



**Baboon Management
Cape Town**



**Monthly Report
For November 2013**

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
A. REPORTING PERIOD	3
B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING	3
SOUTH EAST REGION	
1. Smitswinkel Troop	3
2. Waterfall Troop	4
3. Da Gama Troop (DG)	5
Births and Deaths	7
Recommendations	7
SOUTH WEST REGION	
1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)	7
2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop	8
3. Slangkop Troop	9
Births and Deaths	11
Recommendations	11
NORTH REGION	
1. Tokai Main Troop (TMT)	11
2. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop (ZST)	12
3. Constantia Troop	14
4. Ghost / Mountain Troop	15
Births and Deaths	16
Recommendations	16
C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS	
Population Data	16
Hotline Data	17
Percentage Time Out of Town	19
General	21

A. INTRODUCTION

This month's report covers the four week period from 26 October to 22 November 2013. Although the vegetation is starting to dry out a bit in certain areas, HWS managed to improve on their October record, by keeping the baboons troops out of town for an average of 99.7% of the time, with the worst troop being out of town 98.5% of the time.

The mandate from the City of Cape Town, is to keep the managed baboon troops out of the urban area for at least 80% of the time. For the first twelve months for which these data were recorded (September 2012 - August 2013), the average amount of time baboons were kept out of town was 98.5%. This average has increased slightly over the last few months, and is currently standing at 99.3% for the past three months.

Baboon researchers have wondered if paintball markers would become less effective as a management strategy over time. Our reports show that to date the baboons have not got 'used to' paintball markers and they continue to be a highly effective tool in our aversion control management strategy with all the troops.

These ideas will be discussed further within the report.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region (Ziggy Rode)

1. Smitswinkel Troop

There has not been much change in terms of raiding behaviour in the Smitswinkel Troop during the last month. The troop remains mainly in the mountain and raids are minimal. However, approximately every second day the troop comes down to the shoreline to feed on mussels for two to three hours. SWB1 only raided once during the month when he entered the Caravan Park, together with SWB7 and an unidentified female, and stole eggs that were left outside a caravan. The rangers managed to push them out quickly.

SWB7 has however started raiding more often and raided opportunistically three times this month. On 27 October he entered an unoccupied house where the residents had left the door open, on 17 November he stole the eggs (together with SWB1 and a female), and on 19 November he raided an unoccupied vehicle which was parked with the windows left open. Although this is not severe raiding, rangers will keep a close eye on him to prevent him from becoming a bad raider. He will therefore be collared and tagged before the start of the holiday season so that he can be monitored closely.

Deliberate feeding of the baboons by tourists continues to take place along the Smitswinkel Bay and Plateau Road route. On 10 November, a member of the public reported to the rangers that she had witnessed tourists throwing apples to the baboons from their bus. It is therefore

strongly recommended that there be highly visible law enforcement as well as education implemented along this route, particularly as we approach the festive season.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																														
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
SE		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL						
BABOON TROOP:		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL						
MONTH: November 2013		In urban area	Raid bins	Non malicious damage	Attacking pets	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	Raid occupied house or vehicle	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food				Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																		
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
SWB1	M		1																					7						2
SWB6	M								1																					1
Troop			1									1																		2
UnID Fem	F		1						1																					2
SWBF8	F																													0
UNID Male	M																													0
SWB7	M		6							1														7		5				4
	%																													HRS
Troop	0.17		10										15																	0.42
Individuals	0.36		30						10				15																	0.92
Males	0.53		30						10				15											15		10				1.33
Roost:	AM	4	4	3	1	7	7	7	1	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	2	3	6	3	2	6	4	5	5	3	2	1	
Roost:	PM	4	3	1	7	7	7	6	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	1	3	6	3	2	6	4	4	4	5	3	2	2	1	
Roost Sites		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22							
		Smits Caves	Partridge Point	Bluegums	Millers Point	Rocklands Farm																								
ID Features of Baboons		6	7	SWB1: Collar + blue & white tag, SWB6 = Red/Blue tags + collar																										
General remarks		Town/Urban area = Millers Point boat launching area, caravan park, Black Marlin, Castle Rock Houses, Smitswinkel Bay houses																												

Figure.1. Smitswinkel Bay Raid Sheet

2. Waterfall Troop

From 27 October to 6 November, rangers experienced difficulty in keeping the troop at the top of the mountain and preventing them from raiding. During this period, the troop broke up into smaller raiding parties and went in different directions to raid. From 7 November, an extra staff member was brought across from Da Gama and the troop was herded up the mountain and held behind the SANDF ammunition depot. This resulted in the rest of the month being very quiet with minimal raiding taking place. While the troop is behind the SANDF site, it forages mainly on Fynbos, which is plentiful in this area. The only baboon that raided the SANDF site was RH2, and he climbs the fence and gets through the electric fencing despite being shocked. Rangers are however able to push him back quickly.

Up to 6 November, several baboons raided the Naval Barracks as waste and open flats were still easily accessible to them. On 27 October, a female baboon entered an unoccupied flat at the Barracks through an open window. On 2 November, WF2 broke a wooden security gate and raided the ladies dormitory at Happy Valley. WFF1, together with a few other individuals, raided a flat at the Barracks. On 4 November, the troop raided rubbish bins at the Barracks, and an unidentified individual raided a flat by entering through an open window. On 6 November, RH2 broke the line and went down to the small café on Main Road, Simon's Town, and stole apples. RH2 was pushed back up the mountain within half an hour.

The Barracks and the Happy Valley shelter remain a constant attraction for the baboons. When the baboons sleep close by, they drive hard to go down and raid. This behaviour may increase and raids become more frequent as we approach the hot and dry season. The strategy will therefore remain to attempt to keep the troop at the top of the mountain, behind the SANDF ammunition depot, as the baboons raid far less when they up there.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																														
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
		1 In urban area											4 Attacking pets				7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food													
SE		2 Raid bins											5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle				8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property													
BABOON TROOP: Waterfall		3 Non malicious damage											6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																	
MONTH: November 2013																														
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
WF2	M	1	1		2		1	8		2	2																		7	
UnID Females	F	5	1		2		1			5	2																		6	
TROOP		1	2		2			1		2																			5	
RH2	M	1	2		2					2		6						2	2						2		2	1	10	
UnID Juveniles		1	2		2					2	2																		5	
UnID Male	M	1	1		2					2																			4	
WFF1	F				2				5	2																				
UnID Individuals		1	1		2			5		2	1																		6	
	%																											HRS		
Troop	1.5	40	20		20			100		45																			3.75	
Females/Individuals	1.6	40	45		20		10	50		55	10	15																	4.08	
Males	1.9	40	10		20		10	50		55	30							15	15						10	15	10	4.67		
Roost:	AM	10	4	4	4	3	1	1	2	1	4	2	3	2	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		
Roost:	PM	3	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		
Roost Sites		1 Waterfall Cliff					2 Happy Valley Mnt					3 Signal School/Zwartkop					4 Waterfall Barracks					5 Mountain Residents side								
ID Features of Baboons		6 Admiral footpath					7 Not found					8 Happy Valley Home					9 Red Hill					10 SANDF								
General remarks		WF2 - yellow&blue tag. RH2 - double yellow tags + collar, adult male																												
		WFF1 - three legs																												

Figure.2. Waterfall Troop Raid Sheet

3. Da Gama Troops

Similar to November 2012, there were very few raids during November 2013. During November 2012, the Big Troop was sleeping at the Witsands sleep site and spent 99.5 % of the time out of town, while the Small Troop spent 98.2 % of the time out of town. This year, the troops have merged into one, and this combined troop has spent 99.4 % of the time, in total, out of town.

The current sleep site that is most frequently used is the Maylands sleep site. This site is better suited for the troop as there is good foraging and water available all year long around this site. Previously, the Witsand sleep site was problematic when it was hot and dry because the troop then moved towards Ocean View to drink, and would then subsequently raid. Currently, when the troop sleeps at the Maylands site, it is fairly well under control and incidences of raiding are significantly reduced. From the tracking data in Figure 3 (overpage), one can see that the troop has spent most of the month around the Maylands sleep site area.

No sleep site is perfect and there are a few problems at the Maylands sleep site. Firstly, there is one dilapidated house at Kleinplaas Dam which is not baboon proof and the residents also don't have a baboon proof bin. DG1 has discovered this and raids there occasionally. DG1 also raids and/or enters the buildings at the City of Cape Town waterworks at Lewis Gay Dam. However, plans are in progress to baboon proof the buildings and bins at the waterworks. The only other issue at the Maylands sleep site is that DG9 and DG10 occasionally head into to Simon's Town together with a significant part of the troop. On 6 November, DG10 and ten other individuals were discovered at the Signal School steps. They were pushed back towards the troop by the ranger, and RH2 soon followed and chased them back to the site quickly. On 10 November, the troop was left at the Maylands sleep site but the next morning they were found at 16th Avenue, Da Gama Park. This trend started to develop toward the end of the month when the days were

getting longer, and although rangers remained at the Maylands sleep site with the troop until 19h30, as soon as they left the troop started to move down towards the flats at Da Gama Park.

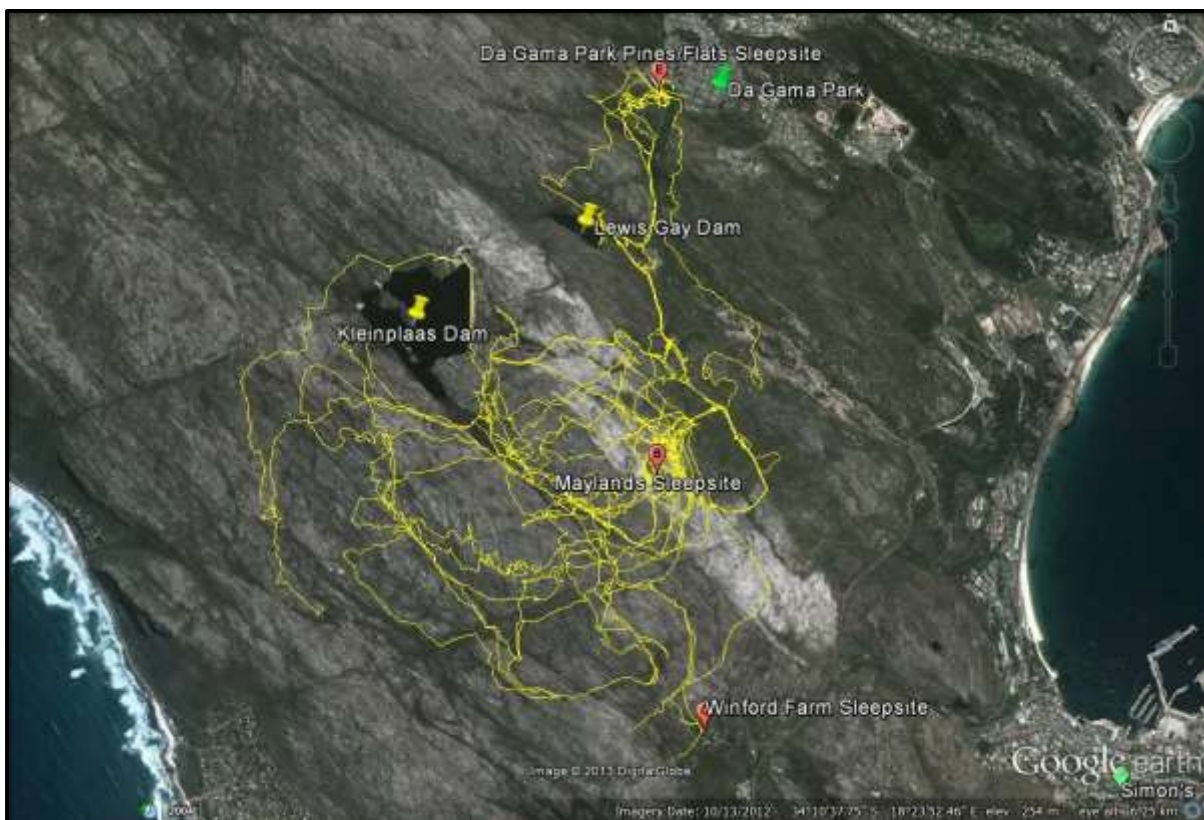


Figure.3. Da Gama Troop movement for November.

On 6 November, a female that is closely associated with DG1, gave birth. SK3 then started to chase the female and it appeared that he was attempting to seize and kill the infant. DG1 subsequently started to protect the female and one other, and has occasionally slept slightly apart from the troop. DG1 and SK3 have also had a number of fights when SK3 has chased the female and infant.

SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																				TOTAL										
SOUTH EAST		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	HRS								
BABOON TROOP:	Da Gama	1 In urban area	2 Raid bins	3 Non malicious damage	4 Attacking pets	5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	6 Raid occupied house or vehicle	7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food	8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	9 Nocturnal Raiding																						
MONTH:	November 2013																															
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													2				2													2		
SK3	M												2				2													2		
DG1	M						2					6	6	1			2					2						2	2	8		
DG10	M																2											2	2	3		
DG9	M																2										2	2	2	5		
DGF1	F																2													2		
DGF2	F																2													2		
Sub-adult Male	M																													0		
UnID Females	F													2					2									2	3			
UnID Female	F																										1		1			
UnID Juvs													2					2											2			
UnID Males	M																	2									2		2			
	%																					HRS										
Troop	0.6																					1.83										
Individuals	2.0																					6.50										
Males	3.0																					9.50										
Roost:	AM	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	19	1	1	17	17	21	19	17	19	17	20	1	17	17	1	1	1			
Roost:	PM	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1	1	17	17	19	17	17	17	19	20	20	17	17	1*	1*	1*	1*			
Roost Sites	1	Flats		2	Pines - Flats		3	Pines - Da Gama		4	Pines - Welcome Glen		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 Pines		20	Grootkop																		
	21	16th Avenue, Da Gama																														
ID Features of Baboons	DG1: Collar + blue & yellow tags; DG10: Collar + white tags SK3: Collar + green & yellow tags, DGF1: collar + blue & white tags 1* - Troop headed down towards flats once rangers have left.																															
General remarks																																

Figure.4. Da Gama Troop Raid Sheet

Births and Deaths

On 6 November, one birth took place in the Da Gama Troop.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Education and law enforcement is needed along the Smitswinkel and Plateau Road route, particularly with the upcoming festive season and the resultant increase in traffic along those routes. A few incidents of feeding are still being reported along this route and could potentially increase over the festive season.

Waste management still needs urgent attention especially at the Da Gama Park flats and Waterfall Barracks, and at Miller's Point Caravan Park. Meetings have been held with staff at the Caravan Park, but suitable waste management is still not being implemented when campers occupy the park.

Thank you. We would like to thank the City of Cape Town's Solid Waste Department for replacing all of the original green bins with baboon proof bins at the bus stops along Da Gama



Road. These are far more effective and baboons are no longer able to raid at the bus stops.

Figure.5. New baboon proof bins at the bus stops on Da Gama Road.

South Western Region (Nick Shaw)

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop

During the month of October, the GOB Troop has stayed in the Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) Reserve. The GPS collar data map below shows the movements of the GOB Troop in the CoGH Reserve for the month of November.

At no time during the month of November did the GOB troop enter into Scarborough.

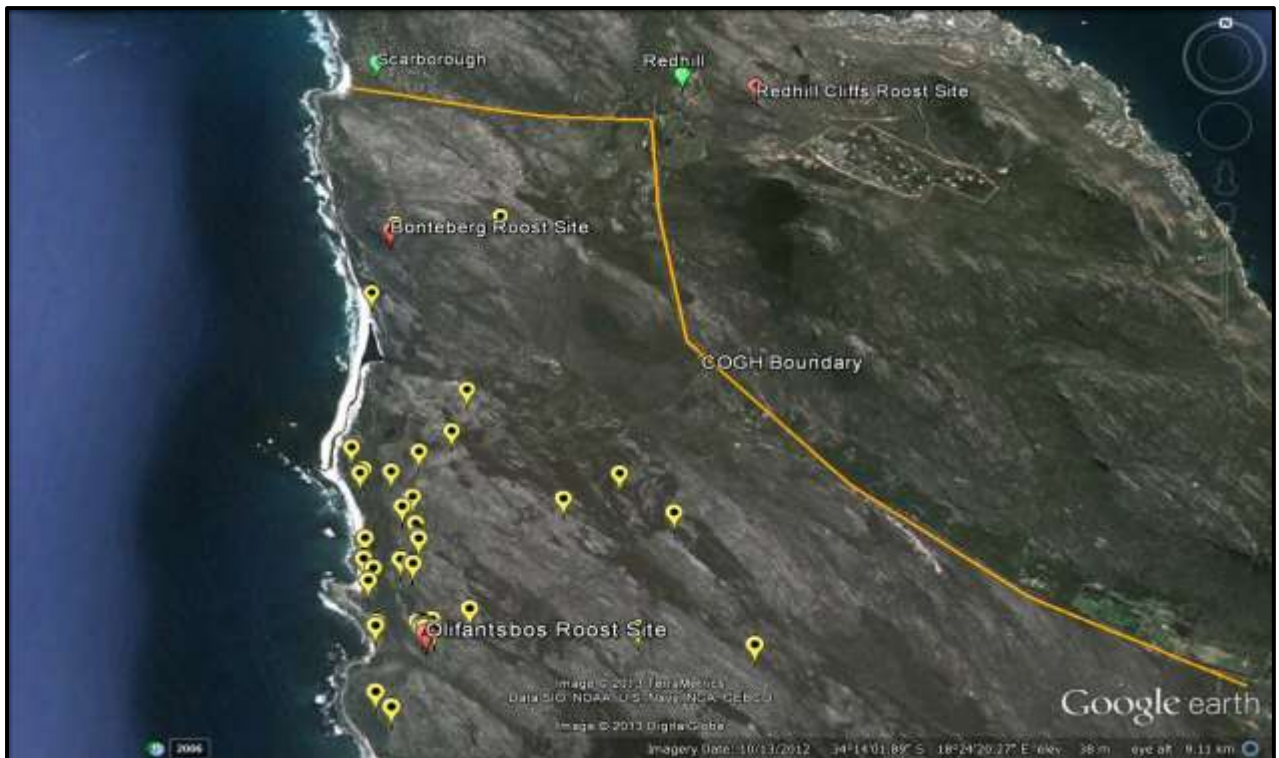


Figure 6: Roost sites and GPS points for the GOB troop - November 2013

2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop

The Misty Cliffs Troop has been in the CoGH Reserve at the Bonteberg roost site for the month of November.

During this time, GOB5 broke away from the troop on six separate occasions to enter Scarborough. The time that GOB5 spent away from the troop increased from half an hour up to four hours, and on three occasions GOB5 was accompanied by between one and three females and a juvenile from the troop.

With WAC approval, GOB5 was euthanased this month as a result of his ever-persistent raiding during the past year, fearlessness of humans, and the ability to break through almost any sliding door.

Towards the end of the month, an adult male from the GOB troop which was identified as the most likely candidate to take over as alpha male, approached the troop at the Bonteberg roost site. The females were uneasy and tried to run back to the Misty Cliffs area. The rangers were able to prevent this until the new male tried to get at the three females with babies, at which point these individuals broke away from the troop and ran into Scarborough. Eventually all the females were able to get past the rangers and ran back to the Misty Cliffs roost site. The new male followed them there.

Since the end of this month's reporting period, the whole troop has been returned to the COGH Reserve.

November Raids:

On 7 November, GOB5 entered an unoccupied house in Tacoma Rd.

On 12 November, GOB5 entered an unoccupied house in Duiker St.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																														
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
BABOON TROOP: Misty Cliffs		1	In urban area			4	Attacking pets			7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																			
MONTH: November		2	Raid bins			5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle			8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																			
YEAR: 2013		3	Non malicious damage			6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																							
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
GOB5	M			1,2						1,2				2,5		2		2	5											6
Unidentified female	F															2		2	2	2									1	5
Unid female + baby	F																		2	2							1	1	1	5
Unid female + baby	F																										1	1	1	3
Unid female + baby	F																										1	1	1	2
Unidentified juvenile	M																		2										1	1
Troop																												1	1	
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS			
Troop		0.5																											120	2h00
Males & Females		5.3		30						120				180	120		140	240	240									120	17h50	
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Roost Sites		1	Misty Cliffs			2	CoGH Reserve			3				4				5												
		6				7				8				9				10												
ID Features of Baboons		GOB5 had a double red tag and a VHF collar																												
General remarks																														

Figure 7: Raid Sheet for Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop - November 2013

Comments and Observations

It is quite likely that the new GOB male will establish himself as alpha male of this troop although how long this might take is uncertain. The females with babies are all wary of possible infanticide and are therefore maintaining a distance from him, although a number of other females in the troop seem to be less afraid and are interacting with him. As far as possible it will be necessary to keep the females in the CoGH Reserve and prevent the new male from getting used to the Misty Cliffs roost site. As a GOB male he will hopefully be comfortable utilising the Bonteberg roost site in the CoGH Reserve.

3. Slangkop Troop

During the month of November the Slangkop troop has moved between the two usual roost sites. They have spent considerably more time this month at the C3 roost site. The map below shows movements of the troop during this month.

September Raids:

On 14 November, DG6 and one female entered an occupied house in Ocean View.

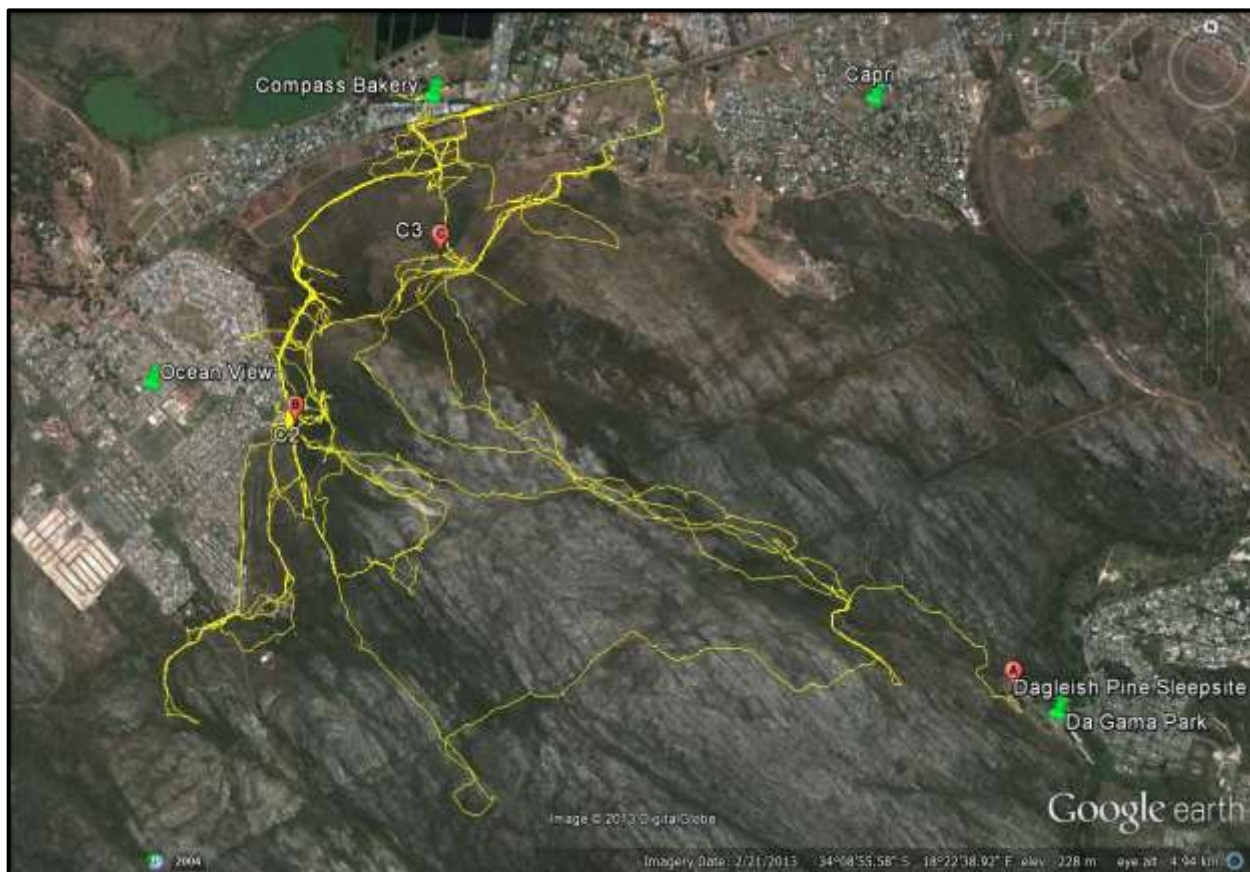


Figure 8. Slangkop Troop Data Logger Tracks - November 2013

SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																											
BABOON TROOP: Slangkop		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22						
MONTH: November	YEAR: 2013	In urban area	Raid bins	Non malicious damage	Attacking pets	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	Raid occupied house or vehicle	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																				
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
DG6	M	2	2	2	2					2						2					6					2			
Unidentified Female	F	2					2			2				2							6								
Unid Female + baby	F		2		2		2			2																			
Unidentified Female	F			2	2		2			2				2															
Troop																													
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																						HRS					
Troop	0.0																												
Males + Females	1.7	10	60	30	60		35	10		10			45			15		10		60						15			
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
Roost Sites		1 Slangkop		2 Ocean View		3 Compass Bakery		4 Da Gama Park Pines		5																			
		6		7		8		9		10																			
ID Features of Baboons	DG6 has a yellow cable tie tag																												
General remarks																													

Figure 9. Raid Information Sheet for Slangkop Troop – November 2013

Comments and Observations

The troop, as a whole, has not raided during the month of November. All of the raids this month were undertaken by DG6 and the three females from the original TK5-split in the troop. All but

one of these raids were of bins in Ocean View and at Compass Bakery. The raids are usually short in duration, but what is of concern is that the three females have started to go on these raids alone. On more than one occasion this month these females have broken away from the troop to raid Compass Bakery on their own.

Births and Deaths

There was one birth recorded in the Slangkop troop.

There was one death recorded in the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The movements of the GOB troop must be monitored through regular checking of the GPS collar coordinates and the troop must be prevented from crossing Plateau Rd as far as possible.

The unfolding events in the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop must be closely monitored. It is hoped that the females will accept the new male as alpha in the coming weeks.

The three raiding females in the Slangkop troop will need to be tagged so that they can be better identified when they break away from the troop to raid.

Northern Region (Nick Shaw and Ziggy Rode)

1. Tokai Main Troop

No raiding by the Tokai Main Troop took place in the urban area during November. However, TK24 often tests the line and pushes down to the urban area in an attempt to raid. Due to close monitoring by rangers, he has not managed to raid throughout the month. Several raiding parties did enter the Chrysalis area and Porter stables, but they were all blocked before they could raid.

TK37 and TK38 moved from the Tokai Main Troop at the beginning of November, and attempted to join the Zwaanswyk Troop. By mid-November it seemed that both males were now predominantly spending their time with the Zwaanswyk Troop. This led to no raids involving the Tokai Main Troop for the month, and movement was in the normal home range. The troop also slept in the area from the Tokai clearing upwards into the levels and up to level 3 in the plantation.



Figure 10. Tokai Main Troop tracking data for November.

2. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop

Throughout the reporting period, the home ranges of the Tokai Main Troop and the Zwaanswyk Troop continued to overlap. Both troops were seen in close proximity to each other but not merging at all.

On 9 November, the Zwaanswyk Troop entered the Steenberg Wine Estate, and from there they managed to find weak spots in the Steenberg fence, and entered Zwaanswyk. When rangers arrived on the Steenberg Estate, they heard shots being fired from the Zwaanswyk area towards the baboons. This incident was reported to CapeNature. It took approximately two hours to push the troop out of Zwaanswyk and into the clearing next to the fence.

TK37 and TK38 moved in and out of the troop during the latter part of October and beginning of November, but by mid-November both males were spending most of their time with the Zwaanswyk Troop. The arrival of the two males led to a lot of conflict and fighting between the males. During the first few days of November, TK35 (alpha male) and TK37 bore a number of injuries as a result of the fighting.

Around 8 November, TK35 and TK38 appeared to join up and started chasing TK37 away from the troop. As a result, TK37 started spending a lot of time within the urban area and his raiding behaviour escalated dramatically from just being in the urban area, to raiding bins and then later in the month he started entering and raiding houses. TK37 also started to target one house in particular and charged a six year old girl who lived there, and she was severely traumatised by

the event. TK37 is currently being monitored closely, however it is extremely difficult as he manages to evade rangers in dense vegetation, and without a collar it is extremely complex to relocate him. Once in the urban area he moves quickly and quietly between the houses. Several attempts have been made to capture and collar this male.



Figure 11. Zwaanswyk troop tracking data for November

The paths shown up Zwaanswyk Road and around the eastern and southern perimeter of Steenberg (see Figure.11 above), simply reflect the route taken by the ranger with the data logger as they travelled to locate the troop.

TK38 has also, on several occasions, split away from the troop and predominantly enters the picnic area. He has been seen, by SANParks officials, taking food from tables and from the picnickers, and he is now also being monitored closely. It also seems that, when TK38 is away from the troop, then TK37 attempts to move back to the troop. However this always results in fighting between TK35 and TK37.

Management of dispersing males remains a complex issue as these males attempt to find new troops, and if not accepted into the troops that exist, enter the urban areas to avoid conflict with the other males in the troops. This, however, always leads to an increase in human-baboon conflict. From 8 November until 22 November, approximately 45 of the hotline calls were in respect of TK37 being in the Dennendal area in Tokai.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																									
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																							
North		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL																	
BABOON TROOP:	Zwaanswyk	In urban area	Raid bins	Non malicious damage	Attacking pets	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	Raid occupied house or vehicle	Threatening behaviour /attack/stealing fo	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	Nocturnal Raiding																															
MONTH: November	YEAR: 2013																																								
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											
Zwaanswyk Troop (ZT)																1														1											
TK 35 (R-Y)	M														1	1	1	2	2	6			1,2	1,2	1,2	2				13											
TK 37 (W-Y)	M									1					1	1		2	2,3	2	1			1,2	1,2	1,2	2	7	2	6,7	19										
TK 38 (Single Red)	M															1							1,2		7					4											
TKF 4 (Grey)	F															1														1											
TKF 5 (Green)	F															1														1											
TKF 7 (Red)	F															1									2	2				3											
Sub adult	M															1							2							2											
Un-ID fem	F															1							2,6	2	2					5											
Un-ID Juvenile																1							2							2											
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS															
Zwaanswyk Troop	0.6																									120	2.00														
Males	13.5																									20	120	120	60	90	90	120	200	540	120	210	210	60	150	460	42.83
Roost:	AM	3	3	2	3	5	9	9	1	1	4	4	4	4	1	4	9	4	4	4	4	6	9	2	9	9	9	5	4												
Roost:	PM	3	2	3	3	4	4	9	1	4	4	4	4	2	9	9	5	4	4	4	4	1	2	6	6	9	5	4	4												
Roost Sites	1	Tea Garden				2	Upper Tea Garden				3	Level 1 Tokai Clearing				4	Level 1 Zwk Blue Gums				5	Level 2 Stream																			
	6	Tokai Manor House				7	Lower Guest House				8	Upper Guest House				9	Other				10																				
ID Features of Baboons																																									
General remarks		Newborn male observed 28/10. TK 37 entered Zwk through pedestrian gate left open by resident, 04/11. TK 37 full time in troop by 06/11 TK 38 joins ZT full time 12/11.																																							

Figure 12. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop Raid Sheet

3. Constantia Troop

The Constantia troop did not spend any time in the urban area throughout the month. Males were kept out of the urban area for 98.3 % of the time. The troop spent most of the month on Klein and Groot Constantia. TK34 managed to gain access to Price Drive and raided an occupied house where he entered through an open sliding door. The home owner chased him out before calling the hotline. Despite the new electrified fence around Groot Constantia, the troop still manages to get onto the farm's vineyards and spends a significant amount of time eating grapes. A few weak spots at the gates have been noted, but these are due to be fixed and baboon proofed.

There has also been a considerable amount of fighting amongst the males in the Constantia troop. On 6 November, two males, TK19 and Con5 were seen with several injuries after a fight amongst the males.

On 18, 19 and 21 November an untagged, unidentified male was found in the urban area and raided a bin in Ou Wingerd Drive, he was pushed back to the troop on all three occasions very quickly.



Figure 13. Constantia Troop movement during November.

SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
North		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TOTAL						
BABOON TROOP:	Constantia	In urban area	Raid bins	Non malicious damage	Attacking pets	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	Raid occupied house or vehicle	Threatening behaviour /attack/stealing fo	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	Nocturnal Raiding																				
MONTH: November	YEAR: 2013																													
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
TK 33 (R-O)	M																													1
TK 34 (O -O)	M											6																		
TK 15 (Y-O)	M																													
TK 19 (R-W)	M																													
TK 16 (W-W)	M																													
TK 11 (O-W)	M																													
CON 1 (Untagged)	M																													
CON 2 (B-O) Collar	M																													
CON 4 (B) S.Ad	M																													
CON 3 (G) S.Ad	M																													
CON 5 (G-G)	M																													
CON 6 (O) S.Ad	M																													
Untagged/Unknown	M																								2	1		1		3
Const. Troop																														
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS				
Troop	%	0.0																												0.00
Males	%	1.7										280														10	20		20	5.50
Roost:	AM	1	9	9	9	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	8	2	2	2	2		
Roost:	PM	9	9	9	9	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	8	3	3	3	1	1	2	8	8	2	2	2		
Roost Sites		1 KC/GC Border - Upp. Blue gums										2 KC Lwr Blue Gums					3 KC/SANP MTB trail			4 Middle Plantation KC				5 Bulten BG						
		6 Uitsig BG										7 Other					8			9				10						
		11																												
ID Features of Baboons	CON 1, large untagged male with facial scars.CON 2 tagged Blue/Orange and collar fitted. TK 16 now confirmed tagged double White.																													
General remarks	R-W, G-G & Untagged male all carrying fight injuries,06/11																													

Figure 14. Constantia Troop Raid Sheet

4. Mountain Troop

Due to increased raiding by males from the Zwaanswyk Troop, there was limited manpower available to monitor the Mountain Troop optimally. However, the troop continues to roost primarily in the large Eucalyptus plantation on the border of Buitenverwachting.

Buitenverwachting have also employed their own team of rangers to keep the troop out of the vineyards. However, the troop still managed to spend quite a bit of time there, as well as raiding bins at the restaurant at Buitenverwachting.

Births and Deaths

One birth took place in the Constantia Troop on 26 October.

One birth was recorded on 28 October in the Zwaanswyk Troop.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Groot Constantia fence needs to be monitored closely to see if all the weaknesses have been noted and repaired.

The Steenberg Wine Estate fence also needs to be monitored to resolve any remaining weak spots. This is the fence to the south and west of the residential area.

Effective signage warning visitors not to have food and drinks exposed, and to keep vehicles locked needs to be erected at the corner of Zwaanswyk & Tokai Roads, at the Chrysalis Academy, in the Arboretum Tea Garden parking area.

Public refuse bins need to be baboon-proofed in the Price Drive, Zwaanswyk, Forest Glade and Tokai Road areas. The bins recently installed in Da Gama Park could be used.

Management strategies for the Northern troops need to be developed as the plantations are being cut down and the baboons should be losing access to the vineyards as electric fences are installed and slowly perfected.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

This month is the second in a row that the number of births in southern sub-population has equalled those in the north. What is also notable is that the number of births for the past two months has been much lower than for the previous nine months. This could be a seasonal feature, but at present one still needs much more data.

HWS monitors all births and deaths in the managed troops. The most noticeable trend this year is that the northern sub-population has been growing considerably faster than the southern sub-population. There is, however, one troop in the south that has been growing steadily at more or less the same rate as the troops in the north, and this is the Slangkop troop. In previous reports it has been surmised that the northern population has been breeding much faster because they have much greater access to human derived foods (HDF's) from the wine farms and pine plantations.

Population Data for the Ten Managed Troops on the Cape Peninsula						
TROOP	Total End Dec 2012	November Births	November Deaths	Total Births	Total Deaths	TOTAL CURRENT
Da Gama Troop	54	1		9	21	42
Smitswinkel Bay	23			2	4	21
Waterfall	28			0	1	27
Groot Olifantsbos	19			0	0	19
Misty Cliffs Splinter	18		1	3	2	19
Slangkop	33	1		9	4	38
SUB TOTAL	175	2	1	23	32	166
Zwaanswyk	25	1		7	1	31
Tokai	61			10	5	66
Mountain / Ghost	33			11	0	44
Constantia	60	1		19	7	72
SUB TOTAL	179	2	0	47	13	213
TOTAL	354	4	1	70	45	379

Figure 15. Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula

A significant feature of the Slangkop Troop is that it would appear to have two regular supplies of HDF's unlike those available to other troops in the south. The first supply is that of pine nuts. The Ocean View sleep site has a large stand of pine trees and the baboons regularly spend several hours feeding there. The second source of HDF's is Compass Bakery. Waste management at this bakery is very poor and the outside bins generally contain buns or bread and are easily accessible to the baboons. The bakery is right on the edge of town and it is almost impossible to stop the baboons if they suddenly decide to run down hill to the bakery. The baboons are generally quickly chased out again, but not before most of them have managed to steal a bun or two. These buns could represent quite a high percentage of the baboon's daily energy intake, and therefore enable the females to breed more frequently.

Hotline Data

In October HWS recorded the fewest raid related hotline calls (33) in managed areas since November 2012 (23). This seems to be an annual feature, with the onset of summer combined with the hang over rains from winter, providing good forage for the baboons. This trend was spoiled this November, when HWS received 89 hotline calls from managed areas. However, almost two thirds of these calls were because of the raiding behaviour of one baboon, namely TK37 in Tokai. This is the dispersing male from the Zwaanswyk troop that has been rejected by the alpha male, TK35, and another younger male, TK38. These two males have been attacking TK37 whenever he returns to the troop. As a result, TK37's urban raiding has increased dramatically over the past month, and he is now a fearless raider of occupied houses.

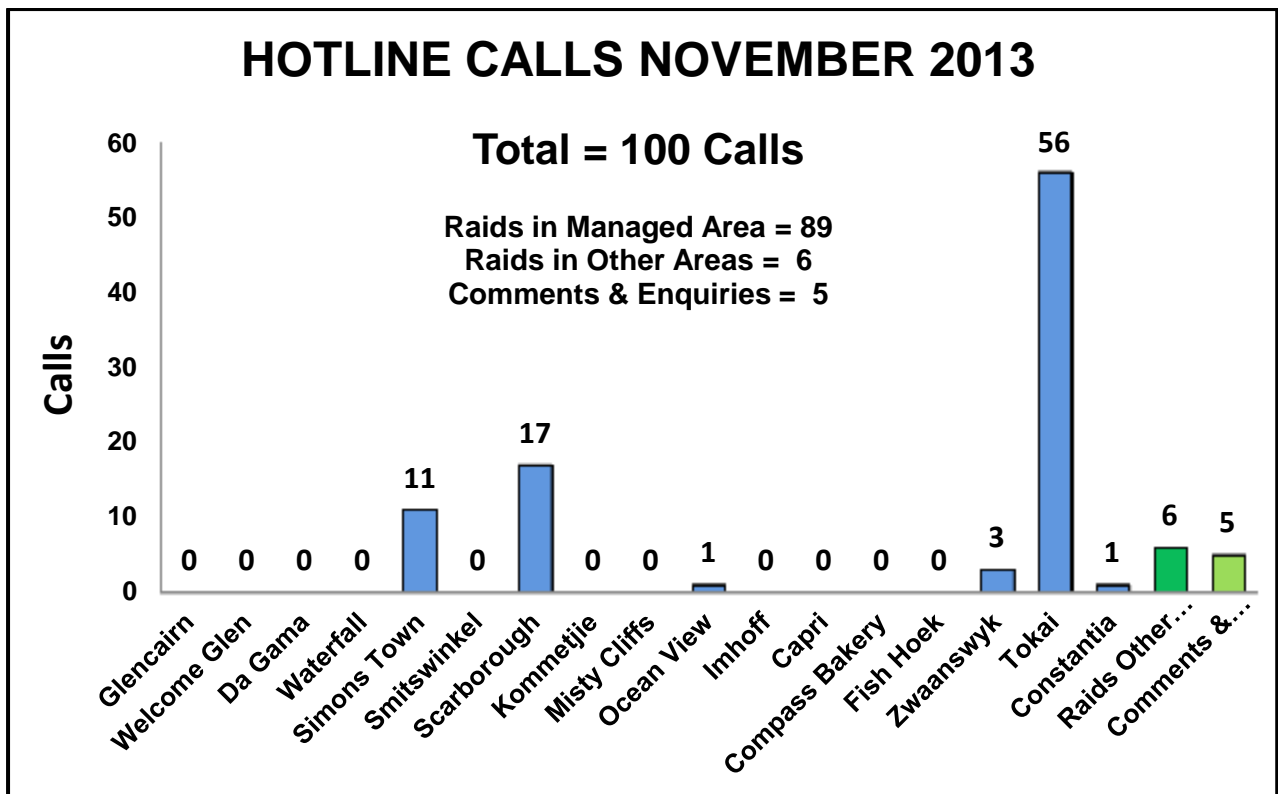


Figure 16. Hotline calls summary per area for November 2013

Apart from the raids by TK37 in Tokai, and a resumption of raids into Scarborough, most managed areas had very few, if any, raids over the past month. The resumption of raids into Scarborough was initially led by GOB5, often taking some females with him. Then, since the death of GOB5, the females with young babies did their best to escape the attentions of the new male, GOB8, and often took refuge in Scarborough. It took GOB8 only a few days to realise that GOB5 was no longer resident and move across from the GOB troop to join the Misty Cliffs troop as the potential alpha male.

This month the trend towards a reduction in raids in the presence of people (raiding occupied houses or stealing from people) has continued, with 88% of all raids being reports of baboons just being in town or raiding bins.

With education and increased awareness of waste management, as well as the City of Cape Town currently providing a whole new batch of baboon proof bins, the incidence of bin raiding will hopefully also decrease.

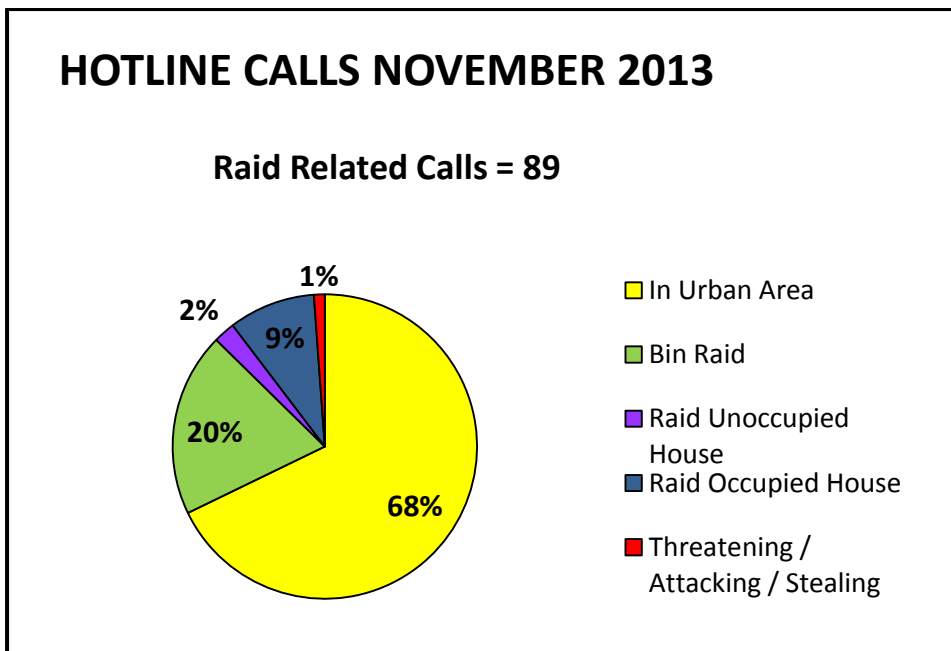


Figure 17. Raid-related hotline calls for November 2013

Percentage Time out of Town

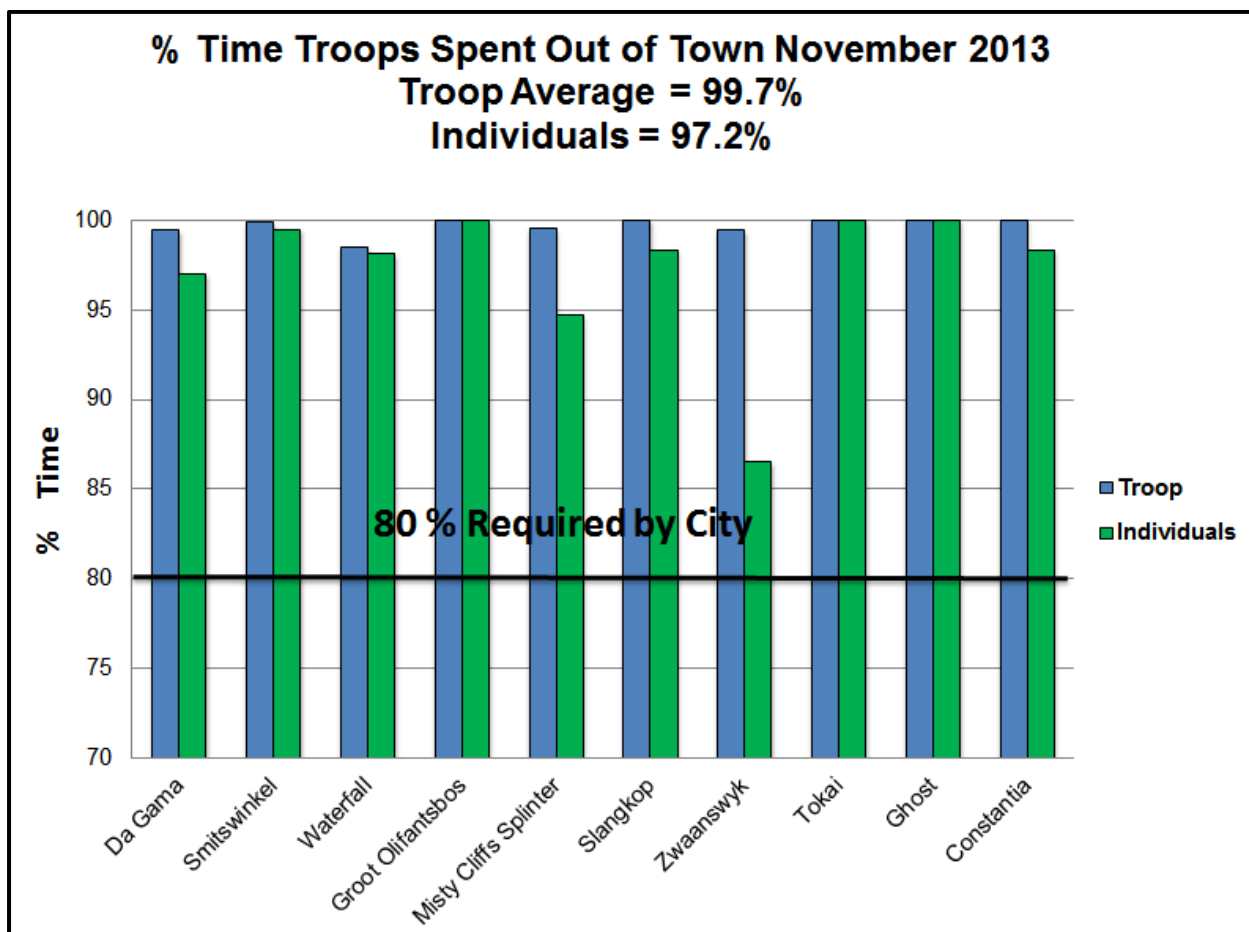


Figure 18. Percentage of time troops spent out of town.

The good foraging conditions in the fynbos are no doubt a contributing factor, but it is nevertheless still pleasing to note that during November the baboon troops were kept out of the urban area for an average of 99.7% of the time, and that this average for the past three months was 99.3%. During November individually raiding males and females were kept out of town for an average of 97.3% of the time.

The percentage times each troop has been kept out of town since HWS first started recording these data in September 2012, HWS's second month of management, are given for each month in Table 1. What is notable is that for all troops the average has been over 97% since our records began until now. The average for the whole period is 98.6%. The Misty Cliff's Splinter troop has undoubtedly been the most difficult to keep out of the urban area, but even this troop has averaged being out of town for 93.3% of the time over the past 15 months.

ANNUAL PERCENTAGE OUT OF TOWN DATA: September 2012 to November 2013																
TROOPS	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	TOTAL
All Troops	97.1	98.6	99.6	99.1	98.5	98.5	99.2	98.5	98.3	97.6	97.9	98.8	98.7	99.5	99.7	98.6
Misty Cliffs	94.0	96.4	100.0	94.7	95.4	88.0	94.3	90.0	91.2	82.5	86.0	93.2	94.8	100	99.5	93.3
Total minus Misty Cliffs	97.4	98.9	99.5	99.5	98.8	99.5	99.7	99.3	99.0	99.1	99.1	99.3	99.1	99.4	99.7	99.1
INDIVIDUALS	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	TOTAL
Individuals	95.5	97.4	99.0	98.0	95.8	96.5	96.8	95.0	95.3	95.2	95.6	94.1	97.0	97.9	97.2	96.4
Misty Cliffs	94.0	95.8	98.4	94.6	94.3	76.0	87.1	69.8	94.6	77.8	85.3	87.9	92.3	98.5	94.7	89.4
Total minus Misty Cliffs	95.7	97.5	99.1	98.4	95.9	98.5	97.8	97.6	95.4	97.0	96.6	94.7	97.5	97.8	97.5	97.1

Table 1. Annual percentage out of town data.

Scarborough presents an extremely difficult suburb to keep baboons out of, because the vegetation in and between most plots is very dense giving the baboons endless hiding places. Many of these trees are also bear fruit which, along with many residents who like to feed the baboons, encourages the baboons to come into town. The terrain surrounding Scarborough is also very steep and rugged which gives the baboons a further advantage in gaining access to town.

Over the past two months, the Misty Cliffs Troop has been kept in the CoGH Reserve for most of the time and raiding has therefore been kept to a record low. With the removal of GOB5, the troop is now returning to the CoGH Reserve and, having a new alpha male it is hoped that this troop can be encouraged to become more in line with the other troops and consistently spend over 98% of its time out of town.

General Summary

Probably the most significant observation this month, is that HWS has managed to keep all baboons troops out of town for an average of over 98% of the time since they took over management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. The average for individuals raiding on their own, mostly adult males, is also well over the 80% mark, at 96.4%. All these figures are showing slight increases since HWS records began, and this statistic suggests that paintball markers continue to be a highly effective aversive tool in the controlling of baboons.

At this stage there is no evidence to suggest that baboons are becoming conditioned towards paintball markers. It is true that a few of the highly aggressive males have, on occasion, ignored paintball markers in order to gain access to a highly desirable food source, like a fruiting guava tree.

It is also noteworthy that adult males are sometimes prepared to go through electric fences. The best example of this is RH2, the alpha male of the Waterfall troop. This male regularly walks right through the electric fence into the SANDF ammunition depot, but is then quite easily chased out again with paintball markers. The point here, being that both electric fences and paintball markers are highly effective tools in baboon management, but nothing is absolutely perfect.

Dr. Philip Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions