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Human Wildlife Solutions

Overstrand

Monthly Report

June 2021

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1 INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period from 1 to 30 June 2021.

Time out of town for individuals of the Voëlklip Troop increased in June, while time out of town for the troop remained at 100%. The troop did not use the sleepsites above Voëlklip suburb on a single occasion and only used the western and central sleepsites. The deposed male VKM2 has not been observed since 15 June. HWS suspects that VKM2 dispersed after recently losing dominance to UNKM1, a male which immigrated into the Voëlklip Troop in January 2021.

The Vogelgat Troop continued to spend most of its time in the eastern parts of the home range and only spent a single night above the Voëlklip suburb. The Virtual Fence was used to keep the troop out of town 100% of the time. Roadworkers frequently leave backpacks and bags containing food along the R43. The incidence of baboons raided these bags increased over the past month.

The Pringle Bay Troop spent 100% time out of town this month. However, individual baboons were recorded in Pringle Bay on 19 days. Some of these incursions were possibly precipitated by conflict between BRM2, PBM1 and PBF4. PBM1 and PBF4 may have moved away from the troop to protect their infants from infanticide. This, however, is in contrast to PBF3 who always left her recently weaned infant behind, and in the care of PBM1. Therefore, the fact that PBF3 went to Pringle Bay on four occasions, and spent up to three days there at a time, is better explained by her determination to gain high energy, human derived foodstuffs (HDF's) from the urban environment. PBF3 is notably the oldest female in the troop, whereas PBF4 is the youngest breeding female.

Major cold fronts accompanied by low temperatures and heavy rain could also be a factor which caused individual baboons to move back to Pringle Bay to obtain high reward (energy) HDF's. Natural foraging time in winter is reduced because of shorter daylight hours and bad weather. To conclude, there seem to be a variety of factors pertinent here regarding the behaviour of various individuals leaving the troop to go foraging in Pringle Bay. The one common denominator, however, is that they all fed on high energy HDF's when they got to town.

The Hangklip Troop spent 100% time out of town this month. Individual baboons spent 95.6% of their time out of town. Individual baboons were recorded in Pringle Bay on four days. Individual baboons were also recorded in Silversands, Bettys Bay. Different groups of baboons were also seen separately in Pringle Bay and Silversands on the same day. This supports the belief that the original Hangklip Troop has split into two independent troops, with one foraging east of Hangklip towards Silversands, and the other foraging west towards Pringle Bay. High levels of food provisioning, specifically for individual baboons, has been reported in Silversands.

The Betty's Bay Troop and individual baboons spent 91.3% and 85.5% time out of town, respectively. Baboons were recorded in town on 23 out of 30 days this month. Like last month, assertive incursions were recorded for BBM1, BBM2, BBM3, BBM4 and BBF1. Concerningly, BBM1 continued to physically break into houses and directly charged at members of the public as well as an HWS baboon ranger. HWS continued to mitigate numerous house break ins by BBM1. Every time BBM1 was prevented from breaking into a house he continued to search for another opportunity to break in. BBM1 was not the only baboon that broke into houses. BBM3, BBM4 and BBF1 (adult female) all broke windows in order to get into houses. BBM2 was reported trying to break a window, but to date has not yet been observed breaking into a house.

2 OVERSTRAND EAST TROOPS

2.1 VOËLKLIP TROOP

2.1.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Time out of town for the troop remains at 100%.
- Time out of town for individuals increased from 95.1% in May to 96.1% in June.

2.1.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

2.1.2.1 HERMANUS HEIGHTS & GOLF COURSE

- One occupied and one unoccupied house incursion were reported in June. These occurred on Selkirk and Fernkloof Drive.
- Two bin raids were reported in June. These occurred at Fernkloof Village and in Fernkloof Drive.
- On 10 June individuals entered the golf course.

2.1.2.2 VOËLKLIP & FERNKLOOF

- Two bin raids were reported in June. One of these occurred in Arc Street, while the other occurred at the bus stop at the bottom of Fir Avenue.

2.1.2.3 GENERAL

- On multiple occasions in June individuals were observed to be foraging from fruit trees in Fernkloof Drive. Individuals were observed foraging from a guava tree and a resident reported a baboon foraging from a kumquat tree. Fruit trees remain an attractant to baboons and baboons are often observed returning to the same properties that have fruit trees in their gardens.
- On 02 June, the troop was split between two sleepsites above Hermanus Heights. The sleepsites are near one another and the two subgroups re-joined later in the morning.
- On 26 June, the Voëlklip Troop slept in close proximity to what was assumed to be the Hamilton Russell Troop.
- The last confirmed sighting of VKM2 was on 15 June. Many conflicts were observed in the Voëlklip Troop over the past few months, with VKM2 sustaining an injury to the left cheek in May. HWS believe that VKM2 might have dispersed after losing dominance to UNKM1.
- As was seen in May, the Voëlklip Troop did not make use of the sleepsites above the Voëlklip suburb on a single occasion in June and only used the western and central sleepsites.
- The Voëlklip Troop spent multiple days in close proximity to the farms above Hermanus Heights.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																			
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																	
OVERSTRAND		1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food										
BABOON TROOP:		VOËLKLIP	2	Raid bins										5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle										8	Breaking &Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: June		YEAR: 2021	3	Non malicious damage										6	Raid occupied house or vehicle										9	Nocturnal Raiding									
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL			
Troop							2				1																					0			
VKM2	M										1																					2			
VGM1 BLUE TAG	M					1					1			1																		3			
UNKM1	M										1																			6		2			
VKF4 YELLOW TAG	F																															0			
VKF5 RED TAG	F					1								2								1								6		4			
VKF1 GREEN TAG	F													1																		1			
VKF6 ORANGE TAG	F																															0			
UnID Male	M																															0			
UnID Males	M																															0			
UnID Females	F										1																					1			
UnID Female	F					1					1			1								1										4			
UnID Individuals											2			2								5										3			
UnID Juvs											1											1										2			
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS			
Troop	0,0																															0,00			
Individuals	3,9					116	23					207		155								105								88		11,57			
Roost:	AM	5	2,18	?	5	?	13	6	4	2	2	2	2	5	8	6	18	2	2	2	2	2	?	18	18	2	18	2	18	3	4				
Roost:	PM	2	?	5	?	13	6	?	2	2	2	2	5	8	6	18	2	2	2	2	?	?	18	2	18	2	18	3	4	18					
Roost Sites	1	Golf Course										2	Heights Dam										3	Green Kloof											
	6	Lower Dam										7	Middle Dam										8	Upper Dam											
	11	Blaale Kloof										12	Big Titanic/Cave										13	Small Titanic											
	16	A-Shape										17	Bos Klip										18	Hermanus Heights											
	21	Tallie's Kloof										22	Kanonkop										23	BHB Waterfall											
	26	9th Avenue Kloof										27	Shade Rock										28	BOSKO											
ID Features of Baboons																																			
General remarks																																			

Figure 2.1: The Voëlklip Troop incident sheet for June 2021.

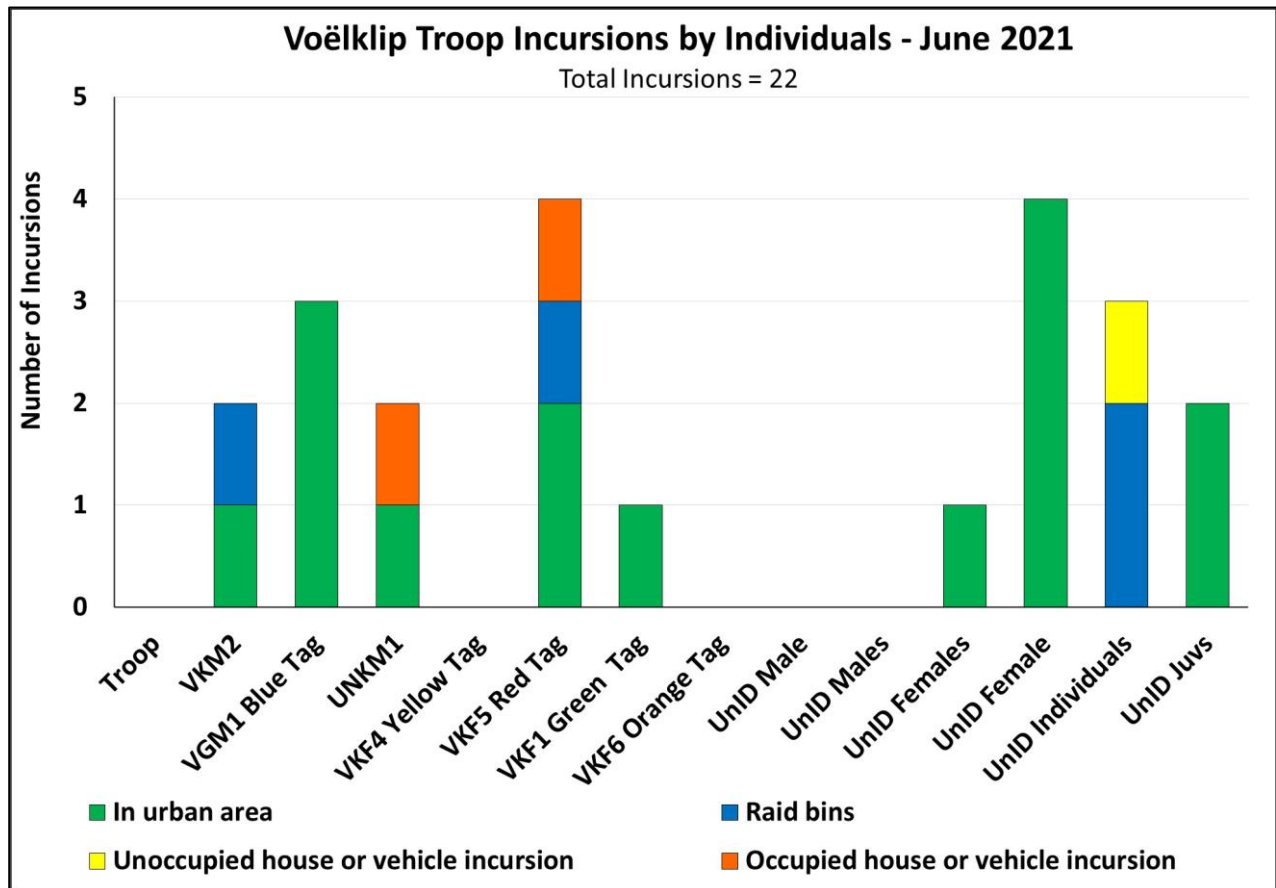


Figure 2.2: Number of incursions by the Voëlklip Troop and individuals during June 2021.

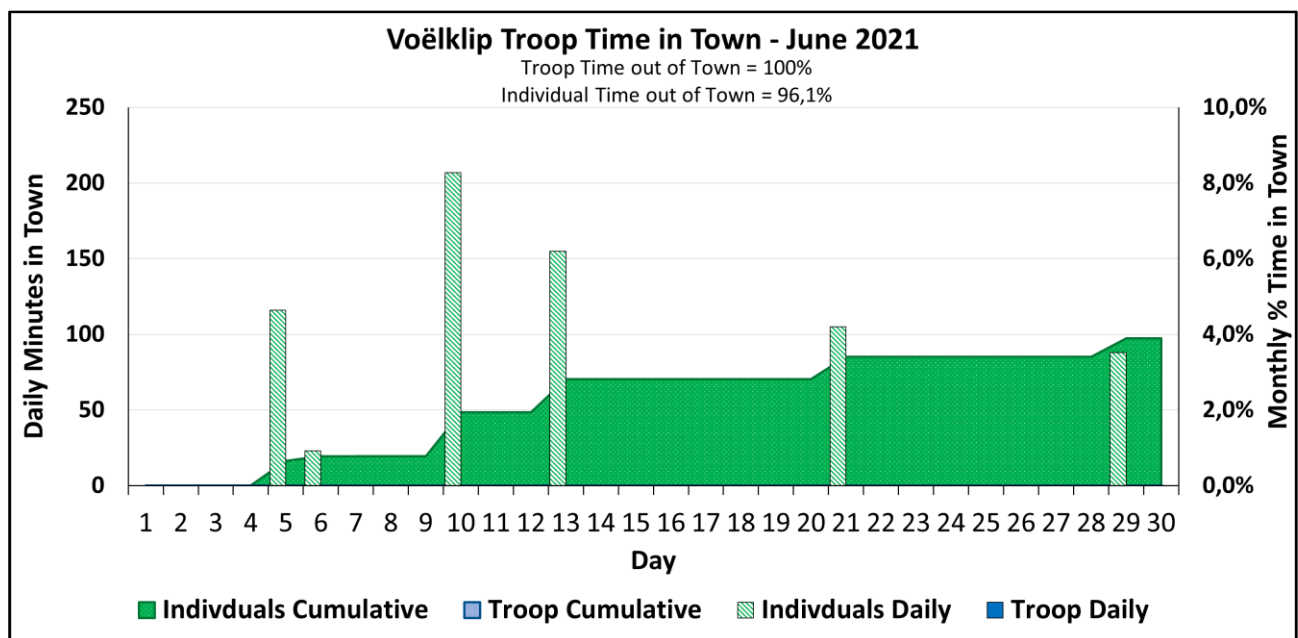


Figure 2.3: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Voëlklip Troop during June 2021. Note: Percentage Time in town is recorded as a percentage of the average daylight hours (sunrise to sunset) for each month of the year.

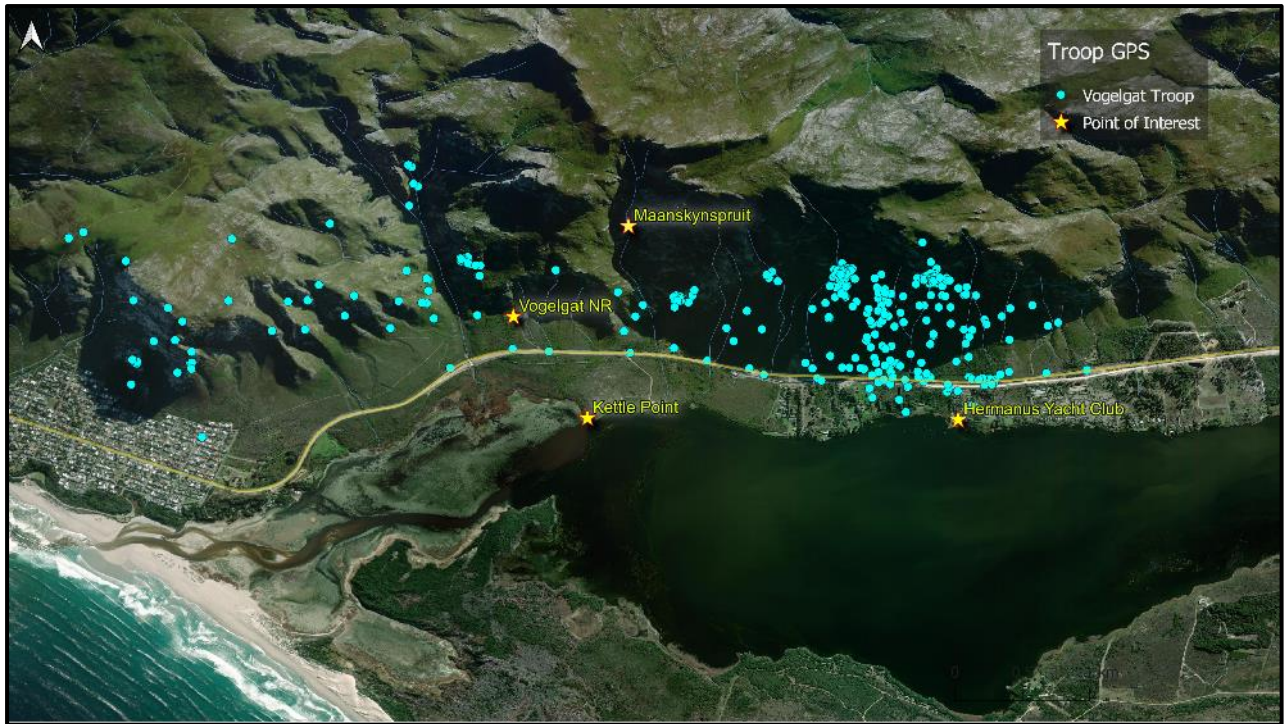


Figure 2.4: GPS locations of the Vogelgat Troop as determined by the GPS collar during June 2021.

2.2 VOGELGAT TROOP

2.2.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Time out of town for the troop remained at 100% for the 10th consecutive month.
- Time out of town for individuals increased from 98.9% in May to 99.3% in June.

2.2.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- No urban bin raids or house incursions were reported in June.
- On five occasions in June, baboons managed to steal backpacks or bags of the construction staff along the R43. VGM2 was seen taking backpacks on four of the five occasions. The fifth occasion was an unidentified individual.
- On 06 June, VGM2 stole a bag from a construction staff member. HWS staff were fortunately able to retrieve the bag. After returning the bag to the construction staff member, the staff member proceeded to hang the bag on the fence in plain sight of the baboons.

- On 14 June, HWS field staff informed construction staff that they should remove their backpacks that were hanging on the fence as the baboons were in the area and that the baboons might attempt to access the backpacks. Despite three warnings about the presence of the baboons, the construction staff did not remove their bags from the fence. Later that day a baboon took a bag of one of the construction workers.
- On 02 June 2021, VGM2 attempted to steal the backpack of a construction staff member. The staff member grabbed hold of the bag as the baboon took hold of the bag. When the staff member attempted to pull the bag out of VGM2's grip, VGM2 showed his teeth at which stage the staff member let go of the bag. VGM2 proceeded with the bag into the vegetation.
- On multiple occasions in June, hotline calls reported lone baboons in the urban space. The field team was, however, unable to locate these lone individuals. Lone baboons can hide easily between properties making it very difficult to locate them. This often means that these lone baboons may spend extended periods of time in the urban space. Reports to the hotline by residents are vital in these situations and assists the field team immensely in locating these baboons.
- On five occasions in June multiple loud bangs were heard from properties on the eastern side of the Vogelgat Troop's home range. The sources of the noise could not be determined. On one of the five occasions, baboons were seen leaving the property after the bangs.
- On 26 June, VGM2 got separated from the troop. He moved west and slept alone on the evening of 26 June above Voëlklip suburb. The location of the troop was unknown during this time. On the morning of 27 June, VGM2 moved east along the mountains and later crossed the R43 near the entrance of Maanskynbaai. Later that afternoon he was seen crossing the R43 with the rest of the troop.
- On 30 June 2021, a resident from a property in the eastern part of the Vogelgat Troop's home range reported to field staff that a lone untagged male had attempted to access residential houses on the property for multiple consecutive days.
- Multiple intra troop conflicts were heard during June.

2.2.3 VIRTUAL FENCE

- The troop spent one night on the cliffs overlooking the Voëlklip suburb. The Virtual Fence was used on multiple occasions to prevent the troop from accessing the urban space.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																			
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																	
OVERSTRAND		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																																												
BABOON TROOP:		VOGELGAT	2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking &Entering/Damaging property																																											
MONTH: June		YEAR: 2021	3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																																											
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL																			
Troop																																0																			
VGF1	F																															0																			
VGM2	M		7,7	7			7																				1					5																			
UnID Male	M																							1	1							2																			
UnID Males	M																															0																			
UnID Females	F																															0																			
UnID Female	F																															0																			
UnID Individuals															7													1				2																			
UnID Juvs																																0																			
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS																			
Troop	0,0																															0,00																			
Individuals	0,7																							8	45		63					1,93																			
Roost:	AM	15	15	1	1	18	17	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	18	18	18	18	19	18	1	14	11	1	?	15	18	18																				
Roost:	PM	15	1	1	18	17	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	18	18	18	18	19	18	1	9	11	1	?	15	18	18	19																					
Roost Sites		1					Baboon Castle					2					18th Ave Kloof					3					11th Ave Kloof					4					10th Ave Kloof					5					Uitkyk Punt				
		6					Vogelgat Nature Reserve					7					Halfway Ridge					8					Bosklip					9					Groot Uitkyk					10					1st Kloof				
		11					2nd Kloof					12					3rd Kloof					13					4th Kloof					14					17th Avenue Kloof					15					Waterfall				
		16					A Shape					17					Bitterbiesie					18					Maanskynkop					19					Stillwaters														
ID Features of Baboons																																																			
General remarks		Please note that the numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions.																																																	

Figure 2.5: The Vogelgat Troop incident sheet for June 2021.

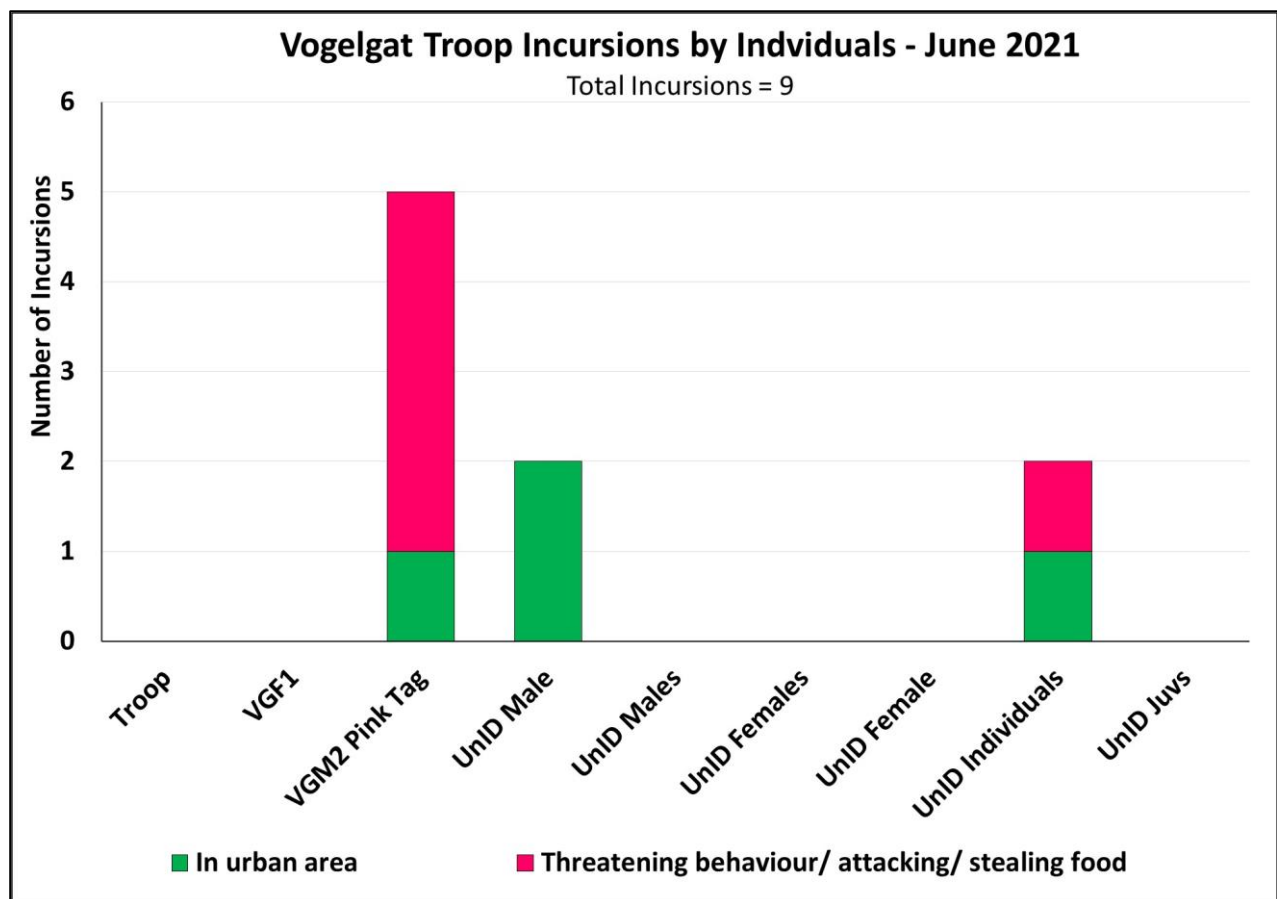


Figure 2.6: Number of incursions by the Vogelgat Troop and individuals during June 2021.

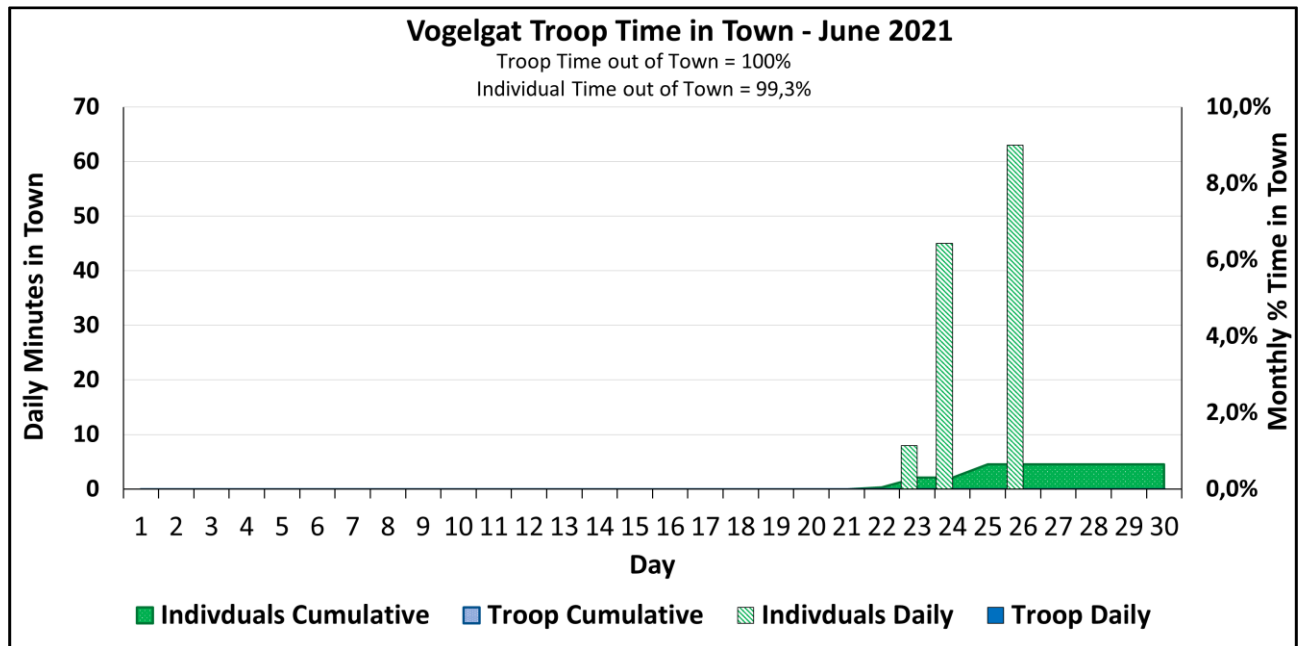


Figure 2.7: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Vogelgat Troop during June 2021. Note: Percentage Time in town is recorded as a percentage of the average daylight hours (sunrise to sunset) for each month of the year.

2.3 ONRUS TROOP

- The Onrus Troop was observed on a single occasion in June when a hotline call alerted field staff of the presence of the troop near the R43. The troop was found in an open area west of Berghof Estates and proceeded to the mountain. Vegetation clearing on the property to the east of Berghof Estates might explain why the troop has not been observed in the area frequently this month.

2.3.1 VIRTUAL FENCE

- The Virtual Fence was not activated in Onrus this month.

2.4 HAMILTON RUSSEL TROOP

- An unidentified troop was seen on a single occasion in June. On the morning of 26 June, an unknown troop slept in close proximity to the Voëlklip Troop above Hermanus Heights. Multiple conflicts were observed and seen, but HWS could not determine whether these were intra or inter troop conflicts. The two troops later moved in opposite directions and proceeded to the top of the mountain. The location of this troop suggests that it was the Hamilton Russell Troop.

2.5 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS

- On 02 June 2021, an untagged female from the Vogelgat Troop was seen carrying a new infant.



Figure 2.8: GPS locations of the Onrus Troop as determined by the GPS collar during June 2021.

3 OVERSTRAND WEST TROOPS

3.1 PRINGLE BAY TROOP

3.1.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The Pringle Bay Troop spent 100% of its time out of town in June.
- Individual baboons spent 74% of their time out of town this month.

3.1.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- PBM1 spent 14 days in Pringle Bay during June. PBM1 has been involved in conflict situations with the new young adult male, BRM2, since he joined the Pringle Bay Troop in May. PBM1 is old and disabled, and most probably has been leaving the troop to avoid conflict.

- PBM1 spent 1 June to 5 June in Pringle Bay. On 6 June, PBM1 was not found in town by HWS. There were also no reports made to the baboon hotline or telegram. On 7 June, a telegram messaged reported that PBM1 was on Buffels Road near Waldos Farm. Shortly after the report PBM1 was located by HWS walking towards Porter Road in the Rooiels Conservancy. PBM1 continued to move to the Buffelstal Nature Reserve where he rejoined the troop.
- As soon as PBM1 re-joined the troop, PBF3 left her 11-month old juvenile and ran to Pringle Bay alone. PBF3 was in town for 69 minutes and entered one occupied house. After obtaining HDF's, PBF3 ran back to the troop. It is interesting to note, that during June PBF3 never attempted to leave the troop in order to go to Pringle Bay if PBM1 was not present with the troop. On these occasions PBM1 was left behind looking after two infants. The orphan belonging to the old female PBF2, which died in January, and PBF3's infant. On these occasions PBM1 was often seen carrying two infants – one clinging to his belly and the other on his back.
- PBF3 most probably left her infant behind on her excursions to Pringle Bay, so that it did not slow her down or hamper her ability to raid occupied houses. If she had not been able to leave her infant with PBM1, the juvenile would most certainly have faced the risk of infanticide by BRM1 or BRM2. It is most interesting that she took this risk in order to obtain HDF's from town.
- On 11 June, PBM2 walked back to Pringle Bay. Recently, conflict had been observed between PBM2 and BRM2. It is likely that PBM2 moved away from the troop to avoid these conflict situations. PBM2 was in town from 11 June to 15 June. Unfortunately, HWS baboon rangers were unable to encourage PBM2 to move back to the nature reserve. On 15 June, the dispersal protocol was activated and PBM2 was cage captured and returned to the troop. He remained with the troop for the rest of the month, bar one incursion into town on 25 June.
- On 17 June, BRM1 was observed engaging in physical contact with PBF4 and her infant. The following day, PBM1 and PBF4, both carrying infants moved back to Pringle Bay. It is plausible that PBM1 and PBF4 moved away from the troop to protect the infants from infanticide. The four baboons (two adults and two infants) were in town from 18 June to 25 June.
- On 25 June, PBM2, PBF1 and PBF3 also ran to Pringle Bay and joined PBM1 and PBF4 and the two infants in town. Later that day all seven baboons were encouraged to move across the estuary to Waldo's Farm. They roosted at Waldo's Sleep Site 2 and were encouraged to move back to the rest of the troop the following day.
- PBF3 continued to display high levels of raiding behaviour for the rest of the month. PBF3 left the troop seven times during June in order to raid Pringle Bay. She was recorded to enter at least two unoccupied houses and four occupied houses. PBF3 was also seen pulling on sliding doors while attempting to enter houses. It is important to note that before PBF3's infant was weaned she never attempted to raid. PBF3's behaviour shows signs of addiction/dependence on HDF's and sugar.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR						CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																												
OVERSTRAND						1	In urban area							4	Attacking pets							7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food											
BABOON TROOP:				PRINGLE BAY		2	Raid bins							5	Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion							8	Breaking &Entering/Damaging property											
MONTH: JUNE				YEAR: 2021		3	Non malicious damage							6	Occupied house or vehicle incursion							9	Nocturnal incursion											
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL		
Troop																																		
PBM1	M	1	1	1	1	1		1											1	1	1	2	1	2	6	1						13		
PBM2	M											1	1	6	6	1									1					6		7		
PBF1	F				1																				1					6		3		
PBF3	F			6				6			5	5	6							6												7		
PBF4	F				1														1	1	1	2	1	2	6	1						9		
UniD Females	F																																	
UniD Female	F																																	
UniD Individuals																									6,6							2		
UniD Juveniles					1														1	1	1	1	1	2	6	1						9		
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS			
Troop	0,0																															0,00		
Individuals	26,0	216	?	38	155	462		69				141	30	464	235	84									574	461	?	600	?	409	447	236		77,02
Roost:	AM	14	14/1	14/1	14/1	14	17	17	17	17	14	?	?	17	14	18	?	18	18	18	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/10	18	18	17	17		
Roost:	PM	14/1	14/1	14/1	14	14	17	17	17	17	18	14	17	14	18	18	18	18	18	18	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/1	18/10	18	18	17	17		
Roost Sites																																		
Roost Sites																																		
ID Features of Baboons																																		
General remarks		On 2, 20 & 22 June, a telegram message indicated that PBM1 was in town. HWS were unable to locate the baboon. On 3 June, PBM1 was chased by a dog. On 17 June, BRM2 tried to grab PBF4's infant. Also four males from Hangklip in town, one male attacked PBM1 and his infant. On 5 June, BRM2 chased PBM2.																																

Figure 3.1: The Pringle Bay Troop incident sheet for June 2021.

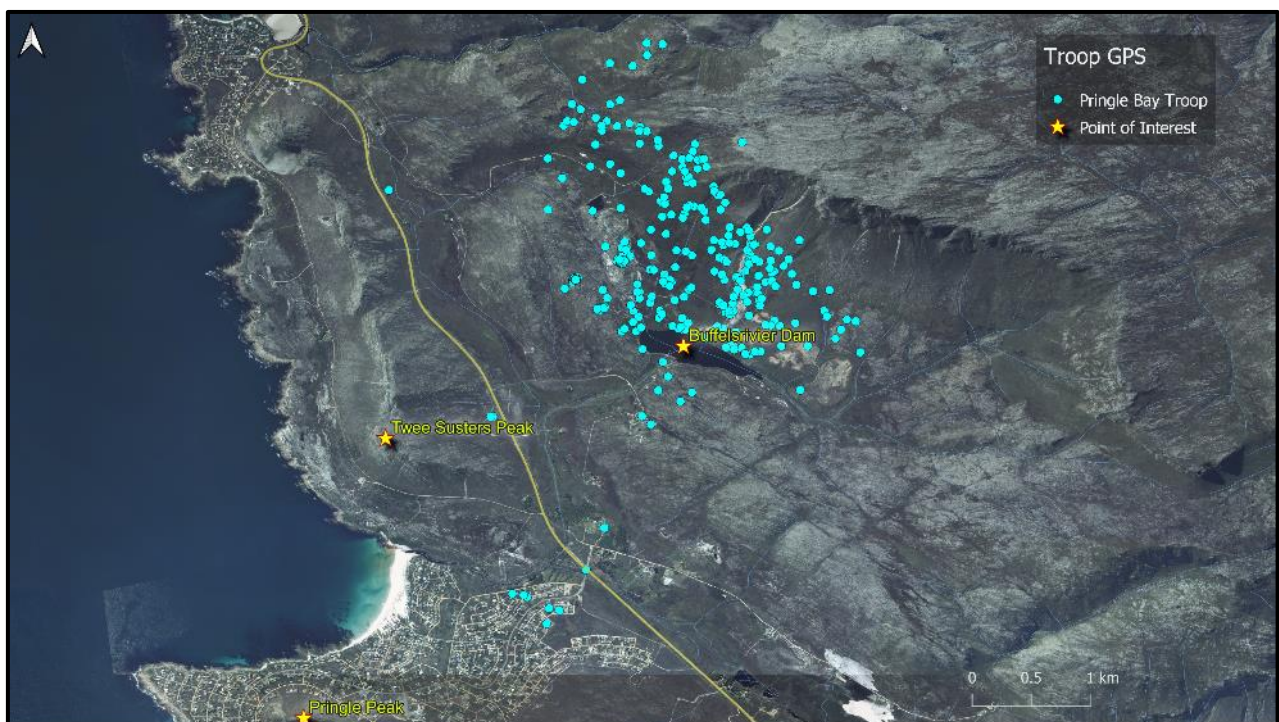


Figure 3.2: GPS locations of the Pringle Bay Troop as determined by the GPS collar during June 2021.

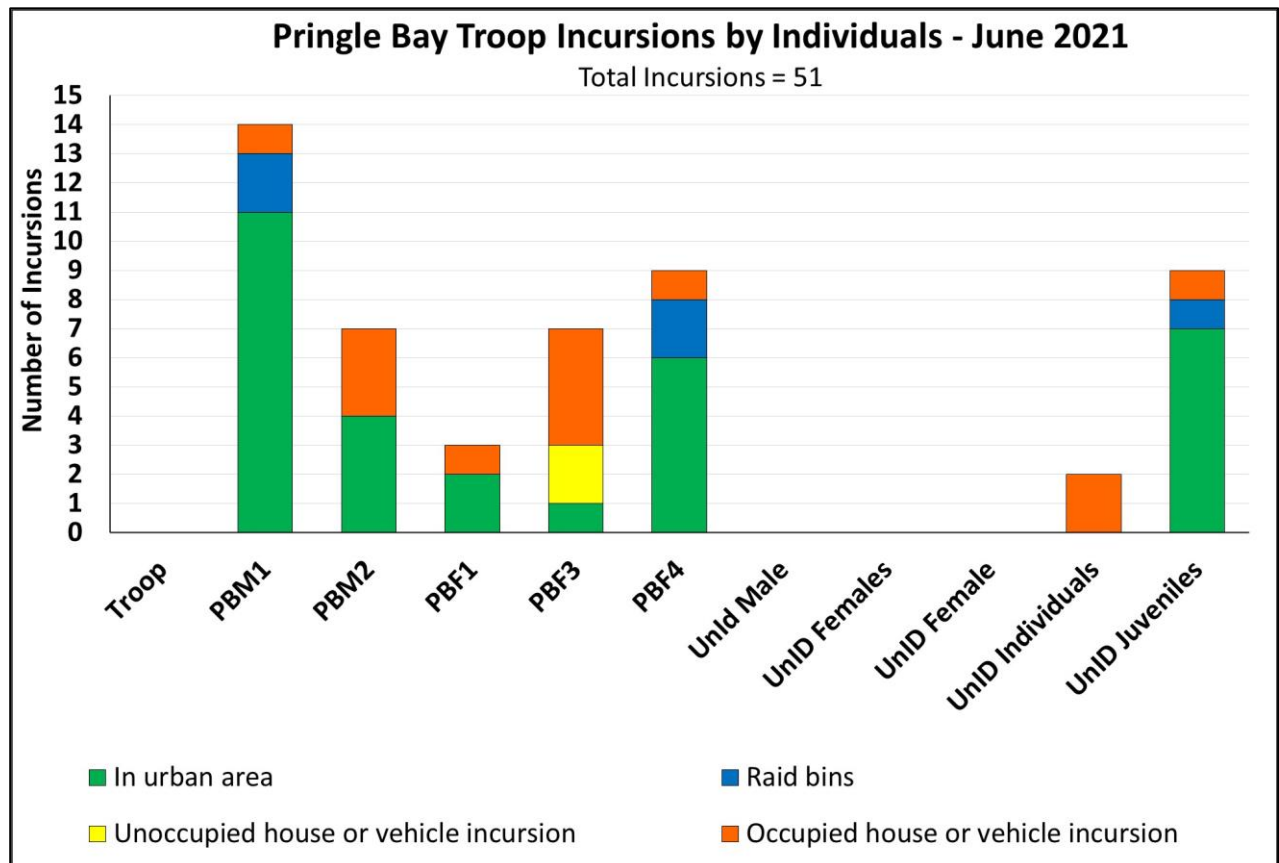


Figure 3.3: Number of incursions by the Pringle Bay Troop and individuals during June 2021.

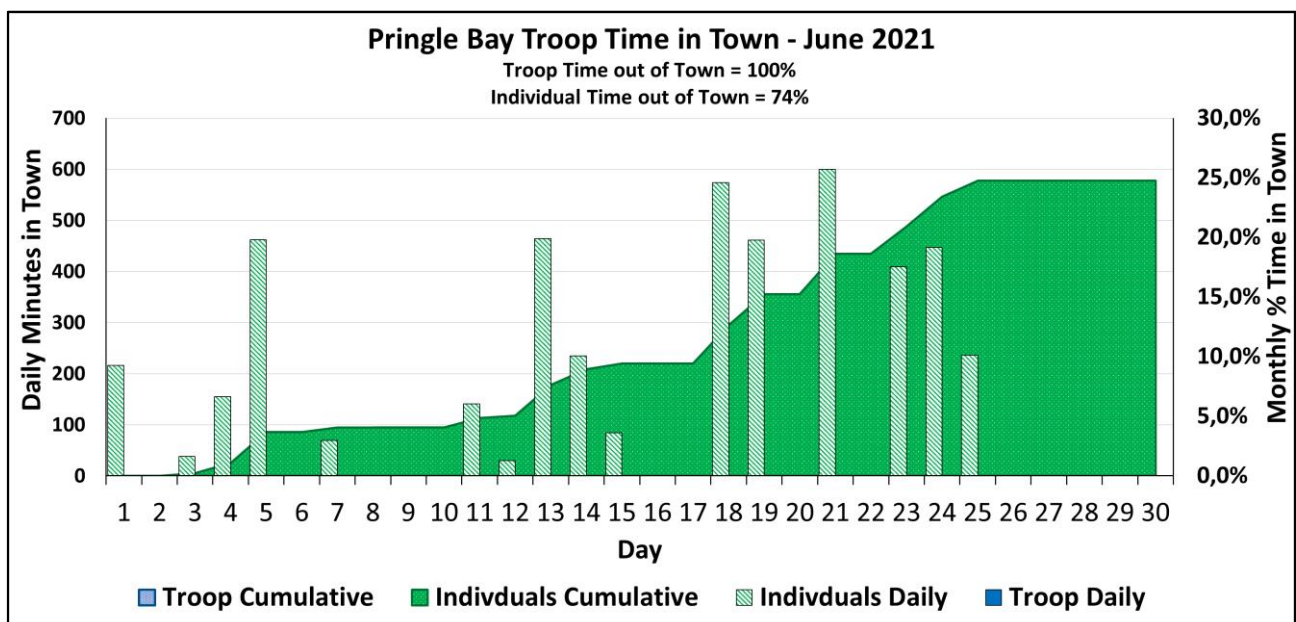


Figure 3.4: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Pringle Bay Troop during June 2021. Note: Percentage Time in town is recorded as a percentage of the average daylight hours (sunrise to sunset) for each month of the year.

3.2 HANGKLIP TROOP

3.2.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- No time in town was recorded for the Hangklip Troop in June.
- Individual baboons spent 95.6% of their time out of town this month.

3.2.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- On 17 June, the Hangklip Troop was reported in Pringle Bay. Most of the troop was positioned on the urban edge close to Stream Road and Clarence Road. Only individual baboons entered town. Two adult male baboons spent 87 minutes in town close to the CBD. The troop regrouped at Professor and the HWS baboon rangers encouraged them to move back towards Hangklip.
- On 18 June, the Hangklip Troop was seen on the mountain between Professor and Lemoenkop. Most of the troop was prevented from entering town and HWS baboon rangers encouraged them to move back towards the Hangklip Hotel. Four adult male baboons and two individual baboons entered town at the CBD. No incursions were recorded but the baboons were observed eating bird seed that had been left out by residents for birds. The baboons were also seen eating biscuit crumbs intended for birds in the Ticklemouse parking area.
- On 18 June, an adult male baboon approached PBM1 and PBF4. PBM1 and PBF4 were both carrying infants. The adult male baboon and PBM1 were observed engaging in physical contact. PBM1 was carrying the infant at the time of the incident.
- On 2 June, an unidentified adult male baboon was seen stealing a fisherman's bait bag from behind him at Maasbaai.
- Individual baboons were recorded in Silversands on 18 June, while the Hangklip Troop was present in Pringle Bay. This observation supports the evidence of two troops existing in the Hangklip/Silversands Area.
- Concerningly, several residents from Silversands have reported that baboons are being fed HDF's daily from at least two residences in the area. It is important to note that the feeding of baboons and other wildlife is prohibited. Baboons fed by humans have been known to become habituated and assertive raiders. Past reports the Betty's Bay community have suggested that BBM1 from the Betty's Bay Troop dispersed from the Silversands area. When BBM1 arrived in Betty's Bay he was apparently already an established house raider. Past reports have indicated that BBM1 was hand fed by residents in Silversands. Feeding of this baboon could have led to his overtly assertive and house breaking behaviour that has been very evident for the past few months.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																		
SECTOR			CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
OVERSTRAND			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL	
BABOON TROOP:		HANGKLIP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL	
MONTH: JUNE		YEAR: 2021	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL	
Troop																																		
HKM1	M																																	
HKM2	M																																	
UnID Male	M		7				2												1	1				2	1					5		2		
UnID Male	M																		1	1												6		
UnID Male	M																		1	1												2		
UnID Male	M																			1												1		
UnID Male	M																			1												1		
UnID Females	F																																	
UnID Female	F																			1												1		
UnID Individuals																				1												1		
UnID Juveniles																				1														
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS		
Troop	0.0																															0.00		
Individuals	4.4																		87	261				150	293							13.18		
Roost:	AM	?	1	1	2	?	?	3	?	?	?	?	?	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	4	3	3	3	3	?	1	?	?	4	1	1		
Roost:	PM	1	1	2	?	?	3	?	?	?	?	?	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	4	3	3	3	3	?	1	?	?	4	1	?			
Roost Sites		1	Sea Farm Gate										2	Brodie Link South										3	Hangklip									
		6											7											8										
		11											12											13										
		16											17											18										
		21											22											23										
		26											27											28										
ID Features of Baboons																																		
General remarks		On 2 June, a male stole a fishermen's bait bag. HKM2 has an injured right hand, its not debilitating. On 12 June, female seen with a dead infant. On 13 June, three males tried to go to PB. On 18 June, a male ran straight to Ticklemouse																																

Figure 3.5: The Hangklip Troop incident sheet for June 2021.

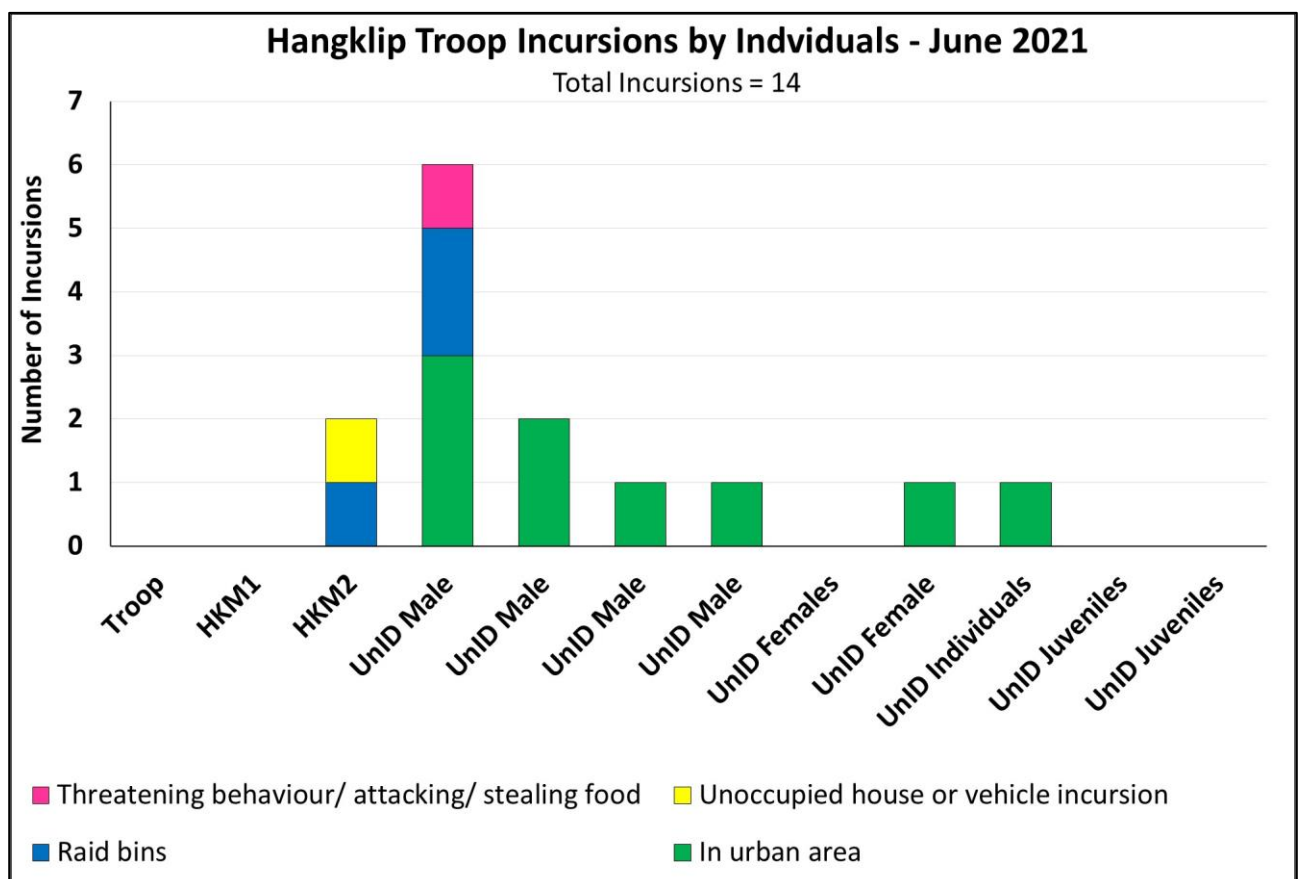


Figure 3.6: Number of incursions by the Hangklip Troop and individuals during June 2021.

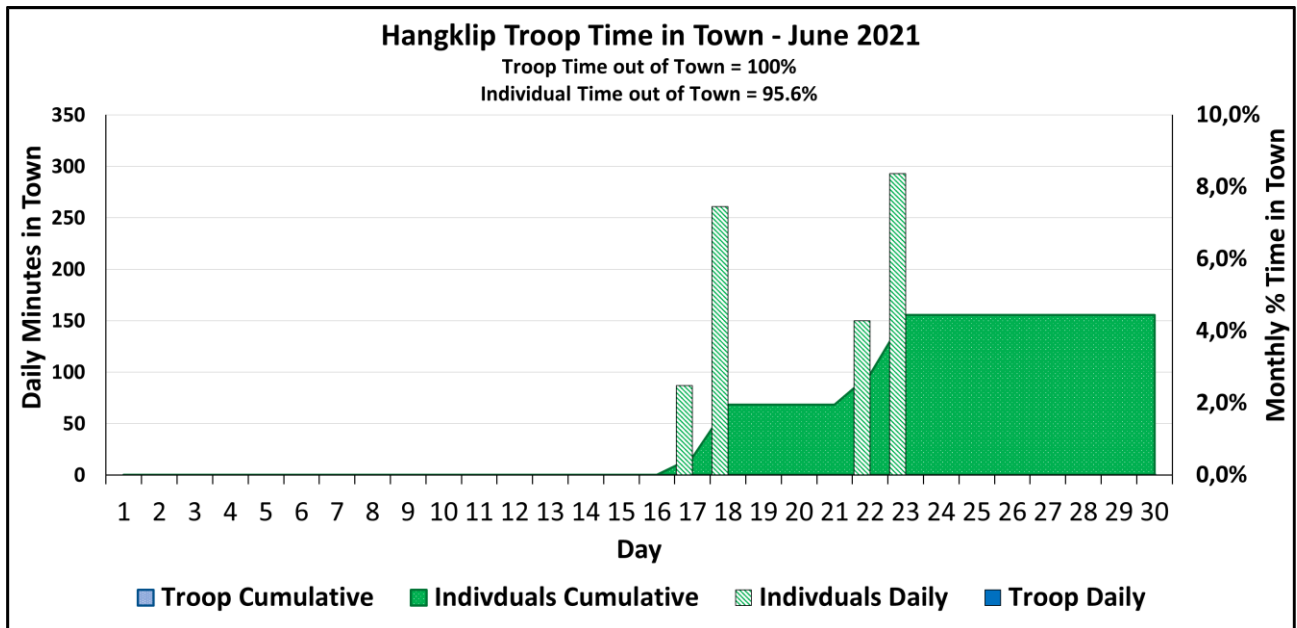


Figure 3.7: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Hangklip Troop during June 2021. Note: Percentage Time in town is recorded as a percentage of the average daylight hours (sunrise to sunset) for each month of the year.

3.3 BETTY'S BAY TROOP

3.3.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The Betty's Bay Troop spent 91.3% time out of town this month in comparison to 86.7% last month.
- Individual baboons spent 85.5% time out of town this month an increase from last month's 81.3%.

3.3.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- The troop entered town on 12 days this month and were recorded entering two unoccupied houses together.
- Sub-groups of baboons and individual baboons entered town on 21 days this month.
- BBM1 raided one unsecure bin, entered three unoccupied houses and eight occupied houses, displayed threatening behaviour or stole food directly from people four times and broke into an additional 11 houses.
- On 6 June, BBM1 approach a large group of visitors picnicking on the lawns at the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens. BBM1 stole one of their backpacks, which contained food and personal items, including their car keys. Initially, the picnickers panicked and chased BBM1. This caused BBM1 to run away with the backpack. HWS requested that the visitors stop chasing BBM1 so that the male could consume the food and drop the backpack. BBM1 finished the food and dropped the backpack which allowed HWS to retrieve it for the visitors.

- On 9 June, BBM1 charged directly at a father and son walking in the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens. The father lifted his son by the arm and swung the child behind him to prevent BBM1 from running directly into the boy. On the same day, BBM1 also charged an HWS baboon ranger who was trying to prevent the baboon from entering the urban space.
- On 12 June, BBM1 broke burglar bars out of a wooden window frame while trying to enter an occupied house on Clode Street. The owners were at home during the incident and shouted at BBM1 in an attempt to stop him from entering the house. BBM1 continued despite the owners' efforts. BBM1 only stopped trying to enter the house when a HWS baboon ranger arrived on the scene. After being prevented from getting HDF's at the first house, BBM1 ran to an unoccupied house and broke the sliding door. BBM1 managed to obtain HDF's from this house.
- On 20 June, BBM1 broke a shatterproof window of an unoccupied house on Broadwith Road. The break-in allowed several other baboons to enter the house and obtain HDF's.
- On 23 June, BBM1 took rusks from Coffee on Clarence. The shop was occupied at the time. After obtaining the rusks, BBM1 charged directly at two men walking past. BBM1 most probably displayed this behaviour to defend the food he had just obtained from potential competition.
- On 29 June, BBM1 attempted to break into two houses on Kloof Road and Clode Street, respectively. Both of BBM1's attempts were prevented. BBM1 persisted with this behaviour and eventually broke a sliding door on Four Stream Road. BBM1 was followed into the house by BBM4. BBM1 was seen protecting the food from BBM4 and did not allow him to eat. BBM4 responded out of frustration by causing malicious damage to the resident's property.
- On 6 June, BBM2 stole food directly from people sitting outside of the coffee shop in the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens.
- On 28 June, a resident from Lipkin Road reported that an adult male baboon was pulling on a window and trying to enter the house. The baboon was identified as BBM2. To date all the adult males have been seen pulling on windows and doors. BBF1, an adult female, has also been seen displaying this behaviour.
- On 30 June, BBM2 and a Staffordshire Terrier had an altercation on Four Stream Road. BBM2 jumped over the fence into the property. BBM2 was seen holding onto the dog and carrying it for several meters. The dog suffered numerous lacerations to the facial region. The owner took the dog to receive veterinary treatment. BBM2 suffered a small laceration to his left upper arm. The injury was not debilitating, and veterinary treatment was not required. BBM2 recovered from the injury.
- BBM3 raided two bins, entered two unoccupied houses and six occupied houses, stole food directly from visitors at the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens and broke into an unoccupied house. The break in took place on 27 June. BBM3 broke the second storey window of an unoccupied house on Marine Drive. BBF1 and a juvenile also entered the unoccupied house after the break in.

- BBM4 raided three bins, caused non-malicious damage to property once, entered one unoccupied house and six occupied houses. BBM3 also attempted to steal food directly from a person at Coffee on Clarence and caused malicious damage to a property.
- It is important to note that HWS report on incursions that have been witnessed first-hand or on information provided by residents. Residents are encouraged to contact the baboon hotline (072 028 0008) to ensure that all incursions can be recorded accurately.
- On 3 June, a Black Eagle was observed dive bombing the troop at the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens. The raptor was present throughout the day which caused the troop to retreat into the Leopard Kloof forest for safety. An adult male was observed trying to grab the raptor.
- On 5 June, BBM1 was observed chasing BBM3 and BBF1. BBM3 and BBF1 were observed swimming across the Dawidskraal River to avoid conflict with BBM1. BBM3 and BBF1 kept their distance from the troop for the rest of the day. They kept their distance the following day as well. On 15 June, BBM1 and BBM3 were observed fighting again. After the fight BBM3 and BBF1 moved away from the troop. The previous day BBM3 and BBF1 were not seen with the troop. It is likely that BBM3 and BBF1 have been keeping their distance from the troop to avoid conflict with BBM1.

3.4 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS

- An infant was born on 9 June in the Betty's Bay Troop.
- On 12 June, an adult female from the Hangklip Troop was seen carrying a dead infant. The cause of death is unknown.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																				
SECTOR						CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																														
OVERSTRAND						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL
BABOON TROOP:			BETTY'S BAY			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL
MONTH: JUNE			YEAR: 2021			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL
BABOON ID		Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL			
Troop			1		1						5			1		1		1		1	1	5		1		1		1		2			12			
BBM1 (satellite collar)		M	6, 8			6		7			7, 7		6	8, 8		8	8	8	2	6		5	5, 8	6	8	6, 7		1		6, 8		5, 8	1	29		
BBM2		M						7																		1					1		4	4		
BBM3		M		6				6					7						2, 5		6	2, 6, 6							6, 8		1	1	15			
BBM4 (sub-adult)		M	2, 6										7	3		6				2, 6, 6					1	6		1	1	2, 6		5, 8	1	17		
BBF1		F					1						7						2, 5		6	2, 6			1				5			1	10			
BBF2		F																																		
UnID Male		M			6					8			8												6									4		
UnID Females		F																																		
UnID Female		F					1						1													1	2							4		
UnID Individuals							1						6											1			2, 5	1						6		
UnID Juveniles																														5			1	2		
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS					
Troop		8, 7	210		17					207		61			96		210	150	120		183	130		60		101							25,75			
Individuals		14, 5	143		281		243			51		191	42	99	169	6	194		90	15	81	94	189	97	62	124	12	278	120				43,02			
Roost:		AM	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	6	1	18	1	2	1	1	1	12	1/2	1	2			
Roost:		PM	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1		6	1	18	1	2	1	1	1	12	1/2	1	2	1			
Roost Sites		1	Disa Kloof																												2					
		6	Sunny Seas West																												7					
		11	Sunny Seas West																												3					
		16	Jocks Bay																												8					
		17	Caltex																												13					
		21																													18					
		26																													23					
ID Features of Baboons																															27					
																														28						
General remarks		9 June 2021, a new born was recorded. On 9 June, BBM1 charged a baboon ranger and a young child. On 30 June, there was an altercation between BBM2 and a dog.																																		

Figure 3.8: The Betty's Bay Troop incident sheet for June 2021.

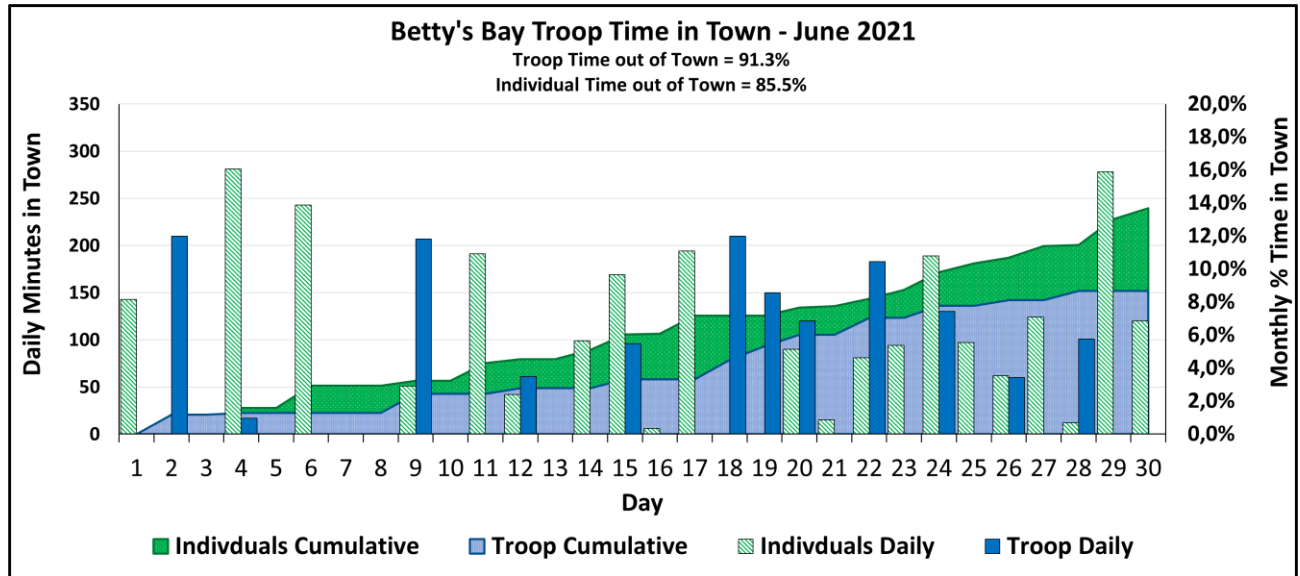


Figure 3.9: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Betty's Bay Troop during June 2021. Note: Percentage Time in town is recorded as a percentage of the average daylight hours (sunrise to sunset) for each month of the year.

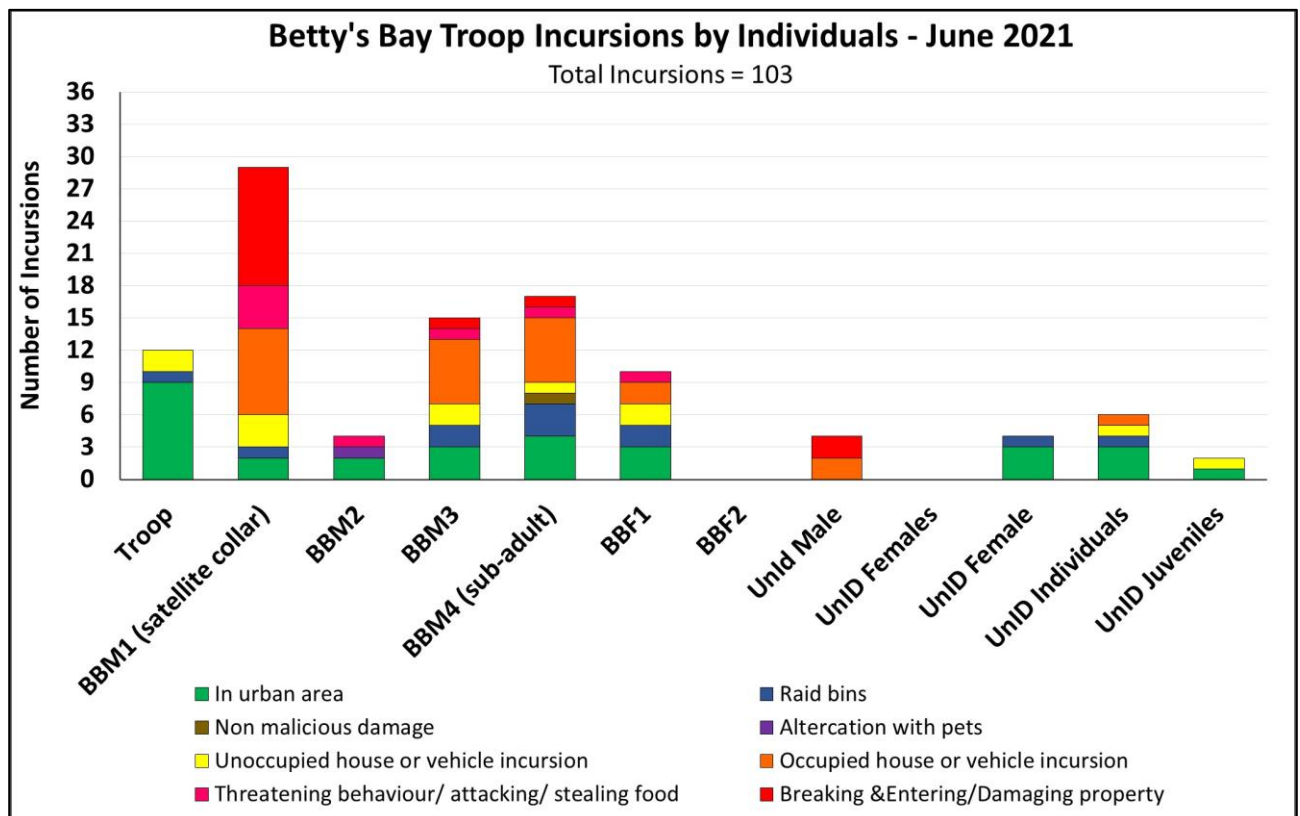


Figure 3.10: Number of incursions by the Betty's Bay Troop and individuals during June 2021.

4 GENERAL COMMENTS – ALL TROOPS

4.1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Two births and one death were recorded in the managed troops this month and are summarised in the tables below. A preliminary count of the Hangklip Troop West, which entered Pringle Bay during June, indicates its size as 30 individuals. A previous, but not confirmed, count of the Hangklip East Troop suggested its size at 43 baboons. The population data of the four closely managed troops can be seen in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 below.

TROOP	OCTOBER	JUNE	JUNE	JUNE 2021			Total observed Births (1 July 2020 to June 2021)	Total observed Deaths (1 July 2020 to June 2021)	Total Migrations (1 July 2020 to June 2021)
	2019	2020	2021	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration			
Voëlklip	29	29	27	0	0	0	4	2	+1
Vogelgat	N/A	22	29	1	0	0	1	2	0.
Pringle Bay	16	16	17	0	0	0	5	4	+2
Betty's Bay	N/A	19	20	1	0	0	1	0	0.
Hangklip	N/A	N/A	30	0	1	0	0	1	0.
Silversands	N/A	N/A	43	0	0	0	0	0	0.
TOTAL	45	86	166	2	1	0	11	9	+3

Table 4.1: Population data for the four closely managed troops in the Overstrand in June 2021. Emigration/Immigration figures show animal movements between troops.

Deaths	2019/20 (October - June)	2020/21 (July - June)	June 2021	TOTAL (since October 2019)
Management	3	0	0	3
Human Induced (HID)	1	2	0	3
<i>Direct **</i>	1	2	0	3
<i>Indirect ***</i>	0	0	0	0
Natural	2	7	1	9
Unknown	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DEATHS	6	9	1	15

Table 4.2: Causes of baboon deaths since October 2019; **Deaths caused directly by humans, such as motor vehicle accidents, shooting, poisoning and dogs. ***Deaths caused indirectly by humans such as electrocutions and fire.

4.2 HOTLINE DATA

This month saw a decline in the number of hotline calls received. This pattern is typical for the winter months. A total of 124 calls were received this month of which 104 were incursion related in managed areas. The majority (53%) of hotline calls received again originated from Betty's Bay (Figure 4.1).

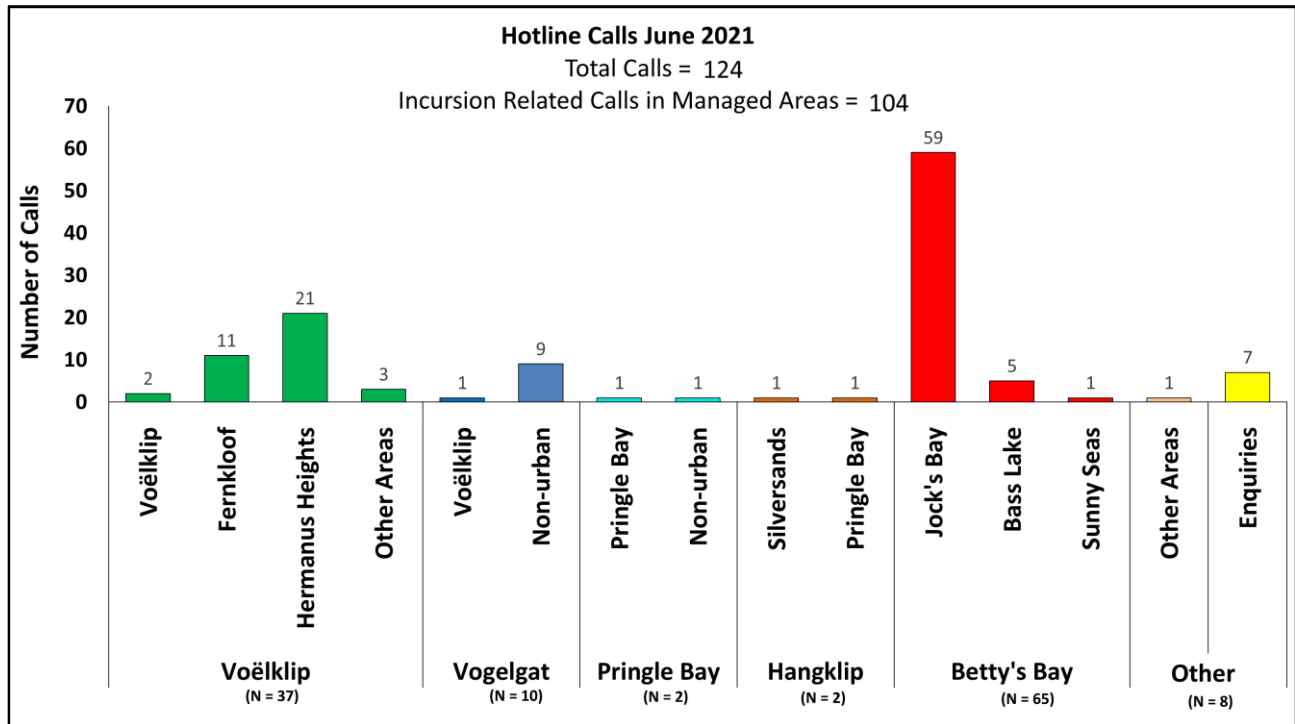


Figure 4.1: Hotline calls in baboon affected areas for June 2021. Incursion related hotline calls are calls reporting managed baboons in urban areas. Managed areas are those areas in which baboon troops are known to occur and are actively managed. 'Other Areas' represent those areas beyond the urban edge or the range of managed baboons.

What is most noticeable from the composition of hotline calls illustrated in Figure 4.2, is the unusually high incidence of assertive raids (occupied house incursions, threatening and stealing, breaking and entering) which comprised a total of 14% of all hotline reported incursions this month. The reason for this is apparent in Figure 4.3 which shows all incursions by all managed baboon troops in the Overstrand.

It is evident from this figure that half the incursions recorded this month, took place in Betty's Bay. Furthermore, considerably less than half the incursions in Betty's Bay were recording baboons in town or raiding bins. Thus the majority of incidents were records of baboons entering unoccupied houses, entering occupied houses, threatening behaviour or stealing directly from humans, or physically breaking into houses. This level of assertive raids and aggression towards humans, has never been observed by HWS before. At present this is assumed to be the result of the Betty's Bay baboons having achieved an extremely high dependence on high energy human derived foodstuffs (HDF's). This dependence is not considered to be from lack of food in the valleys and mountains they feed on, but rather a form of drug addiction to high energy foodstuffs, particularly sugar.

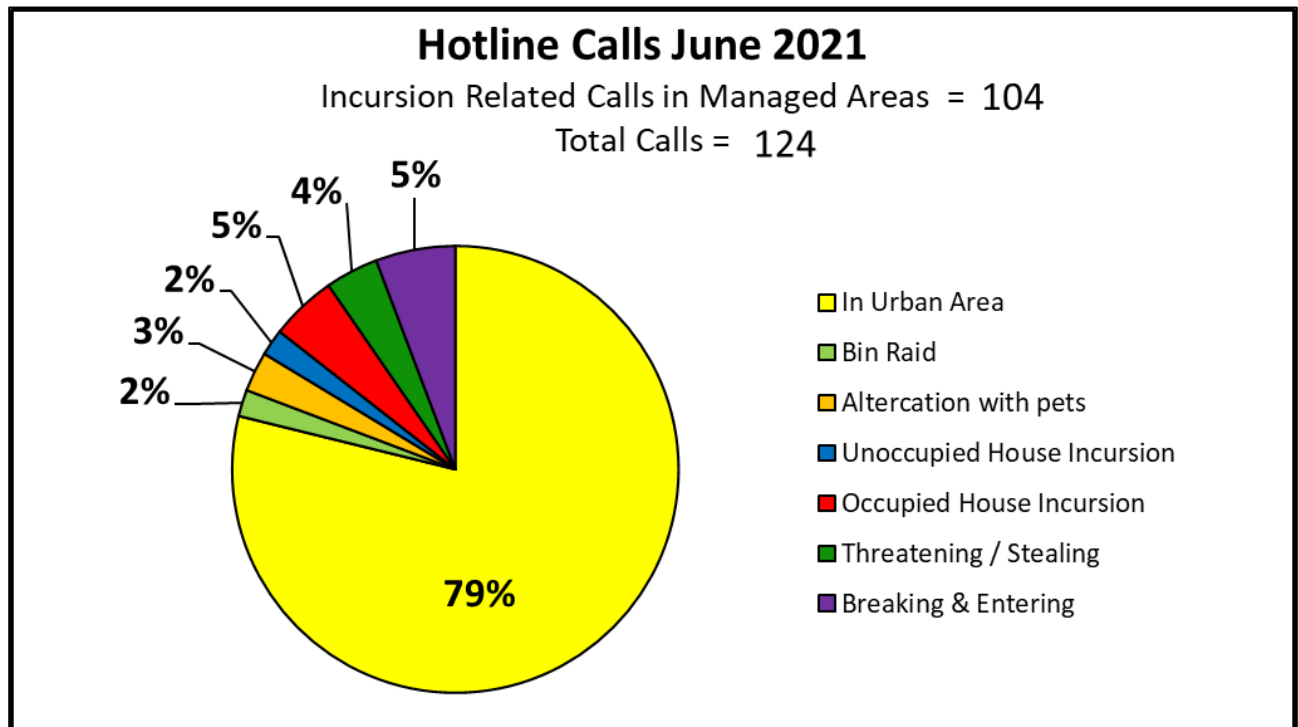


Figure 4.2: Composition of incursion-related hotline calls during June 2021. Note: This chart represents the composition of hotline calls, not the composition of known incursions by baboons.

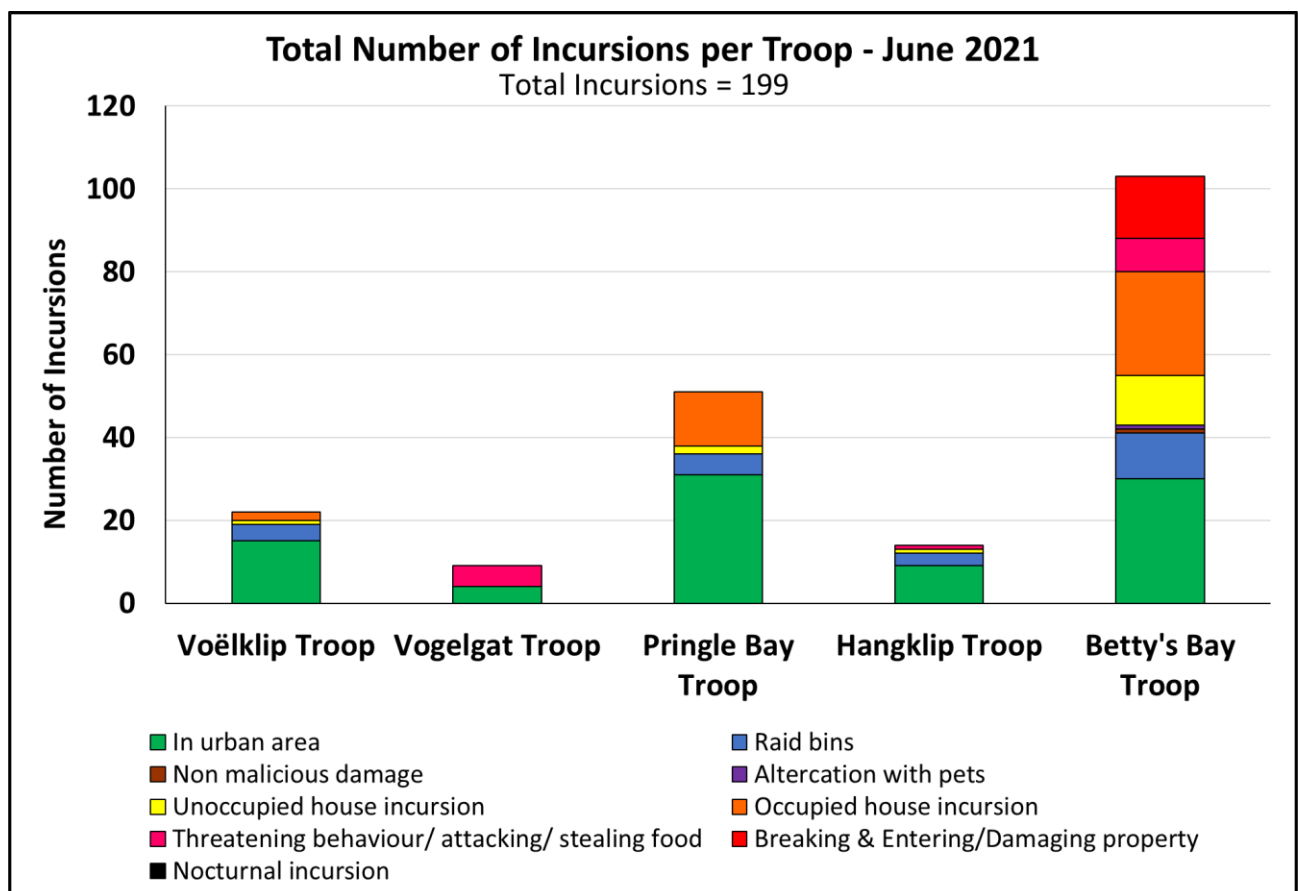


Figure 4.3: Total observed incursions per troop. Observed incursions are not hotline related and are incursions observed by HWS field staff.

When comparing incursions reported to the hotline, Figure 4.1, with incursions observed by HWS field staff, Figure 4.2, a correlation can easily be distinguished, between the total observed incursions and hotline incursions. The Pringle Bay troop is an exception to this, as the residents of Pringle Bay currently do not make use of the hotline and rather report incursions on another system.

By reporting incidents on to the hotline, the public can assist HWS to respond quickly and efficiently to baboon incidents. HWS encourages everyone living or working in baboon affected areas to continue making use of the hotline.

4.3 PERCENTAGE TIME OUT OF TOWN

During June 2021, the average time out of town of managed troops was 98.8%. Individuals from the Pringle Bay Troop spent significant amounts of time in the village this month. These individuals proved challenging to move out of town as they could easily hide from staff. The Betty's Bay Troop was the only troop which did not achieve 100% time out of town this month. Individual time in town is only counted if individuals or small groups of baboons enter the urban area alone.

PERCENTAGE TIME OUT OF TOWN	TROOP	INDIVIDUAL
Voëlklip Troop	100.0	96.1
Vogelgat Troop	100.0	99.3
Onrus Troop	100.0	100.0
Hamilton Russel Troop	100.0	100.0
Pringle Bay Troop	100.0	74.0
Hangklip Troop	100.0	95.6
Silversands Troop	100.0	98.7
Betty's Bay Troop	91.3	85.5
Average Percentage Time Out of Town	98.8	92.9

Table 4.3: Percentage time the managed baboon troops and individuals spent out of town during March 2021.

Individual time in town is recorded from the moment field staff confirm a baboon or small group of individuals have crossed the urban edge into town. Individual time in town continues to be counted as long as at least one individual and less than 50% of the troop are in town. Individual time in town is often much longer than troop time in town as it is much more difficult to move a small group of baboons, which can easily hide in town, whilst still managing the troop outside of town. Individual time in town is only stopped counted once all individuals have exited the urban area.

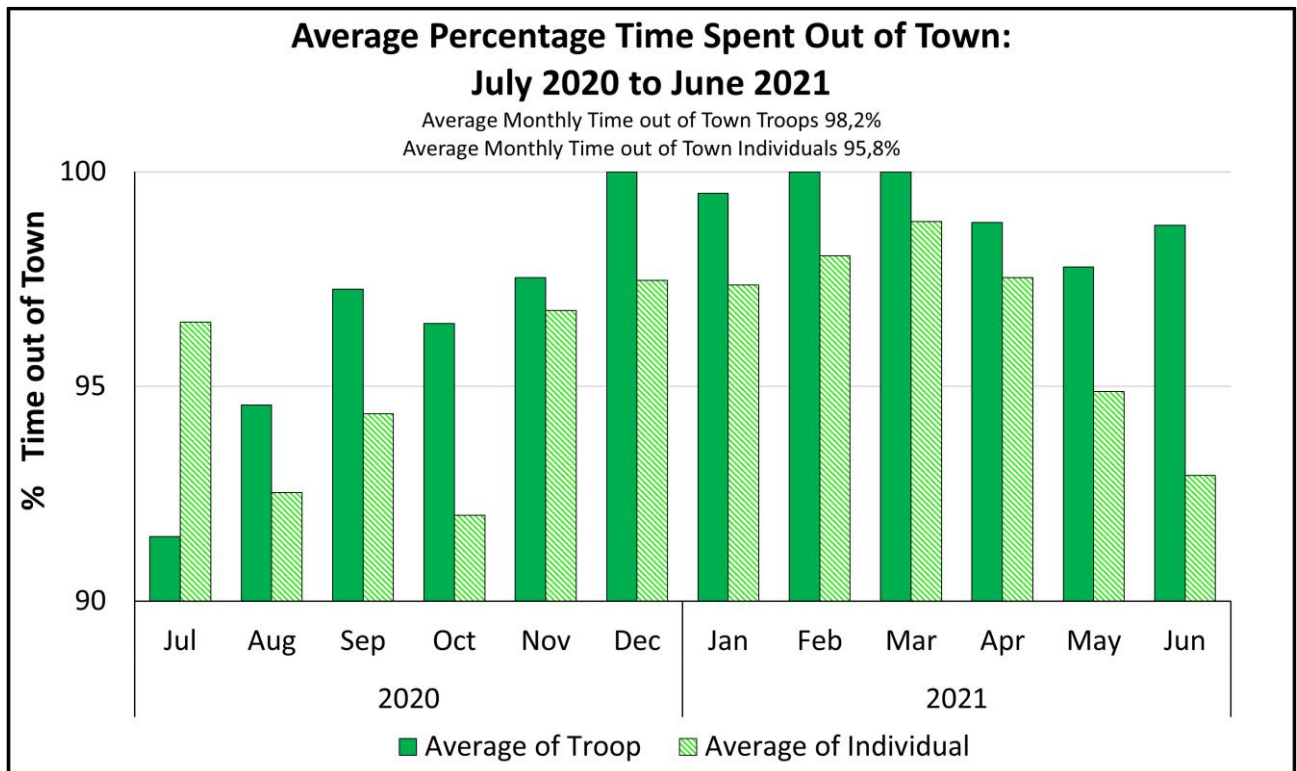


Figure 4.6: Percentage time the managed baboon troops and individuals spent out of town to date during the current management year (July 2020 to June 2021).

4.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Waste and recycling collection should be prioritised** to take place in the early mornings in suburbs affected by baboons. This will reduce the attractant value of the waste to baboons. This is especially important for the area north of the Main Road in Voëlklip, which is close to the mountainside. Here waste is currently collected at around midday. This same principle applies to Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay.
- HWS suggests that **waste removal** should **start on the urban edge** and then move down through the suburbs.
- All bins used in baboon-affected areas should be **baboon-proof and locked**.
- **Refuse bags** should not be left lying open on the sidewalk, easily available to baboons.
- Ripening **fruit on fruit trees** in baboon-affected areas should be harvested to remove this attractant for baboons. **Open vegetable gardens** should be baboon-proofed. This will reduce baboon incursions into the suburbs.
- Baboon-proof bins are required throughout the western region of the Overstrand. Betty's Bay should be regarded as a high priority because there are very few baboon proof bins in place.

- Residents are encouraged not to feed wildlife, including birds. This month, baboons were seen eating seed, cookie crumbs and bread intended for birds. Provisioning food increases the amount of time spent in town by baboons and increases the risk of incursions into homes. It also makes the jobs of the baboon rangers more difficult because the baboons are reluctant leave an area where there is an abundance of easily accessible food. Residents are reminded that it is illegal to feed any wild animal. Residents are encouraged to record and report the feeding of wildlife to the baboon hotline (072 028 0008).
- Picnics in the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens should be prohibited to prevent baboons from stealing food directly from people.
- The coffee shop at the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens should be baboon proof to prevent baboons from entering the establishment and stealing food directly from customers.
- Residents should not encourage baboons to enter town by providing water points for wildlife. Baboons and other wild animals have access to numerous natural water sources throughout Betty's Bay.
- Residents should not make use of pellet guns or paintball markers to deter baboons from their properties. Residents are encouraged to contact the baboon hotline (072 028 0008) to request assistance.
- Residents are requested not to hinder HWS in their efforts to encourage baboons to move out of town. Statistics show that human-induced injuries and deaths increase when baboon's frequent urban areas.

5 **CONCLUSION**

Despite time out of town for the Voëlklip Troop remaining at 100% and an increased time out of town for individuals this month, lone baboons or small groups of baboons managed to enter the urban space on multiple occasions. The winter weather often complicates management as low lying cloud cover and heavy rain decreases visibility, allowing individuals to move around unnoticed. Fruit tree species that fruit during the winter months have been identified and mean that fruit trees will remain an attractant to the baboons throughout the year. Individuals in the Voëlklip Troop were observed to return to specific fruit trees on multiple occasions during a single day.

The Vogelgat Troop continued mainly to use the eastern parts of their home range and approached the urban edge less frequently this month. Despite individual baboons entering the urban space, the troop was prevented from entering the urban space for the ninth-consecutive month. The construction along the R43 remains a problem as individuals of the Vogelgat Troop have learnt that backpacks and bags left along the R43 often means easy food. We would like to encourage construction staff to place bags and backpacks in

lockable containers. If these are not available, to place them out of sight of the baboons to prevent such incidents from taking place. It is extremely important that baboons do not learn to associate humans or human property with food.

The Pringle Bay Troop has been out of town for seven consecutive months since 1 December 2020. PBM1 and PBF4 left the troop in the nature reserve and moved back to Pringle Bay to protect infants from infanticide. PBF3 continues to prove difficult to manage and she returned to Pringle Bay several times to search for HDF's.

Baboons from the Betty's Bay Troop were present in town on 24 days out of 30 days this month. The troop (as a whole) was successfully prevented from entering town on eighteen out of 30 days during the reporting period. Concerningly, the assertive raiding behaviour by the four adult males and one adult female continued unabated this month. Excessive habituation, exotic fruiting trees, easy access to HDF's, the provisioning of food and water for wildlife, steep topography, and the regular presence of small sub-groups within the troop are key factors that pose major challenges for management of this troop.

Despite the unsurpassed high levels of raiding exhibited by the all the adult males and some females of the Betty's Bay Troop, the most interesting behaviour observed this month, must be that of the adult females PBF3 and PBF4, and the old male PBM1, from the Pringle Bay Troop. PBF3 weaned her baby in May 2021. Within a week she had made her first excursion alone (without her baby) to Pringle Bay to find HDF's. This trip lasted just a few hours. In June, PBF3 made seven excursions to Pringle Bay without her baby, which she always left in the care of PBM1. PBM1 is the previous male of the troop. During these excursions to Pringle Bay by PBF3, PBM1 was also still looking after the infant left behind by PBF2 which died in April 2021. Thus for these periods PBM1 was often seen carrying two babies, one on his belly, and one on his back. This is the first time HWS has recorded such dedication by a male to his offspring.

Several times in June PBM1 also went on HDF foraging excursions to Pringle Bay with PBF4. PBF4 had only recently weaned her baby. On these occasions both individuals took their infants with them. This was presumably for safe keeping in general, and because they would almost certainly have been subjected to infanticide by the two Buffels River Troop males had they been left behind. Whether the motivation to go to Pringle Bay was primarily to gain HDF's from the urban area, or to get away from the aggressive attentions of the two Buffels River males, is a debatable point. Almost certainly both elements came into play.

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