

**Human Wildlife Solutions** 

Monthly Report

June 2015

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#### A. INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period 30 May until 26 June 2015.

The grip of the cold and the wet of winter finally seems to have taken effect. The baboons have reacted by spending more time lower down the mountain to be less exposed to the weather, and as a result they have come into greater contact with humans. Although the number of hotline calls has not increased, there has been a general increase in the assertiveness of baboon raids, including raiding occupied and unoccupied houses, threatening and stealing food from humans, and breaking and entering.

Despite the winter cold, there were nine infants born this month, with most being born in the north. The trend for the baboons in the north, where they presumably have much greater access to human derived foods (HDF's), to breed at a much higher rate than those in the south, is discussed.

## **B. BABOON MANAGEMENT AND RAID REPORTING**

## South Eastern Region - Area Manager: Ziggy Rode

# 1. Smitswinkel Troop

With the rainy season having started recently, the Smitswinkel troop have been staying up the Mountain more often. Currently they still use the northern part of their home range and occasionally come down south. Also, if they do come down to the coast to forage it is usually later in the morning and then they make their way back up the Mountain at about 15h00.

This pattern of movement is very similar to previous years, and as the weather gets wetter and colder it is anticipated that the baboons will start spending more time in the southern area of their home range. Here the mountain has numerous caves which the troop use when it is very wet and cold.

SWB8, a sub adult male, was radio collared in May, and since then it has been much easier to anticipate his movements and to prevent his raids. During this reporting period he raided only one unoccupied house, of which the doors where left open. He also had one bin raid and in total he spent 20 minutes in the 'urban area'. Now that he has a radio collar on, the rangers are able to block him, although he regularly tries to break the line and has to be pushed back. SWB8 also often tries to take the troop to Murdoch Valley.

										Н۷	VS:	TRC	ОР	MC	NTI	ILY	REP	OR	Γ											
SECT	OR															CI	ASS	ES O	F BE	HAV	ΊΟυ	R								
SOUTH	EAS1				1	1	In u	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	g pets	5					7	Thre	eaten	ing b	ehav	iour/	'attac	k/ste	ealing food
BABOON TROOP:		,	SMIT	S	1	2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	luno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	hicle		8	Brea	king	& En	terin	g/Da	magi	ng pr	operty
MONTH: May - June	!	YE/	<b>AR</b> : 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dam	nage		6	Raid	locci	upied	hou	se or	vehi	cle		9	Noc							
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
SWB6	М																													
Troop																														
UnID Individuals																														
UnID Fem	F																													
SWBF1	F																													
SWB8	М								6				2																	2
UnID Male	М																													
UnID Juveniles																														
	%											TI	ME S	PEN'	TIN	row	N (M	inute	es)											HRS
Troop	0.0																													0.00
Individuals	0.1								10				10																	0.33
Roost:	AM	3	3	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	6	5	5	6	2	3	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	6	5	5	
Roost:	PM	3	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	5	5	6	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	5	4	4	3	4	4	5	5	5	
Roost Si				1	Smi	ts Cav	ves			2	Part	ridge	Poir	nt		3	Blue	egum	S			4	Mille	ers P	oint			5	Rock	klands Farm
ROOST SI	ies			6	Cast	le Ro	ck			7	SAN	Park:	S			8						9						10		
ID Features of	Babo	ons		SWI	36 - r	ed/bl	lue ta	igs +	colla	r. SW	'B8 -	purp	le/or	ange	tags	+ col	lar.													
General re	marks	}																												

Figure 1: Smitswinkel Troop Raid Sheet

It would seem that SWB8 could be a high ranking individual because several members of the troop follow him. Occasionally the troop will also split and some will be with SWB6 and a few with SWB8. The new phenomenon of pushing to go to Murdoch Valley does seem to be as a result of SWB8 attempting to go in that direction.

There is also an old female that seems to struggle to keep up with the troop and when they move south from the Rocklands farm area, it takes considerably longer for her to join up with the troop.

There are specific sites that remain hotspots for raiding; this is mainly around the one informal house along the route, the camp site and the Black Marlin Restaurant, and then a few houses in Castle Rock and Blue gums. These areas are usually targeted mainly by SWB8 and occasionally by SWB6. The core issue at most places is the waste management that is not secure or baboon proof, as well as doors and windows being left open.



<u>Figure 2: Poor waste management hotspots (shown in red), that are targeted as raiding sites by the Smitswinkel Bay Troop.</u>

### 2. Waterfall Troop

The Waterfall troop continues to mainly utilize the area around the Klaasjagersberg Mountain, and sleeping on the South African Naval Ammunition Depot (SANAD) side. There have been three nights when the troop has slept in pine trees inside the top security, red zone of SANAD.

During the last reporting period, a productive site visit was conducted by Dr. Elzette Jordan, CPO Mark Lloyd, HWS field manager, Abel Takalani, and area manager, Ziggy Rode. All the problem areas where pointed out as well as which trees were attracting the baboons (mainly fruit trees). It was decided that these trees would be removed. CPO Lloyd also showed everyone which measures they had started to put in place to start baboon proofing bins.

However, the entry of the troop into the red zone remains very concerning, because it usually takes a long time for rangers to gain access to the area to push the baboons out. This is beause the rangers need to be escorted by protection services before they can enter the red zone.

Fighting between RH2 and GOB7 (alpha male from GOB Troop) continued throughout the June reporting period. For the first time since HWS has started managing the troop, when RH2 attempted to chase GOB7 out of the Waterfall troop home range, he was not successful and had to retreat.

Since then GOB7 has been gaining access to the Waterfall troop and been seen to mate with some females. Prior to June, this had never happened and RH2 used to be very successful in chasing GOB7 away. On 26 June, there was a big fight between RH2 and GOB7, but again RH2 lost the battle.

											HW	S:	TRO	OP	MO	NTH	ILY F	REP	ORT											
SECT	OR																CL	ASSI	ES OI	F BEI	HAV	OUI	₹							
SOUTH	EAST	ſ				1	In u	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	g pets	5					7	Thre	aten	ning b	ehav	iour,	/attac	k/st	ealing food
BABOON TROOP:		WA	TERF	ALL		2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	uno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	ehicle	!	8	Brea	king	& Er	nterir	ıg/Da	magi	ing p	roperty
MONTH: May - June		YE/	<b>AR</b> : 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dam	age		6	Raid	occı	upied	hous	se or	vehi	cle		9	Noc	turna	al Rai	ding				
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
Troop																1							1				2	1		4
RH2	М					2						2	2																2	4
WF2	М																													0
WF3	М				2						2	2	2																2	5
WFF3	F					2																								1
WFF4	F																													0
UnID Females	F				2																									1
UnID Juveniles																														0
UnID Male	М	2								2							2							2						4
UnID Individuals		2										2	2																2	4
	%											TI	MES	PEN	IN T	_	N (M	inute	es)											HRS
Troop	2.6															45							180				80	200		8.42
Individuals	2.6	10			30	15	20			10	20	60	30				10							10				250	30	8.25
Roost:				10		10	9	9	10					10		18					10					10	10			
Roost:	PM	10	10	10	10	10	9	10	10		10			10	10	10	_		10	10	10	10	-			10		10	10	
				1			l Cliff				Нар						Sign								ll Bar	racks	;	5	_	untain Residents side
Roost Sit	es			6			ootp				Cape							<u>' '                                  </u>	alley		e		Red					10	SAN	
							n CoG							au Ro	ad				ls Far				Nor	th Pe	eak				Bun	galow
				16	Rocl	kland	s Val	ley		17	Shar	nbal	lah P	ines		18	Insi	de S <i>A</i>	ANAD	)		19						20		
ID Features of	Babo	ons																												
General rer	narks			Red	indic	ates		ng at	the S										NAD) a resid	denti	al are	a.								

Figure 3: Waterfall Troop Raid Sheet (note raids in red indicate raids into SANAD).

RH2 is getting very old and has lost most of his canines. He can therefore not defend his troop as well as he could in the past. Of further concern is that four individuals once broke away from the troop and ran all the way to Simons Town. They remained there for about two days and then rejoined the troop of their own accord. This incident could also reflect a lack of leadership and cohesion in the troop.

### 3. Da Gama Troop

The management of the Da Gama troop continues to be complicated as the hierarchical structure amongst the males has not yet settled. SK3 is recovering very well from his human-induced injuries and the dog attack. Prior to June he would avoid TK43 at all costs in order to avoid a fight, but he

has now started fighting back and on a few occasions the two males have gotten into some serious fighting. This usually causes havoc in the troop and it splits with half the troop following TK43 and the other half (mainly females with infants) following SK3.

However, the entire troop structure has been disrupted and there are times when TK43 sleeps on his own or when SK3 sleeps on his own. Also, there are four young sub-adult males who form raiding parties and enter the residential area to raid. At times there might be as many as four sleep sites being used by the troop.

During the reporting period there have been several incidents of raiding parties and individuals being spread out from 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Da Gama Park to Welcome Glen. The ranger team is then split up and it becomes a very difficult situation to manage. This accounts for the high incidence of individuals spending time in town (18%), although it has come down from the 24% of the previous month.

Another problem that continues to attract baboons back to town is the poor waste management at the Naval Flats, and Da Gama in general. A successful meeting was held on 1 July, with various stakeholders involved. The Navy, CoCT Water & Sanitation and Solid Waste Departments, Dr. Elzette Jordan (CoCT Biodiversity) and Ziggy Rode (HWS) were all present to resolve issues pertaining to the waste management and the consequences of poor waste management in Da Gama.

A document is being put together of all the changes that need to be made to adhere to all the policies and requirements of each Naval and City Department. Commander Kwak also showed everyone the plans for going forward and explained what changes would be put in place to rectify the situation and to make it more manageable.

Issues that were discussed not only revolved around solid waste and the removal thereof, but also issues regarding water pollution, alien vegetation clearing and the health and safety of the baboons and the residents who stay at the flats.



Figure 4: Very recent sewage leak that flowed into the Elsies River in Da Gama Park.

The raiding incidents throughout the last reporting period are however not limited to Da Gama Park, but there is also quite a high degree of raiding and time spent in Welcome Glen. On closer investigation it seems that several residents have started vegetable gardens again as well as leaving doors and windows open throughout the day. This may be as a result of not having had baboons around the area for a lengthy period, but assistance is needed for residents to be 'baboon-wise' and securing their waste, vegetable gardens and houses.

										Н١	VS:	TRO	OOP	MC	NT	HLY	REF	OR	T											
SEC	TOR															(	LAS	SES (	OF B	EHA	vioi	JR								
SOUTI	I EAST					1	In u	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	pets	6					7	Thre	eaten	ing b	ehav	iour,	/atta	ck/ste	ealing food
BABOON TROOP:		DA	GAI	MA		2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	uno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	ehicle		8	Brea	king	& Er	nterir	ng/Da	mag	ing pr	operty
MONTH: May - June		YEA	<b>R</b> : 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dam	age		6	Raid	occı	ıpied	hous	se or	vehi	cle		9	Noc	turna	al Rai	ding				
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
Troop		1			2	2	1			1																				5
SK3	M	2		2			2				1	2		1		2	2		1		1				7	7			1	13
DGF1	F	1		2			1			1	1																			5
DGF2	F	1		2			1			1	1																		2	6
DGF4	F		1	2			1			1																				4
UnID Females	F	2		2			2			2	2		2			2	2						9				2		2	11
UnID Female	F						1			2				1		3					1	1			2	2	2		2	10
DG13	М	1		2			1			1	2		2	1		2					5			2						10
TK43	М	1		2			2		6	2,2	2	2				2					1				2	2				12
UnID Juvs		2	1	2			2			2		1		2		2	2		1			1	9	2	2	2	2			16
DG14	М	2		2			2				2		2			2										2	2			8
DG15	М	2		2			2				2		2													2	2			7
	%											TII	ME S	PENT	IN T	own	l (Mi	nute	s)											HRS
Troop	3.1	20			255	256	30			45																				10.10
Individuals	18.3	290	60	390	255	256	370		20	85	185	180	15	135		180			110		150	123		50	223	223	20	30	181	58.85
Roost:	AM	8	2	3	3	3,8	4,8	2	14	11		1,5		1,2			1,2		2	5	2	1,2	1	1	1	1,2	1,3	3	3	
Roost:	PM	2	2	3	3,8	4,8	2	14	11	2	1,5	2	1,2	1,2	20	20	1,2	1,2	5	5	2	17	2	1,20	2	2	3	3,1	3	
				1	Flats	5				2	Pine	s - Fl	ats			3	Pine	s - D	a Gai	ma		4	Pine	s - W	/G			5	Spoi	rt Fields Stables
				6	Com	pass	Bakeı	ry		7	Pine	s - O	utspa	an		8	Jack	s Sho	ор			9	Elsie	's Pe	ak			10	Rota	ry Camp
Roost Si	tes			11	Wits	and				12	Slan	gkop				13	Plati	kop				14	Rast	a Ca	mp			15	Oce	an View
				16	KL s	leep s	ite			17	May	land	s			18	Elsie	s Riv	er Va	alley		19	Red	Hill /	Win	dford	d	20	Gro	otkop
				21	16th	Aver	iue, [	)G		22	Lew	is Ga	y Dai	m		23	Pine	have	en			24	Kleir	nplaa	s Da	m		25	Scar	borough
ID Features of	Babo	ons																										•		-
General re	marks																													

Figure 5: Da Gama Troop Raid Sheet

Unfortunately, because the Da Gama Troop is so used to spending time in the urban area, as soon as they get any reward from a specific area they continue to go back. The rangers always attempt to get the baboons out of town as quickly as possible. However, but not all residents are home during the week, so if the rangers cannot enter a property the baboons can spend a significant amount of time inside the property raiding whatever they can get.

## **Births and Deaths**

- 1 New born infant seen in the Da Gama troop 4 June
- 1 New born infant seen in the Da Gama troop 6 June

## **Recommendations**

- The new waste management solution that the Navy has decided on needs to be implemented as soon as possible.
- Baboon proofing of the Navy flats is still an urgent requirement.
- 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.
- Residents in Da Gama Park as well as Welcome Glen should revert back to baboon-proofing
  vegetable gardens, compost heaps and keeping doors and windows closed when they are not at
  home.
- Fruit trees in gardens, where people do not utilize the fruit, should be removed in Da Gama
   Park, Welcome Glen and SANAD.
- Power lines along the Elsies River Valley that run between the Water Works and Da Gama Park should be baboon-proofing 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. These dogs are aggressive and display aggressive
  behaviour towards people and baboons.

## South Western Region – Area Manager: Lana Müller

## 1. Groot Olifantsbos Troop (GOB)

The Groot Olifantsbos Troop moved in and out of the Cape of Good Hope Reserve (CoGH) on a regular basis during this reporting period. The troop roosted mainly in the pine trees behind the

Shamballah Tea House and Holistic Centre. On a number of occasions the troop also roosted inside the Reserve at either the Bonteberg, or Crocodile Rock sleep site.

The troop spent the majority of the month foraging around the Schustersrivier wetland in the CoGH Reserve and around the Shamballah Tea House and Holistic Centre. The baboons also foraged in the natural fynbos vegetation between the Cape Farmhouse Farm and the Cape of Good Hope Nursery. The troop was also seen on one occasion foraging in the inter-tidal zone inside the Reserve.

During this reporting period the Groot Olifantsbos Troop was seen a couple of times in the vineyards at the Cape Farmhouse Farm. On 3 June, GOB7 and an adult female baboon raided bins at the entrance to the Cape Farmhouse Farm. The bins left at the entrance to the farm are not baboon proof and serve as an attractant to the baboons.

GOB7 was reported to be on Kilfillan Farm alone on four occasions and an adult female was also seen at Kilfillan Farm on one occasion. However, no raids were reported on these occasions.



Figure 6: Sleep sites (red pins) and favoured locations (yellow pins) of the Misty Cliffs Troop (home range indicated in blue) and the Groot Olifants Bos Troop (home range indicated in green).

## 2. Misty Cliffs Troop (MC)

The Misty Cliffs Troop spent 12 nights during the reporting period roosting at the Bonteberg sleep site situated inside the CoGH Reserve. For three of these nights MC4 and two females roosted at the Misty Cliffs 1 sleep site (between Scarborough and Misty Cliffs) before the HWS rangers successfully pushed them into the Reserve on 22 June to re-join the troop.

During this time the troop foraged on natural fynbos vegetation close to Bonteberg, they were also seen foraging in the inter-tidal zone on nine occasions. For the rest of the reporting period the troop spent 12 nights roosting at the Misty Cliffs 1 (between Misty Cliffs and Scarborough) sleep site and four nights roosting at the Misty Cliffs 2 (above Misty Cliffs) sleep site. When the troop roosted outside of the CoGH Reserve, the HWS rangers attempted to push the baboons towards the Stone House at Baskloof in order to keep them away from the Scarborough and Misty Cliffs residential areas.

The Misty Cliffs troop entered the urban space on 11 occasions raiding bins and foraging on lush natural vegetation in gardens. The longest recorded time spent in town was 475 minutes on 4 June. On this day the troop raided bins and an unidentified female raided an occupied house at 44 Mountain Rise, Scarborough. The baboon entered the house through an open window and took a bag of potatoes. On other occasions the troop was recorded to be in the urban space for between 35 and 360 minutes.

Individual baboons were recorded in the urban space on 12 occasions. In most cases the individual raids can be attributed to small raiding parties consisting of two to three adult females, two subadult males (MC3 and MC4) and/or one to two juvenile baboons.

A total of nine raids were recorded for individual female baboons, a total of eight raids were recorded for MC4 and a total of six raids were recorded for MC3. The longest recorded time spent in the urban space by individuals was 290 minutes, when MC3 and MC4 raided bins in the Scarborough residential area. On the other occasions individuals were recorded in the urban space between 15 and 240 minutes.

										Н	WS	: Т	RO	OP N	101	NTH	LY R	EPC	ORT											
SECT	OR																CLA	SSE	S OF	BEH	AVIC	OUR								
SOUTH	WES.	Γ				1	In ur	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	g pet	S					7	Thre	aten	ing l	oeha	viou	r/at	tack/	stealing food
BABOON TROOP:		Mi	sty C	liffs		2	Raid	bins	5				5	Raid	uno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	ehicle	j	8	Brea	king	& E	nteri	ng/[	)ama	aging	property
MONTH: May - June		YE/	AR: 2	2015		3	Non	mali	icious	dam	age		6	Raid	occi	upie	d hou	se or	vehi	cle		9	Noct	urna	al Ra	iding	5			
				ı		1	1		1								ı		ı				ı					_		
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
MCF4	F																													0
MC3 (Older Male)	М								2	2				2				2	2	1	6	1								8
MC4 (Younger Male)	М								2	2				2				2	2		6		2	2						8
Females	F						6,7							2		6	5	2	2	1	6, 6	1	2	2				<u> </u>		13
Males	М																													0
Juveniles																														0
Troop				2	1	2	2	2	2					2			2		2		2	2								11
	%											TII	ME S	PEN1	IN 1	гow	N (M	inute	es)											HRS
Troop	11.4			360	120	45	475	35	215					150			165		195		305	145								36.83
Individuals	6.9				35	80			70	290				135		35		15	113	42		217	240	60						22.20
Roost:	AM	2	2	5	1	1	1	5	1	1	4	4	4	4	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1, 4	1, 4	1, 4	4	4	4	4	
Roost:	PM	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1,4	1, 4	1, 4	4	4	4	4	4	
Roost Sit	es			1	Mist	y Cli	ffs 1			2	Mis	ty Cl	iffs 2	2		3	Wits	and		•		4	CoG	H	•			5	Unk	nown
ID Features of I	Babo	ons																												
General ren	narks																													

Figure 7: Misty Cliffs Troop Raid Sheet for June 2015

A total of three house raids were recorded during this reporting period in Scarborough and one house raid was recorded in Misty Cliffs. On 4 June, an unidentified female raided 44 Hill Top Road, Scarborough. On 13 June, five female baboons raided 14 Old Camp Road, Misty Cliffs. On 18 June, MC3 and an adult female raided 68 Hill Top Road while MC4 and a sub-adult female raided 22 Beach Road, Scarborough.

On 6 June late in the afternoon (17h30), an unidentified adult female was seen at the Schusterskraal Picnic Site in Scarborough. The baboon had an injury (cut) on the back flank of her body. The field manager assessed the injury and said it looked like a baboon on baboon injury. The CapeNature vet was called but unfortunately could only come the following day (Sunday). According to the field manager this baboon was not from the Misty Cliffs or Groot Olifantsbos Troop but most likely from the Klein Olifantsbos Troop coming from inside the CoGH Reserve.

The baboon was monitored closely by the field manager until dark. Early the following morning the field manager went back to the place where he left the baboon the previous evening. He did not find her and went looking for her, only to get a brief glimpse of her as she ran into the CoGH reserve. The vegetation was very dense and despite searching for her the field manager was not able to get a glimpse of her, despite intense monitoring over the next two days.

On 21 June an adult female coming from the CoGh Reserve joined the Misty Cliffs Troop. According to the field managers it is the same female that was seen injured at Schusterskraal picnic site. Since joining the troop this female has started to take over the role of alpha female.

### 3. Slangkop Troop

This month the Slangkop Troop spent 19 nights roosting at the Compass Bakery sleep site and nine nights roosting at the pine trees stands behind Ocean View.

The troop entered the urban space as a whole on six occasions and bin raids were recorded at Compass Bakery, Capri, Little Capri and Sun Hill Estate. The longest recorded time spent in town was 92 minutes on 25 June, when the troop entered the Sun Hill Estate and Rogers Fruiters. Only bin raids were recorded. On the other occasions the troop spent between 20 and 89 minutes in the urban space and again only bin raids were recorded.

The highest number of individual raids can be attributed to DG6 (alpha male), followed by SK6 (Subadult male), SKF1 (adult female) and SKF2 (adult female). In addition to bin raids, DG6 also raided an occupied house on 4 June in Ocean View, he pulled open a sliding door, entered the house and took a 500g bag of rice.

On 2 June, three unidentified individual baboons stole fruit and vegetables from Rogers Fruiters which is situated on the Kommetjie Main Road. The longest duration of time spent in the urban space by individuals was recorded on 7 July, where they spent 65 minutes at Compass Bakery. For the remainder of the reporting period, individuals were recorded to be in the urban space for between five and 60 minutes.

The Slangkop troop spent the majority of the reporting period foraging in the natural vegetation on the mountain between the Compass Bakery and Ocean View sleep sites as well as above the Rasta Camp in Ocean View. On a few occasions the troop was also seen foraging on pine cones at the roost site at Ocean View and inside the invasive alien vegetation thicket that extends from Compass Bakery towards Ocean View.

										Н	ws:	TF	200	)P N	101	NTH	ILY	REP	OR	Г										
SECTO	OR																CL	ASS	ES O	F BEI	HAV	ΟU	R							
SOUTH \	NEST				Ì	1	lnι	ırbar	are	a			4	Atta	ckin	g pe	ts					7	Thre	eater	ning	beh	avio	ur/a	ttack	/stealing food
BABOON TROOP:		SI	angk	ор	Ī	2	Raid	d bin	S				5	Raio	lunc	occu	pied	hou	se or	vehic	le	8	Brea	aking	3 & E	nter	ring/	Dan	nagir	g property
MONTH: May - June		YEA	AR: 2	2015		3	Nor	n ma	liciou	ıs da	amag	ge	6	Raio	locc	upie	d ho	use	or ve	hicle		9	Noc	turn	al Ra	aidin	g			
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
DG6	М			2	2		6,8		1	2			2		2		2	2		2	2			2						13
SKF1	F	2				2				2	2		2		2					2	2									8
SKF2	F	2				2				2	2		2		2						2									7
SK6 (Young Male)	М	2				2				2	2		2		2		2			2	2	2						2		11
Juveniles	М					2	2				2		2							2	2	2		2				1		9
Females	F						2			2	2		2		2		2	2				2		2				1		10
Unidentified Individuals			2	2	2, 7																				2					5
Troop		2										2							2					2				2	2	6
	%											TIF	VIE S	PEN	TIN	TOV	VN (	Minu	utes)											HRS
Troop	1.6	25										60							89					20				92	32	5.30
Individuals	2.2	25	8	15	25	15	35		5	65	14		33		20		30	60		11	5	12		10	10			24		7.03
																														•
Roost:	AM	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	
Roost:	PM	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	
Roost Site	es			1	Slar	ngko	р			2	Oce	an V	iew			3	Con	npas	s Bak	ery		4	Wit	sand				5		•
ID Features of E	Baboo	ons																												-
General rem	arks																													

Figure 8: Slangkop Troop Raid Sheet for June 2015

On 3 June, a dead male infant baboon was found inside a refuse bin in Ocean View. An Ocean View resident informed the Slangkop supervisor that an adult female had left the infant on the roadside and the resident had placed the baboon inside the refuse bin. The cause of death is unknown, but the infants left ear appeared to have been cut off. Rangers followed up on the incident but no further information was obtained.

On 9 June, refuse collection only took place at Little Capri at 12h30. The late refuse collection resulted in the Slangkop troop pushing towards town in order to raid the bins. This resulted in the majority of the troop entering the urban space for 60 minutes and raiding bins.

### **Births and Deaths**

On 3 June, a dead male infant from the Slangkop Troop was found in Ocean View.

On 25 June, a new infant was seen in the Slangkop Troop.

## **Recommendations**

• Education and waste management should both be addressed again in the Ocean View area. The Slangkop Troop has a sleep site close to town and the two top rows of houses usually get raided on bin day. These houses should all be baboon-proofed, and residents should also be advised on baboon-proofing their vegetable gardens or compost heaps. The Compass Bakery and surrounds need to improve waste management.

## Northern Region - Area Manager: Robyn Khoury

## 1. Tokai Troop

The Tokai Troop has been behaving typically for this time of year. In the cold and wet conditions the troop wanted to spend more time in the lower sections of Tokai Plantation, because this is more favourable than the wet, cold and windy mountains. This, coupled with a lower abundance of forage in the higher elevations caused the troop to spend the majority of their time in the lower plantation.

The Tokai Troop foraged around the Tea Room, SANParks offices, Porter Estate and Chrysalis Academy. HWS rangers attempted to keep the troop off Chrysalis, because there were many raiding opportunities in this area. This however, was not always possible, since breaking the line held by rangers was very easy, especially for single males. This is reflected in the Tokai raid sheet (Figure 13), by bin raids of single males in non-urban areas.

The other major raiding opportunity in this area was the Tokai Forest Market, which took place next to The Range, every Saturday and Sunday. Previously these markets only occurred on Saturdays, but since the beginning of June there has also been a Sunday Market. This made managing the baboons difficult over weekends.

In addition to the food available on offer at the market, the waste management after the weekend markets was particularly bad this month. Large amounts of food waste were found in bins that were not emptied for several weeks. When these were found, HWS managers disposed of as much of the waste as possible to prevent the baboons from feeding on them.

HWS Managers were informed that Chrysalis have addressed this situation with the market owners, and were assured that the market waste will be cleared properly every week.

In addition, TK28, an adult male, re-discovered raiding opportunities at the Cape Academy, in Firgrove Way. On several occasions TK28 took TK16, the adult male that moved across from the Constantia Troop, with him on these raids. This month, they only went to the Cape Academy and then re-joined the troop shortly thereafter. These raids will be monitored closely in the coming months to prevent them from moving further down Firgrove Way.

	_				_					HW	S: 1	RO	OP I	MOI	NTH	LY F	REP	ÖRT		_									_	
SECT	OR															CL	ASS	ES O	F BE	HAV	ΙΟυ	R								
NOR'	TH					1	In u	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	pets	5					7	Thre	eaten	ing b	ehav	iour,	attac	k/ste	aling food
BABOON TROOP:			Toka	i		2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	uno	ccupi	ied h	ouse	or ve	hicle		8	Brea	king	& Er	iterin	ıg/Da	magi	ng pr	operty
MONTH: May - June		YE/	AR: 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dan	nage		6	Raid	occı	pied	hou	se or	vehic	cle		9	Noc	turna	al Rai	ding				
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
TK 16 (W-W) Collar	М												2+2															2		3
TK28 (B-G)	М												2+2	2			2		2+6				7		6			2		9
TK40 (P-Y) VHF Collar	М														7		7													2
TK41 (Single P)	М				5																									1
TK42 (B-Y)	М										5																			1
MT3 (Pu-B)	М																													0
Uni Male	Μ																													0
Uni SA Male	Μ					2																								1
Uni Female	F											5	2+2																	3
Uni Juve																														0
Tokai Troop																														0
	%											TI	ME S	PENT	T IN T	owi	N (M	inute	es)											HRS
Troop	0.0																													0.00
Males	0.5													10			20		15						30			20		1.58
D t.			_	1	1	1	1	_	1	1	_	1	1	0	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1		1	1	1	4	
Roost: Roost:	AM PM	8	8	1	1	1	9	9	1	9	9	1	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	1	1	1	13	
ROOST:	PIVI	٥	1			-	_	1	1 1	-			_		1	3		_	tream		1	4		_		1 1	1	5		1.4
D + C'+				1		Gard				7			WK g			_						-		el 2 p				10		l 4 pines ic site 1
Roost Site	es			6 11		st Ho				12				aring		8 13			Qua	rry g	ums	9	Leve	ei T U	ew c	iear g	gums	15	Picni	c site 1
				11	PICN	ic sit	e Z			12	opp	er re	a Ga	ruen		13	Oth	er				14	l					12	l	
ID Features of E	Babo	ons																												
General rem	narks																													

Figure 9: Tokai Troop raid sheet for June 2015. Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.

The unfolding and complex gynaecological issues that related to the pregnant female (TKF11) with a rectal prolapse last month has regretfully ended. On 1 June 2015, TKF11's three week old infant was found dead. It appeared to have died of natural causes as there was no obvious sign of trauma found on the body. Veterinarians monitoring TKF11's post-birth complications and rectal prolapse convened to assess the situation. Given that TKF11 had already lost her infant, the female baboon with a serious gynaecological rectal prolapse was euthanased on medical grounds on 1 June 2015.

In addition to this, one infanticide occurred in the Tokai Troop this month. It is suspected that TK16, the new male in the troop, was the cause of this death.

## 2. Zwaanswyk Troop

Following the pattern of the Tokai Troop, the Zwaanswyk Troop also foraged in the lower sections of Tokai Plantation. They were often seen foraging in the same area as the Tokai Troop, and seemed to get along peacefully with them. This made management easier, because the rangers from both of these troops could hold good lines to prevent incursions into Chrysalis Academy, or towards the urban area.

Unlike last month, the Zwaanswyk Troop did not spend any time in Silvermine Reserve this month. This is not unusual, and is probably a result of the weather, and the trend of the troops staying on the lower slopes. The Zwaanswyk Troop only went up the mountain on two occasions this month, and they did not go much higher than level 5 in Tokai Plantation. It is hoped that when the weather becomes more favourable, the troop will start to use Silvermine Reserve more frequently.

					_				T	iws	: TF	00	PΜ	ON.	THL	Y RE	POI	RT			_					_				
SECTO	₹															CL	ASS	ES O	F BE	HAV	ΙΟυ	R								
NORTH					Ī	1	In u	rban	area				4	Atta	cking	pets	5					7	Thre	eaten	ing b	ehav	/iour/	atta	k/ste	ealing food
BABOON TROOP:		Zwa	aans	wyk	Ī	2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	uno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	hicle		8	Brea	king	& Er	terir	ng/Da	mag	ing pr	operty
MONTH: May - June		YEA	AR: 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dam	nage		6	Raid	occı	pied	hous	se or	vehic	cle		9	Noc	turna	al Rai	ding				
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL
MT2 (Alpha Untagged)	М			6								5		2			2													4
TK45 (Untagged large SA)	М								2			5		2	2															4
TKF5 (Green)	F			2						2		6																		3
TKF7 (Red)	F													5																1
Uni SA male	М												5																	1
Uni Juvenile	F			2											2															2
Uni Adult female	F			2											2															2
Zwaanswyk Troop																														0
	%											TI	MES	PENT	T IN 1	ow	N (M	inute	es)											HRS
Troop	0.0																													0.00
Males	0.1											10																		0.17
Roost:	AM	9	8	9	1	1	1	9	8	9	1	1	8	8	8	1	1	9	1	9	9	8	8	1	12	9	9	1	9	
Roost:	PM	8	9	1	1	1	9	1	9	1	1	8	8	8	1	1	9	9	9	9	8	8	1	12	9	9	1	1	12	
				1	Tea	a Gard	len			2	Leve	l 1 Z'	WK g	ums		3	Leve	el 2 st	trean	1		4	Leve	el 2 p	ines			5	Leve	el 4 pines
Roost Sites				6	Gu	est Ho	use			7	Leve	l 1 T	K Clea	aring		8	Upp	er Te	a Gai	rden		9	Mar	nor H	ouse			10	Toka	ai bridge
				11	Pic	nic sit	e 2			12	Othe	er				13						14						15		
ID Features of Ba	boon	s			•					•	•						•					•	•					•	•	
General rema	rks																													

Figure 10: Zwaanswyk Troop Raid Sheet for June 2015. Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in non-urban areas.

There was one serious incident this month which required veterinary intervention. A female juvenile, approximately 1 year old, was reported to be struggling to move on 1 June 2015. She moved very slowly, and was often carried around by the larger members of the troop.

She was assessed by the CapeNature appointed veterinarian, Dr. Dorothy Breed on 1 June 2015. It appeared that she had undergone some form of trauma, which caused an abrasion on her rump, and some form of internal injury on her hind legs, causing difficulty walking. She was still moving and foraging, albeit slowly, so the decision was made to monitor her closely and report any changes.

The following day (2 June 2015) the injured juvenile fell out of a tree and appeared to be unable to use her back legs at all. The SPCA Wildlife Unit was available to assist, and captured the juvenile after it became separated from the troop. Authorities agreed that euthanasia for humane reasons was the best course of action, and she was euthanized later that day.

#### 3. Constantia Troop

The Constantia Troop is no longer a single troop, and for purposes of reporting have been split into Constantia Troop 1 (CT1) and Constantia Troop 2 (CT2).

										Н۷	VS:	TRO	OP	MC	NTI	ΊLΥ	REP	OR	Ī													
SEC	ΓOR															C	LASS	ES O	)F BE	HΑ\	/IOU	R										
NOI	RTH					1	In u	ban	area				4	Atta	cking	g pets	5					7	Thre	eaten	ing b	ehav	iour/	attad	k/ste	aling food		
BABOON TROOP:		(	CON			2	Raid	bins					5	Raid	luno	ccup	ied h	ouse	or ve	ehicle	:	8	Brea	aking	& Er	nterin	g/Da	magi	ing pr	perty		
MONTH: May - June	)	YEA	R: 2	015		3	Non	mali	cious	dam	age		6	Raid	occu	ıpied	hou	se or	vehi	cle		9	Noc	turna	al Rai	ding						
														-																		
BABOON ID	Sex	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	TOTAL		
TK33 (R-O)	М			2							6																			2		
TK15 (Y-O)	М																									2				1		
TK19 (R-W)	М																													0		
TK16 (W-W)	М																													0		
TK11 (O-W)	М																													0		
CON1 (untagged)	М																													0		
CON2 (B-O)	М																													0		
CON3 (G)	М																													0		
CON4 (B)	М																													0		
CON5 (G-G)	М																													0		
CON6 (O) Collar	М				6																	1								2		
CON7 (P-G)	М			2		6					6								6			6								5		
MT1 (G-W)	М																													0		
Untagged M	М			2																		1								2		
SA Male	М			2																										1		
Uni Female	F																													0		
Uni Juvenile				2																										1		
Constantia Troop																														0		
	%											TI	MES	PENT	T IN 1	ow	N (M	inute	es)											HRS		
Troop	0.0																T,		ľ				0.00									
Males	0.4										25											20		30 0.00								
	1																				-		-				1					
Roost:	AM	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+6	1+3	6+3	1+3	6+3	1+3	1+3	3+7	1+3	2+7	6+3	1+7	1+7	2+7	1+7	3+7	7+1	1+4	1+2	1+6			
Roost:		1+6								1	6+3	1+3	6+3	1+3	1+3	3+7	1+3	2+7	6+3	1+7	1+7	1+7	1+7	3+7	7+1	1+4	1+6	1+2	1+6			
					_	er Gu	_			_	_	er Gu				3			Gun			4				tation				enzies		
Roost Si	tes			6		le Gu						en Gı				8	Oth					9	1					10				
																							-									
ID Features of	Babo	ons																														
General re	marks																															
Sellerurre																																

Figure 11: Constantia Troops (CT1 and CT2) raid sheet for June 2015. Bold and italics indicate raids that took place in the non-urban area.

# **Constantia Troop 1 (CT1)**

CT1 is the larger of the two troops, comprising approximately 45 individuals (although comprehensive counts have not yet been carried out). CT1 was situated in the more northern section of the mountain, and its home range borders Price Drive. The troop range from the line held along Price Drive by HWS Rangers, through to Klein Constantia (Figure 16).

HWS rangers focus mostly on this troop because it borders the urban edge, which is the HWS priority.

CT1 has also been spending some time inside Groot Constantia this month, despite the Groot Constantia electric fence. The troop is able to go around the fence, near the Lower Gums sleep site, or can cross over in several weak points around gates in the fence.

When CT1 is on Groot Constantia the farm staff group together and push the baboons off the farm. This was often a day or two after the baboons entered the farm, so the troop still managed to spend a significant amount of time on the farm this month. CT1 have also been sleeping at the Castle on Groot Constantia this month.

# Constantia Troop 2 (CT2)

CT2 is the smaller group of the split, with approximately 25 individuals. The CT2 Troop ranges between the CT1 troop and the Mountain Troop, mainly above Klein Constantia and the northern side of Buitenverwachting. This range restricts CT2's influence on the urban area, because it was sandwiched between troops and above the wine farms. As such, HWS managed CT2 in much the same way as the Mountain Troop.

CT2 was not actively followed every day by HWS rangers, due to a lack of manpower. It was kept in the higher sections of the wine farms by Klein Constantia and Buitenverwachting Rangers. CT2 was also often seen feeding on the bike trails above Buitenverwachting, and moving through the stream vegetation, to the top of Vlakkenberg.



<u>Figure 12: Home ranges of the CT1, CT2 and Mountain Troop in relation to the wine farms in Constantia Valley</u>

Vlakkenberg has an abundance of natural fynbos, containing bulbs, fresh new shoots, seeds and plentiful water. This would be an ideal place for a troop, however it is very high up the mountain and as such, the cold, windy and wet weather often makes it unfavourable for baboons. Following the patterns of the Tokai and Zwaanswyk Troop, the Constantia Troops also preferred to forage in lower elevations during this month.

#### 4. Mountain Troop

The Mountain Troop has been using their usual range above Buitenverwachting and in the Veels-tever woods, next to Buitenverwachting. It was foraging in the same area as the CT2 troop, because these two troop's home ranges overlap almost completely. It has also been using the northern side and upper sections of Tokai Plantation.

The Mountain Troop contributed significantly to the pressure in the Constantia Valley. The troop also tried to spend more time in the lower sections of Buitenverwachting and, on a few occasions was moved back up the mountain by Buitenverwachting rangers after raiding the staff villages on this farm. Although this is not an urban raiding troop, it still puts pressure on the farms, and relies heavily on the unnatural vines found in the valley.

## **Births and Deaths**

There were 5 deaths in total this month in the North:

TKF11, the Tokai Troop female with the complicated gynaecological condition, was euthanized for humane reasons on the 1 June 2015. Her infant was found dead that morning, and died of natural causes.

There was one case of infanticide by TK16 in the Tokai Troop.

There was also a case of infanticide in the CT1 troop. The male responsible is unknown.

A juvenile female in the Zwaanswyk Troop was euthanized on humane grounds following a trauma.

There were 6 births in the North this month:

Two in the Zwaanswyk Troop
Three in the CT1 Troop
One in the CT2 Troop

## **Recommendations**

- Chrysalis Academy is advised to be more vigilant of baboons and to keep the kitchen and hostels
  closed and locked at all times. This has become a very easy raiding spot, and will lead to further
  issues if not rectified.
- Porter Markets over the weekend should dispose of their waste promptly after the market has
  ended. The skip on Chrysalis Academy can be used for this purpose. It is caged in and hence
  baboon-proof, assuming it is kept locked.
- Buitenverwachting and Klein Constantia are advised to erect a baboon-proof, strategic electric
  fence around their farms to keep all troops off the vineyards for the summer season. If this goes
  ahead however, the Baboon Technical Team will need to discuss ways forward for the troops
  that rely on the farms.

## C. GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALL BABOON TROOPS

## **Population Data**

This month there were nine births and six deaths recorded in the managed population of baboons. All six deaths were from natural causes, with two relating to birth complications, two infanticides and two probably as a result of exposure or natural trauma. Of the nine births, six were from the northern troops and three in the southern troops. Thus the trend noted in previous reports, of the troops in the north breeding much faster than those in the south, has continued this month, with double the number of births being recorded in the northern troops.

		Total Dec			June	Total Births	Total Deaths	TOTAL CURRENT
TROOP	2012	2013	2014	Births	Deaths	2015	2015	POPULATION
Da Gama Troop	54	45	43	2		7	4	46
Smitswinkel Bay	23	21	22			3	1	24
Waterfall	28	30	30			3	2	31
Groot Olifantsbos	19	13	17			0	1	16
Misty Cliffs	18	16	14			3	8	9
Slangkop	33	32	36	1	1	1	2	35
SUB TOTAL	175	157	162	3	1	17	18	161
Zwaanswyk	25	26	28	2	1	4	5	27
Tokai	61	65	72		3	4	15	61
Mountain	33	44	48			1	0	49
Constantia 1 & 2	60	63	70	4	1	10	3	77
SUB TOTAL	179	198	218	6	5	19	23	214
TOTAL	354	355	380	9	6	36	41	375

<u>Table 1. Population data for the ten managed troops on the Cape Peninsula.</u>

Deaths	2012*	2013	2014	June 2015	2015 to Date
Management	16 (6)	17	7	0	4
Human Induced	3	5	10	0	5
Natural	6 (1)	33	19	6	32
TOTAL	25	55	36	6	41

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

The nett result of this differential breeding is that the troops in the north now number (375) only five less than they did at the end of December 2014 (380), despite losing 12 in the Cape Fire. This is still 21 more baboons than the population of the northern troops in December 2012. By contrast the southern population has declined or remained stable over the past three years and now numbers 14 less than it did in December 2012.

This accelerated breeding trend in the north has always been ascribed to the large amounts of human derived foods (HDF's) that are available in the northern population of Tokai and Constantia. These foods are largely derived from the farms (grapes, and barley grown in the winter), from the pine plantations (pine nuts) and from picnickers, hikers and cyclists. All the babies being born at present will have been conceived prior to the Cape Fires, so one may well note a drop in birth rates when the reduced access to food as a result of the fires starts affecting breeding.

This will presumably happen because of most the pines have and are being removed since the fire, as well as with new electric fences being installed around the wine farms. The Groot Constantia fence has already been electrified, and Klein Constantia and Buitenverwagting are looking to improve their fences since the fire. At present there appears to be good regrowth of burnt vegetation in the upper reaches of fynbos above the old plantations.

#### **Hotline Data**

In terms of number of hotline calls, the data this month are very similar to those for previous months, with Scarborough again having by far the most calls. Nevertheless, it is still pleasing to note that the Misty Cliffs Troops spent 12 nights roosting at the Bonteberg sleepsite inside the CoGH Reserve.

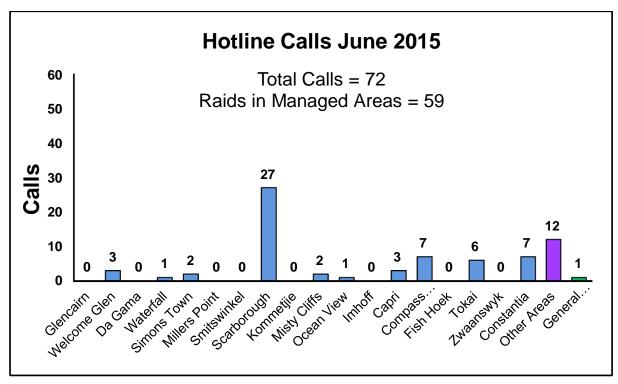


Figure 13: Hotline calls summary per urban area

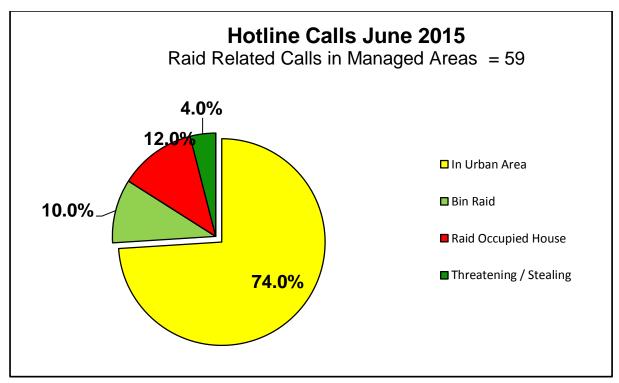


Figure 14: Composition of raid-related hotline calls

The most notable difference in terms of the hotline data this month, is that the number of calls relating to baboons just being in town, dropped by over 25%, down to 63.5%. Correspondingly, the number of more active raids such as those on occupied houses, threatening and stealing directly from people, and breaking and entering increased by over 20% between them. This trend is more

likely to be a manifestation of the season (cold and lack of food) rather than an inherent increase in aggressiveness of the baboons.

# **Percentage Time out of Town**

The percentage time the troops spent out of town, was very similar this month to previous months, with Misty Cliffs and Da Gama again being the worst offenders. Nevertheless, both these troops, and individuals within the troops, spent less time in town than the previous month.

With regards to the Da Gama Troop, SK3 is recovering well and beginning to assert himself again as the alpha male. However, as a result of his injury and the arrival of TK43, there has been a major decline in the cohesion of this troop, with splinter groups often leaving the troop to go raiding in small parties.

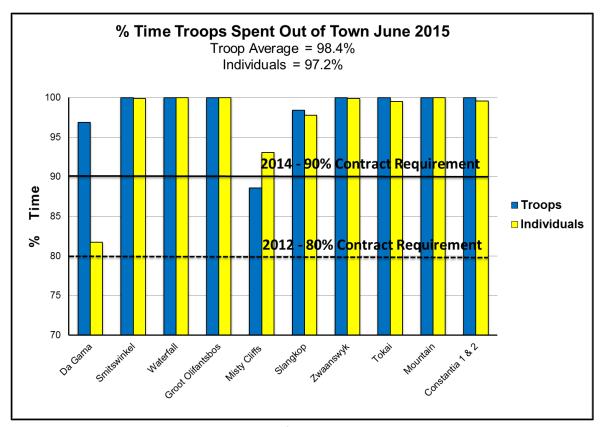


Figure 15: Percentage time troops spent out of town.

A new cohort of four sub adult males has recently emerged. Since SK3's injury, and the subsequent lack of leadership in the troop, these young males have independently taken to leading a variety of females and young juveniles off on raiding parties back to town. It is for this reason individuals have spent much more time in town than the troop as a whole.

## **Conclusion**

Winter is traditionally the time of year when baboons have the least amount of natural forage available to them, and are therefore inclined to raid humans the most. It is also obviously the coldest time of year, and so the baboons prefer to sleep lower down the mountain where they are less exposed to the elements. Both of these factors have the nett effect of bring the baboons closer to town and hence more into conflict with humans.

Given this, it is pleasing to note that HWS received only 63 raid related hotline calls from managed areas, and still managed to keep the baboon troops out of town for approximately 98.4% of the time. One can expect that this trend will continue for at least most of July and much of August, until the weather warms up and new fresh growth starts becoming available again.

The split in the Constantia Troop remains the most significant development in the management of the Cape Town troops. This now seems to be a well established fission with each new troop settling into its each home range. At present there is still a huge degree of overlap in the home ranges of these two troops and it remains to be seen where they will settle down.

## **Dr Phil Richardson**

**Human Wildlife Solutions**