



Human Wildlife Solutions

Baboon Management Cape Town

Monthly Report

August 2012

A. General Management Style

The general management plan for HWS is that we have divided the baboon troops we manage into three regions – the south eastern peninsula, the south western peninsula and the north. The south-eastern region comprises three troops living in or raiding from Da Gama Park in the north to Smidtswinkel in the south. This region is managed by Ziggy Rode. The south western region comprises three troops from Scarborough through to Kommetjie. The manager here is Nick Shaw. The northern region is comprised of four troops living in Tokai through to Constantia. The manager here is Stefan Theron.

Every troop has two rangers and a supervisor. Every region has at least one vehicle for a senior supervisor who is able to respond to calls for assistance from one of the other troops' rangers in the region or able to respond to a hotline call. Similarly the area manager will also be able to respond and move rangers around to use them most efficiently for the situation on hand.

We also have a roving manager, Mark Duffel, who can respond to a temporary call for assistance. Otherwise Mark will be based in whichever region is having the most problems with baboons for as long as the problem persists or until the need for his assistance is deemed to be greater with another troop.

We would like to sincerely thank the City Biodiversity Department, particularly Julia Wood and Elzette Jordan, for all their support prior to and during our first month of operating. It has made a huge difference towards us hitting the ground running. We have employed 42 staff who were previously baboons monitors on the peninsula, and we have another 18 supervisors and rangers with qualifications ranging from Diplomas in Nature Conservation to B.Sc. (Hon). and M.Sc. in Zoology. This mixture of knowledge of knowing the lie of the land and the habits of the local baboons, combined with a more proactive approach and practical experience with other animals from other parts of the country is proving to be very successful.

B. Baboon Management and Raid Reporting

We are in the process of establishing a reporting system that will accurately depict the nature and frequency of baboon raids, so that with time we can establish how successful our methods have been at managing baboons. All hotline calls and raids directly observed are recorded on a data sheet with each raid being scored from 1 – 9. (1) being a baboon within the urban boundary leading up to breaking and entering (7) and damage to property (9).

South Eastern Region – Manager Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

- The Smitswinkel troop mainly stayed between Millers Point and the Smitswinkel corner.
- Most of the conflict with humans occurred at Millers Point and the Black Marlin. But also occurred at tourist viewing points.
- 17 August, Merlin attempted to enter a tourist vehicle, but they drove away before he could get in.
- 28 August, Force got into a vehicle of tourists, the monitors managed to chase him out of the vehicle, he took a backpack that was in the vehicle. With the help of Mark Duffel they retrieved the backpack.
- 31 August, meeting was held with city councillor, Simon Liell-Cock and managers of Miller’s point Caravan Park and Picnic site to discuss waste management and increasing awareness of baboons to the public.
- The troop slept on the mountain every night this month.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MANAGEMENT																																
Sector (N, SE or SW):		SE		BABOON TROOP:		SMITSWINKEL		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTALS													
MONTH:	AUGUST	2012	In urban area							Raiding bins	Raid unoccupied house	Raid occupied house	Steal food from person	Attacked person	Breaking/entering	Attacked pets	Damage to property	Raiding vehicle														
ID Tag	Sex	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	30	31
FORCE	M							2										2,3(a)											5			5
MERLIN	M																	7														1
MANUEL	M	2	2	2	2	1,2	2	2	2	2	1,2	2	2	2	2	1,2									1							19
Troop			1	1				1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1								10
Troop:																																
Roost:		AM	CLIFFS OR CAVES IN MOUNTAIN																													
Roost:		PM	CLIFFS OR CAVES IN MOUNTAIN																													
ID Features of Baboons																																
General remarks:		TK1 (Male) Shot by SANParks mid August (date not confirmed), used to be with Plateau troop																														
Roost Sites		1	Mountain		2			3			4			5																		
		6			7																											

Figure 1: Raid sheet for Smitswinkel troop.

2. Waterfall Troop

- Morning and evening raids occurred frequently at the Naval Barracks.
- On 11 August, Bongo entered the men’s dorms at Happy Valley Haven with some sub-adults and females. They were chased out by the residents and a sub-adult baboon was beaten by one of the residents.
- The new shift started on 16 August however the rangers no longer had the use of a bear banger. For the first time in August, the baboons raided a house in Barnard street no. 17, mostly juveniles.
- This continued until 21 August, when the rangers were provided with a bear banger.

- An adult female baboon was found dead next to a house in Cardiff Street, on 27 August.
- On 30 August, 3 ladies were chased by 2 sub-adult baboons. One of the ladies fell down the stairs and says that the baboon pushed her. The baboons stole a backpack from one and the laptop fell out and broke. The third lady held on to her handbag that they wanted to take.
- Meeting was held with the Navy on 31 August, the waste management of the Navy Barracks and Flats was discussed with them and improvements should be made.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MANAGEMENT																																
Sector (N, SE or SW):	SE					CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR			1	In urban area	4	Raid occupied house	7	Breaking/entering																		
BABOON TROOP:	WATERFALL					2	Raiding bins	5	Steal food from person	8	Attacked pets																					
MONTH:	AUGUST 2012					3	Raid unoccupied house	6	Attacked person	9	Damage to property																					
																														TOTALS		
ID Tag	Sex	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	30	31
BONGO												7																				1
subs																															2,6	2
Troop							2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1,2,3	1,2	1,2	1	1	2	2	2	3,2	2	2	2	2	2	2	29
Troop:																																
Roost:	AM																															
Roost:	PM																															
ID Features of Baboons																																
General remarks:	Almost daily raiding of bins in Naval Barracks and on several occasions at Happy Valley Haven. Incomplete records were kept for August. Adult female baboon found dead next to house in Cardiff street. Female with pellet gun wound to the face (29/08)																															
Roost Sites	1	FLATS	2	PINE TREES (FLATS)	3	PINE DA GAMA	4	JACK'S SHOP	5	STABLES																						
	6	COMPASS	7	CLIFF																												

Figure 2: Raid sheet for Waterfall troop.

3. Da Gama/Glencairn Troop

- Throughout August, the troop at Da Gama/Glencairn was quite troublesome to manage.
- The splinter troop led by Carpenter (blue tag) and Peter (orange tags) was noticeably more problematic than the main troop.
- The splinter troop made to excursions to Glencairn Heights/Fish hoek. They would sleep at Elsie's Peak and then move between Glencairn Heights and Fish hoek, which was quite difficult to manage.
- The big troop slept mainly at the Naval flats, either in the scaffolding, on the roof of the flats or in the pines in front of some houses at the flats.
- They also slept at the pines by the stables on 5 occasions and in the pines by Jack's shop.
- On the evening of the 16th and 26th August both troops slept at the cliffs above Compass Bakery in Kommtjie.
- The rangers managed to keep the troop in the mountain (for an entire day) without any excursions into the residential area, on 7 occasions.

- Peter (orange tags) raided houses on 6 occasions (6, 8, 9, 14, 16 & 23 August).
 - On 6 August, he broke through the eaves in the roof, through the ceiling and into the house. He also broke the bathroom window.
 - On 8 August, Peter attacked a German shepherd in a garden, but we chased him away before either Peter or the dog got hurt.
 - On 9 August, he broke in through the window, owners said all their windows were closed when they left the house
 - On 13 August, he attacked a cross breed dog walking in the street in Da Gama Park
 - On 14 August, entered through open window and doggy door. The owner was home; he would not allow us in and the owner proceeded to take an air rifle to shoot at Peter and 2 sub-adults.
 - On 16 August, entered the first house through windows and opened all the windows on the inside, ± 10 baboons entered the house, raided the kitchen. They were chased out by Mark Duffell who entered the house. They went on to break the window at the neighbours and enter the house but were chased out soon after.
 - On 23 & 24 August Peter and Carpenter continued to raid houses, bins and attacked a dog in Da Gama Park. They then went down the hill towards Welcome Glen where they continued to raid bins.
 - On 27 August Peter was euthanized.
- 28 August, baboons spent the day in the thick alien vegetation at Da Gama Park. They made several attempts to go into the residential area.
- 2 Sub-adults were seen walking in Glenalpine Road and these could possibly be the sub-adults that were always with Peter.
- 29 August, bin day, baboons in Da Gama Park (big troop) and Welcome Glen (Carpenter's troop). Waste-Mart left all the waste/rubbish behind from the bins that were raided.
- Carpenter broke a window with a rock in Welcome Glen, but did not enter the house.
- During August, Carpenter raided a house once, but made at least 3 attempts to raid houses. He attacked 2 dogs on 2 separate occasions (13 & 23 August). Both incidents occurred when the small troop was in the residential area.
- 2 sub-adults broke a kitchen window in Da Gama Road with a rock. No. 5, 14th Ave was also raided, by 9:30 baboons were chased out of town and into the mountain. 50/50 join monitors in the mountain.
- Gundi raided houses on 15 & 29 August. The house that was raided on 15 August was unoccupied but on 29 August there was a woman with 3 children in the house. He jumped through a tiny window in the bathroom.
- 31 August, big troop, pushed into Welcome Glen. Together with the rangers we managed to push the baboons to the edge of the sports field by 7pm.

- On three of the four bin days during August the baboons raided quite heavily. The baboons manage to toss the bins and then open them even if they have the baboon proof clips. Padlocks need to be put onto the clips to prevent them from opening the bins.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MANAGEMENT																																	
Sector (N, SE or SW):	SE	CLASSES OF		1	In urban area	4	Raid unoccupied house	7	Breaking / Entering																								
BABOON TROOP:	DA GAMA	BEHAVIOUR		2	Raiding bins	5	Steal food from person	8	Attack pet																								
MONTH:	AUGUST 2012			3	Raid unoccupied house	6	Attacked person	9	Damage property																								
ID Tag	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	23	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	TOTALS
PETER							7		8	3	1		1	8	4		3	2								4	2	8					12
CARPENTER											1			8				2							3	2	8					17	8
GUNDI																3	2															4	3
2 SPL SUBADULTS							3										3	2							2	2					17	7	
SPL TROOP								2	2	3	1		1	4		3	2								3	2			1	1	1	13	
MAIN TROOP								2	2				1	1		2									3							6	
Roost Main:	AM						5	5	1	1	1	5	5	1	5	1	6	1	1	1	1	4	1		1		1	1	1	6	1	1	
Roost Main:	PM						5	5	1	1	1	5	5	1	5	1	6	1	1	1	1	4	1		1		1	1	1	6	1	1	
Roost SPL:	AM							8	8	9	1	5	1	8	5	5	6	1	1	1	1	3	1				1	1	1	6	1	8	
Roost SPL:	PM							8	8	9		5	1	8	5	5	1	1	1	1	3	1					1	1	1	6	1	8	
General remarks:	SPL = Splinter Troop 2 SPL SUBADULTS = Two raiding splinter troop sub adult males that have learnt from Peter to break windows with stones.																																
Roost Sites	1	FLATS		2	PINE TREES (FLATS)		3	PINE DA GAMA		4	JACK'S SHOP		5	STABLES																			
	6	COMPASS		7	CLIFF		8	Welcom Glen		9	Elsies Peak																						

Figure 3: Raid sheet for Da Gama troops A & B.

4. General Comments

i) Comments from the public

- Rotary Camp, Glencairn, phoned to thank us for having kept the baboons out of their camp site for 3 weeks.
- One lady, who has retired to Glencairn, has phoned to thank us because for the first time in many years she has been able to spend time in her garden. She has now spent three weeks gardening and is as pleased as punch. Previously she had tried to sell her new house but could not because property values had depreciated so much because of the baboon problem.
- The following sms was also received: *“Good morning Ziggy. A very big Thank You to you & your fellow baboon monitors for a great job of keeping the baboons out of our area – it feels like we have been released from jail! After the past 8 months, we can finally relax. Thank you. Regards Sallianne, Highway N’Hood Watch. Fish Hoek.”*

ii) Recommendations

- Field supervisors need binoculars to assist with monitoring the baboons.
- Intensive alien vegetation clearing of **the entire area** is required.
- Removal of sleep site trees within the suburban boundaries needs to be considered carefully. But it would be helpful to remove the pine trees in Welcome Glen.

- Extensive litter clean up and improved waste management
- Recycling bags are constantly raided on bin days, as they are left next to dustbins. Many residents also have organic matter in the bags. Waste-Mart should come first thing in the morning or provide bins for recycling.
- When baboons have raided the bins, Waste-Mart only takes what is in the bin and the rest outside the bin gets left behind and baboons keep pushing back into the residential area to feed on the 'left-overs'.
- Better waste management at the Naval Flats is needed.



Figure 4: Recycling bags raided.

South Western Region – Manager Nick Shaw

The two troops in the Scarborough area are the GOB 1, known as Grood Olifantsbos Troop and GOB 2 which will be referred to as the Scarborough troop.

1. Grood Olifantsbos Troop

The Grood Olifantsbos troop has remained in the Cape Point National Park for the entire month of August. On a number of occasions they have tried to move into the Scarborough residential area at the most western point of the Reserve fence, near the picnic spot. At every attempt the rangers have successfully managed to prevent the troop from entering the Scarborough residential area.

The troop has been sighted most days on the first hilltop ridge in the Reserve where they often move down towards the river and back up again. It has not been possible to establish exactly where their sleep sites are but the rangers have assumed that they are sleeping at the cliff sites on Grood Olifantsbos mountain.

One noticeable comment by the rangers is that they have not sighted 'Moby', the alpha male of the troop. They have noticed the presence of another "wild" adult male baboon that may have replaced Moby as the alpha male in this troop.

Since the troop has not at any time this month entered into the residential area, there is no raiding information for the month of August.

General comments:

Although the Groot Olifantsbos troop has attempted to access the residential area of Scarborough on a number of occasions they are easily held in the Reserve by just the presence of the rangers on the fence-line. They have not been at all persistent or intent in entering into the residential area.

2. Scarborough Troop

The Scarborough troop has based themselves on the mountain between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. Their sleeping site is on the west-facing cliff site on the peak. The alpha male of this troop is a double red tagged male known as 'Slumko'. The strategy for managing this troop is to hold them on the mountain between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs and to allow them access to the shoreline to forage without allowing them to access the residential areas along the shoreline.

The rangers have been fairly successful in maintaining these lines but there have been numerous occasions this month when the troop has managed to enter into the residential areas of Misty Cliffs and Scarborough. In the month of August the troop has entered the residential areas on eight separate occasions. The most notable of these raids was on the 3rd when Slumko forced his way into a house on Beach Rd and did damage to property as well as making a mess of the house while raiding. The second house raid occurred on the 11th when baboons entered 69 Old Camp Rd in Misty Cliffs through an open window. In this case, the raiding baboons were a juvenile male called 'Cookies' and two unidentified females. The third raid occurred in 509 Egret Rd when baboons entered the property through an open window. No identification of raiding individuals was made in this case.

On the 29th a baby baboon was hit by a vehicle on the road between Misty Cliffs and Scarborough. Slumko grabbed the baby and together with the mother disappeared into thick bush just below the cliffs. That was the last time the baby baboon was seen with its mother. We suspect the baby baboon is deceased. Due to the dense vegetation it is not possible to locate the remains.

General Comments:

The mountain on which the baboon's sleep site is located is positioned between Misty Cliffs and Scarborough. This makes the management of the troop difficult as the rangers have to hold lines on both the Scarborough and Misty Cliffs sides of the mountain as well as on the road at the bottom of the mountain. With only one supervisor and two rangers the task is challenging. Currently the rangers are beginning their day on the fire-break above Scarborough to prevent the troop from entering the residential area there. When they are

successful in doing this, the baboons quickly move over the mountain and down into Misty Cliffs faster than the rangers can make their way around to Misty Cliffs to cut them off. This problem could be solved when we have the necessary vehicles in this area. This will greatly improve the ranger's mobility.

The young male, 'Cookies' has been a problem to manage as he tends to break away from the troop, usually with two females. They manage to elude the rangers and enter the residential areas. It is often not possible for the rangers to leave the rest of the troop unattended to go after these individuals.

On the evening of the 28th the troop did not retire to the usual sleeping site but chose to sleep on a rocky outcrop just above Hilltop Rd. This made it very difficult the following day as the troop moved very early straight into Scarborough and it took three hours to get them back up onto the mountain. Fortunately this was a once-off incident and since then the troop has not been back to that sleeping site. It is a matter of concern though that they could utilise this sleeping site in the future.

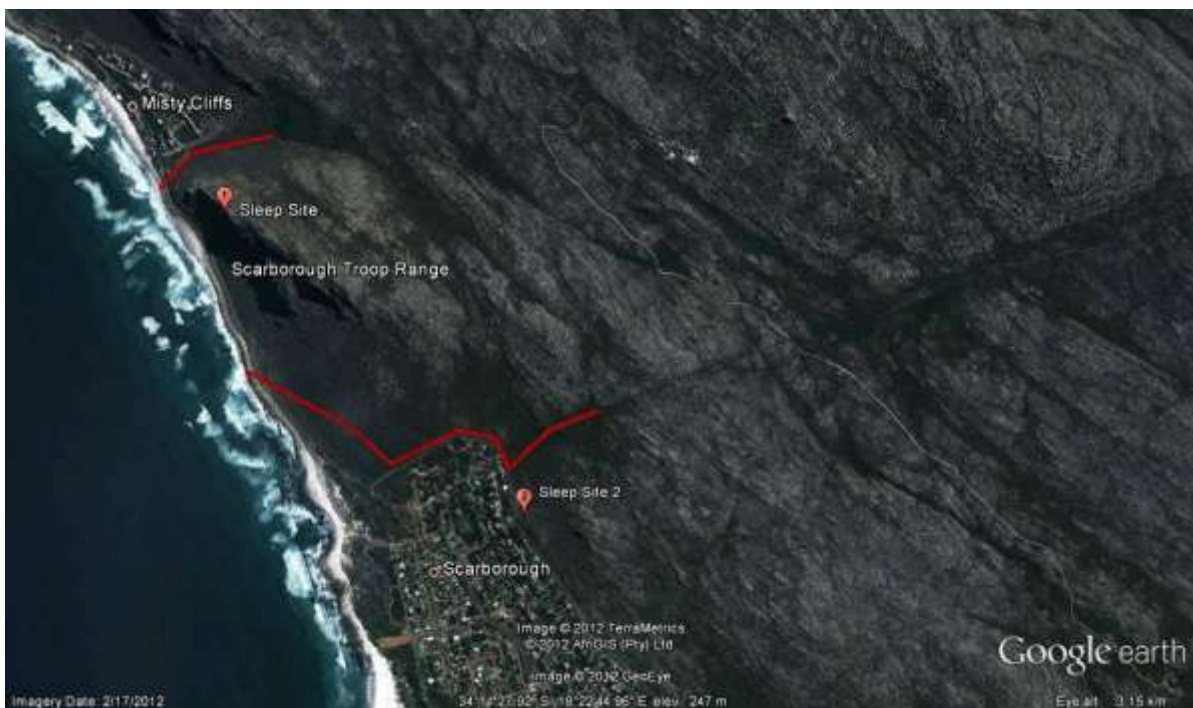


Figure 5. Scarborough troop range including holding line and sleep sites

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MONITORING																																	
Sector (N, SE or SW):	SW		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR										1 In urban area	4 Raid occupied house	7 Breaking/entering																		
MONTH:	August		2 Raiding bins	5 Steal food from person	8 Attacked pets											3 Raid unoccupied house	6 Attacked person	9 Damage to property															
Scarborough		TOTALS																															
ID Tag	Sex	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	30	31	
RED	M	1	1,3,7,9									3							3													7	7
Cookies	M	1	1									3														1						1	5
unk	F	1	1									3														1						1	4
unk	F	1										3																				1	2
Main Troop:	1	1	1									1						1	1						1						1		
Roost Main:	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	2	1	1	1	
General remarks:	The rangers have managed to hold the troop on the mountain between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs. On the 28th the troop slept on the urban edge above Hilltop Rd and entered the village early the next morning. A juvenile was apparently hit by a car on the Misty Cliffs/Scarborough road and has not been seen since.																																
Roost Sites	1		Cliffs				2		Urban Edge				3		4				5														

Figure 6: Raid sheet for Scarborough troop

3. Slangkop Troop

The Slangkop troop has a large range with multiple sleep sites. The troop moves between Capri, Ocean View and Kommetjie. The strategy for managing the troop is to hold the red line indicated in Figure 1 below. The line extends from the Slangkop sleep site along the road leading south-east towards Misty Cliffs and along the top of Slangkop towards Ocean View and further on towards Capri. The Slangkop/Ocean View line requires a significant buffer zone between the line and Kommetjie as the topography of the mountain as well as the vegetation on the mountain make it a very difficult line to hold any closer to the Kommetjie urban edge. The line extends through to Ocean View where the second sleep site is located on the urban edge. The third sleep is located above Compass Bakery. The strategy here is to hold the troop on the mountain side with a buffer zone between the line and Kommetjie Road and to prevent the troop from entering the Capri residential areas to the north-east.

From the 5th to the 27th August, the troop occupied the Slangkop sleep site. The biggest challenge that the rangers faced with regards to managing this troop is the collared male that regularly breaks away from the troop with a couple of females and juveniles. It has proved very difficult to hold this break-away troop as well as the main troop on the mountain. Once the break-away troop enters the residential area they begin raiding bins, houses, restaurants and the shop. This forces the rangers to move off the mountain and into Kommetjie to manage the situation and leaves the main troop unattended. Often this results in the entire troop making its way into Kommetjie.

In the month of August there have had 19 reports of baboons in the residential area of Kommetjie, 1 for the area of Imhoff's Gift and 1 for Compass Bakery. There have been two reports specifically for the collared male entering occupied houses, one of which indicated damage to property when he forced a door open and one where the owner felt very threatened by the aggression exhibited by the baboon. A long-time resident of Kommetjie reported that while walking on the mountain he was chased by the same collared male and voiced his concern that he had never in the past felt threatened by any baboon whilst

walking amongst the troop on the mountain. On the 31st the same male was injured in a fight with one of the other males (unidentified) from the same troop. The injury does not seem too serious and the rangers are monitoring him.

On the 27th the rangers pushed the troop to Ocean View where they have been for the remainder of the month. They have been mostly successful in keeping the baboons on the mountain except for one occasion when the troop did manage to enter the Compass Bakery property. The rangers managed to get the troop back onto the mountain after half an hour. At 20:30 on the 30th there was a call to the hotline from the Ocean View police station to report that a couple of children had discovered a dead baboon above Ocean View. The following day the rangers spent a couple of hours searching the area but could not locate it. The police did not have contact details for the children that discovered the baboon so there was no way to pinpoint the exact location.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MONITORING																																		
Sector (N, SE or SW):		SW		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR			1	In urban area			4	Raid occupied house			7	Breaking/entering																		
MONTH:		August					2	Raiding bins			5	Steal food from person			8	Attacked pets																		
		Slangkop					3	Raid unoccupied house			6	Attacked person			9	Damage to property																		
ID Tag	Sex	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	30	31	TOTALS	
Collar	M														4,7,9																			7
Main Troop:			1,2	1,2	1,3	1	1	1,3	1,2	1,2	1,2	1							1,1,2	1,2	1,2					1	1	1				1		
Roost Main:		3	2	3	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	2	3	2	2	
General remarks:		The collared male is a problem. He breaks away from the troop regularly with a few females to go into the residential areas. On the 27th he chased a hiker on the top of Slangkop. The man, a long-time resident of Kommetjie stated that he had never been chased in the 40 years he had hiked Slangkop.																																
Roost Sites		1	Slangkop					2	Ocen View					3	Compass Bakery					4						5								

Figure 7: Raid sheet for Slangkop troop

General Comments:

The introduction and use of paintball markers has made the Slangkop/Kommetjie line much easier to hold. If not for the break-away troop the rangers would be successful most of the time. This is the most challenging management issue.

On one occasion when the troop moved from their Slangkop sleep site across the road and into the Soetwater Conservation area, they were driven out in the direction of Kommetjie lighthouse by members of the Soetwater staff. This resulted in the whole troop being able to enter the Kommetjie residential area before the rangers could make their way down to stop them.

The recent alien vegetation removal on the slopes above Compass Bakery has made it easier to track the movements of the troop down the slope towards Compass Bakery.

Recommendations:

A dedicated vehicle in the Kommetjie/Ocean View/Capri area would make a very big difference to the effectiveness of the rangers in being able to move quickly and to be able to cut the troop off before they enter the residential areas.

More communication between HWS and the Soetwater Conservation area/camp site would help to establish a combined strategy for managing the troop when it enters the area.

The collared male will need to be monitored closely to establish the likelihood of him forming a splinter troop. If this happens the management of the Slangkop troop will become a lot more challenging.



Figure 8. Slangkop troop range including holding line and sleep sites.

North Region – Manager Stefan Theron

1. Tokai Troops

There are 2 male baboons (Full Mouth and Darius) in the Tokai area that engage in raids but are not tagged. These baboons are our top priority in terms of being radio collared and tagged. In the past some males were collared but not tagged. We aim to tag these individuals as well.

The small Zwaanswyk troop has been very scarce with most of their time being spent at the tea garden or higher levels of the plantation.

The Ghost troop / Mountain troop has not been encountered by us during October. They do apparently raid on Klein Constantia, but have not come down into the urban areas of Tokai or Constantia as yet.

The large Tokai troop has been very relaxed and the females and youngsters are easily coaxed away from the fences when needed (the sight of the paintball markers works well for them). There have been raids from the males almost every day with the yellow tag (Matata – TK17) and the white tag (TK18) going to the houses in Fir Grove Street and the school (TK 18 was originally from the Constantia troop so his raid data are in the Constantia raid sheet). The residents in the area have reported them being a nuisance on a regular basis.

A male with a brown collar (Tristan or Alex) was reported to have attacked a German Sheppard in the same area (no injuries on the dog were mentioned). The male with the green tag and GPS collar (Freeman TK9) has been making regular visits to the refuse area of TriBakery and a security guard reported him stealing food from a lady on the street on the 5th of August.

We have also seen him showing aggression towards people trying to move him away from the bins or the skip at the research center. Uncollared males have been seen making attempts to move down Tokai Road and Zwaanswyk during the later hours of the afternoon.

The male baboons disperse far away from their troops to raid in the urban areas where they are very difficult to control. In Tokai, the white tagged (TK18) , untagged and yellow tagged (TK17) baboons move early to raid in the Dennendal and Firgrove road areas.

The ADT security in the area has observed TK17 raiding houses in Romany walk on multiple occasions in the past. Fullmouth or Tristen (untagged males) mostly raid in van der Poll ave and Dalmore avenue. Freeman also raids but tends to stay close to the troop and does not wonder far away for too long.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MANAGEMENT																																		
Sector (N, SE or SW):		NORTH		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR		1		4		7																								
BABOON TROOP:		TOKAI				2		5		8																								
MONTH:		AUG 2012				3		6		9																								
ID Tag	Baboon I.D	Sex	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	30	31	TOTALS
UNIDENTIFIABLE	N/A	M	2				1, 2, 2, 3		1	1							2	2, 2, 2					4	2	2, 4			4	2, 2			2, 2	13	
YELLOW	TK 17	M		4								4			2							2		4	2		1			4		8	9	
YELLOW/WHITE	? HOMER	M														2															2	2	5	
GREEN/COLLAR	TK 9	M				2								2		2, 2																	5	
COLLAR/NO TAG	TK 20	M																1				2	2	1	2					2		5	8	
Roost small troop			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 large troop			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
ID Features of Baboons		The unidentifiable males are possibly Full mouth, Albert, Tristin and Chris. As they are untagged males which are known raiders.																																
General remarks:																																		
Roost Sites		1 RESEARCH CENTRE PINES										2 SOC. FIELD PINES										3 TEA GARDEN PINES												

Figure 9: Raid sheet for Tokai Main troop and Zwaanswyk troop



Figure 10: Alex drinking Fanta stolen from child

2. Constantia Troop

The Constantia troop has remained in the Groot Constantia area with little movement over the past month. They mostly remained in the vineyard feeding on the grain growing in between the vines with the exception of two males, a red tagged male and an orange tagged male. Both males have been making regular visits to the houses and gardens in the area as well as being the main offenders in raids on the farm restaurants.

The troop is regularly harassed by members of the vineyard staff and is frequently chased in different directions by means of paintball markers used by the vineyard staff, even though they were apparently not causing any disturbance. Chasing the baboons in different directions is confusing to them and makes it difficult for us to teach them where they are allowed and where not.

This situation should improve once the fence running along the boundaries of Groot Constantia and Klein Constantia has been erected. The fence should also make it easier to defend the Price Drive boundary as it will force the baboons to move in a small defendable area should they want to move into the urban edge. The raiding baboons have almost fixed movement patterns. The males mostly travel through Ou Wingerd road, or walk down to Price drive/Belair road and down into the surrounding areas.

HWS: REPORT SHEET - BABOON MANAGEMENT																																	
Sector (N, SE or SW):	NORTH		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR		1	In urban area	4	Raid occupied house	7	freebiting/entering																							
BABOON TROOP:	CONSTANTIA		BEHAVIOUR		2	Raiding bins	5	Steal food from person	8	Attacked pets																							
MONTH:	AUG 2012		BEHAVIOUR		3	Raid unoccupied house	6	Attacked person	9	Damage to property																							
										TOTALS																							
ID Tag	Baboon I.D	Sex	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	30	31
RED/WHITE	TK 19	M	1									1									1	1											4
WHITE	TK 18	M			2				2				7										1	3	4			2		2			9
ORANGE/WHITE	TK11	M														1											2	2					5
ORANGE/YELLOW	TK 15	M																		2													1
TROOP	N/A	T																				1											1
Roost:			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
ID Features of Baboons																																	
General remarks:	The incident regarding the troop being in an urban area in the vicinity of Belair avenue, could be attributed to the bear banging activity of Klein Constantia																																
Roost Sites	1 KLOOP															2 CONSTANTIA FARM																	

Figure 11: Raid sheet for Constantia troop



Figure 12: Map of raiding “hot spots”, A – Constantia, B – Firgrove area and C - Tokai

General Comments

i) Electric Fence

It has been noticed that the electricity fencing on the northern border of Swaanzyk residential area malfunctions at times. There are also trees that overhang the fence and it has been witnessed how the baboons use the trees to cross the electric fencing.

ii) Baboon Researchers

The researchers in Tokai move amongst the baboons to make observations from close up. We have noticed how the baboons sometimes manipulate this situation to their advantage and have learned how go on raids “under the protective cover” of the researchers. It is almost as if the researchers escort the baboon on some raids, e.g. into The Range when the researchers go there for some refreshments. This is a very important issue to be addressed because the researchers themselves are influencing baboon behaviour and inadvertently encouraging them to act uncharacteristically.

iii) ID tags

We have noticed from numerous hotline calls that people frequently cannot accurately describe the tag colour combinations in the raiding males ears. We have addressed this situation with Dr Hamish Currie, and have decided to put two full length tags, at least 2cm apart into each tagged male's right or left ear. This should reduce the confusion while trying to identify tagged males.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

HWS took over the hotline on 5 August 2012. Over the next 26 days we recorded 79 calls reporting baboon raids or presence in the urban areas. Another 8 calls were management related, either praising HWS to their service, or complaining about the use of paintball markers. Records for two of the days since 5 August are not available but the table below shows how many raiding baboon calls we received for each five day period from 5 – 31 August. There is a very strong trend showing a decline in calls as the month progressed. We believe this trend reflects a decrease in the rate of invasions / raids by baboons, particularly troops which are much more visible than solitary males. Whether this trend is real should become evident over the next month or two. For the moment we believe it is real and attribute a large degree of the success to being able to use paintball markers on the baboons.

Hotline Calls for Baboon Raids in August 2012



Five Day periods during which hotline calls were recorded

The decline in baboon raids in general over the month is not reflected in the incidents of raids by habitual raiding males, who continued to raid throughout the month.

Raiding males which have been particularly troublesome this month have been Peter and Carpenter in Da Gama and the collared male in Slangkop. Both Peter and Carpenter persistently tried to take their splinter troop on raids, some of which were successful. Peter has been removed, but Carpenter has continued trying to raid and has also frequently been joined by two young males who co-operate in breaking into houses. It is anticipated that if

Carpenter were not present then the splinter troop would be leaderless and the rest of the troop, including these two males, would return to the main troop and therefore be exposed to much less raiding behaviour. The re-assimilation of the splinter troop will hugely reduce the rate of raiding in Da Gama and will also reduce the manpower required to manage them.

The collared male from the Slangkop troop in Kommetjie is rapidly becoming a major problem. He led six raids of what is looking like a budding splinter troop into Kommetjie. These raids included three raids into occupied houses, breaking into houses and damaging property and attacking and chasing a hiker with a back pack. If this male is successful in forming a splinter troop (they slept separate from the main troop for the first time two nights ago), then we will need to double the manpower required to manage the Slangkop baboons, and we will continue to see a rise in raiding behaviour into Kommetjie.

Philip Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions