



Photo: Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions

Monthly Report

May 2015

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A. INTRODUCTION

This report covers the five week period from 25 April to 29 May 2015.

The general behaviour of the baboons this month has been very similar to that for the past months since the Cape Fire. The northern troops, which were most affected by the fire, are still foraging to a large extent on the felled pines, and old unharvested grapes and barley seeds on the farms. Although there is an adequate supply of these food stuffs at present, the baboons will need to revert back to natural foods in the future. In this regard, the Zwaanswyk Troop has shown the greatest change in foraging behaviour, by extending their home range significantly and regularly going over the first ridge of the Constantiaberg Mountain to forage on the fresh green growth in Silvermine Reserve.

The Constantia Troop itself has undergone the most dramatic change, by splitting in two with a natural fission. This troop is extremely large (74 baboons) and has an unusually large number of adult males (10 full adults and several large subadults). Over the past few months there has been a great deal of fighting between the males and this has presumably been a major factor in determining the troop fission. The Cape Fire, and its effect of changing the distribution and availability of food resources has probably also been a contributing factor. It must be noted that this troop division is a normal fission that occurs in the wild when a troop gets too big. This has already occurred twice before in the parent Tokai Troop, starting in 2007 when the troop numbered approximately 75.

At present the two Constantia sub-troops do still sometimes forage or sleep together, but the signs are that the split is likely to become permanent. This will have significant implications for baboon management, because the two new troops together will require approximately double the management effort of the original troop, particularly if one troop moves into an entirely new home range.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Following on from the trend of 2013/2014 the baboons are utilizing the northern section of their home range more over the last few months, especially the area on and above Rocklands farm. They

have also returned to an old sleep site in Murdoch Valley, where they have not slept, for several years. On 29 April the troop was left to sleep at the Millers Point sleep site, but they were found in Murdoch Valley the following morning.

The troop has only spent 1% of their time in town and this did not include any raiding. When the troop moved down on the night of 29 April, one of the residents on Rocklands farm mentioned the collared male had entered his house and raided their kitchen. However, he ran out quickly when he saw people.

Another area of concern is an informal settler who is occupying land close to the Miller’s Point camping area, currently there is waste being dumped around the informal house and this is acting as an attractant to the baboons. From their SWB8 often attempts to run either to the camping area or the Black Marlin Restaurant.

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: Apr - May YEAR: 2015		3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																															
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL	
SWB6	M					9				2																												2
Troop							1																															2
UnID Individuals									1																													1
UnID Fem	F									1																												1
SWBF1	F																																					0
SWB8	M							1	1								1					1																4
UnID Male	M									1																												1
UnID Juveniles																																						0
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS								
Troop	1.0					150																															45	3.25
Individuals	1.6					150	20	15	45								10					20														45	5.08	
Roost:	AM	4	5	5	5	2	8	5	6	4	6	4	8	6	4	4	5	5	3	4	4	5	4	4	6	5	5	3	6	6	5	5	6	5	5	2		
Roost:	PM	6	5	5	2	4	5	6	4	6	4	5	5	4	4	5	5	3	4	4	5	4	4	6	5	5	3	6	6	5	8	6	5	5	2	1		
Roost Sites		1 Smits Caves			2 Partridge Point			3 Bluegums			4 Millers Point			5 Rocklands Farm																								
		6 Castle Rock			7 SANParks			8 Murdoch Valley			9			10																								
ID Features of Baboons		SWB6 - red/blue tags + collar. SWB8 - purple/orange tags + collar.																																				
General remarks		Number 8 Roost Site is marked in bold because this is the first time since HWS has taken over that the troop has used this Roost Site.																																				

Figure 1: Raid sheet for the Smitswinkel Troop

Several meetings have been held with the Black Marlin Restaurant about waste management and baboon proofing the restaurant, as well as keeping the doors to the kitchen area and staff lunch area closed. The situation has still not improved and this often aggravates the situation with SWB8.

The team at Smitswinkel Bay have managed to block most attempts by SWB6 and SWB8 to raid, and so far individuals have only spent 1,6% of their time in the ‘urban’ area. However, the situation will be monitored closely to prevent an increase in raiding. A meeting has been held with the Castle

Rock Conservancy and the co-operation between all stakeholders will hopefully assist in keeping human-baboon conflict to a minimum.

2. Waterfall Troop

During this reporting period the Waterfall Troop has predominantly utilized the area around the Klaasjagersberg Mountain, and slept at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) sleep site. There was only one night when they slept inside the fenced area of SANAD. Unfortunately bin raiding has continued at SANAD, mainly due to bins not being baboon-proofed. But efforts are being made by staff to secure the bins and remove all fruiting trees that might attract baboons to the facility.

Another area of conflict has been on the Cape Farmhouse farm, harvesting has finished, but the two adult males WF2 and RH2 have continued to raid the restaurant which has led to conflict between the owners and staff of the Cape Farmhouse and the baboons. A meeting was held, and access was granted to HWS staff to enter and block the baboons from coming onto the farm.

On 2 May, rangers noticed a female carrying a dead infant, which was suspected to have died during the night, the following day the female was no longer carrying the infant.

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	26	27	28	29	TOTAL							
BABOON TROOP:	WATERFALL	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	Nocturnal Raiding																												
MONTH: Apr - May	YEAR: 2015																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL	
Troop										1																											2	2
RH2	M																									2												1
WF2	M					1	1				6																2											4
WF3	M					1																				2											2	3
WFF3	F														1																						1	
WFF4	F																																				0	
UnID Females	F					1																															1	
UnID Juveniles						1																															1	
UnID Male	M																																				0	
UnID Individuals																																					0	
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS							
Troop	0.0																																				0.00	
Individuals	0.1										20																										0.33	
Roost:	AM	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	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	9	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 Mtn				3	Signal School				4	Waterfall Barracks				5	Mountain Residents side																
	6	Admiral footpath				7	Cape Farm House				8	Happy Valley Home				9	Red Hill				10	SANAD																
	11	Mountain CoGHN				12	Gate 3 - Plateau Road				13	Rocklands Farm				14	North Peak				15	Bungalow																
	16	Rocklands Valley				17	Shamballah Pines				18					19					20																	
ID Features of Baboons	RH2 - Double Yellow tags & collar (old male); WF2 - White/Purple tag & collar; WF3 - neck permanently crooked to the right.																																					
General remarks	Raids at the South African Naval Ammunition Depot indicated in red; Raids on farms indicated in Italics.																																					

Figure 2: Raid Sheet for the Waterfall Troop

On 4 May, several individuals attempted to enter the Red Hill Settlement. Rangers saw children running towards the baboons throwing stones at them, the baboons immediately turned around and ran back towards the Klaasjagersberg side of the road.

The Grootlifantsbos Troop also moved out of the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (CoGH) during the month of May. RH2 made several attempts to fight with GOB7, in the past GOB7 would run away when RH2 approached, but on 24 and 25 May they had significant fights. On both occasions it was RH2 who retreated with significant injuries, he sustained a cut on his chest and leg respectively. RH2 is an older male and GOB7 is currently in his prime.

3. Da Gama Troop

The management of the Da Gama troop continued to be extremely difficult throughout this reporting period. This could possibly be ascribed to a collapse in troop structure, with SK3 who had still not recovered from his injuries and as a result was in poor physical condition.

TK43 attempted to assert himself as the new alpha male, but only a few females seemed to have accepted him. These are mainly females who currently do not have any infants and/or are in oestrus. The females with infants would seek refuge with SK3 at times, but then also spend time grooming TK43.



Figure 3: SK3 with an infant, SK3 can be seen feeding on a pine cone.

On the afternoon of 17 May, SK3 and a female with an infant moved over the bridge from the flats towards Jacks Shop. The infant started calling when it was alone on the grass patch, while its mother was foraging, the dogs immediately went for it. SK3 attempted to protect the infant, but in the process he was attacked and bitten by all three dogs. These dogs are known to constantly chase baboons in 1st Avenue, Da Gama Park.



Figure 4: (a) The dogs that attacked SK3 on 17 May 2015 and (b) SK3 two days after the dog attack

Ziggy Rode arrived soon after the attack to assess what damage the dogs had caused to both SK3 and the infant. The infant was heard calling but could not be seen or found before dark and neither could SK3.

The following day SK3 was seen to have no visible open wounds, but it was clear that he was keeping his distance from the troop. Unfortunately, the dogs pulled his collar off during the fight, which has made monitoring him more difficult. Dr. Breed and Dr. Jordan evaluated him and the bites from the dogs seemed to be superficial.

The troop then reverted to similar patterns that we have seen before when they are in turmoil, whereby they split in to smaller parties. They then formed raiding parties that entered town. There can be three to four raiding parties in different locations, this resulted in the ranger team having to split up to move the raiding parties out of town which can take time. This explains why over this reporting period individuals have spent 24,4% of time in town.

Currently there are a lot of fruiting trees in Da Gama and Welcome Glen and these trees attract the baboons to the residential area. There are numerous compost heaps that are open and not baboon-proofed and people have started growing vegetables, which are also not baboon-proofed. Whilst these activities in itself are not bad, in areas that are affected by baboon activity, residents are urged to baboon proof all compost heaps, vegetable gardens and where possible refrain from planting fruit trees.



Figure 5: One of the many open compost heaps in Da Gama.

Furthermore the waste situation at the Da Gama flats remains appalling, as long as the waste is not properly dealt with and contained, it will remain a constant source of attraction for the baboons. This hampers efforts to keep baboons out of town and get them to sleep in the mountain behind the flats.



Figure 6: (a) Kroonseil and (b) Bluefin flats with waste being dumped on top of bins or the lids not properly closed with the pins in the latches.

After several attempts to come to a workable solution, the situation was handed over to the Solid Waste Department of the City of Cape Town. A representative of the department, Chantel Erlank has had two site visits during May and is taking the matter further, to find a more permanent solution to the waste situation at the flats.



Figure 7: Baboons constantly going back to the bins despite being chased away by rangers.

On 1 May, an infant climbed up onto an electricity pole along the Elsie's River Valley, the infant touched the cables and was electrocuted. The infant's mother carried the injured infant for five days before it died. Several attempts were made by Dr. Breed to dart or capture the infant, but the mother grabbed it and ran away or SK3 would intervene.

On the same day, rangers observed DG13 eat food that was left on top of a bin. After about 10 minutes he fell over, lie on the ground and soon start vomiting. He then spent the rest of the day in the thicket. Area Managers Ziggy Rode and Lana Müller went to assess the situation and he seemed to be doing fine after he had vomited, but he was closely monitored over the next few days.

On 12 May, TK43 killed an infant; it was the first infant that succumbed to infanticide by TK43. This led to several females with infants hiding and protecting their young by staying with SK3.

The good news for the troop is that most of the individuals who had shown signs of having had mange seem to have recovered. Towards the end of the reporting period, SK3 also showed vast signs of improvement in body condition and it is believed that he will now make a full recovery.

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: Apr - May	YEAR: 2015																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL	
Troop			9			2		2			2	2	2	2		2											2											9
SK3	M	1	9			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				1		2	2,2			2			2	2	1		2			23	
DG13	M		9			2	2	2		1	2	2	2	2		2	2,7				1												1				14	
TK43 (W-W)	M		2,9		2	2			2		2	2	2	2		2	2					1				2											13	
DGF1	F		9			2		2	2		2	2	2	2		2	2						1														11	
DGF2	F		9			2		1	2		2	2	2	2		2									2													10
DGF4	F		9			2		2			2	2	2	2		2					1	1											2				11	
UnID Females	F		9						2	1	2	2	2	2		2	2	1				2				2	2			2	2	1				2	17	
UnID Female	F	1	2,9		2										2	2,6				1					2	2							1		2	11		
UnID Juvs			2,9		2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2		2				1	1	2		1	2	2				2	1		2	1	2	24		
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Troop		3.7	45			80		60			25	50	30	205		215																					11.83	
Individuals		24.4	150	135		40	205	120	270	215	107	85	235	50	245	110	125	145	55		375	155	230	90	50		200	45			30	75	150	125	115	188	590	78.50
Roost:	AM	1,2	2,16	1	1	8	2,3	3	2,3	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,2,3	1,2	1,2	20	20	20	20	20	1	3	1,2	2	2,8	1,2	1,2	2,3	2,20	2,20	19	1,7,3	2	2	2		
Roost:	PM	2,16	1	1	8	1	16	3	3	2	2	1,2	1	1	2	20	20	20	20	1	3	3	2	2,8	1,2	2	2,3	1,8	2,20	2,20	19,1,7	2	2	2	8			
Roost Sites	1	Flats				2	Pines - Flats				3	Pines - Da Gama				4	Pines - WG				5	Sport Fields/Stables																
	6	Compass Bakery				7	Pines - Outspan				8	Jacks Shop				9	Elsie's Peak				10	Rotary Camp																
	11	Witsand				12	Slangkop				13	Platkop				14	Rasta Camp				15	Ocean View																
	16	KL sleep site				17	Maylands				18	Elsies River Valley				19	Red Hill / Windford				20	Grootkop																
	21	16th Avenue, DG				22	Lewis Gay Dam				23	Pinehaven				24	Kleinplaas Dam				25	Scarborough																
ID Features of Baboons	SK3 - Yellow tag & collar; DGF1 - White/Blue tags & collar; TK43 - Double White tags & collar																																					
General remarks																																						

Figure 8: Raid Sheet for the Da Gama Troop

Births and Deaths

- 1 Dead infant seen in the Waterfall troop – 2 May
- 1 New born infant seen in the Waterfall troop – 13 May
- 1 Adult Male euthanized in the Waterfall troop (WF2) – 20 May
- 1 Dead infant seen in the Da Gama troop (electrocution) – 7 May
- 1 Infant dead in Da Gama troop (infanticide) – 12 May

Recommendations

- **Urgent action in terms of waste management** is desperately needed in Da Gama Park, as the problem will not be resolved unless waste management is rectified, because of the **constant attraction to waste/'food'**.
- It is also requested that **the Navy fix the hole in the roof of the Bluefin flats**; otherwise the baboons will sleep there all winter.
- **Waste management** should be rectified at the City Water Works facility at Lewis Gay Dam.
- It is requested that the **invasive alien vegetation behind the Cape Farmhouse** be cleared, so that a better line can be held in the area.

- **A new education initiative** should be started again, so that any new residents with children are made aware of the problems and are offered advice on how to deal with and how to live with baboons and what not to do in Da Gama Park.
- **A visit by authorities** to the residents staying up at the Kleinplaas dam parking area, as this is also visible to the public and directly attracts baboons down to that parking area.
- **Power lines** along the Elsie's River Valley that run between the Water Works and Da Gama Park should be baboon proofed or insulated.
- **Assistance with free roaming dogs** is required in the Da Gama Park area, for the protection of the baboons and the rangers working there as these dogs are aggressive and display aggressive behaviour to people and baboons.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Lana Müller

1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos Troop moved regularly in and out of the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (CoGH) during this reporting period. The troop roosted mostly in the pines behind the Shamballah Tea House and Holistic Centre. On a few occasions the troop roosted inside the reserve at either the Olifantsbos sleep site or at the Bontebok Cliffs above Kogelfontein which is a new sleep site.

The troop spent most of the month foraging either inside the reserve, near the wetland, or inside the Protea stands between the Shamballah Tea House and Holistic centre and the Good Hope Nursery. On a few occasions the troop was seen along the beach foraging in the inter-tidal zone and on four occasions the troop entered the Cape Farmhouse farm to forage and to drink water at the dam.



Figure 9: GOB7 (Alpha male) raiding Kogelfontein.

On 25 April and 2, 9 and 12 May the Troop raided the Kogelfontein dump and Wasteman skips. On 4, 8 and 19 May the alpha male, GOB7, raided the skips and rubbish room at Kogelfontein alone (Figure 9). On a further two occasions, GOB7 was seen to be alone, once at Baskloof farm and again at the Cape Farm House, however no raids were recorded on either farm.

The waste management problem at Kogelfontein has improved significantly (Figure 10). The skips have been replaced, the door on the rubbish room fixed and the area around the skips cleaned up. No further poisonings or deaths were recorded during this reporting period, since the female who died due to suspected poisoning during the previous reporting period.



Figure 10: (a) Before and (b) After images of the waste disposal site at Kogelfontein.

2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

The Misty Cliffs Troop spent seven days of the reporting period inside the CoGH Reserve. During this time they foraged on fynbos vegetation on-top of Bonteberg and, on occasions, were seen foraging in the inter-tidal zone. The troop spent the rest of the month outside the CoGH Reserve using the Misty Cliffs sleep site. In an attempt to keep the troop away from the urban area, HWS rangers moved the troop from the Misty Cliffs sleep site inland where they could forage on fynbos vegetation.

The troop entered the urban space as a whole on 13 occasions, raiding bins and foraging on lush natural vegetation in gardens. The longest recorded time spent in town was on 28 April when the troop spent 405 minutes inside the urban space. On other occasions the troop spent between 35 and 300 minutes in the urban space with only bin raids being recorded.

A total of 19 individual raids were recorded during this reporting period. In most instances the individual raids can be attributed to small raiding parties consisting of two to three adult females,

including MCF3 and one or two juveniles. The longest time spent in town by individuals was on 1 May when MCF3, two other females and a juvenile spent 195 minutes raiding bins in Misty Cliffs.

On 18 May, two juveniles entered the urban space and were seen playing in a swimming pool.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																						
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																				
SOUTH WEST		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																															
BABOON TROOP:	Misty Cliffs	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																															
MONTH: Apr - May	YEAR: 2015	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																															
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL	
MCF3	F	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				2		2	2																					11
KOB1	M	2	2	2	2																																4	
TK43	M							1	2																												2	
Females	F					6	2	2	2	2				2	2	2	2						5	2			2	2	2			2			2		15	
Juveniles								2						2	2	5	2		1							2	2	2	2	2		2	2			2	14	
Troop		2	2	2	2	2	2			2				2		2	2					2	2								2					13		
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS								
Troop	%	12.2	47	240	300	405	97	95		240				50		230	165					35	275											185			39.40	
Individuals	%	9.3					70	180	195	140				20	34	175	160		45				71	10	75	150	45	90	50		100	60			120	29.83		
Roost:	AM	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2		
Roost:	PM	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2		
Roost Sites		1	Misty Cliffs 1				2	Misty Cliffs 2				3	Witsand				4	CoGH Reserve				5																
ID Features of Baboons																																						
General remarks																																						

Figure 11: Raid Sheet for the Misty Cliffs Troop

A total of three house raids were recorded in Scarborough during this reporting period. Only one of these raids was of an occupied house. In all cases the baboons gained access through an open window.



Figure 12: KOB1 after being electrocuted between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs.

On 25 April, an infanticide was recorded whereby KOB1 killed a young juvenile.

On 29 April, KOB1 (the alpha male) split from the troop, broke the line and ran in the direction of Scarborough. KOB1 climbed an electric pole and barked for the troop to join him. Unfortunately he grabbed the wire at the top and was electrocuted and died.

Due to the continued raiding of MCF3, WAAC approval was granted for her euthanasia, which took place on 15 May 2015.

3. Slangkop Troop

During this reporting period the Slangkop Troop spent 24 nights roosting at the Compass Bakery roost site and 11 nights roosting in the pines behind Ocean View. On 20 May 2015 the troop were left to sleep at the pines behind Ocean View, but after being chased by children during the night, they were found at the Compass Bakery sleep site by the rangers the following morning.

The Slangkop Troop has spent most of the reporting period foraging up in the mountain above the Rasta Camp in Ocean View. On a few occasions the Troop was also seen foraging on pine cones around the Ocean View roost site and inside the invasive alien vegetation in the valley between Ocean View and Imhoff's Gift.

The Troop entered the urban area, as a whole, nine occasions. Bin raids were recorded in Ocean View, Small Capri, Imhoff's Gift, Compass Bakery and Rodgers Fruiters. The longest recorded time spent in town was 60 minutes on 26 May when the troop entered Compass Bakery. On the other occasions the troop spent between five and 38 minutes in the urban space and only bin raids were recorded.

During this reporting period the highest number of individual raids can be attributed to SK6 (a young male), followed by SKF1 (adult female), SKF2 (adult female) and DG6 (the alpha male). Eleven bin raids were recorded for SK6, 8 bin raids for both SKF1 and SKF2 and 5 bin raids for DG6.

On 10 May, DG6 raided an unoccupied house in Ocean View by forcing open a window, damaging the property (Figure 13). He then entered an occupied house, by pushing the door open, and took a bowl of rice (Figure 13). According to the reports from the owners of the house, DG6 displayed aggressive behaviour and would not be deterred from raiding.



Figure 13: (a) Window damaged and (b) door lock forced open by DG6 in Ocean View.

On 11 May, DG6 together with SK6 and 2 other unidentified sub-adult males raided an unoccupied house in Capri while the rest of the troop raided bins and fruit trees in the area.

The longest time spent inside the urban space by individuals during this reporting period was 160 minutes.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																											
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																									
SOUTH WEST		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL												
BABOON TROOP: Slangkop		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	Nocturnal Raiding																																	
MONTH: Apr - May YEAR: 2015																																											
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL						
DG6	M					2	2							2	2		6,8	6									2											8					
SKF1	F												2	2	2			2	2							2			2							2	8						
SKF2	F												2	2	2			2	2							2			2							2	8						
SK6 (young male)	M	2		2	2	2								2	2			6	2	2					2									2	2	12							
Juveniles	M	2			2	2								2	2			6	2															2		8							
Unidentified Juvies														2																						1							
Females		2	2	2	2			2		2										2	2					2	2									10							
Troop								2	2							2	2			2						2			2	2		2				9							
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS													
Troop		1.3						33	26							38	30			30							5			10	25	60				4.28							
Individuals		3.5	40	15	25	11	6	38		15			30	10	43		15	100		160	30					35	10	15	20				30	30	11.30								
Roost:		AM	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2							
Roost:		PM	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2							
Roost Sites		1	Slangkop				2	Ocean View				3	Compass balery				4	Witsand				5																					
ID Features of Baboons																																											
General remarks																																											

Figure 14: Raid sheet for Slangkop Troop.

On 28 May an injured female baboon was seen, it was recorded that DG6 (the alpha male) was responsible for the injuries on her left hind leg, he however remained protective of the injured female. The rangers moved the troop away from Ocean View towards the cliffs above Compass Bakery to prevent the injured female from coming into contact with people and dogs. The City of Cape Town Veterinarian, Dr Elzette Jordan, was contacted to assess the condition of the female.

It was decided that treatment was not necessary, although this female will however be closely monitored by HWS rangers.

Births and Deaths

Three deaths were recorded this month in the Misty Cliffs Troop, one from electrocution, a juvenile from an act of infanticide and an adult female was euthanased.

There were two births in the Misty Cliffs Troop this month.

Recommendations

- **Removal of Invasive Alien Vegetation:** The invasive alien vegetation above Ocean View and below the Compass Bakery Sleep Site needs to be cleared in order to improve management of the Slangkop Troop. The issue has been addressed with SANParks.
- **Electric Fencing:** A hard barrier, i.e. electric fence, should be put in place along the existing fence line of CoGH near Scarborough. This would greatly improve the success rate of keeping the Misty Cliffs Troop inside the CoGH reserve and will increase their foraging range inside the reserve. A proposal has been developed and a meeting was held with the representatives of both Scarborough and Misty Cliffs representatives to discuss the proposed idea.
- **Law enforcement:** A stronger law enforcement presence is required in Scarborough, to prevent people from intentionally feeding or creating “feeding patches”. Baboon proofing of vegetable gardens and compost heaps should be enforced.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Troop

Following on the patterns from last month, the Tokai Troop has been foraging mostly on the northern side of Tokai Plantation, ranging from the lower lying sections such as Chrysalis, to the upper sections above level 4. They are still pushing to get onto Buitenverwachting to eat the raisins, barley and unburnt vegetation. Neither the troop, nor any individuals, committed any raids this

month, however not from lack of trying. On several occasions males attempted to break away from the troop, but HWS rangers were able to prevent them from running down and entering Chrysalis.

During this month, TK16, an adult male from the Constantia Troop, moved across and joined the Tokai Troop. TK16 has settled into the troop quickly and has promptly acquired two females. Additionally, TK16 has been fighting and winning many fights with the Tokai Troop males. It is possible that he may even attempt to gain alpha status from TK40, the current alpha of the troop.

It is natural, and highly beneficial for a new male like this to enter a troop. This male brings new genes into the troop, and prevents inbreeding. As TK16 is predominantly a non-raiding male, he may positively influence the other members of the troop.

An unfolding gynaecological drama has been monitored this month. A heavily pregnant female (TKF11) experienced pressure from the pregnancy which caused a rectal prolapse whereby a section of the rectum appeared outside the body. TKF11 has been monitored closely by CapeNature and the City of Cape Town's veterinarians since 30 April, 2015 when the rectal prolapse first appeared. As this medical issue involved a pregnant female, and an unborn infant, veterinarians were hesitant to intervene before the birth. An infant was born to TKF11 on the 10 May, 2015.

In the weeks that followed, the serious and fluctuating gynaecological complications experienced by TKF11 continued to be monitored by veterinarians. TKF11 appeared to be foraging acceptably and appeared to be able to feed her infant. The team continue to monitor the situation closely.

2. Zwaanswyk Troop

The Zwaanswyk Troop has been foraging around the lower sections of Tokai Plantation during this month. The lower sections around Chrysalis Academy, SANParks offices and the Tea Garden previously did not have pine plantations. Hence, the new post-fire growth has come back better in these sections than in the pine plantations, and the troop is enjoying this new, highly nutritious growth.

When in the lower sections however, the troop pushed onto Chrysalis Academy to raid the kitchens and bins. The alpha male, MT2, raided the occupied kitchen three times in the past month. Three individuals also managed to raid bins on Chrysalis on 24 May 2015. Most of the time however, HWS rangers were very effective at keeping the baboons off Chrysalis Academy, and hence preventing raids.



Figure 15: Baboon and waste management posters made by Chrysalis students.

As part of the Chrysalis Academy environmental week, Robyn Khoury (HWS Area Manager - North) gave a series of lectures to the students about living in a baboon effected area, and how to prevent raids.

The education given to the students by HWS management should help improve the Chrysalis situation. Additionally, Chrysalis are in the process of baboon-proofing their new recycling bins. To date they have attached the bins to the walls, but they have not yet attached baboon-proof clips to all the bins.



Figure 16: The recycling bins at Chrysalis Academy chained to the wall.

When not in the lower sections of Tokai Plantation the Zwaanswyk Troop moved high up the mountain, into Silvermine Reserve. This area has a wealth of nutritious new growth to forage on. This is a new extension of the troop’s home range, and is a very good place for them to be. They are able to forage on indigenous fynbos with minimal human interactions and have no opportunity to raid. The troop went up to Silvermine Reserve on eight separate occasions this month.

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	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTAL						
BABOON TROOP:	Zwaanswyk	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																															
MONTH: Apr - May	YEAR: 2015	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																															
		Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																															
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL
MT2 (Alpha Untagged)	M	1																																		4	
TK45 (Large SA)	M																																				
TKF5 (Green)	F																																				
TKF7 (Red)	F																																				
SA Male	M	1																																		2	
Uni Female	F																																			1	
Uni Juvenile																																				3	
Zwaanswyk Troop																																					
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS							
Troop	0.2	30																																			0.50
Individuals	0.0																																				0.00
Roost:	AM	2	3	9	9	5	12	2	9	1	1	9	2	2	2	5	9	12	12	9	9	8	9	9	12	8	9	12	12	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	1
Roost:	PM	12	12	9	5	12	2	9	1	1	9	2	2	2	5	9	12	12	9	9	8	9	9	12	8	9	12	12	8	8	8	8	8	7	5	5	
Roost Sites		1 Tea Garden			2 Level 1 ZWK gums			3 Level 2 stream			4 Level 2 pines			5 Level 4 pines			6 Guest house																				
		7 Level 1 TK Clearing			8 Upper Tea Garden			9 Manor House			10 Tokai Bridge			11 Picnic site 2			12																				
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks																																					

Figure 17: Raid sheet for the Zwaanswyk Troop. Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.

It also seems that the Zwaanswyk Troop may have found a cliff sleep site at the top of the mountain. On 17 May 2015 the Zwaanswyk Troop were left high up, near Elephants Eye, and were found in the same area the next morning. This is highly unusual, because they are usually found on the lower slopes in the mornings. This is a good indication that they may have slept on the cliffs, and is a very positive sign. This is a good example of how baboon troops are able to adapt to a changing environment.

3. Constantia Troop

The Constantia Troop has continued to fission during this month. The troop has been split for the majority of the month, however neither half has ventured outside the usual home range of the Constantia Troop. One split tends to forage around Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia, while the other forages around Klein Constantia and Groot Constantia. Both splits spent time on the farms eating left over grapes/raisins (Figure 18), and in the natural vegetation above the farms.



Figure 18: Grapes left on the vines on Buitenverwachting.

The Baboon Research Unit (BRU) from the University of Cape Town have restarted another field season this month, looking at the movements of male baboons in the Constantia Troop. As such, ten Constantia Troop males were collared with GPS and accelerometer collars this month. These collars are due to stay on until the end of July.

TK16, an adult male from the Constantia Troop, has left this troop. TK16 was noted missing from the troop on 14 May 2015. It appeared he spent a few days with the Mountain Troop and then moved south to the Tokai Troop, where he seems to have settled (see the Tokai Troop section for further details of his behaviour after moving).

No raiding took place this month in the Constantia Troop. CON2 pushed to Price Drive at the end of April 2015, and stayed in town for approximately 20 minutes (Figure 19). CON5 has also been attributed two category 7 raids (threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food) for displaying aggressive and threatening behaviour towards both the BRU capture team and HWS rangers on two separate occasions (Figure 19).

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
NORTH		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																														
BABOON TROOP:	CON	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																														
MONTH: Apr - May	YEAR: 2015	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
BABOON ID	Sex	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	29	TOTAL
TK33 (R-O)	M																																				
TK15 (Y-O)	M																																				
TK19 (R-W)	M																																				
TK16 (W-W)	M																																				
TK11 (O-W)	M																																				
CON1 (untagged)	M																																				
CON2 (B-O) collar	M		1																																		1
CON3 (G) collar	M																																				
CON4 (B) collar	M																																				
CON5 (G-G) collar	M												7					7																			2
CON6 (O) collar	M																																				
CON7 (P-G)	M																																				
MT1 (G-W) collar	M																																				
Untagged M	M																																				
SA Male	M																																				
Uni Female	F																																				
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS								
Troop		0.1	20																																		0.33
Individuals		0.0																																			0.00
Roost:	AM	1	3	1+3	6	3+6	1	1	1	3	1	6	1+2	3+6	1+3	1+2	3+6	6	6	3+6	1	3	1+6	3+6	3+6	6	3	4+6	1+6	4+6	1+6	1+3	1+3		1		
Roost:	PM	3	1	6	3+6	1	1	1	3	1	6	1+2	3+6	1+3	1+2	3+6	6	6	3+6	1	3	1+6	3+6	3+6	6	1+3	4+6	1+6	4+6	1+6	1+3	1+3	1+3		1+6		
Roost Sites		1 Upper Gums			2 Lower Gums			3 Bike Trail Gums			4 Middle Plantation KC			5 McKenzies			6																				
ID Features of Baboons																																					
General remarks																																					

Figure 19: Raid sheet for the Constantia Troop. Bold and italics indicate incidents that took place in non-urban areas.

4. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop has been foraging in the upper levels of Tokai Plantation, mainly on the northern side, as well as on and above Buitenverwachting. An adult male from the Mountain Troop, TK3, was seen with the Constantia Troop for a few days early this month, but has since returned to the Mountain Troop. TK16, an adult male from the Constantia Troop, spent a few days with the Mountain Troop in the levels of Tokai Plantation, before moving on to join the Tokai Troop.

The Mountain Troop was found at the staff villages on Buitenverwachting on 16 May 2015. No raids were reported, however some may have occurred without being reported. HWS rangers assisted

Buitenverwachting Rangers in moving the Mountain Troop away from the staff housing and higher onto Buitenverwachting where they are allowed to forage.

Births and Deaths

There was one birth this month in the Tokai Troop, to TKF11, the female with the prolapse.

One incident of infanticide, on a baby, was recorded in the Constantia Troop on 10 May 2015.

Recommendations

- **Chrysalis Academy** should attach clips to their recycling bins as soon as possible to prevent bin raids. Additionally, all windows and gates, particularly in the kitchen, should stay locked at all times to prevent kitchen raids.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

This month there were four births and eight deaths in the managed baboon population (Tables 1 & 2). Of the deaths, four were cases of infanticide where new or competing males killed babies not sired by them. There were also two cases of baboons (one male and one female) that were euthanased according to the raiding baboon protocol.

TROOP	Total Dec 2012	Total Dec 2013	Total Dec 2014	May Births	May Deaths	Total Births 2015	Total Deaths 2015	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43		2	5	4	44
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22			3	1	24
Waterfall Groot	28	30	30	1	2	3	2	31
Olifantsbos	19	13	17			0	1	16
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14	2	3	3	8	9
Slangkop	33	32	36			0	1	35
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	3	7	14	17	159
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28			2	4	26
Tokai	61	65	72	1		4	12	64
Mountain	33	44	48			1	0	49
Constantia	60	63	70		1	6	2	74
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	1	1	13	18	213
TOTAL	354	355	380	4	8	27	35	372

Table 1. Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula.

Surprisingly there were another two cases of baboons being electrocuted. This is surprising because for the first two years of HWS managing baboons, there were very few cases of electrocution, whereas over the past 9 months there have now been at least 8 cases of electrocutions occurring on power lines which have remained unchanged for several years.

In the Misty Cliffs case, it seems as if the insulator sleeve at the pylon slipped down the line leaving the wires exposed close to the pylon. This would seem to be a management problem that requires regular maintenance to ensure that similar sleeves on all power lines are kept in position. The problem has been reported to the City Electricity Department.

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	May 2015	2015 to Date
Management	16 (6)	17	7	2	4
Human Induced	3	5	10	2	5
Natural	6 (1)	33	19	4	26
TOTAL	25	55	36	8	35

Table 2. Causes of baboon deaths since 2012. (* Data collected prior to HWS taking over baboon management in August 2012 included in brackets).

Hotline Data

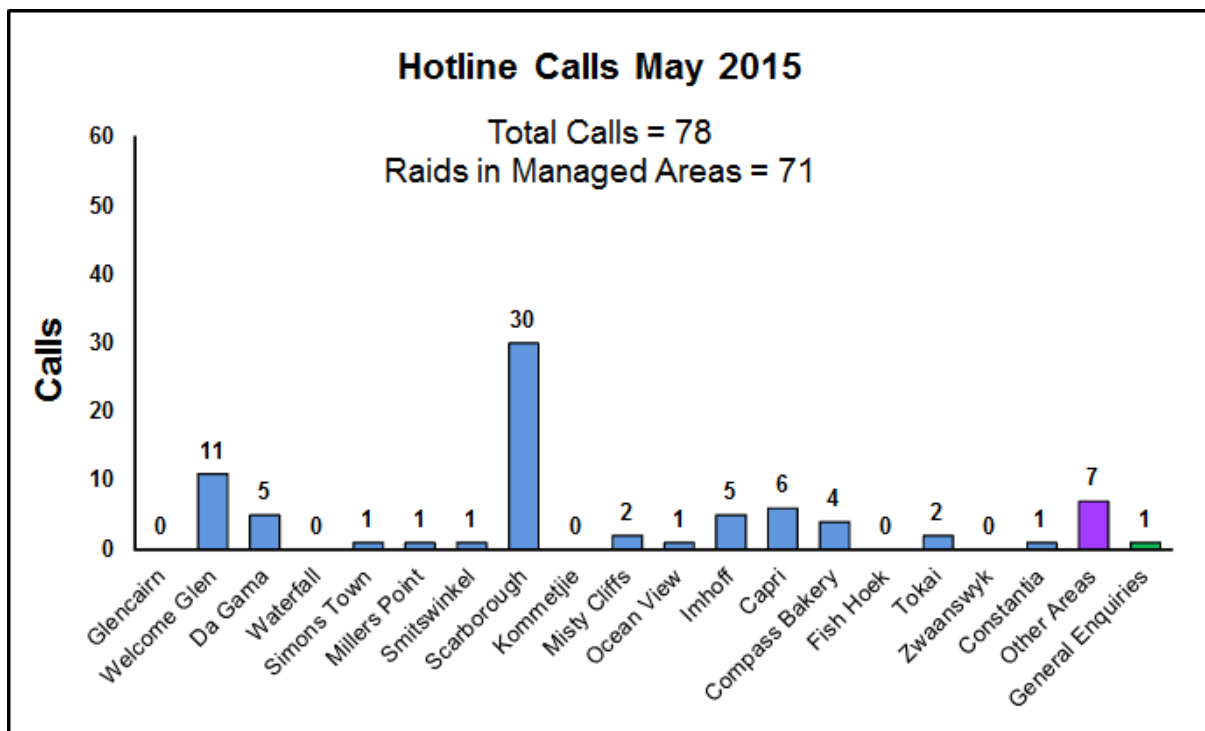


Figure 20: Hotline calls summary per urban area

This month, most of the hotline calls were again from Scarborough in response to raids by the Misty Cliffs Troop. In addition, there were also approximately fifteen calls each from the areas raided by the Da Gama and Slangkop troops. Apart from calls related to these three troops, there were very few other hotline calls made.

Despite being further into winter, this month over 88% of hotline calls were simply reporting baboons in town. Furthermore, the next highest category was for bin raids (5.6%) and there were no calls for raiding occupied houses. These data reflect a pleasing trend, especially when one considers the season.

There were many more hotline calls this month in response to raids by the Da Gama troop, although the percentage time spent out of town (Figure 22) was almost exactly the same as last month. This is largely because of individual raids undertaken by the injured and now deposed alpha male, SK3. SK3 was frequently chased away from the troop by the new alpha, TK43. Furthermore, with SK3 having been deposed, the cohesion of the Da Gama Troop has been seriously disrupted and small breakaway groups were regularly formed, even if SK3 was not part of them.

The Slangkop Troop undertook numerous bin raids this month into areas near their sleep sites. Hotline calls for this troop are slightly up from last month and should be anticipated because raiding generally increases in winter when there is less natural food available. After a very dry autumn, one may actually have predicted even more raiding to have taken place.

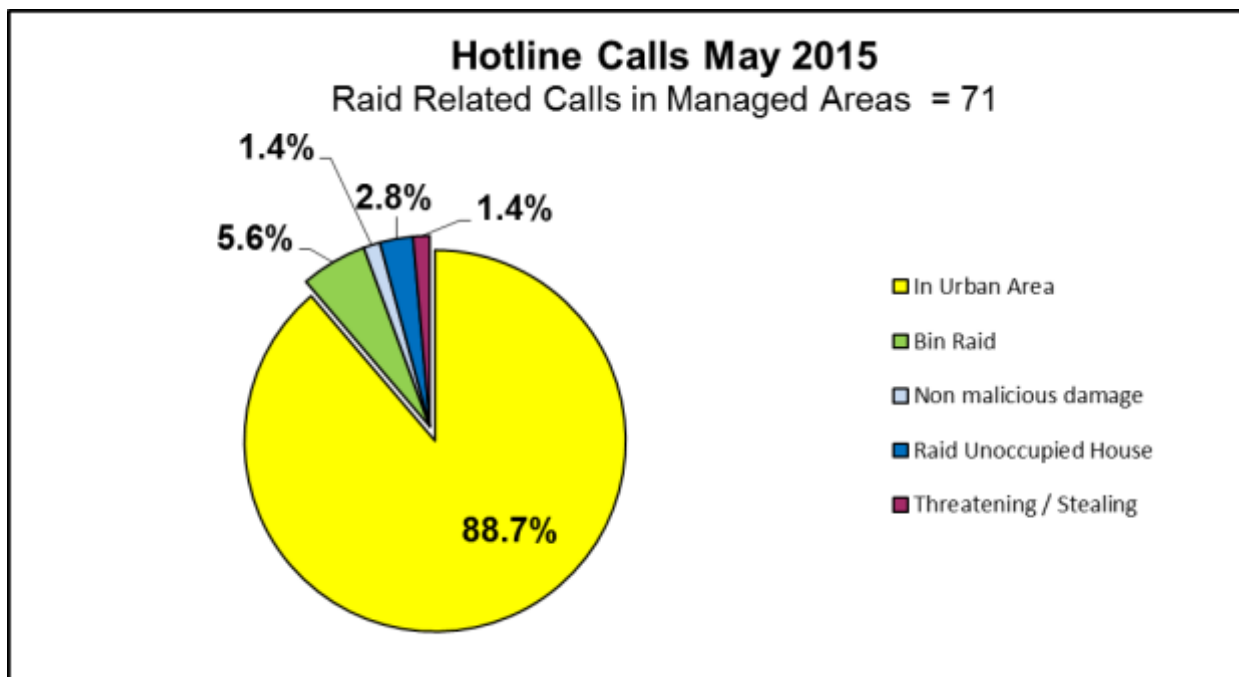


Figure 21: Composition of raid-related hotline calls

Percentage Time out of Town

This month the percentage time the different troops spent out of town is very similar to last month, except that the Misty Cliffs Troop as a whole spent about 7% more time out of town, and individuals from the Da Gama Troop spent about 15% more time in town (Figure 22). These two deviations can largely be accounted for by the deaths of the two main raiders in the Misty Cliffs Troop (KOB1 & MCF3), and the break down in social structure of the Da Gama Troop with the loss of status of the alpha male, SK3.

In the Misty Cliffs Troop several raids were led by either KOB1 or MCF3, both of whom died during the month. KOB1 was electrocuted while scaling a power line, and MCF3 was euthanased, with WAAC permission, for being a relentless raider. HWS anticipates that the troop will now be easier to control in terms of raids into town although, because both the alpha male and female have now died, troop movements may be less structured and one may find an increase in individual raids occurring in future. Overall, this month the troop spent about 7% less time in town than it did last month (Figure 22).

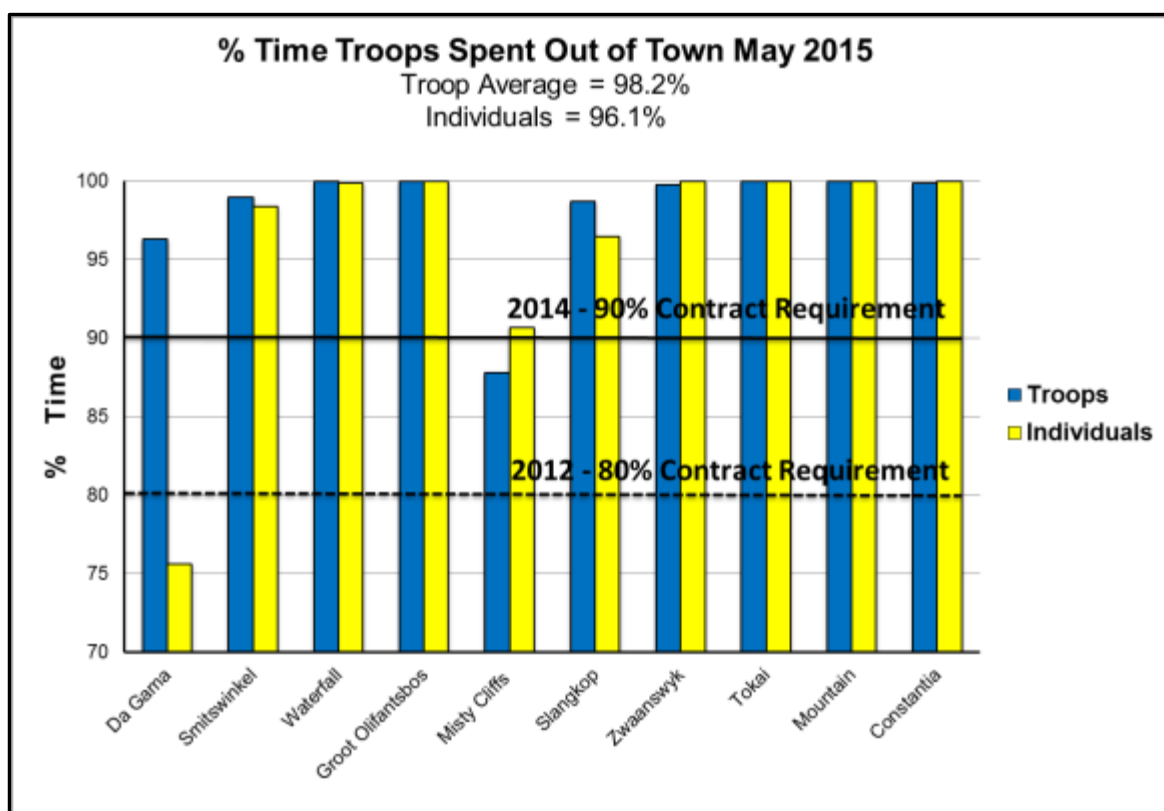


Figure 22: Percentage time troops spent out of town.

Conclusion

Despite the onset of winter, the general behaviour of the managed baboons has not changed significantly this month, when compared to previous months. The most dramatic event of the most recent past therefore must be the fission of the Constantia Troop.

It must be noted, that this natural fission is fundamentally different from the formation of a splinter troop. This is where a small group of low ranking individuals split away to form a small splinter troop, which is invariably predisposed towards raiding. The Zwaanswyk Troop, Waterfall Troop, Da Gama Small Troop and the Misty Cliffs Troops are all examples of splinter troops and were all historically very bad raiding troops.

The electric fence erected around Zwaanswyk in 2012 prevented this troop from raiding there any more, but they still pushed hard to raid Listers Tea Garden, the Tokai Picnic Site, Porter Market and Chrysalis Academy until the first two were closed after the fire. The Waterfall Troop virtually lived at the Naval Barracks until they were pushed over the mountain beyond the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) in late 2013. The now recombined Da Gama Troop, and the Misty Cliffs Troop, are still by far the worst raiding troops.

The fission of the Constantia Troop cannot therefore be regarded with the same concern as the formation of a splinter troop. Nevertheless, it will still present one extra troop that requires management around the urban edge.

Dr Phil Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions