



Human Wildlife Solutions
Monthly Report
January 2014

Photo: John de Jager

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A. INTRODUCTION

This month's report covers the five week period from 21 December 2013 to 24 January 2014. January marks the 18th month of HWS' management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula, so it is pertinent to highlight some of the more notable statistics for this period.

Since September 2012 when HWS first started recording these data in detail, HWS has consistently kept the 11 managed baboon troops out of the urban area for an average of well over 95% of the time. For the past three months this average is 99.3%.

Records of all hotline calls are kept and categorized in terms of the severity of raids. This month, we have summarised all hotline calls and divided them into quarterly periods. They have also been classified into three broad categories - baboons in urban area, raiding bins, and assertive raids which include all raids on houses, people or their pets. In the first quarter, 28% of all hotline calls reported assertive raids. This figure has progressively declined, and for the past two months assertive raids averaged only 7% of all hotline calls - a drop of 75%.

Over the past 18 months HWS has therefore been keeping baboons increasingly more out of town (now averaging over 99% of time), as well as reducing the severity of raids when the baboons do manage to get into the urban area.

B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING

South Eastern Region – Area Manger: Ziggy Rode

1. Smitswinkel Troop

Another busy festive season is coming to an end and, according to a Cape Town tourism report, there has been an overall increase of approximately 2% in tourist activity in Cape Town during this period. Despite the increase and busy tourist activity along the tourist routes, there were no incidents of car raids along the roads and also no incidents of raids at the Miller's Point campsite. January 2014 therefore followed the December 2013 trend with not a single raid carried out by any baboon belonging to the Smitswinkel Troop. Additional staff members were employed over the festive season - a strategy that was implemented previously in the 2012/13 festive season - and is proving to be very effective.

There were only three instances where the troop spent time in 'town', and which only lasted for 25 minutes in total. This occurred only when the troop walked through the parking area at the Miller's Point boat launch site and passed the houses at Castle Rock on the way down to the coast to forage. The troop spends the majority of its time foraging on the mountain, spending only a few hours foraging on the coast almost on a daily basis. SWB1 and SWB6 have been seen fighting on occasion but this has not affected the troop dynamics. SWB7 has not raided during this period although, on 30 December, a tourist threw apples from the car in the direction of SWB7 while he was on the way down to the coast to forage. SWB7 then took the apples.

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	TOTAL										
BABOON TROOP: Smitswinkel			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																											
MONTH: January 2014																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	21	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	TOTAL
SWB1	M																																				0
SWB6	M																																				0
Troop																				1						1		1								3	
UnID Fem	F																																			0	
SWBF8	F																																			0	
UNID Male	M																																			0	
SWB7	M																																			0	
	%																											HRS									
Troop	0.17																			10						5		10							0.42		
Individuals	0.00																																			0.00	
Males	0.00																																			0.00	
Roost:	AM	2	6	5	5	5	6	3	2	1	2	6	2	6	6	2	1	2	1	2	6	2	5	5	2	4	3	6	4	6	3	1	4	2	6	2	
Roost:	PM	6	5	5	5	6	3	3	1	2	6	2	6	6	2	1	2	1	2	6	2	5	5	2	4	3	6	3	6	3	1	2	2	6	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																																				

Figure.1. Smitswinkel Bay Raid Sheet

On 2 January, while patrolling the area, the field staff spotted a troop on Plateau Road crossing over towards the Forestry Station. They did not have a visual of the Smits Troop but on closer inspection determined that it was possibly the Kanonkop Troop as they counted 53 individuals. The troop scattered quickly when the rangers approached and went up towards the Forestry Station. They were seen again on 3 January when the troop crossed back and returned into SANParks land.

SWB6 closely guards a new-born infant that was seen on 21 January.

2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall troop is following the similarly successful trend of the Smitswinkel Troop, with January being the second month in a row that the troop has stayed out of town 100% of the time. At one stage this was thought to be impossible as the troop faced major challenges at the Waterfall Barracks where human food/waste has been readily available to them at all times. The field rangers have put an enormous amount of effort into keeping the baboons out of town and guiding them to sleep and spend the majority of the time in the natural vegetation.

The troop now utilizes two sleep sites high up on the cliffs and forages daily on proteas and other natural vegetation. There are also some pine trees in the direction of Cape Point Vineyards where the troop spends some time foraging on the pine cones. This is a dramatic improvement in their diet as, prior to the past two months, they were consuming human derived food/waste daily.

The map below shows the area that is now predominantly used by the Waterfall Troop.

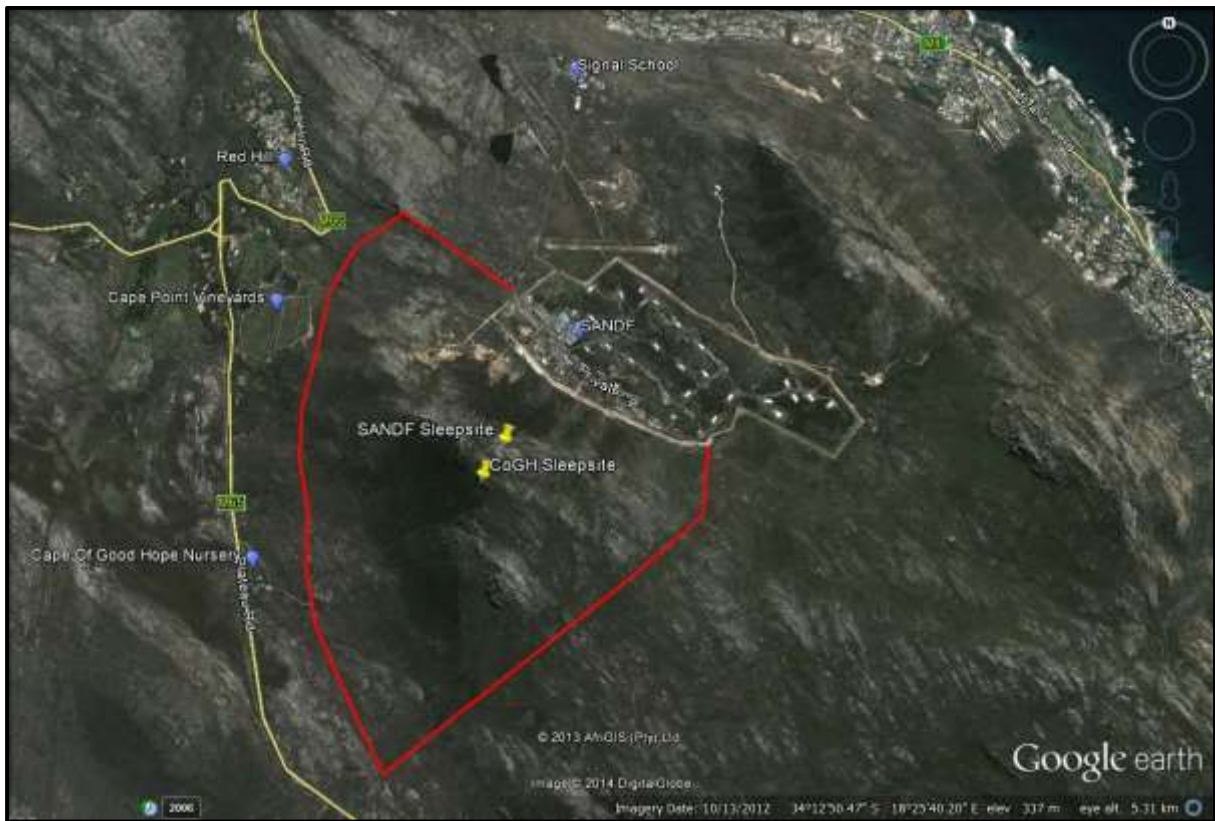


Figure.2. Map of sleep sites and the area used by the Waterfall Troop.

Currently, the only animal that continues to raid occasionally is RH2 when he leaves the troop and crosses the razor-wire fence at the SANDF base to raid bins, although RH2 is usually herded out very quickly. Unfortunately the SANDF facility does not have any baboon-proof bins and the standard bins are easily accessible to the baboon.

For the first time, on 13 January, RH2 was accompanied by WF2 and five others into the SANDF area where they raided an occupied office where there was food on the table and a window had been left open. Other than this incident none of the baboons have followed RH2 into the area.

Monitoring births in the Waterfall troop is very difficult as the troop mainly remains very high up on the mountain and rangers cannot get a good visual of the troop. The troop is managed by just blocking the lower slopes of their range (the red line in Figure. 2 above), otherwise the troop is left entirely alone.

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	TOTAL											
BABOON TROOP: Waterfall		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																														
MONTH: January 2014		2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																														
		3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle																																
BABOON ID	Sex	21	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	TOTAL
WF2	M																								6											1	
UnID Females	F																																			0	
TROOP																																				0	
RH2	M		1						2	2			2		1	2		1	1					1	6	2					2		2	2		12	
UnID Juveniles																								6												1	
UnID Male	M																																		0		
WFF1	F																																		0		
UnID Individuals																								6												1	
	%																											HRS									
Troop	0.0																											0.00									
Females/Individuals	0.1																											0.17									
Males	1.2	30							20	5			15		5	20		15	20					15	10	10						5	10		3.00		
Roost:	AM	5	6	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	6	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/Zwartkop				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																																			
ID Features of Baboons	WF2 - yellow&blue tag. RH2 - double yellow tags + collar, adult male																																				
	WFF1 - three legs																																				
General remarks																																					

Figure.3. Waterfall Troop Raid Sheet

3. Da Gama Troops

Despite January 2014 being a difficult month in terms of management of the Da Gama troop, there has been some improvement in the amount of time spent in town in comparison to December 2013. In December, the troop spent 6,2% of the time in town and in January only 3,3% of the time. The amount of time spent in town by males has also improved from 13,4% in December, to 10,2% in January. At the moment the days are long and, despite the baboons spending most nights on the mountain, they sometimes return to town after sunset.

On 28 December, rangers witnessed a juvenile baboon climbing on to the electricity cables, but were unable to stop it before it was shocked by the electrical wires and wounded. When the juvenile managed to get down later during the day the rangers noticed burn-wounds on its hind feet.

On 30 December, the troop left the Kleinplaas dam area and headed towards Pinehaven after the rangers left, but the mother and injured juvenile slept apart from the troop at Maylands, only re-joining the troop later the following morning. The injured juvenile was monitored closely throughout January but seems to be recovering well.

On 31 December, when the troop was found at Pinehaven, the baboons had raided the majority of the bins as most of the residents do not have baboon-proof bins.

Of grave concern is that, on both 5 and 8 January, rangers left the troop at Lewis Gay dam but when they returned the following morning, the troop had split into the Small Troop (ST) and Big Troop (BT) once again and had slept separately, one troop at the flats and one troop in the pine

trees in 2nd Avenue, Welcome Glen. However, they were subsequently pushed into the mountain and the troops reunited once again.

Throughout the month there was a fair amount of fighting between the large sub-adult males (from the original BT) and SK3 (previously from the ST), which would indicate that this may have resulted in the troop sleeping separately on these two nights. On five other occasions the sub-adults, together with 3 adult females and a few juveniles, slept apart from the troop. The sub-adult males also attempted to break away from the troop and head towards town but they were blocked on most attempts and pushed back towards the troop.

When the troop is in town it takes a bit longer to push the males out of town as they stay behind, together with a few other individuals, and attempt to raid. This has also complicated the management of the troop as several rangers need remain in position when the males stay behind in order to herd them out, which leaves fewer rangers to manage the rest of the troop. Both sub-adult males have long raiding histories and, with WAC approval, DG9 was euthanased on 22 January.



Figure.4. Movement of raiders in the urban area during January

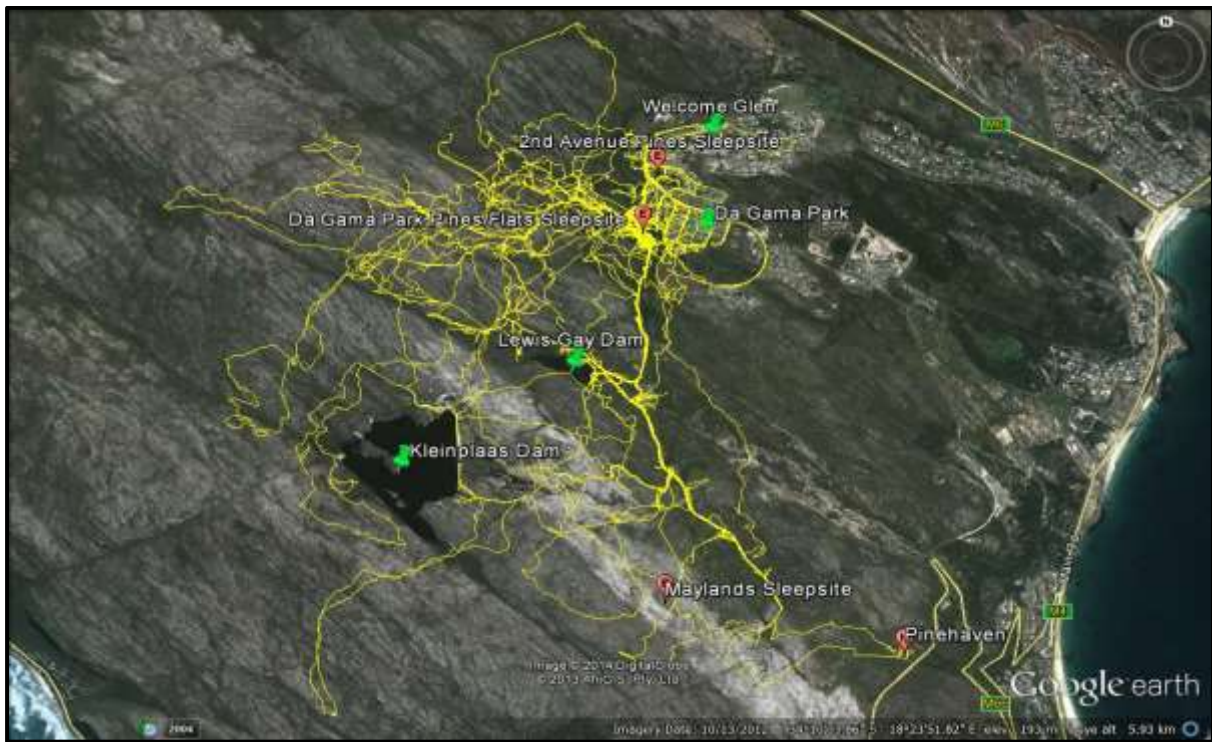


Figure.5. Da Gama Troop movement during January.

On 19 January, several individuals were on the roofs of the flats and rangers noticed that one adult female fell from the roof. The reason for the fall is unknown. The baboon landed on the ground but appeared to be somewhat off-balance and subsequently disappeared into very dense vegetation. The field manager on duty, together with two rangers, spent a considerable amount of time looking for her, but to no avail. Once the troop was in the clearing it was not possible to ascertain if there was an injured female with them as they all seemed to be fine, and subsequent counts seem to suggest that no female baboon is missing. It is remarkable that, after the fall, the female she does not appear to have had any visible or serious injuries. Monitoring will continue however to determine if there are any long term injuries to this baboon.

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	TOTAL													
BABOON TROOP:	Da Gama	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:	January	2014																																					
BABOON ID	Sex	21	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	TOTAL		
Troop		1	1	1	1	1						2,8,9	1																									11	
SK3	M	1	2	1	1	1						2					1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13			
DG1	M	1	1	1	1	2						2					1	1	2	2	1	6	1	2						1				1	1	23			
DG10	M	1	1	1	1	2	2					2					1			2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	13			
DG9	M	1	1	1	1	2	6					2					2,9			2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15				
DGF1	F	1	1	1	1	1	1					2					1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15				
DGF2	F	1	1	1	1	1	1					2					1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13				
Sub-adult Male	M																1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	8				
UnID Females	F	1	2	1	1	1	2					2					1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17				
UnID Female	F				1																	2	2								1			1	5				
UnID Male	M																																						
UnID Juvs	M		2			1						2					1	1		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1				1	1	1	14				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																																					
Troop		3.1	30	35	110	60						25					25																		60	100	45	20	10.00
Individuals		9.5	30	35	110	15	60	90				25					210	90		160	90	150	70	50			117	60	100	110	45	110	20	90		30.62			
Males		10.0	30	35	110	15	90	90				25					90	90	60	160	90	150	70	50	40	117	60	100	130	75	110	45	90		32.20				
Roost:	AM	2	2	4	3	1	**	2	2	2	22	23	2	2	2	1,2,3	1,3	1	1	1,3	1,2	3,4	1	1,2,3	1,3	1	1,3	3,8	1	1,3	1	1	1,3	1,3,8	1,3	3,8			
Roost:	PM	2	4*	2	22*	22*	22*	2	17	17	2	22*	2	24*	22*	1	1	22*	22*	2	2	16*	2	22*	1	1	22*	1	1	17*	22*	22*	16*	16*	22*				
Roost Sites	1	Flats		2		Pines - Flats		3		Pines - Da Gama		4		Pines - Welcome Glen		5		Sport Fields Stables																					
	6	Compass Bakery		7		Pines - Outspan		8		Jacks Shop		9		Elsie's Peak		10		Rotary Camp																					
	11	Witsand		12		Slangkop		13		Platkop		14		Rasta Camp		15		Ocean View																					
	16	KL sleep site		17		Maylands		18		Elsies River Valley		19		Red Hill/Windford Pines		20		Grootkop																					
	21	16th Avenue, DG		22		Lewis Gay Dam		23		Pinehaven		24		Kleinplaas dam																									
	25																																						
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	* - Left in the mountain but came down late																																						
	** - Slept in 5 different locations (1,2,3,4,8)																																						
	6* - Unidentified male with a collar raided an occupied house at: 20:30																																						

Figure.6. Da Gama Troop Raid Sheet

Births and Deaths

One infant was born on 21 January in the Smitswinkel Troop.

On 22 January, DG9, from the Da Gama Troop, was euthanased.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Baboon proof bins and education is needed at the SANDF Ammunition Depot site to prevent conflict with baboons increasing there.

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

Waste management still needs urgent attention, especially at the Da Gama Park flats, and a new waste disposal system needs to be developed for the flats.

Transformer boxes and electric cables at the flats need to be checked to ensure that they are safe and to prevent any further electrocution of animals in the area.

Waste management: Staff at the Miller's Point Caravan Park need training in respect of baboon-proof waste management. Several proposals have been put forward by City Councillor Simon Liell-Cock, as well as members of the Simon's Town Civic Association, HWS and volunteers. These proposals need to be implemented.

South Western Region – Area Manager: Nick Shaw

1. Groot Olifantsbos (GOB) Troop

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

The troop is making use of much of its home range, foraging from the coast up to the areas close to Plateau Rd, and from the Bonteberg to Olifantsbos. The troop has spent significant time at the Bonteberg roost site, in view of Scarborough, but at no time has the troop attempted to move towards the urban edge.

This is a stark contrast to the situation at the same time last year when the young male, GOB2, pulled a group of females and juveniles towards Scarborough every time the troop spent time at this roost site. The more time this troop spends in close proximity to the urban edge without attempting to enter, the more evident it is that the GOB Troop's behaviour has been dramatically altered from a habitual raiding troop to a non-raiding troop. This is entirely due to the influence of the non-raiding alpha, GOB7, and the removal of the young raiding male, GOB2.



Figure.7. Roost sites and GPS points for the GOB troop - January 2014

2. Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop

The Misty Cliffs Troop has been in the CoGH Reserve at the Bonteburg roost site for much of this reporting period. The troop managed to break out of the Reserve and back to the Misty Cliffs Roost site on the 11th January.

SECTOR		HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																						
		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																						
BABOON TROOP: Misty Cliffs		1 In urban area	4 Attacking pets	7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food																																																				
MONTH: January		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	21	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	TOTAL																			
GOB8	M																						1	2	2		2	2	6	1	2	6			2	2	11																			
MCF2	F			1	2												1					1	1	1	2	2	1	2		2		2	2	2	2	16																				
Unidentified female	F																							1	2	2		2		2				2	2	8																				
Unid female + baby	F			1													1					1	1	1	2	2	1	2		2	2	2	2	2	2	15																				
Unidentified juvenile	M																							1	2	2		2		2				2	2	8																				
Troop																											1	2	2		2	2	2		2	2	8																			
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS																										
%																																																								
Troop	7.5																						210	300	210		420		210		60			270	210	31h30																				
Males & Females	27.0			300	420												420					300	420	420	300	210	480	420	420	210	480	60	480	480	480	270	210	113h00																		
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2																			
Roost:	PM	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2																			
Roost Sites		1 Misty Cliffs	2 CoGH Reserve	3																										4																										5
		6	7	8																										9																										10
ID Features of Baboons																																																								
General remarks																																																								

Figure.8. Raid Sheet for Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop - January 2014

January Raids:

On 17 January, GOB8, and a number of females and juveniles, raided an occupied house in Tacoma Way.

On 20 January, GOB8 raided an occupied house in Daisy Rd at 21h00, after dark.

Comments and Observations

For nearly five consecutive months, up until 11 January, the troop had been kept in the CoGH Reserve. During these months it was only the previous alpha male, GOB5, and two females, that would break away from the troop to raid in Scarborough. The time spent in town, for the troop as a whole for these months, has been close to zero.

Towards the end of December, two females, MCF2 and one with a baby, broke away from the troop and returned to Scarborough where they remained for two days before eventually returning to the troop. The same two individuals did this again on 5, 9 and 10 January. Each time they broke away from the troop, these females would sit on houses at the top of Hilltop Rd and call incessantly, trying to get the troop to join them there. The troop would hear these females and would push hard to get to them. The ranger team was under severe pressure to keep the troop in the Reserve and eventually on 11 January, the troop managed to break the line.

After two days, the team was able to push the troop back into the Reserve although the same two females ran into Scarborough and hid from the rangers and did not enter the Reserve with the rest of the troop. The following morning, the whole troop was already in Scarborough by the time the rangers arrived at 05:45. Hotline reports confirm that the females that had remained behind, were barking from Hilltop Rd from 05h00. This is the only reason the troop moved out from the Reserve at such an early hour.

After returning to the Misty Cliffs roost site, the troop, together with the new alpha GOB8, began raiding in Misty Cliffs and Scarborough as they had done in the past. The time spent in town for the troop went from zero to up to 7 hours a day. There were relatively few house raids compared to when GOB5 was the alpha, and the troop foraged on vegetation in gardens, bins and any food easily accessed on properties. When in Scarborough, the troop split up to hide in vegetation all over the urban area which made it very difficult for the rangers to get the troop out.

To complicate matters further, GOB8 began to sleep on houses in Scarborough, which is what he used to do as part of the original GOB troop that regularly slept amongst the houses prior to July 2012. GOB8 was calling for the troop to join him in Scarborough until late at night and again early in the morning. On one evening, GOB8 raided an occupied house at 21h00. Eventually one, then two females from the troop, began to sleep in town with GOB8. This meant a further split in the troop which made keeping the troop out of town each morning very challenging.

It is now quite clear that the only way to prevent this troop from raiding in Scarborough for hours each day is to hold them in the CoGH Reserve. This strategy has proved very effective and reduces time spent in town to close on zero. The biggest challenge to achieving this are the

For the past month, DG6 has proved problematic. In previous months, all of DG6's raids in Ocean View were short in duration and only bins were raided. Recently however, DG6 has begun



targeting a particular house in Solomon's Link, a short distance from the roost site above Ocean View. DG6 began to target this house after he was able to gain access by removing a sliding door that had been left partially open. On another occasion he gained access to the house through a second storey window, and on a third occasion he broke open a door, using the cat-flap as leverage to rip a hole in the door.

Since then he has persistently tried to gain access to this house and has been the cause of much frustration and concern to the home owner. Damage done to the door by DG6 is illustrated in Figure 10.

Figure.10. Photograph of damage to door caused DG6

Births and Deaths

There were no births or deaths recorded for either troop 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.

Scarborough and the Misty Cliffs Troop: Last year, the month of February saw a dramatic increase in the raiding of Scarborough by the Misty Cliffs Troop, and this could be largely attributed to the availability of grapes on fruiting vines in certain residences in Scarborough. This year, HWS has posted a notice in the Scarborough Mail that is circulated to residents, asking that grapes and other fruit be removed so as not to be an attractant. It will however be necessary to follow up and identify problem areas as the season progresses.

The strategy for the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop will be to continue to return them to the Reserve from where they are more effectively managed.

Water availability in the various troops' home ranges must be assessed as summer progresses especially that of the Slangkop Troop where natural water sources tend to dry up early in the new year. The artificial water point on the Kompanjiesuin property is still closed but will be opened up again once it has been determined that the troop no longer has access to natural water sources. At the present time there is still a trickle of water available in the seasonal river that runs down the mountain between the Compass Bakery roost site and Ocean View. The Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop has access to plenty of natural water when they are in the Reserve, but none when they are at the Misty Cliffs roost site where the only access to water is from swimming pools in the urban areas. This is another reason why it is vital to hold them in the Reserve, especially at this time of year.

The raiding behaviour of the three females in the Slangkop Troop must be monitored, as well as that of DG6, especially with regard to the raiding of a single property in Solomon's Link. As the hot summer months progress there is the likelihood of increased raids due to the constant attempts by these individuals to break away from the troop to raid on their own.

Invasive alien vegetation on the Kompanjiesuin property has grown significantly over the past couple of months which will no doubt pose a problem to the team in preventing raids of Compass Bakery. There is currently a private contractor responsible for invasive alien clearing on site, but the large scale of the clearing is obviously proving challenging. The clearing is on-going but at a slow pace. The one positive achievement is that the areas close to Kommetjie Rd are being cleared first, which offers the rangers a narrow buffer zone with which to prevent the troop from crossing Kommetjie Rd to Compass Bakery.

Northern Region – Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

1. Tokai Main Troop

The Tokai Main Troop spent the majority of its time in the levels of Tokai Forest. However, several males left the troop and raided Chrysalis, Lister's Tea Garden and Porter Stables. TK35 remains a raiding male as he, and occasionally a female companion, raided the houses along Zwaanswyk road and around Beech Street. He is able to gain access into Zwaanswyk through weaknesses along the upper Steenberg fence. Additionally, he often leaves the troop and heads towards the urban environment via Tokai Road. TK35 is being closely monitored to try to avoid further raiding behaviour.

Additionally, TK28, the current alpha of the Tokai Main Troop, left the troop and entered the urban environment for the first time since he was a juvenile. On three separate occasions TK28 jumped the upper Steenberg fence and entered properties in Zwaanswyk Road, however no raiding behaviour was recorded. TK28 is now being closely observed to prevent this behaviour recurring.

TK40, a large adult male, separated himself from the troop along with several females and juveniles, and raided Chrysalis on a few occasions during the reporting period. He and his cohort were also observed to be sleeping separately from the troop on 24 January. This behaviour is of high concern, and will be carefully monitored during the next reporting period to prevent the troop from splitting.

On 24 January, a juvenile was reported vomiting from an unknown cause, and it unfortunately died the following day. The troop is being monitored for signs of further illness, however nothing else has been reported thus far.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
SOUTH EAST																																					
BABOON TROOP:	Tokai Trp	1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food from person															
MONTH: January	YEAR: 2014	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 ID	Sex	21	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	Total
Tokai Troop																																					
TK 24 (W-W) Collar	M														1								2														
TK 28 (B-G) Collar	M																																				
TK 35 (R-Y) Collar	M				6						6	2*					1,2				1,7		6					1		1	1		6*	7*	2,5		4,1
TK 39 (G-R)	M																																				
TK 40 (P-Y)	M													2*																						7*	
TK 41 (Single Pink)	M																																			5	
UnID male	M													2*																						2	
UnID Sub ad male	M																										5*										
UnID Females	F													2*																							
UnID Juvenile																																					
TKF 1 (B-B)	F																																				
TKF 2 (Untagged)	F																																				
TKF 7 (Red)	F				6						6	2*					1,2																			2	
TKF 8 (W -W)	F																																				
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Tokai Troop	0.6																																			2.00	
Individuals	0.6																																			2.00	
Males	1.6				40						15			10								15	40	90				30		60	15		60		120	5.25	
Roost:	AM	9	9	9	9	6	4	9	3	4	1	8	10	6	4	3	7	6	6	3	5	3	3	4	1	4	3	1	4	4	4	6	6	1	11	8	
Roost:	PM	9	9	9	9	4	9	3	4	1	8	10	3	4	4	9	8	3	10	5	3	3	5	11	4	7	11	11	4	4	3	6	1	11	8	8	
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																												
ID Features of Baboons	11 Other		12		13		14		15																												
General remarks	Potential for a troop split, led by TK40. TK35 habitual raider, and seems to be fairly aggressive. TK28 to be watched closely as he is displaying some potential raiding behaviour for the first																																				

Figure.11. Raid sheet of Tokai Main Troop for January 2014. * Indicates raiding behaviour that took place outside the urban areas.

2. Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop

The Zwaanswyk Splinter Troop spent the majority of this reporting period moving with the Tokai Main Troop. TK38 has temporarily taken over alpha status since TK35 moved to the Tokai Troop, as he is the only large male left in this troop. TK38 seems to be showing a habit of aggressive behaviour towards hikers in Tokai forest. Throughout the month TK38 has ambushed several hikers for the food in their back packs. We suggest clear signage, stressing the need to be cautious around baboons, to be erected near the tea room area where most hikes start. Other than the behaviour of TK38, the Zwaanswyk Troop did not demonstrate any raiding behaviour.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																					
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																			
SOUTH EAST																																					
BABOON TROOP:	Zwaanswyk Trp	1 In urban area										4 Attacking pets										7 Threatening behaviour/attack/stealing food from person															
MONTH: January	YEAR: 2014	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 ID	Sex	21	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	Total
Zwaanswyk Troop (ZT)																																					
TK37																																					
TK 38 (Sing.R) Collar	M		7*											7*																							7*
TKF 4 (Grey)	F																																				
TKF 5 (Green)	F																																				
Sub adult	M																																				
Un-ID fem	F																																				
Un-ID Juvenile																																					3*
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Zwaanswyk Troop	0.0																																				0.00
Individuals	0.0																																				
Males	0.0																																				
Roost:	AM	10	10	10	10	5	4	9	2	4	1	8	10	6	4	1	1	2	11	5	5	2	3	4	1	3	8	1	4	4	4	8	8	9	9	9	
Roost:	PM	10	10	10	10	5	3	9	2	4	1	8	10	3	4	4	3	5	4	11	5	2	3	5	4	4	6	4	1	4	4	4	8	8	9	9	4
Roost Sites	1 Tea Garden		2 Upper Tea Garden		3 Level 1 Tokai Clearing		4 Level 1 Zwk Blue Gums		5 Level 2 Stream																												
	6 Lower Guest House		7 Upper Guest House		8 Manor House		9 Tokai bridge Blue Gums		10 Level 2 Pines																												
ID Features of Baboons	11 Other		12		13		14		15																												
General remarks																																					

Figure.12. Raid sheet of Zwaanswyk Troop for January 2014. * indicates raiding behaviour that took place outside of the urban areas.

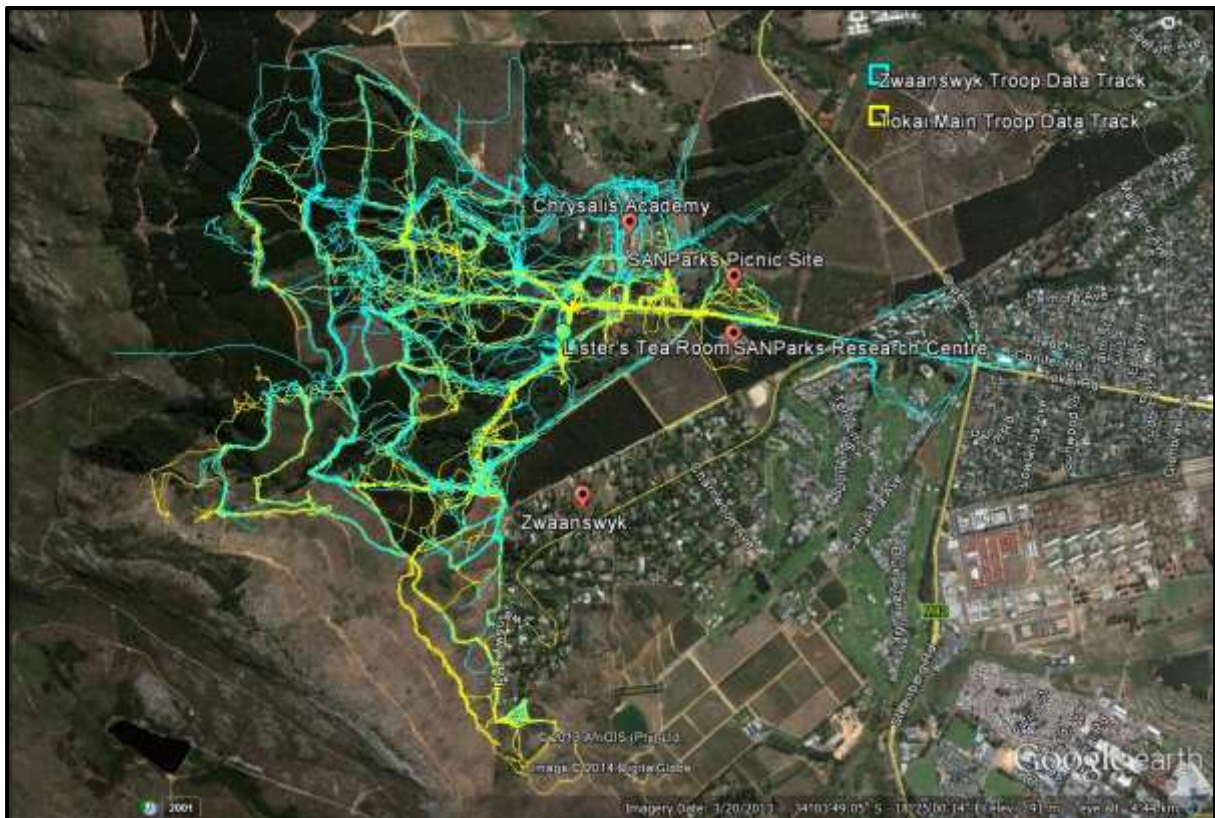


Figure.13. Tracking data of Tokai Main Troop (yellow) and Zwaanswyk Troop (blue) for January 2014

3. Constantia Troop

This troop has remained relatively quiet during this reporting period. In late December there were a few raids within the urban environment, but once the Constantia Wine Farm grapes started ripening, the troop spent the majority of its time on Groot Constantia.

There were several reports of an untagged male raiding the restaurants on Groot Constantia. An attempt was made to tag this male, but it could not be found on a number of searches. We shall endeavour to tag this male during the coming months.

MT1, from the Mountain Troop, joined the Constantia Troop and caused some extensive fighting within the troop. As a result, two females in the Constantia Troop were reported injured in early January, possibly as a result of infanticide attempts by MT1. One of these females had severe injuries which rendered the individual virtually blind. She was captured, treated, and observed for a period of five days in the Westlake enclosure. Unfortunately her condition did not improve and she was euthanased for humane reasons on 13 January. The other injured female is being monitored and is showing positive signs of improvement.

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:	Constantia Troop	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																														
MONTH:	January	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																														
YEAR:	2014																																				
BABOON ID	Sex	21	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	Total
TK 33 (R-O)	M	1																																			
TK 34 (O-O)	M										2																										
TK 15 (Y-O)	M																																				
TK 19 (R-W)	M																																				
TK 16 (W-W)	M																																				
TK 11 (O-W)	M																																				
CON 1 (Untagged)	M																																				
CON 2 (B-O) Collar	M																																				
CON 4 (B) S.Ad	M																																				
CON 3 (G) S.Ad	M																																				
CON 5 (G-G)	M															2																					
CON 6 (O) S.Ad	M																																				
MT 1 (G-W) Collar	M																																				
Un-ID fem / Juv	F	1																																			
Untagged/Unknown	M																																				
Const. Troop									1	6																											
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																										HRS									
Tokai Troop	0.0																																				0.00
Individuals	0.0																																				0.00
Males	0.8	30						60	15	30						15																					2.50
Roost:	AM	7	7	7	1	2	8	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Roost:	PM	7	7	1	1	8	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Roost Sites		1 KC/GC Border - Upp. Blue gums					2 KC Lwr Blue Gums					3 KC/SANpk MTB trail upp					4 Middle Plantation KC					5 Buiten BG															
ID Features of Baboons		Tagging of untagged habitual raider necessary																																			
General remarks		Untagged adult male has become habitual raider around Groot Constantia restaurants.																																			

Figure.14. Raid sheet of Constantia Troop. * indicates raiding behaviour that took place outside of the urban areas.



Figure.15. Patrol data for rangers in Constantia for January 2014. The red area indicates where the Constantia troop spent the majority of their time this month. The troop slept at the lower blue gums, and each morning were herded by Kleyn Constantia rangers north to the band of vegetation below the castle on Groot Constantia, where they spent the majority of the day.

4. Mountain Troop

MT1, a large male, left this troop and joined the Constantia Troop. The Mountain Troop was sighted occasionally together with the Tokai Main Troop, above Buitenverwagting. Some fighting took place during one of these encounters, yet no serious injuries occurred.

Births and Deaths

A juvenile in the Tokai main troop was unfortunately hit by a car just before Christmas and sustained serious injuries to its hind legs. Shortly after this, the juvenile fell out of a tree from a significant height and died on impact.

On 24 January, a juvenile was reported vomiting and died the following day. The cause is unknown.

An adult female from the Constantia Troop was euthanased for humane reasons after sustaining serious injuries thought to be a result of baboon on baboon conflict.

Three new-born baboons were reported this month, one in the Tokai Main Troop and two in the Constantia Troop.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Continual monitoring of all troops is necessary, particularly those individuals who are exhibiting raiding behaviour. These include TK28, TK35, TK38, TK40 and an untagged adult male in Constantia. Due to the social unrest caused by shifting males, intensive observations of social dynamics within the troops are to be carried out. In time, hopefully a new stable social structure will be established which we hope will curb some of the raiding behaviour.

Clear signage: Additionally, we recommend clear signage around Lister's Tea Room car park, the Tokai Forest picnic site and Chrysalis Academy, warning the public of baboons in the area, particularly to avoid close baboon encounters while hiking with food.

Fencing: We recommend that Steenberg Golf Estate upgrade their top fence with additional electric fencing in order to remedy any weak points. Additionally, trees which are near to or overhanging the fence should be trimmed sufficiently to avoid the possibility of baboons jumping over the fence.

C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

Population Data

January is the first month since HWS began counting all baboon births and deaths in the managed troops, during which the population did not increase in numbers. There were four births but these were matched with four deaths - one from unknown causes, one as a result of baboon-on-baboon fighting, one from a road accident, and one was euthanased in accordance with the raiding protocol. One cannot attach any great significance to these numbers, but they are interesting simply because of the fact that this is the first time in 13 months that the managed population of baboons on the peninsula has not grown.

Over the past year, the managed population has grown 9.3% from 354 to 387, and this is despite at least 17 babies being killed through infanticide. The overall message from these data is that the baboon population is in a very healthy state and is certainly not declining.

Population Data for the Ten Managed Troops on the Cape Peninsula							
TROOP	Total End Dec 2012	Total End Dec 2013	January Births	January Deaths	Total Births 2014	Total Deaths 2014	TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	44	1		1	0	45
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21		1	0	1	20
Waterfall	28	30			0	0	30
Groot Olifantsbos	19	19			0	0	19
Misty Cliffs Splinter	18	17			0	0	17
Slangkop	33	40			0	0	40
SUB TOTAL	175	171	1	1	1	1	171
Zwaanswyk	25	30			0	0	30
Tokai	61	70	2	1	2	1	71
Mountain / Ghost	33	44			0	0	44
Constantia	60	72	1	2	1	2	71
SUB TOTAL	179	216	3	3	3	3	216
TOTAL	354	387	4	4	4	4	387

Figure.16. Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula.

Hotline Data

Despite the relatively high number of hotline calls this month (90 in managed areas), once again most of the calls are as a result of just a few individuals. This is particularly true for Scarborough where a few baboons spent many days in town, but mostly sneaking around without being seen and living mainly off garden vegetation and waste from a few bins. Similarly, most of the calls in Tokai were as a result of raids by TK35 (often accompanied by a female and a juvenile), and TK35

together with a few other males and females managing to cross the fence on the western boundary of Steenberg, and from there gaining access either to Steenberg Golf Estate, or Zwaanswyk.

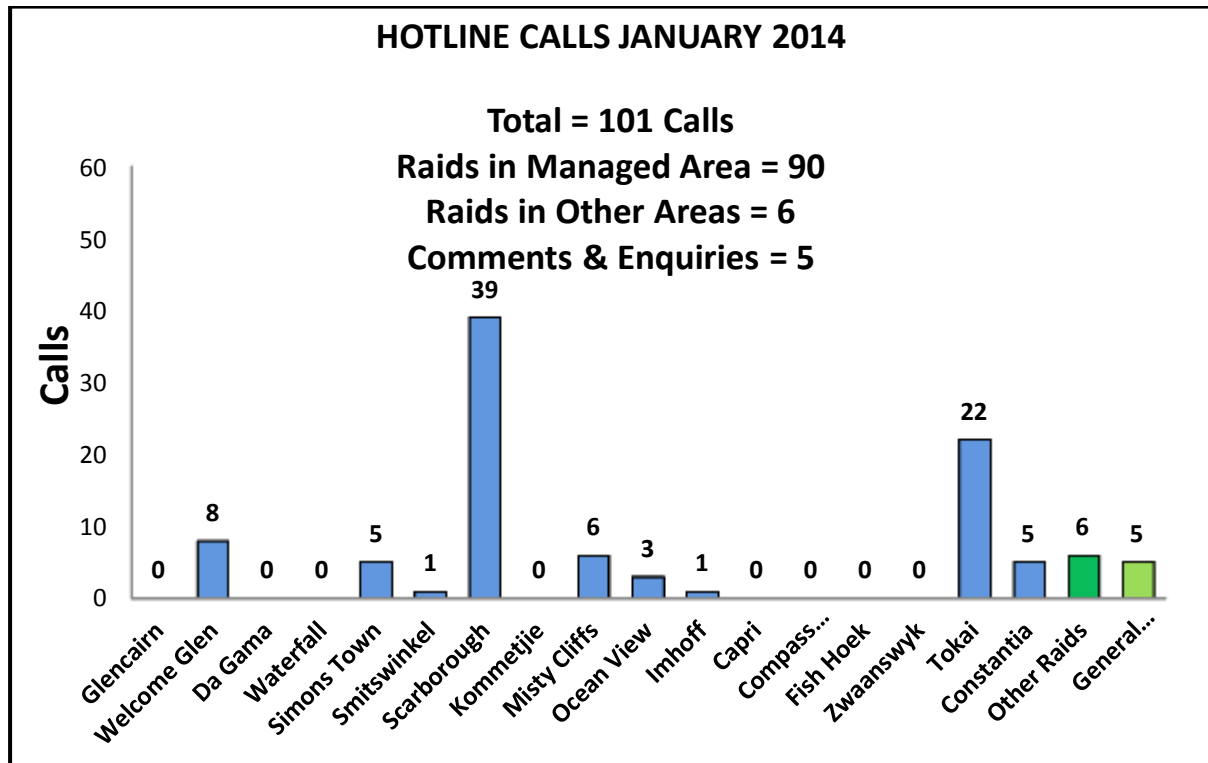


Figure.17. Hotline calls summary per area.

This trend is reflected in Figure.18 (below), which shows that 84% of all hotline calls were simply in response to baboons being seen in town, and a further 11% as a result of baboons raiding bins. It is very pleasing to note that only 5% of calls were as a result of baboons raiding houses.

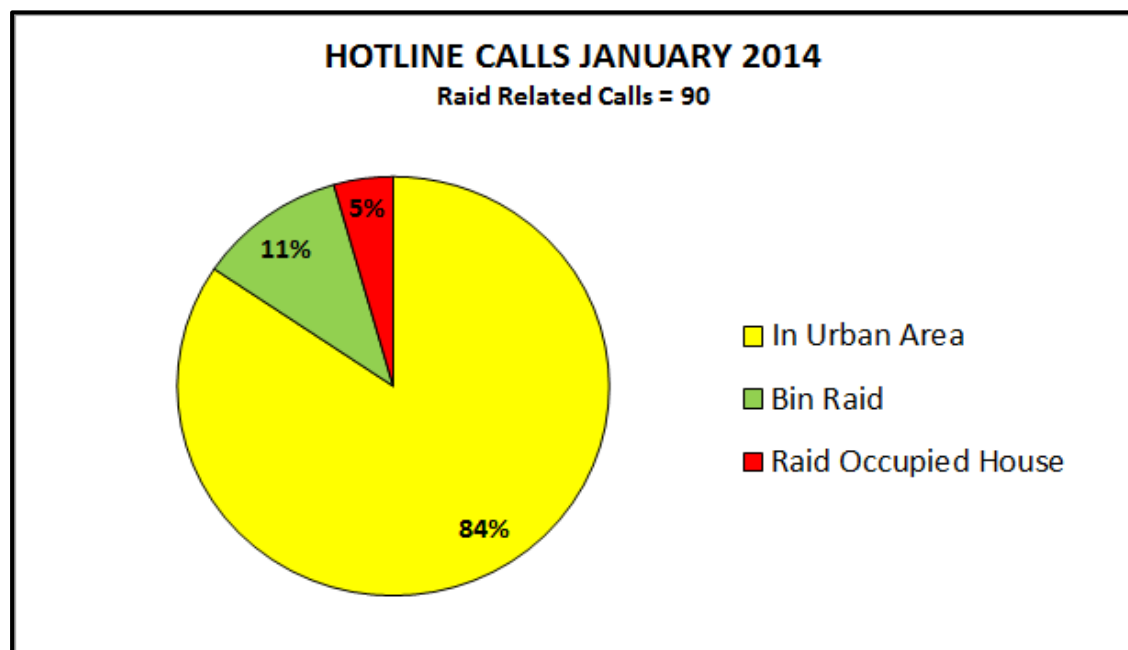


Figure.18. Raid-related hotline calls.

Since HWS began managing baboons in August 2012, the relative incidence of serious (assertive) raids reported has been steadily declining, while the percentage of raids just reporting baboons in town has been increasing. The relative incidence of bin raids versus assertive raids has also shown a tendency to increase over time, and over the past two months for the first time the percentage of bin raids is greater than assertive raids. These trends are illustrated in Figure. 19 below.

It must be noted that these data are all relative, and that while one would obviously prefer to have no raids at all, it is far more preferable to have baboons in town, than baboons raiding bins; and similarly to have baboons raiding bins rather than raiding houses or attacking people or their pets (called assertive raids in Fig. 19).

In the first 6 months of HWS management assertive raids accounted for 24% of all hotline calls. Over the next nine months 9 months this average dropped to 16%, and is currently 7% for the last two months.

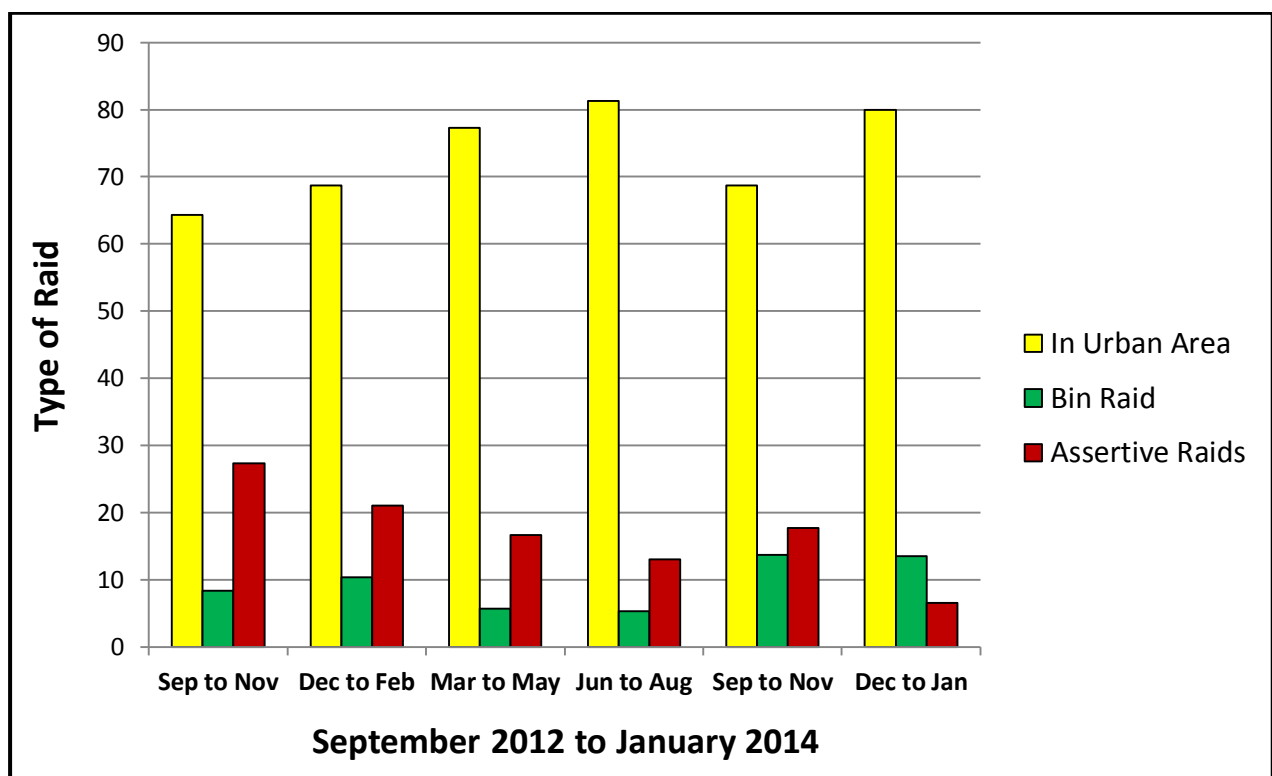


Figure.19. Type of raids per quarter, September 2012 to January 2014

Percentage Time out of Town

In January, after five months of being kept in the CoGH Reserve, the Misty Cliffs Troop finally managed to break back into Scarborough and returned to Misty Cliffs to sleep. As a result of this the overall average time all troops spent out of town dropped to 98.9% for January 2014.

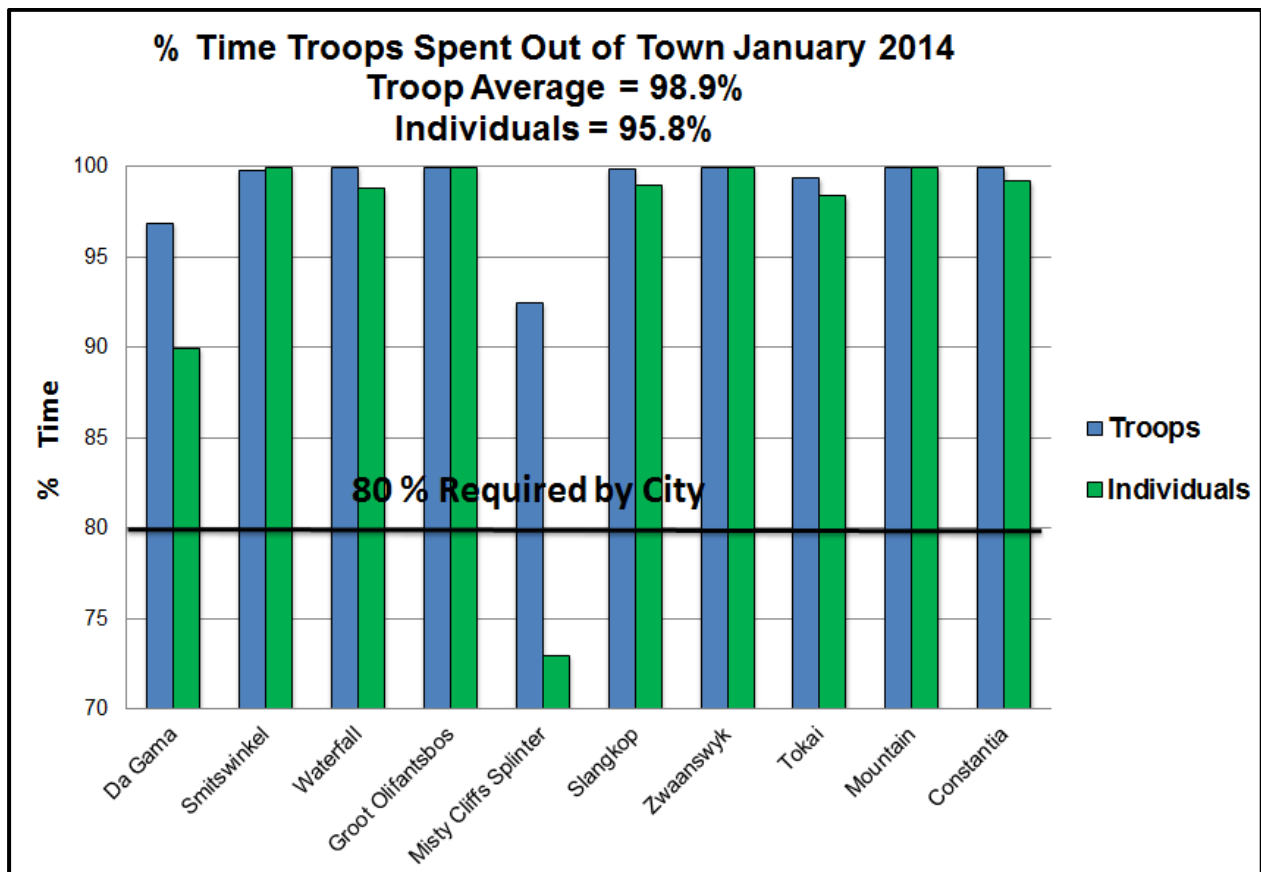


Figure.20. Percentage time troops spent out of town for the reporting period.

General Summary

Troop dynamics has become quite a common theme in recent monthly reports. The first, and most notable occurrence in this regard in 2013, was the unification of the two Da Gama troops. This was a milestone in baboon management because it showed that, once a troop had split into two, this was still not an irreversible process even after about 5 years. It is very pleasing to note that another two of the four splinter troops that formed over the past 8 years, are also showing signs of re-uniting with their parent troops.

This month again, like last, the GOB Troop has been seen to spend considerable time within the range of the Misty Cliff's Splinter Troop, and the two troops have been mingling amongst each other. Similarly, the Zwaanswyk Troop and the Tokai Main Troop have spent the past few months utilizing almost exactly the same home ranges, although largely remaining apart in terms of time. With each passing month, the two troops seem to be increasingly overlapping temporally as well. It is therefore feasible that both these splinter troops could re-unite with their parent troops over the next year.

A common factor in the re-unification of all these pairs of troops, has been the decline or total removal of some dominant males in the splinter troops, and / or in the parent troops. In the Da Gama Small Troop, the males DG2 and DG3 were euthanased as extreme raiders and the troop was without an alpha male for about two months, until SK3 came across from the Slangkop Troop to join them. Initially, SK3 was a very poor leader and often raided alone without his

troop. However, after about six months, when he became a father, he switched almost overnight into becoming a model alpha male. In the meantime, the worst of the raiding males, DG5 and DG7 in the Da Gama Big Troop, were euthanased leaving the old male, DG1, as the only adult in the troop. As a result of this SK4 soon joined the troop as a competing alpha male.

SK3 had originally been dominant to SK4, so when the two troops met up again around Da Gama, the new father and alpha male of the small troop, SK3, was ready to assimilate the large troop into his fold and he soon evicted SK4. It took a few weeks for the two troops to fully join together but they have now been effectively one troop since July 2013. The old male DG1 continues to hold considerable influence in the troop, but he does not challenge for alpha status.

The potential re-unification of the Misty Cliffs Splinter Troop with the parent GOB Troop has become possible primarily because of the euthanasia of the splinter troops inveterate raider, GOB5. It was not long before GOB8 took over as alpha male, but the more dominant alpha GOB7 from the GOB troop is showing great interest in the splinter troop and, because of him, the two troops may still merge.

Tokai is possibly the worst breeding ground for raiding baboons because of the large variety of human derived foods (HDF's) that are available. The baboons have constant access to the pine trees, but can also raid Lister's Tea Garden, SANParks picnic site, Chrysalis, The Range, and a variety of hikers and cyclists that utilize the mountain from the Arboretum. In the past, these baboons also had full access to Zwaanswyk, which has now been successfully electric-fenced, but they still have access to Forest Glade and Tokai nearby. Most of the worst raiders from prior to HWS taking over baboon management in August 2012 have now been euthanased, although there are a few, like TK35, who are still around.

It is since the removal of the very worst of the raiding males in Tokai that the main troop, and its splinter troop, have slowly been overlapping more and more together. It has therefore been a common factor amongst all these splinter troops that, as the divisive males that either like to lead off a small group of females on their own, or go off raiding alone, have been removed, the troops have started to merge together again. This could be because the divisive influence of these raiding males has been removed, and the natural tendency towards sociality has become a more dominant factor. This may also be facilitated by most of the older members of the troops still knowing each other from the past, and some may actually have been friends that were separated by default.

A corollary to this, is that one must constantly be on the lookout for new males that are attempting to form new splinter troops. This was imminent in the Slangkop troop before TK5 was euthanased. Similarly, in the Da Gama troop, DG9, who was euthanased last month, had been a bad raider ever since he was a small juvenile and had recently also starting to lead break away groups into Welcome Glen, Pinehaven and even Simon's Town.

It must be noted however, that it is not only some ambitious males that may lead this splintering process, because it is often encouraged by females. In the case of the Slangkop troop, there are

three females, from the original TK5 split, that have gone raiding with whichever male was prepared to take them. One could even suggest that it was them who led SK2 astray.

In summary, the nett effect of the select removal of the worst raiders, is that there has been artificial selection for males that are more attentive towards protecting their troops as opposed to being less attentive raiders. The more protective males are therefore likely to sire more offspring.

This is a very positive trend towards reducing human-baboon conflict because, from the human point of view they will be raided less; and from the baboon point of view, the passing on of the raiding tradition from one generation to the next should slowly die out, which would leave the surviving baboons less exposed to collateral damage when entering the human space.

Dr. Philip Richardson

Human Wildlife Solutions