



Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

April 2014

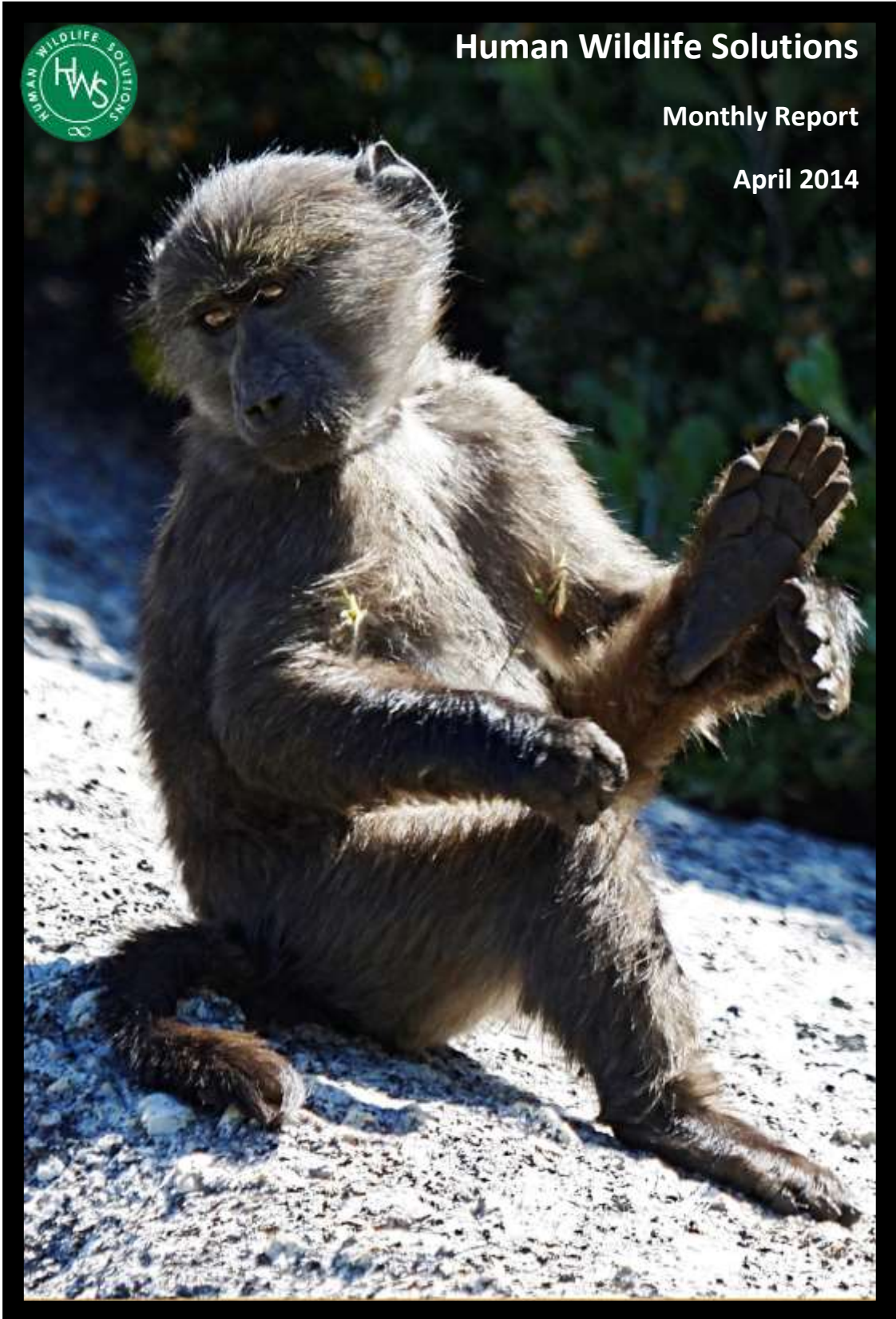


Photo: John de Jager

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 Troops (DG)	5
Births and Deaths	7
Recommendations	7
SOUTH WEST REGION	
1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)	8
2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop	9
3. Slangkop Troop	10
Births and Deaths	11
Recommendations	11
NORTH REGION	
1. Tokai Main Troop (TMT)	12
2. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop (ZST)	13
3. Constantia Troop	14
4. Mountain Troop	16
Births and Deaths	16
Recommendations	16
C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS	
Population Data	16
Hotline Data	17
Percentage Time Out of Town	18
General	19

A. INTRODUCTION

This month's report covers the five week period from 22 March to 25 April 2014. The early winter rains have produced some fresh vegetation in the fynbos, so the stress associated with the lack of food at the end of summer seems to have been slightly alleviated. All of the baboon troops, with the exception of Misty Cliffs, stayed out of town for a minimum of 99% of the time, and most of them were out 100% of the time. In all of the troops, the time the troops spent in town can be attributed largely to being led astray by a few individuals renowned for being habitual raiders.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Over the last month there has been some rainfall which has already improved the condition of the veld. According to Weather SA, there has been approximately 35mm rainfall around the Smitswinkel area. This is good news for the baboons as they can forage on the new growth.

In total, the troop spent 0,1% of its time in town which can be attributed to the troop moving through the Miller's Point boat launch area on 21 April. As it was a public holiday, there were a number of fishermen and visitors in the area and, as a result of the debris such as fish heads, other fishing waste and leftover food that was left lying around, the baboons were able to feed on the remains. Rangers did however push the troop out of the area within around 15 minutes.

Currently, there are three individuals that are the main culprits for raiding. One of them, SWB1, is an old male and his body condition seems to indicate that he is under some nutritional stress. He also appears to have some difficulty keeping up with the troop on the steep slopes. SWB1 could therefore be resorting to raiding as it requires far less effort and results in much higher nutritional reward.

The others are two sub-adult males that have, over the past few months, also started to split off from the troop, either joining SWB1 or going on their own to raid. The older male, SWB7, has only three legs and, although he can keep up with the troop, he often breaks away or attempts to break away in order to raid. Being three-legged, it is energetically more costly for him to travel up and down the mountain and, when forage is limited, it is generally the handicapped individuals such as SWB7 that push the hardest to raid because they are the ones that are most energetically stressed.

The benefit of raiding is that they are able to gain high energy rewards for relatively little expenditure of energy. Both of these sub-adults males should be tagged and collared soon in order to manage them more intensively and pro-actively.

SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																					
SE		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																							
SE		Smitswinkel																																					
MONTH: April		2014																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL		
SWB1	M																5,5	2													7			8	5		6		
SWB6	M												5																									1	
Troop																																						1	
UnID Fem	F																																					0	
SWBF8	F																																					0	
Juveniles													5																									2	
UNID Male	M																	2																				1	
SWB7	M												5																									2	
	%																													HRS									
Troop	0.10																													0.25									
Individuals	0.23																													0.58									
Males	0.86																													2.17									
Roost:	AM	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	3	3	2	2	6	2	2	4	6	1	1	2	3	2	2	3	6	4	6	4	5	2	2			
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	3	3	2	6	2	2	4	6	1	1	2	3	2	2	2	3	6	6	4	5	2	2	6				
Roost Sites		1 Smits Caves					2 Partridge Point					3 Bluegums					4 Millers Point					5 Rocklands Farm																	
		6 Castle Rock					7 SANParks																																
ID Features of Baboons		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																																					

Fig.1. Smitswinkel Troop Raid Sheet

2. Waterfall Troop

Since November 2013, the Waterfall Troop has been sleeping predominantly on the cliffs at the Klaasjagersberg peak behind the South African Navy Ammunition Depot (SANAD). This has resulted in the troop being out of town 100% of the time over the past five months.

However, RH2, the old male in the troop, has been raiding at the SANAD facility during the past months due to bins neither being secure nor baboon-proof, and the availability of a number of fruit trees on the property. RH2 has, on various occasions, left the troop on the other side of the mountain to go and raid on his own at SANAD.

The issue around baboon-proofing and the presence of fruit trees had been raised with SANAD as the fear has always been that more baboons would follow RH2 which would lead to increased raiding. Unfortunately, as there was no progress in this regard, WF2, a female with one leg missing, as well as several other baboons, have discovered the bins and easy access into the mess room (where lunches are kept), which has resulted in increased raiding at SANAD.

This also seems to have triggered further raiding because, for the first time in the five months, WF2 formed a raiding party and pushed hard to get back to the Waterfall Barracks/Simon's Town to raid. Rangers managed to block them and successfully push them back to the mountain behind SANAD, but to avoid this behaviour urgent attention needs to be given to the issues within the facility.

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	23	24	25	TOTAL											
BABOON TROOP: Waterfall		In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																																
MONTH: April	2014	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																
		Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																																		
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL	
WF2	M												2				6				2	6																7
UnID Females	F																2	2,6																				6
TROOP																																						0
RH2	M											2			6	6																						8
UnID Juveniles																																						0
UnID Male	M																																					0
WFF1	F																																					0
UnID Individuals																																						0
	%																											HRS										
Troop	0.0																											0.00										
Females/Individuals	1.6																											65 150										
Males	1.6																											10 15 15 65 10 10 30 70 10 10 4.08										
Roost:	AM	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10			
Roost:	PM	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	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					4	Waterfall Barracks					5	Mountain Residents side												
	6	Admiral footpath					7	Not found					8	Happy Valley Home					9	Red Hill					10	SANDF												
	11	Mountain CoGHN					12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road					13	Rocklands farm					14	North peak																		
ID Features of Baboons	WF2 - yellow&blue tag. RH2 - double yellow tags + collar, adult male WFF1 - three legs																																					
General remarks																																						

Fig.2. Waterfall Troop Raid Sheet.

Da Gama Troops

The first three weeks of the reporting period proved very complicated as the troop showed a higher tendency of splitting into smaller raiding parties when sleeping at the flats or in the pine trees in Da Gama. The raiding parties also dispersed in different directions in town which resulted in the ranger team having to split into groups of two, which also meant that it took longer to push the raiding parties out of town.

The raiding parties are predominantly led by DG1, DG10 and/or DG11. DG10 usually pulls as many as 10 individuals, (females & juveniles), with him when attempting to raid. DG1 was mainly seen with only one female that he was protecting as she was carrying an infant. On 1 April however, SK3, the alpha-male, killed the infant.

DG1 continues to frequently attempt to push into town when the troop is up on the mountain and mainly aims for the area between 14th and 16th Avenue in Da Gama Park as there are fruit trees present, and some of the houses are not secured nor baboon-proof.

Also on 1 April, when the team arrived in the morning, the troop was pushed out of town with no sign of any baboons remaining behind. However, when the field manager returned to the flats at midday to get supplies, he found a juvenile male baboon lying dead in the road. The baboon had not been there when the team arrived in the morning, and it is not known how it got there or where it came from.

The carcass was examined by both Dr. Elzette Jordan and Ms. Esme Beamish, and the cause of death was determined to be as a result of being killed by dogs.

DG10 also, on various occasions, attempted to sleep in a pine tree in 3rd Avenue. This was a major concern as it had the potential of resulting in another splinter troop forming. The decision was therefore taken to remove the tree and permission was granted by the Navy to do so. As a result, a contractor cut down the tree and, since its removal, DG10 has slept with the troop and not attempted to split off again.



Fig.3. (a) Pine tree in 3rd Avenue that needed to be felled. (b) Remaining stump.

On 15 April, John de Jager, the HWS Response Area Manager, put structured lines in place to push the troop up the mountain and towards Maylands which is located close to Kleinplaas Dam. He worked with the team for four consecutive days and, in doing so, the team managed to get the troop to sleep out of town at the Maylands sleep site, (which is ideal for the troop), for the rest of the reporting period.

This has been an essential breakthrough and as a result, over a 10-day period, there was only one raid which occurred at a house close to Kleinplaas Dam where there was no baboon-proofing and very poor waste management.

Going forward, the plan is to get the troop to sleep at Maylands as often as possible and to get them into the habit of using this as their preferred sleep site.

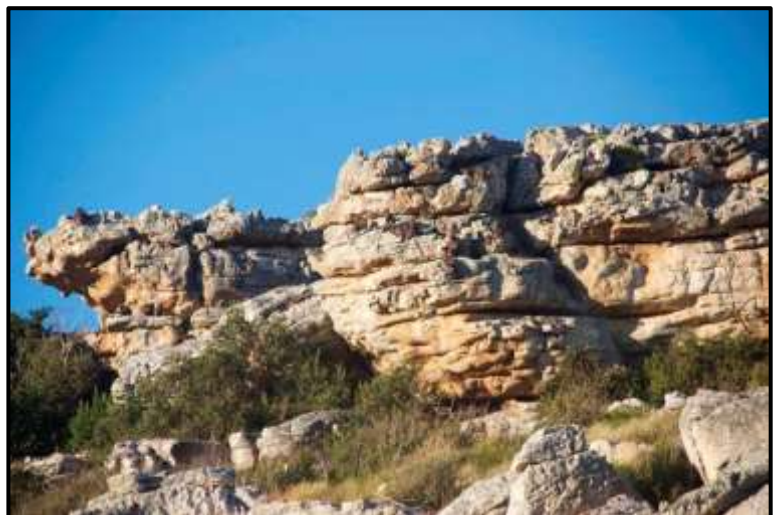


Fig.4. Maylands sleep site.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																						
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																				
SOUTH EAST		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																			
BABOON TROOP: Da Gama																																						
MONTH: April 2014																																						
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL	
Troop					1										1	2																						1
SK3	M		2												1	2																					4	
DG1	M	1	1	1	5		1,2		1		2				1,2				2	1	1	5	6			6							6				15	
DG10	M		1	2			1				2	1		1		2										1											8	
DG11	M						1							1											2,6												4	
DGF1	F																																				0	
DGF2	F																																				0	
UnID Females	F		1	2							2	1							1	1	2	1				1										9		
UnID Female	F	1	2				1		1					1,2	2									1	1												11	
UnID Male	M			2	1						2	1				6		2																			6	
UnID Juvs			1	2			1		1		2	1		1,2	2			1	1				1			1											11	
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Troop		0.4				60																															1.25	
Individuals		9.4	60	100	270		125		200		185	120		90	95	15		60	20	20		20	255		180										30.25			
Males		8.5	60	105	270	120	120		145		185	120		90	55	15		60	20	10	120		40		110											27.42		
Roost:	AM	2	1,3	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,2	2	1	2	1,2	1	2	1,2	1,2	19	23	18,1	1,2	2	2	1	2	1,2	2	2	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17			
Roost:	PM	1	1	1	2	1,2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1,2	19	23	18	1,2	2	2	1	2	1,2	2	2	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17			
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	Plattkop		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, DG		22	Lewis Gay Dam		23	Pinehaven		24	Kleinplaas dam		25	3rd 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																																					
General remarks																																						

Fig.5. Da Gama Troop Raid Sheet

Births and Deaths

1 April – infant in Da Gama Park died due to infanticide.

1 April – juvenile male baboon was found dead in Da Gama Park, killed by dogs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Baboon-proof bins and education is needed at the South African Navy Ammunition Depot (SANAD) site to prevent human baboon conflict increasing there.

Removal of fruit trees at the SANAD site is highly recommended.

Baboon-proofing of mess room at SANAD to prevent baboons gaining access to food that is stored there.

Collaring of SWB1 as well as two sub-adults is an urgent recommendation in order to manage these animals pro-actively in the Smitswinkel area.

On-going education and law enforcement is desperately needed in Da Gama Park as well as along the tourist routes.

Waste management continues to need urgent attention, especially at the Da Gama Park flats. A new waste disposal system needs to be developed for the flats.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Nick Shaw**1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop**

During the month of April, the GOB Troop has been at the Bonteberg roost site for the majority of the time. The troop slept at the Red Hill roost site on 23, 24 and 25 March, and again on 9, 15 and 16 April.

The proportion of the troop's home range that was utilised this month has reduced even further compared with previous months. This is most likely due to reduced natural forage at this time of year. Although the troop has been very close to the urban edge this month, only three individuals have crossed the CoGH Reserve fence to enter Scarborough.

On 31 March, a single female, together with the sub-adult male, left the troop to enter Scarborough. The alpha male, GOB7, followed these two over the fence. All three were pushed back over the fence within half an hour.

This is the only time this month that any of the troop entered into the urban area. On 23 March, the troop did however manage to raid bags of rubbish left out at the Red Hill picnic site.



Fig. 6. Roost sites and GPS points for the GOB troop – April 2014

2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop

The Misty Cliffs Troop has spent the majority month at the Misty Cliffs Roost Site.

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		2 Raid bins		5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle		8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property		3 Non malicious damage		6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																						
MONTH: April	YEAR: 2014																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
GOB8	M				2	2	2	2	2	2	2					5		2		2		2	2		6	1		2		6		6	2		8,6		2	19
MCF2	F				2	2		2	2	1	2	5				5		2		2	1	2	2	1	2	1		2		6		6	2		8,6	1	2	23
MCF3	F				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2		2		2		2		1	2	1		2		2		6	2				2	19
MCF4 + baby	F				2			2	2		2	2				2		2		2		2			2	1							2				2	14
Troop					2			2	2		2	2				2		2				2			2	1						2		1	2		2	14
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS										
Troop	8.4				180			90	120		300	90				270		150				240				60	60			70		40	180			270	35h20	
Males & Females	14.8				180	120	240	90	120	40	300	90				270		150		180	60	240	420	50	60	60		300		70		40	180		45	150	270	62h05
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		1 Misty Cliffs		2 CoGH Reserve		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10																		
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks																																						

Fig. 7. Raid Sheet for Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop - April 2014

April Raids:

On 1 April, MCF2 raided a house in Old Camp Rd, Misty Cliffs. Access was gained through a broken window. It is not known whether or not the window was already broken before the raid or if the window was broken by either GOB8 or MCF2.

On 4 April, GOB8 and MCF2 raided an unoccupied house in Hilltop Rd, entering through an open window.

On 13 April, a number of the troop raided an occupied house in Old Camp Rd, Misty Cliffs, entering through an open door.

On 18 April, GOB8 and a female raided an occupied house in Seagull Rd, Scarborough.

On 20 April, a number of individuals raided a beach house in Misty Cliffs, entering through an open door.

On 23 April, GOB8, together with MCF2, broke the window of a house in Klip St, Scarborough, in an attempt to gain access to the house.



Fig. 8. Window pane broken by GOB8 in Klip St, Scarborough – April 2014

Comments and Observations

The challenge this month, has been to keep the troop together and prevent individuals from breaking away to enter Scarborough. GOB8, MCF2 and MCF3 have been particularly problematic and try to leave the troop on a daily basis. These individuals have spent nearly twice as much time in the urban areas than the rest of the troop.

GOB8 continues to prove very difficult to manage and constantly pushes to gain access to the urban areas. Even after being pushed out of town, GOB8 will continue to attempt to get past the rangers by running down the firebreak to outflank the team. GOB8 does not stay with the troop, which makes it very difficult to manage both him and the troop simultaneously.

As the picture on the previous page (Fig. 8.) indicates, GOB8 continues to break windows to gain access to houses. After breaking a window, GOB8 will return to the house again and again in order to gain access.

MCF2 also continues to raid in Scarborough alone and will often follow GOB8 when he breaks away from the troop.

A juvenile baboon was injured in the hind leg and forearm when he was attacked by GOB8. The juvenile was observed by a veterinarian and will continue to be monitored.

3. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop Troop has utilised the C3 roost site above Compass Bakery for the entire month of April.

SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
BABOON TROOP: Slangkop		1 In urban area	4 Attacking pets	7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																																	
MONTH: April		2 Raid bins	5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																	
YEAR: 2014		3 Non malicious damage	6 Raid occupied house or vehicle																																		
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL
DG6	M	2	2		2	2	2				2	2	2		6		2			2,8							2,6	2		2	2				2	17	
SKF1	F	2			2	2	2				2	2	2		6					2	2						2	2		2				2	2	16	
SKF2 + baby	F	2			2	2	2				2	2	2		2					2	2						2	2		2				2	2	16	
SKF3 + new bom	F	2			2	2	2				2	2	2		2					2							2	2		2				2	2	15	
Troop		2			2		2					2		2						2											2					7	
		%																																			
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS							
Troop	1.0	30			35							35		40					30												30					3h20	
Males + Females	2.5	30	15		35	60	30				20	15	35		40		15		30		25					35	30	45		45			90	20	10h15		
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		
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		
Roost Sites	1 Slangkop		2 Ocean View		3 Compass Bakery		4 Witsand		5		6		7		8		9		10																		
ID Features of Baboons	DG6 has a yellow cable tie tag																																				
General remarks																																					

Fig. 9. Raid Information Sheet for Slangkop Troop – April 2014

April Raids:

On 22 and 25 March, the troop raided bins at Compass Bakery.

On 27 April, the troop raided bins in 'small Capri.'

On 2, 4 and 20 April, the troop managed to enter Capri through the 'Solole Reserve'.

On 4 April, DG6, SKF2 and a number of juveniles raided an occupied house in Cayman Close, Capri.

On 9 April, DG6 broke the window of a house in Thompson Close, Ocean View.

All the other raids were by individual baboons in Ocean View. DG6 and the three females, SKF1, SKF2 and SKF3, are mostly responsible for these raids although they have recently been accompanied by a couple of juveniles.

Comments and Observations

The Slangkop Troop has been more insistent in attempts to access the urban areas. For the first time in many months, the whole troop has raided Compass Bakery as well as Capri. Although there have been a number of raids in the urban areas, the troop is usually moved out quickly.

DG6 has been problematic and has raided bins in Ocean View as well as breaking a window of a house in Thompson Close. He was unable to gain access to the house because the window was fitted with burglar bars.

The same three female baboons from the original TK5 split continue to raid on their own in Ocean View.

Raiding by the Slangkop Troop has increased from previous months. This is mainly due to the stress of reduced natural forage at this time of year. The raiding is however still at a manageable level and raids are usually short in duration as the team is usually able to move the troop out of residential areas within half an hour, with minimal house raids.

Births and Deaths

There were no births and no deaths recorded for any of the troops this month.

Recommendations

GOB Troop: 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 and the Reserve fence along Scarborough. Special attention must be paid to the raiding party of the single sub adult male and female that entered Scarborough on their own for the second time in two months. On both occasions, rangers were able to respond quickly to limit the amount of time spent in Scarborough, although the non-raiding alpha, GOB7, did cross the CoGH fence to follow these two.

Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop: The strategy for this troop will be to try and return them to the Reserve from where they, and the GOB troop, can be more effectively managed. It will be necessary to address the severe raiding of GOB8 and MCF2, who regularly break away from the troop to raid in Scarborough. These two individuals continue to break into houses on a regular basis by breaking windows.

Slangkop Troop: The troop is targeting Compass Bakery and Capri far more than in previous months. The ranger team will have to strengthen the line between the Compass Bakery roost site and Capri in order to prevent raids on Capri. When the troop moves to the Ocean View area, the team will need to dedicate two rangers to follow DG6 and the three females that regularly enter Ocean View to raid bins. This is to prevent DG6 from having time available during which he can break windows and doors as he has done in recent months.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Main Troop

It was generally a quiet month for the Tokai Main Troop. No urban raiding took place during this reporting period. As the grape harvesting is over, the troop is no longer pushing onto Buitenverwagting, and is now predominantly foraging within the pine plantations in Tokai. The troop spent this month in the natural areas adjacent to Buitenverwagting, stretching south along the levels to Lister's Tea Room. They did not move beyond Lister's Tea Room towards the Zwaanswyk fence side.

The only offending baboon this month was TK39. On four separate occasions, TK39 left the troop and stole bags from hikers in the Tokai plantation. TK39 was also caught on two occasions while attempting to steal bags, but HWS rangers managed to prevent these incidences.

Food was not always visible when TK39 attempted to steal bags, which indicates that he has now learnt to associate backpacks with food, even if no food is present. For instance, on 24 March, TK39 stole a bag from a woman's hand, and when he realised no food was present left the bag and moved off. The absence of food did not deter him from his actions.

The troop is still in sporadic conflict with members of the Mountain Troop as males from this troop are dispersing. The alpha male of the Tokai Troop, TK28, has been defending his troop and territory from these males. In doing so he has acquired minor lacerations to his face. Other than this however, no other injuries were sustained by other members of this troop this month.

One new born was reported on the 27 March.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																						
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																				
SOUTH EAST		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food from person																															
BABOON TROOP:	Tokai	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																															
MONTH:March-April	YEAR: 2014	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																															
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total	
TK 39 (G-R)	M			7*7*																																	7*7*	
The Troop																																						
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS										
		%																																				
Tokai Troop		0.0																									0.00											
Individuals		0.0																									0.00											
Males		0.0																									0.00											
Roost:	AM	3	1	3	4	2	6	6	3	11	3	6	6	6	1	6	3	6	7	1	3	8	8	8	7	7	11	9	9	6	6	7	11	7	7	7		
Roost:	PM	1	3	4	2	6	6	3	11	3	6	6	6	1	6	3	6	7	1	3	8	8	3	7	11	9	9	6	6	7	1	7	7	7	7			
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	Lower Guest House					7	Upper Guest House					8	Level 3 Pines					9	Level 4 Pines					10	Level 2 Pines												
	11	Level 1a Quarry Gums					12	Other					13						14						15													
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks	Newborn reported 27/03.																																					

Fig. 10. April raid sheet for the Tokai Main Troop. * indicates raids that took place outside the urban area.



Fig.11. Tracking data of baboon rangers following the Tokai Main Troop.

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

The Zwaanswyk Troop spent this month foraging around the upper tea garden area, and around the Zwaanswyk clearing, near the Zwaanswyk fence. TK38 was the main raider this month, as he stole food from occupied and unoccupied tables at Lister’s tea room, and stole backpacks off

hikers in Tokai Plantation. On several of these occasions, TK38 was accompanied by other individuals such as TKF7, untagged females, sub adults and juveniles.

In addition to TK38's raids, the entire troop was suspected of raiding the Tokai picnic site bins. On 6 April, the Zwaanswyk Troop was left, at sunset, on level 2 near the Zwaanswyk clearing. During the evening, it is assumed they moved down to the Tokai picnic site as the following morning they were found at the Tokai Bridge blue gums. It appeared that the whole troop had raided the bins at the Tokai picnic site as all of the bins were overturned.

The Zwaanswyk fence has been intermittently faulty during this reporting period. On two occasions, a lone female was able to jump the fence while it was off, and on one of these occasions, she raided a bin in Zwaanswyk Road. On both occasions HWS rangers herded the untagged female back over the fence and subsequently kept the troop away from the fence area to avoid further incursions.

No digital tracking data was available for the Zwaanswyk Troop this month due to a faulty data logger.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																							
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																					
SOUTH EAST		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food from person																																
BABOON TROOP: Zwaanswyk		2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																
MONTH: March-April YEAR:2014		3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																																
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total		
TK 38 (Sing.R) Collar	M	6*					5*7*				6*				7*																								
TKF 7 (Red)	F	6*																																					
Sub adult	M	6*																																					
Un-ID fem	F						5*																		2										1				
Un-ID Juvenile							5*																																
The Troop																			2*																				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS											
Zwaanswyk Troop	0.0																											0.00											
Individuals	0.1																											0.50											
Males	0.0																											0.00											
Roost:	AM	8	5	8	1	1	8	2	1	2	8	1	8	8	8	8	1	9	8	8	5	2	5	5	1	5	1	2	10	6	1	8	1	8	8	2			
Roost:	PM	5	8	4	1	8	2	1	2	8	1	8	8	8	8	1	5	8	8	5	2	5	5	5	5	1	2	10	6	1	8	2	8	8	2	3			
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 Lower Guest House		7 Upper Guest House		8 Manor House		9 Tokai bridge Blue Gums		10 Level 2 Pines																													
		11 Other		12		13		14		15																													
ID Features of Baboons																																							
General remarks		The two instances where an untagged female was in the urban space (Zwaanswyk road, 14 and 22 April), was a result the Zwaanswyk fence being faulty.																																					

Fig.12. April raid sheet for the Zwaanswyk Troop. *indicates raids that the raids took place outside the urban areas.

3. Constantia Troop

This month, the Constantia Troop moved between Groot Constantia and the top of Klein Constantia, and around the bike trails. The Constantia wine farms have now concluded harvesting and grapes are no longer available for the troop to consume. The troop has hence moved back to foraging on more natural vegetation.

Several raids occurred around Simon's Restaurant, on Groot Constantia, during the early part of this reporting period. Adult males, TK33, CON4 and CON5, discovered the waste disposal area of Simon's Restaurant which has been left open. As a result, bin raids occurred on 27 and 28 March, undertaken by these males and a few other unknown individuals. This subsequently sparked more bin raiding as the whole troop raided the bins on 30 March and 8 April.

As well as raiding on Groot Constantia property, an adult, untagged male also left the troop and ventured into the urban area to raid. On 27 March, this same male entered an occupied house in Ou Wingerd Road, entering through an open door and consuming eggs, bread and rusks. When discovered, he left the same way and returned to the troop.

A Ph.D. research project – affiliated to the University of Cape Town – has recently commenced in Constantia, observing the males in the troop. This project involves capturing and placing GPS collars on the males in the Constantia Troop and as a result, two males, CON6 and CON5, have both been collared with new GPS collars, and more are planned to be collared in the following months.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
SOUTH EAST		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	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 food from person	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	Nocturnal Raiding																											
MONTH: March-April	YEAR: 2014																																				
BABOON ID	Sex	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
TK 33 (R-D)	M						2*	2*																													
CON 4 (B) S.Ad	M						2*																														
CON 5 (G-G)	M						2*																														
Untagged male	M						6																														
Un-ID fem / Juv	F						2*	2*																													
Untagged/Unknown	M						2*																														
The Troop											2*																										
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Con Troop	0.0																											0.00									
Individuals	0.0																											0.00									
Males	0.1	20																										0.33									
Roost:	AM	1	4	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
Roost:	PM	4	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1		
Roost Sites		1 KC/GC Border - Upp. Blue gums				2 KC Lwr Blue Gums				3 KC/SANpk MTB trail upp				4 Middle Plantation KC				5 Buitens BG																			
		6 Uitsig BG				7 Mckenzie/Groot				8 Other				9				10																			
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks																																					

Fig.13. April raids for the Constantia Troop. * indicates raids that took place outside the urban area.



Fig.14. Tracking data of baboon rangers following the Constantia Troop.

Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop spent its time in the upper levels at the top of the Buitenverwagting property during this reporting period. As the harvest is over, the troop is no longer pushing into Buitenverwagting to forage on the grapes and no raiding incidents have occurred.

The troop is essentially sandwiched between the Tokai Main Troop and the Constantia Troop. Baboons are basically territorial, hence the Mountain Troop has no entrance into the urban areas other than through Buitenverwagting as they cannot cross either neighbouring troop's territory. Therefore, while they stay off Buitenverwagting, there is no opportunity for this troop to raid as a whole.

Births and Deaths

One birth was recorded in the Tokai Troop this month.

No deaths were reported this month for any of the Northern Troops.

Recommendations

Clear signage, which stresses the need to be cautious around baboons while within the Plantation, is suggested around Lister's Tea Room car park, and the Tokai Plantation.

The Zwaanswyk fence needs to be repaired as soon as possible as the Zwaanswyk Troop is able to take advantage when it is malfunctioning, and may enter Zwaanswyk Road.

Waste at Simon's Restaurant should be securely locked away to avoid bin raids and attracting the troop to the restaurant.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

This month there was very little change in the managed population of baboons, with only one birth and two deaths being recorded (Fig. 15 on page 17). What is pertinent however, is the trend noted last month, that there seem to be many less births being recorded this year compared to last year.

This year, there have been only 14 births recorded whereas by the end of April 2013, 31 babies had already been born. At present, our best explanation for this change, is that the reduced access baboons have had to Human Derived Foods (HDF's) over the past 18 months, is slowing down the recovery period for females that bred last year, and they are delaying coming back into oestrus until their body reserves have been fully replenished.

This is exactly what one would have wished for, if this population of baboons is to stabilize and become sustainable. This is because baboons normally breed once every two years, but on the

peninsula some of them, which have easy access to HDF's, have been breeding once a year and thus the population has been growing at an unsustainable rate.

Population Data for the Ten Managed Troops on the Cape Peninsula							
TROOP	Total End Dec 2012	Total End Dec 2013	April Births	April Deaths	Total Births 2014	Total Deaths 2014	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	44		2	1	2	43
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21			2	1	22
Waterfall	28	30			0	1	29
Groot Olifantsbos	19	19			0	0	19
Misty Cliffs Splinter	18	17			0	0	17
Slangkop	33	40			1	0	41
SUB TOTAL	175	171	0	2	4	4	171
Zwaanswyk	25	30			1	0	31
Tokai	61	70	1		5	3	72
Mountain	33	44			3	0	47
Constantia	60	72			1	4	69
SUB TOTAL	179	216	1	0	10	7	219
TOTAL	354	387	1	2	14	11	390

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

Hotline Data

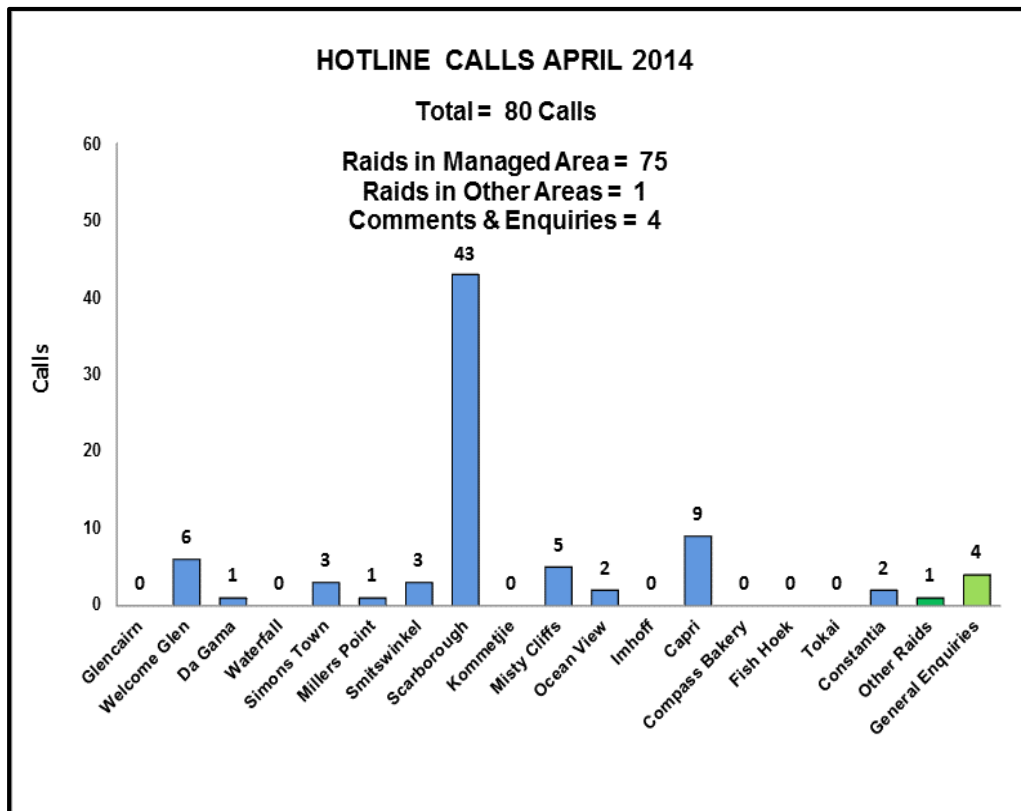


Fig. 16. Hotline calls summary per area.

This month, the hotline data largely reflects the season and where the troops have been sleeping. Like last month, the Misty Cliffs Troop has been sleeping at the Misty Cliffs sleep site for the whole month. As a result, the majority of hotline calls were reporting baboons being in Scarborough or Misty Cliffs. In contrast, with the Da Gama troops sleeping at the Maylands sleep site for the second half of the month, they were sleeping far out of town and were therefore responsible for only seven hotline calls for the entire month.

After the relatively bad month in March, which marked the end of the hot dry season and when 31% of hotline calls were reporting actual raids, this month, only 16% of hotline calls were reporting raids. Raiding of occupied houses unfortunately still remains the most prevalent form of raid apart, from being in town itself. These raids were all as a result of habitual individual raiders and no troops raided occupied houses. This has been the trend over the past few months.

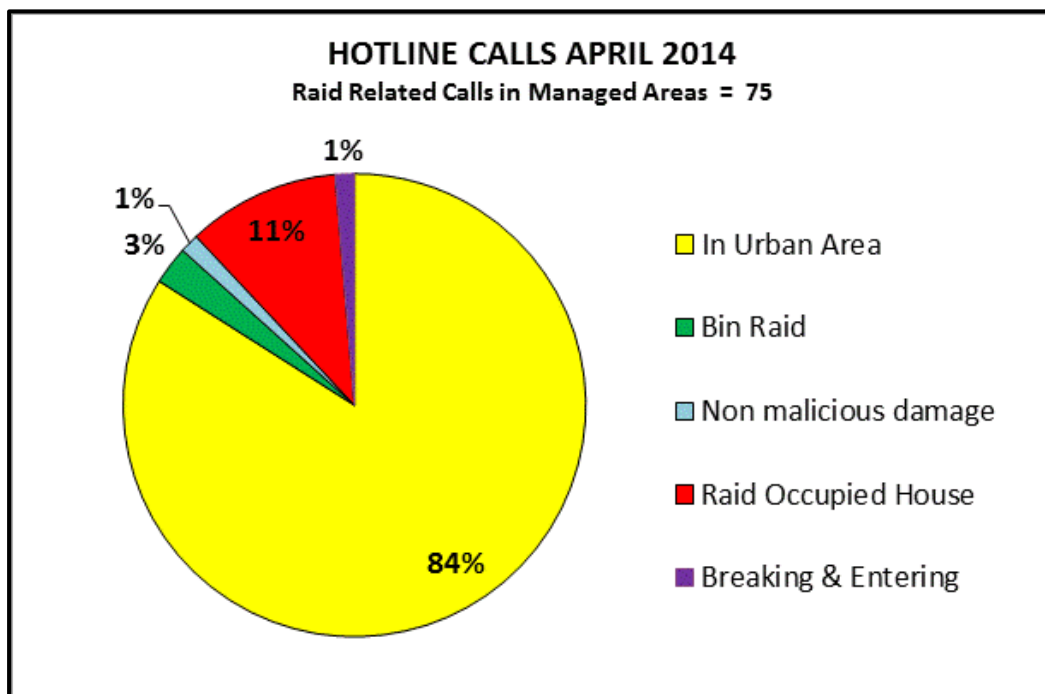


Fig. 17. Raid-related hotline calls.

Percentage Time out of Town

This month, with the change in season and the increased rainfall, the pressure on troops to raid seems to have been alleviated. Every troop, with the exception of the Misty Cliffs Troop, was kept out of town for over 99% of the time.

The Misty Cliffs troop, sleeping on a steep cliff face with a short, steep downhill run to either Scarborough or Misty Cliffs one either side of its sleep site, was the only troop that regularly raided town. Nevertheless, they were still kept out of town for 92% of the time. This troop has three habitual raiders, one male and two females, and they are the ones that are primarily responsible for encouraging the rest of the troop to raid town.

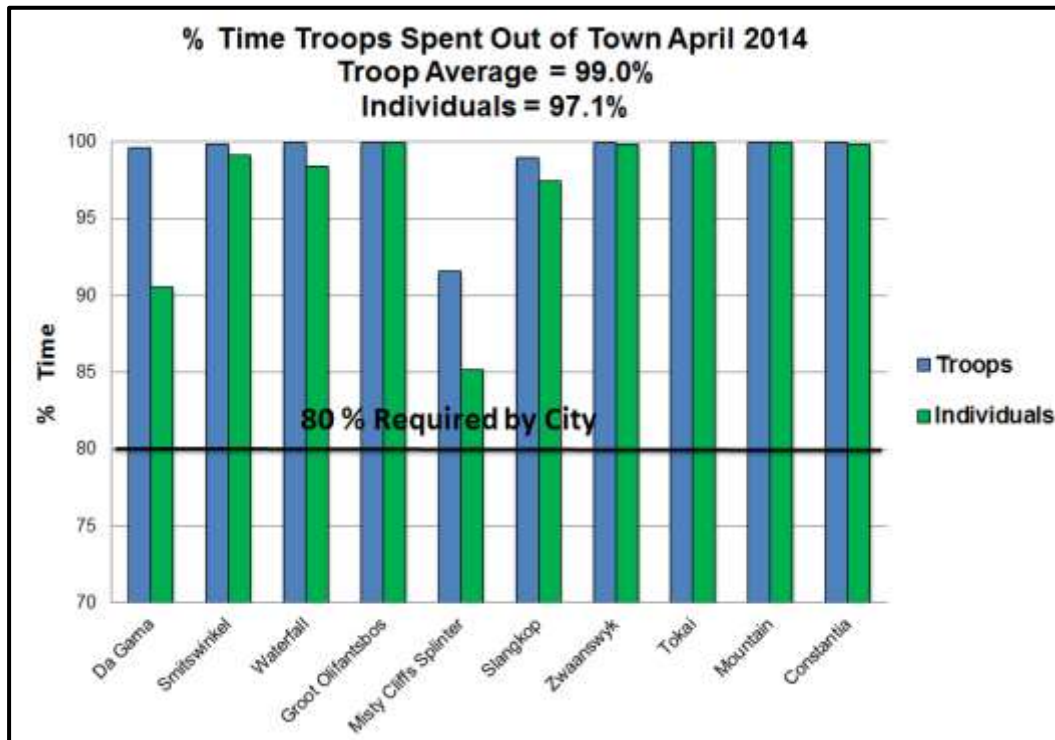


Fig. 18. Percentage time troops spent out of town for the reporting period.

General Summary

This month, there were eight raids of occupied houses reported on the hotline, and these raids were perpetrated by individuals or small groups from the Misty Cliffs, Da Gama or Slangkop troops. In virtually all of the other troops, the troops were kept out of town for 100% of the time, and individuals were out of town for over 97% of the time, with the exception of some habitual raiders in the Da Gama, Misty Cliffs and Slangkop troops.

The conclusion one could draw from this, is that if one can stop these few individuals from raiding, the cycle of training juveniles to raid may well come to an end. Attention should therefore be focused on preventing these few bad raiders from influencing the rest of their troops.

Dr. Philip Richardson
Human Wildlife Solutions