48, a dispersing male, was responsible for most raids, but two other males also conducted numerous raids. The high number of raids where baboons stole food directly from people is concerning and needs serious consideration. One does not want the situations of 2012 and 2013 to return when cases of serious intimidation of specific people / houses by certain adult males became quite a feature of this troop.

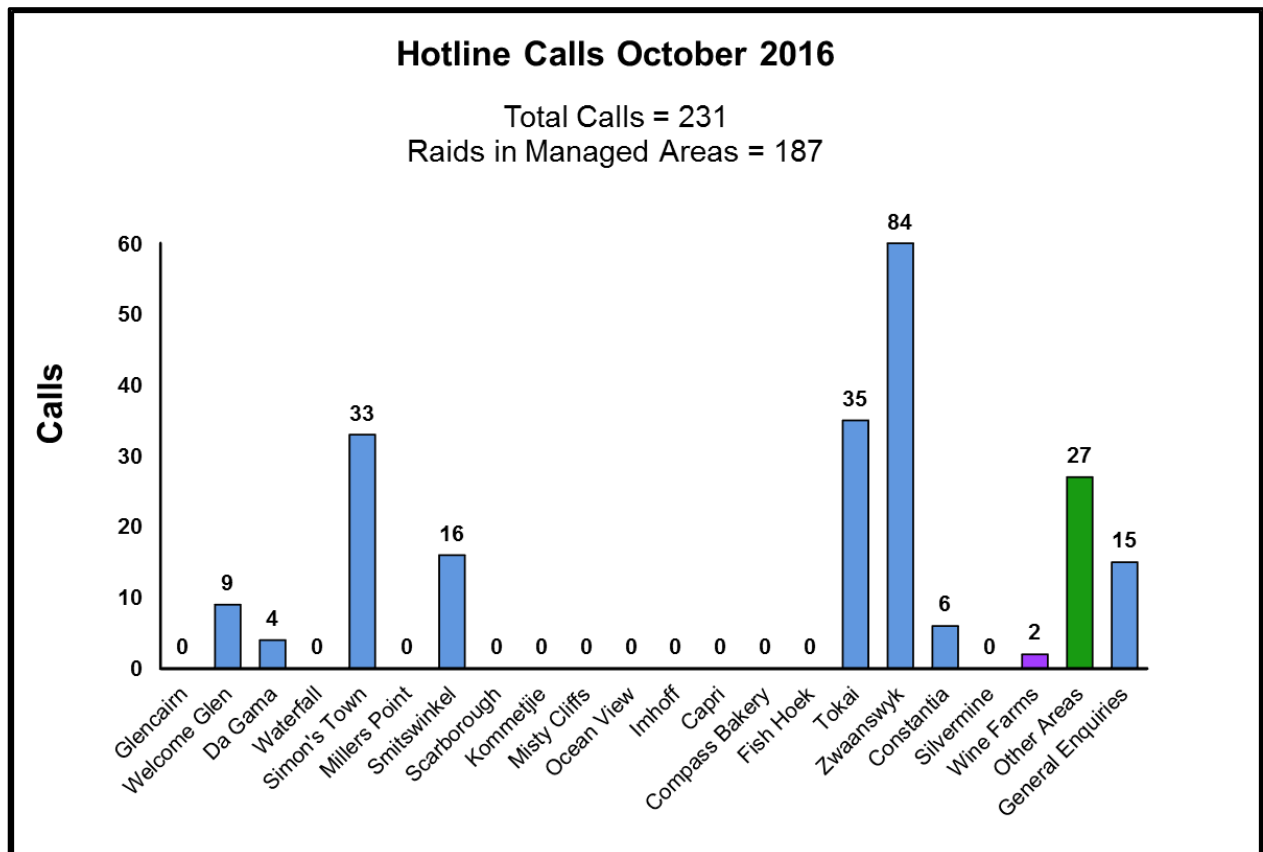


Figure 17: Hotline calls summary per urban area for October 2016.

The third troop with an unusually high number of hotline calls this month, was Waterfall Troop in Simon's Town. This was primarily because the troop, like in the previous month, spent a high percentage of time sleeping on the cliffs immediately above town. Extremely poor waste management at the Waterfall Naval Barracks and Happy Valley Home, provide very strong incentives to baboons to raid. Most raids were committed by just a few individuals, but it is very disturbing to note that juveniles were involved in 18 raiding incidents per month during September and October. This is a major problem because these juveniles are effectively being taught to raid by their adults.

Although there was an unusually high number of hotline calls this month, it is still pleasing to note that 88% of all raid related calls were just for baboons being in the urban area. Nevertheless, raids on occupied houses still remained relatively high at 4%.

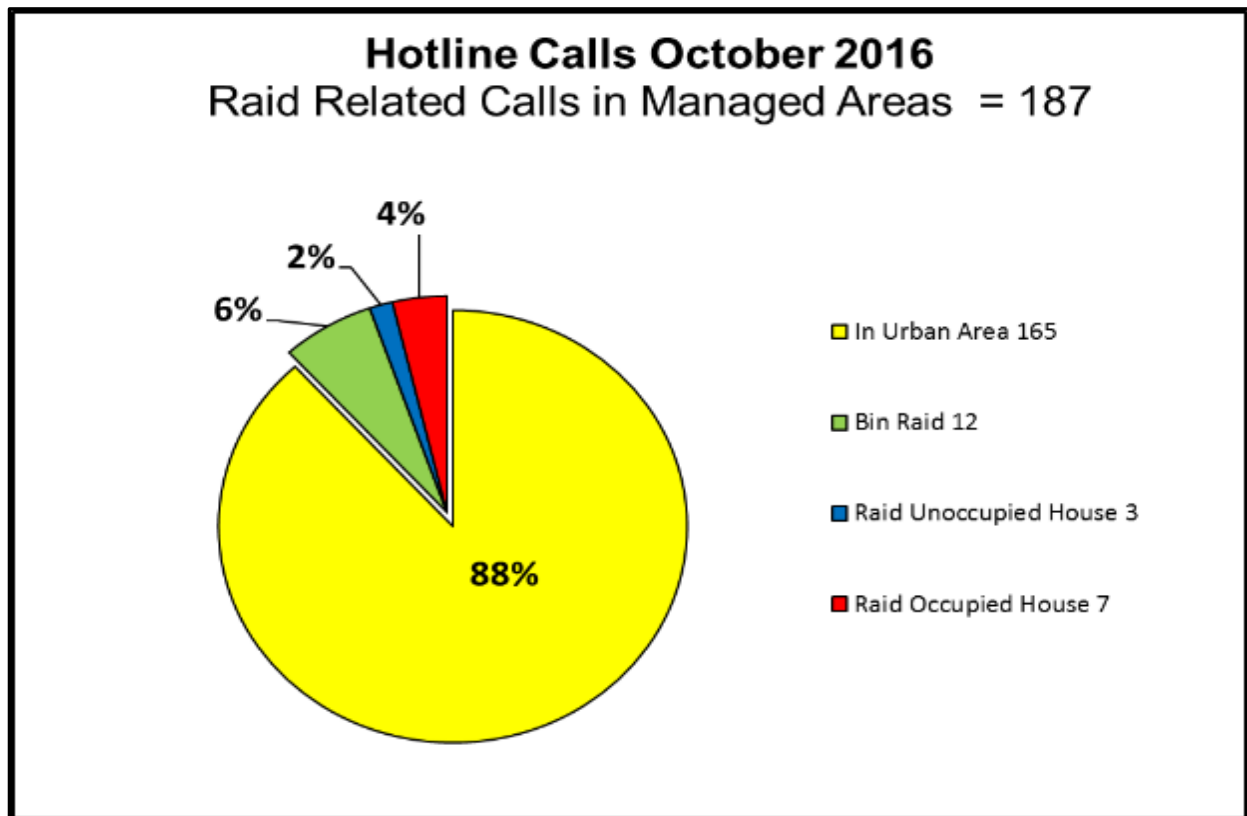


Figure 18: Composition of raid-related hotline calls during October 2016.

Percentage Time Out of Town

During October 2016, the managed baboon troops spent 99.8% of their time out of town. Only the Waterfall and Slangkop Troops spent more than an hour in town. Individuals averaged 94.5% of their time out of town, and it was only those from the Da Gama, Waterfall and Zwaanswyk Troops that spent more than 5% of their time in town.

The Waterfall and Zwaanswyk Troops have been discussed above. The high number of raids from the Da Gama Troop relate primarily to the fights for leadership between DG14 and DG15. DG15 won all the fights then would chase DG14 from the troop thereafter. DG14 then raided town. The large sub-adult males DG16, 17 and 18 have also been challenging the older males and regularly trying to break back into town.

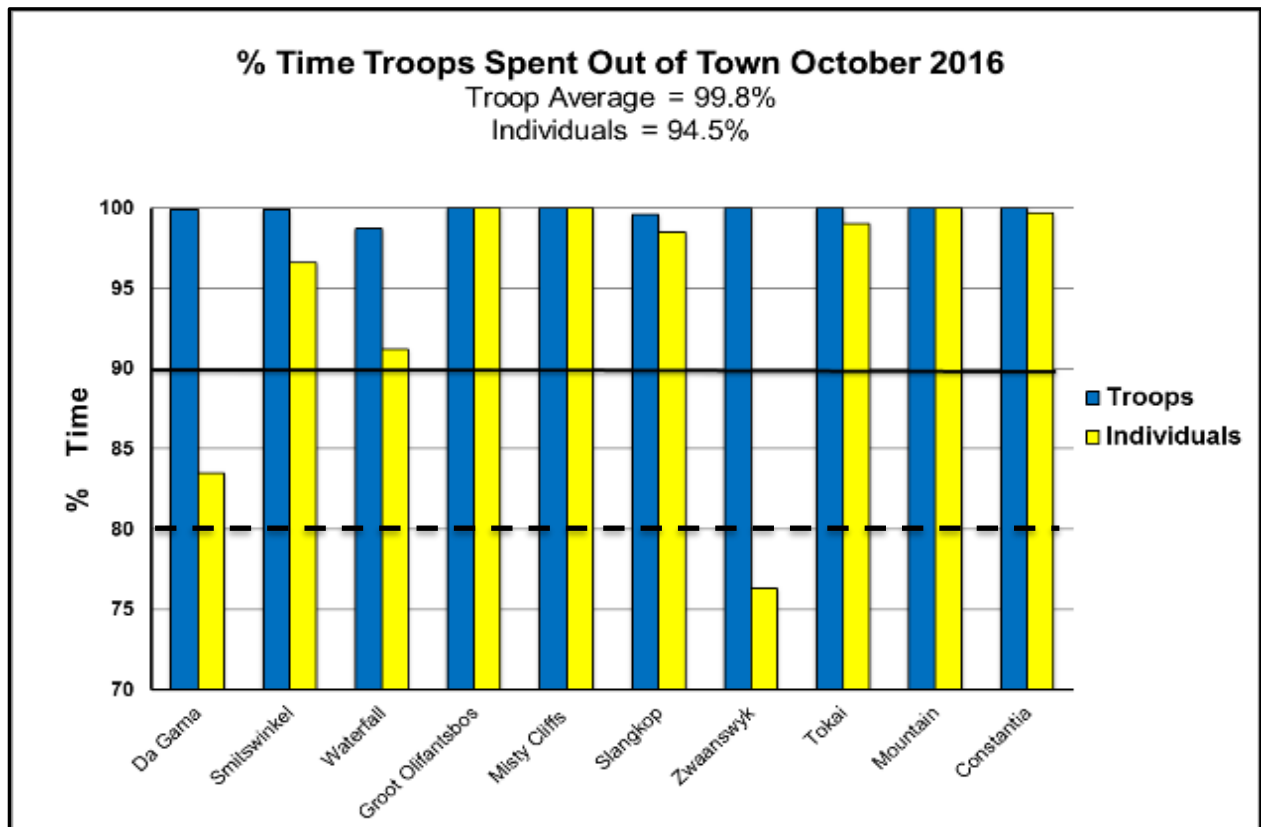


Figure 19: Percentage time troops spent out of town (October 2016). The solid line indicates the City of Cape Town's 2014 contract requirement and the broken line indicates the 2012 contract requirement.

Conclusion

Baboon management has been dominated by three very different features this month. The first, was that the baboon troops, in general, were kept out of town for 99.8% of the time. This is just 0.2% off a perfect record in terms of keeping baboons out of town. In complete contrast to this, HWS also received 231 hotline calls which is also almost a record, and is just lower than last month's record of 235 calls.

These results highlight the differences in behaviour between troops in general, and specific individuals. They also highlight to one, how quickly baboon behaviour can change as individuals get older and start to reach maturity, or get deposed, or get old and senile. However, they all have one thing in common. Individuals remember what they saw or did when they were younger, and therefore always retain the potential to revert to raiding behaviour in times of need. If one is ever to get the Cape Town baboons to remain 100% out of town, they will need to lose this historic memory or lose their habituation to humans and become fearful again of interacting with us.

The best news for the month of October, is the fact that the Misty Cliff Troop seems to have permanently rejoined the GOB Troop. At first the two troops were seen to be interacting more regularly. Then they were seen to sleep at the same sleep site (Bonteberg) and were seen foraging together by day. Towards

the middle of the month the adult females were observed copulating with the alpha male of the GOB troop. The GOB Troop has not slept in Scarborough since about June 2012, and in recent times has shown markedly less habituation to humans and is definitely the “wildest” troop managed by HWS. This is the same troop that was living in Scarborough early in 2012 and often terrified people by running across rooftops at night. With the Misty Cliffs Troop now joining the GOB Troop, they will hopefully spend less and less time associating with people and become increasingly more and more shy of humans.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions